Awards Are Available from Friends of Kansas Libraries

by Andrea Sobba, Garnett Public Library

Does your Friends of the Library Group do great things? Could they use a little extra cash to continue doing great things? Do you have a wonderful Friend in your group that deserves special recognition? Let us know! Apply for the Friends of Kansas Libraries (FOKL) annual awards. It's a painless process and could result in your group receiving $100.00 cold hard cash, a one year individual membership in FOLUSA, the national Friends organization, and a wonderful framed certificate to hang on your wall. If your individual nominee wins they will receive $50.00 for their local Friends, a certificate and a personal membership to FOLUSA. Award applications are available on the FOKL website.

Another opportunity for Friends groups is the FOKL Challenge Grants that may be as high as $500 in awards, with matching funds from the community. The applications for these funds are available on the FOKL website. These grants are designed to:

- Build support in the community for the library.
- Encourage gifts, endowments, bequests and memorials to the library.
- Enhance the image, materials, services and facilities of the library by undertaking specific projects on its behalf.
- Maintain itself as an association of individuals, civic organizations, businesses or other groups interested in the library.
- Create public awareness of the activities of the Friends of the Library and encourage participation in the organization.

The deadline for both programs is Feb. 15. For more information or forms e-mail garnettlibrary@yahoo.com or call Andrea at 785/448-3388. Visit the FOKL website at www.fokl.net for full details of all the FOKL activities and membership benefits.