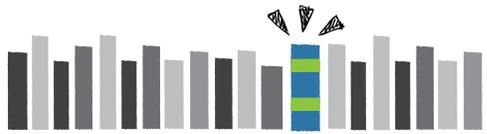
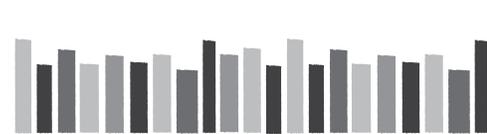


April  
2026

# Words

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE WALLINGFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

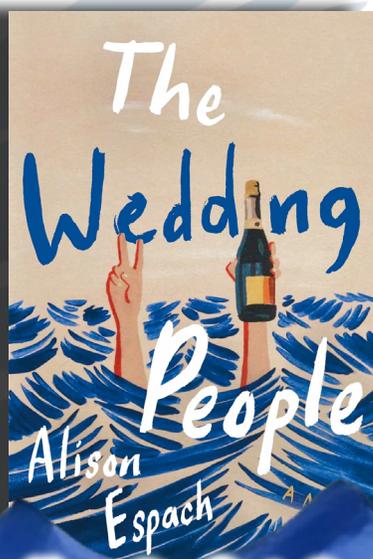
 You're invited! 

**ONE BOOK**  
ONE WALLINGFORD  
Twenty Twenty-Six

**MEET AUTHOR ALISON ESPACH**  
Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup> | 7pm  
Dag Hammarskjold Middle School | [Register](#)

Meet Alison Espach as she discusses her novel *The Wedding People*, the One Book One Wallingford title for 2026. The goal of One Book One Wallingford is to bring members of the community together by encouraging everyone to read a specific book and then to gather to discuss the book and its themes. After a series of book discussions and events related to the title, we will come together for a visit with the author. Books will be available for purchase and signing at the author visit. This is a hybrid program. People may attend in person at Dag Hammarskjold Middle School or virtually on Zoom.

Alison Espach is an American novelist who was born and raised in Trumbull, CT. She is the author of two previous novels: *The Adults* (2011), which was a Barnes and Noble Discover pick and was optioned for a feature film in 2012, and *Notes on Your Sudden Disappearance* (2022), which was named a best book of the year by the *Chicago Tribune* and NPR. Her articles and essays have appeared in *McSweeney's*, *Vogue* and *LitHub*, among other places. She received a B.A. from Providence College and an MFA from Washington University in St. Louis. Espach lives in Rhode Island, where she is a Professor of English at Providence College.



More One Book One Wallingford Events inside!



**WALLINGFORD**  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

OUR DOORS OPEN TO ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES  
200 North Main Street, Wallingford, CT 06492  
(203) 265-6754 | [wallingfordlibrary.org](http://wallingfordlibrary.org)

Registration for all programs is required unless otherwise noted

200 North Main Street, Wallingford, CT 06492 | (203) 265-6754 | wallingfordlibrary.org | Library Director: Sunnie Scarpa

*Words*, a publication of the Wallingford Public Library, is sent electronically to members of the Wallingford Public Library Association. View the full color edition of the current issue on our website: [walpublib.org/newsletter](http://walpublib.org/newsletter). *Words* is edited by Publicity and Public Services Librarian Christopher Ciemniowski from contributions by library staff members.

Register for events online through our digital calendar of events: [walpublib.org/events](http://walpublib.org/events). Join our email list to receive personalized emails so you never miss the events that interest you the most: [walpublib.org/email](http://walpublib.org/email).

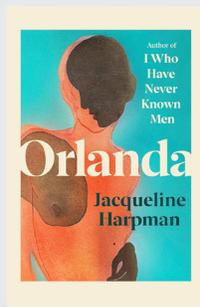
The Wallingford Public Library relies on member contributions in addition to funding it receives from the Town of Wallingford. We hope you will support the Library by becoming a member of the Wallingford Public Library Association. Your support helps ensure that the Library will continue to be a dynamic hub that serves and inspires individuals and families throughout our community. To join the Wallingford Public Library Association, visit our website or request a membership envelope at the Library. As a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, we are also eligible to accept a bequest from your estate plan.

Become a member: [walpublib.org/BecomeAMember](http://walpublib.org/BecomeAMember)

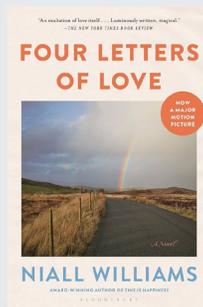
## Staff Picks



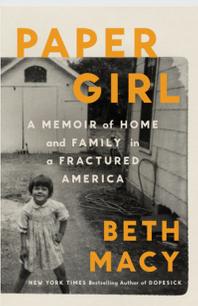
**Rosie**  
*Girl Dinner*  
by Olive Blake



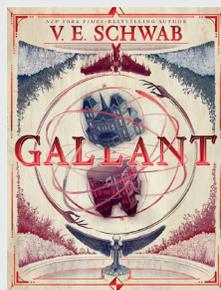
**Chris**  
*Orlanda*  
by Jacqueline Harpman



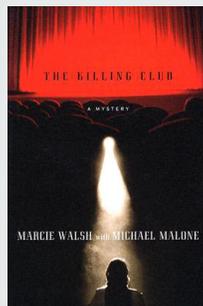
**Cathy**  
*Four Letters of Love*  
by Niall Williams



**Kaleb**  
*Paper Girl: A Memoir of Home and Family in a Fractured America*  
by Beth Macy



**Katie**  
*Gallant*  
by V.E. Schwab



**Gina**  
*The Killing Club*  
by Marcie Walsh and Michael Malone

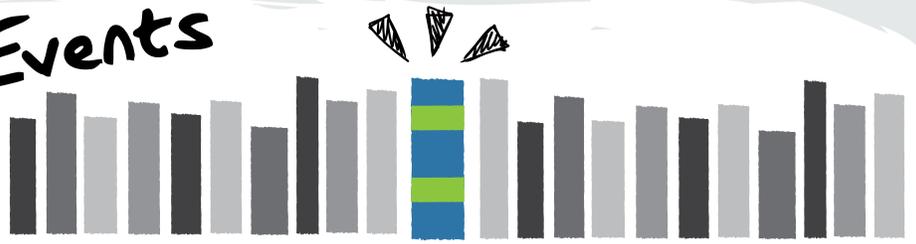
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- 14** Just for Teens



View this newsletter online!

# ONE BOOK ONE WALLINGFORD *Events*



## LET'S TALK ABOUT IT: SUICIDE PREVENTION & THE STRATEGIES THAT IMPACT LIVES

Tuesday, March 31<sup>st</sup> | 6:30-8pm | Community Room | [Register](#)

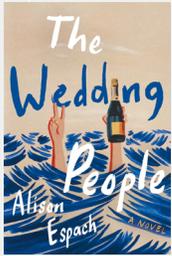
Are you concerned that someone in your life might be at risk? In this interactive presentation, you will learn all about suicide prevention methods, including how to identify warning signs, the myths & misinformation surrounding this issue, and the most effective ways to communicate in order to help someone in need. Resources will be available for attendees to implement the strategies learned during the program. **Taylor Gainey (MHA, PMP), Suicide Prevention Specialist at Reparative Minds and the Alliance for Prevention & Wellness**, will lead this special presentation for both adults and teens.

## THE GREAT MODERN ARTISTS AND THEIR MASTERPIECES

Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup> | 7-8pm | Community Room & Zoom | [Register](#)

Join art historian and educator **Bernadine Franco** on a visual journey celebrating six revolutionary 20<sup>th</sup>-century Modern artists! We will explore the lives and greatest works of impressionist Henri Matisse; Pablo Picasso, the pioneer of Cubism; Georgia O'Keeffe, the mother of American Modernism; Surrealist Frida Kahlo; Pop and performance artist Andy Warhol; and Cindy Sherman, the shape-shifting photographer. Franco will highlight the impact each artist had on their respective movements and eras. Additionally, an optional free museum tour will take place on Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, time and location to be determined at a future date.

## Book Discussions



### COMMUNITY BOOK DISCUSSION WITH THE BOOKS & BREWS BOOK CLUB @ CENTER STREET BREWING COMPANY

Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup> | 6:30pm  
24 Wallace Avenue  
No registration required

*First round on us!*

Each guest will be treated to one drink courtesy of WPL.



### CONVERSEMOS SOBRE ESTE LIBRO EN ESPAÑOL

Jueves 9 de Abril  
SCOW (Comunidad Hispania)  
284 Washington Street  
No es necesario registrarse

## Make Your Own Wedding Decorations in the Collaboratory!



This year's One Book One Wallingford title, *The Wedding People* by Alison Espach, inspired Collaboratory staff to showcase some of the ways you can utilize

Collaboratory equipment to create items for weddings or other large scale events. Watch this video to learn how to make invitations and welcome signs, wooden signage, glassware, vinyl mirrors, and 3D printed ring boxes.

*Welcome To Our Wedding*



# tech Training



## Tech Connect



Everything is going online—the bank, the pharmacy, the DMV. So you need to be online, but maybe you never had the chance to learn how. You may have tried to teach yourself, but that can be overwhelming and confusing. The library can help! **Tech Connect** is a free service staffed by **digital navigators** who will teach you what YOU want to do on your devices. Our digital navigators will develop a customized plan to help you successfully connect to the online world. This includes one-on-one training and assistance in signing up for low-cost home Internet as well as a long-term loan of your very own computer. **Call us at (203) 626-4774 to meet with a Digital Navigator.**

Do you feel like technology has left you behind? Do you have a burning question but don't know who to ask? Come catch up with Digital Navigators Elijah and Connor as they teach beginner classes in computer topics and answer your most important questions.



### Dear IT: ChatGPT & AI Essentials

Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> | 2-3:30pm | Board Room OR Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup> | 6-7:30pm | Collins Room

[Register for Sat](#) | [Register for Mon](#)

Are you curious about ChatGPT and how AI tools can help you in your daily tasks? In this class, Digital Navigator Connor will explain what ChatGPT is, how it works, and the basics of machine learning. You'll learn how to craft effective prompts to generate emails, understand the pros and cons of different AI models, and discover how AI-powered conversation models can quickly answer your questions. Whether you're new to AI or looking to enhance your skills, this session will give you practical insights into leveraging ChatGPT for work and everyday life.



### Dear IT: Windows 11 Maintenance

Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup> | 2-3:30pm | Collins Room | [Register](#)

Join Elijah for a hands-on session focused on maintaining and optimizing your Windows 11 device for peak performance. Whether you're troubleshooting issues or looking for best practices to keep your system running efficiently, this class will cover essential maintenance tasks. Bring your Windows 11 laptop or device, and get ready to learn practical tips and tricks to keep your system running smoothly.

### Learn to Laser Cut

Monday, April 6<sup>th</sup> OR Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>

2-3:30pm | Collaboratory

[Register for Mon](#) | [Register for Sat](#)

Get started designing your own laser cutter projects using CorelDRAW software. Participants will make a basic wood project. Prior computer experience is recommended.



## Ask IT:

Sundays, April 12<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>  
12noon-3:30pm  
Information Desk | Drop-in

Do you have a quick question about your phone, tablet, or other device? Digital Navigators Elijah and Connor will be available to answer your questions during drop-in hours this winter and early spring. They can assist with tasks like setting up email, downloading apps, or accessing digital resources. Each visit will be brief so that we can accommodate as many people as possible. Assistance will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis.



Connor



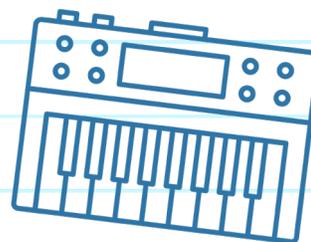
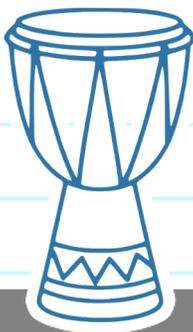
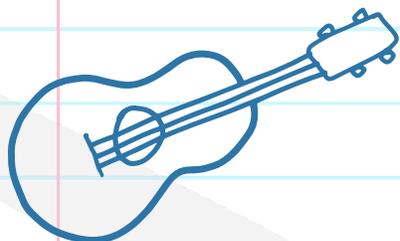
Elijah

# Cardholder Perks for Music Lovers

From the  
**B.S.**  
Borrower Services  
Department

Many people associate libraries with a hushed atmosphere and quiet study, so you might be surprised to learn that the Wallingford Library has a symphony of resources for music lovers! Whether you're an aspiring musician or just someone who enjoys turning up the tunes, it's time to grab your library card and get your groove on!

- Make some joyful noise by borrowing a ukulele, djembe drums, or a synthesizer from our Library of Things! ([walpublib.org/LibraryofThings](http://walpublib.org/LibraryofThings))
- Tired of paying rising subscription fees for music streaming services? Browse our CD collection for music in a wide variety of genres including blues, chamber, choral, country/western, folk, holiday, jazz, new age, opera, orchestra, pop, reggae, rock, and show music.
- Don't have a CD player? Check out Hoopla! In addition to e-books and e-audiobooks, Hoopla also offers a wide variety of streaming music, from today's Top 40 to yesterday's classics. ([walpublib.org/DigitalMedia](http://walpublib.org/DigitalMedia))
- Browse the 780s in the nonfiction collection to find beginner's guides for various instruments, musical scores, biographies of famous musicians, and more.



## MONDAY NIGHT MOVIES

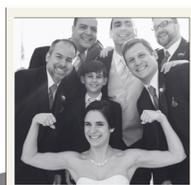


**Wicked: For Good**  
Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup> | 6-8:30pm  
Community Room | Rated PG  
No registration required

Join us to watch the 2025 musical fantasy *Wicked: For Good*, the sequel to the 2024 hit *Wicked!* Now demonized as the Wicked Witch of the West, Elphaba lives in exile in the Ozian forest, while Glinda resides at the palace in Emerald City, reveling in the perks of fame and popularity. As an angry mob rises against the Wicked Witch, she'll need to reunite with Glinda to transform herself, and all of Oz, for good.

## COMMUNITY Wedding ALBUM

Alison Espach's *The Wedding People* is centered around a week-long destination wedding. While the locales and itineraries vary from couple to couple, at their core weddings are a celebration of love. Throughout the months of February, March, and April we will be showcasing Wallingford community members' wedding photos on our whiteboard wall in a "Community Wedding Album." If you'd like your wedding photos to be included in the display, please bring a favorite photo to the Information Desk, and we will scan it for you and print a copy for inclusion. You can also email a digital image to Publicity Librarian Christopher Ciemniewski at [cciemniewski@wallingfordlibrary.org](mailto:cciemniewski@wallingfordlibrary.org).



# Children & Families

## Preschool Programs

Registration is required unless otherwise noted.  
Registration opens at 9am, 4 weeks before the program date.

### **Toddler Yoga**

Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> | 11-11:30am | Ages 2-4

Wonder Room | [Register](#)

Marie Vitucci of Mindful Energy Yoga will introduce children to Yoga using movement, music, stories, and props. Please bring a Yoga mat if you already have one, but it is not required.

### **Rhyme Time Engineers**

Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup> | 10:30-11:15am | Ages 3-5

Children's Program Room | [Register](#)

When you combine early literacy, STEM, and retired kindergarten teacher, Adrienne Ferretti, you get Rhyme Time Engineers. Ms. Ferretti will lead preschoolers through a nursery rhyme and then guide them through rhyme-inspired STEM activities.

### **Story Walk with Mrs. Stowe**

Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup> | 9:30am OR 1:30pm

Ages 3-5 | Marcus Cooke Park

[Register for 9:30am](#) | [Register for 1:30pm](#)

Take a walk through nature and listen to a story! Join retired kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Stowe, to find hidden pages from a book along a trail through the woods and learn about nature along the way. Meet under the pavilion at Marcus Cooke Park in Wallingford.

### **Silly Story Time**

Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> | 10:30-11am | Ages 0-5

Children's Program Room | [Register for a reminder](#)

Saturdays are for being silly! In this family story time we will sing goofy songs and read funny books.

## Weekly Story Times

Registration is required. Registration opens at 9am weekly on the Sunday prior to the program. You may register your child for one program and/or time slot. Please ask us if you need help deciding which program is the best fit for your child.

See website for descriptions: [walpublib.org/storytimes](http://walpublib.org/storytimes)

### **Bouncing Babies**

Ages 0-18 months | 10:30am | Wonder Room

Mondays, March 16<sup>th</sup> - May 4<sup>th</sup>

### **Waddling Ones & Twos**

Ages 15 months – 35 months | 10am or 11am

Wonder Room | Tuesdays, March 17<sup>th</sup> - May 5<sup>th</sup>

### **Happy Feet**

Ages 2-3 | 10:30am | Children's Program Room

Wednesdays, March 18<sup>th</sup> - May 6<sup>th</sup>

### **Pajama Family Story Time**

Ages 0-5 | 6:30pm | Community Room

Wednesdays, March 18<sup>th</sup> - May 6<sup>th</sup>

### **Preschool Story Time**

Ages 3-5 | 10:30am | Children's Program Room

Thursdays, March 19<sup>th</sup> - May 7<sup>th</sup>

## **LOUD at the Library!!!**

Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup> | 6:30-7:30pm | Grades 2-8 | Wonder Room | [Register](#)

Come get LOUD at the library in this exploratory jam session! Learn all about various musical instruments from the experts who play them and get a chance to try them out yourself.



# School-Aged Programs

Registration is required unless otherwise noted.

Registration opens at 9am, 4 weeks before the program date.

## International Snack Attack

Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> | 6:30-7:15pm | Grades 3-5 Children's Program Room | [Register](#)

Curious about what kids in other countries might snack on? Bring your spirit of adventure and try some out. You just might find a new favorite!

## Family Dungeons & Dragons

Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup> | 6-8pm | Kids & Their Grown-Up Wonder Room | [Register](#)

In this program we provide all the materials and expertise needed for families to play Dungeons & Dragons together! Family D&D is ideal for curious new players, budding dungeon masters, and families who want to be able to play as a group.

## Homeschool Meetup

Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> | 1-3pm | All Ages

Wonder Room | [Register for a reminder](#)

Looking to connect with other homeschooling families? Stop by the library on the third Wednesday of every month to chat, share ideas, and network with other homeschoolers. *This is not a librarian led program, but passive activities will be available to keep kids busy while parents and caregivers talk. This is a drop-in event, but register if you would like a reminder email.*

## American Sign Language Club for Kids

Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> | 4:30-5:30pm | Grades 2-5

Wonder Room | [Register](#)

Come practice sign language with other kids! Each month will have a different theme and you will be able to reinforce what you learn through games and activities.

## Reading Buddies

Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup> | 6:30-7:30pm | Grades K-2

Children's Room | [Register for a reminder](#)

Spend a Friday evening reading with a high school buddy! Choate volunteers will join us to do some group read-alouds, small group reading practice, and other fun activities. *This program is offered in conjunction with Choate Rosemary Hall and the Wallingford Rotary Interact Club.*

## LEGO Club

Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> | 2-3pm | Grades K-5

Wonder Room | [Register](#)

Bring your imagination and join us for an hour of fun with LEGO bricks! At this program, kids and their grown-up will have a chance to show off their building skills with LEGO bricks provided by the library.

## How to Draw Pokémon

Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup> | 6:30-8 | Grades 3-5

Collins Room | [Register](#)

Join us for a fun and engaging art class where you'll learn to draw your favorite Pokémon characters, including Pikachu! Pop up Art School will guide you with step-by-step instructions using basic shapes, making it easy for all skill levels. As you draw, enjoy playing Pokémon trivia and showcase your knowledge. Perfect for Pokémon fans and budding artists alike!

## Starlight, Starbright with STARLAB

Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> | 1-1:45pm | Grades K-3

Community Room | [Register](#)

After learning what stars and constellations are, children enter the inflatable dome and look at different star patterns. This program presents actual pictures around the constellations in the night sky to help younger children imagine what the constellations represent. *This program is partially funded by a donation from Ulbrich.*

## Meet the Planets with STARLAB

Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> | 2-2:45pm | Grades 4-7

Community Room | [Register](#)

Step inside Niantic Children's Museum's portable and inflatable star lab to experience and learn all about the solar system's eight planets! *This program is partially funded by a donation from Ulbrich.*

## Break It!

Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup> | 2-4pm | Grades 1-5

Community Room | [Register](#)

The library has a pile of old electronics and we need YOU to help us dismantle them. Whether you want to take things apart to figure out how they work, or if you just want to use tools to destroy stuff, there is fun to be had at Break It!

## Paws for Reading

Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup> | 10:30-11:30am | Grades K-5

Children's Program Room | [Register](#)

Learning to read can be intimidating, but reading to a cute animal can be comforting. Sign up for a time slot to read a book to a furry friend. Children will be in groups of four.

## Game On! Pokémon, Board Games, Video Games, and More!

Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup> | 2-4pm | Grades PreK-8

Wonder Room | [Register for a reminder](#)

Come enjoy an assortment of board games and video games at this all-ages event! There will be video games like Smash and Mario Kart, tabletop games like Chess and Scrabble, and an entire area dedicated to playing and trading Pokémon! Gamers of all ages and skill levels are welcome. Come get your game on!

## Nature Picture Frames with Little Small & Co

Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> | 6:30-7:30pm | Grades 3-5

Children's Program Room | [Register](#)

Create a one-of-a-kind picture frame with found nature objects like leaves, pinecones, shells, and more! Samantha Barlow-Beamer of Little Small & Co. will walk you through the steps to make your unique masterpiece.

## Trading Card Battle Club

Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup> | 4-7pm | Grades PreK-8

Wonder Room | [Register for a reminder](#)

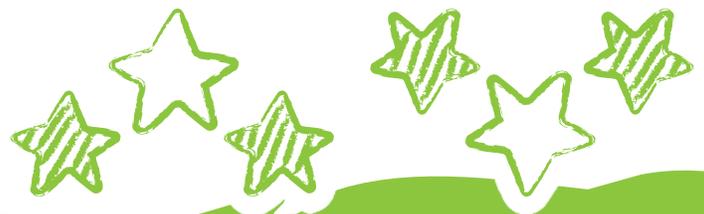
Come play Pokémon, Magic the Gathering, and other TCGs for tickets! Tickets won can be traded in for rare cards, sleeves, plushies, and more at our prize wall.

## Astronomy Club

Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup> | 6:30-7:30pm | Grades K-5

Children's Program Room | [Register](#)

The night sky is vast and amazing! Come learn a little more about our stellar solar system and make a craft that's totally out of this world!



# Adult Events



## **Life on a Coral Reef: Exploring the Ocean Through Photography**

**Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup> | 7-8pm | Community Room & Zoom | [Register](#)**

Celebrate Earth Month with a deep dive into the fascinating world of coral reefs! **Jeff Cinciripino**, Founder and President of the **Scuba Educational Alliance of Connecticut**, will take us on an illustrated journey through some of the planet's most vibrant underwater ecosystems. Through stunning photographs from his dives in Indonesia, the Philippines, and across the Caribbean, Jeff will introduce the incredible diversity of life found on coral reefs and explain why these habitats are so vital to ocean health and our ecological well-being.



## **Fundamentals of Resume Writing**

**Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup> | 2-3:30pm | Community Room | [Register](#)**

This workshop will cover all the components of an effective resume. Participants will learn strategies to create a clear, focused resume that highlights their skills, experience, education, and accomplishments in a way that appeals to employers. The session will also cover best practices for using labor market information and targeted keywords to improve applicant tracking system results. This presentation will be led by **Jessica Wilson (CPRW, CIC)**, Career Development Specialist at the CT Department of Labor and the New Haven branch of the American Job Center.



## **The Art of Henna: A History & Demonstration**

**Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup> | 6:30-8:30pm | Community Room | [Register](#)**

Join us for a special Henna workshop for adults in honor of National Arab-American Heritage Month! Professional Henna artist **Momina Tallal** will lead a short presentation on the history, cultural significance, and traditional designs of this art form and how it has been used for centuries in weddings, festivals, and medicinal practice. After the presentation, Momina will give each of the participants their own Henna design. (Please note that Henna is temporary and will fade naturally over time.) Come learn, create, and leave with a beautiful work of body art!



## **Troubadours of the 1960's: The Songs of Bob Dylan, Joni Mitchell, and Paul Simon**

**Four-Part Series | Wednesdays, April 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, & May 6<sup>th</sup> | 3-4:30pm | Collins Room**

**[Register for Waitlist & More Info](#)**

Join us for a four-part series on song lyrics as poetry led by **Cyrus Cook**, a Wallingford resident and retired English teacher at Choate Rosemary Hall. This class will examine the songs of three "troubadours" who came to prominence in the 1960s and have remained significant voices to the present day: Bob Dylan, Joni Mitchell, and Paul Simon. Attendants are encouraged to read the song lyrics for each session in advance, but no prior exposure is required.



## **Immortal Ink: Shakespeare and His Sonnets**

**Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup> | 7-8pm | Community Room | [Register & More Info](#)**

For our National Poetry Month grand finale, join us for an evening with the Bard himself! William Shakespeare, embodied by actor and educator **Michael Langlois**, will explore the enduring power of his plays and poems, with a special focus on the emotional depth of his sonnets. He will also delve into the historical and cultural context of Elizabethan England, shedding light on the mysteries surrounding the "Fair Youth" and the "Dark Lady" whose identities are hinted at in his writings. Through dramatic readings, attendees will gain insight into his themes of love, time, beauty, and mortality. Whether you are new to Shakespeare or revisiting his work, this performance offers a rich and engaging journey into the heart of his poetic achievements.



# Library Groups

Most of these programs are drop-in and do not require registration unless otherwise noted.

## French Conversation Group

**Mondays | 4:30-5:30pm | Board Room**

Improve your French in a friendly and non-judgmental space! Some knowledge of French recommended.

## English Conversation Group

**Mondays | 6:30-7:30pm | Board Room**

This is an informal gathering for people who wish to practice speaking English. There is no level of proficiency required to join.

## Spanish Conversation Group

**Thursdays | 4:30-5:30pm | Board Room**

Improve your Spanish in a friendly and non-judgmental space! Some knowledge of Spanish recommended.

## Coffee & Connections

**Fridays | 11am-12noon | Collins Room**

Join us for a weekly program to forge new connections with folks you might otherwise never get to know! Come for the coffee, stay for the fun and engaging conversation facilitated by professional people person Linda Reilly-Blue.

## The Connection Corner

**Fridays | 11am-1pm | Board Room**

Drop-in for a one-on-one session with social worker **Katie Lynch**, Mental Health Clinician for Wallingford's Department of Youth and Social Services. These sessions are informal and designed to offer support, resources, and guidance to community members.

## Wallingford Ukulele Club

**Monday, April 6<sup>th</sup> | 10-11:30am | Community Room**

**Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> | 6:30-8pm | Collins Room**

**Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup> | 6:30-8pm | Community Room**

Join our Wallingford Ukulele Club to practice and play with other uke enthusiasts! Every session starts with a few easy warm-ups for beginners, followed by songs at the intermediate level. Participants may bring their own ukuleles or borrow one at meetings.

## Tax Season and Tax Assistance

Federal 1040 Income Tax Forms in both English and Spanish and 1040 Instruction Booklets are available in the lower lobby. You can also find the forms (and schedules) available online to download and print: [rebrand.ly/IRSforms](http://rebrand.ly/IRSforms) You can download and print Connecticut tax forms here: [rebrand.ly/CTtaxforms](http://rebrand.ly/CTtaxforms)

If you earned less than \$69,000 in 2025, you may be eligible for free tax preparation services from IRS-certified tax preparer volunteers through HRA of New Britain. In-person appointments at the library will take place on Saturdays from 10am to 2pm until April 13th. You may call to make an appointment at (860) 356-2000 or visit their website through this shortened link: [walpublib.org/VITA](http://walpublib.org/VITA) If you have questions about the preparation service, please contact HRA of New Britain at (860) 225-8601. We are proud to partner with VITA each year as one of their locations to provide this free, volunteer-run tax preparation service for Wallingford residents.

## WPL Play Readers

**Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup> | 6:30-8:30pm | Collins Room**

The Wallingford Public Library Play Readers bring and share poetry, prose, famous speeches and documents, monologues, and original material! Come check us out. All are welcome to read and/or listen.

## ASL Conversation Group

**Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup> | 7-8pm | Board Room**

Join us on the first Wednesday of each month to improve your American Sign Language skills in a friendly and non-judgmental space! **Jennifer Coyne**, an experienced sign language interpreter, will facilitate each session. Some knowledge of ASL is recommended; patrons with no previous experience should take a course through [Transparent Language Online](http://Transparent Language Online), available through the library's website, before attending a meeting.

## Saturday Mornings with Poetry

**Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> | 9:45am-12noon Board Room**

A meeting of people who love reading and writing poetry! To participate and for details about meeting virtually or in-person, contact Karen Ciosek at [kjc73048@gmail.com](mailto:kjc73048@gmail.com).

## Wallingford Writers' Guild

**Wednesday, April 29<sup>th</sup> | 6:30-8pm | Collins Room**

Are you seeking a small, supportive writing community for adults? Look no further! In this new program that meets on the final Wednesday of each month, we'll write fun, short pieces in the form of blogs, diaries, micro-fiction, self-care journaling, zines, and much more. Each meeting will be a series of short exercises and prompts. As a group, we'll build creative practices for daily living. No previous writing experience is necessary. This workshop series will be led by Kathleen Stewart, a cultural anthropologist and writer with over 30 years of experience teaching writing all over the world.

## Virtual Author Visit



### Valerie Neal

**On a Mission: The History of US Women Astronauts**

**Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> | 2-3pm | Zoom**

[Register](#)



Sally Ride became a household name as the first American woman in space, but scores of equally impressive women have also left their mark in space. *On a Mission: The Smithsonian History of US Women Astronauts* spans 45 years and 61 astronauts to share the epic journeys of women who made space for themselves in a male-dominated field. Valerie Neal offers a culturally insightful history of

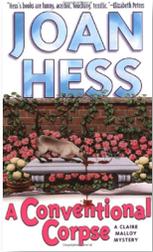
their achievements, the challenges they've faced, and their distinctive stories.

Valerie Neal is a space historian and Curator Emerita at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum in Washington DC. Her specialty is human spaceflight, space technology, and space science in the Space Shuttle era and beyond.



# For Readers

## Book Clubs



### Mystery Book Club A Conventional Corpse

by Joan Hess

Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>

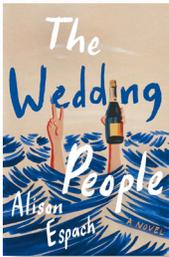
3-4:15pm | Zoom

Discussion moderated by Professor  
and Author Carole Shmurak

In the 13<sup>th</sup> Claire Malloy mystery, Farberville,  
Arkansas is playing host to its first ever mystery

convention. Dragooned into running the show when the original organizer is hospitalized, local bookseller Claire Malloy finds herself in the midst of a barely controlled disaster. Then when one of the attendees dies in a suspicious car accident and a cat disappears from Claire's home, it becomes evident that the murder mystery is more than a literary genre.

To participate, contact Carole at [cshmurak@gmail.com](mailto:cshmurak@gmail.com) and put "Wallingford Mystery Book Club" in the subject line.



### Thursday Night Book Club

#### The Wedding People

by Alison Espach

Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup> | 6:30-8pm

Collins Room & Zoom

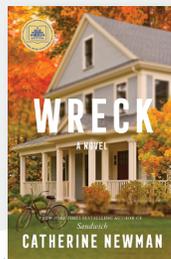
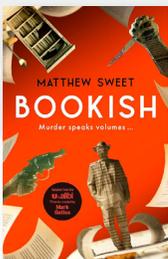
Discussion moderated by Readers  
Advisory Librarian Cindy Haiken

After adjunct English professor Phoebe Stone's

husband leaves her for a colleague, Phoebe resigns from her job and checks into a luxury hotel in Newport, Rhode Island, where she plans to end her life. She doesn't count on the hotel being filled with wedding guests, or meeting the bride who, after hearing Phoebe's plans, does everything she can to keep Phoebe alive. Slowly but surely, Phoebe becomes a member of the wedding party and discovers that life may well be worth living.

For details about meeting virtually or in-person, contact Cindy at [chaiken@wallingfordlibrary.org](mailto:chaiken@wallingfordlibrary.org)

## Cindy's Picks



## Virtual Author Visits

See page 10 for one more! Our partnership with the Library Speakers Consortium is funded by **The Book Seller**. Thank you for your continued support of our used book store! See all upcoming virtual author events here: [walpublib.org/upcomingLSC](http://walpublib.org/upcomingLSC)



### Brad Taylor

#### On Writing Action-Packed and Suspenseful Spycraft

Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup> | 7-8 pm | Zoom

[Register](#)

Join us in conversation with Brad Taylor about *Shadow Strike*, the 20<sup>th</sup> book in the bestselling Pike Logan series. A rogue group of Iranian officials create a brazen plot to strike back at their hated enemies once and for all. They envision a series of operational dominos culminating in a devastating attack, and the first step is the assassination of the Israeli prime minister. And there's only one assassin with the skills to pull it off: Abdul Rahman, known as the Ghost.

When a routine prison transfer is ambushed, the Ghost escapes and is given the assignment. The only Operator who can hunt him down is the man who stopped him before: Pike Logan.

Brad Taylor is the author of the *New York Times* bestselling Pike Logan series. He served for over 20 years in the U.S. Army, including eight years in 1<sup>st</sup> Special Forces Operational Detachment-Delta, commonly known as Delta Force. He retired as a Special Forces lieutenant colonel and now lives in Charleston, South Carolina.



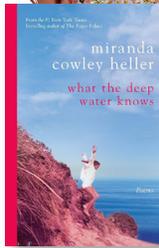
### Miranda Cowley Heller

#### Lush Lyricism and Intimate Confessions

Wednesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> | 2-3pm | Zoom

[Register](#)

Award-winning and bestselling author Miranda Cowley Heller takes us on an intimate journey through the life stages of a woman in her new poetry collection *What the Deep Water Knows*. In poetry that is at once bold and lyrical, affecting and devastatingly frank, Miranda Cowley Heller takes us through childhood, marriage, motherhood, and beyond. Suffused with the natural world and the landscape of Cape Cod, where many of the poems are set, *What the Deep Water Knows* contemplates love in all the seasons.



Miranda Cowley Heller's debut novel *The Paper Palace* was a #1 *New York Times* bestseller and was longlisted for the Women's Prize for Fiction. She has worked as a senior vice president and head of drama series at HBO, developing and overseeing *The Sopranos*, *Six Feet Under*, *The Wire*, *Deadwood*, and *Big Love*.



# Novelty

What's new in novels  
from Cindy Haiken

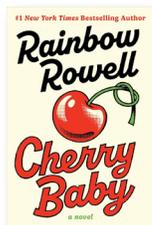


In his short story "The Bishop," Anton Chekhov writes: "April was just beginning, and after the warm spring day it turned cooler, slightly frosty, and a breath of spring could be felt in the soft, cold air." The countdown to spring has been extra fervent this year, and my excitement over warmer weather and longer days is coupled with my anticipation of some terrific new novels that are arriving just as the spring publishing season kicks into high gear. Here is a sample of the upcoming fiction releases heading our way:



**American Fantasy** by Emma Straub — A newly-divorced woman in her late 40s takes a four-day cruise with her sister and 3,000 other women to see a beloved '90s-era boy band.

**Bumblebee Season** by Eileen Garvin — A local beekeeper befriends both a scientist who is studying a threatened native bumblebee and a young migrant worker from Mexico.



**Cherry Baby** by Rainbow Rowell — A woman discovers that her husband has written a massively popular webcomic that features an unflattering portrait of her.

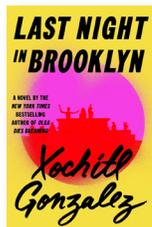
**Elegy in Blue** by Mark Helprin — An elderly, grieving man reflects on the loss of his wife, his father and his son and finds a new purpose when violence threatens another family.

**The Ending Writes Itself** by Evelyn Clark — Six authors are summoned to a private island to write the ending to a bestselling author's unfinished final book and find themselves in a deadly competition.

**Ghost Town** by Tom Perrotta — A once-literary novelist who has gone commercial reminisces about his adolescence in 1970s New Jersey.

**The Girls Trip** by Ally Condie — After three friends decide to disappear from their lives for a few days and take a trip to a national park, one of them vanishes.

**Go Gentle** by Maria Semple — A woman who is determined to live a life of the mind falls unexpectedly in love.



**Last Night in Brooklyn** by Xochitl Gonzalez — A young woman is caught up in her glamorous neighbor's secret past.

**Last One Out** by Jane Harper — A mother returns to her dying hometown five years after her son disappeared there on his 21<sup>st</sup> birthday.

**The Left and the Lucky** by Willy Vlautin — A workaholic house painter becomes an unofficial surrogate father to an eight-year-old boy whose family is falling apart.

**Lidie** by Jane Smiley — This sequel to *The All-True Travels and Adventures of Lidie Newton* follows Lidie as she travels from Illinois to England after her husband is murdered in the Kansas Territory.



**Love by the Book** by Jessica George — Two lonely women connect at a time when they both desperately need a friend.

**Mad Mabel** by Sally Hepworth — An 81-year-old woman has a secret past as "Mad Mabel," a young girl convicted of murder decades ago.



**The Mountains We Call Home** by Kim Michele Richardson — In this companion novel to *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek*, the legendary book woman returns home to Kentucky.

**The Name Game** by Beth O'Leary — A man and a woman with the same name who are each looking for a fresh start discover that they have both been hired for the same job.

**Permanence** by Sophie Mackintosh — A couple in a clandestine relationship wake up in an apartment neither of them recognizes, with no memory of how they got there.

**A Private Man** by Stephanie Sy-Quia — The story of a forbidden love between a Catholic priest and a progressive theology teacher in 1950s and 1960s England.



**Transcription** by Ben Lerner — A man arrives in Providence, Rhode Island to record a final interview with his aging mentor.

**We Burned So Bright** by TJ Klune — A couple takes an apocalyptic cross-country road trip to witness the madness of the last days on Earth.

**Yesteryear** by Caro Claire Burke — A traditional American woman who sells her pioneer lifestyle of raw milk and farm-fresh eggs to her millions of social media followers wakes up one morning cold, filthy and terrified in 1855.

Also of note this month is a sequel to *Nash Falls* by David Baldacci (**Hope Rises**), the 6<sup>th</sup> Hawthorne mystery by Anthony Horowitz (**A Deadly Episode**), the 18<sup>th</sup> installment in the 44 Scotland Street series by Alexander McCall Smith (**Bertie's Theory of Ice Cream**), the 20<sup>th</sup> Pike Logan thriller by Brad Thor (**Shadow Strike**), the 36<sup>th</sup> installment in the Prey series by John Sandford (**Revenge Prey**) and new novels by Debbie Macomber (**Chasing the Clouds Away**), Susan and James Patterson (**The Mother-Daughter Book Club**) and Danielle Steel (**A Woman's Place**).



# Collaboratory

## Drop-In Programs



### Graphics Office Hours New Day and Time!

**Wednesdays, April 1<sup>st</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> | 6-8pm | Adults & Teens in Grades 9+ | Drop-in | Collaboratory**

Do you need dedicated one-on-one help with a graphics project? Our talented volunteer, Kate, will help you use Adobe InDesign, Illustrator, or Photoshop to turn your vision into reality. Stop by between 6-8pm on the 1st or 3rd Wednesday of the month.



### Woven Together: A Fiber Arts Club for Adults

**Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> | 6:30-8pm | Adults & Teens in Grades 9+ | Drop-in | Collaboratory**

Gather with fellow fiber arts enthusiasts on the first Thursday of the month! Whether you knit, crochet, embroider, cross-stitch, macrame, or create any other type of textile art, there's a place for you here. Bring your current project & supplies. Beginners are welcome. This club is facilitated by Mary Jane Chicoski, a local member of the American Sewing Guild. No registration required!



### Open Sew Rethreaded!

**Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup> | 6-8:30pm | Adults & Teens in Grades 9+ | Drop-in | Collaboratory**

Do you like to sew? Join people who enjoy quilting and sewing at a casual "drop in" program anytime from 6:00 to 8:30pm in the Collaboratory the first Tuesday evening of each month. Bring your unfinished projects, either hand sewing or machine. There are 4 portable sewing machines (or bring your own) and lots of sewing supplies and tools provided by the library for your use. Stop by for 10 minutes or for the full 2.5 hours for a fun evening of sharing and learning!

**Grad Banners are Back!** Is there a 2026 Wallingford high school graduate in your family? Show your support with a custom banner printed on the Collaboratory's poster printer. A portion of the cost of each banner will be donated to the Music Parents Associations at Lyman Hall and Sheehan High Schools. Place your order at: [walpublib.org/GradBanner26](http://walpublib.org/GradBanner26). Orders will be accepted from Monday, April 6<sup>th</sup> through Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>.



CLASS OF 2026

**HAPPY GRADUATION!**

Graduate's name here

Congratulations on your graduation, we're so proud of you!



Happy Graduation  
Name

Class of 2026



## COOL Laboratory



This month we will be taking an in-depth look at how to design and create a wooden bowl using our laser cutter and the software on our computers. Examples of software that can be used to create this project include CorelDRAW, Adobe Illustrator, and Affinity, all of which are available on the Collaboratory computers.

We also host programs in the Collaboratory where we make crafts such as this so if you are interested, keep an eye out for future events!

[walpublib.org/CLWoodenBowl](http://walpublib.org/CLWoodenBowl)



# Lottery Programs

Visit the April program lottery to register for the events below:  
[walpublib.org/LotteryApril26](http://walpublib.org/LotteryApril26)

Unless otherwise noted, **registration is required and programs are open to adults and teens in grades 9+.** You may enter the Collaboratory program registration lottery from the 20<sup>th</sup> to the 22<sup>nd</sup> of the month prior. Participants will be selected via random drawing on the following business day. All others will be placed on the waitlist. Due to high demand, we may limit individual participants to one program per month. If there are available seats after the lottery, registration will be directly through our online calendar. Project photos can be found at [walpublib.org/UpcomingCollaboratory](http://walpublib.org/UpcomingCollaboratory)

## Origami Seedling Pots

**Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> | 10-11am | Community Room**

Spring is in the air, which means it is time to garden. Learn to make biodegradable seedling pots that you can plant directly in the ground once your seeds are ready. Patrons will receive supplies and in-person instruction on how to make these fun seed starters.

## Spring Drawstring Bag

**Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> | 1-3pm | Collaboratory**

Learn to make a cute spring accessory with Dawn, **The Stitching Coach**. Participants should have a basic knowledge of how to sew with a machine. In this program, patrons will learn to finish raw edges, make a drawstring casing and more. Machine, notions, and fabric will be provided.

## Beginner Embroidery Sampler

**Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup> | 3-4:30pm OR Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> 11am-12:30pm | Collaboratory**

Want to get into hand stitching but don't know where to start? Join us for an introduction to basic hand embroidery stitches, and leave with a beautiful sampler!



## Everlasting Plant

**Monday, Apr 13<sup>th</sup> | 6-8pm OR Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> 6-8pm | Collaboratory**

Create an everlasting plant using new and repurposed beads. Participants will also be able to choose from new or vintage containers to house their plant. *Note: This program requires finger dexterity and the ability to work with wire and fine beads.*

## Flower Bowl

**Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup> | 7-8:30pm OR Thursday, Apr 16<sup>th</sup> 3-4:30pm | Collaboratory**

Make a decorative wooden bowl in the shape of a flower using parts cut out from our laser cutter.

## Decoupage Wooden Boxes

**Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup> | 7-8:30pm OR Thursday, Apr 30<sup>th</sup> 3-4:30pm | Collaboratory**

Learn how to use Mod Podge to decoupage a small wooden box.



## Talking TED @ Home

**Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup> | 7-8pm | Zoom | Register** (after the lottery period)

Join librarian Cindy Haiken on Zoom to watch and discuss a popular TED talk. Once registered, you will receive an invitation to the Zoom meeting via email on the day of the event. In April, we will watch and discuss Bevy Smith's "How to Discover Your Authentic Self—At Any Age."

In a talk packed with wry wisdom, pop culture queen Bevy Smith shares hard-earned lessons about authenticity, confidence, mature success and why, if you put in the work, "life gets greater later."

# Just for Teens

## Registration Required

### Media Literacy with Project co|LAB

Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup> | 5-6:30pm

Collins Room | Grades 5-8 | [Register](#)

Can you trust what you read online? Come step into the shoes of an internet conspirator by playing the Bad News Game with us! You'll learn how fake news is spread, keep up with current events, and share your ideas through games and discussions. With Project co|LAB, a media literacy initiative founded by students FOR students, you'll be able to outsmart fearmongers, think like a fact-checker, and take control of your digital story!

### Teen Cuisine: Dyed Deviled Eggs

Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup> | 2-4pm

Community Room | Grades 6-12 | [Register](#)

Learn to make deviled eggs with an extra special step of dyeing the egg whites. We will experiment with a variety of inclusions in the egg mixture, including a fan favorite, caramelized onions. Variety is the spice of life, and spice toppings, like smoked paprika, will provide even more variety to our egg creations!



## Drop-in Events

### High School Trading Card Club

Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup> | 4-7pm | Collins Room

Grades 9-12 | [Register for a reminder](#)

Bring your own decks or use ours to play Magic the Gathering, Pokémon, Yu-Gi-Oh, or any other trading card game! Teen Librarian James Morrison will be around for gameplay pointers, rules questions, and deckbuilding advice as a veteran Magic player and a novice Pokémon player. All skill levels are welcome, and a continuous learning mindset is encouraged! *High School Trading Card Club meets the first Tuesday of each month.*

### Teen Craft Club

Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> | 2-4pm | Collaboratory

Grades 6-12 | [Register for a reminder](#)

Have a crafting hobby? Looking for a new one? Join us in a welcoming space to be creative and socialize at the same time! Feel free to bring along whatever project you're working on or use some of the Collaboratory's available supplies. Register if you want a reminder and know that you can stay as long as you want—you don't have to stay the whole time. *Teen Craft Club meets on early school dismissal days.*



### Craft a Custom Resin Box

Wednesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> | 4-5pm | Collaboratory

Grades 6-12 | [Register](#)

Resin allows for all kinds of creativity! Mix colored inks, powders, and dyes to create a magical box to store anything from jewelry to trading cards and beyond. Dried flowers, sparkling mica powders, and a whole lot more will be provided to assist you in making of a one-of-a-kind creation.



### Virtual Author Talk with Jason Reynolds

Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup> | 7-8pm

Zoom | All Ages | [Register](#)

Join us in conversation with bestselling author Jason Reynolds as we discuss his latest work, *Coach*, the fifth, and last, entry in the highly popular *Track* series. Following the immersive stories of *Ghost*, *Lu*, *Patina*, and *Sunny*, it's finally time for *Coach* to shine in his own book as we discover: Who was *Coach* before he became an inspiring leader? Register now to join in on the conversation about the final installment of Jason Reynolds' *Track* series!



### Teen Debate Club

Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup> | 3-4:30pm | Collins Room

Grades 9-12 | [Registration Encouraged](#)

Do you like to debate? Do you want to participate in something bigger than you? Are you a committed and dedicated teen? Then the WPL Debate Club is for you! Each session, we will introduce a new debate topic. Then, each team will have time to research and devise an argument. We will then have an entire debate discussion with a judge who will award points. Overall, this will be a fun and competitive activity for all local high school students. *Teen Debate Club meets the last Tuesday of each month.*

### Trading Card Battle Club

Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup> | 4-7pm | Wonder Room

Grades 4-8 | [Registration Encouraged](#)

Calling all trading card sharks! If you have the urge to battle, come bring your Pokémon, Yu-Gi-Oh, and Magic the Gathering cards down to the library to test your skills and compete for prizes. Premade decks can be provided by the library but bringing your own is encouraged. *Trading Card Battle Club meets on the last Tuesday of each month.*

# Last Words: For Wedding People

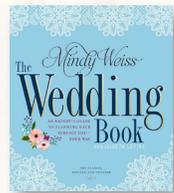
from Chris Ciemniowski

I hope everyone has had an opportunity to read our 2026 One Book One Wallingford title **The Wedding People** and will join us for author Alison Espach's visit to Wallingford on April 21<sup>st</sup>. If you're attending any weddings this year (or possibly getting married!) reading this book is a great way to kick off wedding season 2026. In addition there are plenty of other books in the collection for those planning or attending weddings this year.

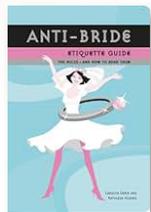


To kick off our event series for One Book One Wallingford 2026 we hosted the New Canaan Museum & Historical Society who presented on the history of wedding fashion and tradition. If you missed this presentation but are intrigued by the history of weddings you may enjoy Rebecca Mead's **One Perfect Day: The Selling of the American Wedding**, in which Mead cuts to the heart of American identity by

delving into the reasons American weddings have become so expensive and extravagant compared to earlier ceremonies.



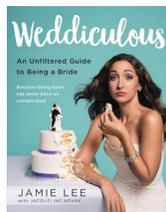
If you're planning a wedding or are just interested in the minutia of wedding planning, Mindy Weiss's **The Wedding Book** is a tried and true comprehensive textbook on everything necessary to plan a traditional wedding, beginning with who to tell first, what music to play, what food to serve, and ending with sending thank you cards. The book is structured like a textbook with short quiz-like checklists at the end of each chapter.



In contrast, the **Anti-Bride Etiquette Guide** by Caroline Gerin and Kathleen Hughes provides a breezier read for brides who want to understand what's expected of them (and others) during the wedding planning process, and what rules can be broken in order to personalize your festivities. Rather than a strict rule book, this guide is more of a rundown of best practices and ways to modify your wedding

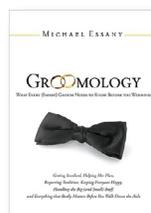
to meet modern tastes or adapt to modern issues.

**Weddiculous** by Jamie Lee is another unfiltered wedding planning guide for the brides that are not really into the wedding planning process or might be anxious about the whole ordeal. It highlights the stressful bits in particular and offers suggestions on how to get through it and even make the best of it.

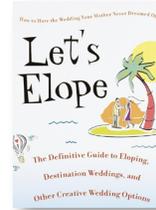


There is no shortage of books just for grooms either! **A Gentleman Walks Down the Aisle** opens with a preface that describes how grooms may feel like they are just along for the ride in the wedding planning process. Then it lists and dives into all the responsibilities that should be the groom's.

Remaining chapters cover the responsibilities of other men at the wedding, including the father of the bride, the best man, groomsmen, ring bearers, and other male guests attending a wedding. The book closes with suggestions on how to dress and how to avoid wedding disasters. Grooms may also find **Groomology** by Michael Essany and **The**



**Engaged Groom** by Doug Gordon worth reading to learn how to appropriately play an active role in wedding planning.



Of course, if all this talk of wedding planning sounds stressful to you, you can always elope! And we have a book for that too! **Let's Elope** by Scott Shaw and Lynn Beahan is the "definitive guide to eloping." The first part of the book covers the basics, such as why you should elope, a history of elopement, and the etiquette of eloping (including how to tell your loved ones), in an effort to ease the stigma against eloping. The second part offers tips and guidance on how to plan your elopement such as choosing a location and arranging a ceremony for two.



**2Brides 2Be** by Laura Leigh Abby is the book to check out for same sex brides who are planning a wedding or for their supportive friends and family. After an introduction to the history of lesbian weddings, the guide proceeds mostly as any other wedding guide, with only subtle differences when considering concerns or opportunities for same sex couples on their wedding day. Although subtle these asides will make lesbian couples feel seen and validated as they understand that weddings are and always have been for same sex couples too.



Just like the wedding attendees in *The Wedding People* you may be lucky (or unlucky) enough to be invited to a destination wedding! **The Knot Guide to Destination Weddings** offers a comprehensive guide to everything that makes attending a destination wedding unique both for those planning and for those attending. The book opens with different types of destination weddings including adventure weddings, or cruise weddings which are each different entities unto themselves. Further chapters discuss how to coordinate getting everyone to your destination as well as planning activities and choosing vendors from afar. One of the key takeaways from the book is that a destination wedding is not just about planning a wedding; it typically involves planning a week of festivities. The book ends with a list of popular locations to help you decide what you might be looking for in your destination wedding.



Perhaps you are trying to cut down on your carbon footprint and would like to plan a green wedding instead. While Mireya Navarro's **Green Wedding** certainly provides ideas for planning an eco-friendly celebration, it's also a great guide for planning a minimalist, people-focused celebration. The opening chapter highlights different green locations for holding a wedding such as a rustic barn, an adventurous campsite, or a public park. Navarro provides ideas for finding the best location for you. Further chapters focus on how to hand-make wedding invitations, floral arrangements, and even outfits before pivoting to a sustainable but delicious wedding menus. While still focusing on the environment, Navarro's suggestions incidentally also make a wedding more unique to the couple, less commercial, and more focused on spending jubilant time with friends and family.



## April Hours

Monday - Friday  
9:30am - 9pm

Saturday  
9:30am - 5pm

Sunday  
(through the end of April)  
12noon - 4pm

## Scheduled Closings

Easter  
Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>



## April Hours

Monday  
10am - 2pm

Tuesday  
10am - 12noon  
2:30pm - 4:30pm

Wednesday  
10am - 2pm

Thursday  
2:30pm - 4:30pm

Friday  
10am - 2pm

Saturday  
10am - 12:30pm

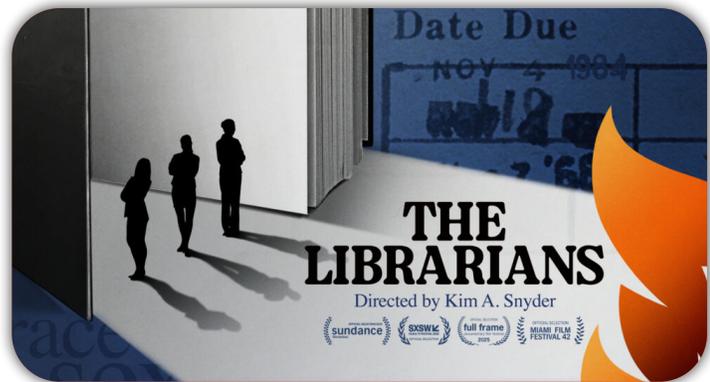
If the Book Seller is closed, you can shop anytime at the Book Seller Annex upstairs across from the Children's Room.

# Celebrate National Library Week

April 19<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> 2026

## The Librarians A Documentary Screening and Discussion

Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>  
6:30-8:30pm  
Community Room | Adults  
[Register](#)



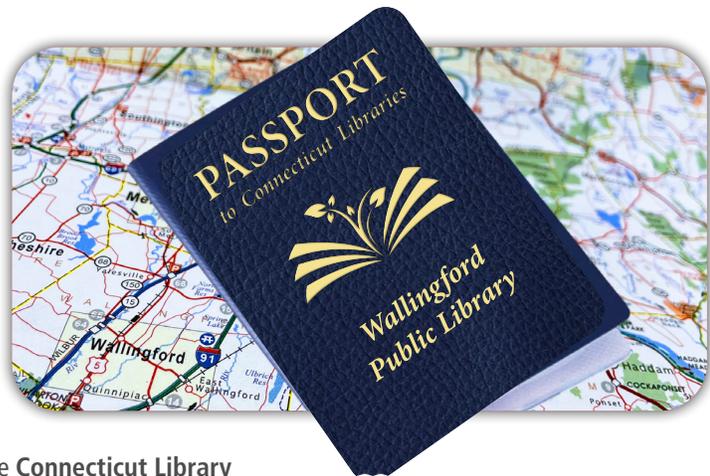
Join us for a special screening of the 2025 documentary *The Librarians* in honor of National School Library Month! In this acclaimed feature, librarians emerge as first responders in the fight for democracy and our First Amendment Rights. *The Librarians* follows librarians in Texas, Florida, and other states as they unite to try to combat book banning by Moms for Liberty and other groups across the United States. Sarah Jessica Parker served as executive producer under her company Pretty Matches Productions (Unrated, 92 minutes).

The screening will include a special introductory video by **Amanda Jones**, author of the bestselling 2024 memoir *That Librarian* and one of the librarians featured in the documentary. This screening is a collaboration between the Wallingford Public Library and the CT Association of School Librarians (CASL). It will be immediately followed by a short Q&A and discussion with CASL's President, **Valerie DiLorenzo**, and Immediate Past President, **Jenny Lussier**.

## PASSPORT TO CT LIBRARIES

Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup> -  
Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup>  
Visit the Information Desk  
for a stamp

Visit Connecticut Libraries throughout the month of April for a chance to win up to a \$200 VISA gift card! Nearly 140 Connecticut libraries are proud to participate in the **Connecticut Library Association's Passport to Connecticut Libraries Program**. To begin, visit the Wallingford Public Library to pick up your Passport and first stamp. Then, visit other participating libraries, show your Passport and collect stamps. If you visit at least 5 participating libraries, return your Passport to us by May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026. CLA will be giving away a total of SIX \$200 gift cards, one for adults and one for children in each category. For all categories and ways to win visit our website: [walpublib.org/PassportCTLibraries](http://walpublib.org/PassportCTLibraries)



## IN OTHERS' Words...



There is no such thing as a happy place. Because when you are happy, everywhere is a happy place. And when you are sad, everywhere is a sad place.



— Alison Espach, *The Wedding People*