FOCUS FERGUSONLIBRARY

THE NEWSLETTER OF STAMFORD'S PUBLIC LIBRARY

JULY 2022

Message from the CEO



I am always amazed by the generosity of the Stamford community. The CT STEM Kids Club is an outstanding example of big-hearted local giving. This club supports youth development in the areas of science, technology, engineering and math, and for the last several years I have had the honor of being invited to their annual awards ceremony. A whole curriculum has been developed by parents and

community members to create a learning environment where everyone is treated with respect and dignity. The older students teach and tutor the younger ones, then donate their earnings to the Ferguson Library. I am humbled by the amount they give each year, and overwhelmed by the students' enthusiasm and support for one another. It truly is one of my favorite events! —Alice Knapp, CEO



CT STEM Kids Club annual awards

All library facilities will be closed Sunday, July 3 and Monday, July 4 for the Independence Day holiday.

David Baldacci July 13



The Friends Author Series is back in person with international bestselling author David Baldacci on July 13.

Baldacci will be talking about his new book, *The* 6:20 Man, a propulsive, edge-of-your-seat thriller about a cryptic murder that pulls a former soldier turned financial analyst deep into the corruption and menace that prowl beneath the opulent world of finance.

DAVID BALDACCI 6:20 MAN

Tickets are \$15 and include a wine and appetizer reception. The reception begins at 6:30 p.m., with the program at 7 p.m. Discount with Friends membership. Register at fergusonlibrary.org/events.

Support for Summer Sundays

Many thanks to Pitney Bowes for a generous \$35,000 grant to underwrite Sunday hours this summer at the Main Library. Sundays are one of our busiest and most important days of the week and we are grateful for the support. If you are interested in helping us provide Sunday service, please contact Linda Avellar at 203 351-8208 or linda@fergusonlibrary.org.

Harry Bennett Branch Gets an Upgrade

Work is underway at the Harry Bennett Branch to soundproof the auditorium, which will allow us to show films and hold more programs at the branch. We're also updating our circulation desk with a modern check-out counter to better serve you. You might have noticed a new



fountain outside the front entrance. That was generously donated by Gary Gepner in honor of his late wife, Susan Baldwin, who was the longtime Harry Bennett Branch Supervisor.

Kids Summer Learning Read Beyond the Beaten Path

Our Kids and Teen Summer Learning Clubs are in full swing. Keeping kids learning over the school break is critical to their success. Kids and teens can register online at fergusonlibrary.org, or on the Readsquared app from the Apple App Store or Google Play store. Or sign up at any library location. Get a free water bottle for signing up!



DIGITAL LIBRARY: PRONUNCIATOR

Whether you are a student or teacher of modern languages, you must add Pronunciator to your arsenal of resources. It is a free comprehensive language learning software that supports learning of 164 languages and ESL lessons for speakers of 146 different languages. It features flashcards, conversations, downloadable textbooks, learners' manuals, phrasebooks and video pronunciation guides. More recent offerings include films with integrated drills and quizzes, music with lyrics and city tours. Check out Course Designer, a service that allows educators to easily create language courses, and Bluebird, a collection of 12 million downloadable audio lessons. You can find this resource under Research & Learn/A to Z Resources on our website. Once you are in the site, enter your library card number to begin learning.

ML Main Library, DiMattia Building, 203 351-8231 HB Harry Bennett, 203 351-8292 SE South End, 203 351-8280 WMH Weed Memorial & Hollander, 203 351-8286

RR Registration Required

at fergusonlibrary.org/events For virtual programs, Zoom login details will be included in registration confirmations. For Zoom programs that don't require registration, visit our online calendar for login details.

@ferglibrary, @ferglibraryyouth,

f @harrybennettbranchys and @southendbranch_lib facebook.com/TheFergusonLibrary

youtube.com/c/TheFergusonLibrary

🤈 @fergusonlib

Our programs are generously supported by the Friends of the Ferguson Library

Face masks are optional in library buildings but are required at children's indoor programs for participants ages 2 and older. We reserve the right to request that you wear a mask if you are working closely with staff.

Book Discussions

If the discussion is presented via Zoom, login details are on our online calendar. Registration is not required. Book discussions are open to all.

Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch

Monday, July 11 at 11:30 a.m. via Zoom The Guest List by Lucy Foley

Spanish Book Discussion

Thursday, July 14 from 5 to 6 p.m. ML, Third Floor Ann M. Sexton Board Room Martita, te recuerdo por Sandra Cisneros

Harry Bennett Branch

Monday, July 18 from 7 to 8 p.m. via Zoom Crying in H Mart by Michelle Zauner

South End Branch African & African American Authors Book Discussion

Monday, July 25 from 7 to 9 p.m. via Zoom Waiting for the Waters to Rise by Maryse Condé It's Not Too Late: Join the 2022 Reading Challenge Grab a copy of our



challenge list and join us in exploring new book genres, subjects and themes to be entered into a drawing for a literary prize. The challenge ends mid-December. For the challenge list, visit fergusonlibrary. readsquared.com.

Friends Author Series: An Evening with David Baldacci Wednesday, July 13 from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium International bestselling author David Baldacci will discuss his latest book, *The 6:20 Man*, a thriller about a cryptic murder that pulls a former soldier turned financial analyst deep into the corruption and menace that prowl beneath the opulent world of finance. Reception at 6:30 p.m.; presentation at 7 p.m. Book sale and signing. Tickets: \$15 per person; \$10 for Friends members. Proceeds benefit the library. **RR**.

Art Exhibit: The Art of the Community ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium

Display of a juried art show featuring works by local and regional artists. The exhibit examines how art can lift all voices in the community through engagement, awareness and support. On view through the end of September.

Co-sponsored by the Stamford Art Association, in partnership with the Ferguson Library and Stamford Pride.



World Around Me by Rujuta Paradkar.

English Language Learners

Let's Talk: Conversation Groups Summer Sessions via Zoom

Registration not required. New students welcome. For meeting information, visit fergusonlibrary. org/lets-talk-events.

Tuesdays, July 5, 12, 19 & 26 New students: noon Basic: 12:30 p.m. Low intermediate: 2:30 p.m. Advanced: 5:30 p.m. Wednesdays, July 6, 13, 20 & 27 High intermediate: 10 a.m. Beginner: 3 p.m.

Easy English for Beginners: Side by Side (Part 1)

Main Library, DiMattia Building 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.



Calling All Makers: A Chance to Learn New Skills

ML, Lower Level Makerspace

Make Your Own Journal

Saturday, July 16 from 2 to 4 p.m. Learn some book-making basics and go home with a brand new journal. **RR**.

Learn How to Knit Saturday, July 30 from 11 a.m. to noon

A workshop covering the basics, including casting on, basic stitches, binding off, and what you will need to know to continue on your knitting journey. **RR.**

Introducing BiblioBoard

Saturday, July 30 from 2 to 3 p.m. Learn about the library's newest service, which offers community members powerful tools to create, share and discover. A must for new and established authors. **RR.**

Technology

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

Familiarity with Windows and use of a mouse and keyboard necessary.

Basic Microsoft Word

Thursday, July 7 from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

Learn how to navigate MS Word, create and save a document, and format text. No experience with MS Word necessary.

Introduction to Video Editing Saturday, July 16 from 11 a.m.

to 1 p.m. Learn how to cut and merge video files and apply visual and audio effects using Lightworks editing software. No experience with video editing necessary.

Basic Microsoft Excel

Thursday, July 21 from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

Learn how to create and save a spreadsheet, enter data, and write formulas. No experience with Excel necessary.

Tech Tuesdays: Smartphone Tips for Older Adults

Tuesdays, July 5, 12, 19 & 26 from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

SE, Second Floor Program Room Free weekly classes with our experienced bilingual (English and Spanish) team. No registration required.

Introducing BiblioBoard ML, Third Floor Makerspace Saturday, July 30 from 2 to 3 p.m.

Learn about the library's newest service, which offers community members powerful tools to create, share and discover. A must for new and established authors. **RR**.

Business & Career

Understanding Student Loans Wednesday, July 13 from 2 to 3 p.m. ML, Third Floor Technology Center Learn about the components and terminology of student loans, the types of loans and different kinds of financial aid available, and ways to decrease what you will owe. Presented in partnership with CONNTAC Inc. RR.

Financial Literacy for Families Wednesday, July 27 from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

ML, Third Floor Technology Center Learn basic financial concepts that will help you start family conversations about creating a budget, spending, saving and borrowing. **RR**.

Person-to-Person Mobile Food Pantry

Tuesdays, July 5, 12, 19 & 26 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at SE For more information, call 203 724-9111.

Community Mindfulness Project: Meditation

Tuesdays, July 5, 12, 19 & 26 at noon ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium A brief discussion about meditation practice, a guided meditation, and a chance to share and reflect. Appropriate for all levels of practice.

Notary Services

Wednesdays, July 6, 13, 20 & 27 from 2 to 4 p.m. at HB

Our notary public will be available to notarize your official documents for free. By appointment only. Call 203 351-8292.

Death Cafe Stamford Thursdays, July 7 & 21 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. With Sahara Farrugio, a licensed funeral director specializing in advanced planning. Note: Death Cafe is not grief support or counseling.

Board Game Night

Fridays July 8 & 22 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at WMH Book a babysitter and join us for a night of fun and games. Complimentary snacks.

Lawyers in Libraries

Thursday, July 28 from 6 to 8 p.m. ML, Second Floor Study Room

Discuss your case with a volunteer attorney. To book a 20-minute appointment, call 203 351-8221. Supported by the Connecticut Bar Association.

Old Folkies Acoustic Singalong Saturday, July 30 from 3 to 4:30 p.m. at WMH

An afternoon outdoors of toetapping, finger-snapping acoustic delights with Dr. Ev, who will take requests. Complimentary refreshments. Weather permitting.

Family Programs

A StoryWalk® Celebrating the 75th Anniversary of Jackie Robinson Breaking Baseball's Color Barrier Saturday, July 16 at 11 a.m.; on display through July 20 Jackie Robinson Park of Fame, West Main Street at Richmond Hill Avenue

Learn about Jackie Robinson at this outdoor display of the picture book *I Am Jackie Robinson* by Brad Meltzer. All ages welcome. *A partnership between the Jackie Robinson Park of Fame, Inc., Superior Barbershop and the Ferguson Library's South End Branch.*

Fun with Line Dancing Friday, July 22 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at SE

Teens and adults are invited to bring their friends and learn some popular line-dancing moves. No experience necessary.

Making Music

Saturdays, July 23 & 30 from noon to 1:30 p.m. at SE

All ages welcome to hear master drummer Henry Jones talk about instruments from around the world. Join him in making your own drum and make music together.

FRIENDS OF THE FERGUSON LIBRARY

Book Shop News

Need a book for the beach? The Friends Book Shop has a great selection of summer reads, perfect for lazing away hot afternoons. Stop by and browse.

Note: The Harry Bennett Branch Book Shop will be closed through the end of the month while construction is underway. All donations should be brought to the Main Library. Please visit the Main Library Book Shop or shop online at StamfordFriends Bookshop.org.

New Service Consolidates Library's E-book and Audiobook Collections in One App

Now you can find e-books and audiobooks all in one place. The Palace Project lets you search, browse and check out items in the Ferguson Library's collection in just a few taps. No searching through different platforms.

Just download the Palace Project App from your device and search for Ferguson Library. Then enter your library barcode number and PIN. You'll be able to start browsing our e-book and audiobook collections right away. The Palace Project also includes books from the Connecticut State Library's collection, so you have lots to choose from.

Ferguson Launches Screen/Play Writing Workshop

The Ferguson Library is hosting a free workshop for actors and writers interested in polishing their scriptwriting skills. The group will meet for nine sessions beginning September 15, then stage a public reading.

Please submit a sample of your work, three pages maximum, in proper final draft format. Actors can send a resume of their experience (experience required). Send submissions or questions to herbachjackie@gmail.com. Deadline is August 1.

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.



Summer Reads





The Beach House by Rochelle Alers

STAFF RECOMMENDS:

Six Days in Rome by Francesca Giacco

The Paper Palace by Miranda Cowley Heller

Beach Wedding by Michael Ledwidge

Beach House Summer by Sarah Morgan

One Italian Summer by Rebecca Serle

> French Braid by Anne Tyler









Connect to the Ferguson





Linda Avellar, Editor Barbara Aronica-Buck, Designer Camilla Herrera, Marketing & **Communication Specialist**

The Ferguson Library **Board of Trustees**

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Ex Officio Alice Knapp, Chief Executive Officer

BRARY THE HEART OF THE COMMUNITY

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

Harry Bennett Branch

Saturday 10 to 5

Sunday 1 to 5

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 Passport Services

1143 Hope Street 06907 203 351-8285 Monday & Thursday 10 to 6 Tuesday 12 to 7 Saturday 10 to 5

Bookmobile

Check our online calendar at https://www.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

Appointments take precedence and are recommended. For more information or to make an appointment, call 203 351-8298.

Main Library Passport Office

Monday through Thursday 10 to 7 Friday & Saturday 10 to 4 Sunday 1 to 4

Harry Bennett Passport Office Wednesday 10 to 6 (walk-in only) Saturday 10 to 4 (walk-in only)

p 203 964-1000

- f 203 357-9098
- w fergusonlibrary.org
- e comments@fergusonlibrary.org
 - **JULY 2022**



FERGUSONLIBRARY YOUTH SERVICES JULY 2022

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 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 ferguson library.org/newsletters.



- Facebook facebook.com/thefergusonlibrary
- YouTube youtube.com/thefergusonlibrary

All library facilities will be closed Sunday, July 3 and Monday, July 4 for the Independence Day 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.

Face masks are optional in library buildings but are required at children's indoor programs for participants ages 2 and older.

We reserve the right to request that you wear a mask if you are working closely with staff.

Summer Learning Clubs

The Kids and Teen Summer Learning Clubs continue through Wednesday, August 31. Register online at fergusonlibrary.org, or on the Readsquared app from the Apple App Store or Google Play store. Be sure to visit the library this summer to pick up your free water bottle!



Outdoor Storytimes by Concordia Conservatory Musical Adventures

Fridays, July 1 & 22 from 10:30 to 11 a.m. at HB Music faculty from Concordia Conservatory Musical Adventures will lead special outdoor readings of picture book classics about music, sounds and songs. Books include *Yankee Doodle* by Mary Ann Hoberman and *Change Sings* by Amanda Gorman on July 1, and *Summer Song* by Kevin Henkes and *Zin Zin Zin A Violin* by Lloyd Moss on July 22. For ages 4 and older, with caregiver.

Teen Artwork (bottom, right) by Elizabeth Duan, winner of the Ferguson Library 2022 Teen Art Contest

Calling All Makers: A Chance to Learn New Skills ML, Lower Level Makerspace



Meet Your Makers Thursday, July 7 from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

Check out the library's new makerspace. Try some hands-on projects and have all your questions answered. Grades K to 5.

Make Your Own Journal

Saturday, July 16 from 2 to 4 p.m. Learn some book-making basics and go home with a brand new journal. Grades 6 to 12. **RR**.

Survival Skills: Fact or Fiction

Thursday, July 21 from 2 to 3 p.m. We'll take a closer look at common myths about survival and

you can decide what is fact or fiction. For ages 8 to 12.

Learn How to Knit

Saturday, July 30 from 11 a.m. to noon

A workshop covering the basics, including casting on, basic stitches, binding off, and what you will need to know to continue on your knitting journey. Grades 6 to 12. **RR**.

Introducing BiblioBoard

Saturday, July 30 from 2 to 3 p.m. Learn about the library's newest service, which offers powerful tools to create, share and discover. A must for new and established authors. Grades 6 to 12. **RR**.

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FERGUSON LIBRARY YOUTH SERVICES JULY 2022

ML Main Library, DiMattia Building • HB Harry Bennett • SE South End • WMH Weed Memorial & Hollander RR=REGISTRATION REQUIRED at fergusonlibrary.org/events · For virtual programs, Zoom login details will be included in registration confirmations. For Zoom programs that don't require registration, visit our online calendar for login details.

Kids Summer Learning Club



Follow us on Instagram @ferglibraryyouth for storytin
songs, fingerplays and more. @ferglibraryyouth for storytimes,

Babytime Fridays, July 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 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 up to 18 months with an accompanying adult. No walk-ins. **RR.** Registration opens six days before each storytime date.

Toddler Time

Saturday, July 2 from 10:30 to 11 a.m. ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium

A participatory storytime for toddlers that includes songs, fingerplays, stories and movement activities. For walking babies up to age 3 with an accompanying adult.

Outdoor Family Storytimes

Fridays, July 1 & 22 from 10:30 to 11 a.m. at HB

Tuesdays, July 5, 12, 19 & 26 from 10:30 to 11 a.m. at Latham Park Thursdays, July 7, 14, 21 & 28 from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. at WMH

Mondays, July 11, 18 & 25 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Commons Park

Bring a blanket and/or lawn chair to these drop-in programs. For ages up to 4 years, with caregiver, weather permitting.

Budding Bookworms

Tuesdays, July 5, 12, 19 & 26 at 10:30 am. via South End Branch Instagram Storytime for ages 18 months to 4 years. New content every week.

Family Storytime

Wednesdays, July 6, 13, 20 & 27 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 families with children ages 18 months to 4 years. No walk-ins. RR. Registration opens six days before each storytime date.

Kids Book Discussion

Tuesday, July 19 from 7 to 7:45 p.m. ML, Ann M. Sexton Board Room

In The Losers Club by Andrew Clements, Alec can't put a book down, so he starts a reading club in which he intends to be the only member. Still, some kids find their way to Alec's club, where he learns that life might be messier than his favorite books. Grade 4 to 7. RR.

Pride Storytime Saturday, July 30 from 2 to 3 p.m. ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium

Local author Joe Belisle will read from his picture book, What If Wilhelmina, listed as one of Bank Street College of Education's best books of 2022. Drawing activity to follow. For ages 3 and older.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Friday Flicks

Fridays, July 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 from 2 to 4 p.m. ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium Spend Friday afternoons at the movies with us. For ages 6 and older.

July 1: Clifford the Big Red Dog July 8: Encanto July 15: Sonic the Hedgehog July 22: Sing 2 July 29: Space Jam: A New Legacy

Outdoor Arts & Crafts

Tuesdays, July 5, 12, 19 & 26 from 3 to 5 p.m. at WMH

A drop-in arts & crafts program on the lawn. Art supplies will be provided. For ages 6 and older with caregiver, weather permitting.

Chess Club

Saturdays, July 16 & 30 from 10:15 a.m. to noon

ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium Chess Club is back! Beginners are welcome to come and learn everything you need to know about the game from instructor Alex Eydelman. Grades 2 to 5. Presented in

partnership with the National Education Chess Teachers Association. RR for each session.

Mad Science: Fire and Ice

Wednesday, July 20 from 2 to 3 p.m. ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium Mad Science of Fairfield County will captivate you with amazing experiments that include a fire cannon, dragon breath, combustion, a dry ice bubbly "shower" and a giant cloud finale. For ages 5 and older.

Book Bunch Club

Wednesday, July 27 from 4 to 5 p.m. ML, Ann M. Sexton Board Room

Get your copy of Space Taxi: Archie Takes Flight by Wendy Mass at the library, then join us for a fun discussion and activity. Refreshments served. Grades 2 to 3. RR.

TEEN PROGRAMS

Movie Niahts

Thursdays, July 7, 14 & 21 from 5 to 8 p.m. ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium Thursday night is movie night at the library. For ages 12 and older.

A StoryWalk[®] Celebrating the 75th **Anniversary of Jackie Robinson Breaking Baseball's Color Barrier** Saturday, July 16 at 11 a.m.; on display through July 20

Jackie Robinson Park of Fame, West Main Street at Richmond Hill Avenue Learn about Jackie Robinson at this outdoor display of the picture book I Am Jackie Robinson by Brad Meltzer. All ages welcome.

A partnership between the Jackie Robinson Park of Fame, Inc., Superior Barbershop and the Ferguson Library's South End Branch.

FAMILY PROGRAMS Fun with Line Dancing

Friday, July 22 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at SE Teens and adults are invited to bring their friends and learn some popular linedancing moves. No experience necessary.

Making Music

Saturdays July 23 & 30 from noon to 1:30 p.m. at SE

All ages welcome to hear master drummer Henry Jones talk about instruments from around the world. Join him in making your own drum and make music together.

July 7: Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore July 14: Uncharted July 21: Spider-Man: No Way Home July 28: Ferris Bueller's Day Off

Red Cross Babysitter Training & Certification

Wednesday, July 13 from 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

ML, Ann M. Sexton Board Room

Earn Red Cross Babysitter Certification during this day-long program, where a Red Cross instructor will teach what it takes to become a babysitter. Must have proof of COVID-19 vaccination to participate. Face masks required. RR.

T-MAD Meeting

Thursday, July 14 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.