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**October 20, 2021**

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***Worcester Public Library and City Officials Celebrate  
National Friends of Libraries Week and Honor Friends of WPL***

*The Friends of Worcester Public Library will be hosting an open house and membership event at the Friends Bookstore on Saturday, October 23.*

Worcester, MA – The Worcester Public Library (WPL) honored the Friends of the Worcester Public Library with the help of Mayor Joseph M. Petty and City Manager Edward M. Augustus, Jr. on Tuesday, October 19. The Friends received a proclamation from the Mayor during their monthly meeting, proclaiming the week of October 17, 2021 to be Friends of Libraries Week in Worcester, MA.

The Friends of the Worcester Public Library is an organization of volunteers who help enhance the library's services to the people of the Worcester area. They raise money to support programs and events at the library, including the popular museum pass program. They also advocate to help ensure the library continues to get the resources needed to serve the public. They are one of the oldest Friends groups in Massachusetts, and were established in 1956.

Membership in the Friends of WPL is open to all members of the community, and costs as little as \$15 per year. Membership benefits include 10% off purchases at the Friends Bookstore, tax-deductible membership dues, invitations to special events, volunteer opportunities, and the satisfaction of helping to improve Worcester's quality of life.

"The Worcester Public Library is one of our City's most valuable assets, and the Friends of the Worcester Public Library are a huge reason why," City Manager Edward M. Augustus, Jr. said. "They are fierce advocates for the library, helping to ensure it receives the resources needed to serve our community. They deserve to be recognized

not just during National Friends of Libraries Week, but for everything they do all year round."

Representatives from the City of Worcester, the WPL Board of Directors, the Worcester Public Library Foundation, and the staff of the library were on hand to show their appreciation.

"The Friends are instrumental in the cultural enrichment of our community," said WPL Executive Director Jason Homer. "They support many of the programs, events, and classes we provide at the library. We are so very grateful to their tireless commitment to this library and this community."

National Friends of Libraries Week is an initiative of United for Libraries, and will be held October 17 - 23, 2021. The celebration is in its 16<sup>th</sup> year, and is designed to not only honor Friends groups, but also as a way to raise awareness and promote membership.

For more information on the Worcester Public Library and a complete list of events and programs visit [mywpl.org](http://mywpl.org). For more information on National Friends of Libraries Week contact Linnea Sheldon, Community Relations and Communications Manager, at 508-799-1654 or [lsheldon@mywpl.org](mailto:lsheldon@mywpl.org).

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**Worcester Public Library**

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**Worcester Public Library, A department of the City of Worcester**

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