

## JOIN US...

- Enroll me as a new member
- Renew my membership
- Give a membership to the person below

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Individual/family:           \$10.00/year

Additional contribution:    \$\_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED:         \$\_\_\_\_\_

- I would also like to help the Friends at the Library -- my area(s) of interest are:

Make your check payable to,  
**Friends of the Norwalk Public Library System** and mail it with this form to:

**Friends of the  
Norwalk Public Library System**  
PO BOX 507  
Belden Station

Norwalk, CT 06852-0507



Donations can also be made through  
the library's website

## LIBRARY HOURS

The Norwalk Public Library System, with our open access to diverse resources, is the information and cultural center for Norwalk citizens and businesses.

### NORWALK PUBLIC LIBRARY

MAIN LIBRARY

203.899.2780

1 Belden Avenue, Norwalk, CT 06850

Monday, Wednesday and Thursday

9:00 am - 8:30 pm

Tuesday, Friday, Saturday

9:00 am - 5:30 pm

Sunday - 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

### SOUTH NORWALK BRANCH LIBRARY

203.899.2790

10 Washington Street, SN, CT 06854

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday,

Friday and Saturday

9:00 am - 5:30 pm

Tuesday

12:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Sunday - 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Library System Closed Holidays

BOOK DROP OPEN 24 HOURS 063017

## LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

The Norwalk Public Library System offers a large range of public activities, including:

- Art Displays • Authors • Book Discussions • Chess •
  - Children's Programs • Story Times • Music Concerts •
  - Computer Classes • 3D Maker Space • Reading Programs •
  - Teen Programs • Exercise Programs and much more •
- Your Library Card is FREE -- It is a Connecticard which can be used at all other Connecticut libraries.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND  
ACTIVITIES -- VISIT:

[www.norwalkpubliclibrary.org](http://www.norwalkpubliclibrary.org)

*"There is not such a cradle of democracy upon the earth as the Free Public Library, this republic of letters, where neither rank, office, nor wealth receives the slightest consideration."*

-- Andrew Carnegie

# Become a Friend of the



## NORWALK Public Library

# Help Build a

# Better Library

## WHO "WE" ARE...

**Friends of the Norwalk Public Library System** is an active, non-profit all volunteer organization.

We sponsor activities in the Norwalk Public Library System, such as:

- ✓ Programs for children in the South Norwalk Branch and Main Library at Belden Avenue.
- ✓ Sponsoring guest authors and lecturers for free afternoon and evening programs.
- ✓ Organizing library book sales to raise funds for special Library needs not provided for in the budget.
- ✓ Organizing donated materials by sorting and categorizing them for the on-going book sale and Fall/Spring sales.

### Visit the expanded Book Sale and Gift Shop.

- ✓ Providing useful information on our activities for the library's website. (Friends of the NPL System Received an Outstanding Friend's Group Award from the Friends of Connecticut Libraries).
- ✓ Assisting at the larger book sales and Saturday/Sunday Friends Café.
- ✓ Meeting the first Monday evening of each month to plan and share ideas.

**Friends' volunteers are the backbone of our organization.**

Partial funding for the "Take Flight at the SoNo Library" project was provided by the Friends of the Norwalk Public Library. The quilt was designed by



Lizzy Rockwell, a children's book author and illustrator, and the artistic director for Peace by Piece, and assembled and hand quilted by the Peace by Piece community quilters. The quilt utilizes patches of fabric art generated on the theme, "Take Flight at the SoNo Library" during workshops at the SoNo Library, Peace by Piece meetings, and Christie's Quilting Boutique. Quilting done at SoNo Library quilting bee and was installed in the Spring of 2015.

## LIBRARY HISTORY...

The collection of written knowledge in some sort of repository is a practice as old as civilization itself.

In 1853 the City of Norwalk, in a letter to the editor of the then Gazette, was urged to "organize a library." Though the public library first appeared by the fourth century BC, the private library was more prevalent. Aristotle, for instance, amassed a large private collection. Ancient geographer Strabo said Aristotle "was the first to have put together a collection of books and to have taught the kings in Egypt how to arrange a library."

Between 1855 and 1878 - when the private Norwalk Library Corporation was chartered - the community had limited use of a Reading Room at the Norwalk Institute (until the Civil War), the YMCA Library, a Book Club (30 members), and the Mercantile Library.

In 1879 the Norwalk Library Corporation, charging \$2.00 to each member enabled the City's first Public Library.

On July 18, 1896 the library was legally incorporated by the City of Norwalk - housed, temporarily at 67 Wall Street, and then at 20 Wall Street (next to the Boston Store).

The Carnegie Building, built in 1902, at 1 Belden Avenue - on land formerly the Lawn Tennis Club and donated by a Norwalk citizen - became the main building of the **Norwalk Public Library**. Its funding came from The Carnegie Foundation.

The Main Library was expanded in 1982 and continues to be updated to meet community needs.

**The South Norwalk Branch Library**, built in 1913, located at 10 Washington Street, also funded by The Carnegie Foundation, was renovated in 2006 and continues to be updated.

Among many other amenities, the expansion and renovation includes a large meeting/community room, computer room, quiet reading room, a children's activity room and children's reading room.

The South Norwalk Branch Library offers greater access to current technology and additional benefits for it's public and the South Norwalk community.



## HOW WE HELP...

- ✓ For the South Norwalk Branch Library 21st Century Fund -- we've contributed \$25,000 to help purchase computer equipment and furnishings.



*The "Friends" present a \$25,000 check to the South Norwalk Branch Library 21st Century Fund*



*Among many other contributions, the Friends purchased a van for Library use.*

- ✓ We underwrite the cost of Music Concerts at the Library.
- ✓ We've purchased Pentium PC's and printers for public use as well as special-use equipment.
- ✓ We support programs and prizes for children, teen reading, staff appreciation lunches, and help with grounds maintenance.
- ✓ We arranged for the mural in the Main library and paintings for the Children's Library.
- ✓ Purchased furniture.& equipment for the Teen Room, Children's Library and Reading Area at the Main library.
- ✓ The Community Room at the South Norwalk Branch Library is named Friends of the Norwalk Public Library System Community Room in honor of the contributions made by the Friends organization.
- ✓ And more, and with your help, much more.

**Want to help? Join us Today...**

**GO TO FRIENDS LISTING ON LIBRARY WEBSITE**

[www.norwalkpubliclibrary.org](http://www.norwalkpubliclibrary.org)