

Footnotes

Your Update from the Billings Public Library Foundation

January 2025

New Year

New Office

New Staff

Welcome 2025!

As we enter into a new year, I wanted to provide you with several key updates.

The Billings Library Foundation has new office space at the Library. We are now located on the 2nd Floor next to the Montana Room.

I am also thrilled to share after serving in a part-time interim role, I will be continuing in the role of Executive Director on a permanent basis. I am thankful for many generous donors and supporters who have demonstrated a key commitment to our Library and Foundation and I look forward to serving this Foundation and our Library.

Finally, our 2024 Annual Appeal was a success. This campaign allows us to continue to fund programs and services that set our Library apart. We will continue to support the Library through these generous gifts.



Jeannie Tracy
Executive Director, Billings Library Foundation

Join us for an
OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, January 30th
3:00-5:00 pm
Foundation Office

Library Tours available
at 4:00 pm

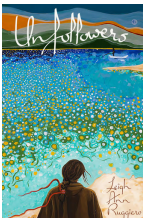


LEARN MORE ABOUT ONE BOOK BILLINGS

HOW TO GET INVOLVED?

visit billingslibrary.org/179/One-Book-Billings to learn more about the book discussion groups

Our next Author presentation is Unfollowers
by Leigh Ann Ruggeiro
March 8th, 2025
1:00 pm
Community Room at the Library



The Billings Public Library One Book Billings program seeks to provide a forum for library patrons to read and discuss, in small groups, regional authors and/or literary works which examine and reflect life on the High Plains, especially Montana.

The One Book Billings program is sponsored by a grant from Bernard Rose through the Billings Public Library Foundation. Discussion groups come together five times a year (every other month from September to May), each discussing the same book. Each author also presents an author talk.

2025 BOOK SWAPS BEGIN IN FEBRUARY

Our first Book Swap for the 2025 year will be held on:

Monday, February 17th

5:30-7:30 pm

Meadowlark Brewing Company

Book Swap FAQ?

What types of books can we bring?

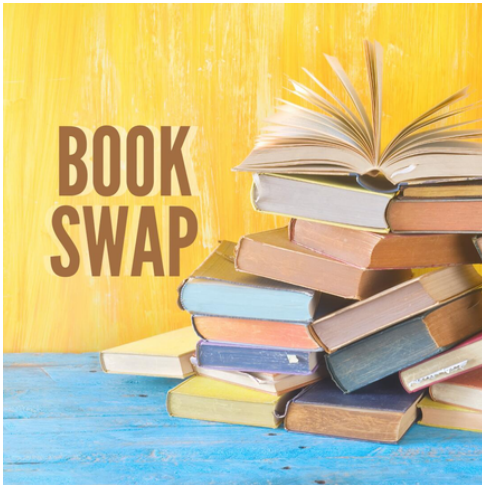
- Fiction, non-fiction and children's books
- Typically current or more relevant books go over well
- We appreciate books in good condition

How many books can I take?

- You are welcome to take what you need during the swap
- We love to see every book find a new home

What else takes place at the event?

- Many people meet up with a group of friends or book group and enjoy a drink and some good food!
- We have Library Foundation swag available with a \$10.00 donation which includes a free drink ticket
- Enjoy a fun environment with other book lovers



CO+LAB IS OFF TO GREAT START!



The CO+LAB at Billings Public Library opened in October 2024 and has quickly become a community hub for creativity, innovation, and learning. Designed for all ages, this makerspace empowers patrons to explore, learn new skills, and bring ideas to life using specialized tools like 3D printers, laser cutters, and A/V equipment.



Since opening, over 650 people have engaged with the space through classes, events, and equipment reservations. The Glowforge Plus has already been used for more than 150 unique projects, and the Prusa 3D printer remains a favorite among makers. The Charlie Cart mobile demonstration kitchen is also a standout, with every session filling to capacity and waitlists growing.



The CO+LAB2GO circulating technology program has also been an enormous success. Patrons can borrow kits featuring 3D printers, podcasting equipment, and more. With months-long waitlists for many kits, it's clear this initiative is meeting a vital need in the community.



Whether visiting the CO+LAB for a workshop or borrowing technology to create at home, the library is helping everyone explore, learn, and create.

