



Check It Out

First Sale of 2026 Breaks Records, Sets Pace for Next Sale at Ridgedale



Early birds brave the cold in the minutes before the 9 AM members-only hour at our sale on Jan. 31, 2026. Not a member yet? Donate online or at the door!

Our January sale benefiting HCL's world-class collection raised a whopping \$10,105 and got us 14% of the way to our 2026 fundraising goal of \$72,000

With six more sales scheduled this year, we can hit our 2026 goal if we keep up this pace. Our success will depend on more help than ever from you, our dedicated volunteers and shoppers!

2026 Fundraising Goals



Jan. 31 proceeds: \$10,105

World-Class Collection

Mar. 14 sale benefits HCL's

Outreach & Engagement

May 16 sale benefits HCL's

Student Success Initiatives

Jul. 11 sale benefits HCL's

Youth Development Initiatives

Sep. 12 sale benefits HCL's

Let's Read! Literacy Initiative

Nov. 14 sale benefits HCL's

Local Programs Equity Fund

THIS ISSUE'S SPECIAL FEATURES

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Next Two FOPL Sales: Feb. 21 at Ridgedale, Mar. 14 at Plymouth



Ridgedale Library photo courtesy of HCL

We'll be taking our book sale know-how on the road with a sale at the Ridgedale Library on Saturday, Feb 21.

At our sales, you'll find hundreds of adult and kids' books, puzzles, games, DVDs, and CDs ranging from \$1-3.

Hours, locations, & more on [page 2](#) →

Prologue

Book Sale Logistics for Feb. 21 and Mar. 14

Dates & Locations:

- **Feb. 21: Ridgedale Library**
12601 Ridgedale Drive, Minnetonka, MN 55305
- **Mar. 14: Plymouth Library**
15700 36th Ave N, Plymouth, MN 55446

Sale Hours:

- **9–10 AM:** Exclusive early access for Friends members (join at the door!)
- **10 AM–3 PM:** Open to the general public
- **2–3 PM:** Fill entire bags (paper grocery bags provided by us) for just \$5 per bag!

Payment Methods:

Cash, check payable to FOPL, and Venmo are accepted for payment.

Volunteers Needed on Feb. 14 and 21

We are still looking for volunteers to...

- **Drive a U-Haul for Donation Day** on Sat, Feb. 14.
- **Unload book boxes from the U-Haul** on Saturday, Feb. 14. (*Do you know someone with a good back and a love of the library?*)
- **Place light-weight yard signs** on the streets near the Ridgedale Library on Fri. Feb. 20, and pick them up after the sale on Sat. Feb. 21.
- **Volunteer mid-day at the sale on Sat. Feb. 21.** (Cashiers and general volunteers needed.)
- **Help clean up** after the sale on Saturday, Feb. 21.

Sign-up online to help on Feb. 14 and 21:

fopl.link/volunteer-booksale

Note: Volunteer sign-up for the March 14 sale at Plymouth coming soon.

Upcoming Donation Days: Feb. 14 and 20 at Ridgedale, Mar. 7 and 13 at Plymouth

We will be accepting donations on the following days and locations:

- **Saturday, February 14**, from 11–2 PM at the **Ridgedale Library**
- **Friday, February 20**, from 9 AM–3 PM at the **Ridgedale Library**
- **Saturday, March 7**, from 10:30 AM–12 PM at the **Plymouth Library**
- **Friday, March 13**, from 9 AM–3 PM at the **Plymouth Library**

 **We gladly accept gently used adult and kids' books, DVDs, CDs, games, and jigsaw puzzles.**

 Unfortunately, we cannot accept textbooks, encyclopedias, video tapes, or audio tapes.

 Please read your shelves and bring us some goodies! Thank you for your contributions.

A Sweet Surprise For Our Ridgedale Donation Days

When we saw that our first Ridgedale Library Donation Day would fall on Valentine's Day, we knew we had to do something special for our Library Lovers.

Bring your gently used books, CDs, DVDs, puzzles, and games to our Ridgedale Donation Days and get this limited edition Library Love sticker as a thank-you gift!

- **Saturday, February 14**, from 11–2 PM
- **Friday, February 20**, from 9 AM–3 PM

Want to show us some extra love?

Bring your donations on Friday, Feb. 20 (the day before the sale) to save us from hauling books to and from storage



Ongoing Volunteer Roles: Be Part of Every Book Sale

These are standing, ongoing volunteer roles that support every Friends book sale.

Sign up once, help all year. Training and ongoing support will be provided.

Email us if you're interested: plymouth@supporthclib.org

Book Sale Sign Installers



Install and remove promotional yard signs around the library before and after each sale so passers-by can discover our sales.

Book Sale Photographer



Capture the energy of each sale—crowds, book lovers, and great moments—for newsletters, social media, and Friends promotions.

Substitute U-Haul Driver



Be our backup for picking up and returning rental trucks and helping transport books and supplies between our storage facility and the library.

Book Box Heavy Lifter



Move and stack heavy boxes of books during book sale setup and teardown. Especially on the Thursday afternoon before each sale.

Volunteer Coordinator

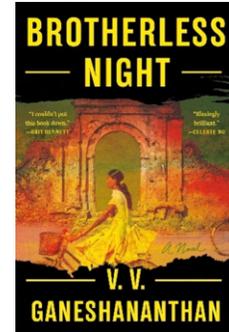
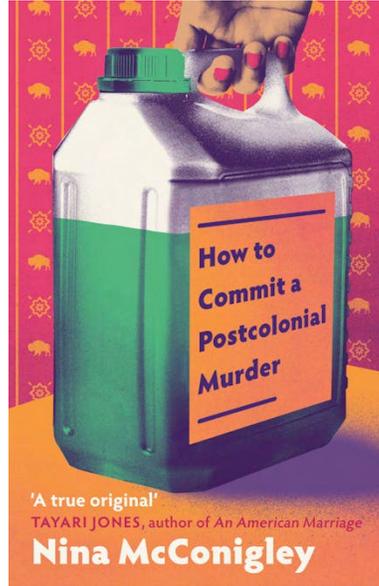


Recruit, schedule, train, and track book sale volunteers, ensuring every role is covered and everyone feels welcomed, prepared, and appreciated.

FOPL Board Member



Provide leadership, planning, and oversight to keep Friends of the Plymouth Library programs and book sales thriving year-round.



Plymouth Library

15700 36th Ave. N., Plymouth | 612.543.5825 | hclib.org

Author Talk: Nina McConigley

in Conversation with V. V. Ganeshanathan

Saturday, March 7, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Register at www.hclib.org/events or call 612-543-5825

Awarding-winning author Nina McConigley will discuss her highly anticipated new book *How to Commit a Postcolonial Murder*, “a bold, inventive, and fiercely original debut novel that begins with an uncle dead and his tween niece's private confession to the reader.” Nina will be joined in conversation by local author V. V. Ganeshanathan, whose award-winning *Brotherless Night* (2023) was a *New York Times* Editors' Choice and an NPR Book of the Year. Followed by Q&A. Books will be available for purchase and signing. Collaborator: Valley Bookseller.

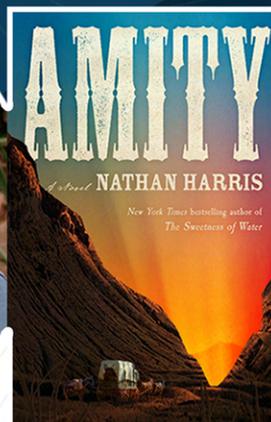
HENNEPIN COUNTY
LIBRARY



club book

SPRING 2026
SEASON LINEUP

FREE AUTHOR EVENT



Nathan Harris

6:30PM Wednesday, April 1

HENNEPIN COUNTY LIBRARY - PLYMOUTH

15700 36TH AVE N, PLYMOUTH

Literary wunderkind Nathan Harris is the author behind the instant *New York Times* bestseller *The Sweetness of Water* (2021), "a historical page-turner about social friction so powerful it ignites a whole town" (*NPR*). Set in the waning days of the U.S. Civil War and turbulent aftermath of the Emancipation Proclamation, Harris's debut follows the unlikely partnership and budding friendship between eccentric homesteader George Walker and newly freed Prentiss and Landry. *The Sweetness of Water* became an Oprah's Book Club selection and was longlisted for both the Mann Booker Prize and Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction - a rare of honors for any writer, particularly a first-time author still in his twenties. Harris's anticipated follow-up returns to the Reconstruction era and a South determined to return its Black citizens to bondage. In *Amity*, Louisiana freedman Coleman treks to Mexico in pursuit of his sister and their former enslaver. In a starred review, *Kirkus Reviews* commends *Amity* as "a smartly imagined Western with a different sort of hero... with twists and turns from beginning to end."

Registration required. Learn more and register at: tinyurl.com/clubbook-nathanharris



www.clubbook.org



Member Reminders

Maintaining Your Membership

The Friends of the Plymouth Library has officially transitioned to a joint membership program with Friends of the Hennepin County Library.

Your gift to Friends of HCL of any amount that's meaningful to you gets you membership for a year from the date of your gift.

We suggest an annual donation of \$25 or more. If you can give any amount on a recurring basis, that makes an even bigger impact as it gives us some predictability in our fundraising.

To our current and renewing members: thank you!

To our prospective members: we hope you'll join us today! Scan the QR code or visit the website on the right side of this page to join. You can also visit us at our next book sale to join at the door.



**Thank you,
Members!**

This coupon entitles the Member to one FREE book* at the February 21, 2026 sale.

**Coupon counts towards books only.
Maximum value \$3. Must present coupon to cashier at checkout.*

Enjoy the Perks of Being Friends

All members receive these special benefits:

Discounts at Local Bookstores and Library Friends Events

- Fuel your literary love with a 10% discount at [select area bookstores](#).
- See your favorite authors live with discounts to [Pen Pals](#) and more.

Special Invites

Have fun with your friends by attending member-only events and members-only preview hours at local library book sales, including Plymouth!

This Plymouth Friends Newsletter

Includes this coupon for a free book at our next Plymouth Library sale! Look for these coupons in every Friends of the Plymouth Library newsletter, sent exclusively to our members before each sale.

The Friends of HCL Newsletter

Receive the latest library and Friends news in the fun and informative [Friends of the Hennepin County Library newsletter](#) along with one-of-a-kind bookmarks!

Ready to join or renew?

Give now at
supporthclib.org/join-plymouth



IMPORTANT: Be sure to select Plymouth as your favorite library when you fill out the form to register as a Plymouth member

Epilogue

Board Meetings

All members are welcome at Board meetings, which are held at the Plymouth Library on the second Thursday of each month from 6–8 PM unless otherwise announced.

Recurring Donation Days

Donations of gently used adult and children's books, DVDs, CDs, and jigsaw puzzles are accepted the first Saturday of each month from 10:30 AM to noon in the meeting room at the Plymouth Library. Donations are also accepted the Friday before each book sale, from 9 AM to 3 PM.

Growing Our Endowment

The Friends of Plymouth Library established an endowment fund in 2022 to support the Hennepin County Library collection well into the future. When we have extra funds, we contribute them to the endowment. Did you know you can contribute, too? There are three options that are commonly used by individuals to help grow an endowment:

1. Making a qualified charitable distribution (QCD)
2. Including the fund in an estate plan
3. Making a legacy gift

Please consider these when making your charitable giving decisions this year. For questions, please contact us at plymouth@supporthclib.org or write us at: Friends of the Plymouth Library, 15700 36th Ave N, Plymouth, MN 55446.

Plymouth Library Hours

Monday–Thursday 9 AM–8 PM
 Friday–Saturday 9 AM–5 PM
 Sunday 12 PM–5 PM

Upcoming library closures: Monday Feb. 16 (President's Day); Monday May 25 (Memorial Day); Friday Jun. 19 (Juneteenth)

Who are we?

The Friends of the Plymouth Library is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Our mission is to support the Plymouth Library by providing resources, promoting programs and services, and strengthening community. FOPL volunteers also assist library staff with many activities throughout the year. Membership is open to all.

Board Members

PRESIDENT	Josh Velasquez
VICE-PRESIDENT	Carrie Almaer
TREASURER	Bernadeen Brutlag
SECRETARY	Ellen Griffin
BOOK SALES	Katherine Jaeger Megan Kohls
DONATION DAYS	Sandy Hogleund Barb Marshall
MEMBERSHIP	Ellen Griffin
COMMUNICATION	Jennie Reece Josh Velasquez
VOLUNTEERS	Sandy Hogleund
EXT. RELATIONS	Cathy Fischer
PLYMOUTH READS	LuAnn Svendsen
NOMINATIONS	Barb Marshall
SOCIAL CHAIR	Shannon Banks
DIRECTORS	Margaret Bird Irma Johnson Brian Wilkerson
TEEN DIRECTOR	Shritha Devaraju
LIBRARY LIAISONS	Joanna Redman Stephanie Steinwedel Steve Richter

Contact Us

plymouth@supporthclib.org
 (612) 543-5825