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Hi Friends!

Here are some things I would like to share with you, some dates to mark on your calendar.

National Library Week April 19–25, 2026

A time to highlight the valuable role libraries, librarians and library workers play in transforming lives and strengthening communities. The Duluth Library Foundation has events planned for the week. "Check out" their website at duluthlibraryfoundation.org for details.

Sunday the 19th Storytime and crafts at the Great Lakes Aquarium

Tuesday the 21st Are you smarter than a librarian?

Trivia at Bent Paddle Brewing

Wednesday the 22nd Book Bingo at Wild State Cider

Thursday the 23rd Take Action for Libraries at The Depot

The Friends of the Duluth Public Library will be tabling at this event. Stop by and "check us out."

Saturday the 23rd Pages and Pines: Where Books and Nature Come Together at Jay Cooke State Park

Want to help? Have time to volunteer?

Check this out: decc.org/about-the-decc/fundraising-at-the-decc/

The Friends of the Library is one of the organizations supported by this program. I have been volunteering there for various events (robotics, concerts, hockey, graduations, home and sport shows) for three years with my "paycheck" going to the Friends. If you are interested, please call Marcia at 218-576-5531.

1-Day Book Sale at the West Duluth Library

Get ready for the Fourth of July with some reading material which can be found at a book sale at West Duluth. Previously known as "Spirit Valley Days book sale."

Thursday, July 2, 2026
10:00AM–7:00PM
in the alcove

Come "check it out"!

Marcia K. Semerau, *President*
Friends of the Duluth Public
Library



CARLA'S CORNER

SPRING 2026

One of the fun things about libraries is that they give you a chance to explore something new without making a big financial commitment. Want to learn a new language? We have books (and audiobooks!) for that. Tired of the same old board games at home? Check out some new ones from the library. Are your kids or grandkids getting bored with their toys? Come to the Main Library and pick out a new one from our checkout toy collection.

If you are curious about induction cooking, DPL now has kits you can borrow to give it a try. The kits, which were donated by the Sustainable Resources Center, each include an induction cooktop, a couple of pots and pans, an instruction manual, and an informational brochure. The kits can be placed on hold, and they check out for two weeks.

The library's popular community pass program has a new addition as well. The Lake Superior YMCA has generously donated eight passes for checkout. Four of the passes are meant for one adult age 18+. The other four are for two adults and their children. The passes

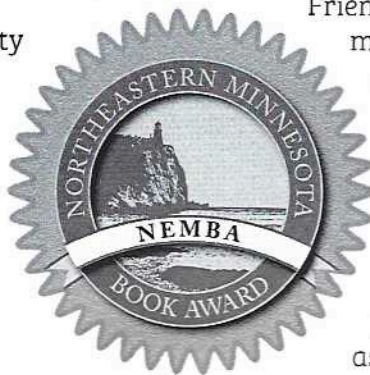


can be used at the Y in Duluth, Hermantown and Superior. They are like a week-long YMCA membership, allowing for multiple visits through the due date. You can use them to access exercise facilities, pools, gyms, and group exercise classes. Like other community passes, they are available on a first-come, first-served basis. They do not allow for hold

Borrowing library books rather than buying them has always been a great way to save money. But these days there are lots of other options besides books to check out. I invite you to visit the Duluth Public Library soon to see what's new. It might inspire you to try out something you haven't done before ... and save a little money while you're at it!



The Northeastern Minnesota Book Awards (NEMBA) were established in 1988 to recognize books that represent northeastern Minnesota in the areas of culture, heritage, lifestyle, and history. The University of Minnesota Duluth originally administrated NEMBA, but after a hiatus year in 2021, NEMBA was restarted by Lake Superior Writers. In 2025, the Board of Directors for the Friends of the Duluth Public Library approved a donation to NEMBA, and the Board also agreed to have a member of its board serve on the NEMBA committee to help facilitate NEMBA's reemergence. All promotional and marketing materials for NEMBA prominently include the



Friends as a sponsor, which the Board of Directors for the Friends felt was an excellent opportunity to spread the word about the Friends organization and reach new members. Happily, NEMBA was a success in 2025 with a well-attended awards ceremony at the Depot where all nominated authors were welcome to promote their respective books. The Friends of the Duluth Public Library was specifically identified at the awards ceremony as a valuable sponsor. NEMBA will continue in 2026 with the book nomination process expected to begin in the coming months.

—Jose Gonzalo

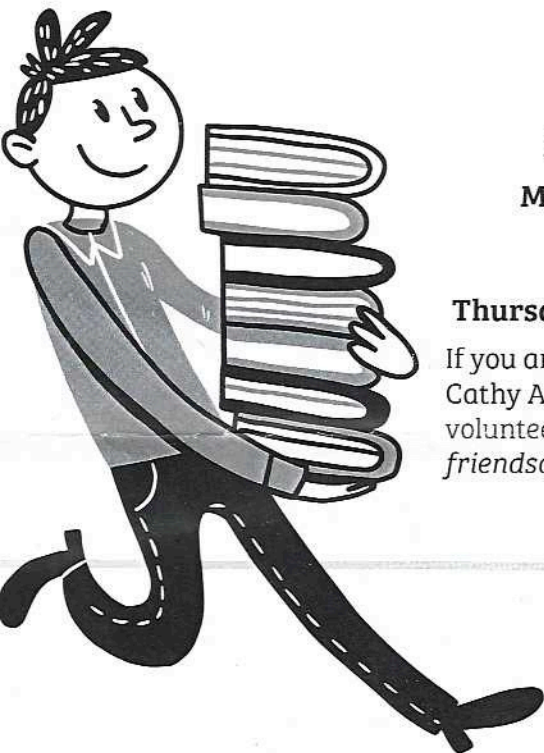
Friends of the Duluth Public Library Annual Meeting

Tuesday, May 19, 2026, 4:00-5:30PM

Duluth Public Library Downtown green room

Meet the Board and several of the Library staff, hear from the Library Manager, read our year in review, ask questions, socialize with other Friends members, and enjoy some refreshments.

**SAVE
THE DATE**



DATE CHANGE: Annual book sale

August 24-27, 2026 at the Main Library

Monday the 24th, 10:00AM-4:30PM (members only)

Tuesday the 25th, 10:00AM-7:30PM

Wednesday the 26th, 10:00AM-4:30PM

Thursday the 27th, 10:00AM-2:00PM (bag sale in select rooms)

If you are interested in helping at the sale, reach out to Dick and Cathy Andree at 218-724-2185 or rjacao@yahoo.com. The volunteer sign up form will be available on the Friends website at friendsofdpl.com soon as well as in the next newsletter.

GOURD DAYS

Friday-Sunday, September 11-12-13, 2026
10:00AM-4:00PM, Harbor Drive by the DECC

There will be local vendors setup along Harbor Drive with food, kid activities, pumpkin bounce house and inflatable toddler farm town! There will be places to relax & enjoy the fall breeze off the lake with a beverage in hand. Plenty of pumpkins & photo-ops and best of all, free to attend!

Event and description by Duluth Loves Local and Wonderfully Made

The Friends plan on hosting a Book Cabin at this event. We are looking for help envisioning what this can be, setting up, folks to stay with the cabin during the event, and take down at the end.

If you have questions or might be interested, contact Marcia at 218-576-5531 or at msemerau@hotmail.com.



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City _____ State _____ Zip _____
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Make checks payable to / Mail to:
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Duluth, MN 55802

