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, January 9. 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.

Digital Navigators

Need help accessing online banking information? Want to stay connected with family and friends? Digital navigators are currently available to help Stamford residents with all their digital needs, whether it is setting up an email account, filling out an online job application or getting up to speed on Google Classroom or PowerSchool.

Digital navigators will also assess if people need devices or help with internet connectivity, all part of a Ferguson Library effort to address existing digital inequity among those who may lack the tools or skills to effectively access resources online.

Appointments are required, and are available in English, Spanish, Arabic and Haitian-Creole. Call 203 351-8251 to book a time at the Main Library or the South End Branch.

The Ferguson Library will hold its major fundraiser, A Novel Affair, Thursday, April 7 from 6 to 9 p.m. The library will honor long-time Friends of the Ferguson Library board member Ann Sexton with the Ferguson Award.

A Novel Affair is the Ferguson Library’s signature benefit, raising critical funds to help provide library services to the Stamford community. The event will be held at the Main Library. Proof of vaccination is required to attend.

Ann Sexton has been a board member of the Friends of the Ferguson Library since 1983, serving as president four times. In 1986, she helped launch the Friends’ Books for Babies program, which provides a picture book to every baby born at Stamford Hospital, and has since become a national model.

Tickets to A Novel Affair are $125. The Book Club rate is $100 and Junior Professional tickets (age 35 and under) are $75. Registration will open in early February.

For sponsorship information, please contact Linda Avellar at linda@fergusonlibrary.org/203 351-8208.

There’s Still Time to Give to Library’s Annual Appeal!

If you’ve already donated to the Library’s Annual Appeal, Thank You! If not, there is still time to help. Your donation of any amount helps keep books and vital services like technology training, English-language learning and children’s early literacy programs free and available to all.

Thank you for supporting your public library. Make a secure donation at fergusonlibrary.org or pick up a donation envelope in the library.

Digital Library: Encyclopaedia Judaica

Scholars, students and readers can gain a deeper insight into the Jewish people and Judaism through this exhaustive and organized overview that covers Jewish history, culture, scripture and language, from the Second Temple period to the contemporary State of Israel, from Rabbincic to modern Yiddish literature, from Kabbalah to “Americana” and from Zionism to the contribution of Jews to world civilizations. You can find this resource under Research & Learn/A to Z Resources on our website. Once prompted, log in using your library card number.
A Celebration of Martin Luther King Jr., and Liberation Theology for Today
Monday, Jan. 17 at 2 p.m. via Zoom
An interfaith panel will discuss the role liberation theology plays within faith in its historical context. Talking points will also include its message, meaning and relevance in today’s society. All ages. Co-sponsored by 100 Black Men of Stamford, Concerned Clergy Coalition, Domus Kids, Stamford MLK Committee and Stamford Stands Against Racism.

Family Program
Decorate for the Lunar New Year: Lotus Flower Lantern Craft
Saturday, Jan. 22 from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. via Zoom
Join us for this lotus flower lantern craft class given by the Korean Spirit and Culture Promotion Project. Here you will be given step-by-step instructions and shown a short video to help you create a lovely lotus flower lantern using colored paper and wire frames. Information on where to pick up the kit of materials for this activity will be provided by email at a later date. For kids and adults, ages 12 and up. RR. Registration closes January 8. Co-sponsored by Korean Spirit and Culture Promotion Project.

Friends Author Series, in Partnership with the Mayor’s Multicultural Council, Presents An Evening with Roya Hakakian, Author of A Beginner’s Guide to America: For the Immigrant and the Curious
Monday, Jan. 31 at 6:30 p.m.
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium
Written as a guide for the newly arrived, A Beginner’s Guide to America provides practical information and advice that reveals a portrait of what the new immigrant experience in America is really like. Book sale and signing to follow. RR. if attending in person; also available via Zoom.

SAVE THE DATE:
An Evening with Alafair Burke, Author of Find Me, and Erica Katz, Author of Fake.
Wednesday, Feb. 23 at 6:30 p.m.
Registration opens Jan. 2

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. This challenge is for speed readers and slower readers alike. Whether you read a book a week or one every month—a books and audiobooks count—there will be a prize drawing for those who finish reading 12 books from the list and another drawing for those who finish 52 books. The challenge ends mid-December 2022. More information, including the challenge list, can be found at fergusonlibrary.readsquared.com.

Affordable Care Act Enrollment
Mondays to Thursdays until Jan. 13 from 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
ML, Second Floor Study Room
The 2022 open enrollment period for individual and family health plans continues. Representatives from Access Health CT will be at the library through January 13 to enroll members in the health insurance marketplace.

International Holocaust Remembrance Day
Thursday, Jan. 27 at 7 p.m. via Zoom
An educational experience that explores the framing of our past and present through the viewing of highlights from the documentary, Final Account. A conversation with Holocaust survivors and children of Holocaust survivors on complicity, propaganda and responsibility as reflected in the film will follow screening. RR. Co-sponsored by Jewish Historical Society of Fairfield County and United Jewish Federation of Stamford, New Canaan and Darien.

Building Bridges with Books:

The Midnight Library Book Discussions
Harry Bennett Branch
Thursday, Jan. 6 at 11 a.m.
Main Library, DiMattia Building
Third Floor Board Room
Sunday, Jan. 9 at 1 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 10 at 6:30 p.m.

Making Each Chapter Count:
Living Your Best Life Panel Discussion
Tuesday, Jan. 11 at 7:30 p.m.
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium

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Wednesday, Feb. 23 at 6:30 p.m.
Registration opens Jan. 2
Business & Career

Stamford 1 Million Cups
Wednesday, Jan. 5 at 8 a.m. via Zoom
Presenters: Sofia Sigal-Passек, CEO of Uniphage, and Ilgar Tali, founder of Smartist Inc. RR.

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

Jan. 12
Leadership and Team Building
Scott C. Nevins, Principal, Bernstein Private Wealth Management

Jan. 19
Business Formation and Contracts
Kelly O’Donnell, Esq., Pullman & Comley, LLC

Jan. 26
Customer Acquisition, Development and Retention
Guy Sullivan, Founder, Silicon Parkway Ventures

Financial Literacy

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

Budgeting 101
Tuesday, Jan. 4 from 2 to 3:30 p.m.
Everything you need to know about budgeting, cost-cutting, spending plans and long-term financial tools and strategies.

What Is Credit?
Tuesday, Jan. 18 from 2 to 3:30 p.m.
Learn how credit works, the different forms of credit, the price of credit, how a credit score is calculated, and the difference between good and bad credit.

Person-to-Person Mobile Food Pantry
Tuesdays, Jan. 4, 11, 18 & 25 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at SE
For more information, call 203 724-9111.

Community Mindfulness Project: Meditation
Tuesdays, Jan. 4, 11, 18 & 25 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 beginners and those with long-standing practices.

Notary Services
Wednesdays, Jan. 5, 12, 19 & 26 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.

Technology

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

- Must be familiar with Windows and be able to use a mouse and keyboard.
- Basic experience in MS Word is necessary.
- Experience in MS Word is necessary.

Microsoft Word
Saturday, Jan. 8 from 2 to 3:30 p.m.
Learn how to navigate MS Word, create and save a document, and format text. No experience in MS Word necessary.

Intermediate Microsoft Word
Saturday, Jan. 15 from 2 to 3:30 p.m.
Learn how to insert tables and images, use Styles to format the document, and edit the header and footer.

Advanced Microsoft Word
Saturday, Jan. 22 from 2 to 3:30 p.m.
Learn how to build outlines, manage long documents, and work collaboratively in a document with other people.

Basic Microsoft Excel
Thursday, Jan. 20 from 2 to 3:30 p.m.
Learn how to navigate MS Excel, create and save your spreadsheet, enter data, and write formulas. No experience in MS Excel necessary.

Death Cafe Stamford
Thursdays, Jan. 6 & 20 from 2 to 3 p.m. via Zoom
A discussion about increasing 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.

How to Start the New Year with More Clarity and Purpose
Thursday, Jan. 6 at 6:30 p.m. ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium
Learn ways to manage stress and anxiety, bring more peace into your life, and gain clarity about what matters to you to make 2022 a great year. Presenter: Dr. Michael G. Christie, chaplain supervisor with the Connecticut Department of Corrections. RR.

A StoryWalk® Celebrating Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s Birthday
Jan. 10–22 at SE
Learn about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. as you walk the South End Branch Library book trail. All ages. The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT, and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. Storywalk® is a registered service mark owned by Anne Ferguson.

How Audiobooks Are Made
Saturday, Jan. 15 from 2 to 4 p.m. ML, Third Floor Board Room
Professional narrator Peter Lerman gives an insider’s perspective on the production of audiobooks. RR.

Wellness Series: Making and Sticking to New Year’s Resolutions
Thursday, Jan. 20 via Zoom
Learn how psychology and health behavior theory can help you make and achieve your goals. This session will be interactive; participants are encouraged to share ideas. With Brittany Dube, a behavioral health, health promotion, and emergency response specialist for the City of Stamford’s Department of Health. RR. A partnership with the City of Stamford’s Department of Health.

The Writer’s Law School: Legal Tips for Writers
Monday, Jan. 24 from 7 to 8 p.m. via Zoom
A workshop designed for writers that will cover the basics of copyrights, trademarks and key provisions of publishing contracts to make it easier to understand the fine print without having a law degree. Presenter: Jodé Millman, attorney and author of Seats: New York and The Midnight Call. RR.

Lawyers in Libraries: Looking for Legal Advice?
Thursday, Jan. 27 from 6:15 to 8 p.m. ML, Second Floor Study Room
Meet with a volunteer attorney for 20 minutes regarding your case. Please bring relevant materials and documents. Appointment and face masks required; to book a time, call 203 351-8221. Supported by the Connecticut Bar Association.

SAVE THE DATES

Civility in America Series
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium
RR to attend in person. Also available via Zoom. Sponsored by The Dilsenschneider Group, Hearst Media Group in Connecticut and the Ferguson Library.

Indra Nooyi, Former Chairman and CEO of PepsiCo and Author of My Life in Full: Work, Family, and Our Future
Monday, Feb. 7 at 6 p.m.
This memoir offers insight and a call-to-action from one of the world’s most-admired business leaders on how our society can blend work and family—and advance women—in the 21st century.

Andrew Roberts, Author of The Last King of America: The Misunderstood Reign of George III
Tuesday, Feb. 22 at 6 p.m.
A deft and nuanced portrait of the much-maligned monarch that outlines the king’s accomplishments, which have been almost universally forgotten.
FRIENDS OF THE FERGUSON LIBRARY

January Sale in the Book Shop
Don't miss this sale! Inventory is priced at 40 percent off from January 2 to 23. And Friends members get an additional 10 percent off. CDs and DVDs are five for $1. You can't afford not to shop! All proceeds support the library.

2022 Literary Competition is Open
Entries for the Stamford Literary Competition are due February 11. The Literary Competition celebrates excellence in student writing and is open to Stamford students in grades 3 through 12. We are only accepting online entries only this year. You can find the link at fergusonlibrary.org/friends/events.

Hats and Mittens For Inspirica Families
Help keep someone warm this winter. We're collecting donations of new or clean, gently used gloves, mittens, scarves and hats for children and adults. All items will go to families receiving services at Inspirica. You can drop them off at any Ferguson Library location. Donations will be accepted until Friday, January 28.

Building Bridges with Books: A Community Read Event
The Ferguson Library, in partnership with the United Jewish Federation, Jewish Community Relations Council, Interfaith Council of Southwest Connecticut and the Mayor's Multicultural Council, will host a community-wide reading in January of The Midnight Library by Matt Haig. A series of in-person book discussions exploring the spiritual themes of Haig's novel will be held in early January at the Main Library and Harry Bennett Branch (check calendar for dates and times). The event will culminate with a Making Each Chapter Count: Living Your Best Life panel discussion at the Main Library on January 11 from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Missed one of our programs? Not to worry – catch up whenever you have a chance. We are recording most of our virtual programs. You can find them on our YouTube channel.

STAFF RECOMMENDS:
Stories of Survival to Commemorate International Holocaust Remembrance Day January 27, 2022

The Ravine: A Family, a Photograph, a Holocaust Massacre Revealed by Wendy Lower
The Sisters of Auschwitz: The True Story of Two Jewish Sisters’ Resistance in the Heart of Nazi Territory by Roxane van Iperen; translated from the Dutch by Joni Zwart
Into the Forest: A Holocaust Story of Survival, Triumph, and Love by Rebecca Frankel
Do Not Disclose: A Memoir of Family Secrets Lost and Found by Leora Krygier
Last Stop Auschwitz: My Story of Survival from Within the Camp by Eddy de Wind; translated from the Dutch by David Colmer
I Want You to Know We’re Still Here by Esther Safran Foer

Connect to the Ferguson

THE HEART OF THE COMMUNITY

Support the library with a monthly gift. Donate at fergusonlibrary.org.
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: 203 351-8283
  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 fergusonlibrary.org/newsletters.

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

Proof of COVID vaccination or a negative COVID test within 72 hours is required to attend library programs in the Main Library Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium.

Curbside pickup is still available by appointment.

The Annual Stamford Literary Competition 2022

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Girls With Impact
Online weekly classes begin the week of January 10
We’re partnering with Girls With Impact to offer full scholarships to their 10-week mini-MBA program. Girls With Impact is the nation’s only online business and leadership academy for young women. Teen girls ages 14 to 18 are eligible. The scholarships are funded by Eversource. RR at girlswithimpact.org/register. Use the code POWERUP at checkout.

HAPPY 2022

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

Follow us on Instagram @ferglibraryyouth for story times, songs, fingerplays and more.

Budding Bookworms
Tuesdays, January 4, 11, 18 & 25 at 10:30 a.m. via South End Branch Instagram
Storytime for ages 18 months to 4 years. New content every week.

Outdoor Family Storytimes
Thursdays, January 6, 13, 20 & 27 from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. at WMH
Bring a blanket and/or lawn chair to these drop-in programs on the lawn. Up to age 4, with a caregiver, weather permitting.

Crafternoons @ Home
Wednesday, January 19 from 4 to 4:45 p.m. via Zoom
A picture book story circle and art project. Bring coloring supplies and have your imagination ready.
For grades K to 5. Families, parents and caregivers are welcome. RR. Registration opens January 5.

Kids Book Discussion
Tuesday, January 25 from 7 to 7:45 p.m. via Zoom
You Don’t Know Everything, Jilly P! by Alex Gino. When Jilly’s baby sister is born deaf, Jilly connects with a deaf gamer in her online gaming community and discovers that the world does not always treat people the same way. Grades 4 to 6. RR.

Teens Programs

Creative Writing Club
Wednesday, January 12 from 5 to 6 p.m. via Zoom
Bring your imagination, paper and writing tools. We’ll work on different writing prompts, then share our work. Grades 5 to 9. RR.

SoulSpeake Alchemy Box
Thursday, January 13 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. via Zoom
Join us for a class given by Kim Larkin where you can journal and craft your own 3-D alchemy box to express your hopes and goals for 2022. Come to the Main Library to pick up the needed supplies which include a box and a variety of craft materials. Grades 6 to 12. RR.

Draw Chibi Manga
Thursday, January 20 from 4:30 to 6 p.m. via Zoom
Ever wonder how Pokémon characters are drawn? Here’s your chance to meet graphic artist Debi Hammah-Falkenham, who will teach you all you need to know about the Chibi style of Manga. Grades 6 to 12. RR.

Art Café
Wednesday, January 26 from 5 to 6 p.m. via Zoom
Join us with your own supplies to draw, paint, write, knit, and create with us—the sky is the limit. Grades 5 to 9. RR.

Family Programs:

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January 10–22 at SE
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