Save the Dates!

Plans for the 28th edition of Literary Feast 2016 are under way. LitLUNCH!, the popular women's luncheon featuring a best-selling author, will take place on Friday, Feb. 5 at the Hyatt Regency Pier 66’s Pier Top overlooking Fort Lauderdale. The event includes champagne, lunch, the author's talk, book sales and signings and a silent auction. Tickets are $75.

A month later, on Saturday, March 5, the Library Foundation’s signature fundraising event, A Night of Literary Feasts, begins with a Welcome Reception at the Main Library, 100 S. Andrews Ave., in downtown Fort Lauderdale, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. “With the Main Library’s renovation work completed, we’re so pleased to bring the Night of Literary Feasts back home,” said Executive Director Dorothy Klein. All of the Feast authors will attend the reception, which will include book sales and signings and a silent auction. Guests go on to a series of gourmet dinners with an author in private homes and restaurants. Tickets begin at $175.

For more information, visit bplfoundation.org or call 954.357.7382.

The Broward Public Library Foundation has a new look, and a special offer!

Our new logo is designed to convey a sense of place – sunny South Florida … and mission – supporting Broward County Library programs and services. The new website, at bplfoundation.org, is mobile-friendly and easy to navigate. It also makes it easier for you to donate online, with immediate processing of your donations. In addition to our newsletter, we’d like to stay in touch with you online. We send email news about upcoming events, and also the e-version of our bimonthly newsletter. If you’re not an e-newsletter subscriber, sign up today at bplfoundation.org and you’ll be entered into a drawing for a $100 Amazon gift card. The drawing will be held in mid-October. Please explore the website, tell your friends about it, and let Executive Director Dorothy Klein know what you think (dklein@bplfoundation.org).

Book With Brunch Season Opens October 14

The Book With Brunch season kicks off on Wednesday, Oct. 14, with Brian Bandell, a senior reporter at the South Florida Business Journal, speaking about his latest book, Famous After Death. This thriller, set in South Florida, features a group of teens who share murders on social media, where they garner millions of hits and yet live in total obscurity.

Held at 10:30 a.m. at ArtServe (1350 E. Sunrise Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale), Book With Brunch takes place three times yearly as a membership benefit for Foundation members at the $50 level and above. Bandell will speak, sell and sign his book at this event, which is limited to the first 50 registrants; if room permits, non-members may attend by paying a $25 non-refundable fee in advance. Please call 954.357.7382 to make your reservation; all reservations will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

Mystery at Main Library

It’s a “Mystery at Main: The Case of the Prosperous Patron” – will you be the one to solve it? On Saturday, Oct. 17, from 2 to 4 p.m., Main Library (100 S. Andrews Ave., Fort Lauderdale) will host a free interactive murder mystery, starting in the first floor auditorium. Participants will witness a re-enactment of the crime and join teams of investigators as they explore Main Library, collecting clues, narrowing down suspects and ultimately cracking the case.

Refreshments will be served, courtesy of the Friends of the Fort Lauderdale Libraries. Call 954.357.7475 to register.
BPLF Heroes Help Students Avoid Summer Slide

The Broward Public Library Foundation committed over $30,000 in support of Broward County Library’s 2015 Summer R.E.A.Ding Programs, “Every Hero Has A Story” for children and “Unmask” for teens. And thanks to 100 of our generous donor “heroes,” we were able to raise $30,000!

The research is clear:
- Children who don’t read during the summer can lose up to three months of reading progress.
- 100% of students experience summer learning loss if they don’t engage in education activities over the summer.
- 4 to 6 weeks is the time it takes teachers to re-teach material that students have forgotten over the summer.

But the thousands of children who participated in the Summer Reading Program, including the 40 Foundation-funded programs, not only had a good time and merited incentives and prizes for their reading efforts, they also built reading into their summer routine and avoided the “summer slide.”

A new online version of the program allowed the children to track their reading and activities on their computers or mobile devices, and the Library expanded the summer program’s offerings to teens with two very well-received programs: a Super Science Explorers Summer Camp for students in grades 5-10 at two locations, North Lauderdale and Jan Moran Collier City Learning Library; and an 18-session coding camp at the Carver Ranches Library that taught them how to transition from being consumers of technology to creators of technology.

The Library Foundation — and Broward County’s young readers — are very grateful to all who supported the 2015 Summer Reading Program at Broward County Library.

Volunteer’s Gift Provides for English Café

Fred Karr has volunteered with Broward County Library’s English Café program at the North Regional and Margate branches for nine years because he believes it is “extremely valuable to our community.” English Café is designed for people who primarily speak other languages and want to practice and improve English conversation, pronunciation, reading and writing skills. Recently, Fred approached Assistant Regional Library Manager Ronnie Kwali to discuss the possibility of making a planned gift to the program. Ronnie told him that such a gift could purchase workbooks, vocabulary books, learning tools and DVDs that otherwise could not be provided.

Dorothy Klein, Broward Public Library Foundation’s Executive Director, called Fred to discuss his generous offer of a life insurance policy through his former employer, the federal government. He wanted to make Broward County Library’s English Café a beneficiary.

Dorothy told Fred that using life insurance for giving is simple and cost-efficient. Unlike a bequest made by will, a life insurance gift avoids the costs and delays in the probate process and the administering of the estate. With life insurance, the donor makes premium payments and the beneficiary ends up with a substantial gift of the policy proceeds.

Do you have an insurance policy that you no longer need for its original purpose? Please consider making the Broward Public Library Foundation your beneficiary. Call Dorothy Klein at 954.357.7469 or email her at dklein@bplfoundation.org to discuss this or any other planned giving vehicles.

Like Fred Karr, you too could make a huge difference in the lives of many people in your community!

Author Sue Monk Kidd to Speak at Posnack JCC

Best-selling author Sue Monk Kidd will be the featured speaker Oct. 29 at the David Posnack Jewish Community Center’s “What Are You Reading Now” evening for book club members, an event of the Diane & Barry Wilen Jewish Book Festival. The Broward Public Library Foundation is the JCC’s Community Partner that evening.

Oprah Winfrey selected Kidd’s latest book, The Invention of Wings, as her third selection for Oprah’s Book Club 2.0. In announcing her selection in 2014, she said, “It is impossible to read this book and not come away thinking differently about our status as women and about all the unsung heroines who played a role in getting us to where we are.

“The novel tells the story of four women from Charleston, South Carolina—two sisters from the prosperous white Grimké family and an African American mother and daughter who are the Grimkés’ house slaves. All four share an ardent desire to break free: Sarah and Angelina Grimké from the constraints of being female in the early 19th century, and Hetty and her mother, Charlotte, from the bonds of slavery.”

General admission tickets for the event, which begins at 7:30 p.m., are $25 and include dessert and a book signing after Kidd’s talk. VIP admission is $36 and includes a meet & greet with a book signing before the author presentation.

The David Posnack JCC is at 5850 S. Pine Island Rd., Davie. For tickets, call 954.434.0499 or visit dpjcc.org.

Members Only Book Club Meets Regularly

Looking for friendship and stimulating literary conversation? Wednesday’s Women may be just the book club you need. Participation in this group is open to Foundation members at the $100 Bibliophile level or higher and features regular monthly meetings where assigned books are moderated and discussed. Wednesday’s Women groups meet in both eastern and western Broward County; to view the upcoming schedule, visit our website at bplfoundation.org/wednesdays-women.

Make the Foundation Your Amazon Smile Beneficiary

Do you shop on Amazon.com? If so, Amazon has a program that lets you designate our Foundation to receive .5% of your qualifying purchases. It’s called AmazonSmile and it only takes a minute to sign up and choose the Broward Public Library Foundation as your “shopping beneficiary.” Just visit http://bit.ly/G8Em4c to sign up and then shop as you normally would. We appreciate your support!

Receiving our E-mails?

If you aren’t already receiving our e-mails and would like to sign-up to receive timely information from the Broward Public Library Foundation, please call 954.357.7384.