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Center for the Book

The Friends of the Oklahoma Center for the Book supports the Oklahoma Center for the Book with volunteer and financial help.

The Oklahoma Center for the Book in the Oklahoma Department of Libraries is a state affiliate of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress. The national center was established by law in 1977 to strengthen and celebrate the vital role of books, reading, and libraries in the cultural life of the nation.

Oklahoma formed the fourth state Center for the Book in 1986. The mission of the Oklahoma Center is to promote Oklahoma authors, celebrate the state's literary heritage, and encourage reading for pleasure by all Oklahomans.

For more information please call (405) 522-3383 or visit libraries.ok.gov/ocb

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Type of Membership

Student-\$5__ Individual-\$35__ Contributing-\$60__

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Please mail this form and membership fee to:

Friends of the Oklahoma Center for the Book

PO Box 722778, Norman, OK 73070-9128

Oklahoma Center for the Book

Promotes Oklahoma Authors

- ✦ Sponsoring the annual Oklahoma Book Award. Since 1990, the Center for the Book has presented its prestigious awards to authors working in fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and children/young adult—encouraging writing in and about the state.
- ✦ Representing Oklahoma at the annual National Book Festival in Washington, D.C., displaying author information, library promotions, and even state tourism materials.



Celebrates the State's Literary Heritage

- ✦ Arranging for authors to visit Oklahoma communities.
- ✦ Participating in the Oklahoma Literary Landmark program (or dedications) sponsored by the Friends of Libraries in Oklahoma (FOLIO). Since 2001, twelve Oklahoma Literary Landmarks have been designated in honor of great Oklahoma writers like Ralph Ellison, Lynn Riggs, Angie Debo, John Berryman, Sequoyah, and Will Rogers.
- ✦ Developing the Oklahoma Authors database—consolidating biographical, bibliographic, and contemporary information on Oklahoma authors.



Encourages Reading for Pleasure by Oklahomans of All Ages

- ✦ Sponsoring the *Oklahoma Book Festival*, an event that brings authors and readers together to create an exciting venue where literacy, artistic expression, and cultural experiences are celebrated.
- ✦ Sponsoring *Letters About Literature*, a national reading and writing contest that invites children and teens to write letters to authors whose books have changed the way they view the world and themselves. Cash prizes are given to Oklahoma winners.
- ✦ Participating in many statewide literary events such as the Reading Roundup Author Tour, often partnering with other organizations such as the Oklahoma Library Association and the Oklahoma Literacy Coalition.

