

Presented by



# MOVING WORDS

## Writers Across Minnesota



You **invest** in statewide literary programming. Readers and writers across Minnesota **connect** through stories.

In our role as the Minnesota Center for the Book, The Friends will host a series of readings and discussions with Minnesota Book Award winners across the state's 12 regional library systems this year. Moving Words is an opportunity for readers and writers to explore the impact of literature in their lives, how being a Minnesotan informs these stories, and the lens through which we read.

[thefriends.org/movingwords](http://thefriends.org/movingwords)



A proud sponsor of Moving Words, BNSF Railway Foundation supports and improves the quality of life in communities across the 28 states where BNSF operates.

WITH ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FROM:



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1080 Montreal Ave., Suite 2  
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You make your  
community stronger.

Libraries strengthen communities by connecting individuals with resources that enrich and improve lives. As an independent, nonprofit organization, The Friends invests in libraries so that they, and the communities they serve, thrive.

Your investment in The Friends helps make more resources available to more people.

**Thank you for your belief and your support.**

[thefriends.org](http://thefriends.org)

You **Believe** in Your Community.  
You **Invest** in Your Library.

Here are some of the ways your support is making a difference right now.

**“The library is critical to the quality of life in Saint Paul, with resources, classes, and events for all ages.”**  
- Erica,  
Friends supporter





You **invest** in summer learning.  
Saint Paul kids **stay on track** for school.



For Sahra, Summer Spark at Sun Ray Library is a family affair. All three of her daughters have been participating in this free summer learning program for multiple years.

The sisters, Idil – age 7, Iqra – 8, and Mumtaas – 10, love the program. Their favorite part is doing the activities and challenges together. Their mom Sahra is thrilled that not only do the girls have fun and keep busy, they actually get better at reading after each summer in the program. “They even learned new words,” says the mother of three.

As her daughters gear up for another summer at the library, Sahra wants to make sure other parents know just how valuable the library is. “They have reading programs and homework help. The library helps kids and families with their needs,” she says.

“*They have reading programs and homework help. The library helps kids and families with their needs.*”  
- Sahra

Thanks to you, The Friends can fund a full 2/3 of the Summer Spark budget for Saint Paul Public Libraries. Your generous support makes this and other library programs possible and helps set Saint Paul kids up for success in school and in life.

## What is Summer Spark?

The goal of the Summer Spark program is to combat “summer slide” by encouraging kids to have fun, stay active, and keep learning all summer long. With reading challenges and activities geared toward kids and teens of all ages, as well as prizes to keep them engaged, Summer Spark prepares kids for the next school year.

Research has shown that summer programs like this are effective at combatting this loss of knowledge and even raising test scores, particularly for low-income students.

[sppl.org/summer](http://sppl.org/summer)



You **invest** in the Library. Saint Paul residents discover **new resources**.

### Summer Spark Stats:

**4,080** kids participated in 2017.

**50%** more teens participated over previous year.

**97%** of respondents said they enjoy reading more because of Summer Spark.

**95%** of respondents said they read more often because of Summer Spark.

Ages: **18 & under**      Cost: **Free**

Location: **All 13 SPPL branches + the Bookmobile**



Saint Paul Public Library officially launched their new website this spring. As a Friends supporter, we hope you'll take a tour of this fantastic, user-friendly tool. Here's what's new:



### smarter searching.

Search the catalog like you search the web. Simply type what you're looking for, like “new teen books” or “new ebooks” and presto, you've got great results!



### better browsing.

Easily find the exact item and format you're looking for, whether it's a book, e-book, CD or DVD. Or journey down a wonderful rabbit hole of recommended content.



### your library. personalized.

Rate items, leave reviews, create lists, and share them with your friends and family—all from your new library dashboard. More than ever, this is your *personal* library!