The NEA Big Read finishes up

Susana Vidan
RJ Mercede
Stephanie O’Shea, Chair
Board of Trustees
The Ferguson Library

You can search the catalog from any page on our website.

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October 4 to 8 is National Digital Inclusion Week, which focuses on the need for digital equity nationwide. What does that mean? Imagine that you are looking to renew your driver’s license and not only do you not have internet access, but you don’t have an email address to make an appointment. Where do you begin? Or your neighborhood was hit hard by Ida and you have to report the damage to the city’s website. Not having access to the internet or necessary digital literacy skills impacts quality of life, whether it is making that appointment or connecting with a loved one during the pandemic.

We just received a grant through the Connecticut State Library to hire digital navigators. It is a pilot program based on the work done by the Salt Lake City Library that will allow us to go into the community to work with people on digital skills and even provide some equipment. We are very excited about the project and look forward to working towards digital inclusion for our entire community.

—Alice Knapp, CEO

Ferguson Library Welcomes New Trustees

The Ferguson Library Board of Trustees has elected Stephanie O’Shea as its new chair for 2021–2022. She succeeds outgoing chair Anderson Livingston. Ms. O’Shea has had a long career in the publishing industry, most recently working as Senior Account Manager for John Wiley & Sons. She is deeply involved in the Stamford community. In addition to serving as a Ferguson Library Trustee, she has served on the Stamford Democratic City Committee and was a Board of Education write-in candidate in 2020. Ms. O’Shea is also a member of the Stamford School District’s CORE Reopening Committee, and the Long-Term Facilities Committee at its Sleepy Hollow Campus. She is a past president of the Stamford Parent-Teacher Council.

Michael Hyman will serve as the board’s vice-chair; Sopong Kim continues as treasurer; bilingualist La Granata as secretary; past-chair Anderson Livingston, whose term has expired, leaves the board; Tamu Lucero and R.J. Mercede join the board.

Ferguson Library Awarde...
For virtual programs, Zoom details will be sent at fergusonlibrary.org/events/. For meeting information, visit fergusonlibrary.org/lets-talk-events/

U.S. Citizenship Course Fall 2021

Monday and Thursdays, Oct. 14, 18, 21, 25, 28 & 6:45 to 10 a.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium
This six-week course is designed for U.S. naturalization test preparation. U.S. citizenship eligibility test must be attempted before registration. For in-person program.

Introduction to Building: WordPress
Saturday, Oct. 2 from 2 to 3:30 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium
All book discussion groups are open to all. Check our online calendar for Zoom login information.

Business & Career

For more information, visit our NEA Big Read page at fergusonlibrary.org/nea-big-read. Co-sponsored by Stamford Stamford Library, TechXel Stamford, and UConn Stamford. NOTE: If an in-person program is also available via Zoom, check our online calendar for the login.

Kickoff: Community Quilt Project
Saturday, October 2nd from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
ML, First Floor Lobby
Create your square to be added to the community quilt.

Keynotes Speaker Valerie Smith, Mayor of Swarthmore College
Thursday, October 7 at 6:30 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium (also available via Zoom)
RR for in-person program.

Healing from Trauma: Exploring the Personal Grief Process through the Lens of Toni Morrison’s Beloved, with Allie Biswas-Bricio
Wednesday, October 13 at 6:30 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium (also available via Zoom)
RR for in-person program.

The Work and World of Toni Morrison, with Gregory Pierrot
Monday, October 18 at 6:30 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium (also available via Zoom)
RR for in-person program.

Art Show Opening
Thursday, October 21 from 6 to 8 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium
Opening of Fragments of Memory art exhibit. Co-sponsored by the Stamford Art Association.

Gothic Elements in Toni Morrison’s Beloved, with Emily Brown
Wednesday, October 27 at 6:30 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium (also available via Zoom)
RR for in-person program.

TechXel Stamford Accelerator Series
Wednesday, October 27 from 5:30 to 6:45 p.m.
via Zoom
Registration required for each session.
RR for in-person program.

Microsoft PowerPoint Basic PowerPoint
Thursday, Oct. 14 from 2 to 3:30 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium
Microsoft PowerPoint experience is recommended.

How to Build a Keyword Resume
Wednesday, October 27 from 2 to 3:30 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium
Must be familiar with Windows and basic word processing skills.

Microsoft PowerPoint Intermediate PowerPoint
Monday, October 4 from 10 to 11:30 a.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium
PowerPoint experience is recommended.

How to Build a Resume
Tuesday, October 5 from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium
No PowerPoint experience is necessary.

Microsoft PowerPoint Advanced PowerPoint
Tuesday, October 12 from 1:30 to 2:45 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium
PowerPoint experience is recommended.

Microsoft Excel Basic Excel
Tuesday, October 19 from 1:30 to 2:45 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium
Excel experience is recommended.

Microsoft Outlook Basic Outlook
Wednesday, October 27 from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium
Outlook experience is recommended.

Microsoft Excel Advanced Excel
Tuesday, October 19 from 2:30 to 3:45 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium
Advanced Excel experience is recommended.

Microsoft Excel Intermediate Excel
Tuesday, October 12 from 10 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium
Excel experience is recommended.

Microsoft Word Basic Word
Tuesday, October 5 from 10 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium
No Microsoft Word experience is necessary.

Microsoft Word Intermediate Word
Tuesday, October 12 from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium
No Microsoft Word experience is necessary.

Microsoft Word Advanced Word
Tuesday, October 19 from 1:30 to 2:45 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium
No Microsoft Word experience is necessary.

Microsoft Word Introduction to Word
Wednesday, October 27 from 10 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium
No Microsoft Word experience is necessary.

Microsoft Word Intermediate Word
Tuesday, October 12 from 2:30 to 3:55 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium
No Microsoft Word experience is necessary.

Microsoft Word Advanced Word
Tuesday, October 19 from 2:30 to 3:45 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium
No Microsoft Word experience is necessary.

Microsoft Excel Fase 2*
Wednesday, October 27 from 9 to 10:15 a.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium
Basic Excel experience is recommended.

Microsoft Word Fase 2*
Wednesday, October 27 from 2 to 3:15 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium
Basic Word experience is recommended.

Microsoft Excel Fase 3*
Wednesday, October 27 from 3:30 to 4:45 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium
Advanced Excel experience is recommended.

Microsoft Word Fase 3*
Wednesday, October 27 from 4:15 to 5:30 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium
Advanced Word experience is recommended.

Microsoft Word Fase 4*
Wednesday, October 27 from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium
No Microsoft Word experience is necessary.

Microsoft Word Fase 5*
Thursday, October 28 from 9 to 10:15 a.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium
No Microsoft Word experience is necessary.

Microsoft Word Fase 6*
Thursday, October 28 from 2 to 3:15 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium
No Microsoft Word experience is necessary.

Microsoft Word Fase 7*
Thursday, October 28 from 3:30 to 4:45 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium
No Microsoft Word experience is necessary.

Microsoft Word Fase 8*
Thursday, October 28 from 4:15 to 5:30 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium
No Microsoft Word experience is necessary.

Technical Support and Problem Solving
Friday, October 29 from 9 to 10:15 a.m.
Main Library, Third Floor
How to Contact and Follow Us

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
South End Branch: 203 351-8283
Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch: 203 351-8287

YS Website 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 for students in need, and more.

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 @southend-branch_lib.

Facebook http://facebook.com/TheFergusonLibrary/.

YouTube https://www.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 Auditorium. Face masks are also required in all indoor spaces in Stamford regardless of vaccination status.

Curbside pickup is still available by appointment.

Hispanic Heritage Month
Family Program: Traditional Dance Performances from Peru and Guatemala
Saturday, October 2 at 2:30 p.m.
ML, Outdoor Plaza
Featuring Taller de Marinera “Portal Norteño,” Grupo Danza Guatemalteca and Pumawari Tusuy. Generously supported by the Friends of the Ferguson Library and La Tertulia de Stamford; co-sponsored by the Mayor’s Multicultural Council, Ecuadorian Civic Committee of Fairfield County, La Voz Hispana, En Vivo Con Maricarmen, Crisol Acuarela and Grupo Quetzal.

Book Shop News
Wednesday, September 22 at 5:30 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium
The Book Shop will be at Arts & Crafts on Bedford Saturday, October 2 with a great selection of books for holiday shopping—beautiful art books, children’s titles, cook books and more. A great way to find something for everyone on your list.

Then, on Saturday, October 23, the Book Shop will hold its final Bag Sale of the year at the Harry Bennett Branch. Fill a bag with books for just $10. It’s the best deal in town. All Book Shop sales support the library.

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/linked-libraries-contact-us-form/.

Our programs are generously supported by the Friends of the Ferguson Library.
The Ferguson Outdoors
Please note: These programs will take place, weather permitting.

Outdoor Family Storytimes
Bring a blanket and/or lawn chairs to these drop-in programs on the lawns of the Harry Bennett Branch, Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch and at Latham Park in downtown Stamford. For children up to age 4, with caregiver.

Harry Bennett Branch
Fridays, Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 from 10:30 to 11 a.m.

Latham Park, Downtown Stamford
Tuesdays, Oct. 5, 12, 19 & 26 from 10:15 to 10:45 a.m.
Latham Park is located downtown at the nexus of Bedford Street, Forest Street, and Prospect Street.

Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch
Thursdays, Oct. 7, 14, 21 & 28 from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m.

Children's Programs

Sing & Stomp
Mondays, Oct. 4, 18, 25 from 10:15 to 10:45 a.m. via Zoom
A song and dance party! For 18 months to 4 years, with adult. RR.

Budding Bookworms via South End Branch Instagram
Tuesdays, Oct. 5, 12, 19 & 26 at 10:30 a.m.
Storytime for ages 18 months to 4 years. New content every week. Watch on the South End Instagram at the scheduled time.

Crafternoons @ Home
Thursdays, Oct. 7 & 21 from 4 to 5 p.m. via Zoom
A picture book read-aloud and art project. Bring coloring supplies and have your imagination ready! Grades K to 5. Families, parents and caregivers are encouraged to join. RR.

Teen Programs

An Evening with Stage and Screen Star, Robin de Jesus
Tuesday, Oct. 5 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. via Zoom
Join us for an interesting and revealing discussion with out Latino stage and screen star, Robin de Jesus. Hosted by the Kids in Crisis Lighthouse LGBTQ youth program, Robin will discuss his personal coming out experience, the future of transgender and openly gay actors in Hollywood, and the complexities of being out in the Latino community. For teens, parents and community members. No registration required. Zoom details are on our online calendar. Co-sponsored by Light-house, a Program of Kids In Crisis.

Creative Writing Club
Wednesdays, Oct. 6 & 20 from 6 to 7 p.m. via Zoom
Bring your imagination, paper and something to write with. We'll work on different writing prompts, then share our work. Grades 5 to 9. RR.

Stamford Pride Community Meeting
Thursday, Oct. 28 from 6:30 to 8 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Auditorium
For teens and adults.

Kids! Help us decorate for our November 14 Diwali Celebration!
Create your own paper rangoli for Diwali, the Indian Festival of Lights, from one of our templates, which are now available at the youth services desks. Make one to keep and return one to us for a special prize. Please return your finished rangolis by Nov. 6 so we can include yours in our display.

NEA BIG READ
October 2021

Kickoff: Community Quilt Project
Saturday, Oct. 2 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
ML, First Floor Lobby
Create your square to add to the community quilt. All ages.

The People Could Fly: A Storytelling Program
Saturday, Oct. 9 at 11 a.m.
via Zoom
Readings from the book by Virginia Hamilton. Ages 8 and up. RR.*

Book Discussion: Crossing Ebenezer Creek by Tonya Bolden
Tuesday, Oct. 12 at 7 p.m. via Zoom
When Mariah and her young brother Zeke are suddenly freed from slavery, they set out on Sherman’s long march through Georgia during the Civil War. For teens in grades 6 and up. RR.*

Book Discussion: Sugar by Jewell Parker Rhodes
Tuesday, Oct. 19 at 7 p.m. via Zoom
In 1870, Reconstruction brings big changes to the Louisiana sugar plantation where spunky ten-year-old Sugar has always lived, including her friendship with Billy, the son of her former master, and the arrival of workmen from China. For kids in grades 4 to 6. RR.*

A Conversation with Jewell Parker Rhodes, Author of Sugar
Saturday, Oct. 23 at 2 p.m. via Zoom
Grades 3 and up. RR.*

*RR. Register online at fergusonlibrary.org/nea-big-read. Zoom details will be included in registration confirmation.

For more information and the full schedule, visit fergusonlibrary.org/nea-big-read. Co-sponsored by Stamford Stands Against Racism and UConn Stamford.

NEA Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest.