Message from the CEO

The Ferguson Library Board of Trustees has adopted a resolution in support of the Connecticut Library Association's Intellectual Freedom Statement Against Censorship published on February 10, 2022. One of the Ferguson's core values is intellectual freedom, which means facilitating the free exchange of information and ideas. The CLA's statement says, in part, "Recently, organized attacks have targeted library materials and programs by BIPOC, LGBTQ+, and Jewish authors that address race, racism, enslavement, history, sexuality, gender identity and expression, bigotry, and antisemitism. This is a callous systemic erasure to undermine and eliminate the diversity of thought and experiences that reflect the BIPOC, LGBTQ+, and Jewish communities. These assaults of intimidation threaten the livelihood and safety of authors, library workers, educators, and board members. CLA vehemently condemns these acts of censorship and intimidation . . . There is no good censorship." I couldn’t have said it better myself. If you would like to read the full statement you can find it on the Connecticut Library Association's website.

—Alice Knapp, CEO

Find Book Suggestions

Looking for your next great read? You can find recommendations for children, teens and adults on our website. Lists include award winners and staff picks. For customized ideas, just fill out the form “What do I Read Next” and a librarian will make suggestions based on your reading preferences. You can also sign up for monthly updates of New and Notable titles.

You can find the Recommendations page under Borrowing/Find Books & More on our website.

Thank you for supporting the Library on Giving Day

Thank you to everyone who made a gift to the library on Fairfield County’s Giving Day. The event is a 24-hour fundraiser for Fairfield County nonprofits, and with your help we raised $15,700 for the library, money that will help us buy books and offer programs for children and adults. Thank you for supporting your public library!

A Novel Affair

April 7

Don’t miss A Novel Affair April 7! It’s back in person this year and features the best in local food and drink. Register at fergusonlibrary.org. Sponsorships are available by contacting 203 351-8208 or linda@fergusonlibrary.org.

Featured Food and Drink:

Bar Rosso
Capriccio Café
Çka Ka Gellu
Columbus Park
Trattoria
Half Full Brewery
Harper’s House
Creations
Lock City Brewing
Nikki Glekas Events
Remos
Shells
Sunshine Cuisine
The Waters Edge at Giovanni’s

Major Sponsors to Date:

Hemingway
Sponsor
Melvin Klugman
Morrison
Friends of the Ferguson Library
Reckson
DuBois
Odyssey Group Foundation
Pitney Bowes
Lahiri
Stephen Corman
First County Bank
Baldwin
Judith Block
Ellen Bromley & Thomas Gizicki

A Novel Affair April 7

Digital Library: Udemy

Professionals looking to acquire new skills to remain competitive in the workplace can turn to Udemy for more than 130,000 online video courses focused on professional development. Popular subject areas include business and finance; technology; office productivity; design; marketing and communications; and more. Content is structured using a learner-first approach, allowing users to select a course that best addresses learning needs and filter search results based on course features, level, duration, topic or ratings. For access to this service, a Google or Microsoft account is needed and users must be connected to a WiFi or wired network in Connecticut. You can find this resource under Research & Learn/A to Z Resources on our website.
Tax Assistance
Tax counselors from AARP will offer tax help for basic federal and Connecticut state income tax returns at the Harry Bennett Branch. Mondays and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at HB
By appointment only: to book a time, call 203 351-8292.
Proof of vaccination required.
For a list of documents required for tax filing and information on how to file online through SimplifyCT Virtual VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance), visit our Income Tax Resources page at fergusonlibrary.org/services/income-tax-resources.

NEW DATE
Black History Month Author Talk: DaMaris Hill
Tuesday, March 1 at 7 p.m. via Zoom (postponed from February 24)
Author DaMaris Hill talks about her new book of narrative in verse, Breath Better Spent, a personal and historical look at the experience of Black girlhood. RR.

Friends Author Series: An Evening with Bobby Valentine and Peter Goldenbock, Authors of Valentine’s Way, My Adventurous Life and Times
Thursday, March 3 at 6:30 p.m.
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium
In Valentine’s Way, Bobby Valentine reflects on his 40 years in professional baseball and the many remarkable moments that comprised his playing and managerial careers. Book sale and signing to follow presentation. RR to attend in person; also available via Zoom.

Civility in America Series
Cyrus Freidheim, Author of Commit & Deliver: On the Frontlines of Management Consulting
Thursday, March 10 at 6 p.m.
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium
Cyrus Freidheim is a former CEO, author of The Trillion-Dollar Enterprise, and veteran of more than thirty corporate and non-profit boards. Book sale and signing to follow presentation. RR to attend in person; also available via Zoom. Sponsored by The Dilenschneider Group, the Ferguson Library and Hearst Media Group in Connecticut.

English Language Learners
Let’s Talk: Conversation Groups for English Language Learners
Winter Sessions via Zoom
Registration not required. New students welcome. For meeting information, visit fergusonlibrary.org/lets-talk-events.

Tuesdays, March 1, 8 & 15
New students: noon
Basic: 12:30 p.m.
Low intermediate: 3 p.m.
Advanced: 6 p.m.
Wednesdays, March 2, 9 & 16
High intermediate: 10 a.m.
Beginner: 3 p.m.

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.

Job Search Series
Thursdays from 2 to 3:30 p.m.
ML, Third Floor Technology Center
RR for each session.
March 10
How to Build a Keyword Resume
Learn how to plug in keywords from job descriptions to show hiring managers that you’re a good fit for a job. Bring your current resume.
March 17
How to Write a Cover Letter
Learn how to align your skills with a position, close your cover letter on a strong note, and tweak your cover letter when applying to different positions. Experience with MS Word recommended.
March 24
How to Prepare for an Interview
Learn how to communicate your skills and strengths to an interviewer, and leave a strong first impression that will generate multiple job offers.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT
Ferguson Library offers free services to help individuals file their federal income tax returns.
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Technology

Main Library, DiMattia Building
Third Floor Technology Center (unless otherwise noted)
RR for all classes.
▲ Must be familiar with Windows and be able to use a mouse and keyboard.
■ Basic experience in MS Word necessary
● Experience with MS Word necessary
◆ Basic experience in MS Excel necessary

Microsoft Word
Basic Microsoft Word ▲
Thursday, March 3 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. via Zoom
Learn how to create and save a document, and format your text. No experience in MS Word necessary.

Intermediate Microsoft Word ▲ ◆
Thursday, March 10 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. via Zoom
Learn how to add images and tables to documents, use Styles to format a document, and edit the header and footer. Materials will be emailed before the class.

Advanced Microsoft Word ▲ ◆
Thursday, March 17 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. via Zoom
Learn how to outline, manage long documents, and work collaboratively with others. Materials will be emailed before the class.

Microsoft Excel
Basic Microsoft Excel ▲
Saturday, March 12 from 2 to 3:30 p.m.
Learn how to create and save a spreadsheet, enter data, and write formulas. No experience in MS Excel necessary.

Intermediate Microsoft Excel ▲ ◆
Saturday, March 26 from 2 to 4 p.m.
Learn how to work with data, sort and filter data, use conditional formatting for data analysis, and apply keyboard shortcuts and templates.

Basic Microsoft PowerPoint ▲
Saturday, March 19 from 2 to 3:30 p.m.
Learn how to create and save presentations, design slide shows, and insert images and text. No experience in MS PowerPoint necessary.

Tech Tuesdays: iPhone/Android Tips for Older Adults
Tuesday, March 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 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.

Business & Career

Stamford 1 Million Cups
Wednesday, March 2 from 8 to 9 a.m. via Zoom
Presenters: Tram Huynh, Ph.D., CEO and Co-Founder of Aboutcome; and Nima Anvar, CEO of GuestChat. RR.

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

March 2
Avoiding Pitfalls and Managing Software Development
Matt Krieger, Vice President, Technology, Cober, Inc.

March 9
Advisory Boards and Governance
Ed Cesare, Managing Director, Plead Caplt Management

March 16
Term Sheets
Frank Eucalitto, Attorney, Lowenstein Sandler
Note: This session is a prerequisite to the March 24 session on Capital Tables and Valuation.

Thursday, March 24
Capital Tables and Valuation
Charlotte Walker, Investor
Note: The March 16 session about Term Sheets is a prerequisite to this session.

March 30
Financial Modeling
Ted Stone, Tech CXO

Person-to-Person Mobile Food Pantry
Tuesdays, March 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at SE
For more information, call 203 724-9111.

Community Mindfulness Project: Meditation
Tuesdays, March 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 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, March 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 from 2 to 4 p.m. at HB
Our notary public is available to notarize your official documents for free. By appointment only. Call 203 351-8292.

Death Cafe Stamford
Thursdays, March 3, 17 & 31 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.

Pride Conversations: The Pants Project
Thursday, March 31 from 6:30 to 8 p.m.
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium
A panel discussion about The Pants Project by Cat Clarke, moderated by Joe Belisle, Coordinator of Lighthouse, a program of Kids in Crisis. A discussion for teens, their families and community members. In partnership with Stamford Pride. RR.

World Affairs Forum: U.S.-China Relations
Thursday, March 17 from 5 to 7:30 p.m.
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium
With Earl A. Carr, Jr., Founder and CEO of CJPA Global Advisors, and editor of From Trump to Biden and Beyond: Reimagining US-China Relations. Free to World Affairs Forum members; all others, $25. RR at worldaffairsforum.org; also available via Zoom.

Lawyers in Libraries: Looking for Legal Advice
Thursday, March 24 from 6 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.

WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH
The 2022 Women's History theme, Providing Healing, Promoting Hope, is both a tribute to the ceaseless work of caregivers and frontline workers during this pandemic, and a recognition of the thousands of ways that women of all cultures have provided both healing and hope throughout history.

Concert: Nekita Waller
Thursday, March 24 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. via Zoom
An evening of music honoring women with performing artist Nekita Waller, Connecticut's 17th State Troubadour. Nekita has been entertaining audiences since her debut as a child on stage at the Apollo Theater.
Art at the Ferguson

Black Health and Wellness Matters
The exhibit of works commemorating Black History Month remains on view through March 4. Co-sponsored by the Stamford NAACP.

Our spring art exhibit, Changing Seasons, opens Wednesday, March 16 at 6 p.m. in the Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium at the Main Library. The juried show is curated by the Stamford Art Association and features the work of local and regional artists. The exhibit will be on display through May. Green Path to Spring by Barbara Mathis

Connect to the Ferguson

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

MARCH 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

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.

Visit 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.

Enter the Ferguson Library’s Teen Art Contest 2022

Open to Stamford students in grades 6 to 12

Based on the upcoming Summer Learning Club theme: READ BEYOND THE BEATEN PATH

Entries should be easily reproducible drawings on 8.5 x 11 white paper and must be labeled on the back with your name, address, phone number, email address, (optional), school and grade. Computer-created drawings are acceptable.

The winner will receive a $50 gift certificate to the arts and crafts store, Michaels, and will have their name and artwork on all of our Teen Summer Learning Club materials.

Entries due April 15.

Submit to: Youth Services at the Main Library, DiMattia Building, or mail to Teen Art Contest, c/o Steve Zampino, Teen Librarian, The Ferguson Library, One Public Library Plaza, Stamford, CT 06904.

Registration is Open: A Novel Affair

Thursday, April 7 from 6 to 9 p.m.
Main Library, DiMattia Building

An evening of food and festivities to benefit the Ferguson Library and to honor Ann Sexton for her service to the library and the Stamford community. Tickets available at ibidmobile.net/fpl/reservations.

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.

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, March 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 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, March 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 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.

Sing & Stomp
Mondays, March 7, 14, 21 & 28 from 10:15 to 10:45 a.m. via Zoom
A song and dance party. For 8 months to 4 years old with adult. RR.

Crafternoons @ Home
Wednesday, March 16 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. Grades K to 5. Families, parents and caregivers are welcome. RR.

Kids Book Discussion
Tuesday, March 22 from 7 to 7:45 p.m. via Zoom
The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise by Dan Gemeinhart. Coyote Sunrise has an unusual life: She is home-schooled in a bus while she travels all over the country with her dad. Coyote is content with the way things are. But when she learns that the park near her old home that holds special memories for her is to be demolished, she comes up with a plan to get to there before it’s too late. Grades 4 to 6. RR.

Book Bunch Club Discussion and Activity
Wednesday, March 23 from 4 to 5 p.m. via Zoom
Read Dragonbreath by Ursula Vernon, then join us for a fun discussion and activity. Please have blank paper, a writing utensil, crayons or markers, and scissors handy. Grades 2 to 3. RR.

Happy Spring!

Teen Programs

Creative Writing Club
Wednesday, March 9 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.

T-MAD Meeting
Tuesday, March 15 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. via Zoom
The library’s teen advisory program, where you can learn about upcoming events, share reading suggestions, and make a difference in the community. Participation in T-MAD counts as, and will be documented as, volunteer work. RR.

Art Café
Wednesday, March 23 from 5 to 6 p.m. via Zoom
Join us with your own supplies to draw, paint, write, knit, and create with us. You can share ideas with each other or work on your own—the sky is the limit. Grades 5 to 9. RR.

Drop In & Draw
Thursday, March 24 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. via Zoom
Learn some drawing basics from artist Debra Hamuka-Falkenham, then work on your piece for the 2022 Teen Art Contest. Grades 6 to 12. RR.

Pride Conversations: The Pants Project
Thursday, March 31 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium
A panel discussion about The Pants Project by Cat Clarke, moderated by Joe Belisle, Coordinator of Lighthouse, a program of Kids in Crisis. A discussion for teens, their families and community members. In partnership with Stamford Pride. RR.