

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Supporting their Library. Inspiring their community**

FEBRUARY 2, 2023, HOBOKEN NJ -- The Hoboken Public Library Friends & Foundation officially announced the merged organization at an event at the Library on Thursday, January 26, 2023. Library supporters joined the new organization's directors to commemorate the merger.

The former Friends of the Hoboken Public Library and The Hoboken Public Library foundation joined forces to create a one organization that to better focus their fundraising and support activities. The Friends & Foundation's new motto and guiding principle is: "Supporting our library. Inspiring our community".

During the ceremony, the directors pledged to do both by adhering to their mission of "To advocate for strong public funding of the Library, to create heightened public awareness of the Library, and to raise private funds for Library programs, capital needs, and other emerging needs." In practical terms this means they plan to continue supporting services and programs that enhance the library's offerings, notably the Library's very popular Museum Pass Program and favorite of children city-wide, Family FUNdays.

"The board members of Hoboken Public Library Friends and Foundation have spent years supporting and advocating for the library," said Friends & Foundation Co-President Audrey Merwin. "With this merger, we can redouble our efforts to create more awareness of all the good the library does in the community and to support it financially."

The ceremony had a bit of fun all its own. After a toast to the new organization, Audrey Merwin sang a send-up of Frank Sinatra's "New York, New York"

"Start spreading the news  
We're merging today  
We're going to make a start of it  
Friends and Foundation

"These Hoboken blues  
Are melting away  
You're going to be a part of it  
Friends and Foundation

"We're going to wake up with a Library that can't be beat  
And find we're Queen of the stacks  
Top of the heap!"

For a video of the event, including a rendition of the Friends & Foundation’s version of “New York, New York,” please visit <https://hobokenlibraryff.org/about-us/f/friends-foundation-merger-announcement-event>

**About the Friends & Foundation:**

Hoboken Public Library Friends & Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization established in 2022. For full details on the organization, and to donate, please visit <https://hobokenlibraryff.org/>

**About the Hoboken Public Library:**

Founded in 1890, the Library is a cultural and educational centerpiece of the City of Hoboken, NJ. Its mission is to connect people with each other, ideas, and opportunities, and to support lifelong learning, personal growth, and community development. Full details on the Library, its programs and services, and collections are available at [www.HobokenLibrary.org](http://www.HobokenLibrary.org). The Library building, completed in 1897, is located at 500 Park Avenue, Hoboken NJ, and is listed on the State and National Registers of Historic Places.



Directors and supporters of the Hoboken Public Library’s Friends & Foundation in a picture taken during the ceremony announcing the merging of the former Friends of the Hoboken Public Library and the Hoboken Public Library Foundation.