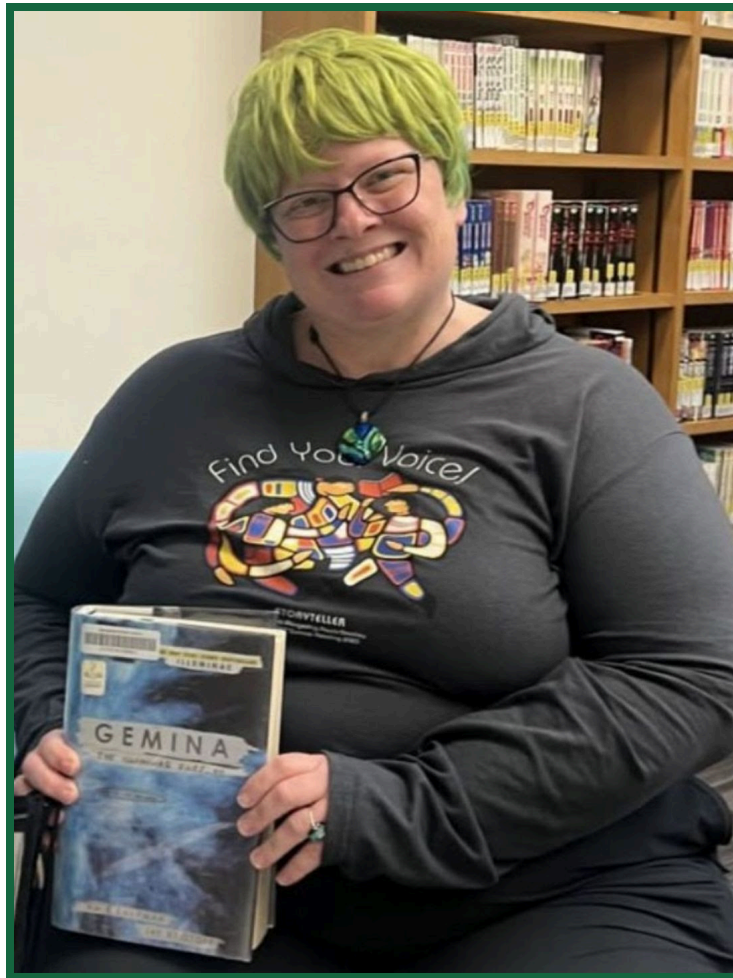




Friends of the Springfield Public Library and Museum | Springfield
History Museum Committee | Springfield Public Library Advisory Board
| Springfield Public Library Foundation



Pictured above: Cara Kinsey, Teen Services Librarian sitting on a chair at the Springfield Public Library holding a copy of *Gemina* by Amie Kaufman and Jay Kristoff.

✨ Spotlighting Library Collections: Manga 🌟

Manga is very popular at Springfield Public Library. Last summer, we worked with the experts at [The Graphic Novel Library](#) to refresh the manga collection in the library's teen area.

This included evaluating our current collection by publication date, popularity in the manga-reading community, and circulation. They then made recommendations for new series that met our community and collection development needs, as well as identifying gaps in existing series. We ordered more than 300 individual copies of manga, and our cataloging and book processing team took on the herculean effort of getting those books to the

shelves within weeks of ordering.

The partnership concluded with [Books With Pictures Eugene](#) founder Andréa Gilroy presenting a history of manga at a Teen Tuesday event, but the enjoyment of the new additions to the collection continues.

If you came into the library today you might be hard-pressed to identify the new series on the shelf because they are so often checked out!

- Cara Kinsey, Teen Services Librarian

**This is the third in a series of features about the Springfield Public Library's collections. Teen Services Librarian Cara Kinsey wrote this article before leaving for a new job outside the library. We thank her for her fabulous work with the Teen Program and all she has done for our community. 💖*

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW OUR COLLECTIONS](#)



Pictured above (from left to right): Karen Johnson, retiring Library Foundation consultant; Alma Fumiko Hesus, Foundation Board Member, United Way of Lane County Executive Director & Keynote Speaker for Books and Brew 2026; Andrea Wolf, Library Foundation President.



Onward, Karen Johnson!



Karen Johnson has made incredible contributions to the Springfield Public Library Foundation. She was hired as a development consultant in 2021 having retired from a career in development with the School of Architecture at the University of Oregon. Karen began working with our partner library Fern Ridge long before SPLF and they referred her to us. Thank you Fern Ridge!

Karen's expertise in grant writing helped us secure over \$150,000 in grants. She helped the Foundation start two endowments to support the library and museum, create a planned giving program, and helped establish Board guidelines for budgets and annual goals. Karen brought knowledge and joy to the Foundation meetings and other endeavors. She played an active role in the annual Books & Brew event and helped us develop the annual appeal as well as our annual thank you postcard. Karen really helped the foundation grow in their stewardship of relationships and fundraising. Her legacy with the Foundation will go on in the way they approach stewardship, fundraising and foundation work in general.

Thank you, Karen. Your expertise and dedication to SPLF have been invaluable. You will be missed. Go enjoy that new grandbaby! - *Emily*

Karen has been more than a consultant to us. She has been a guide, a steady hand, and at times, a gentle nudge forward when we needed it most. She has helped elevate our board, strengthen our strategy, and see what is possible when passion is paired with structure and intention. Because of Karen, we are stronger. We are more focused. We are more confident in our work and our impact. Karen, you've helped our foundation take it up quite a few notches and you've done it with wisdom, professionalism, and grace.

As you retire, we know your newest and most important role awaits you; grandmother. What a beautiful next chapter. Your family is incredibly lucky to have more of you. Please know this: your fingerprints are all over this Foundation. The work you've helped build will continue to ripple through this community for years to come. You will be deeply missed, not just for your expertise, but for your presence.

On behalf of the Foundation, we would like to express to you our immense gratitude and appreciation. Karen, thank you. And in your words,

ONWARD! - *Andrea*

Karen signed off emails with “Onward.”

She brought a forward movement and positive persistence to her work at SPLF summarized by her “Onward” sign off.

Karen provided the Foundation with focus and encouragement to stretch and find more funding for the Springfield Public Library and Springfield History Museum. I appreciated her support and wisdom very much. - *Betty*

My favorite memory with Karen were the times we would meet for coffee to discuss our fundraising plans for the Springfield Public Library Foundation. It was a lovely experience - usually outside at a coffee shop. Her professionalism, kindness, and enthusiasm was inspiring. - *Judy*

It is such an honor to put together a short love letter for Karen. Karen, you have been our Foundation consultant for not long enough but also forever. Karen carried us through bumpy roads and helped us strengthen the foundation we get to provide to the Springfield Public Library & Museum and deserves all the relaxation in the world, but your delightful smile and generous thanks and affirmations for the Foundation Board will be so missed. Thank you for everything, Karen! - *Isabelle*

INTERESTED IN BECOMING OUR NEXT FOUNDATION CONSULTANT?
[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)



NEW

Museum Update

The museum is scheduled to reopen in mid-July following a six-month closure for collections care work. Over 300 artifacts have been rehoused to date, catalog records have been updated, and we continue to expand digital access.

Caring for the collections is vital to ensuring that the artifacts of our shared Springfield and rural East Lane County history are preserved for future generations. Updating and correcting catalog records makes searching for information in our collections more reliable and accurate. The work is time consuming and takes extra space. This is why the museum has closed for several months to make sure this important work gets done.

Thanks to the volunteers who helped complete this important work!

[MISS THE MUSEUM? CLICK HERE TO VIEW OUR ONLINE CATALOG](#)



Gear Up for Bike Month

All ages are invited to celebrate [May Is Bike Month](#) with a friendly ride from Eugene Public Library to Springfield Public Library! Staff from both libraries will

be on the ride as well!

Meet up at the Downtown Eugene Public Library at 11 a.m. Most of the 5-mile route will be on the river bike path. [See the route map for details.](#)

You can get there by LTD bus or ride over and back for a 10-mile loop.

We'll offer optional rest and activity spots along the way, including a read-aloud of the picture book "Duck on a Bike," a slalom challenge, a chalk art station, a visit to the Kalapuya Talking Stones, and a short tour of Springfield Public Library. Plus get a special zine, bike noisemakers and more.

Presented in partnership with the [City of Eugene Recreation](#) and [Eugene Public Library](#).

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION



FRIENDS OF THE
SPRINGFIELD PUBLIC
LIBRARY AND HISTORY
MUSEUM ANNUAL MEETING

**JUNE
9TH
5:30PM**

South Conference Room, City Hall,
across from Council Chambers
225 N. 5th St, Springfield

JOIN US FOR REFRESHMENTS
AND CONVERSATION

MEET

THE FRIENDS BOARD MEMBERS

LEARN

WHAT THEY DO

HELP

SUPPORT THE LIBRARY AND MUSEUM



Meeting Announcement: Friends Annual Meeting

Save the date and join us for the Friends' annual meeting on Tuesday, June 9. We'll gather at 5:30 p.m. in the South Conference Room in City Hall, across from the Council Chambers and Jesse Main Room.

Learn about the Friends, find out how to support the library and museum, and enjoy some light refreshments. Next year's board members will also be elected.

Hope to see you there!

CLICK HERE TO JOIN THE FRIENDS OF THE SPRINGFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY!



National Library Week

Springfield Mayor Sean VanGordon recognized library staff and proclaimed April 19-25 as **"National Library Week"** during a City Council meeting last month. Pictured are Library staff Kristen Cure, Emily David, Abigail Craig, Mayor VanGordon, Kiley Marsonette, Taylor Hardwood and Library Advisory Board member Robyn Loudon

Upcoming Budget Meetings

The Springfield Budget Committee will meet today May 4, and on May 5 and 6 to review the city's [proposed budget](#).

The meetings will begin at 5:30 p.m. at the Springfield Justice Center, 230 4th Street.

Public can comment on the budget by attending today's meeting, attending virtually through a link on the [agenda](#), or sending an [email](#) by 3 p.m.



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of the Springfield Public Library
and Springfield History Museum

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Learn what it's all about by visiting the [Springfield Public Library](#) & [Springfield History Museum](#) today! [🔗](#)

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