Message from the CEO

I am delighted to announce that our honoree for A Novel Affair 2023 is Ferguson Library Trustee Polly O'Brien Morrow and Pitney Bowes. Polly is Senior Program Manager, Global Corporate Citizenship & Philanthropy at Pitney Bowes and serves as Vice President of the Pitney Bowes Foundation. Through her work, the Pitney Bowes Foundation has provided significant support to the Ferguson Library since 2005, most notably for consistent funding for Sunday summer hours at the Main Library. Polly has been actively involved with the library since 2016 and has served on the library’s Board of Trustees since 2021, generously sharing her wisdom and deep knowledge of nonprofits.

Polly is passionate about LGBTQ+ causes. She is a member of the Pitney Bowes LGBTQ+ council. She serves on the board of Stamford (Connecticut) Pride and helped to form a new Stamford Pride Family Alliance to support family and friends of the LGBTQ+ community. She is also immediate past chair of the Bartlett Arboretum & Gardens, where she continues to serve as an advisor and member of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee.

I can’t wait to honor Polly O’Brien Morrow and Pitney Bowes with the Ferguson Award on April 20, 2023.

—Alice Knapp, CEO

Howard Kaplan Memorial Lecture on Law & Society

Connecticut attorney Josh Koskoff will deliver the Howard Kaplan Memorial Lecture on Law and Society at the Main Library Wednesday, November 2 at 6:30 p.m. A reception will follow at 7:30 p.m.

Koskoff, a third-generation partner with the firm Koskoff, Koskoff & Bieder, will discuss Litigation as a Tool for Change: the Sandy Hook Cases Against Remington and Alex Jones.

The lecture is supported by the Stamford law firm Wofsey, Rosen, Kweskin & Kuriansky and the family of the late Howard C. Kaplan. A long-time partner at the firm, Kaplan served on the Stamford Board of Representatives, and was a founding member of the Stamford Board of Ethics, president of the Stamford Child Care Center, and director and counsel to the Stamford Land Conservation Trust.

The library will operate on a regular schedule on Veterans Day, Friday, November 11.

All library locations will close at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, November 23, and will remain closed November 24 for Thanksgiving. We will operate on our normal schedule the rest of the holiday weekend. Have a happy holiday.

Tell Your Story Project Resumes

We are resuming our oral history project, Tell Your Story, an effort to capture Stamford’s history through the lives of its residents. If you are a long-time resident and would like to share your memories of growing up in Stamford, please let us know. We welcome photos and other memorabilia, too. You can experience the stories we have collected so far by visiting the Ferguson Library Digital Archive at fergusonlibraryarchive.org.

If you are interested in participating, contact Frank Skornia at fskornia@fergusonlibrary.org or 203 351-8220.

DIGITAL LIBRARY: LEGAL FORMS LIBRARY

Do you need a legal form for personal or business use? The Ferguson Library has a great database containing hundreds of free forms that can be downloaded and printed. Designed for use by Connecticut residents, the collection includes popular and frequently needed forms in such areas as real estate, wills and trusts, landlord-tenant law, contracts, small business and family law. To get started, grab your library card, visit our databases page at Research & Learn/A to Z Resources. Once in, enter your card number when prompted.
Howard C. Kaplan Memorial Lecture on Law and Society Featuring Attorney Josh Koskoff, Partner with the Connecticut firm of Koskoff, Koskoff & Bieder

Wednesday, Nov. 2 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium
Josh Koskoff will deliver his talk, Litigation as a Tool for Change: the Sandy Hook Cases Against Remington and Alex Jones. RR. Generously supported by the law firm of Wofsey, Rosen, Kweskin and Kuriansky, and the family of the late Howard Kaplan.

The Sandwich Generation & Caring for Aging Parents
Thursday, November 3 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium
A panel discussion covering the challenges the sandwich generation faces raising children while caring for elderly parents with an emphasis on tools needed to manage legal and medical minefields likely to be encountered. Panelists include estate attorney Barbara Koteen, Heather Keane of Visiting Angels, and realtor Meredith Scheine. Also available via Zoom. RR.

The Festival of Lights
Sunday, Nov. 13 from 2 to 4 p.m.
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium
A festival featuring traditional dance performances and a rangoli exhibition. Diwali, symbolizing the victory of light over darkness, is one of the most important holidays in India. All ages welcome. RR. Co-sponsored by GOPIO-CT.

Notary Public Services
Wednesday, Nov. 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 from 2 to 4 p.m. at WMH
Our notary public will be available to notarize your official documents for free. By appointment only. Call 203 351-8286.

Community Mindfulness Project: Meditation
Tuesdays, Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 from noon to 1 p.m.
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium
A brief discussion about meditation practice, a guided meditation, and a chance to share and reflect. Appropriate for people who are new to meditation and those who have long-standing practices. Please arrive five minutes early.

Art at the Ferguson: Celebrating Work Created Since 2020
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium

Person-to-Person Mobile Food Pantry
Tuesdays, Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at SE
For more information, call 203 724-9111.

Family Program: Diwali
Kids! Help Us Decorate for Diwali
Create your own paper rangoli for Diwali, the Festival of Lights, using one of our templates, which are available at the library's Youth Services desks. Make one for yourself and another one for us to display. Please submit your rangolis by Saturday, Nov. 5. We will use them to decorate for our celebration on Sunday, Nov. 13.

Harvest for Hope: Turkey Giveaway
Wednesday, Nov. 23 from noon to 4 p.m. at SE
A giveaway of turkeys and bags of fixings to families in need to ensure no one in Stamford goes hungry this Thanksgiving. Food will be distributed on a first-come first-served basis, while supplies last. Presented in partnership with Inspirica and the Community Action Agency of Western Connecticut.

Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch
Monday, Nov. 7 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. via Zoom
Leaving Isn’t the Hardest Thing by Lauren Hough

Notable programs:
- When the Smoke Clears: An evening with Renée Francoeur and her husband, famed author, Lawrence Block.
- Art at the Ferguson: celebrating work created since 2020.
- Notary public services: available for free.
- Family programs: Diwali and Harvest for Hope.

Our programs are generously supported by the Friends of the Ferguson Library.
**English Language Learners**

Let’s Talk: Conversation Groups
Registration not required. New students welcome. For meeting information, visit fergusonlibrary.org/lets-talk-events.

NEW! Evening Sessions
Back in Person
Tuesdays, Nov. 15, 22 & 29 from 6:30 to 8 p.m.
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium

Fall Sessions via Zoom
Tuesdays, Nov. 1, 8, 15 & 29
New students: from noon to 12:30 p.m.
Basic: from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.
Low intermediate: from 2:30 to 4 p.m.
Advanced: from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Wednesdays, Nov. 2, 9, 16 & 30
High intermediate: from 10 to 11:30 a.m.
Beginner: from 3 to 4:30 p.m.

Easy English for Beginners: Side by Side (Part 2)
Mondays and Thursdays, Nov. 3, 10, 14, 17 & 21 from 10 a.m. to noon
ML, Third Floor Technology Center
Learn language and life skills through reading, speaking and writing. RR. Register at the Second Floor Reference Desk or by calling 203 351-8228. For information, email yelena@fergusonlibrary.org.

Death Cafe Stamford
Thursdays, Nov. 10 & 23 from 2 to 3 p.m. via Zoom
A discussion about increasing the awareness of death to help people make the most of their finite lives. Death Cafe is not grief support or counseling.

Introducing VetNow
Thursday, Nov. 17 from 3 to 4 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Technology Center
VetNow is an online resource designed to help veterans and their families access local, state and federal benefits and transition to civilian life.

Lawyers in Libraries
Thursday, Nov. 17 from 6 to 8 p.m.
ML, Second Floor Study Room
Discuss your case with a volunteer attorney. To book a required 20-minute appointment, call 203 351-8221. Supported by the Connecticut Bar Association.

**Technology**

Main Library, DiMattia Building Third Floor Technology Center
RR for all technology classes.

- Must be familiar with Windows and able to use a mouse and keyboard
- Experience with Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint necessary
- No prior experience necessary

Microsoft Office Suite Integrates
Saturday, Nov. 5 from 2 to 4 p.m.
Learn how to add Excel charts and tables to Word documents and PowerPoint presentations, and use mail merge to create letters and labels.

Introduction to Web Development: HTML, CSS & JavaScript
Sundays, Nov. 6 & 20 from 1 to 3 p.m.
Learn how to construct the layout of a website, understand basic design principles and styling with CSS, and add interactivity with JavaScript. Presented in collaboration with Synchrony Skills Academy.

Introduction to Web Building: Drupal
Saturday, Nov. 19 from 1 to 4 p.m.
Learn how to build a basic website, create and organize content using built-in tools, and modify the way your site looks with themes.

Tech Tips for Older Adults
Tuesdays, Nov. 1, 8, 15 & 29 from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at SE
Free weekly help on smartphones, tablets, laptops and other devices with our experienced bilingual (English and Spanish) team.

Fun with Line Dancing
Friday, Nov. 18 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at SE
Bring your friends to learn some popular line dancing moves. No dance experience necessary.

NEW! Local Author Series: Circumference of Silence by Jacquie Herz
Saturday, Nov. 19 from 2 to 3 p.m.
ML, First Floor New Materials Room
Local author Jacquie Herz will discuss her book Circumference of Silence, a mother daughter narrative based on a true story that begins in Nazi Germany and ends in present day New York City. RR.

**Business & Career**

Interview Skills
Thursday, Nov. 3 from 3 to 4 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Technology Center
Learn how to prepare for an interview, what to expect, how to answer difficult questions, and how to follow up. RR. Presented in partnership with Goodwill Career Centers.

TechXel Stamford Accelerator Series
Thursdays from 5:30 to 6:45 p.m.
via Zoom
RR for each session. Register by noon on the program date. Zoom invitations will be sent by 1 p.m.

Nov. 3 – Advisory Boards and Governance
Ed Cesare, Managing Director, Pleaid Capital Management
Nov. 9 – Financial Modeling
Ted Stone, Tech CXO
Nov. 20 – Term Sheets
Frank Eucalitto, Attorney, Lowenstein Sandler

Old Folkies Acoustic Singalong
Saturday, Nov. 19 from 3 to 4:30 p.m. at HB
An afternoon outdoors of toe-tapping, finger-snapping acoustic delights with Dr. Ev, who will take requests. Refreshments. Weather permitting.

Meet Royal Biographer Andrew Morton, Author of The Queen
Tuesday, Nov. 15 from 5:30 to 7:15 p.m.
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium
Andrew Morton will discuss his latest biography with royal expert and commentator Victoria Arbiter. The book takes an in-depth look at Britain’s longest reigning monarch and explores the influence the late Queen Elizabeth II had on Britain and the rest of the world. Reception, book sale and signing. RR.

Friends Author Series
An Evening with Author Fiona Davis, Author of The Magnolia Palace
Thursday, Nov. 10 from 6 to 7 p.m.
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium
The New York Times bestselling author will discuss her latest tantalizing novel about the secrets, betrayal and murder inside one of New York City’s most impressive Gilded Age mansions. Reception, book sale and signing. RR.
FRIENDS OF THE FERGUSON LIBRARY

Bag Sale
The Friends Book Shop is celebrating the reopening of the Harry Bennett Branch store with a Bag Sale Friday, November 4 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturday, November 5 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Ten dollars gets you a bright yellow Friends tote bag that you can fill with all the sale books you can carry, including children’s and adult fiction and nonfiction. Enjoy treats from Donut Delight while you shop!

Friends Pub Crawl a Big Success
About 100 guests enjoyed an evening on the town with the return of the Friends’ annual Pub Crawl. Thanks to Towne Parlor, Hudson Social, Bar Rosso and ZAZA for participating.

Lemonade for the Library
Fifth-grader Shifra Batkin already has philanthropy on her mind. She recently raised $72 for the library with her lemonade stand. That’s a lot of lemonade. Thank you, Shifra!

Missed one of our programs? Catch up whenever you have a chance. Many of our programs are available on our YouTube channel. Be sure to subscribe.

STAFF RECOMMENDS:
Honoring Our Veterans

Immortal Valor: The Black Medal of Honor Winners of World War II by Robert Child

Every Day Is a Gift: A Memoir by Tammy Duckworth

Scars and Stripes: An Unapologetically American Story of Fighting the Taliban, UFC Warriors, and Myself by Tim Kennedy

Uncertain Ground: Citizenship in an Age of Endless, Invisible War by Phil Klay

Walk in My Combat Boots: True Stories from America’s Bravest Warriors by James Patterson and Matt Eversmann

Three Wise Men: A Navy Seal, a Green Beret, and How Their Marine Brother Became a War’s Sole Survivor by Beau Wise

Connect to the Ferguson

FRIENDS OF THE FERGUSON LIBRARY

Linda Avellar, Editor
Beth Fitzpatrick, Communication & Marketing Coordinator
Barbara Aronica-Buck, Designer
Camilla Herrera, Communication & Marketing Specialist

The Ferguson Library
Board of Trustees
Stephanie O’Shea, Chair
Michael A. Hyman, Vice Chair
Susana Vidan, Treasurer
Ellen E. Bromley, Secretary
Steven M. Frederick
Anderson R. Livingston
Tamu Lucero
RJ Mercede
Lauren Meyer
Polly O’Brien Morrow

Ex Officio
Alice Knapp, Chief Executive Officer

Main Library, DiMattia Building
One Public Library Plaza, Stamford, CT 06904
203 964-1000
Monday through Thursday 10 to 8
Friday 10 to 6
Saturday 10 to 5
Sunday 1 to 5

Harry Bennett Branch
115 Vine Road 06905
203 351-8291
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10 to 6
Wednesday 10 to 7
Saturday 10 to 5

South End Branch
34 Woodland Avenue 06902
203 351-8280
Monday through Thursday 10 to 5:30
Saturday 10 to 2

Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch
1143 Hope Street 06907
203 351-8285
Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 10 to 6
Tuesday 12 to 7
Saturday 10 to 5

Bookmobile
Check our online calendar at fergusonlibrary.org/locations-hours/bookmobile

The Friends Book Shops at the Ferguson Library
Main Library
Monday through Thursday 11 to 6
Friday & Saturday 11 to 5
Sunday 1 to 5

Harry Bennett Branch
Monday through Saturday 10 to 5

Lemonade for the Library
Fifth-grader Shifra Batkin already has philanthropy on her mind. She recently raised $72 for the library with her lemonade stand. That’s a lot of lemonade. Thank you, Shifra!

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

NOVEMBER 2022
Meet Children’s Author Veera Hiranandani
Sunday, November 6 from 2 to 3 p.m.
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium

The Newbery Honor-winning writer will discuss her historical fiction novel How to Find What You’re Not Looking For. Here we meet 12-year-old Ariel Goldberg, whose life changes when her big sister elopes with a young man from India following the 1967 Loving v. Virginia Supreme Court decision, which struck down laws banning interracial marriage. RR.
Co-sponsored by the Jane Addams Peace Association.

Family Program: Diwali

Kids! Help Us Decorate for Diwali

Create your own paper rangoli for Diwali, the Festival of Lights, using one of our templates, which are available at the library’s Youth Services desks. Make one for yourself and another one for us to display. Please submit your rangolis by Saturday, November 5. We will use them to decorate for our celebration, to be held Sunday, November 13.

Celebrate Diwali: The Festival of Lights
Sunday, November 13 from 2 to 4 p.m.
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium

A festival featuring traditional dance performances and a rangoli exhibition. Diwali, symbolizing the victory of light over darkness, is one of the most important holidays in India. All ages welcome.
Co-sponsored by GOPIO-CT.

How to Contact and Follow Us

Main Library Borrowers Services: 203 351-8261
Main Library Adult Services/Reference Desk:
  203 351-8231
Youth Services:
  Main Library: 203 351-8242
  Harry Bennett Branch: 203 351-8294
  South End Branch: 203 351-8280
  Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch: 203 351-8287

Check out our Youth Services page at fergusonlibrary.org/services/kids for information for kids, teens, parents and educators. You’ll also find information about our digital books, movies and music. Linked Libraries, digital resources, Wi-Fi service for students in need, and more.

Visit our online calendar at fergusonlibrary.org/events for updates and pop-up programs and subscribe to our newsletter/weekly emails at fergusonlibrary.org/newsletters.

Instagram @ferglibrary, @ferglibraryyouth, @harrybennettbranchys and southendbranch_lib
Facebook facebook.com/thefergusonlibrary
YouTube youtube.com/thefergusonlibrary

The library will operate on a regular schedule on Veterans Day, Friday, November 11.
All library locations will close at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, November 23, and will remain closed November 24 for Thanksgiving. We will operate on our normal schedule the rest of the holiday weekend. Have a happy holiday.

Stamford students can use their student 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 fergusonlibrary.org/linked-libraries-contact-us-form.

Our programs are generously supported by the Friends of the Ferguson Library.
**CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS**

**Kids Book Discussion**
*Tuesday, November 1 from 7 to 8 p.m.*
*ML, Ann M. Sexton Board Room*
Prepare for a fun discussion of How to Find What You're Not Looking For by Veera Hiranandani, a coming-of-age story set in 1967 of 12-year-old Ariel Goldberg as she grapples with prejudice, racism and antisemitism. Refreshments will be served. Grades 4 to 7. **RR.**

**Budding Bookworms**
*Tuesdays, November 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 at 10:30 a.m.*
*via South End Branch Instagram*
Bilingual storytime for ages 18 months to 4 years. New content every week.

**Sing & Stomp**
*Tuesdays, November 1, 15, 22 & 29 from 10:30 to 11 a.m.*
*ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium*
A song and dance party for ages 18 months to 4 years with an accompanying caregiver. No walk-ins. **RR.** Registration opens six days before each program date.

**Family Storytime**
*Wednesdays, November 2, 9, 16 & 30 from 10:30 to 11 a.m.*
*ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium*
A participatory storytime for the whole family that includes songs, fingerplays, stories and movement activities. For ages 18 months to 4 years with an accompanying caregiver. No walk-ins. **RR.** Registration opens six days before each program date.

**Babytime**
*Fridays, November 4 & 18 from 10:30 to 11 a.m.*
*ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium*
A program geared for babies featuring traditional verses, bouncing rhymes, board books and more. For ages 18 months and younger with an accompanying caregiver. No walk-ins. **RR.** Registration opens six days before each storytime date.

**Picture Us Reading Book Club**
*Thursday, November 17 from 4:30 to 5:15 p.m.*
*at HB*
A reading and discussion of the picture book Dreamers by Yuyi Morales, a retelling of the award-winning author’s own immigration story. Refreshments will be served. Ages 7 and older.

**Giant Games Night**
*Thursday, November 6 from 7 to 8 p.m.*
*ML, Lower Level Makerspace*
An evening of fun with oversized versions of classic games like Tangrams, Bananagrams and more! Refreshments will be served. Grades 5 to 8. **RR.**

**Birds of Prey**
*Saturday, November 19 from 1 to 2 p.m.*
*at HB*
Observe several raptor species up close while learning about their adaptations, behavior, ecological importance and natural history. Grades 1 to 5. **RR.** Presented by the New Canaan Nature Center.

**Outdoor Family Storytime**
*Thursdays, November 3, 10 & 17 from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m.*
*at WMH*
Bring a blanket and/or lawn chair to this drop-in programs. For ages up to 4 years, with an accompanying caregiver, weather permitting.

**TEEN PROGRAMS**

**Introduction to Web Development: HTML, CSS & JavaScript**
*Sundays, November 6 & 20 from 1 to 3 p.m.*
*ML, Third Floor Technology Center*
Learn how to construct the layout of a website, understand basic design principles and styling with CSS, and add interactivity with JavaScript. Must be familiar with Windows and able to use a mouse and keyboard. Grades 6 to 12. **RR.** Presented in collaboration with Synchrony Skills Academy.

**Teen Book Discussion**
*Tuesday, November 22 from 7 to 8 p.m.*
*Third Floor Ann M. Sexton Board Room*
In Look Both Ways, author Jason Reynolds conjures 10 tales—one per block—about what happens after the dismissal bell rings, and weaves them into one funny, poignant look at the detours we face on the walk home, and in life. Refreshments will be served. Grades 6 to 12. **RR.**

**T-MAD Meeting**
*Thursday, November 29 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.*
*via Zoom*
Teens Making a Difference (T-MAD) advisory program. Learn about upcoming events, share reading suggestions and make a difference in the community. Participation in T-MAD counts as volunteer work. Grades 6 to 12. **RR.**

**Earn Volunteer Hours by Reviewing Books**
The Ferguson Library is offering volunteer hours to teens in grades 6 to 12 to write book reviews. Reviews will be featured on the library’s Youth Instagram page and displayed with reviewed books at the library. Teens may submit up to two book reviews per week at tinyurl.com/m523vnb7. For each review approved by a librarian, teens will receive one hour of volunteer credit. Reviews may be edited for clarity and will list the reviewer’s first name, last name initial and grade, unless the reviewer wishes to remain anonymous.

For information, call 203-351-8242 or email ferglibraryyouth@gmail.com.