Friends of The Ferguson Library



Book Shop Holiday Sale

Take advantage of big holiday discounts in the Book Shop. Almost everything is 40% off through the end of December. The Shops are also offering \$25 gift certificates for \$20.

Big Ship Sale

Here's the perfect holiday gift for the boating enthusiast in your life. A dozen beautiful model ships that were donated to the Friends are on sale now through the middle of the month. Stop by the display in the Main Library to take a look or call 203 351-8278 for more information.



The Passport Office is Open

Our Passport Office is open by appointment and on a walk-in basis. Appointments take precedence, so we suggest making an appointment if you can.

Main Library Passport Office hours: Monday

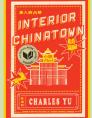
- Wednesday 11 - 5; Thursday 11 - 8; Friday 11-5; Saturday 11-4. **Harry Bennett Passport Office hours:** Saturday 1 – 4

For more information, or to make an appointment, call 203 351-8298.

Miss one of our programs? Not to worry – catch up whenever you have a chance. We are recording most of our virtual programs, including the recent CrimeCONN Express series. You can find them on our YouTube channel. Be sure to subscribe.

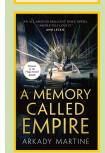
Staff Recommends:

Award-winning books in our collection









Interior Chinatown by Charles Yu

2020 National Book Award for Fiction

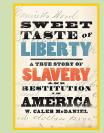
Sweet Taste of Liberty: A True Story of Slavery and Restitution in America by W. Caleb McDaniel 2020 Pulitzer Prize for History

The Undocumented Americans by Karla Cornejo Villavicencio Andrew Carnegie Medal longlist title

Real Life

by Brandon Taylor Man Booker 2020 shortlist

A Memory Called Empire by Arkady Martine The Hugo Awards 2020





Connect to The Ferguson











THE FERGUSON LIBRARY

phone 203 964-1000 • fax 203 357-9098 fergusonlibrary.org • email: comments@fergusonlibrary.org

Linda Avellar, Editor Barbara Aronica-Buck, Designer Barbara Thomas, Communication Asst. Peggy Devlin, Editorial Asst.

The Ferguson Library **Board of Trustees**

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Ex Officio Alice Knapp, President Main Library, DiMattia Building One Public Library Plaza, Stamford, CT 06904 1143 Hope Street 06907, 203 351-8285

203 964-1000 Monday – Wednesday 11 – 6 Thursday 11 – 8 Friday & Saturday 11 – 5 Sunday 1 – 5

Harry Bennett Branch

115 Vine Road 06905, 203 351-8291 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 12 – 5 Wednesday 12 – 7 Saturday 1 – 5

South End Branch

34 Woodland Avenue 06902, 203 351-8280 Monday – Thursday 10 – 5:30 Saturday 10 – 2

Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch

Monday & Thursday 10 – 3 Tuesday 12 - 7 Saturday 12 – 5

Bookmobile

Check our online calendar at fergusonlibrary.org/event/.

The Friends Book Shops at The Ferguson Library

Main Library Book Shop Monday – Thursday 12 – 6 Saturday 11 – 5

Harry Bennett Branch Book Shop

Monday 12 - 3Wednesday 12 – 5 Thursday 1 – 5 Friday 12 – 5

The Passport Office

By appointment and limited walk-in. Call 203 351-8298 for information.

Main Library Passport Office Thursday 11 – 8 Friday 11 - 5 Saturday 11 – 4

Harry Bennett Passport Office Saturday 1 – 4





The Heart of the Community

THE NEWSLETTER OF STAMFORD'S PUBLIC LIBRARY . D

From the President's Desk



The days are getting shorter and, once again, we are being encouraged to stay home. If you are like me, you may be tired of the content available from commercial streaming services and main stream media. The Ferguson Library can offer several alternatives, including books and e-books recommended by our staff. Just go to the Books, Movies and More page on our website for great suggestions. For pre-school through high school

recommendations, visit Youth Recommended Reads off our Youth Page.

Over the years, we have recorded many of our programs and have added more content since the pandemic. Our Civility lectures, recent CrimeCONN Express series, MakeFest programs and much more are all available on our YouTube page. You can even read a book with your young child while one of our librarians reads it aloud.

My favorite on YouTube is the South End 50th Anniversary playlist. Once again, I can watch this special event and listen to the inspirational words of Newberry Award winner Jerry Craft. Of course, we have his latest book, Class Act.

Alice Knapp, President

HOLIDAY HOURS

All library facilities will be closed December 24 and 25 for the Christmas holiday. On New Year's Eve, December 31, the Main Library, Harry Bennett Branch and South End Branch will close at 5 p.m. The Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch will close at 3 p.m. All library facilities will be closed New Year's Day. Have a safe, happy holiday season.

Support for Sunday Hours

Many thanks to Judy Block for her generous support of Sunday hours at the Library. Her gift helps underwrite the cost of providing service at the Main Library Sunday, December 13. Sundays are one of our most important days of the week and we are grateful for her support. If you would like to help us provide Sunday hours at the Library, please contact Linda Avellar at linda@fergusonlibrary.org, 203 351-8208.

The Ferguson in the Community

We love getting out into the community. The South End Branch recently partnered with the Stamford Public Education Foundation (SPEF) to give away free books to kids. So much fun to see kids take home books!



Help Us Reach Our Year-End Goal Support Your Public Library!

Please remember The Ferguson Library in your year-end giving. Your donation of any amount helps keep books and all the things you love at the library free and available to all.

Please help us reach our year-end goal of \$50,000! Thank you for investing in your public library.

A Salute to Beethoven

Join Stamford Symphony violinist and musical educator Gabriel Schaff Wednesday, December 16 at 6 p.m. for the last of three lectures on the life and music of Beethoven in this 250th anniversary year of his birth. This lecture will cover the last dozen years of the great

composer's life, a time that juxtaposed his widespread popular success with the personal tragedy of his deafness. The program will include a short biographical history, highlighted with musical excerpts.

The Beethoven series is made possible through a partnership with the Stamford Symphony. If you missed the first two programs, they are available on the Library's You Tube page.

Library Pen Pals

Kids, we miss you! Even though we might not see you in the Library every day, we'd love to hear what you've been doing while staying safe at home - what you've been reading, what games you've been playing, new hobbies, etc. To help young readers build literacy and writing skills, kids in grades K – 5 can now be pen pals with the Youth Services staff. Write to us and we'll write back! Make sure to include your return address and please send letters to:

> The Ferguson Library, Youth Services Department One Public Library Plaza, Stamford, CT 06904

We can't wait to hear from you!

DIGITAL LIBRARY

Novelist Plus

Need a book recommendation? *Novelist Plus* can suggest titles based on genre, or let you browse fiction and nonfiction for all ages. Are you a fan of mysteries or graphic novels, or want to see the best of Canadian fiction? They've got you covered. Novelist also has a Title Read-alikes feature, which can give you a list of books similar to ones you liked. It's a great way to discover new books. You can find Novelist on the A to Z database page off the Research page of our website.

Support the Library with a monthly gift. Donate at fergusonlibrary.org.



RR Register online at ferguson library.org/event/. Zoom details will zoom be sent to all registrants in advance of the program.



Please check our online calendar at fergusonlibrary.org/event/ for updates and pop-up programs and subscribe to our newsletter/weekly emails at https://fergusonlibrary. org/news/#toggle-id-1.



Follow us on Instagram @ferglibrary, @ferglibraryyouth, @harrybennettbranchys and @southendbranch lib.



Follow us on Facebook at https:// facebook.com/TheFergusonLibrary/.



Check out the Library's YouTube https://www.youtube.com /c/TheFergusonLibrary

ZOOM Book Discussions

Book discussions are presented live on Zoom. Registration is not required. Zoom meeting details for each discussion are on our online calendar at fergusonli brary.org/event/. Book discussions are open to all, whether or not you have participated in that discussion group before.

Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch

Monday, December 7 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The Swans of Fifth Avenue by Melanie Benjamin

Harry Bennett Branch

Monday, December 14 from 7 to 8 p.m. Ask Again, Yes by Mary Beth Keane

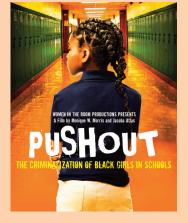
South End Branch African and African American Authors Book Discussion

Monday, December 28 at 7 p.m. Kindred by Octavia E. Butler

Remote Book-A-Librarian

Reserve up to one hour with a librarian for information or technology assistance, including help with our virtual resources like e-books, e-audiobooks and streaming movies. To make an appointment, visit https://fergusonlibrary.org /services/book-a-librarian/.

Documentary Film Screening and Discussion



RR. Separate registration for each program.

Documentary Screenings: Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools

Two screening times available. Saturday, December 5 at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, December 8 at 6:30 p.m. Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools is a feature length documentary which takes a close look at the educational, judicial and societal disparities facing Black girls.

Prior viewing of the documentary is recommended before attending the December 9 Fireside Chat with Monique W. Morris, Ed.D.

Discussion: Fireside Chat with Monique W. Morris, Ed.D.

Wednesday, December 9 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom Webinar

Antonia Thompson of Stamford Restorative Justice Project in conversation with Dr. Morris. Dr. Morris is the author of Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools and Executive Producer/Co-writer of the documentary film. (Separate registration required.) In partnership with Fairfield County's Community Foundation, Stamford Youth Services Bureau's Restorative Justice Project and Stamford Everyday Democracy.

Community Mindfulness Project Meditation

Tuesdays, December 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 at noon via Zoom

A brief discussion about the meditation

practice, a guided meditation, and then a chance to share and reflect. Appropriate for people who are new to meditation and those who have long-standing practices. Please log on at least 5 minutes early at https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84840527453 to join the Zoom meeting.

Death Cafe Stamford

Thursdays. December 3. 17 & 31 from 2 to 3 p.m. via Zoom

Discuss death in a group-directed discussion. The objective is to increase awareness of death with a view to helping people make the most of their (finite) lives. With Sahara Farrugio, a licensed funeral director specializing in advanced planning. For Zoom meeting details, visit fergusonlibrary.org/event/. Note: Death Cafe is a discussion group, not grief support or counseling.

Lawyers in Libraries: Looking for Legal Advice?

Thursday, December 3 from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

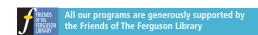
ML, Second Floor Study Room -Masks and Appointments Required Looking for legal advice? If your case involves personal injury, landlord/tenant, immigration law, family law, employment, consumer rights, or other areas of law, you can meet with a volunteer attorney for 20 minutes regarding your case. To book an appointment, call 203 351-8221. Please bring any materials you may have with information about your case.

Virtual Vibes: Smooth Jazz and Old School Funk with Al Thomas and Friends

Thursday, December 17, from 7 to 8:45 p.m. via Zoom

Relax your mind and body with an evening of soothing music and fellowship. No registration required.

7 to 7:30 p.m. – 50th Anniversary Signature Drink Contest Create and demonstrate your signature drink recipe for the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the South End Branch. **7:30 to 8:45 p.m.** – Smooth jazz and old school funk with Al Thomas and Friends. Registration is not required. Zoom meeting details are on our online calendar at fergusonlibrary.org/event/.



Business & Career

TechXel Stamford

Advisory Boards and Governance Thursday, December 3 from 6:15 to 7:45 p.m. via Zoom Ed Cesare, Pleaid Capital Manage-

Stamford One Million Cups

ment. RR.

Wednesday, December 2 from 8:45 to 10:15 a.m. via Zoom Re-engaging entrepreneurs in a virtual world. Presenters: Abhi Singh, Founder of Cloudigility and Tino Go, Founder and CEO of Baru Inc. RR.

Conversations with Our EIR

Monday, December 7 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. via Zoom

The goals of these sessions are to launch and support small businesses, strengthen the local entrepreneurial community, share insights, practice pitches and learn from our Entrepreneurs-in-Residence, Doug Campbell and Steven Semaya. RR. Sponsored by CT Next.

Friends Virtual Author Series: Meet Bestselling Author David Nicholls

Tuesday, December 15 at 5 p.m. via Zoom Webinar

The bestselling author of the novels, One Day and Us will be talking about his newest book, Sweet Sorrow, a bittersweet and brilliantly funny coming-ofage tale about the heart-stopping thrill of first love – and how just one summer can forever change a life. RR.

Kwanzaa Celebration Kick Off Saturday, December 26 at 1 p.m. via Zoom

Sankofa, Looking Back to Move Forward. Grab-and-go Kwanzaa craft. Pick up your supply bag for the craft from December 12 – 23 at the Main Library or South End Branch, and then make and share at the Kwanzaa Celebration. All ages. Registration is not required. Zoom meeting details are on our online calendar at fergusonlibrary.org/event/.

Technology

Live-streaming classes will resume in January but you can catch up on our technology classes by visiting our YouTube Channel at https://www.you tube.com/c/thefergusonlibrary. There are lots of classes available, including Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft PowerPoint, an Intro to Web Building: HTML & CSS, and more.

Spanish Language Program Criando a Nuestros Hijos Durante la Pandemia

Miércoles 2 de Diciembre a las 7 p.m. a través de Zoom

Georgette Harrison, LPC del Child Guidance Center of Southern CT proveera información sobre cómo ayudar a nuestros hijos a adaptarse a la "nueva normalidad" durante Covid19. Aprenda estrategias para identificar el estrés y la ansiedad en los niños, y cómo los padres pueden ayudar. Además, aprenda cómo saber cuando su hijo puede beneficiarse de ayuda profesional. La registración es obligatoria. Regístrese en línea: https://chc1.zoom.us/webinar/register/ WN 2bkSLEMjRrqOYM96F d 4Q. Co-auspicionado por el Child Guidance Center of Southern CT.

Beethoven Demystified: Blazing a Path to Romanticism and Beyond: Beethoven's Final Period Wednesday December 16 at 6 p.m. on YouTube

The last 12 years of the great composer's life. Stamford Symphony violinist and educator Gabriel Schaff will present a short biographical history, highlighted with musical excerpts. In partnership with the Stamford Symphony.

English Language Learners

Let's Talk: Conversation Groups for English Language Learners Fall Session via Zoom

Registration not required. New students welcome. For meeting information, visit https://fergusonlibrary.org/lets-talkevents/.

Tuesdays, December 1, 8 & 15

New students: 11 a.m. Basic: 12:30 p.m. Low intermediate: 3 p.m. Advanced: 6 p.m.

Wednesdays, December 2, 9 & 16

Virtual vocabulary games: 2:30 p.m. Beginner: 4 p.m. High intermediate: 5:30 p.m.

Russian-English Language Exchange Group

Sundays, December 6 & 20 from 2 to 4 p.m. via Zoom

Language practice for Russian and English speakers and learners at intermediate and advanced levels. Participants should install the Duolingo app, create free account and register for the program on Duolingo prior to each meeting. They will receive free "tickets" from Duolingo. RR. To register contact Susan Benthall at sbenthall.duolingo@ gmail.com. If additional information is needed, call 203 351-8228 or email yelena@fergusonlibrary.org. Co-sponsored by Duolingo.

DIY Bookmaking Kit

Make a handmade journal to keep or to give as a gift. Sign up for a takehome DIY bookmaking kit, complete with materials and instructions. **RR**. Register online at fergusonlibrary. org/event/ from Monday, December 7 through Friday, December 11.

Wishing you Happy Holidays and a Healthy New Year!









THE FERGUSON LIBRARY YOUTH SERVICES DECEMBER 2020

ALL LIBRARY FACILITIES ARE OPEN.

All library facilities are open. Masks required to enter a library building. To read our Reopening Guidelines, visit https://fergusonlibrary.org/reopening-guidelines/.

We are quarantining books for 3 days. When you return items, they will still be on your record for that period, but we will check them in using the date they were returned. We are not charging late fees at this time.

Main Library

Monday – Wednesday 11 – 6

Thursday 11 - 8

Friday and Saturday 11 - 5

Sunday 1-5

Harry Bennett Branch

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday

and Friday 12 – 5

Wednesday 12 - 7

Saturday 1-5

Weed Memorial &

Hollander Branch

Monday and Thursday 10 - 3

Tuesday 12 – 7

Saturday 12 - 5

South End Branch

Monday - Thursday 10 - 5:30

Saturday 10 - 2





Stamford students can use their school ID to access our many digital materials, even if they don't have a Ferguson Library card. For access, enter

2111800+student ID number (no spaces). If you encounter any issues accessing our e-materials or databases, fill out the form at https://fergusonlibrary.org/linked-libraries-contact-us-form/.

How to Contact Us



Phone Service

Need help? Call us during our hours of operation.

Main Library Borrowers Services: 203 351-8261

Main Library Adult Services/Reference Desk: 203 351-8231

Youth Services: 203 351-8242 Harry Bennett Branch: 203 351-8294

Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch: 203 351-8287

South End Branch: 203 351-8283

Virtual Chat

Chat online with a librarian Monday 9 – 7; Tuesday & Wednesday 9 – 6; Thursday 9 – 8; Friday 9 – 5; Saturday 9:30 – 5; Sunday 1 – 5 at https://fergusonlibrary.org/virtual-chat/.

HOLIDAY HOURS

All library facilities will be closed December 24 and 25 for the Christmas holiday. On New Year's Eve, December 31, the Main Library, Harry Bennett Branch and South End Branch will close at 5 p.m. The Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch will close at 3 p.m.

All library facilities will be closed New Year's Day. Have a safe, happy holiday season.



The Youth Services **Digital Library**

Visit https://fergusonlibrary.org/remote-resources-for-youth/ for information about our digital books, movies and music, Linked Libraries, digital resources, Wi-Fi service for students in need, and more. Check out these as well:



The Library's YouTube channel

https://www.youtube.com/c/TheFergusonLibrary



Instagram @ferglibrary, @ferglibraryyouth, @harrybennettbranchys and @southendbranch_lib.





Facebook and Facebook Live https://facebook.com/TheFergusonLibrary/.

Please check our online calendar at fergusonlibrary.org/event/ for updates and pop-up programs and subscribe to our newsletter/weekly emails at http://fergusonlibrary.org/news/#toggle-id-1.









THE FERGUSON LIBRARY YOUTH SERVICES DECEMBER 2020

RR Register online at fergusonlibrary.org/event/. Zoom details will be sent to all registrants in advance of the program.

Library Pen Pals

Kids, we miss you! Even though we might not see you in the Library every day, we'd love to hear what you've been doing while staying safe at home-what you've been reading, what games you've been playing, new hobbies, etc. To encourage a connection with the Library along with building literacy and writing skills, kids in grades K – 5 can now be pen pals with the Youth Services staff. Write to us and we'll write back! Make sure to include your return address and please send letters to:

The Ferguson Library **Youth Services Department** One Public Library Plaza Stamford, CT 06904 We can't wait to hear from you!

Children's Programs

Sing & Stomp

Tuesdays, Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 from 10:15 to 10:45 a.m.

A song and dance party! For 18 months to 31/2 years with adult. RR.

Budding Bookworms via South End Branch Instagram

Tuesdays, Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 at 10:30 a.m.

Storytime for ages 18 months to 4 years. New content every week. Watch on the South End Instagram at the scheduled time.

Crafternoons @ Home

Thursdays, Dec. 3 & 17 at 4 p.m.

Join the Ferguson Librarians on Zoom for an afternoon of stories and art creation. Note: Supply bags for crafts will be available for pickup in the Library. Registration will close at 11 a.m. the morning of the program to ensure registrants have adequate time to obtain a craft supply bag (available at all library locations). Grades K – 5. RR.

Crafternoons @ Home (December Break Sessions)

Monday - Wednesday, Dec. 28, 29 & 30 from 12 to 12:45 p.m.

Take a brain break and join us for a picture book read-aloud and an art project. Be sure to have paper, coloring supplies (a pen or pencil will work just fine) and your imagination ready! Families, parents, and caregivers are encouraged to join as well. Grades K to 5. RR.

Kids' Book Discussion

Tuesday, Dec. 15 from 7 to 7:50 p.m.

Front Desk by Kelly Yang. Mia Tang's family has moved from China to California in hopes of a better life. When they start to manage the Calivista Motel, Mia gets to run the front desk but soon gets into trouble with the cruel owner. It will take Mia's plucky perseverance to help the hotel guests and her family, while trying to reach her dreams. Grades 4 – 6. RR.

zoom

Book Bunch Club Discussion and Activity

Wednesday, Dec. 16 at 4 p.m.

Read Juana & Lucas by Juana Medina and then join us via Zoom to discuss and do a fun activity. Grades 2 - 3. RR.

Teen Programs

Creative Writing Club

Wednesday, Dec. 2 from 5 to 6 p.m.

Bring your imagination, paper, and something to write with. We'll work on different writing prompts, then share our work. Grades 5 - 9. RR.

Bring Your Own Book Club: Favorites Monday, Dec. 7 from 7 to 7:45 p.m.

Talk about your favorite books and get recommendations for new titles! Grades 5 - 9. RR.

Fact or Fiction: Accidental Archaeology

Thursday, Dec. 10 from 7 to 8 p.m.

Did you know some of our most incredible scientific discoveries were made entirely by accident? Throughout history, humans have discovered things underground that have changed what we think we know about everything. Join us on Zoom to find out how history is hiding right beneath our feet. Grades 4 - 7. RR.

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zoom

Friday, Dec. 11 from 4 to 5 p.m. Meet with other teens to talk about

books and learn what's going on at the Library. Grades 6 - 12. RR.

Kazoo That Tune

Monday, Dec. 14 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. (postponed from an earlier date.)

Pick up a free kazoo at the Main Library, take it home and learn to play a popular tune, then challenge other teens to guess your tune. Grades 6 – 12. RR.

Family Programs

Beethoven Demystified: Blazing a Path to Romanticism and Beyond: Beethoven's Final Period

Wednesday Dec. 16 at 6 p.m.

The last 12 years of the great composer's life a time that juxtaposed his widespread popular success with the personal tragedy of his deafness. Stamford Symphony violinist and educator

Gabriel Schaff will present a short biographical history, highlighted with musical excerpts. In partnership with the Stamford Symphony.

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Sankofa, Looking Back to Move Forward. Grab-and-go Kwanzaa craft. Pick up your supply bag for the craft from December 12 – 23 at the Main Library or South End Branch, and then make and share at the Kwanzaa Celebration. All ages. Registration is not required. Zoom meeting details are on our online

Noon Year's Eve Party

Thursday, Dec. 31 at 11:30 a.m.

calendar at fergusonlibrary.org/event/.

It can be tough to make it all the way till midnight, so ring in the new year with us a few hours early! Ages 3 to 8. Families welcome. Bags containing party supplies will be available for pickup in the library beginning on Monday, December 14. Registration will close at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 30 to ensure that registrants have adequate time to obtain a party supply bag (available at all library locations). RR.

Spanish Language Program Criando a Nuestros Hijos Durante la Pandemia

Miércoles 2 de Diciembre a las 7 p.m. Georgette Harrison, LPC del Child Guidance Center of Southern CT proveera información sobre cómo ayudar a nuestros hijos a adaptarse a la "nueva normalidad" durante Covid19. Aprenda estrategias para identificar el estrés y la ansiedad en los niños, y cómo los padres pueden ayudar. Además, aprenda cómo saber cuando su hijo puede beneficiarse de ayuda profesional. La registración es obligatoria. Registrese en línea: https://chc1.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_2 bkSLEMjRrqOYM96F d 4Q. Co-auspicionado por el Child Guidance Center of Southern CT.



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