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Contact: Erin Sullivan, 407-835-7480, sullivan.erin@ocls.info

Wonderland themed Booktoberfest raises thousands of dollars for OCLS

(Orlando, FL) – Friends of the Orange County Library System held Booktoberfest on Friday, October 5; the sixth annual Booktoberfest raised nearly $11,000, a substantial increase from previous years. Funds raised will support programming and materials for the library system which provides services for all of Orange County.

"Booktoberfest raises vital funds for the library and it's a chance for us to show people the library in a different light," said Erica Lee, president of the Friends, an all-volunteer organization that exists to provide funds for library events and programs.

Guests enjoyed *Alice in Wonderland* inspired décor and activities including the Queen of Hearts favorite, croquet. Several guests even dressed as their favorite characters from the Lewis Carroll book, which is not-so-coincidentally nominated for PBS' The Great American Read.

Local eateries who showed their support of the library with food donations include Roque Pub, Pom Pom's Teahouse & Sandwicheria, Peach Valley Café, Insomnia Cookies, Shannons Casual Café and The Greenery Creamery. Guests sampled beers from Yuengling and local brewery Rockpit Brewing, and those holding upgrade tickets sampled vodka from Orlando's Yappy Dog Distillery. Entertainment for the night included Central Florida Accordion Club and trivia hosted by radio personality and Friends President, Erica Lee.

The Friends of the Orange County Library System, a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization, was organized in 1949 to support and cooperate with the Library in enhancing resources, innovations and services for the public. The Friends work to increase public awareness and use of the Library. The Friends sponsor library programs, and also work to encourage gifts, endowments and bequests for the benefit of the Library. For more information, or to join the Friends, visit oclsfriends.info.

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