

Diversity Book Interest Group

In 2020, “Strangers No More—Women Building Cross-Cultural Friendships” gave birth to a new Alexandria Branch Interest Group, the Diversity Book Group. The Group came together after three public programs during 2019 in which women from our City had the opportunity to meet and get to know women of differing backgrounds (See Special Initiatives). The group seeks to build friendships in a diverse and inclusive group while at the same time learning about cultures that are different from our own—US and foreign. Ultimately, we hope our group will be able to help amplify the voices of all women in our community. At the first meeting, some dozen women participated in selecting the books we would read for the rest of the year. Most are by women, many by women of color. While we have over 20 participants on our roster, meeting attendance has been close to a dozen. We are fortunate to have the support of the Ellen Coolidge Burke Branch Library, who has also helped with our advertising, and where we held our first two meetings. Beginning in April 2020, we migrated to a Zoom platform, which we found suited our needs in this particularly fraught time. If you are interested in joining us, please email Bonnie Hershberg at hersh3b@gmail.com.