

Form 5500

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Department of Labor
Employee Benefits Security
Administration

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan

This form is required to be filed for employee benefit plans under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and sections 6057(b) and 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).

▶ Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.

OMB Nos. 1210-0110
1210-0089

2024

This Form is Open to Public Inspection

Part I Annual Report Identification Information

For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/31/2024

- A This return/report is for: [] a multiemployer plan [] a multiple-employer plan (Filers checking this box must provide participating employer information in accordance with the form instructions.) [x] a single-employer plan [] a DFE (specify) ____
B This return/report is: [] the first return/report [] the final return/report [] an amended return/report [] a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)
C If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here. []
D Check box if filing under: [x] Form 5558 [] automatic extension [] the DFVC program [] special extension (enter description)
E If this is a retroactively adopted plan permitted by SECURE Act section 201, check here. []

Part II Basic Plan Information—enter all requested information

1a Name of plan: CHRONICLE BOOKS RETIREMENT PLAN
1b Three-digit plan number (PN): 001
1c Effective date of plan: 03/01/2000
2a Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan): CHRONICLE BOOKS, LLC
2b Employer Identification Number (EIN): 94-3347649
2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number: 415-537-4300
2d Business code (see instructions): 511130

Caution: A penalty for the late or incomplete filing of this return/report will be assessed unless reasonable cause is established.

Under penalties of perjury and other penalties set forth in the instructions, I declare that I have examined this return/report, including accompanying schedules, statements and attachments, as well as the electronic version of this return/report, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete.

Table with 4 columns: SIGN HERE, Signature of plan administrator, Date, Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator. Includes rows for plan administrator, employer/plan sponsor, and DFE.

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 5500.

Form 5500 (2024) v. 240311

3a Plan administrator's name and address <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Same as Plan Sponsor	3b Administrator's EIN	
	3c Administrator's telephone number	
4 If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor or the plan name has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the plan sponsor's name, EIN, the plan name and the plan number from the last return/report: a Sponsor's name c Plan Name	4b EIN	
	4d PN	
5 Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	5	399
6 Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines 6a(1) , 6a(2) , 6b , 6c , and 6d). a(1) Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year a(2) Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year b Retired or separated participants receiving benefits..... c Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits d Subtotal. Add lines 6a(2) , 6b , and 6c e Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits. f Total. Add lines 6d and 6e g(1) Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) g(2) Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) h Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested.....	6a(1)	225
	6a(2)	229
	6b	0
	6c	179
	6d	408
	6e	0
	6f	408
	6g(1)	371
6g(2)	375	
6h	0	
7 Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item)	7	

8a If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:
2J 2K 2A 2E 2T 3B 2F 2G 3D

b If the plan provides welfare benefits, enter the applicable welfare feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:

9a Plan funding arrangement (check all that apply)	9b Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply)
(1) <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance	(1) <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance
(2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts	(2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts
(3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust	(3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust
(4) <input type="checkbox"/> General assets of the sponsor	(4) <input type="checkbox"/> General assets of the sponsor

10 Check all applicable boxes in 10a and 10b to indicate which schedules are attached, and, where indicated, enter the number attached. (See instructions)

a Pension Schedules	b General Schedules
(1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> R (Retirement Plan Information)	(1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> H (Financial Information)
(2) <input type="checkbox"/> MB (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary	(2) <input type="checkbox"/> I (Financial Information – Small Plan)
(3) <input type="checkbox"/> SB (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary	(3) <input type="checkbox"/> A (Insurance Information) – Number Attached <u>0</u>
(4) <input type="checkbox"/> DCG (Individual Plan Information) – Number Attached _____	(4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C (Service Provider Information)
(5) <input type="checkbox"/> MEP (Multiple-Employer Retirement Plan Information)	(5) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> D (DFE/Participating Plan Information)
	(6) <input type="checkbox"/> G (Financial Transaction Schedules)

Part III Form M-1 Compliance Information (to be completed by welfare benefit plans)

11a If the plan provides welfare benefits, was the plan subject to the Form M-1 filing requirements during the plan year? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) Yes No

If "Yes" is checked, complete lines 11b and 11c.

11b Is the plan currently in compliance with the Form M-1 filing requirements? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) Yes No

11c Enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the 2024 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2024 Form M-1 annual report, enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the most recent Form M-1 that was required to be filed under the Form M-1 filing requirements. (Failure to enter a valid Receipt Confirmation Code will subject the Form 5500 filing to rejection as incomplete.)

Receipt Confirmation Code _____

SCHEDULE C (Form 5500) <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small> <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small> <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	Service Provider Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small> 2024 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
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For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning **01/01/2024** and ending **12/31/2024**

A Name of plan CHRONICLE BOOKS RETIREMENT PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 CHRONICLE BOOKS, LLC	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 94-3347649	

Part I Service Provider Information (see instructions)

You must complete this Part, in accordance with the instructions, to report the information required for **each person** who received, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of monetary value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or the person's position with the plan during the plan year. If a person received **only** eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures, you are required to answer line 1 but are not required to include that person when completing the remainder of this Part.

1 Information on Persons Receiving Only Eligible Indirect Compensation

a Check "Yes" or "No" to indicate whether you are excluding a person from the remainder of this Part because they received only eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures (see instructions for definitions and conditions)..... Yes No

b If you answered line 1a "Yes," enter the name and EIN or address of each person providing the required disclosures for the service providers who received only eligible indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed (see instructions).

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation

FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL

04-2647786

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation

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2. Information on Other Service Providers Receiving Direct or Indirect Compensation. Except for those persons for whom you answered "Yes" to line 1a above, complete as many entries as needed to list each person receiving, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or their position with the plan during the plan year. (See instructions).

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL

04-2647786

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
37 64 65	RECORDKEEPER	41270	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	0	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

GLOBAL RETIREMENT PARTNERS LLC

47-1411118

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
27	ADVISOR	27083	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

WELLTH ADVISORY SERVICES LLC

99-2539506

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
27	ADVISOR	15000	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

3. If you reported on line 2 receipt of indirect compensation, other than eligible indirect compensation, by a service provider, and the service provider is a fiduciary or provides contract administrator, consulting, custodial, investment advisory, investment management, broker, or recordkeeping services, answer the following questions for (a) each source from whom the service provider received \$1,000 or more in indirect compensation and (b) each source for whom the service provider gave you a formula used to determine the indirect compensation instead of an amount or estimated amount of the indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed to report the required information for each source.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	

Part II Service Providers Who Fail or Refuse to Provide Information

4 Provide, to the extent possible, the following information for each service provider who failed or refused to provide the information necessary to complete this Schedule.

(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

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(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

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(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

Part III Termination Information on Accountants and Enrolled Actuaries (see instructions)
 (complete as many entries as needed)

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

SCHEDULE D (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration	DFE/Participating Plan Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110 <hr/> 2024 <hr/> This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
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For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning <u>01/01/2024</u> and ending <u>12/31/2024</u>	
A Name of plan <u>CHRONICLE BOOKS RETIREMENT PLAN</u>	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <u>001</u>
C Plan or DFE sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>CHRONICLE BOOKS, LLC</u>	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>94-3347649</u>

Part I	Information on interests in MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs (to be completed by plans and DFEs) (Complete as many entries as needed to report all interests in DFEs)
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>GG EUROPAC GROWTH R1</u>		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>GREAT GRAY TRUST COMPANY, LLC</u>		
c EIN-PN <u>38-7289843-001</u>	d Entity code <u>C</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>890379</u>
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>CORE PLUS BOND R1</u>		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>GREAT GRAY TRUST COMPANY</u>		
c EIN-PN <u>38-4116854-515</u>	d Entity code <u>C</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>1711698</u>
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>GG EMERGING MKTS R1</u>		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>GREAT GRAY TRUST COMPANY</u>		
c EIN-PN <u>86-1819869-672</u>	d Entity code <u>C</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>59522</u>
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>PUTN LARGE CP VAL R1</u>		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>GREAT GRAY TRUST COMPANY, LLC</u>		
c EIN-PN <u>38-4065329-426</u>	d Entity code <u>C</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>1492003</u>
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):		
c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):		
c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):		
c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)

SCHEDULE H (Form 5500) <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small> <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small> <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	Financial Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small> 2024 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
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For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/31/2024	
A Name of plan CHRONICLE BOOKS RETIREMENT PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 CHRONICLE BOOKS, LLC	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 94-3347649

Part I	Asset and Liability Statement
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1 Current value of plan assets and liabilities at the beginning and end of the plan year. Combine the value of plan assets held in more than one trust. Report the value of the plan's interest in a commingled fund containing the assets of more than one plan on a line-by-line basis unless the value is reportable on lines 1c(9) through 1c(14). Do not enter the value of that portion of an insurance contract which guarantees, during this plan year, to pay a specific dollar benefit at a future date. **Round off amounts to the nearest dollar.** MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 1b(1), 1b(2), 1c(8), 1g, 1h, and 1i. CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 1d and 1e. See instructions.

		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
Assets			
a Total noninterest-bearing cash	1a	0	0
b Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
(1) Employer contributions	1b(1)	0	0
(2) Participant contributions	1b(2)	0	0
(3) Other	1b(3)	0	0
c General investments:			
(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit)	1c(1)	942695	341404
(2) U.S. Government securities	1c(2)	0	0
(3) Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(3)(A)	0	0
(B) All other	1c(3)(B)	0	0
(4) Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(4)(A)	0	0
(B) Common	1c(4)(B)	0	0
(5) Partnership/joint venture interests	1c(5)	0	0
(6) Real estate (other than employer real property)	1c(6)	0	0
(7) Loans (other than to participants)	1c(7)	0	0
(8) Participant loans	1c(8)	275225	228417
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)	0	4153602
(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	1c(10)	0	0
(11) Value of interest in master trust investment accounts	1c(11)	0	0
(12) Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities	1c(12)	0	0
(13) Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	1c(13)	56024345	55938178
(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts)	1c(14)	0	0
(15) Other	1c(15)	0	0

1d Employer-related investments:		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
(1) Employer securities.....	1d(1)	0	0
(2) Employer real property.....	1d(2)	0	0
e Buildings and other property used in plan operation.....	1e	0	0
f Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e).....	1f	57242265	60661601
Liabilities			
g Benefit claims payable.....	1g	0	0
h Operating payables.....	1h	0	0
i Acquisition indebtedness.....	1i	0	0
j Other liabilities.....	1j	0	0
k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j).....	1k	0	0
Net Assets			
l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f).....	1l	57242265	60661601

Part II Income and Expense Statement

2 Plan income, expenses, and changes in net assets for the year. Include all income and expenses of the plan, including any trust(s) or separately maintained fund(s) and any payments/receipts to/from insurance carriers. Round off amounts to the nearest dollar. MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 2a, 2b(1)(E), 2e, 2f, and 2g.

Income		(a) Amount	(b) Total
a Contributions:			
(1) Received or receivable in cash from: (A) Employers.....	2a(1)(A)	868347	
(B) Participants.....	2a(1)(B)	2272940	
(C) Others (including rollovers).....	2a(1)(C)	93458	
(2) Noncash contributions.....	2a(2)	0	3234745
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A) , (B) , (C) , and line 2a(2)	2a(3)		
b Earnings on investments:			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit).....	2b(1)(A)	36165	
(B) U.S. Government securities.....	2b(1)(B)	0	
(C) Corporate debt instruments.....	2b(1)(C)	0	
(D) Loans (other than to participants).....	2b(1)(D)	0	
(E) Participant loans.....	2b(1)(E)	21177	
(F) Other.....	2b(1)(F)	0	
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)		57342
(2) Dividends:			
(A) Preferred stock.....	2b(2)(A)	0	
(B) Common stock.....	2b(2)(B)	0	
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds).....	2b(2)(C)	1235037	
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A) , (B) , and (C)	2b(2)(D)		1235037
(3) Rents.....	2b(3)		0
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets:			
(A) Aggregate proceeds.....	2b(4)(A)	0	
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions).....	2b(4)(B)	0	
(C) Subtract line 2b(4)(B) from line 2b(4)(A) and enter result.....	2b(4)(C)		
(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets:			
(A) Real estate.....	2b(5)(A)	0	
(B) Other.....	2b(5)(B)	0	
(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines 2b(5)(A) and (B)	2b(5)(C)		

	(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts	2b(6)	351335
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts	2b(7)	0
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts	2b(8)	0
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities	2b(9)	0
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	2b(10)	5890566
c Other income	2c	0
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total	2d	10769025

Expenses

e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:		
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	7287876
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits	2e(2)	0
(3) Other	2e(3)	0
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines 2e(1) through (3)	2e(4)	7287876
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	2f	0
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions)	2g	-25819
h Interest expense	2h	0
i Administrative expenses:		
(1) Salaries and allowances	2i(1)	0
(2) Contract administrator fees	2i(2)	0
(3) Recordkeeping fees	2i(3)	41270
(4) IQPA audit fees	2i(4)	0
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees	2i(5)	46362
(6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees	2i(6)	0
(7) Actuarial fees	2i(7)	0
(8) Legal fees	2i(8)	0
(9) Valuation/appraisal fees	2i(9)	0
(10) Other trustee fees and expenses	2i(10)	0
(11) Other expenses	2i(11)	0
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (11)	2i(12)	87632
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j	7349689

Net Income and Reconciliation

k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d	2k	3419336
l Transfers of assets:		
(1) To this plan	2l(1)	0
(2) From this plan	2l(2)	0

Part III Accountant's Opinion

3 Complete lines 3a through 3c if the opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is attached to this Form 5500. Complete line 3d if an opinion is not attached.

a The attached opinion of an independent qualified public accountant for this plan is (see instructions):

(1) Unmodified (2) Qualified (3) Disclaimer (4) Adverse

b Check the appropriate box(es) to indicate whether the IQPA performed an ERISA section 103(a)(3)(C) audit. Check both boxes (1) and (2) if the audit was performed pursuant to both 29 CFR 2520.103-8 and 29 CFR 2520.103-12(d). Check box (3) if pursuant to neither.

(1) DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 (2) DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d) (3) neither DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 nor DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d).

c Enter the name and EIN of the accountant (or accounting firm) below:

(1) Name: PENSION ASSURANCE LLP

(2) EIN: 30-0840934

d The opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is **not attached** as part of Schedule H because:

(1) This form is filed for a CCT, PSA, DCG or MTIA. (2) It will be attached to the next Form 5500 pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.104-50.

Part IV Compliance Questions

4 CCTs and PSAs do not complete Part IV. MTIAs, 103-12 IEs, and GIAs do not complete lines 4a, 4e, 4f, 4g, 4h, 4k, 4m, 4n, or 5. 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 4j and 4l. MTIAs also do not complete line 4l. DCGs do not complete lines 4e, 4f, 4k, 4l, and 5, and DCGs generally complete the rest of Part IV collectively for all plans in the DCG, except as otherwise provided (see instructions).

During the plan year:

	Yes	No	Amount
a Was there a failure to transmit to the plan any participant contributions within the time period described in 29 CFR 2510.3-102? Continue to answer "Yes" for any prior year failures until fully corrected. (See instructions and DOL's Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program.)		X	
b Were any loans by the plan or fixed income obligations due the plan in default as of the close of the plan year or classified during the year as uncollectible? Disregard participant loans secured by participant's account balance. (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part I if "Yes" is checked.)		X	
c Were any leases to which the plan was a party in default or classified during the year as uncollectible? (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part II if "Yes" is checked.)		X	
d Were there any nonexempt transactions with any party-in-interest? (Do not include transactions reported on line 4a. Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part III if "Yes" is checked.)		X	
e Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	X		500000
f Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?		X	
g Did the plan hold any assets whose current value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?		X	
h Did the plan receive any noncash contributions whose value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?		X	
i Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)	X		
j Were any plan transactions or series of transactions in excess of 5% of the current value of plan assets? (Attach schedule of transactions if "Yes" is checked and see instructions for format requirements.)		X	
k Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?		X	
l Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?		X	
m If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)		X	
n If 4m was answered "Yes," check the "Yes" box if you either provided the required notice or one of the exceptions to providing the notice applied under 29 CFR 2520.101-3.		X	

5a Has a resolution to terminate the plan been adopted during the plan year or any prior plan year? Yes No
If "Yes," enter the amount of any plan assets that reverted to the employer this year _____.

5b If, during this plan year, any assets or liabilities were transferred from this plan to another plan(s), identify the plan(s) to which assets or liabilities were transferred. (See instructions.)

5b(1) Name of plan(s)	5b(2) EIN(s)	5b(3) PN(s)

5c Was the plan a defined benefit plan covered under the PBGC insurance program at any time during this plan year? (See ERISA section 4021 and instructions.) Yes No Not determined

If "Yes" is checked, enter the My PAA confirmation number from the PBGC premium filing for this plan year _____.

SCHEDULE R (Form 5500) <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small> <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small> <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	Retirement Plan Information This schedule is required to be filed under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small> 2024 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
--	---	---

For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/31/2024

A Name of plan <u>CHRONICLE BOOKS RETIREMENT PLAN</u>	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<u>001</u>
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>CHRONICLE BOOKS, LLC</u>	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>94-3347649</u>	

Part I	Distributions
---------------	----------------------

All references to distributions relate only to payments of benefits during the plan year.

1 Total value of distributions paid in property other than in cash or the forms of property specified in the instructions..... **1**

2 Enter the EIN(s) of payor(s) who paid benefits on behalf of the plan to participants or beneficiaries during the year (if more than two, enter EINs of the two payors who paid the greatest dollar amounts of benefits):
 EIN(s): 04-6568107

Profit-sharing plans, ESOPs, and stock bonus plans, skip line 3.

3 Number of participants (living or deceased) whose benefits were distributed in a single sum, during the plan year..... **3**

Part II	Funding Information (If the plan is not subject to the minimum funding requirements of section 412 of the Internal Revenue Code or ERISA section 302, skip this Part.)
----------------	---

4 Is the plan administrator making an election under Code section 412(d)(2) or ERISA section 302(d)(2)?..... Yes No N/A
If the plan is a defined benefit plan, go to line 8.

5 If a waiver of the minimum funding standard for a prior year is being amortized in this plan year, see instructions and enter the date of the ruling letter granting the waiver. **Date:** Month _____ Day _____ Year _____
If you completed line 5, complete lines 3, 9, and 10 of Schedule MB and do not complete the remainder of this schedule.

6 a Enter the minimum required contribution for this plan year (include any prior year accumulated funding deficiency not waived)	6a	
b Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year	6b	
c Subtract the amount in line 6b from the amount in line 6a. Enter the result (enter a minus sign to the left of a negative amount).....	6c	

If you completed line 6c, skip lines 8 and 9.

7 Will the minimum funding amount reported on line 6c be met by the funding deadline?..... Yes No N/A

8 If a change in actuarial cost method was made for this plan year pursuant to a revenue procedure or other authority providing automatic approval for the change or a class ruling letter, does the plan sponsor or plan administrator agree with the change?..... Yes No N/A

Part III	Amendments
-----------------	-------------------

9 If this is a defined benefit pension plan, were any amendments adopted during this plan year that increased or decreased the value of benefits? If yes, check the appropriate box. If no, check the "No" box..... Increase Decrease Both No

Part IV	ESOPs (see instructions). If this is not a plan described under section 409(a) or 4975(e)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code, skip this Part.
----------------	---

10 Were unallocated employer securities or proceeds from the sale of unallocated securities used to repay any exempt loan?..... Yes No

11 a Does the ESOP hold any preferred stock?..... Yes No

b If the ESOP has an outstanding exempt loan with the employer as lender, is such loan part of a "back-to-back" loan? (See instructions for definition of "back-to-back" loan.)..... Yes No

12 Does the ESOP hold any stock that is not readily tradable on an established securities market?..... Yes No

Part V Additional Information for Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans

13 Enter the following information for each employer that (1) contributed more than 5% of total contributions to the plan during the plan year or (2) was one of the top-ten highest contributors (measured in dollars). See instructions. Complete as many entries as needed to report all applicable employers.

a Name of contributing employer _____

b EIN _____ **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer _____

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: Hourly Weekly Unit of production Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer _____

b EIN _____ **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer _____

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: Hourly Weekly Unit of production Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer _____

b EIN _____ **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer _____

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: Hourly Weekly Unit of production Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer _____

b EIN _____ **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer _____

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: Hourly Weekly Unit of production Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer _____

b EIN _____ **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer _____

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: Hourly Weekly Unit of production Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer _____

b EIN _____ **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer _____

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: Hourly Weekly Unit of production Other (specify): _____

14 Enter the number of deferred vested and retired participants (inactive participants), as of the beginning of the plan year, whose contributing employer is no longer making contributions to the plan for:

a The current plan year. Check the box to indicate the counting method used to determine the number of inactive participants: <input type="checkbox"/> last contributing employer <input type="checkbox"/> alternative <input type="checkbox"/> reasonable approximation (see instructions for required attachment).....	14a	
b The plan year immediately preceding the current plan year. <input type="checkbox"/> Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment).....	14b	
c The second preceding plan year. <input type="checkbox"/> Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment).....	14c	

15 Enter the ratio of the number of participants under the plan on whose behalf no employer had an obligation to make an employer contribution during the current plan year to:

a The corresponding number for the plan year immediately preceding the current plan year	15a	
b The corresponding number for the second preceding plan year	15b	

16 Information with respect to any employers who withdrew from the plan during the preceding plan year:

a Enter the number of employers who withdrew during the preceding plan year	16a	
b If line 16a is greater than 0, enter the aggregate amount of withdrawal liability assessed or estimated to be assessed against such withdrawn employers	16b	

17 If assets and liabilities from another plan have been transferred to or merged with this plan during the plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment

Part VI Additional Information for Single-Employer and Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans

18 If any liabilities to participants or their beneficiaries under the plan as of the end of the plan year consist (in whole or in part) of liabilities to such participants and beneficiaries under two or more pension plans as of immediately before such plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment

19 If the total number of participants is 1,000 or more, complete lines (a) and (b):

a Enter the percentage of plan assets held as:
 Public Equity: _____% Private Equity: _____% Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets: _____%
 High-Yield Debt: _____% Real Assets: _____% Cash or Cash Equivalents: _____% Other: _____%

b Provide the average duration of the Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets:
 0-5 years 5-10 years 10-15 years 15 years or more

20 PBGC missed contribution reporting requirements. If this is a multiemployer plan or a single-employer plan that is not covered by PBGC, skip line 20.

a Is the amount of unpaid minimum required contributions for all years from Schedule SB (Form 5500) line 40 greater than zero? Yes No

b If line 20a is "Yes," has PBGC been notified as required by ERISA sections 4043(c)(5) and/or 303(k)(4)? Check the applicable box:
 Yes.
 No. Reporting was waived under 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) because contributions equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution were made by the 30th day after the due date.
 No. The 30-day period referenced in 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) has not yet ended, and the sponsor intends to make a contribution equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution by the 30th day after the due date.
 No. Other. Provide explanation: _____

Part VII IRS Compliance Questions

21a Does the plan satisfy the coverage and nondiscrimination tests of Code sections 410(b) and 401(a)(4) by combining this plan with any other plans under the permissive aggregation rules? Yes No

21b If this is a Code section 401(k) plan, check all boxes that apply to indicate how the plan is intended to satisfy the nondiscrimination requirements for employee deferrals and employer matching contributions (as applicable) under Code sections 401(k)(3) and 401(m)(2).
 Design-based safe harbor method
 "Prior year" ADP test
 "Current year" ADP test
 N/A

22 If the plan sponsor is an adopter of a pre-approved plan that received a favorable IRS Opinion Letter, enter the date of the Opinion Letter 06 / 30 / 2020 (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number Q702438A.

August 29, 2025

Todd Presley
Chronicle Books Retirement Plan
680 2nd Street
San Francisco, CA 94107

Audit Committee of Chronicle Books Retirement Plan and/or those charged with plan governance:

We completed our audits of the financial statements of Chronicle Books Retirement Plan (the Plan), an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) as permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) (ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit). The financial statements comprise the Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, the Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits for the Year Ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements. As part of our audit, we reported on the supplemental schedules required by the Department of Labor's (DOL's) rules and regulations for reporting and disclosure under ERISA for the year ended December 31, 2024, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). These schedules are presented for the purpose of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements, but are supplementary information required by the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. The financial statements and ERISA-required supplemental schedules are included in the Plan's Form 5500 filing with the Employee Benefit's Security Administration of the DOL.

Management, having determined it is permissible in the circumstances, has elected to have the audits of the Plan's financial statements performed in accordance with ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. As permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C), our audits need not extend to any statements or information related to assets held for investment of the plan (investment information) by a bank or similar institution or insurance carrier that is regulated, supervised, and subject to periodic examination by a state or federal agency, provided that the statements or information regarding assets so held are prepared and certified to by the bank or similar institution or insurance carrier in accordance with 29 CFR 2520.103-5 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA (qualified institution).

Our audit of the financial statements was conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Except as described above regarding ERISA 103(a)(3)(C), our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if, there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

We have previously communicated information about our responsibilities under GAAS as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. The following comments summarize the results and findings from our audit:

Significant Findings from the Audit

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the Plan are described in Note 2 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during the plan year. We noted no transactions entered into by the Plan during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. At year-end, management reviewed its investment portfolio for declines in market value below cost which were considered to be other-than-temporary. There were no impairment losses noted during the plan year. No other material subjective accounting estimates are included in the financial statements.

We concurred with management's conclusions of use of accounting policies and estimates.

Certain financial statement disclosures are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the user of the financial statements. The following financial statement disclosures are pertinent to the aspects of the plan's significant accounting practices, including accounting policies and estimates.

Note 2 – Significant Accounting Policies

Note 3 – Risks and Uncertainties
Note 4 – Fair Value Measurement

The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

Form 5500 Procedures

We are required to obtain and read a substantially complete draft of Form 5500 prior to dating our auditor's report. The purpose of this procedure is to identify any material inconsistencies between the draft Form 5500 and the Plan's financial statements. We identified no material inconsistencies in performing and completing our audit.

Disagreements with Management

There were no disagreements with management about auditing, accounting, or disclosure matters. Management has advised us there were no consultations by management with other accountants regarding any of the matters mentioned above.

Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all uncorrected misstatements during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. There were no individually material uncorrected misstatements or material in the aggregate from the current period that affect the opinion of our report. There were no uncorrected misstatements related to prior periods on the relevant classes of transactions, account balances or disclosures, and the financial statements as a whole.

Corrected Misstatements

There were no material, corrected misstatements brought to the attention of management by us as a result of audit procedures.

Management Representations

Please refer to the management representation letter.

Other Audit Findings, Issues, or Significant Difficulties Encountered During the Audit

We will provide a separate letter to you communicating findings identified during the audit.

We are pleased to report that we encountered no significant difficulties with management in performing and completing our audit. Management has fully cooperated with us; the account schedules and analyses provided were appropriately and timely prepared.

Chronicle Books Retirement Plan

August 29, 2025

Page 4

This letter is intended solely for the audit committee and management's information and use. This letter is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Pension Assurance LLP

Chronicle Books Retirement Plan

Financial Statements with Auditor's Report
As of December 31, 2024 and 2023

Index

Independent Auditor's Report	1
Financial Statements:	
Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits as of December 31, 2024 and 2023	5
Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits for the Year Ended December 31, 2024	6
Notes to Financial Statements	7
ERISA-Required Supplemental Schedules:	
Schedule H, line 4i—Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) as of December 31, 2024	14

Note: Schedules other than those listed above have been omitted because the information is otherwise disclosed, not applicable or is not required by 29 CFR 2520.103-10 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the plan administrator and participants of
Chronicle Books Retirement Plan:

Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit

We have performed audits of the financial statements of Chronicle Books Retirement Plan (the Plan), an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) (ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit). The financial statements comprise the Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, the related Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits for the Year Ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management, having determined it is permissible in the circumstances, has elected to have the audits of the Plan's financial statements performed in accordance with ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. As permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C), our audits need not extend to any statements or information related to assets held for investment of the plan (investment information) by a bank or similar institution or insurance carrier that is regulated, supervised, and subject to periodic examination by a state or federal agency, provided that the statements or information regarding assets so held are prepared and certified to by the bank or similar institution or insurance carrier in accordance with 29 CFR 2520.103-5 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA (qualified institution).

Management has obtained certifications from a qualified institution as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, and for the year ended December 31, 2024, stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note 6 to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.

Opinion

In our opinion, based on our audits and on the procedures performed as described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section

- the amounts and disclosures in the accompanying financial statements, other than those agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
- the information in the accompanying financial statements related to benefits provided under the plan and certified to by a qualified institution or assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Plan and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our ERISA 103(a)(3)(C) audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. Management's election of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit does not affect management's responsibility for the financial statements.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

Management is also responsible for maintaining a current plan instrument, including all plan amendments, administering the Plan, and determining that the Plan's transactions that are presented and disclosed in the financial statements are in conformity with the Plan's provisions, including maintaining sufficient records with respect to each of the participants, to determine the benefits due or which may become due to such participants.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Except as described in the Scope and Nature of the ERISA 103(a)(3)(C) Audit section of our report, our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if, there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Plan's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Our audits did not extend to the certified investment information, except for obtaining and reading the certification, comparing the certified investment information with the related information presented and disclosed in the financial statements, and reading the disclosures relating to the certified investment information to assess whether they are in accordance with the presentation and disclosure requirements of accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Accordingly, the objective of an ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit is not to express an opinion about whether the financial statements as a whole are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Other Matter—Supplemental Schedules Required by ERISA

The supplemental schedule of Schedule H, line 4i—Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) as of December 31, 2024, is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information included in the supplemental schedule, other than that agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, has been subjected to auditing procedures applied in the audits of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS. For information included in the supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, we compared such information to the related certified investment information.

In forming our opinion on the supplemental schedule, we evaluated whether the supplemental schedule, other than the information agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, including its form and content, are presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

In our opinion

- the form and content of the supplemental schedule, other than the information in the supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, are presented, in all material respects, in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.
- the information in the supplemental schedule related to benefits provided under the plan and certified to by a qualified institution or assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

PENSION ASSURANCE LLP

Agoura Hills, California

September 4, 2025

**Chronicle Books Retirement Plan
Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits
As of December 31, 2024 and 2023**

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Assets:		
Investments, at fair value:		
Mutual funds	\$ 56,279,582	\$ 56,967,040
Common/Collective trusts	<u>4,153,602</u>	<u>-</u>
	60,433,184	56,967,040
Receivables:		
Participant contributions	-	61,349
Company contributions	-	21,748
Notes receivable from participants	<u>228,417</u>	<u>301,221</u>
	228,417	384,318
Total assets	<u>60,661,601</u>	<u>57,351,358</u>
Liabilities	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net assets available for benefits	<u>\$ 60,661,601</u>	<u>\$ 57,351,358</u>

See accompanying notes.

Chronicle Books Retirement Plan
Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Additions to net assets attributable to:	
Contributions:	
Participant	\$ 2,211,591
Company	846,599
Rollover	93,458
	3,151,648
Interest income on notes receivable from participants	21,177
Investment income:	
Net realized and unrealized appreciation in fair value of investments	6,241,776
Interest and dividends	1,271,150
	7,512,926
Total additions	10,685,751
Deductions from net assets attributable to:	
Benefits paid to participants	7,287,876
Plan expenses	87,632
Total deductions	7,375,508
Net increase	3,310,243
Net assets available for benefits:	
Beginning of year	57,351,358
End of year	\$ 60,661,601

See accompanying notes.

Chronicle Books Retirement Plan

Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

1. Plan Description

The following description of Chronicle Books Retirement Plan (the Plan) provides only general information. Participants should refer to the plan document for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

a. General

The Plan, originally effective March 1, 2000, and restated January 1, 2023, is a defined contribution plan covering all employees of Chronicle Books LLC (the Company) and participating affiliates who have completed one month of service and attained the age of 21, excluding employees who are not eligible for employer provided health and welfare benefits, and certain other classes of employees as set forth in the plan document. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

b. Contributions

Participants may contribute up to 75 percent of annual compensation in pre-tax or Roth contributions, and 100 percent of annual compensation in voluntary after-tax contributions, as defined in the plan document and allowed by law. Participants may also roll over amounts representing distributions from other qualified plans. The Plan permits catch-up contributions for participants who have attained age 50 by the end of the plan year. The Company matches 100 percent of participants' contributions up to 4 percent of compensation under a safe harbor provision, as defined in the plan document. During 2024, the Company contributed \$846,599 to the Plan.

c. Participant Accounts

Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contribution, allocations of the Company's contributions, if applicable, and the Plan's earnings and losses. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant's vested account. Participants direct the investment of their accounts into various investment options offered by the Plan.

d. Vesting

Participants are immediately vested in all contributions plus actual earnings thereon.

e. Distribution of Benefits

Upon termination of employment due to termination of service, death, disability, or retirement, participants may elect to receive the value of their vested account balance in installments, partial withdrawals, or a lump-sum distribution. In-service withdrawal options are available to participants under certain circumstances.

Chronicle Books Retirement Plan

Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

f. Notes Receivable from Participants

Participants may borrow the lesser of \$50,000 (reduced by the participant's highest outstanding loan balance during the 12-month period ending on the date of the loan) or 50 percent of their vested account balance. Loan terms range up to five years but may be extended if the proceeds are to be used for the purchase of a primary residence. The loans are secured by the balance in the participant's account and bear interest at 4.25 to 9.50 percent. Principal and interest are paid ratably through payroll deductions.

g. Forfeited Accounts

At December 31, 2024 and 2023, forfeited non-vested accounts totaled \$1,223 and \$951, respectively. Forfeited non-vested accounts may be used to reduce future company contributions and pay plan expenses.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

a. Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the Plan are prepared under the accrual method of accounting.

b. Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, and changes therein, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

c. Investment Valuation and Income Recognition

Investments are reported at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. See Note 4 for discussion of fair value measurements.

Purchases and sales of securities are generally recorded on a trade-date basis. As permitted by Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) 962-325, *Plan Accounting—Defined Contribution Plans: Investments—Other*, settlement-date basis may be used when (a) the settlement date is after the financial statement date, (b) the fair value of the securities purchased or sold did not change significantly from the trade date to the financial statement date, and (c) the purchases or sales do not significantly affect the composition of the plan's net assets available for benefits.

Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Net realized and unrealized appreciation in fair value of investments includes the Plan's gains and losses on investments bought and sold as well as held during the year.

Chronicle Books Retirement Plan

Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

d. Notes Receivable from Participants

Notes receivable from participants are measured at their unpaid principal balance plus any accrued but unpaid interest. These are referred to as participant loans in the Form 5500 and related supplemental schedules. Delinquent loans are treated as distributions based upon the terms of the plan document.

e. Payment of Benefits

Benefits are recorded when paid.

f. Plan Expenses

Certain expenses of maintaining the Plan are paid by the Plan, unless otherwise paid by the Company. Expenses that are paid by the Company are excluded from these financial statements. Plan expenses include fees for certain participant-initiated transactions that are charged directly to the account of the participant who incurred them. Investment-related expenses are included in net realized and unrealized appreciation in fair value of investments.

g. Subsequent Events

The Plan has evaluated the subsequent events through September 4, 2025, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

3. Risks and Uncertainties

The Plan invests in various investment securities. Investment securities are exposed to various risks such as interest rate, market, and credit risks. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investments, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect participants' account balances and the amounts reported in the Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits.

4. Fair Value Measurement

FASB ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurement*, provides the framework for measuring fair value. That framework provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (level 3 measurements).

Chronicle Books Retirement Plan

Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

4. Fair Value Measurement (Continued)

The three levels of the fair value hierarchy under FASB ASC 820 are described as follows:

Level 1	Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that the Plan has the ability to access.
Level 2	Inputs to the valuation methodology include <ul style="list-style-type: none">• quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets;• quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets;• inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability;• inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means. If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.
Level 3	Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

The asset's or liability's fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Valuation techniques used need to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in the methodologies used at December 31, 2024 and 2023.

Mutual funds: Valued at the daily closing price as reported by the fund. Mutual funds held by the Plan are open-end mutual funds that are registered with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission. These funds are required to publish their daily net asset value (NAV) and to transact at that price. The mutual funds held by the Plan are deemed to be actively traded.

Common/Collective trusts: Carried at fair value using NAV as a practical expedient. Valued at the NAV of units held by the Plan at year-end as posted by the fund, which is considered by plan management to be the best approximation of fair value. There are no notable restrictions on the redemption of investments held in the fund.

The preceding methods described may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, although the Plan believes its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different fair value measurement at the reporting date.

Chronicle Books Retirement Plan

Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

4. Fair Value Measurement (Continued)

Assets at Fair Value as of December 31, 2024

	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level 3</u>	<u>Total</u>
Mutual funds	\$ <u>56,279,582</u>	\$ <u>-</u>	\$ <u>-</u>	\$ <u>56,279,582</u>
Total assets in the fair value hierarchy	56,279,582	-	-	56,279,582
Investments measured at NAV as a practical expedient (1)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,153,602</u>
Investments, at fair value	\$ <u>56,279,582</u>	\$ <u>-</u>	\$ <u>-</u>	\$ <u>60,433,184</u>

Assets at Fair Value as of December 31, 2023

	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level 3</u>	<u>Total</u>
Mutual funds	\$ <u>56,967,040</u>	\$ <u>-</u>	\$ <u>-</u>	\$ <u>56,967,040</u>
Total assets in the fair value hierarchy	56,967,040	-	-	56,967,040
Investments, at fair value	\$ <u>56,967,040</u>	\$ <u>-</u>	\$ <u>-</u>	\$ <u>56,967,040</u>

(1) In accordance with FASB ASC 820, certain investments that were measured at NAV per share (or its equivalent) as a practical expedient have not been classified in the fair value hierarchy. The fair value amounts presented in the tables above are intended to permit reconciliation of the fair value hierarchy to the line items presented in the Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits.

5. Tax Exempt Status

The Company has adopted a pre-approved plan document subject to a favorable opinion letter from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) dated June 30, 2020, and the plan administrator believes the Plan has been operated in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC). The Company routinely self-reviews the administration of the Plan and self-corrects any compliance issues in accordance with the Employee Plan Compliance Resolution System. Accordingly, the plan administrator believes that the Plan and related trust are designed in accordance with applicable sections of the IRC and, accordingly, are exempt from income taxes.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability (or asset) if the Plan has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the IRS or other applicable taxing authorities. The plan administrator has analyzed the tax positions taken by the Plan and has concluded that as of December 31, 2024, there are no uncertain positions taken or expected to be taken that would require recognition of a liability (or asset) or disclosure in the financial statements. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress.

Chronicle Books Retirement Plan

Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

6. Certified Investment Information

Management has elected to have the audits of the Plan performed in accordance with ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Accordingly, Fidelity Management Trust Company, the Trustee of the Plan, has certified that the following investment information is complete and accurate:

- Fair value of investments and the carrying amount of notes receivables reflected in the Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits as of December 31, 2024 and 2023.
- Investment income and interest income on notes receivable from participants as reflected in the Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits for the Year Ended December 31, 2024.
- Investment information as reflected in Note 4 to these financial statements.
- Investment information reflected in the Schedule H, line 4i—Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) as of December 31, 2024.

As permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C), the audit need not extend to any statements or information related to the certified investment information.

7. Party In-Interest Transactions

The following table presents exempt transactions with parties-in-interest, as defined by ERISA.

Party-in-interest	Relationship	ERISA Sec. 408(a) exemption
Fidelity Management Trust Company	Trustee	Deposits, investment transactions, distributions in accordance with plan provisions, reasonable compensation for necessary services
Fidelity Workplace Services LLC	Recordkeeper	Reasonable compensation for necessary services
Strategic Retirement Partners DBA Global Retirement Services	Financial advisor	Qualified investment advice to participants or beneficiaries, reasonable compensation for necessary services
Plan Sponsor employees and their beneficiaries	Plan participants and beneficiaries	Loans in accordance with plan provisions

8. Plan Termination

The Company has the right under the plan document to discontinue its contributions at any time and to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA. Participants are always 100 percent vested in their accounts.

Chronicle Books Retirement Plan

Notes to Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

9. Reconciliation to Form 5500

The following is a reconciliation of net assets available for benefits per the financial statements to the Form 5500 at December 31, 2024 and 2023.

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Net assets available for benefits per the financial statements	\$ 60,661,601	\$ 57,351,358
Loans deemed distributed	-	(25,996)
Participant contributions receivable	-	(61,349)
Company contributions receivable	-	(21,748)
Net assets available for benefits per the Form 5500	<u>\$ 60,661,601</u>	<u>\$ 57,242,265</u>

The following is a reconciliation of the change in net assets available for benefits per the financial statements to the Form 5500 for the year ended December 31, 2024.

Net increase per the financial statements	\$ 3,310,243
Loans deemed distributed in prior year	25,996
Receipt of participant contributions accrued in prior year	61,349
Receipt of company contributions accrued in prior year	21,748
Net increase per the Form 5500	<u>\$ 3,419,336</u>

10. Subsequent Events

Effective April 1, 2025, the Plan was amended as follows: The Plan provides for automatic election of participant contributions at a rate of 6 percent of compensation. Participants may affirmatively elect a different contribution percentage or elect not to defer into the Plan. Unless affirmatively elected otherwise, the deferral elections of automatically enrolled participants will be increased by 1 percent of compensation annually, not to exceed 10 percent of compensation.

Chronicle Books Retirement Plan
EIN: 94-3347649 PLAN: 001
Schedule H, line 4i—Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)
As of December 31, 2024

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
Identity of Issue, Borrower, Lessor, or Similar Party	Description of Investment	Cost	Current Value	
	Great Gray Trust Emerging Markets Fund Class R1	Common/Collective Trust	**	\$ 59,522
	Great Gray Trust EuroPacific Growth Trust Class R1	Common/Collective Trust	**	890,379
	Great Gray Trust Core Plus Bond Fund Fee Class R1	Common/Collective Trust	**	1,711,698
	Putnam Large Cap Value Fund Fee Class R1	Common/Collective Trust	**	1,492,003
	Vanguard Total Bond Market Admiral Fund	Mutual Fund	**	192,694
	Vanguard Short-Term Bond Index Admiral Fund	Mutual Fund	**	288,904
	Vanguard Federal Money Market Fund Investor Shares	Mutual Fund	**	341,404
	Janus Henderson Enterprise Fund Class N	Mutual Fund	**	983,149
	DFA Commodity Strategy I Fund	Mutual Fund	**	102,543
	DFA Real Estate Securities Institutional Fund	Mutual Fund	**	613,746
*	Fidelity 500 Index Fund	Mutual Fund	**	7,165,598
*	Fidelity Emerging Markets Index Fund	Mutual Fund	**	372,491
*	Fidelity Mid Cap Index Fund	Mutual Fund	**	441,930
*	Fidelity Small Cap Index Fund	Mutual Fund	**	850,475
*	Fidelity International Index Fund	Mutual Fund	**	466,173
*	Fidelity Large Cap Growth Index Fund	Mutual Fund	**	4,631,622
*	Fidelity Large Cap Growth Val Index Fund	Mutual Fund	**	117,791
*	Fidelity Small Cap Growth Index Fund	Mutual Fund	**	18,073
*	Fidelity Freedom Index Income Fund Premier Class	Mutual Fund	**	4,804,486
*	Fidelity Freedom Index 2025 Fund Premier Class	Mutual Fund	**	597,042
*	Fidelity Freedom Index 2030 Fund Premier Class	Mutual Fund	**	2,974,405
*	Fidelity Freedom Index 2035 Fund Premier Class	Mutual Fund	**	13,861,656
*	Fidelity Freedom Index 2040 Fund Premier Class	Mutual Fund	**	6,998,838
*	Fidelity Freedom Index 2045 Fund Premier Class	Mutual Fund	**	3,601,308
*	Fidelity Freedom Index 2050 Fund Premier Class	Mutual Fund	**	3,401,291
*	Fidelity Freedom Index 2055 Fund Premier Class	Mutual Fund	**	2,214,661
*	Fidelity Freedom Index 2060 Fund Premier Class	Mutual Fund	**	1,230,114
*	Fidelity Freedom Index 2065 Fund Premier Class	Mutual Fund	**	9,188
*	Participant Loans	Loans to participants, bearing interest from 4.25% to 9.50%	**	228,417
			\$	<u><u>60,661,601</u></u>

* Represents a party-in-interest as defined by ERISA
** Not applicable for participant-directed plans

See independent auditor's report and accompanying notes.