

# FOBL NEWS

| Newsletter of the Friends of the Bear Library |

## Contact Information

Friends of the Bear Library

P.O. Box 668  
Bear DE 19701

Friends of the Bear Library Website:  
[DE-FOBL.org](http://DE-FOBL.org)

Phone: 302 838-3300 and leave a message with the library staff.

Email: [FOBearLib@DE-FOBL.org](mailto:FOBearLib@DE-FOBL.org)

Facebook: Friends of the Bear Library

Meetings: Third Wednesday of Jan.,  
May, July, Sept. & Nov., at 7p.m.

Annual Meeting: in March. Time and date to be announced.



## Greetings Friends,

The next time you visit the Bear Library, LOOK UP as you enter the building. Notice anything different?

Our Library entrance now greets visitors with a glorious display of three large wind sculptures, which are located in the landscape island opposite the flagpole. A gift from The Friends of the Bear Library, the metal sculptures were designed and hand crafted by Lyman Whitaker, a renowned Utah-based artist. Whitaker's art is included in public and private collections around the world, including museums, galleries, arboretums and the royal gardens of The Netherlands. Referred to as "kinetic" art because they move, the sculptures respond to changing currents of the wind, altering their shapes in a mesmerizing exhibition of interweaving patterns as they spin. According to the FOBL website, compiled by Dave Guinnup and Carol Harrington, coordinators for the project, "(We believe that) ...this aesthetically pleasing installation of kinetic art harmonizes with the architecture and spirit of the Bear Library." We hope that the sculptures enrich the experience of the community and those who enter our Library doors. The Friends are grateful to Dave and Carol for overseeing the project and to EDiS Company for donating their installation services to Bear Library and New Castle County. A true community partner!

Come inside the Library to see what other surprises are awaiting this Fall. September is Library Card Sign-Up Month, so be sure to apply for a library card if you don't already have one. The Friends of the Bear Library will be hosting a membership drive in the Library September 6, 8, and 9. Please become a member so that we may continue to be not only the busiest library in the State, but also the most innovative!

See you at the Bear Library!

*Connie Malin*, President

## Memberships & Donors

### New and Renewals:

Mary Anne Giordano  
 Cheryl Rice-Moore  
 Wanda Y Washington  
 Fred Stiner  
 Gail Yeager  
 Carolyn Manning  
 Leona Sklodowski  
 Evelyn P Elison  
 Katherine Smart  
 Gloria Rudolph  
 Cathy Emerson  
 Sondra Draper  
 Elizabeth Schnepf  
 Linda Olds

### Donors:

Gay Corrie  
 Cheryl Rice-Moore  
 Linda Olds  
 Wells Fargo Matching Gifts  
 Foundation

Your donations and membership dues are used by the Friends to support extras for the Bear Library.

We appreciate your help.

Thank you!!

## From the Library Manager:

September is Library Card Sign Up Month, a time when the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries across the country join together to remind parents, caregivers and students that signing up for a library card is the first step towards academic achievement and lifelong learning.

Here in Delaware, libraries have introduced two new library cards specifically for children to coincide with the National Library Card Sign Up Month celebration; the First Library Card and the Super Kids Card.

The First Library Card is for children ages 0-5- it has a borrowing limit of 12 items. Items can only be children's items, and there are no late fees for items brought back late. The Super Kids Card is for children ages 6-12. It has a borrowing limit of 12 items, items can only be children's items, and it also has no late fees for items brought back late.

One of the challenges families have with children's library accounts is returning library materials on time and not getting charged late fees. These new cards seek to overcome this barrier and make using the library a bit easier for families with children. However, users will still be charged the replacement cost for items that are damaged, lost, or not returned.

If you have young children these cards may be for you. Ask about them the next time you are at the library!

Until next time.

**Eric Kuhn**     **Manager, Bear Library**

## Adults Services

It is difficult to believe that Fall will soon be upon us. Our Summer Reading Challenge is over for the year, and we're turning our sights toward all things Autumn: a new school year, hopefully, cooler weather, and pumpkin spice everything.

Before we completely get onboard the hay wagon, however, I'd like to take a moment to congratulate Arwen C. Arwen was the lucky winner of the 2018 Adult Summer Reading raffle. She received the wonderful gift of a Fitbit Versa, the brand new style of the popular Fitbit fitness tracker. In addition to monitoring the

wearer's heartbeat, level of physical activity, and food intake, the Versa can also access the Internet, allowing the wearer to do Internet searches and check e-mail and text messages from the convenience of wrist-worn device. I would like to thank the Friends of the Bear Library for graciously providing such an exceptional prize for our Adult Summer Reading program, and for their continued support of the program. Libraries rock, and so does the Friends of the Bear Library.

Almost as soon as the Summer Reading Challenge ends, we all start thinking about Back to School activities. Would you like resources to help your child with schoolwork? Maybe you want to support what your child is learning in school with challenging exercises and activities. Over the Summer, Bear Library has been building our nonfiction book collection with lots of books that will help parents and caregivers support and encourage their children's educational goals. Whether it's reading, math, or other Common Core subjects, Bear Library has you covered with study guides for all ages of students, from Kindergarten to 12th grade. Take a look at the 372 section of our nonfiction section to see all of the educational study guides we have. Better yet, ask a staff member at the INFO desk. They'll be happy to help you find the specific books you need.

Have a great school year, students, teachers, parents, and caregivers, and remember, Bear Library is always here to help you meet your educational goals.

**Lisa Burris**     **Adult Services Librarian**

For program information, please, check the Bear Library website: [nccde.org/Bear](http://nccde.org/Bear)

## Introducing Kyra Carmack

According to Bear Library Manager Eric Kuhn, "Kyra plays with slime!" Kyra Carmack, the new Children's Library Specialist, is going to be hosting a Monster Slime program with her young charges at the Bear Library. It is an activity that encourages children to be creative while having fun. She wants to initiate lots of other hands-on projects for kids, including children's cooking sessions, during which they would make simple, healthy fare that doesn't require an oven. Suggested recipes include those for apple doughnuts, bagels and fruit skewers. After taste testing their creations, participants will make individual take-home cookbooks to share with their families. Responsible for kids ages kindergarten through middle school, Kyra's duties include ordering board books, easy readers and picture books; initiating and overseeing some children's programming; and working at the INFO desk. Countywide, she is a member of the Common Core Committee, which closely follows school standards in library programs, including STEM and STEAM (which adds art to the programs); and she often attends Technology Committee meetings.

Kyra was born in Seaford, Delaware, but the family moved to the Wilmington/Hockessin area when she was 7 years old. She graduated from Cab Calloway School of the Arts, where she was a vocal major. She also plays the flute and "basic" piano. An interest in science led Kyra to study biology at the University of Delaware, but she became disenchanted with all the non-biology courses required for a degree. She subsequently discounted a career in music because of the requirement to be proficient on a variety of musical instruments, even if she majored in voice. However, she really had a calling in the English and Language Arts field. So, ultimately, she changed her major in attempts to teach the language to middle and high school grade students. While continuing her education at the University of Delaware, Kyra got a job in Circulation at the Elsmere Library, where she worked for 3 years. Eventually she received a degree in English Education in 2015. Through her experiences at the Elsmere Library, Kyra realized that being a librarian was her calling and decided to pursue a Master's Degree in Educational Technology with a concentration in library science which she earned in 2017. She hopes one day to pursue a PhD in children's literature as well.

Kyra spent a year teaching at Richie Elementary School, where she served as part time librarian. She worked at Hockessin Library from March through July of this year, before becoming a full time Library Specialist at Bear Library.

Kyra comes from a family of educators. Her mother is a public school music and band instructor. Her father, a current member of the Red Clay School District Office, was a former school administrator and photography teacher. Younger sister, Elyse, teaches 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Mathematics at Aspira Academy; and an aunt, paternal grandfather, and maternal grandmother were all teachers/administrators.

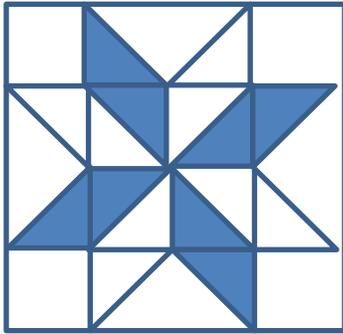
An animal lover, Kyra has had many different kinds of pets, whose death dates she tattoos on her wrist in Morse code as a bracelet design. Her current pet is "Omen", a 2 year old cat so named because he is all black. Omen was found under her friend's porch in poor shape when he was just a kitten. Omen is smart, but fearful of men, although he has warmed up to the men among Kyra's family and friends. Kyra also is fascinated by crows and ravens because they are clever birds. She cites a Native American folk tale, "How Crow Got Its Black Feathers", as a story that celebrates the bird's ingenuity.

Kyra's favorite number is 12, which she also has tattooed on her arm, because it is "the beginning, middle, and end of time". The number reminds her that everyone deserves a second chance and to be kind to others because "what goes around, comes around". She also has the word DREAMER in Morse code running down her arm as a clock hand from the number 12. She respects diversity and desires an equality band as a future tattoo. Her varied interests include singing at church, volunteering at the church clothes closet, drawing, reading, writing, and costume design. Passionate about anime and manga, Kyra and her friends plan to attend the Katsucon Convention in Washington, DC, dressed as Sailor Moon characters, which empower women as superheroes. Her musical preferences include Korean pop, alternative rock, indie pop/rock, and folk-- especially Fleet Foxes. She likes some theater and enjoyed the play "Noises Off" and the musical "Urinetown" which she found to be an enjoyable surprise considering the name. She teaches martial arts with her father, holds a black belt in Taekwondo, and teaches Korean Hapkido at the Delaware Hapkido Martial Arts Academy. Favorite TV shows include "Steven Universe", "Voltron", and "My Hero Academia", which she watches in Japanese on HULU. Kyra has traveled the East Coast, including Montreal, Canada. She plans to visit Germany next year as a chaperone for Cab Calloway students on their annual Italy trip. South Korea is on her travel wish list, as well as Japan for the Summer Olympics in 2020. She hopes to visit London, famous for its ravens, and the site of many of her favorite books and stories.

Kyra reads fantasy fiction and young adult books that encourage readers to create their own worlds and rules. She cites two series, PENDRAGON by D.J. McHale and DARKER SHADE OF MAGIC by Victoria Schwab, as particular favorites. Kyra once delighted author Schwab by appearing at a convention dressed as a character from one of Schwab's books! But Kyra's all-time favorite book is PETER PAN by J.M. Barrie. Dyslexic as a child, she was discouraged by a teacher who told her that the book was much too difficult for her. Kyra became determined to finish the book and was resolute to learn about its creation and the meaning behind Barrie's words to prove that she could read at a more difficult level. With years of practice, she has been able to overcome the majority of her dyslexia. She explained that she still finds being asked to read constantly changing fonts and passages aloud for the first time a little difficult, but she is not afraid of a good challenge.

What an inspiration to children!

**CSM**



**"Are you a quilter?** The Friends of the Bear Library want to sponsor a **Community Quilt** for auction to help support programs, materials, equipment, and furnishings at the Bear Library. The queen-sized quilt will feature Pinwheel, Churn Dash, Star and modified 9-patch squares in blue, yellow and ivory (Delaware colors!). We hope to complete the quilt by the end of January and to auction it off by early May, in time for Dover Days. Kits with complete details and instructions to be made available soon. Anyone interested in completing a square should contact [beverly.s.wright@gmail.com](mailto:beverly.s.wright@gmail.com) for more information."

## From the Children's Room

Summer is always a delightfully busy time for staff in the Children's Room at the Bear Library. Almost 800 children and teens participated in this year's Summer Reading Challenge. Participants who read 10+ hours received books, "Libraries Rock" tote bags, Blue Rocks tickets, and completion certificates. Those with more than 50 hours of reading were entered into a raffle sponsored by the Friends of the Bear Library. Seven lucky winners received \$25 Barnes & Noble gift certificates and book prizes. At our end of the Summer Reading celebration, a Mr. Softee truck, also funded by the Friends, visited the library and served more than 200 ice cream cones to excited kids and their families.

Throughout June, July, and August, the Bear Library also hosted numerous fun and educational programs for kids and teens. We enjoyed musical performances, interactive theatre, science programs, story times, and hands-on crafts. Particular highlights were Mike Rose with his magic show and Baba Bomani whose collaborative performance, featuring music, call and response, and rhythmic movement hit a high note with the audience.

### PAGES - A Literary Magazine for Kids, by Kids

Starting October 1st, the Bear Library will be asking children ages 4-11 to share their creativity with us. Kids will be able to submit an 8-1/2"x11" sheet of paper with a poem, joke, comic, essay, short story, or with hand-drawn art. Library staff will publish our favorites in a magazine! Entry forms are available at the Children's Desk.

**Submissions accepted: October 1 - December 16, 2018**

## Renate Cummings

## Youth Services Librarian

### Membership Application

- |  |           |
|--|-----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student                     | \$ 5.00   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior                      | \$ 5.00   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual                  | \$ 10.00  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family                      | \$ 15.00  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business/Civic Organization | \$ 25.00  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Good Friend                 | \$ 50.00  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Better Friend               | \$ 100.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Best Friend                 | \$ 500.00 |

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

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

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

E-mail:\* \_\_\_\_\_

\*We will not share your email address with others.

Please consider receiving your newsletter via email. It will save us the cost of printing and postage so that we can use our funds to enrich the library. Email us at FOBear [lib@FOBL.org](mailto:lib@FOBL.org) to enroll. Thank you!!

New  Renewal

I would like to help in the following areas:

- Newsletter
- Hospitality
- Membership
- Fund-raising
- Public Relations

The Friends of the Bear Library, Assoc. is a not for profit 501(c)3 organization. Your donation should be tax deductible.

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