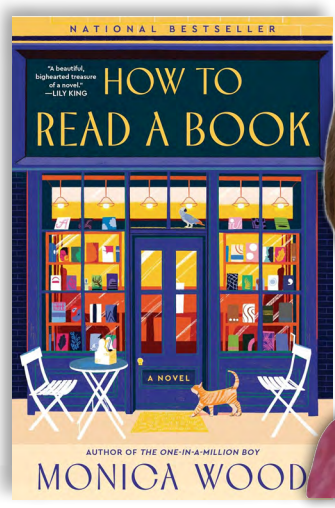
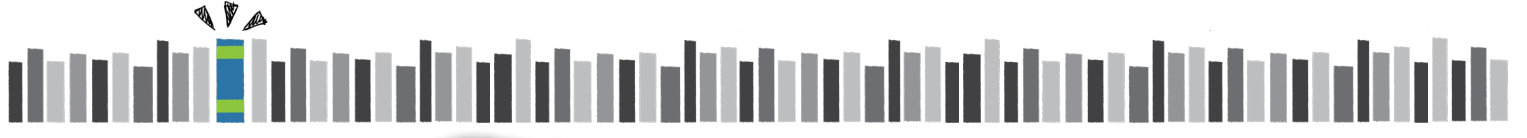


April 2025

Words

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE WALLINGFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY



ONE BOOK ONE WALLINGFORD MEET AUTHOR MONICA WOOD

Tuesday, April 29th | 7pm
Dag Hammarskjold Middle School & Zoom
106 Pond Hill Road | [Register](#)

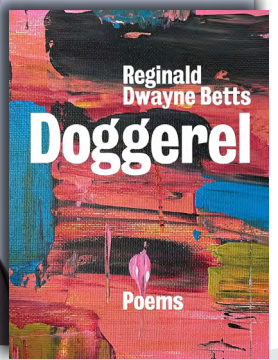
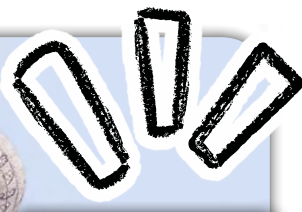
This spring our community read for One Book One Wallingford is *How to Read a Book* by Monica Wood! We have many copies of *How to Read a Book* available to borrow from the library. Copies of the book are also available to purchase at the Information Desk for \$20. Visit our website (walpublib.org/obow) for a list of programs we have planned, culminating in Monica Wood's visit to Wallingford on Tuesday, April 29th when she will discuss the book and answer readers' questions. Afterwards she will sign copies of the book, which will be available to purchase at the event. Look for the *One Book* logo throughout this newsletter for tie-in events.

ONE BOOK
ONE WALLINGFORD

DOGGEREL: A POETRY READING BY REGINALD DWAYNE BETTS

Tuesday, April 1st | 7-8pm
Community Room & Zoom | [Register](#)

Join us for a celebration of verse from one of America's greatest living poets! Reginald Dwayne Betts, a MacArthur Fellow and the Founder & Director of Freedom Reads, will perform an interpretive reading from his new poetry collection *Doggerel*. Simultaneously philosophical and playful, his poems are a meditation on family, falling in love, friendship, and those who accompany us on our walk through life. Following the reading, Betts will be signing copies of *Doggerel*, which will be available to purchase that evening from Possible Futures bookstore.



OUR DOORS OPEN TO ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES
200 North Main Street, Wallingford, CT 06492
(203) 265-6754 | 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

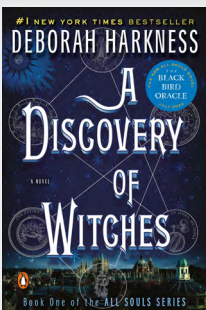
Words, a publication of the Wallingford Public Library, is sent electronically to members of the Wallingford Public Library Association. View the current issue in color on our website: walpublib.org/newsletter. *Words* is edited by Publicity and Public Services Librarian Christopher Ciemniowski from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

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

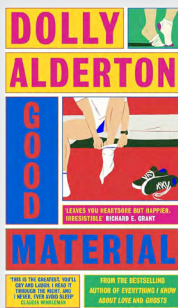
The Wallingford Public Library relies on member contributions in addition to funding it receives from the Town of Wallingford. We hope you will support the Library by becoming a member of the Wallingford Public Library Association. Your support helps ensure that the Library will continue to be a dynamic 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

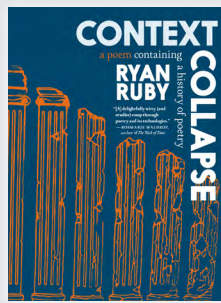
Staff Picks



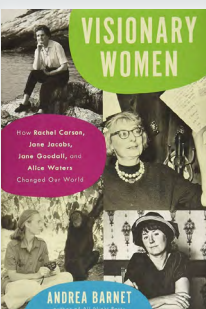
Windsor
A Discovery of Witches
by Deborah Harkness



Sunnie
Good Material
by Dolly Alderton



Chris
Context Collapse
by Ryan Ruby



Deb
Visionary Women
by Andrea Barnett



Kayleigh
Close to Death
by Anthony Horowitz



Mickey
Monster Hunter World
from Capcom

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- 6** Children & Families
- 8** Adult Events
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- 12** Collaboratory
- 14** Just for Teens



View this newsletter online!

ONE BOOK TIE-IN EVENTS

ONE WALLINGFORD



Feathers & Friendship: Inside the World of Rescue Parrots

Saturday, April 12th | 10:30am-12pm
Community Room & Zoom | [Register](#)

Feathers & Friendship is a program offered by Rhode Island Parrot Rescue which focuses on the plight of domesticated parrots in need. Its mission is to educate the public on the origins, habitats, behavior, training, nutrition, health, and cognition of these incredible birds. Whether you're new to the world of parrots or a seasoned enthusiast, this presentation will offer a new way of understanding our feathered friends. You will have the chance to see live parrots up close and witness a demonstration of their vocal abilities & other guided responses. RIPR will also provide expert advice on caretaking and adoption if you are interested in bringing a companion parrot into your home.

Libraries & Literature in Prison Cellblocks: A Conversation about Freedom Reads

Tuesday, April 15th | 6:30-8pm
Community Room & Zoom | [Register](#)

Freedom Reads, a national nonprofit based in Hamden, Connecticut, opens carefully-curated, 500-book, handcrafted libraries in prison cellblocks across the nation. As of the start of 2025, it has opened more than 400 Freedom Libraries in 44 adult and youth prisons across 12 states, including Connecticut and California. Its vision is to open a Freedom Library in every cellblock in every prison in the nation. Our panelists will share the perspectives of Freedom Reads, nearly half of whose staff are formerly incarcerated individuals, and a California prison system that has worked with Freedom Reads and witnessed its impact upon those serving time.

Virtual Author Visits

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

Jodi Picoult

Wordsmith and Wonder

Wednesday, April 2nd | 7-8pm | Zoom | [Register](#)



Join us as we chat with the *New York Times* bestselling author **Jodi Picoult** about her newest novel *By Any Other Name*. In 1581, Emilia Bassano has no voice of her own. But as the Lord Chamberlain's mistress, she has access to all the theaters in England and finds a way to bring her work to the stage in secret. And yet, creating some of the world's greatest dramatic masterpieces comes at great cost—by paying a man for the use of his name, she will write her own out of history. In the present, playwright Melina Green has just written a new work. Will she—like Emilia—be willing to forfeit her credit as author for a chance to see her work performed? Told in intertwining narratives, *By Any Other Name* is a tale of ambition, courage and desire that asks what price each woman is willing to pay to see their work live on, even if it means they will be forgotten.

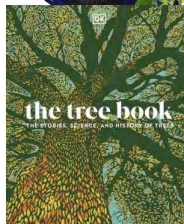
Jodi Picoult is the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of 29 novels, including *Mad Honey* (co-authored with Jennifer Finney Boylan), *Wish You Were Here*, *The Book of Two Ways*, *A Spark of Light*, *Small Great Things*, *Leaving Time*, and *My Sister's Keeper*. She lives in New Hampshire with her husband.

Matthew Fleming

Smithsonian Gardens

Greenhouse Horticulturalist

Tuesday, April 8th | 2-3pm | Zoom | [Register](#)



Join horticulturalist **Matthew Fleming** as he guides us through the secret world of trees. Used for shelter, tools, fuel and food, they also help supply the atmosphere with oxygen and form astonishingly diverse ecosystems, along with some of the world's most beautiful landscapes. *The Tree Book: The Stories, Science, and History of Trees* reveals the intricate world of leafy woodlands and abundant rainforests. Combining natural history and a scientific overview with a wider look at the history, uses, symbolism, and mythology of trees, this book is a new kind of guide to these fascinating organisms.

Matthew Fleming has been a horticulturist at the Smithsonian Gardens Greenhouse Facility in Maryland since 2010. In addition to serving as a supervisory horticulturist, he manages three greenhouses with nearly a thousand tropical specimens that are displayed throughout the many Smithsonian gardens and landscapes along the National Mall during the warmer months. Matt received his Bachelor of Science degree from Penn State University's College of Agricultural Sciences where he studied Horticulture and Landscape Contracting.

There's One More!
See page 10

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 even 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 as well as 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: Apple Account Basics

Saturday, April 12th | 2-3:30pm | Adults | Community Room | [Register](#)

Connor will walk you through the steps to create an Apple Account and change your iCloud account, and show you how you can get even more from the devices you already own. Topic in this class will include:

- What is an Apple Account
- How to use your Apple Account with iCloud and the App Store
- Use your Apple Account to seamlessly sync your most important data across your devices
- Use built-in features like iCloud backups, iCloud Drive, Family Sharing, and Find My

Please bring your fully charged iPhone or iPad to class and make sure your devices have been updated to iOS 18 or newer. If your device isn't updated to the latest software, you may not be able to access all of the features we will talk about, but you are still encouraged to participate!

Dear IT: Welcome to Windows 11

Saturday, April 26th | 2-3:30pm | Adults | Collins Room | [Register](#)

Join us for an informative session where you'll get an introduction to Windows 11 and its exciting new features. Whether you're upgrading from an older version or using Windows for the first time, this class will help you navigate the system with ease. Topics covered include:

- **Getting to Know the Interface:** Explore the redesigned Start menu, taskbar, and layout options for a more streamlined experience.
- **New Features & Enhancements:** Learn about Snap Layouts, and other productivity tools.
- **Settings & Customization:** Adjust system preferences, personalize your desktop, and optimize Windows 11 to suit your needs.
- **Microsoft Store & Apps:** Discover built-in apps, new software, and how to get the most out of the Microsoft Store.

Bring your Windows 11 laptop or device (if available) and get ready to explore the latest operating system from Microsoft! Whether you're a beginner or looking to refine your skills, this session will provide valuable tips and insights to help you navigate Windows 11 with confidence.

Introduction to the Collaboratory

Saturday, April 5th OR Monday, April 21st | 2-3:30pm | Adults | Collaboratory

[Register for April 5th](#) | [Register for April 21st](#)

Ever wonder exactly what is in the Collaboratory (or what the Collaboratory even is)? Come to this class and learn about each and every thing in there!

Using the Ditto Pattern Projector

Monday, April 7th OR Saturday, April 19th | 2-3:30pm | Adults | Collaboratory

[Register for April 7th](#) | [Register for April 19th](#)

This class will cover how to use the Ditto Pattern Projector, which uses digital sewing patterns rather than paper, saving time and effort while reducing waste. There will also be a demonstration on how to use the software which allows for customization of the patterns before they are sent to the projector.

From the
B.S.
Borrower Services
Department

Cardholder Perks for Language Learners

¿Habla español? ¿Le gustaría aprender? If you didn't understand the first two sentences, but you want to, the Wallingford Library can help you get started with all the tools you need to learn another language!

You've probably heard of language-learning apps like Babbel and Duolingo, but did you know that the library has its own program called **Transparent Language**? Create a free account and take self-paced lessons on over 120 world languages. You can even download the Transparent Language app on your phone to practice on the go! (walpublib.org/TransparentLanguage)

To supplement your online learning, visit the **400s in the Nonfiction section** to find bilingual dictionaries, workbooks, and other materials for languages, including English, Spanish, French, Italian, Japanese, Polish, Russian, and many others. (walpublib.org/LanguageBooks)

For those learning English as a Second Language (ESL), the library offers a number of helpful resources. Transparent Language offers English lessons tailored to the learner's native language or dialect. Online ESL courses are also available on **UniversalClass** (walpublib.org/UniversalClass). In the Children's Room, an exciting recent addition to our ESL resources is our growing collection of **Wonderbooks**: print books with built-in audiobooks that read the story aloud as you follow the words on the page.

For Spanish-speakers, both fluent and otherwise, peruse our **Spanish-language section** to find Spanish translations of popular titles as well as books written in Spanish. (walpublib.org/SpanishBooks)

After you've studied on your own, practice your new language skills with other learners at all proficiency levels by attending our weekly Spanish and French groups. ASL Conversation Group and American Sign Language for Kids meet monthly.

An accidental coffee spill at the library leads to a lasting bilingual friendship!

walpublib.org/LanguageLearners

Join us for Coffee & Connections! More info on page 9!



FRIDAY NIGHT FLICKS



Gladiator II

Friday, April 4th | 6-8:30pm
Drop in | Community Room | R

Years after witnessing the death of the revered hero Maximus at the hands of his uncle, Lucius (Paul Mescal) is forced to enter the Colosseum after his home is conquered by the tyrannical Emperors who now lead Rome with an iron fist.



Nickel Boys

Friday, April 25th | 6-8:30pm
Drop in | Community Room | PG-13

Two Black teenagers, Elwood and Turner, form an unlikely bond while serving time at Nickel Academy, a harsh Florida reform school. Elwood, a hopeful high school student planning to start college, finds himself thrown into the brutal world of the institution after an upsetting accident. With Turner's guidance, he navigates the challenges of survival while maintaining his optimistic spirit.

Children & Families

School-Aged Programs

Registration is required unless otherwise noted.

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

Reading Fun with Moran's Promote Reading Club

Thursday, April 3rd | 4-6pm | Grades PreK-2
Children's Program Room | [Register](#)

Celebrate spring and baby animals with the Moran Promote Reading Club! Drop-in any time between 4 and 6pm to listen to a story from, or read a story to, a Moran Middle School Student. Afterwards, take part in some spring-related crafts and activities. For added fun, children are encouraged to dress like a baby animal or in spring-themed clothing (bright colors, flowers, etc.).

Reading Buddies

Friday, April 4th | 6:30-7:30pm | Grades K-2
Children's Room | [Register](#)

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.*

Dungeons and Dragons: Battle of the Bards 2: Electric Boogaloo

Monday, April 7th | Grades 4-8
Children's Program Room

Session 1 | 3:30-5:30pm | [Register](#)
Session 2 | 6-8pm | [Register](#)

Battle of the Bards is back by popular demand! In this level 5 D&D quest players must battle in a tournament of bards to earn the favor of the Queen. Besides ordinary D&D combat, players will also be composing their own songs and poems to use in the battle to come.

Dragon Eye Necklace

Thursday, April 10th | 2:30-3:30pm | Grades 2-5
Children's Program Room | [Register](#)

Use special techniques to design your own realistic dragon eye to display on a chain necklace. Please note, there is a planned early dismissal for WPS students on this date.

LEGO Club

Saturday, April 12th | 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-ups will have a chance to show off their building skills with LEGO bricks provided by the library.

Playing with Polymers

Tuesday, April 15th | Community Room
Grades K-2 | 10-10:45am | [Register](#)
Grades 3-5 | 11-11:45am | [Register](#)

Join us during Spring Break for slimy fun! Investigate how polymers are made by cross-linking molecules. Explore different properties of polymers using super-absorbent powders, squishy orbs, and stretchy goo! *This program is presented by the Connecticut Science Center, and funded by a donation from Ulbrich.*

American Sign Language Club for Kids

Wednesday, April 16th | 5:30-6:30pm | 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.

Paws for Reading

Saturday, April 19th | 11am-12pm | 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 three. *Presented by the Friends of the Wallingford Animal Shelter.*

Tag It! Graffiti Art at the Wallingford Library!

Tuesday, April 22nd | 6-7pm | Grades 1-5
Children's Program Room | [Register](#)

Come learn how to create your own "tag" in this graffiti art program! We will be learning about graffiti as an art form as well as practicing it ourselves on "walls" provided by the library. Please be sure to dress for mess! We will be using paint markers, acrylic paint, and permanent marker.

Dance Workshop

Thursday, April 24th | 4:30-5:30pm | Grades 2-9
Community Room | [Register](#)

Attend an engaging dance workshop with three internationally renowned pre-professional dancers and students from Choate Rosemary Hall. The class, which is hosted by Dance to Empower, a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization that these students formed, gives participants the chance to experiment with fundamental stretching, ballet skills, and creative choreography. All skill levels of dancers are welcome!

Kindness Club: Cat Toys

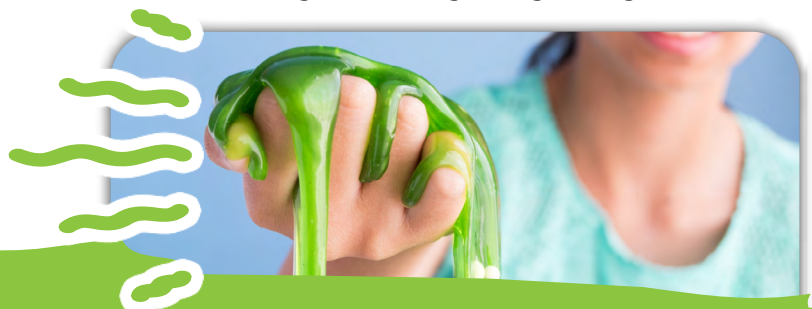
Thursday, April 24th | 6:30-7:30pm | Grades 2-5
Children's Program Room | [Register](#)

Come and make felt cat toys to give to the Wallingford Animal Shelter. No sewing experience needed.

Game On!

Saturday, April 26th | 1:30-4pm | All Ages
Wonder Room | [Register](#)

Pokémon Club and Gaming Club have combined into one big gaming bonanza! Come trade, battle, and participate in various Pokémon themed activities, or play some board games or Mario Kart! At this club, gamers of all ages can get their game on!



Preschool Programs

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

Toddler Yoga

Friday, April 4th | 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.

Silly Story Time

Saturday, April 5th | 10:30-11am | Ages 0-5

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

Saturdays are for being silly! In this family story time, we will sing goofy songs and read funny books. This is a drop-in program, but register if you would like an email reminder.

Story Walk with Mrs. Stowe

Tuesday, April 15th | 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.

Baby Prom: A Morning Under the Stars

Friday, April 25th | 10:30am-12pm | Ages 0-5

Community Room | [Register](#)

Dress to the nines and come dance the morning away at Baby Prom! We will have some light refreshments, a photo station, and more! Grownups, don't forget to wear your fancy outfits too!

Bilingual Homework Help

Bilingual Homework Help

Mondays & Wednesdays | Grades K-5 | 4-8pm
Children's Room | Drop-in

The Wallingford Public Library offers FREE drop-in Homework Help! Homework Help is offered in English and Spanish and follows the public school calendar. The program is not offered on days that the public schools are closed.

Ayuda Bilingue con las Tareas

Lunes y Miércoles | 4-8pm | Grados K-5
Área de los Niños | No necesita cita

La Biblioteca Pública de Wallingford ofrece Ayuda GRATIS con las Tareas, pueden venir a cualquier hora entre las 4 y las 8! Ayuda con las Tareas en Español e Inglés y sigue el calendario escolar. El Programa no se ofrece los días que las escuela públicas están cerradas.

Homeschool Meetup

Friday, April 11th | 10am-12pm | All ages

Wonder Room | [Register](#)

Looking to connect with other homeschooling families? Stop by the library on the first Monday 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.*

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. [Register](#)

Bouncing Babies

Ages 0-18 months | 10am or 11am | Wonder Room
Mondays, April 7th - April 21st

This class introduces babies, toddlers, and their grownups to the library and each other while learning how to support their growth and development through songs, puppets, rhymes, and books. Includes playtime afterwards. This class is appropriate for infants, crawlers, and very early walkers.

Waddling Ones & Twos

Ages 15 mo-35 mo | 10am or 11am | Wonder Room
Tuesdays, April 8th - April 22nd

A great program for active toddlers, now in the Wonder Room! In a smaller class size setting, children will learn more about how language works through song, rhymes, books, and more. Playtime to follow. This class is appropriate for more confidently walking one year olds, and active two year olds.

Happy Feet

Ages 2-3 | 10:30am | Children's Program Room
Wednesdays, April 9th - April 23rd

Full of music, movement, and stories, this program is perfect for children who are working on making the transition to Preschool Story Time.

Preschool Story Time

Ages 3-5 | 10:30am | Children's Program Room
Thursdays, April 10th - April 24th

Books, puppets, and songs will reinforce your child's pre-reading skills through repetition and rhyme. A craft is included that will help kids develop their fine motor skills.

Pajama Family Story Time

Ages 0-5 | 6:30pm | Community Room
Mondays, April 14th & 21st (No class on April 7th)

Join Miss Erin at this active, early literacy enriched story time where we will explore books, songs, and rhymes for all ages. Make sure to wear your PJs for added fun!

Adult Events



Happenings



Gray-Wulff Environmental Series: Season of the Osprey

Tuesday, April 8th | 6:30-8pm | Community Room | [Register](#)

Join us for a screening by the Gray-Wulff Environmental Series as we celebrate National Earth Month! The PBS short documentary *Season of the Osprey* follows a veteran pair of ospreys as they return home to a Connecticut saltmarsh. Over one summer they must battle their enemies, withstand the elements, and hunt hundreds of fish, all to raise the next generation of these consummate sea hawks. Following the film, **Sonya Wulff** will hold a Q&A and discussion with the audience.



Fungi Frenzy: Growing Your Own Backyard Mushrooms

Tuesday, April 22nd | 7-8pm | Community Room & Zoom | [Register](#)

Discover the magic of backyard mushroom growing! Join **Master Gardener Mark Gostkiewicz** for this eye-opening workshop where you'll learn the ins and outs of cultivating three easy-to-grow mushroom varieties: Shiitakes, Oysters, and Wine Caps. Not only will you learn about the life cycle and needs of these fungi, but you'll also discover the benefits of using straw or wood chips as a growing medium and how to utilize every part of a tree for mushroom cultivation.



Divine Geometry: Islamic & Middle Eastern Art at the Wadsworth

Wednesday, April 23rd | 7-8pm | Community Room & Zoom | [Register](#)

The Wadsworth Atheneum in Hartford, CT has one of the most extensive collections of Middle Eastern art in the country. In honor of Arab-American Heritage Month, **Hamid Hemat**, Curator of the "Divine Geometry" exhibition at the Wadsworth, will take us through the museum's fascinating anthology of Islamic and Middle Eastern art & artifacts. He will also delve into the development of calligraphy and written forms in Islamic art history, tracing their evolution from the early Islamic period to the present day. At the end of his presentation he will offer a live demonstration of Persian calligraphy so the audience can see this beautiful ancient art form in practice.



ONE BOOK ONE WALLINGFORD



Bespoke Bookends: A Craft Workshop for Adults

Saturday, April 26th | 10:30am-12:30pm | Community Room | [Register](#)

Join us for a special workshop hosted by **Matt Yanarella** from My Productions CT! You'll have the opportunity to decorate and assemble your own pair of wooden DIY bookends to reflect your unique personality. We invite you to get creative with your friends and neighbors in this one-of-a-kind adult workshop! (No woodcutting or sharp tools will be involved.)



An Evening with Edgar Allan Poe

Wednesday, April 30th | 7-8pm | Community Room & Zoom | [Register](#)

Join us for a National POetry Month grand finale with one of America's most legendary authors! Conjured back from the shadows by actor **Campbell Harmon** for a most extraordinary hour, Edgar Allan Poe will share with the audience his passions, his influences, his reflections on writing, and a performance of his most celebrated poem "The Raven." This evening of Gothic verse and haunting history is not to be missed.



Gatherings

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

French Conversation Group

Mondays | 4:30-5:30pm
Collins Room

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

Spanish Conversation Group

Thursdays | 4:30-5:30pm | Collins Room

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



Coffee & Connections

Fridays | 11am-12noon | Collins Room

Come join us for a weekly program to forge new connections with folks you might otherwise never get to know! Stop by for a warm drink and some conversation, hosted by **Linda Reilly-Blue (LRB)** a former radio host and producer, passionate birth doula, parent educator, and reiki practitioner. With degrees in Counseling, Psychology, and Human Service Administration, LRB's professional and personal experiences blend to create a holistic approach to supporting others. Come for the coffee, stay for the fun and engaging conversation facilitated by a professional people person!

WPL Play Readers

Wednesday, April 2nd | 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.



Wallingford Ukulele Club

Monday, April 7th | 10-11:30am

Collins Room AND

**Wednesday, April 9th & Monday, April 28th
6:30-8pm | Collins Room**

Join our Wallingford Ukulele Club to practice and play with other uke enthusiasts! The club meets on the first Monday of the month from 10-11:30am and the second Wednesday and final Monday of the month from 6:30-8pm. Participants may bring their own ukuleles or borrow one at meetings. Every session starts with a few easy warm-ups for beginners, followed by songs at the intermediate level. You are welcome to attend any and all sessions to observe, sing along and strum as you are able!

Knit @ WPL

Mondays, April 7th & 21st | 6-7:30pm

Collaboratory Diamond Desk (Gray)

Knit @ WPL is a place where knitters and crocheters can practice their work in the company of others. Newcomers are welcome to join, but knitting experience is required.



ASL Conversation Group

Wednesday, April 16th | 7-8pm
Collins Room

Join us the third Wednesday of each month to improve your American Sign Language skills in a friendly and non-judgmental space! Robin Crispino, a professional 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](#), available through the library's website, before attending a meeting.

Saturday Mornings with Poetry

Saturday, April 26th | 9:45am - 12noon
Collins Room

A meeting of people who love reading and writing poetry. **SMwP** provides poetic opportunities for anyone to share their poetry, discuss the literary works of poets known and unknown, and expand skills in writing and editing poems in the shared camaraderie of comfortable, supportive members. To participate and for details about meeting virtually or in-person, contact Karen Ciosek at kjc73048@gmail.com.

International Movie Night:

Arab Blues

Friday, April 11th | 6-8pm | Community Room | G



Join us the second Friday of each month to enjoy a fascinating film from another country! Our April 11th feature will be the 2019 Tunisian comedy *Arab Blues* (Rated G). This acclaimed satire follows budding psychoanalyst Selma who, after years abroad in Paris, returns to Tunisia with the dream of opening up her own practice. Along the way, she encounters a clash of cultures and a cast of colorful new patients who challenge her in ways she never expected.

COMMUNITY BOOKENDS

**On Display in the Front Lobby
during March and April**

In Monica Wood's *How to Read a Book*, Frank creates bookends for the book store where he is employed as a handyman. Bookends are a unique visual representation of the personality of the bookshelf they are on as well as the readers who own them. We asked Wallingford residents to lend us the bookends from their bookshelves which we put on display in the front lobby. Check out this diverse collection on your next visit to the library!



For Readers



Book Clubs

Mystery Book Club

Dog On It by Spencer Quinn

Wednesday, April 2nd | 3-4:15 pm | Community Room and Zoom

Discussion moderated by Professor and Author Carole Shmurak

In the first Chet & Bernie mystery, a dog and a down-on-his-luck private investigator take on a case involving a missing teenager. This well-behaved and gifted student may or may not have been kidnapped, but she has gotten mixed up with some very unsavory characters. With Chet's highly trained nose leading the way, their hunt for clues takes them into the desert, to biker bars and to other exotic locales.

To participate, contact Carole at cshmurak@gmail.com and put "Wallingford Mystery Book Club" in the subject line.



ONE BOOK
ONE WALLINGFORD

Thursday Night Book Club

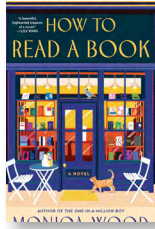
How to Read a Book by Monica Wood

Thursday, April 17th | 6:30-8pm | Collins Room and Zoom

Discussion moderated by Readers Advisory Librarian Cindy Haiken

A young woman named Violet has been convicted of manslaughter for a drunk driving accident that caused a woman's death. While in prison, she finds solace and connection in a book club run by a retired high school English teacher named Harriet. After Violet is released from prison, Harriet helps her to get a job as an assistant at a research lab focused on the cognitive abilities of African grey parrots, but she still has to face the widower of the woman who died in the accident. Wood's nationwide bestseller is this year's One Book One Wallingford selection.

For details about meeting virtually or in-person, contact Cindy at chaiken@wallingfordlibrary.org

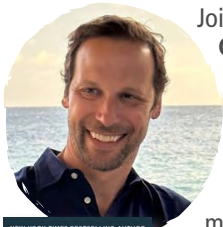


Virtual Author Event: Gregg Hurwitz

The Thrill of Writing Action, Adventure, and Suspense

Thursday, April 24th | 7-8pm | Zoom | [Register](#)

Join us for a conversation with *New York Times* bestselling author **Gregg Hurwitz** as he chats with us about his Orphan X series and his life as a writer of suspenseful storytelling. In the series opener, readers were introduced to the Nowhere Man. He is a legendary figure spoken about only in whispers. It's said that when he's reached by the truly desperate and deserving, the Nowhere Man can and will do anything to protect and save them. But he's not merely a legend. Evan Smoak is a man with skills, resources and a desire to help those with nowhere else to turn. He's also a man with a dangerous past. Taken from a group home at the age of 12, Evan was raised and trained as part of the Orphan Program, an off-the-books operation designed to create deniable intelligence assets—i.e. assassins. Evan was Orphan X. He broke with the Program, using everything he learned to disappear and reinvent himself as the Nowhere Man.



Gregg Hurwitz is the *New York Times* #1 internationally bestselling author of 24 thrillers, including the ten books in the Orphan X series. His novels have won numerous literary awards and have been published in 33 languages. He's written screenplays and television scripts for many of the major studios and networks, comics for DC and Marvel, and poetry. He has produced several hundred commercials and creative content which have gotten hundreds of millions of views on digital TV platforms. He also helped to write the opening ceremony for the 2022 World Cup.

ONE BOOK
ONE WALLINGFORD

Borrow a Book Club Moderator

Are you a member of a book club? Is your book club planning to discuss *How to Read a Book* by Monica Wood for One Book One Wallingford? Would you like one of our librarians to join your discussion? You are in luck! For the first time, WPL librarians who have read *and loved How to Read a Book* are available to participate in book club discussions of the novel going on in our area.

For more information, contact Readers Advisory Librarian Cindy Haiken at chaiken@wallingfordlibrary.org or (203) 265-6754.

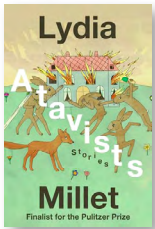


Novelty

What's new in novels
from Cindy Haiken



The clocks have gone forward and spring has officially arrived. In his epic novel *Anna Karenina*, Leo Tolstoy wrote that “spring is the time of plans and projects.” My plans for spring include lots and lots of reading, as the big books of the season start to arrive and the first of the much-anticipated “beach reads” are released. Here is a small sample of all the new novels scheduled for publication in April:

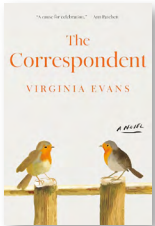


Atavists by Lydia Millet — Linked short stories that explore generational conflict and class.

Audition by Katie Kitamura — An elegant actress meets a troubled young man for lunch, starting a complex relationship that challenges both their professional and their personal lives.

Bad Nature by Ariel Courage — A woman with a terminal diagnosis decides to fulfill her lifelong dream of killing her father.

The Bright Years by Sarah Damoff — A husband and wife are deeply in love but each has secrets that they are unwilling to share with the other.



The Correspondent by Virginia Evans — A divorced grandmother is a devoted gardener and letter writer until she receives a note that forces her to revisit a painful episode from her past.

The Eights by Joanna Miller — In 1920, four women from different backgrounds forge a bond as the first female students at Oxford University.

The Family Recipe by Carolyn Huynh — The founder of a Vietnamese sandwich chain is ready to retire and decides to force his estranged children to compete for their inheritance.

The Float Test by Lynn Streger Strong — Four estranged siblings reunite in the aftermath of a family tragedy.

Gifted & Talented by Olivie Blake — Three telepathically and electrokinetically gifted siblings vie to replace their dead father as CEO of the family business.

Great Big Beautiful Life by Emily Henry — An uptight woman asked a notorious flirt to teach her how to be more confident.

The Griffin Sisters' Greatest Hits by Jennifer Weiner — 20 years after their band broke up, two sisters still aren't speaking, and one of their daughters wants to know why.



Happy Land by Dolen Perkins-Valdez — When a woman visits her estranged grandmother in North Carolina, she uncovers a hidden legacy tied to a forgotten kingdom of freed people.

The Maid's Secret by Nita Prose — After an art heist takes place at the Regency Grand hotel, the Head Maid (and amateur sleuth) is determined to solve the crime.



Murder at Gulls Nest by Jess Kidd — A nun forsakes her vows to search for a former novice.

Rabbit Moon by Jennifer Haigh — A hit-and-run crash in Shanghai triggers the unspooling of the secrets and traumas of a family.

Swept Away by Beth O'Leary — A one-night stand turns into a wild adventure on a tiny houseboat when the boat winds up in the middle of the ocean.



These Days by Lucy Caldwell — Two sisters reevaluate their lives while struggling to survive the Belfast Blitz during WWII.

Things Left Unsaid by Sara Jafari — Two formerly close friends reunite at a house party in London.

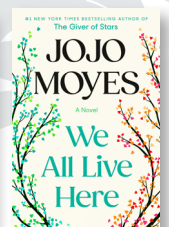
The Wildelings by Lisa Harding — The friendship between two lifelong friends is threatened when they meet a charming philosophy student at their art college in Dublin.



Zeal by Morgan Jerkins — After being discharged from the Union Army as a free man in 1865, a formerly enslaved man returns to Mississippi to try to reunite with the woman he loves.

Also of note this month are the 2nd Two Sisters Detective Agency novel by James Patterson and Candice Fox (**2 Sisters Murder Investigations**), the 18th installment in the Ali Reynolds series by J.A. Jance (**Overkill**), the 25th Women's Murder Club mystery by James Patterson and Maxine Pietro (**25 Alive**) and new novels by David Baldacci (**Strangers in Time**), Heather Graham (**The Murder Machine**), Danielle Steel (**A Mind of Her Own**) and Nancy Thayer (**Summer Light on Nantucket**).

Cindy's Picks

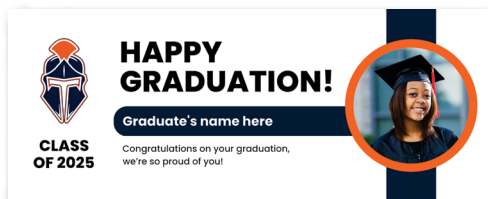




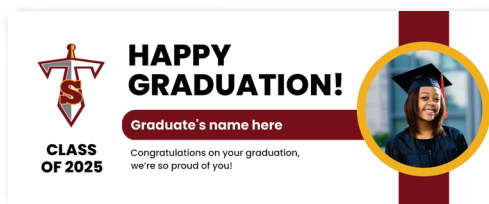
Collaboratory

Celebrate Your Graduate with a custom

Grad Banner



The Collaboratory has partnered with the **Music Parents Associations** at **Lyman Hall** and **Sheehan High Schools** for a graduation banner fundraiser celebrating local students. A portion of the cost of each banner goes to the Music Parents Associations. Banners will be printed on the poster printer in the Collaboratory.



The fundraiser runs from **Monday, March April 7th** through **Saturday, May 24th**. The Collaboratory will produce the banners in the order they are received. You will be contacted as soon as your banner is ready. You will pick up and pay for your banner at the library upon completion. We accept cash, checks, and credit/debit cards.

View full guidelines and place your order: walpublib.org/GradBanner25

Drop-In Programs

Open Sew

Tuesday, April 1st | 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 6-8:30pm in the Collaboratory. 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!



Cool Laboratory



Welcome to the Collaboratory's new video series, Cool Laboratory! We're kicking things off with something extra exciting—our brand-new **Bambu X1 Carbon 3D printer**!

This new addition is a game-changer for 3D printing here at the Library. It's a massive upgrade from our previous printer in every way—holding more colors at once, producing higher-quality prints, and working faster than ever. We are also changing how we charge for the 3D printer. Instead of charging by the hour as we had done previously, we now charge by the weight of the plastic used.

Want to see it in action? Watch the video to learn more, or stop by the Collaboratory to check it out for yourself! walpublib.org/CLBambu



Lottery Programs

Visit the April program lottery to register for the events below:

walpublib.org/AprilLottery2025

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 20th to the 22nd 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

Key Bowl

Wednesday, April 2nd | 7-8:30pm OR
Thursday, April 3rd | 3-4:30pm

Paint and decorate a laser cut bowl, perfect for putting your keys in! *Note: This is a repeat program. Please do not register if you have attended previously.*

Pet Portrait Painting

Saturday, April 5th | 11am-12:30pm

Create a framed pet portrait with acrylic paint! Please email a close-up clear photo of your pet (or favorite animal) to wplcollaboratory@gmail.com by Wednesday, April 2nd for this personalized project.

Custom Printed Fabric

Wednesday, April 9th | 7-8:30pm OR
Thursday, April 10th | 3-4:30pm

Create your own design and then use the Brother PrintModa Studio fabric printer to print it directly onto an 8x8" piece of cotton for your next sewing project.

Spring Bunny Plaque

Monday, April 14th | 6:30-8:30pm OR
Tuesday, April 15th | 2:30-4:30pm

Paint a bunny surrounded by tulips on a round wooden plaque. This is an intermediate level painting project.

3D Printed Custom Busts

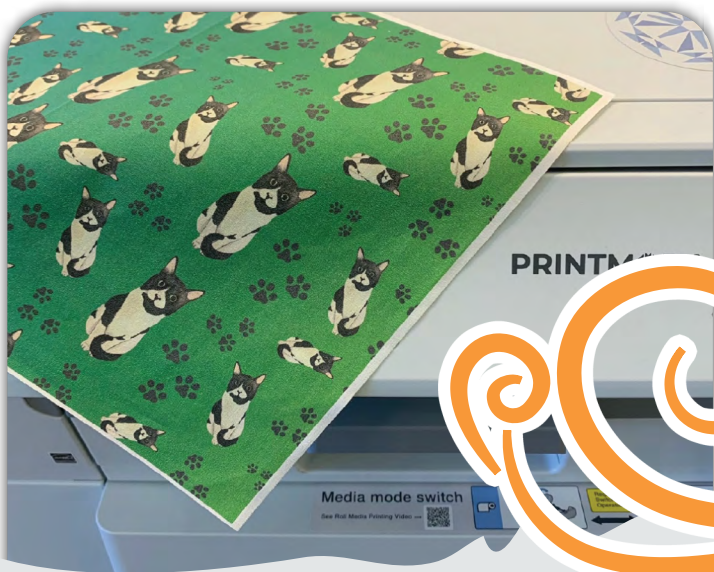
Wednesday, April 16th | 7-8:30pm OR
Thursday, April 17th | 3-4:30pm

Learn how to use generative AI technology to create a statue of yourself! You may bring a photo of yourself on a flash drive, or we can take the portrait during the program. The finished 3D print will be ready for pickup at a later date.

Hardcover Book Fan

Wednesday, April 23rd | 7-8:30pm OR
Thursday, April 24th | 3-4:30pm

This tutorial uses bookbinding techniques to create a handheld folding fan that looks like a hardcover book when folded shut.



Talking TED @ Home

Thursday, April 10th | 7-8pm | Adults | 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 "The Next Global Superpower Isn't Who You Think" by Ian Bremmer.

Who runs the world? Political scientist Ian Bremmer argues it's not as simple as it used to be. With some eye-opening questions about the nature of leadership, he asks us to consider the impact of the evolving global order and our choices as participants in the future of democracy.

Just for Teens

Registration Required

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Zines for Liberation: A Teen Craft Workshop

Thursday, April 3rd | 6-7:30pm
Community Room | Grades 9-12 | [Register](#)

"Zines for Liberation" is a hands-on workshop where teens explore the power of zines as tools for protest, abolition, and liberation. Under the guidance of local artist Tyasha/Ty Pace, participants will learn about the history of zines in social justice movements, create their own zines, and engage in a discussion featuring works by incarcerated zine creators. Through art and storytelling, teens will discover how to share their stories, challenge oppression, and envision a world beyond prisons.

Tyasha/Ty Pace is a Connecticut-based liberation artist, radical archivist, independent researcher, and caretaker of the Break the System Radical Archive. Tyasha's work bridges art, memory, and social movements to build towards collective liberation. Using community organizing, zines, paper arts, digital design, and public installation they explore themes of anti-oppression, resistance and systemic healing, reflecting a deep commitment to transformative justice. Their multidisciplinary practice invites communities to reimagine the world through shared stories, abolitionist visions, and mutual care.

DIY Floral String Lights

Thursday, April 10th | 2:30-4:30pm
Collaboratory | Grades 6-12 | [Register](#)

Use paint to transform egg cartons and a strand of string lights into beautiful floral spring décor.

Make a Resin Dice Set & Box

Wednesday, April 16th | 2-4pm
Collaboratory | Grades 6-12 | [Register](#)

Use resin to make a custom set of tabletop dice and then make a dice box to store them in! Due to the time resin needs to cure, you will need to return to pick up your dice and box.

Crash Course Cooking: Pizza

Thursday, April 17th | 6-8pm
Community Room | Grades 6-12 | [Register](#)

Bring your family or friends along and learn how to make pizza from scratch courtesy of Matthew from MY Productions CT! You'll learn every stage from dough to toppings in just two hours and leave with your own homemade pizza! *Space is limited and registration is required. Teens in grades 6-12 may register and bring up to 3 additional people (1 pizza per group). Please indicate the number of attendees on your registration.*



Intro to Tinkercad

Friday, April 18th | 2-4pm
Collaboratory | Grades 6-12 | [Register](#)

Tinkercad is a web-based program that will teach you basic 3D modeling skills. In this program, we'll set up a (free!) account and then review some of the tutorials so you can develop an understanding of the software. At the end of the program, you will have the option to 3D print your design on the Collaboratory's brand new 3D printer!

Needle Felted Rubber Ducks

Wednesday, April 23rd | 3:30-4:45pm
Collaboratory | Grades 6-12 | [Register](#)

Felt a cute little rubber ducky! Needle felting is a craft that uses a barbed needle to mat together fibers, typically wool, allowing you to create a wide variety of 2D and 3D objects. *This is a repeat program due to high demand, please do not register if you attended in March. indicate the number of attendees on your registration.*



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SEE THE COVER AND PAGE 3 FOR MORE
ONE BOOK ONE WALLINGFORD
PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES!

Drop-in Events

Trading Card Battle Club

Last Tuesday of the month | 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.

Last Words:

How to Read a Poem from Chris Ciemniewski

In Monica Wood's *How to Read a Book*, the prison book club members have meaningful discussions about poetry, most notably *Spoon River Anthology* by Edgar Lee Masters. A [survey from 2022](#) has shown that while 51% of Americans read books, only 11.5% of Americans read poetry. While novels and nonfiction can help us understand experiences through narrative, poetry more often channels raw and innate emotions through minimalist language. A Google search for "Why is poetry important?" will return countless results, but the library also has books that answer the same question. If you've never been able to get into poetry or just want to understand why people enjoy it, these books might be for you.

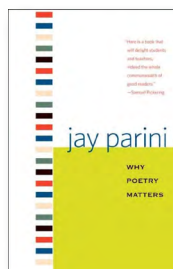


If you prefer a formal, but approachable introduction and education on poetry, I highly recommend *Poems, Poets, Poetry* by the writer and literary critic Helen Vendler, who sadly passed away just last year. This was one of the first books assigned to me during my undergraduate studies as an English major and in retrospect it remains one of the most enjoyable. Vendler sprinkles poems liberally throughout the book and in doing so curates a book that is as much a collection of poems as it is a book about poetry.

There are no lengthy paragraphs interpreting the meaning of the poem and instead Vendler focuses on the writing techniques. Vendler introduces a single concept as succinctly as possible and then provides a poem or two that emphasize the concept. By starting off simply and slowly building up the readers' understanding of poetry bit by bit, this method also exposes readers to some of the most famous, well-loved, and well-written poems in the English repertoire. And while not all readers will love every poem presented, there are sure to be a handful that bring delight.



If you would prefer a lengthier, close reading of specific poems, check out *Ten Windows* by Jane Hirshfield. In each of the ten chapters, Hirshfield introduces a literary technique or genre and then analyzes a handful of poems that exemplify each chapter's discussion points. While Vendler's book sticks primarily to poetic structure and techniques, Hirshfield discusses the empathetic nature of poetry and how it deepens our understanding of the shared human experience.



But perhaps you'd like to understand why people enjoy poetry without actually having to read any in which case *Why Poetry Matters* by Jay Parini might be the best choice for you. It's a small book (just over 175 pages) that explains in nine chapters why poetry is important. Each chapter focuses on a single reason that poetry matters, including the way poems use language artistically in a way few other mediums do, how poetry allows a pure personal voice to express emotions in a way that cannot be done otherwise, and how poetry is part of a human tradition dating back thousands of years, perhaps even our original form for artistic linguistic expression.

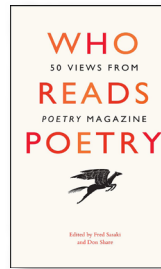


Don't Read Poetry by Stephanie Burt is a collection of essays (although it includes poems sparingly) focusing on the reasons people read or write poetry and how poems speak to one another. Burt discusses how finding the right poem at the right time can shift one's view of

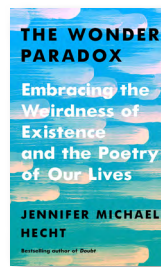
the world and how poets in turn channel their experience of the world through their poetry. Ultimately she doesn't want readers to come away thinking of poetry as good or bad, but instead she hopes the reader will ponder what purpose each poem serves either to the reader or the writer.



Poetry will Save Your Life by Jill Bialosky makes for a perfect follow-up to Burt's book. In it, poet Bialosky chronicles the poems that she encountered in her life during pivotal moments and why each of those poems was so important to her. For anyone who still might be wondering how exactly poetry moves some people, Bialosky describes in detail why each poem was so meaningful to her and opens the door for readers to think about poetry in the same way.



Similarly, *Who Reads Poetry* is a collection of essays by 50 contributors to *Poetry Magazine*. Each of them writes about their most meaningful experience with poetry. Some write about the first poem that truly moved them and why, while others talk about how a certain poem helped them through a difficult phase of their life. Some contributors discuss more broadly how poetry affects their life on a daily basis and others share lighter, more amusing stories about how poems can sometimes fall into our hands seemingly as a cosmic joke or to provide us with connections between what might otherwise be two disparate ideas. In this book, there is no lack of examples of how poetry can move anyone on a deeper level.



If you don't want to read poetry and you don't want to read books about poetry, but you still want to receive the mystic wisdom that so many people take away from poetry, then *The Wonder Paradox* is the book for you! Historian and poet Jennifer Michael Hecht takes all her poetic wisdom and packages it in a way that has nothing to do with poetry. She structures the book by topics such as making decisions, showing gratitude, celebrating holidays, coming of age, funerals, depression, and morality. She then asks what poets such as Sappho and Shakespeare and Rumi have to say about these topics. She distills the knowledge of ages into essays and then helps readers to find the right poem that will speak to them on any of the given topics.



If all of these books fail you, I recommend *Eating Salad Drunk*, a collection of irreverent Haikus (one of the shortest poetic forms) from comedians focusing on the absurdity of contemporary life. Even with their vulgarity they do what all good poetry does: reveal that grain of truth at the heart of all humanity.

"Not listening is
Crucial if you're going to
Be right all the time."

—Rosebud Baker



April Hours

Monday - Friday
9:30am - 9pm

Saturday
9:30am - 5pm

Sunday
12noon-4pm

Scheduled Closings

Easter
Sunday, April 20th

Tax Season and Tax Assistance



Tax filing season is around the corner and the library is ready to help in partnership with the Human Resources Agency of New Britain.

Federal 1040 Income Tax Forms in both English and Spanish as well as 1040 Instruction Booklets typically arrive at the library in late January. You can also find the forms (and schedules) available online to download and print: rebrand.ly/IRSforms

The State of Connecticut encourages residents to file their income taxes electronically and no longer provides paper forms to Connecticut Libraries.

You can file your CT State Income Tax forms electronically here: rebrand.ly/CTefile
Or you can download and print paper forms here: rebrand.ly/CTtaxforms

If you earned less than \$67,000 in 2024, 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 most Saturdays from 10am to 2pm starting Jan 27th until Apr 13th. You may call to make an appointment at (860) 356-2000 or visit their website through this shortened link: walpublib.org/VITA

Appointments fill up quickly so we encourage making an appointment as soon as possible! While librarians can help in finding the forms you need, the library staff is not involved in the tax preparation process. If you have questions about this tax 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.



Monday
10am - 12noon

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

Wednesday
10am - 2pm

Thursday
2:30pm - 4:30pm

Friday
10am - 2pm

Saturday
10am - 12:30pm

April Specials
DVDs & CDs
BOGO

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

THE GREAT



SPRING CLEANING BOOK BONANZA



Saturday April 12th & 19th | 10am-3pm

Ready for some Spring Cleaning? Need to find a place to donate good condition used books? Help the Wallingford Public Library Book Seller stock the shelves!

Bring your books (No CDs or DVDs please!) to the Book Seller during their open hours any day up to and including April 19th. The Book Seller will have extended hours (10am-3pm) on both Saturday, April 12th and Saturday, April 19th. Anyone who makes a donation during our Spring Cleaning season will receive a raffle ticket and be eligible to win a book gift basket. Proceeds from book sales support library Sundays hours and virtual author visits.



IN OTHERS' Words...

“Around noon I wind up at the public library, not to apply for a job but to ask for a library card. Because Harriet suggested it. And it's free... The librarian looks exactly like a librarian, glasses and everything. 'Not only can you get a library card,' he says, 'we're delighted to give you one.'”

— Monica Wood, *How to Read a Book*