

POWELL'S BOOKS

PORTLAND · OREGON · USA



A destination for book fanatics:
this family-run bookstore occupies an entire
block with its vast selection of books



TOP With over two million books, Powell's Books has the biggest selection of any bookstore in the United States.

OPPOSITE The family-run enterprise now has 550 employees and five bookstores in and around Portland.

Visiting our flagship bookstore has been compared to looking over the edge of the Grand Canyon," says Emily Powell. "It's a moving experience entering a world of books that takes up a full city block." Powell is now in charge of the famous bookstore, which has the largest collection of books in the United States, at over 2 million titles. Powell's Books was founded in 1971 by her grandfather Walter Powell and later continued by her father, Michael Powell.

"My grandfather taught me that our job is to connect the writer's voice with the reader's ear and not let our egos get in between," says the bookseller. "My father taught me not only the love of the book itself but also how to love the business of bookselling." Nearly 550 employees now work at the five Powell's bookstores in and around Portland. "We have an especially intimate

relationship with Portland," enthuses Powell. "What other city in America can name a bookstore as its top attraction?" The city certainly has it right. Powell's Books hosts over 500 author events a year, while the very youngest readers are invited to storytime sessions. Writing workshops, game demonstrations, and book clubs complete the packed program of cultural events.

"As a child, I recall riding with my grandfather in the truck that picked up and delivered books," remembers Powell. "It was my dream, when I grew up, to drive the 'bookie truck,' and in many ways, that's exactly what I'm doing today." 📖