Friends of The Ferguson Library



Book Shop News

The Collectible Sale is back! Save the date for May 1 and 2 at the Harry Bennett Branch. The sale includes vintage publications from the 20th century and earlier, wonderful classics, specially illustrated, out-of-print, and signedbooks, rare memorabilia and collections, too.

Then in June, the Bag Sale is back. Fill a bag of books for just \$5. You can't beat the price! The Book Shop is always refreshing the shelves at the Main Library and Harry Bennett Branch locations. Stop in and see

Bookmobile Art Contest

National Bookmobile Day is April 7, but we're celebrating all month with a Bookmobile art contest. Draw a picture of your favorite Bookmobile stop and share it with us. You can return your picture to any library location. Contest deadline is Saturday, April 24. We'll put the winner in the May edition of our newsletter. All ages are welcome to participate. Pictured is last year's winner: The Learning Center at Piper's Hill



Staff Recommends:

National Poetry Month



When the Light of the World Was Subdued, Our Songs Came Through: A Norton Anthology of Native Nations Poetry edited by Joy Harjo with Leanne Howe

Jennifer Elise Foerster, and contributing editors

Light for the World to See: A Thousand Words on Race and Hope by Kwame Alexander

The Selected Works of Audre Lorde edited and with an introduction by Roxane Gay

> Stranger by Night: Poems by Edward Hirsch

> > Floaters: Poems by Martín Espada

American Melancholy: Poems by Joyce Carol Oates

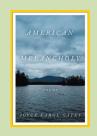
Be sure to check out our poetry blog at https://fergverse.blogspot.com/



KWAME

ALEXANDER

LIGHT



Connect to The Ferguson

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. Be sure to subscribe.















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**

Anderson R. Livingston, Chair Stephanie O'Shea, Vice-Chair Sopong Kim, Treasurer Robert Granata, Secretary Ellen E. Bromlev Steven M. Frederick Michael Hyman Polly O'Brien Morrow Susana Vidan Dudley N. Williams, Jr.

Ex Officio Alice Knapp, President Main Library, DiMattia Building

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

Harry Bennett Branch

Sunday 1 – 5

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 through Thursday 12 – 5:30 Saturday 10 – 2

These regular hours will resume mid-April. Note: While the South End Branch is closed for renovation, the Bookmobile will be on site Monday 12 - 4 and Tuesday through Thursday 10 - 4.

Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch One Public Library Plaza, Stamford, CT 06904 1143 Hope Street 06907, 203 351-8285 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 through Thursday 11 − 6 Friday & Saturday 11 – 5 Sunday 1 – 5

Harry Bennett Branch Book Shop Monday through Friday 12 – 5

Passport Services

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

Main Library Passport Office Monday through Wednesday 11 – 5

Thursday 11 – 8 Friday 11 – 5 Saturday 11 – 4 Sunday 1 – 4

Harry Bennett Passport Office Saturday 1 – 4

love, fear, feminine power, and the distrust of those in positions of power.

Focus on Ferguson

The Heart of the Community

From the President's Desk



We are immensely proud to be named a finalist for the National Medal for Museum and Library Service and to be recognized with other institutions that are doing innovative, important work in their communities. We are so pleased that we are being considered for the award the same year as the Maritime Aquarium in Norwalk – the only other institution in CT also named as a finalist.

This award belongs to our dedicated and talented staff who went above and beyond during the pandemic. As in many libraries, overnight our in-person service became virtual, and our staff found creative new ways to provide service. Working with our vendors and the Stamford Public Schools, we figured out a way for every student to have access to virtual material (e-books, streaming movies, music and audiobooks). While some staff answered virtual reference questions, others called people to see if they wanted their items mailed to them. A few worked the 3-D printers to help make PPE. Staff worked with our community partners to prepare books to give away, get the word out on the Census, and helped plan a Black Lives Matter mural on Broad Street.

The work of this past year has been incredible and the staff inspire me

HOLIDAY HOURS

-Alice Knapp, President

The Library will be closed Sunday, April 4 in observance of Easter.

National Medal Share Your Story Day



National Medal Award finalists are each getting a day to share their stories on social media. Is there something you love about the Ferguson Library? Share your stories, memories, pictures, and videos about the library on social media April 23 using the #ShareYourStory and #IMLSmedals hashtags. National Medal winners will be announced in May.

(See President's message above for details about the award.)

Save the Date: May 20 **Author Chris Bohjalian**

Don't miss bestselling author Chris Bohjalian Thursday, May 20 at 6 p.m. This virtual author event is presented by the Friends in partnership with Darien Library. Chris Bohjalian will talk about his newest book, Hour of the Witch, set in 17th century New England on the eve of the Salem Witch Trials. It's a timely historical novel about

In conversation with Cristina Alger, author of Girls Like Us. Registration required. Register at fergusonlibrary.org.

A Novel Affair: A Virtual Event to Benefit the Library, April 15





Branch.

THE NEWSLETTER OF

Don't miss A Novel Affair, an evening of virtual fun, April 15 at 7 p.m. The event is free and open to all, but we welcome donations! This year we are honoring Tom Cassone for his service to the library and the Stamford community. We're offering a special cocktail kit to enjoy with the show for donations of \$100 and up (while supplies last). Register at https://ibidmobile.net/fpl/reservations/ Our online auction opens April 8 and will run

through Saturday, April 17. We have a lot of exciting packages, including a cruise for 20 on the SoundWaters Schooner with food and wine, and a cocktail party for you and 20 friends at our Weed Memorial & Hollander

Many thanks to our major sponsors: **Morrison**: Friends of The Ferguson Library; SL Green Realty Corp, **DuBois**: Meister Seelig & Fein; Pitney Bowes; Lahiri: Jack Alexander; George and Carol Bello; Melvina Callion; First County Bank, Baldwin: Abate & Abate LLC; Judith Block; Ellen Bromley & Thomas Gizicki; Jane Carlin & Benjamin Gifford; Carmody Torrance Sandak & Hennessey; George Comfort & Sons; Susan Cullman; Garden Homes Management; Sopong Kim & Eunjin Park; Stamford Health; Kristen & Eric Stops; Wofsey Rosen Kweskin & Kuriansky.

South End Branch Renovation

Work is coming along on the South End Branch as we give it a much-needed make-over. The branch is currently closed as we install a new, modern information desk and update the carpet and furniture throughout to make the space more functional. The South End Branch opened in 1970, and was last updated in the mid-1990s. The project is generously funded by grants from the Stamford Rotary Club,



Branch Supervisor Josephine Fulcher-Anderson

First County Bank Foundation, CT Next, and general support from the community. The Bookmobile is on site Monday through Thursday in the parking lot of the Lathon Wider Community Center to provide library service while the branch is closed. We plan to re-open in mid-April.

DIGITAL LIBRARY

PressReader

Get your hands on the New York Times, The Guardian, Voque, National *Geographic* and thousands more newspapers and magazines. PressReader is an all-you-can-read digital newsstand that gives you access to more than 6,000 newspapers and magazines from around the world in 60+ languages. You can read on your smartphone, tablet, or computer. All you need is your Ferguson Library card. Find PressReader on the Research page of our website under A to Z Databases.

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



RR Registration Required Register online at fergusonlibrary.org/event/. Zoom details will 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 channel at https://www.youtube.com/c/TheFergusonLibrary.

Everyone age 2 and up is required to wear a mask during their visit. To read our Guidelines, visit https://fergusonlibrary.org/reopening-guidelines/.

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 fergusonlibrary.org/event/. Book discussions are open to all, whether or not you have participated in that discussion group before.

Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch

Monday, April 5 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The Authenticity Project by Clare Pooley

Harry Bennett Branch Monday, April 12 from 7 to 8 p.m. Lost Roses by Martha Hall Kelly

South End Branch African and African American Authors Book Discussion

Monday, April 26 at 7 p.m.
To Funk and Die in LA (A D Hunter
Mystery) by Nelson George



Community Mindfulness Project Meditation

Tuesdays, April 6, 13, 20 & 27 at noon via Zoom

A brief discussion about meditation practice, a guided meditation, 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.

How to Talk with Your Child About Suicide

Tuesday, April 6 at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom

Dr. Jessica Welt, the CEO and Clinical Director of the Child Guidance Center of Southern Connecticut (CGC), discusses the warning signs of suicide, the range of risk and protective factors, and what to do if a child or teen may be at risk for suicide. Dr. Welt shares what actions to take when there is immediate concern, and provides resources in the community that can help create a safety net for children at risk of suicide. RR. Co-sponsored by Child Guidance Center.

Death Cafe Stamford

Thursdays, April 8 & 22 from 2 to 3 p.m. via Zoom

The objective of this discussion group 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 not grief support or counseling.

Conversations About Art: Picturing America: The 18th Century through the 19th Century Wednesday, April 14 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. via Zoom

Helane E. March Rheingold, docent at the Neuberger Museum of Art, instructor at Learning in Retirement and an arts enrichment facilitator at the Stamford Public Schools, will lead the discussion. RR.

U.S. Citizenship Course

Mondays and Thursdays at 10 a.m. April 19, 22, 26, 29

6-week study course for the U.S.

Naturalization test. Classes are held twice a week (additional dates: May 3, 6, 10, 13, 17, 20, 24, 27). Students must read, write and comprehend basic English. **RR**. Registration also available by email at yelena@ fergusonlibrary.org, by phone at 203 351-8228, or in person at the Second Floor Reference Desk at the Main Library.

An Evening with Melissa Bernstein, Author of LifeLines: An Inspirational Journey from Profound Darkness to Radiant Light Wednesday, April 7 at 6:30 p.m.

via Zoom

Melissa Bernstein, along with her husband Doug, is the co-founder of the toy company Melissa & Doug. Throughout her remarkable career, Melissa kept secret her lifelong battle with severe depression and anxiety. She reveals her struggles in *LifeLines*, her first book, which she wrote to help others. RR.

April 7 is National Bookmobile Day: We're Celebrating All Month. All ages.

Key Chain Grab-and-Go Craft

The key chain craft will remind everyone that information, adventure, and fun are available all around town on The Ferguson Library Bookmobile. Get on board with a Grab-and-Go kit, available on the Bookmobile, the Main Library Youth Services Department and the South End Branch.

Bookmobile Poster Contest

Create a poster of any size of your favorite Bookmobile stop! Prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place will be awarded. Poster contest entries can be returned to the Bookmobile or any Ferguson Library location. Contest ends April 24, 2021.

An Evening with Ainissa Ramirez, Author of The Alchemy of Us: How Humans and Matter Transformed One Another

Monday, April 12 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom

Ainissa Ramirez showcases little-known inventors, particularly people of color and women, who had a significant impact but whose accomplishments have been hidden by myth-making, bias, and convention. RR.

Business & Career

TechXel Stamford

Venture Expert Talks Advisory Boards and Governance

Thursday, April 1 from 5 to 6:15 p.m. via Zoom

Ed Cesare, Pleaid Capital Management. RR. Registration is open until NOON on April 1. Zoom invitation will be sent by 1 p.m.

Stamford 1 Million Cups *Wednesday, April 7 at 9 a.m. via Zoom*

Spotlighting our local entrepreneurs on their journey to success. Presenters: Alani Kuye, CEO of Phlatbed; Will Seagaard, CEO of Fresh Connection. RR.

FERGUSON LIBRARY'S
PROFESSIONAL SPEAKERS
GROUP PRESENTS
LUNCH & LEARN EFFECTIVE
COMMUNICATION SERIES:



Improv-A-Go-Go Wednesday, April 7 at noon via Zoom

With Dan Chichester, RR.

Book Launch! Reasons Why Youth Don't Give a Damn Anymore! By Barry Woods Saturday, April 17 from 12:30 to 2 p.m. via Zoom

Young people today are more visual and media-driven than ever and adults need to find new ways to talk to them. This book is straight talk from Barry Woods, who's had 17 years of experience in youth development, creating youth engagement strategies and relationship building. RR. Co-sponsored by Stamford Boys and Girls Club and The Allan Houston Foundation.

Registration is Open! The Friends of The Ferguson Library in Partnership with Darien Library Present An Evening with Chris Bohjalian

Thursday, May 20 at 6 p.m. via Zoom (see front of *Focus* for details) Register at fergusonlibrary.org. **RR**.

Technology

Live-streaming classes will resume soon but you can catch up on our technology classes by visiting our YouTube channel at https://www.youtube.com/c/theferg usonlibrary. Many classes are available, including Microsoft Office, an Intro to

Web Building: HTML & CSS, and more.

Documentary Screening and Panel Discussion: *Day One Wednesday, April 21 at 6 p.m. via Zoom*

Day One follows a group of teen refugees from war-torn countries who attend a public school for refugees and immigrants-only in St. Louis, MO, where they are guided through an inspirational program of education, healing and trauma intervention. 82 minutes. Q&A to follow. Panelists: Lori Miller, Day One Director; Dr. Tamu Lucero, Stamford Superintendent of Public Schools; Ann O'Brien, IRIS Director of Community Engagement; Bahuti Kanyamanza, former refugee & IRIS Manager of Education Program. RR. Co-sponsored by Stamford Interfaith Refugee Settlement (SIRS) and Integrated Refugee & Immigrant Services (IRIS).

Black Is the Color: Art in Public Spaces Thursday, April 29 at 7 p.m. via Zoom

In honor of World Art Day, The Ferguson Library and the Fairfield County Chapter of The Links, Incorporated, will present a virtual panel of local Black artists who will share their journey to becoming artists today. We will view some of their artwork during the session. A Q&A will follow. Register at fergusonlibrary. org/event/. RR. Co-sponsored by Fairfield County Chapter of The Links, Incorporated.(Prior to the program, everyone is encouraged to watch the documentary, Black Is the Color, a film that highlights key moments in the history of African-American visual art.)

English Language Learners

Let's Talk: Conversation Groups for English Language Learners Spring Session via Zoom Registration not required. New students welcome. For meeting information, visit https://fergusonlibrary.org/lets-talkevents/.

Tuesdays, April 13, 20, 27 New students: 11 a.m. Basic: 12:30 p.m. Low intermediate: 3 p.m. Advanced: 6 p.m.

Wednesdays, April 14, 21, 28

Virtual vocabulary games: 2:30 p.m.

Beginner: 4 p.m.

High intermediate: 5:30 p.m.

April is National Poetry Month Poetry and Jazz: Let's Do It Again, Zoom Style! Thursday, April 22 at 6:45 p.m. via Zoom

Let's celebrate National Poetry Month with the smooth, versatile voice of Richard "Cookie" Thomas. Our featured poet is Christina Peltrop, a 24-year-old Stamford native who has been writing poetry for over a decade. No registration required. Zoom details are on our online calendar at fergusonlibrary.org/event/.

Reading and Presentation:
DaMaris Hill, Author of A Bound
Woman Is a Dangerous Thing: The
Incarceration of African American
Women from Harriet Tubman to
Sandra Bland

Wednesday, April 28 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom

From Harriet Tubman to Black Lives Matter, Black women freedom fighters have braved violence, scorn, despair, and isolation in order to lodge their protests. In her book, DaMaris Hill honors their experiences. Hill is Associate Professor, Department of English, University of Kentucky and a 2020 NAACP Image Award Nominee for Outstanding Literary Work: Poetry. RR.

SAVE THE DATE: CrimeCONN Express 2: Break Out of the (COVID) Box *Thursdays, June 3, 10 & 17 at 7 p.m. via Zoom*

Speakers include Scott Adlerberg, Cara Black, Charles Coe, Juliet Grames, Timothy Hallinan, Caroline Kepnes, Ross Klavan, Brad Parks, Luanne Rice, Johnny Temple and Kate White. Registration opening in April.



THE FERGUSON LIBRARY

YOUTH SERVICES APRIL 2021

Masks are required for everyone ages 2 and up in our buildings. To read our COVID-19 Guidelines, visit https://fergusonlibrary.org/reopening-guidelines/.

We are guarantining 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 through Wednesday 11 – 6 Thursday 11 - 8Friday 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



HOLIDAY HOURS

The Library will be closed Sunday, April 4 in observance of Easter.

The SOUTH END BRANCH will be closed until April 15 for renovation. Thank you for your understanding as we update the library.

The Bookmobile will be in the parking lot **Mondays 12 – 4**

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays 10 - 4



Curbside Pickup Available by Appointment



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/linkedlibraries-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/.

Passport Services

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. For more information, or to make an appointment, call 203 351-8298. Main Library Passport Office hours: Monday – Wednesday 11 – 5; Thursday 11 – 8; Friday 11 – 5; Saturday 11 – 4; Sunday 1 - 4. Harry Bennett Passport Office hours: Saturday 1 - 4.



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 APRIL 2021

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





A Novel Affair, The Ferguson Library's Major Fundraiser is April 15 at 7 p.m. Registration is open!

This year we are honoring Tom Cassone for his service to the Library and the Stamford community. A Novel Affair is virtual this year and is free and open to all, but we welcome donations! We're offering a special cocktail kit to enjoy with the show for donations of \$100 and up (while supplies last). Register at https://ibidmobile.net/fpl/reservations/.

Children's Programs

Crafternoons @ Home Thursdays, April 1 & 15 at 4 p.m. via Zoom

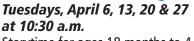


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Join us for a picture book read-aloud and an art project. Be sure to have coloring supplies and your imagination ready. Art supply bags are available for pickup at all library locations. Each bag contains all supplies needed for Crafternoon dates through May. One bag per child, please. Bags are available on a first come first serve basis. Grades K to 5. RR. Registration opens two weeks before the date of each program, and will close at

Budding Bookworms via South End Branch Instagram

11 a.m. the morning of the program.



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

Book Bunch Club Discussion and Activity



April is National Poetry Month. You are invited to celebrate with us by reading the poetry of Jack Prelutsky. Please have blank

paper, a writing utensil, and crayons or markers handy. Grades 2 to 3. RR.

Sing & Stomp



A song and dance party! For 18 months to 31/2 years with adult. Registration for May Sing & Stomp classes opens April 16 at 11 a.m. RR.

Kids' Book Discussion Tuesday, April 20 from 7 to 7:50 p.m. via Zoom



I Love You, Michael Collins by Lauren Baratz-Logsted. It's 1969. Mamie's class is writing letters to the three astronauts aboard Apollo 11 and only she writes to Michael Collins, the astronaut who will stay with the ship in orbit while Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin walk on the moon. What should she say? Grades 4 to 6. RR.

Teen Programs

Creative Writing Club Wednesdays, April 7 & 21



something to write with. We'll work on different writing prompts, then share our work. Grades 5 to 9. RR.

T-MAD

Friday, April 16 from 4 to 5 p.m. via Zoom



Meet with other teens to talk about books and learn what's going on at the Library. Grades 6 to 12. RR.

A Time to Be with Poetry Friday, April 30 from 4 to 5 p.m. via Zoom



Read and listen to many a famous poem

Finish one that's started and make it thus your own

Grades 6 to 12. RR.

April 7 is National Bookmobile Day: We're Celebrating All Month! For all ages.

Key Chain Grab-and-Go Craft Get on board with a Grab-and-Go kit. available on the Bookmobile, the Main

Library Youth Services Department and the South End Branch.

Bookmobile Poster Contest

Create a poster of any size of your favorite Bookmobile stop! Prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place will be awarded. Poster contest entries can be returned to the Bookmobile or any Ferguson Library location. Contest ends April 24, 2021.

For Parents and **Older Teens**



How to Talk with Your Child About Suicide

Tuesday, April 6 at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom

Dr. Jessica Welt, the CEO and Clinical Director of the Child Guidance Center of Southern Connecticut (CGC), discusses the warning signs of suicide, the range of risk and protective factors, and what to do if a child or teen may be at risk for suicide. Dr. Welt shares what actions to take when there is immediate concern, and provides resources in the community that can help create a safety net for children at risk of suicide. RR. Co-sponsored by Child Guidance Center.

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