

# Friends of

BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

TOWSON BRANCH

JANUARY 2026 NEWSLETTER

## Welcome Rachel Smith, Towson's new Library Manager!

The Friends are happy to welcome Rachel Smith, who has been named Library Manager of the Towson Branch. When asked, Rachel kindly wrote the following as an introduction for our members:

Like many people who end up working in libraries, I never pictured myself as a librarian. I stumbled upon a part-time circulation opportunity at the Parkville Branch in 2015 when I was looking for a second job while studying at Towson University. I was studying to be an English teacher but changed course when I realized how much I truly enjoyed library work. After finishing my degree, I decided to pursue full-time work at the library and was lucky enough to get promoted at the Catonsville Branch. A few years later I obtained my MLIS, jumped to the librarian department, and in 2019 joined the Pikesville Branch, where I worked as a librarian through the pandemic. By this point, I realized I was most interested in library management and developing and supporting staff. I was promoted to Assistant Library Manager at the North Point Branch in 2023, and I'm so happy to continue my career here at the Towson Branch as Library Manager.



My vision for the Towson Branch is simple: I'd like the Towson community to have a space that is welcoming, collaborative, and fun. My goal is to have fresh spaces, diverse and engaging programs, and a feeling of connectedness between staff and library users. I'm lucky to have walked into a really great team at the Towson Branch that shares these values!

As a little snippet into my life outside of work, I have two very young kids that keep me quite busy when I'm not at the library. You can often find us strolling around the zoo or exploring parks all around Baltimore. If there is something fun to do outside, we'll be there!

# Please don't forget your membership renewal

Friends members should have received an email earlier this month with information on how to renew membership for 2026. You can easily renew online at [towsonfriends.org/support](http://towsonfriends.org/support)

If you prefer to print out a renewal form and mail it in, please contact Fay Citerone at [Fay.Citerone@gmail.com](mailto:Fay.Citerone@gmail.com)

## Accepting donations for the Book Sale until March 31

Please bring gently-used books to the information desk during regular library hours. Most popular with our customers are children's books, like-new hardbacks (with dust jackets) and military history.

## NEWS AND NOTES:



- The Foundation for the Baltimore County Public Library continues its impressive author appearances in its Booked for BCPS series. Percival Everett, who won the 2024 National Book Award fiction prize for his novel “James,” will be coming to Goucher College’s Kraushaar Auditorium on March 29 at 2 p.m.

Tickets are free, but advance reservations are required. Sign up for tickets online starting Feb. 27 at 2 p.m. through Goucher’s ticket office at [goucher.universitytickets.com](http://goucher.universitytickets.com)

- Book Sale Reminder: Dates are Wednesday, April 15 through Saturday, April 18. The sale is held on the ground floor of the Towson branch. We accept cash, checks or credit cards (minimum charge is \$5). Bargain day is Saturday, April 18, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., when all of the remaining books are priced at \$5 a foot
- We’re always looking for Book Sale volunteers, especially folks with strong backs to help with setting up on Tuesday before the sale. If you’re interested, please email [towsonfriends@gmail.com](mailto:towsonfriends@gmail.com).

**Check out our website: [www.towsonfriends.org](http://www.towsonfriends.org)**