



## Friends of the Rockridge Library

Supporting the Rockridge Branch  
of the Oakland Public Library

To: Jean Quan, Mayor of Oakland  
Jane Brunner, Councilmember District 1  
Patricia Kernighan, Councilmember District 2  
Nancy Nadel, Councilmember District 3  
Libby Schaaf, Councilmember District 4  
Ignacio De La Fuente, Councilmember District 5  
Desley Brooks, District 6  
Larry Reid, Council President and Councilmember District 6  
Rebecca Kaplan, Councilmember at large

CC: Carmen Martinez, Director of Library Services OPL  
Gerry Garzon, Associate Director of Library Services OPL  
Pat Lichter, Branch Library Manager-Rockridge OPL  
Nancy Dutcher, Founding Member-Friends of the Rockridge Library  
Bob Shurtleff, Friends of the Oakland Public Library  
Winifred Walters, Friends of the Oakland Public Library

### **Re: Support our Libraries**

The board of the Friends of the Rockridge Library (FORL) is writing this letter to demonstrate our support for keeping every Oakland library open to serve all neighborhoods.

FORL is a community-based group started in 1996 that supports our local branch library. FORL, with financial assistance from 125 donors, is providing funding in 2011 for the following important programs and services at the Rockridge branch:

1. A summer intern from Oakland Technical High School to assist the Children's Librarian with the summer reading program,
2. A variety of after-school teen programs,
3. Periodicals, books and furniture that would not otherwise be funded.

Our public libraries are at the center of our neighborhoods and communities. They provide a place to meet, learn and open our minds to new ideas. Closing any of our libraries will result in an immeasurable loss to our children, teenagers, adults of all ages and community groups - all of whom use the library in different and important ways.

The staff of the library is a dedicated group of caring professionals. They keep our libraries vibrant. Closing libraries has a direct, measurable and significant impact on library staff.

FORL supports keeping every Oakland library open to serve all our neighborhoods, now and in the future. Libraries are a city treasure - please keep them open!

**Friends of the Rockridge Library**

Carol Bieri - Co-Chair  
Kathryn O'Neal - Co-Chair  
Jane McDermott - Treasurer  
Kris Carraway - Secretary

Christina Alvarez - Board Member  
Jennifer James Alper - Board Member  
Karen Carlson - Board Member  
Tracy Weber - Board Member  
Brett Young - Board Member