

FY 2026-2027 Grant Request from the San Francisco Public Library

Fund/Programs	Unrestricted	Donor Restricted	Total	Description
Main Library				
Main Library				
Public Programs at the Main Library	50,000		50,000	For cultural and learning opportunities, including content and maker creation, literary, personal skill-building, small business, and vocational development. This grant includes dedicated funding for The Mix at the Main, workforce development programming for the 4th floor, as well as funding to celebrate special events at the Main Library, reflecting the local community. Friends focus areas: lifelong learning, children and youth, arts and culture.
Phyllis Wattis Endowment		110,000	110,000	The Wattis Endowment is used to expand the Main Library's capacity as a center for programming and support by addressing areas for upkeep and improvements in the space and for minor equipment. Funds will also support special programs and the DigiCenter including the Digi DIY Lab that provide the community with support in digital preservation needs. Friends fund focus area: lifelong learning and children and youth.  The Wattis Endowment will also be used to support the revitalization and reactivation of Fulton Street by supporting the Illuminate concert series and Night of Ideas. This concert series is held on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the afternoon and provides an open, free, and welcoming space on Fulton where the public and area workers can convene to enjoy performances and events.
African American Center		7,000	7,000	For the Center's engagement with youth in SFUSD, including but not limited to Black Student Union members and African American students, Sistah SciFi speculative fiction fest, annual Kwanzaa celebration, and ongoing public exhibits and literary public programs for the community. Friends focus area: arts and culture, lifelong learning and children and youth. All youth are welcome to participate regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, or national origin. The SciFi speculative fiction fest, annual Kwanzaa celebration, and ongoing public exhibits and literary public programs are open to all.
James C. Hormel LGBTQIA Center		150,000	150,000	To diversify the collection, programs, exhibits, and clientele of the Center and digitization of the archives, including the LGBTQ Historical Highlights project. Friends focus areas: arts and culture and library excellence and innovation. Programming is open to all regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, or national origin.
Latino/Hispanic Interest Collections & Programs		2,500	2,500	For community programming in the Latinx Affinity Center and at Branches, including participation in Carnaval. Friends focus area: arts and culture. Programming is open to all regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, or national origin.
San Francisco History Center		38,291	38,291	For special projects of the SF History Center including digitizing archival files; enhancing the Harrison Calligraphy collection, supporting the Schmulowitz Wit and Humor Collection, and curating exhibitions on local history on the 6th floor of the Main when possible. Friends focus area: arts and culture and library excellence and innovation.
BIPOC Kid Lit Fest	5,000	1,350	6,350	The BIPOC Kid LitFest is a celebration of diverse authors, emphasizing the joy of diverse narratives and an afternoon of inspiration, representation and the transformative magic of literature. The day consists of local and nationally known authors tabling and engaging Tenderloin youth and their families, as well as free book distribution and a meal for attending families. Friends focus area: arts and culture, and children and youth. Program participation is open to all regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, or national origin.
Talking Books & Braille Center(TB&BC)		2,023	2,023	For public programs to better serve clients with visual and print disabilities including programs teaching use of assistive technology. Friends focus area: lifelong learning.
<b>Main Library Total</b>	<b>55,000</b>	<b>311,164</b>	<b>366,164</b>	

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<b>Neighborhood Branches</b>				
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Grants to Branches - All ages	88,000	54,268	142,268	For branch-based staff to create programming specific to the needs of the neighborhoods, promoting intergenerational learning and shared experiences. Programming includes STEM, arts, cultural, health and wellness activities, and an annual open house celebration at each branch. Draw-down of dedicated funds for the Bayview Branch to supplement additional targeted programming and learning resources. Friends focus areas: children & youth, arts & culture, lifelong learning, and library excellence & innovation.
<b>Neighborhood Branches Total</b>	<b>88,000</b>	<b>54,268</b>	<b>142,268</b>	
<b>SYSTEM-WIDE PROGRAMS:</b>				
<b>Community Programs and Partnerships</b>				
Youth Programs: Literacy and STEM	70,000	40,000	110,000	For coordinated system-wide children and youth cultural programs, as well as STEM learning; Drag Queen Story Hour; Big SF Playdates; Scholar Card promotion; mobile outreach; Early Literacy Buffet; Afternoon of Ideas, and for programming partnerships with SFUSD, de Young, SFMOMA, CJM, Exploratorium, Asian Art Museum, National Park Service, Bay Area Discovery Museum and more. Unrestricted funding represents a small increase in honorariums. Friends focus area: children and youth and arts and culture.
Youth Programs: Summer Stride Reading Programming	100,000	9,565	109,565	For all non-personnel costs of the SFPL's signature summer program including free events for all ages, the Youth Engaged in Library Leadership (YELL) program, Summer youth volunteer program, honorariums for all performers, featured authors and the featured illustrator, campaign supplies (stickers, tattoos, badges, buttons, printing, promotion), incentive awards, and support the Everybody Reads campaign with books and giveaways, shared reading lists, and other materials. Friends focus areas: lifelong learning and children and youth.
Youth Programs: Día de los Niños, día de los libros		1,767	1,767	Support for Día de los Niños annual springtime program promoting literacy and learning in the Mission District.
Youth Programs: Tricycle Music Festival		10,000	10,000	Annual decade-long literacy and musical festival for the toddler and preschool set. Brings in grammy-winning and nominated children's music stars for a series of concerts at branches and parks.
Connected Community, system-wide themed programs	150,000	17,197	167,197	Funds adult public programs and exhibitions including Cultural Amplifier programs that honor SF history and heritage, approximately 20 curated exhibitions per year, artists commissions, and other major programming initiatives such as Night of Ideas. Also supports additional adult learning-related programs including workforce development and small business initiatives, and Bay Beats systemwide programming. Programming is open to all.
Literacy & Learning	25,000	0	25,000	For technology programming supplies and honorariums; FOG Readers materials and support; Career Online High School student support and graduation supplies; Project Read and ESL general support. Also includes funds remaining for Digital Inclusion Week. Friends focus area: lifelong learning.
Friends' Initiative: One City, One Book	40,000		40,000	For all non-personnel costs of the annual 20-plus year citywide literary program featuring a single book and inviting residents to engage in author events, book clubs, and public programs around the book. Friends focus area: arts and culture.
Volunteer & Internship Programs	10,000		10,000	For expenses of events and programs that appreciate and honor volunteers throughout the library system. This year will expand to include opportunities for paid interns. Tied to organizational excellence Friends focus area. Friends focus area: library excellence and innovation.
<b>Community Programs and Partnerships Total</b>	<b>395,000</b>	<b>78,528</b>	<b>473,528</b>	

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<b>Public Affairs</b>				
Community Relations/Promotions & Marketing	40,000		40,000	For advertising, marketing and community outreach of Library programs and other special projects; Discover & Go free museum passes and production of program guides. Also supports participation in street fairs, festivals and parades. Friends focus area: library excellence and innovation.
<b>Public Affairs Total</b>	<b>40,000</b>		<b>40,000</b>	
<b>Special Initiatives</b>				
City Librarian Strategic Initiatives	20,000		20,000	The Strategic Initiatives support fund enables the City Librarian and management team to provide funding for special projects, specialty consultants and library initiatives that are not funded through the City's budget process. This grant funding also supports the Library's e-commerce infrastructure (PayPal) via the library vendor Califa.
Racial Equity	40,000		40,000	The fund is dedicated to advancing racial equity in library programs and services, ensuring access and representation for everyone, including historically marginalized communities. The requested amount will be used in support of signature events such as the FilAm International Bookfest and the annual Sistah SciFi literary event. Programming is open to all.
Staff Recruitment	2,500		2,500	Focused talent acquisition activities via strong partnerships with local community-based organizations, colleges and universities, and targeted job fairs, especially for specialty positions.
Friends Innovation Fund		20,000	20,000	To support library innovation projects including promotora outreach efforts to identify and compensate dedicated community partners for community outreach around library initiatives and IT digital innovations to support piloting more media training and job skills in the community. Friends focus area: library excellence and innovation and lifelong learning.
Business & Career		500	500	For career support materials as well as public programs and events held on the 4th floor and the wider SF community.
Special Collections	1,500		1,500	For purchasing collections from a vendor with whom we do not have a contract and do not work with regularly, and which requires us to buy directly from them. This funding will provide the flexibility to quickly obtain high-quality materials that support our programs and address emerging community needs.
Dannenberg Collection		15,000	15,000	For purchasing AV/books in Italian or German, or about the Italian or German cultures.
Deaf Services		501	501	For purchasing supplies and equipment to support watching recordings with captions. Library focus area: lifelong learning
<b>Special Initiatives Total</b>	<b>64,000</b>	<b>36,001</b>	<b>100,001</b>	
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>642,000</b>	<b>479,960</b>	<b>1,121,960</b>	