

## Falling for Friends

Hello, Friends! Here it is fall ... and we're all hoping that books and other Scottsdale Public Library (SPL) resources have helped you through the unusual summer.

There is no escape quite like the one found in a good story or compelling non-fiction in whatever format you prefer. SPL truly has been a "sanity saver."

In this issue, you'll find:

- Information on our new promotional materials
- Another great SPL staff profile
- Updates on our planned future events (pg. 2)
- A report from Library Director Kira Peters (pg. 3)
- A recap from our Friends Book Club (pg. 3)
- Profile of Arizona Caldecott Award winners (pg. 4)

So, please read on so you won't "fall" out of touch with what your Friends are doing to support you and SPL.

Of course, all of our events and activities are first and foremost planned with the safety of our members in mind. We hope to see you as our activities continue.

## New Materials Coming Soon

With fall comes new beginnings, as well as new Friends promotional materials.

Our **updated member brochure** will soon be available online and at SPL branches.

We're also printing a **Friends' bookmark** that will be placed in branches as well as checked out materials picked up at SPL drive-thrus.

Both of these items are to promote Friends membership, so please share them with others interested in supporting SPL and making new Friends.

The bulk of our fundraising comes through memberships, and SPL is especially grateful for the help we can give with special programs and projects right now.

### Staff Profile: Melissa Orr



Melissa Orr is Senior Library Manager for Programs, Outreach, Staff Development and Volunteer Services for SPL. She has worked with SPL for almost 15 years in every branch but Arabian. She *really* knows the Library.

Melissa is from Columbus, GA, famous for RC Cola, Coca Cola, Tom's Snacks and "scrambled dogs" ... and for awarding Melissa the Teacher of the Year award. She was the first librarian to be so honored, recognizing that her role as elementary school librarian is also one of teacher.

She now spends most of her time leading the IDEA (Inspiration, Development, Engagement, and Action) Advocates team at SPL, serving the community through programs, services and outreach opportunities.

Melissa has written grants to fund many SPL special programs, including one to help expand technology to areas of Scottsdale where library services are limited due to COVID-19 closures.

The Friends are also grateful for her support, as she has assisted in creating membership flyers, Library Shop coupons, and event tickets. She is also a wealth of ideas on member benefits.

She is currently working on a process to sell discarded and donated materials from SPL to the Friends which we can sell to raise more funds.

Melissa has been a real friend to Friends!

## Airtime With Authors Debuts Next Month

As you know, Friends members are usually able to enjoy a variety of special activities. Some of these have been put on hold due to COVID-19, but we are excited to announce a special event for November, ***Airtime with Authors***.

This will be a limited attendance, socially-distanced, masks-required, outdoor authors presentation at the Appaloosa branch. It will be open to 25 Friends members.

### Smile ... and Support the Friends

An easy way to make regular donations to Friends is by shopping at AmazonSmile.

Amazon donates 0.5% of each purchase to Friends if you select it as your charity.

Here's how to shop AmazonSmile:

1. Visit [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)
2. Sign in with your Amazon.com user ID and password.
3. Select Friends of the Scottsdale Public Library as your charity.
4. Start shopping!
5. Add a bookmark for [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.

With the holidays coming up, you can contribute to Friends while shopping for gifts.

How easy is that!  


Our first speaker is Scottsdale resident Karen Odden. She is a *USA Today* best-selling author known for the Victorian mysteries, [A Trace of Deceit](#) (winner of the 2020 New Mexico-Arizona Book Award for Best Mystery) and [A Dangerous Duet](#).

Watch your email for more details including date and time. Seats are limited, so you'll want to make your reservation early.

In regards to other planned member events, we are still working with Poisoned Pen bookstore to host author presentations at SPL branches when it is feasible to have larger group indoor events. Book sales, gallery openings, and other activities will resume when it is safe.

Another much-anticipated event, the Spirit of Literacy Awards, has been postponed until spring 2021. At that time the winners selected for 2020 and 2021 will be announced and honored.

## Friends Partner With Phoenix Open

We are excited to announce that Friends is participating in the Thunderbirds sponsored [2021 Birdies for Charity program](#) for the Waste Management Phoenix Open on February 1-7, 2021, and we need your help to maximize our fundraising.

It works like a walk-a-thon, where you can pledge any amount of money (as low as \$.01) for each birdie made by a PGA player at this popular golf event. Typically, there are between 1,300 and 1,800 birdies collected every year, so that's a lot of chirps for Friends.



Watch this newsletter and your email for instructions on how to enter your pledge. In the meantime, get that change jar going, and save those coins for the Friends.

## In the Loop: A Note from the Library Director

By Kira Peters: Director, Scottsdale Public Library

SPL continues to persevere with confidence to provide library service to our community through COVID-19.

Despite all the challenges, unknowns and worry, there are many silver linings for me to report out on and I know we can all use a little good news right now.



### New Virtual Library Branch - Pegasus:



Similar to the rest of the world, SPL swiftly went virtual to meet the needs of our users.

The Pegasus Virtual branch is now available for the public to access on-line library services including registering for and renewing library cards.

I encourage all Friends to check it out at <https://www.scottsdalelibrary.org/virtual-library>.

### Library Usage is Strong:

Both Civic Center and Mustang branches are open to the public four days a week and welcome between 2,000 and 3,000 in-person visitors a week. Patrons are always required to wear masks and keep a safe social distance when using SPL.

The library drive-thrus (Mustang, Arabian and Appaloosa branches) consistently serve 2,200 cars a week. Pictured is the drive-thru at Mustang Library.



Civic Center offers curbside pick-up and serves approximately 230 cars weekly.

### Premiere Customer Service & Innovation | Book Bundles:



In addition to curbside pickup at Civic Center and the virtual Pegasus Branch, SPL is offering Grab and Go Bundles where Library staff will do the browsing for you. Patrons can simply request the bundles when on-site and staff will tell you what bundles are available.

Visit <https://www.scottsdalelibrary.org/books> to learn more.

Thank you to our Friends for supporting SPL. Our mission is Putting People at the Heart of Dynamic Library Services.

### Book Club Update

The Friends zoomed in on [The Library Book](#) by Susan Orlean recently. It was an insightful and interesting discussion about the book that began with a question about the fire at the Los Angeles Public Library in 1986.

The consensus of the group is that everyone who loves books and libraries (would that be you?) should check out [The Library Book](#); SPL has multiple copies in different formats.

Our next book is [The Lions of 5th Avenue](#) by Fiona Davis. We'll meet to discuss on October 22 at 10am. To join us, please email Peggy Sharp Chamberlain ([Peggysharp@aol.com](mailto:Peggysharp@aol.com)).

We'd love to have you in the club.



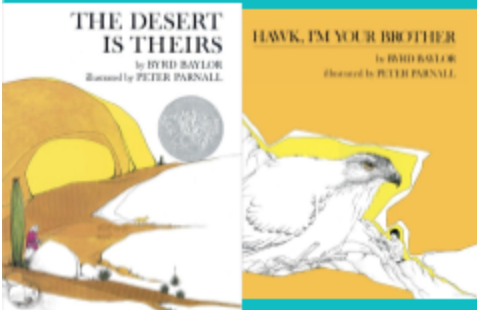
## Arizona Authors Shine With Children's Picture Books

The most prestigious awards for children's picture books are the [Caldecott Medal and Caldecott Honor Awards](#). These awards are given annually by the American Library Association to the most distinguished American picture books for children.

**Three Arizona authors** have won this prestigious award. All of the featured books are available through SPL.

### Byrd Baylor

[The Desert is Theirs](#) and  
[Hawk, I'm Your Brother](#)



**Book synopsis:** [The Desert is Theirs](#) is about how the desert is a unique environment.

[Hawk, I'm Your Brother](#) is about a boy who captures a red-tailed hawk to learn how to fly.

**About the author:** Baylor has written four books that have won a Caldecott Honor Medal. She currently lives in Arivaca, AZ, an unincorporated community near the Mexican border.

### Molly Idle

[Flora and the Flamingo](#)

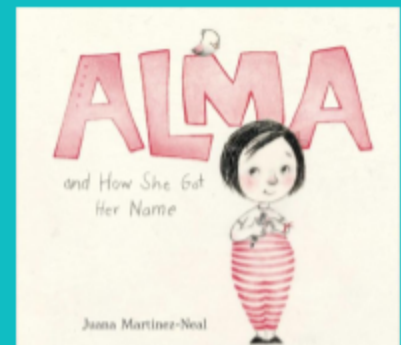


**Book synopsis:** This wordless book tells the story of a friendship dance between a young girl and a flamingo, as the two learn to move together in perfect harmony.

**About the author:** Idle is a former animator who uses her knowledge of film language and love of drawing/painting to do what she has always wanted to do: draw and tell stories. Her first book received the Caldecott Honor Medal.

### Juana Martinez-Neal

[Alma and How She Got Her Name](#)



**Book synopsis:** Alma thinks her name is too long, until she learns the story of the people whose names she was given.

**About the author:** Martinez-Neal received the Caldecott Honor Medal for the first picture book she both wrote and illustrated. To learn more about her, visit [www.juanamartinezneal.com](http://www.juanamartinezneal.com).

SPL also has a DVD reading of this book.

Celebrate this outstanding accomplishment by reading these award-winning books with your children and grandchildren. Members should be on the lookout for a separate document that provides suggested activities for each book.

Remember that picture books can be for all ages. Of the books that have won the Caldecott Honor Medal, [The Desert Is Theirs](#) and [Hawk, I'm Your Brother](#) are poetic for all ages; the books, [Alma and How She Got Her Name](#) and [Flora and the Flamingo](#) are likely for younger children.