Message from the CEO

Our Youth Services team offers a variety of programs and services to help students go from learning to read to reading to learn. Most are familiar with our summer reading program, which is designed to help avoid the “summer slide.” But not as many know about the work we do with Stamford Public Schools during the school year. For example, the Friends Book Shop offers teachers five free books each month for their classroom libraries. We also provide teacher cards with extended loans and can help teachers find materials for a subject unit.

Parents with elementary school students may know about our Purple Bus program that brings students to the DiMattia Building for an introduction to the library. And through our Linked Libraries service students can place a hold on a book and we will deliver it right to their school. Knowing that a home library is important, we offer book giveaways during the year in partnership with the Stamford Public Education Foundation. The Ferguson Library is here to support Stamford’s youth.

—Alice Knapp, CEO

Friends Pub Crawl

Join us Wednesday, November 15 at 6 p.m. for the Friends Literary Pub Crawl. It’s a fun evening of food, conversation and literary-themed entertainment at downtown restaurants. We’re delighted to partner once again with Bar Rosso, Hudson Social, Towne Parlor and ZAZA Italian Gastrobar. We’ll break into groups, head out to our assigned restaurants, and return to the library for coffee, dessert and more entertainment. Register at fergusonlibrary.org/events. Tickets are $40; $30 for Friends members. If you want to be grouped with someone or need a special accommodation, please contact us at pubcrawl@fergusonlibrary.org.

Howard Kaplan Memorial Lecture on Law and Society

Richard Freedman, President of Garden Homes Management, and Anika Singh Lemar, Clinical Professor of Law at Yale Law School, will debate affordable housing and whether current statutes and litigation are the best way to meet the housing crisis confronting Stamford and neighboring communities. The annual Howard Kaplan Memorial Lecture on Law and Society will be held Tuesday, November 14 at 6:30 p.m. at the Main Library. Register at fergusonlibrary.org.

This lecture is supported by the Stamford law firm Wofsey, Rosen, Howard Kaplan Memorial Lecture on Law and Society

Support Your Library with a Year-End Gift and Make a Difference!

Please remember the Ferguson Library in your year-end giving. Your donation of any amount to the Ferguson Library Foundation (the fundraising arm of the library) helps keep books and all the things you love at the library free and available to everyone in the community. Donate securely at fergusonlibrary.org or pick up a donation envelope at any library location. Thank you for investing in your public library.

DIGITAL LIBRARY: Learning Express Workforce Solutions

Filled with vocational guidance tools, tips for resume writing, and the best interviewing techniques to achieve career success, this large collection of test prep guides covers real estate, law enforcement, nursing, teaching, post office, military, commercial driver’s license (CDL), social worker, plumbing and other professional categories. Visit the High School Equivalency Center section for help on studying for your GED. To learn more and register, visit the library’s A–Z Resources page.

Happy Thanksgiving
NEW! Harry Bennett Branch Local Author Series
RR for all programs. See cover for details.

Evening with Anthony R. Whitworth, Author of The Saltwater Highway
Wednesday, November 1 from 6 to 7 p.m. at HB

Elise Hart Kipness, Author of Lights Out, in Conversation with Wendy Walker
Tuesday, November 7 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at HB

Mental Health & Wellness Series
Presented in partnership with the Network of the National Library of Medicine.

Zumba Dance Party
Tuesdays, November 7, 14, 21, 28 from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at HB

Satndays, November 18 & 25
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium
Dance into fitness with instructor Pamela Arenas. RR

Community Mindfulness Project: Meditation
Tuesdays, November 7, 14, 21, 28 from 12 to 1 p.m.
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium
A brief discussion about practice, a guided meditation, and a chance to reflect.

Documentary Screening: Wine, Women, & Dementia
Wednesday, November 8 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium
Screening of Wine. Women. & Dementia, a film directed and produced by Kitty Norton that highlights the isolation, financial stress and physical and emotional toll that family members shoulder caring for loved ones with dementia. Connect with other caregivers, Norton and local professionals. SilverSource social workers will share information about community support service providers and resources. Refreshments will be served. RA. Presented in partnership with SilverSource.

Afternoon Jazz with Joe Corsello
Sunday, November 12 from 2 to 3:30 p.m.
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium
Drummer Joe Corsello returns for an afternoon of jazz, featuring saxophonist George Garzone, pianist Robert Marullo and bassist Peter Slavov. RR
Presented in partnership with the Italian Center of Stamford.

Lung Health Talk: A Breath of Unfresh Air
Monday, November 13 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at HB
Dr. Michael A. Bernstein, Director for Pulmonary, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine at Stamford Health, will discuss wildfire smoke, other air pollutants and lung health in a presentation moderated by State Rep. Matt Blumenthal. RA.
Presented in partnership with Stamford Health.

Art at the Ferguson: Connecting Nature and People
On display through January 18.
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium
Juried shows of works by local and regional artists. Presented in partnership with the Stamford Art Association.

Family Programs
Day of the Dead Celebration
Saturday, November 4 from 12 to 1:30 p.m. at SE
Wear traditional headpieces, celebrate the memory of your loved ones and enjoy music and snacks during our Day of the Dead gathering. All ages.

Books Across Stamford: Giving Thanks
Saturday, November 18 from 1 to 4 p.m.
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium
Students in pre-K to grade 5 are invited to a free, fun-filled book giveaway. Listen to guest readers, make fall crafts and select books for your home library. All ages.
Presented in partnership with Stamford Public Education Foundation.

Celebrate Diwali: The Festival of Lights
Sunday, November 19 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. RA.
Presented in partnership with GOPIO-CT and the Stamford Mayor’s Multicultural Council.

Holiday Movie: Fantastic Mr. Fox
Friday, November 24 from 4 to 6 p.m. at HB
Bring the family to see this animated 2009 feature, which tells the tale of a wily fox who cannot resist returning to his farm-raiding ways after years of bucolic peace. Now he must help his community survive the farmers’ retaliation. Starring George Clooney, Meryl Streep, Jason Schwartzman and Bill Murray. Rated PG. All ages.

Howard C. Kaplan Memorial Lecture on Law and Society: Affordable Housing: What’s Law Got to Do with It?
Tuesday, November 29 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium
See cover for details.

Author Panel Discussion:
Ripped from the Headlines
Wednesday, November 29 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at HB
Deborah Levison, Wendy Whitman and T. M. Dunn, authors of page-turning thrillers, will discuss their books, each inspired by shocking headlines that grip the nation. The discussion, to be moderated by Dunn, will include shared key elements of the authors’ writing lives and tips about getting published. Reception at 6 p.m.: program to follow at 6:30 p.m. RR

Public Library Tour
Wednesday, November 1 from 10 to 10:30 a.m.
ML, First Floor Lobby
A tour of library resources available to you. RR

Canasta Club
Wednesday, November 8, 15, 22 & 29 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at HB
All levels welcome.

Mah-Jongg Club
Thursdays, November 2, 9, 16 & 30 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at HB
Beginners welcome.
Let's Talk: Conversation Groups  
Registration not required. New students welcome.

Fall Semester Sessions via Zoom
Wednesday, November 1, 8, 15 & 29
High intermediate: from 10 to 11:30 a.m.  
Beginner: from 3 to 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, November 7, 14 & 28
New students: from 12 to 12:30 p.m.  
High beginner: from 12:30 to 1:45 p.m.  
Low intermediate: from 2:30 to 4 p.m.  
Advanced: from 5:30 to 6:45 p.m.

Evening Sessions in Person
Practice your conversational skills in a group.
Thursday, November 2, 9, 16 & 30 from 6 to 7 p.m. at HB
Tuesday, November 7, 14 & 28 from 6:30 to 8 p.m.
ML, Lower Level Community Area

English Language Learners

ML, Third Floor Technology Center
Face masks preferred.
RR for all classes.

Must be familiar with Windows and able to use a mouse and keyboard
Basic experience with MS Excel necessary
No experience with HTML or CSS necessary
Basic experience with the internet and using email necessary
Basic experience with MS Word and PowerPoint necessary

Microsoft Excel for Business: Project Management
Part One ▲
Thursday, November 2 from 2 to 3:30 p.m.
Part Two ▲
Thursday, November 9 from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

Introduction to Web Building: HTML and CSS ▲
Saturday, November 4 from 2 to 4 p.m.

Internet Self-Defense ▲
Saturday, November 18 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Teens and adults.

Microsoft Office Suite Integrated ▲
Saturday, November 18 from 2 to 4 p.m.

Tech Tips for Older Adults
Tuesday, November 7, 14, 21 & 28 from 11 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. at SE
Free help on smartphones, tablets, laptops and other devices with our experienced bilingual (English and Spanish) team.

need: from newborn to size 6, from 2T to 5T for pull-ups. Limited to two children per family.
Supplies are limited but guaranteed for those who register. RR.

Knit & Needles Knitting Group
Mondays, November 13 & 27 from 1 to 3:30 p.m. at HB
All levels welcome.

Health Check: Know Your Numbers
Monday, November 13 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.  
ML, Third Floor Rotary Room
Free blood pressure and pre-diabetes screenings plus height and weight checks.

Presented in partnership with the Stamford Department of Health and Human Services.

Healing Drum Circle
Monday, November 13 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at SE
A meditative gathering dedicated to healing the wounds of racism.

Game Night: Forbidden Island
Tuesday, November 14 from 6 to 7:30 p.m.  
ML, First Floor New Materials Room
Play a game from the library’s collection, bring your own, or learn how to play Forbidden Island.
Teens and adults. RR.

Harvest for Hope Turkey Giveaway
Saturday, November 18 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at SE
A giveaway of turkeys and bags of fixings to families in need to make sure no one in Stamford goes hungry this Thanksgiving. Food will be distributed while supplies last.
Presented in partnership with Inspira and the Community Action Agency of Western Connecticut.

Business & Career

TechXel Stamford Accelerator Series
Thursday, November 2, 9, 16 & 30 from 5:30 to 6:45 p.m. via Zoom
RR for each session.
Register by 12 p.m. on program date. Zoom invitations will be sent by 1 p.m.
November 2: Advisory Boards & Governance
Ed Cesare, Managing Director, Plead
November 9: Term Sheets
Frank Eucalitto, Attorney, Lowenstein Sandler
November 16: Capital Tables & Valuation
Charlotte Walker, Venture Investor
November 30: Financial Modeling
Ted Stone, Tech CXO

Presented in partnership with Wealth Bridge Advisory Services, LLC.

Understanding Social Security
Wednesday, November 8 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. via Zoom
Learn how Social Security works and how to maximize its benefits. RR.

Understanding Medicare
Thursday, November 9 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. via Zoom
Learn when to sign up for Medicare, what it covers, its costs, its varied options and how to plan for future healthcare expenses. RR.

Understanding IRAs & Tax Planning
Wednesday, November 15 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. via Zoom
Learn how and when to tap assets like IRAs to supplement income and minimize taxes during retirement. RR.

Understanding Housing Wealth & Reverse Mortgages
Thursday, November 16 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. via Zoom
Learn how reverse mortgages can help eliminate mortgage debt, finance home improvements, purchase a new home, manage healthcare expenses, enhance an investment portfolio and more. RR.

Financial Literacy: Planning for the Future

Old Folks Acoustic Singalong
Saturday, November 18 from 3 to 4:30 p.m. at WMH
Afternoon of acoustic delights with Dr. Ev.

La Tertulia de Stamford: Como el Primer Día
Sunday, November 26 from 2:30 to 3 p.m.
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium
Staging of Como el Primer Día, by César Sánchez Bera, a one-act drama about two people in a relationship that becomes toxic. RA.

Lawyers in Libraries
Thursday, November 30 from 6 to 8 p.m.
ML, Second Floor Study Room
Discuss your case with an attorney. To book a required appointment, call 203 351-8221.
Supported by the Connecticut Bar Association.
FRIENDS OF THE FERGUSON LIBRARY

Please consider becoming a member of the Friends. The Friends of the Ferguson Library advocates for the library in the community and provides funding for many library programs, including summer reading, author events and children's storytimes. It's a great way to support the library and get involved in your community. Visit fergusonlibrary.org/friends/join for more information.

Book Shop News

Shop small and local this holiday season. The Friends Book Shop, with locations at the Main Library and Harry Bennett Branch, is Stamford's only independent bookstore. All books are donated by the community and proceeds benefit the library.

Get Tech Help

Have an issue with your laptop, or a new device that needs to be set up? The Ferguson Library’s Digital Navigators are here to help you access government services, set up online banking, make an online health care appointment or figure out how to see pictures on your phone. The service is free. You can make an appointment through the Digital Navigators page on our website, or by calling 203 351-8221.

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:
Thrillers and Chillers

- Traitors Gate by Jeffrey Archer
- The Golden Gate by Amy Chua
- The Reformatory by Tananarive Due
- The Secret Hours by Mick Herron
- Whalefall by Daniel Kraus
- My Darling Girl by Jennifer McMahon

Connect to the Ferguson

FRIENDS OF THE FERGUSON LIBRARY

The Heart of the Community

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

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

Ferguson Library
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Makeda Mays
Lauren Meyer
Corey P. Paris

Ex Officio
Alice Knapp, Chief Executive Officer

Main Library, DiMattia Building
One Public Library Plaza
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
203 351-8291
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
10 to 6
Wednesday 10 to 7
Saturday 10 to 5

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

Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch
1143 Hope Street
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

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

Passport Services
Main Library Passport Office
Appointments take precedence and are recommended. For more information or to make an appointment, call 203 351-8298.
Monday through Thursday 10 to 7
Friday 10 to 5
Saturday 10 to 4
Sunday 1 to 4

Harry Bennett Passport Office
Walk-in only
Wednesday 10 to 6
Saturday 10 to 4

p 203 964-1000
f 203 357-9098
w fergusonlibrary.org
e comments@fergusonlibrary.org

NOVEMBER 2023
How to Contact and Follow Us
Main Library Borrowers Services: 203 351-8261
Main Library Adult Services/Reference Desk:
203 351-8221
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

All library locations will close at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, November 22, and will remain closed November 23 for Thanksgiving. We will return to our regular schedule the rest of the holiday weekend. Have a very happy holiday.

Day of the Dead Celebration
Saturday, November 4 from 12 to 1:30 p.m. at SE
Wear traditional headpieces, celebrate the memory of your loved ones and enjoy music and snacks during our Day of the Dead gathering. All ages.

Community Diaper Distribution
Saturday, November 11 from 12 to 4:30 p.m.
ML, Lower Level Makerspace
Register to receive one week’s worth of free diapers. Please indicate what size diapers you need: from newborn to size 6, from 2T to 5T for pull-ups. Limited to two children per family. Supplies are limited but guaranteed for those who register. RR.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Books Across Stamford: Giving Thanks
Saturday, November 18 from 1 to 4 p.m.
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium
Students in pre-K to grade 5 are invited to a free, fun-filled book giveaway. Listen to guest readers, make fall crafts and select books for your home library. All ages. Presented in partnership with Stamford Public Education Foundation.

Celebrate Diwali: The Festival of Lights
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Holiday Movie: Fantastic Mr. Fox
Friday, November 24 from 4 to 6 p.m. at HB
Bring the family to see this animated 2009 feature, which tells the tale of a wily fox who cannot resist returning to his farm-raiding ways after years of bucolic peace. Now he must help his community survive the farmers’ retaliation. Starring George Clooney, Meryl Streep, Jason Schwartzman and Bill Murray. Rated PG. All ages.

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 problems accessing our e-materials or databases, fill out the form at fergusonlibrary.org/form /linked-libraries-contact-us-form.

Our programs are generously supported by the Friends of the Ferguson Library.
CHILDREN’S STORYTIMES
For storytimes, registration opens six days before each program date where registration is required.

Family Storytime
Wednesdays, November 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 from 10:30 to 11 a.m.
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium
A participatory storytime featuring songs, fingerplays, stories and movement activities. Ages 18 months to 5 years with an accompanying caregiver. RR.

Cuentos y Actividades: Spanish Story & Activity
Thursdays, November 2, 9, 16 & 30 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. at SE
A Spanish-language experience featuring stories, music, movement and fun. Ages 1 to 4 with an accompanying caregiver.

Babylife
Fridays, November 3 & 17 from 10:30 to 11 a.m.
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium
Songs, rhymes, stories and more for babies up to 18 months old with an accompanying caregiver. RR.

Cuentos y Cantos Bilingual Storytime
Fridays, November 3, 10 & 17 from 11 to 11:30 a.m. at HB
Interactive readings, songs and activities in English and Spanish. Ages 2 to 5 with an accompanying caregiver. RR.

Wee Ones @ Weed Storytime
Mondays, November 6, 13, 20 & 27 from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. at WMH
Songs, stories and movement activities. Ages 2 and younger with an accompanying caregiver. RR.

Family Storytime
Wednesdays, November 2, 9, 15, 22 & 29 from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m.
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium
Kids play while caregivers meet and chat. Fun includes play time, a snack, a take-home craft and one-on-one support from a family and community engagement specialist from Sparkler, the child development app. Expectant parents welcome. Ages 5 and younger. RA.

Cookies and a Canvas
Saturday, November 11 from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. at HB
Enjoy an afternoon of art by learning how to create a painting while snacking on cookies. All supplies will be provided. Ages 10 and older. RR.

Preschool Movie Matinees
Tuesdays, November 14 & 21 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium
Enjoy picture book videos of beloved children's classics. Ages 18 months to 5 years.

Crafternoon: Tissue Paper Fall Leaves
Wednesday, November 15 from 3:45 to 4:45 p.m. at WMH
Celebrate the season's colors by creating a hanging leaf decoration using tissue paper. Grades 3 to 8. RR.

Create Henna Designs
Friday, November 10 from 2 to 3 p.m.
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium
Learn how to mix and create designs with henna, a special dye used in South Asia, North Africa and the Middle East as adornment for holidays, weddings and special occasions. Grades 6 to 12. RR.

Game Night: Forbidden Island
Tuesday, November 14 from 6 to 7:30 p.m.
ML, First Floor New Materials Room
Play a game from the library's collection, bring your own, or learn how to play Forbidden Island. Teens and adults. RR.

Sci-Fi, Fantasy & Horror Book Discussion: The Last Unicorn
Thursday, November 16 from 6 to 7 p.m. via Zoom
In this fantasy book by Peter S. Beagle, a lone unicorn embarks on a journey to find out why other unicorns have vanished. Along her way, she encounters humans who don't recognize her as a unicorn, making it evident that unicorns have not been present in a long time. Teens and adults.

Internet Self-Defense
Saturday, November 18 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Learn the tools that will protect you while you navigate the internet. Must be able to use a mouse and keyboard and have basic experience with the internet and using email. Teens and adults. RR.

Film Club: Twilight
Saturday, November 18 from 2 to 4:30 p.m. at HB

TinkerCAD Workshop
Saturday, November 25 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.
ML, Lower Level Community Area
Find out about TinkerCAD, the perfect software for learning the basics of 3D modeling. All levels welcome. Grades 5 to 12. RR.

T-MAD Meeting
Wednesday, November 29 from 4:30 to 6 p.m.
ML, Ann M. Sexton Board Room
Teens Making a Difference (T-MAD) advisory program, where you can learn about upcoming events, share reading suggestions and make a difference in the community. Participation counts as volunteer work. Pizza, chips and drinks will be served. Grades 6 to 12. RR.

CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS
Baby & Toddler Playgroup
Wednesday, November 2 from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m.
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium
Kids play while caregivers meet and chat. Fun includes play time, a snack, a take-home craft and one-on-one support from a family and community engagement specialist from Sparkler, the child development app. Expectant parents welcome. Ages 5 and younger. RA.

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TEEN PROGRAMS
Play Nintendo Wii U
Saturday, November 4 from 2 to 4 p.m.
ML, Lower Level Program Room
Play popular Nintendo Wii U games like Mario Kart 8, Super Smash Bros. and ESPN Sports Connection. RR.

Open Game Nights
Mondays, November 6, 13, 20 & 27 from 5 to 7:30 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Technology Center
Play a game from the library's collection or bring your own game to play with others. Teens and adults.