

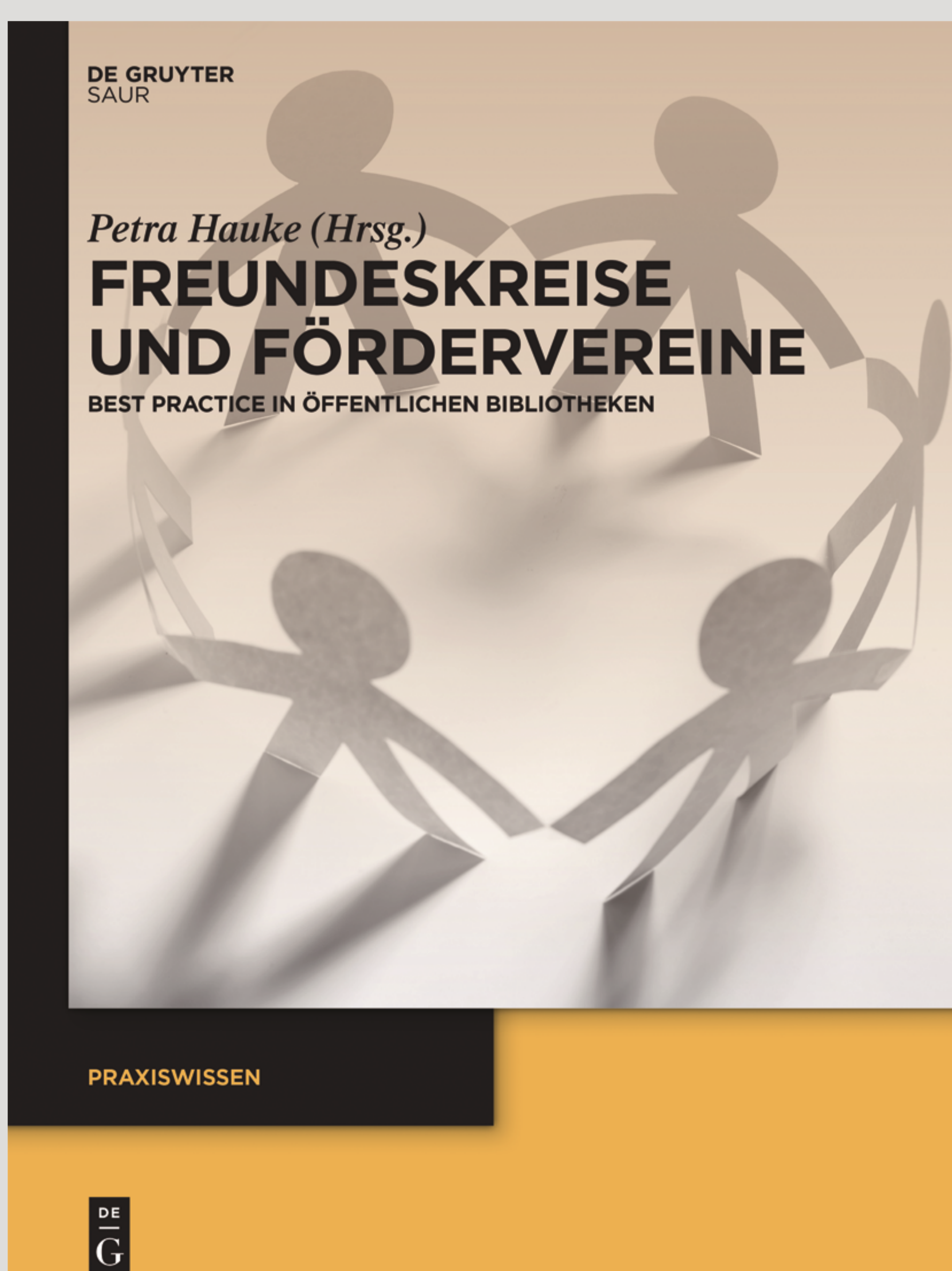
Friends of Libraries Groups Best Practice Examples

Globally the commitment of Friends of Libraries is increasingly important to public and academic libraries as budgetary cutbacks continue, and libraries compete against other public agencies for needed funds. Local groups of active citizens are developing necessary support (financial and otherwise) for libraries through diverse advocacy and fundraising activities.

Living Library

In Cologne people "become" books:

- Invite five people with fascinating stories to tell
 - Invite visitors who can "lend" these "living books" for a personal talk
 - e.g. a woman who first met her biological parents with 21 years
 - or a man who spent 30 years on the streets selling newspapers
- That's a Living Library.



Adopt a Book

Leipzig Libraries engage people:

- Look for damaged historical books
- Tell users they are worth restoring
- Let them save these books by making a donation

Also recommended:

- Create a list of desirable new books
- Tell users how awesome they are
- Let them donate their favorite book

- Say thank you by labeling the book with the user's name

Reading Path

In Hameln reading goes wild:

- Create outdoor reading stations
- Let children discover the path & have a reading experience surrounded by nature
- Place feedback-booklets at the stations to let people share their impressions

The Book Idea is a project at the Berlin School of Library and Information Science with the objective of publishing an anthology. Every winter semester since 2002 LIS-students organize the complete project by themselves, i.e. finding a topic, acquiring authors and redact their writings – and all this within five months.



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Jacqueline Bayer, Julia Boltze
Berlin School of Library and Information Science
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany
Project management: Dr. Petra Hauke, petra.hauke@hu-berlin.de
Project website: www.ibi.hu-berlin.de/studium/studprojekte/buchidee