The Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library is the Center for the Book in Minnesota, designated by the Library of Congress. The Friends was honored with this distinction largely because of the success of our statewide programs, including the Minnesota Book Awards.

As Minnesota's Center for the Book, The Friends produces dynamic programming to promote reading, literacy, and libraries that benefits all ages and reaches all corners of the state.

**By the Numbers ▼**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>2,285</strong></th>
<th>60</th>
<th><strong>28</strong></th>
<th><strong>68</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>attendees at all 2023 programs</td>
<td>counties with people participating in programs</td>
<td>author programs per year</td>
<td>different authors who participated in programs in 2023</td>
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</table>

100% of 2023 Moving Words attendees agreed that the program “gave them a greater understanding of the range of stories written by Minnesotans” and “increased their connection with their library.”

80% of One Book | One Minnesota participants reported conversations about the featured title with others; about half felt more connected to their community through participation in discussion.

**Programs ▼**

The Friends produces a variety of programs designed to connect Minnesota readers and writers of all ages.

- **One Book | One Minnesota**
  Virtual, statewide book club

- **Fireside Reading Series**
  Intimate author talks in Saint Paul libraries

- **Moving Words**
  Discussions in libraries with Minnesota Book Award winners and finalists

- **Minnesota Book Awards**
  Year-long program celebrating and connecting readers and writers

- **Minnesota Writers on the Map**
  Print and digital resource for noteworthy Minnesota writers

- **Minnesota Writers Directory**
  Digital directory of current authors in Minnesota available for engagements

**What Participants Say**

“**One Book | One Minnesota presentations are always outstanding!”**

“I loved “listening in” to the conversation between two Native women who are authors. I thought they were both wonderful. I learned things about Native culture I hadn’t thought about.”

“Amazing common threads among diverse work. The authors shared a wealth of knowledge and experience to a captivated audience.”