

## A NEW LOOK AT THE CHILDREN'S ROOM

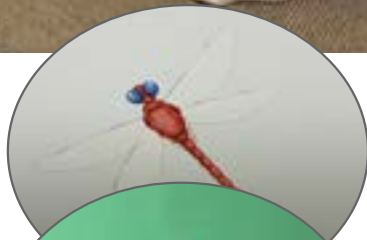


When Brittany DeLorme, Head of Children's Services, first met with Carl Boerner last winter, she didn't quite know what to expect. Carl was visiting the Library to discuss a memorial fund for his late wife, Pam Boerner, who had been a long-time patron, supporter, and volunteer. They were standing in the small Storytime Room tucked in just past the board books, imagining aloud what Boerner's donation might do to spruce up the cabinet doors, mostly blank walls, and activity table.

Sparked by his incredible generosity, the project eventually expanded beyond the Storytime Room to include gorgeous hand-painted murals of our local flora and fauna covering the entire Children's Room and a new more accessible reference desk. All the Storytime Room improvements—including a sensory wall and chalkboard cabinet doors—are thanks to the Boerner Family. The gorgeous changes you see in the rest of the Children's Room are thanks to countless generous patrons who have since donated to the Pam Boerner Memorial Fund—and additional backing from the Library's Endowment Fund and from the Friends.

This is how a "small donation became a big donation that ultimately became," explains Brittany, "a total reimagining of the Children's Room."

The newly improved space has reopened to the public as of late October— stop by for a visit!



# RECOMMENDED READING

## On Shelves Now!



***The Sentence***, by Louise Erdrich  
The first book by this author after winning the Pulitzer Prize in fiction, this gorgeous and ultimately uplifting story unfolds in an independent bookstore during a tumultuous 2019–20 in Minneapolis. Editor's choice for favorite book of 2021.



***The Judge's List***, by John Grisham  
The latest legal thriller by a powerhouse author, this chilling tale marks the return of lawyer Lacy Stoltz to the Florida Board on Judicial Conduct.



***The 1619 Project: A New Origin Story***, edited by Nikole Hannah-Jones  
An expansion of the original collaboration with the New York Times Magazine, this collection explores the history and far-reaching consequences of slavery in the United States.



***Baking with Dorie: Sweet, Salty, and Simple***, by Dorie Greenspan  
This is the 14th cookbook by the James Beard Award-winning author!



***Opposites Abstract***, by Mo Willems  
An open-ended picture book that will get the young readers considering abstract art and asking "are these opposites?"



***Here's to Us***, by Becky Albertalli and Adam Silvera  
This swoon-worthy YA rom-com continues the love story of Ben Alejo and Arthur Seuss from *What If It's Us*.



***Call Us What We Carry***, by Amanda Gorman  
Formerly *The Hill We Climb and Other Poems*, a collection from the youngest presidential inaugural poet in United States history.

## Look out for these titles in 2022!



***Sea of Tranquility***, by Emily St. John Mandel  
This sweeping pandemic apocalyptic novel brings in elements from the author's previous titles and does it successfully. This editor would only wish for the book to have been longer!



***Olga Dies Dreaming***, by Xochitl Gonzalez  
A gorgeous debut novel following a Puerto Rican family grappling with identity and belonging as they move to Brooklyn.



***An Abolitionist's Handbook: 12 Steps to Changing Yourself and the World***, by Patrisse Cullors  
This is an accessible and expansive guide from a cofounder of the Black Lives Matter movement.



***Time Is a Mother***, by Ocean Vuong  
This is the second poetry collection by Vuong in which he explores the aftermath of his mother's death.



***Eyes that Speak to the Stars***, by Joanna Ho and illustrated by Dung Ho  
A companion book to the lovely *Eyes that Kiss in the Corners*, this one will touch the heart just like the first.



***Gallant***, by V.E. Schwab  
The latest book by one of this editor's favorite authors—it's a gorgeously illustrated young adult fantasy, ultimately about family and belonging.



# TEEN READERS' CORNER



Hello everyone!

I'm Isabelle Kamikawa, a senior at Winchester High School. I have loved reading and books for as long as I can remember and still carry around my very first library card I received when I was five years old. The Winchester Public Library has been a consistent part of my life while living in Winchester and I could not be more excited to have the opportunity to be more involved. I plan on studying English in college and then going into publishing for a career. My favorite book series of all time is *Harry Potter*, as it is the series that first made me fall in love with reading. Currently, I have been loving books by Maureen Johnson, Taylor Jenkins Reid, and Leigh Bardugo.



## Book Review

*A Winter's Promise* by Christelle Dabos



In a world split apart into separate aerial islands or "arks," Ophelia lives a quaint life with her ever-growing family while tending to the local museum. Each member of her family possesses a special type of power that they use in their profession. Ophelia cannot only travel through mirrors, but also has the rare ability of a reader. Readers can gain the knowledge of an object when they then touch it themselves. When it is announced that she will be married to a man of another ark, she finds herself unable to use her previous excuses to get out of it.

*A Winter's Promise* was originally written in French by Christelle Dabos and is book one of a four-book series completed in 2019. This story transports its reader into a mystical land dominated by suspicious gods. Ophelia is a quiet, strong, and easy-to-root-for protagonist who feels authentic and relatable without being cliché. All the characters mentioned in the book are well-rounded and carefully thought out. This whimsical book features an arranged marriage but one should not be fooled into believing it is a sappy romance. *A Winter's Promise* focuses on making the reader understand the political environment Ophelia is dealing with while also revealing the main character's flaws and hardships. I recommend this book to any Harry Potter lover who is looking for a more mature, lyrically-written series to fall in love with.



## BookTok

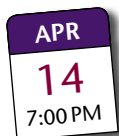
With the arrival of the Covid-19 pandemic, teenagers were left without in-person opportunities to explore the social aspect of high school and college. While everyone was scrolling endlessly on TikTok, looking for anything to fill up their time, #booktok was created. BookTok is a corner of the famous short-form video platform, TikTok, focused on connecting younger readers to new books and authors, while also encouraging conversations about them. Trending young adult authors this year include Madeline Miller, Maureen Johnson, and V.E. Schwab. Other popular titles include *The Cruel Prince* by Holly Black, *Scythe* by Neal Shusterman, *We Were Liars* by E. Lockhart, and *The Atlas Six* by Olivie Blake. BookTok has inspired thousands of young people to fall in love with books. But is this all a fleeting trend teenagers will eventually drop? Booktok has changed so many people's perspectives on reading and given them something stable and joyful in an unpredictable world. BookTok has morphed from a TikTok trend to a community that continues to bring in new members everyday.

# LIBRARY PROGRAMS

Check for timely updates on our online calendar to see if the program will be in-person or online.  
<https://www.winpublib.org/events/>.

## ADULT PROGRAMS

### Friends of the Library hosting



**Ted Reinstein** (in person)  
Author of *Before Brooklyn: The Unsung Heroes Who Helped Break Baseball's Color Barrier*. Book discussion and signing.

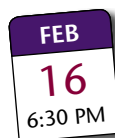
### Learn Something New series



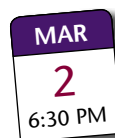
**The Joy of Hygge**  
Join life and leadership coach and consultant Lisa Luken to learn what hygge is and how to create and embrace it in your life this season and beyond. Registration required.



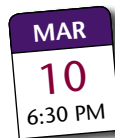
**Lava Cakes 101**  
Make a sweet treat for your Valentine as we demonstrate how to make lava cakes. Registration required.



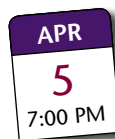
**Felted Fox Workshop**  
Instructors from Pop Up Art School will teach you basic needle felting sculpture to create a 3-dimensional fox. Registration required.



**Starting a Garden from Seeds**  
Now is the time to start planning your garden if you're planting seeds. Learn how to grow vegetables from seed. Supplies will be provided. Registration required.



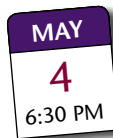
**Polish Paper Cutting**  
Learn about wycinanki, the art of Polish paper cutting—Susan Urban, a Polish Craft and Culture specialist will lead the class. Registration required.



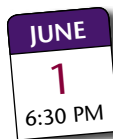
**Author Visit with Moira Linehan** (in person)  
Winchester resident and poet Moira Linehan will be reading from her third collection, *Toward*, which offers meditations on both Winchester and Ireland, and from her latest, *& Company*, inspired by the fashion worlds in Paris and Boston where her grandmother worked as a dress designer and seamstress.



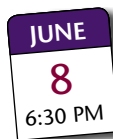
**Empanadas 101**  
Join us to learn how to make some delicious savory pastries and a dipping sauce. Registration required.



**Paper Quilled Cards** (in person)  
Learn basic paper quilling to create a unique greeting card for a loved one. Registration required.



**Mosaic Rocks** (in person)  
Make a beautiful mosaic rock to brighten your yard or garden this summer. Registration required.



**Ice Cream 101**  
Join us for a demonstration on how to make homemade ice cream. Registration required.

### Library Online @ The Jenks



**Windows 11**  
Microsoft is launching a new operating system, Windows 11, and we will look at some of its new features and navigation strategies.



**Computer Backups**  
We'll discuss types of computer backups and how to use an external hard drive to keep your data safely stored.



**Cutting the Cord**  
Learn what it means to "cut the cord" from your cable TV provider and "stream" (and pay for) the content you choose.



**Better Passwords**  
We'll talk about safer password practices and look at software that can help with password management.

# LIBRARY PROGRAMS (CONTINUED)



## Conversation Groups & Book Groups

**APR 26** **Classics Book Group**  
3rd Tuesdays at 1:00 pm. Registration required.

**Coffee & Books**  
3rd Thursdays at 1:00 pm

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY
20	17	17	21	19

**Hot Reads for Young Professionals**  
4th Thursdays at 7:30 pm

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
27	24	24	28	26	23

### **In Transition: A Conversation Series for Navigating Disruptions in Our Lives**

1st Mondays at 10:00 am

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
3	7	7	4	2	6

### **2nd Tuesday Women's Reading Group**

2nd Tuesdays at 7:30 pm

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
11	8	8	12	10	14

### **Viva español: Grupo de Conversación**

Tuesdays at 1:00 pm. Registration required.

### **WPL Book Discussion Group**

3rd Mondays at 7:00 pm (\*date moved for holiday)

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
18*	22*	21	19*	16	20

## TEEN PROGRAMS

### Recurring program

**LitLoot: Surprise Bags for Teens**  
Registration opens the first of each month. Looking for something new to read but not sure where to start? Register for our LitLoot Subscription Bags and we'll put together a bag with a book chosen just for you as well as a few other surprises. The book will need to be returned to the library but the gifts are yours to keep.

### Standalone programs

**JAN 10 7:00 PM** **Starry Wall Hangings**  
Make your room more cozy with our DIY clay starry wall hangings. Registration required.

**JAN 26 7:00 PM** **Beaded Penguin Keychains**  
January is made for penguins, so why not create one of your own? These simple beaded keychains look great hanging off your backpack. Registration required.

**FEB 2 7:00 PM** **DIY (Anti-) Valentines**  
No matter how you feel about Valentine's Day, this is for you. Make traditional valentines for the people you adore, or make a darker version if you think love stinks. Registration required.

**FEB 10 7:00 PM** **Marshmallow Valentine's Pops**  
Make some sweet treats in the comfort of your own kitchen for Valentine's Day. Registration required.

**MAR 3 7:00 PM** **Mandala Bookmarks**  
Relax while coloring pre-printed mandala bookmarks, or try doodling your own. We'll listen to music, color, and relax. Registration required.

**MAR 14 7:00 PM** **Zoom and Tell**  
Connect with your fellow teen crafters to show off the fabulous things you've been creating! Registration required.

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# LIBRARY PROGRAMS (CONTINUED)

APR  
4  
7:00 PM

## **Affirmation Cards**

Use some paint and positive thoughts to create a set of affirmation cards to remind yourself how amazing you are. Registration required.

MAY  
12  
4:00 PM

## **Frankenstuffies** (in person)

Turn a pile of stuffed animals into your own weird creatures—no sewing experience required. Registration required.

APR  
13  
7:00 PM

## **Photo Holders**

Craft a beaded wire photo holder to showcase your happiest memories. Registration required.

MAY  
23  
4:00 PM

## **Friendship Bracelets** (in person)

Make an armful of bracelets for yourself and your friends. Registration required.



## CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS



### Recurring programs

2nd  
TUES  
5:00 PM

## **Graphic Novel Book Club**

Grades 3–5. Registration required.

FRIDAYS  
10:30 AM

## **Shake, Rattle, and Read**

Kids ages 2 and 3 join us virtually for a musical storytime! We'll make music with what we have at home and read some rockin' good books too! No registration required!

WEDS  
10:30 AM

## **Itsy Bitsy Readers**

Join us for virtual songs, rhymes, fingerplays, and stories perfectly geared toward our littlest readers and their grown-ups. For infants and their caregivers.

2nd  
SATs  
10:30 AM

## **Saturday Craft Club**

Try a new craft or art medium, including (but not limited to) wet felting, jewelry making, and painting. Grown-up assistance may be required. Ages 9+. Registration required.

### Standalone programs

JAN  
22  
10:30 AM

## **In the Kitchen for Kids**

Sign up to learn how to make some tasty sweet and savory bites. Registration required.

MARCH  
19  
11:00 AM

## **Tinkergarten (in person)**

Bring a blanket, come dressed for the weather, and be prepared to get messy during this outdoor adventure. 18 months to 8 years with caregivers. Registration required.

JAN  
29  
11:00 AM

## **Rockabye Beats**

Virtually rock the ABCs and 123s with Rockabye Beats! Kids age 6 and under. Registration required.

MARCH  
29  
1 PM

## **STEAM Club (in person)**

Dive into in-depth, hands-on activities focusing on a variety of STEAM subjects out on the library lawn. Grades 2–5. Registration required.

FEB  
5  
10:30 AM

## **Minecraft Building**

Love Minecraft? Build a dwelling (house, castle, etc.) out of sugar cubes and icing. Best for kids ages 7+. Registration required.

FEB  
9  
3:00 PM

## **Frozen Party (in person)**

Do you want to build a snowman? Join us out on the library lawn for a Frozen Party! Registration required.

MARCH  
5  
11:00 AM

## **Music Pups**

Join Jennifer from Powers Music School for an at-home Music Pups Singalong full of music and movement. Infant to age 4. Registration required.

## Welcome Aboard

A warm welcome to our newest Library staff:

**Emelyn MacIntosh** and **Nina Rabkina** in Technology and Information Services, **Kelly McMaster** in Children's and **Julia Baldacci** in Circulation. We are so pleased to have them on the team!

# HIDDEN GEM: REFERENCE ROOM



It would be easy to frequently walk past these gorgeous, light-filled, stained-glass windows and not fully consider their bookish content. These panels in the Reference Room on the main level of the Library show the history of book printing—a fitting scene for a library. These windows were given to the Library by the family of trustee, Joseph H. Tyler, in 1894. Each panel shows the process of bookmaking at a different point in time. The first is a Roman wax tablet, then a Greek scroll, and finally a medieval illuminated missal. The words, “My library was dukedom large enough” from Shakespeare’s *Tempest* are written across the panels along with words from Cicero, Dante, Victor Hugo, and Plato. The windows were designed by Tiffany & Company of New York. If you have not already done so, I would recommend checking out this beautiful piece of art hidden within the walls of the library.

Also in the Reference Room is the painting *Winchester Center* by Richard Piper. The scene actually shows Main Street, Mill Pond, and the First Congregational Church. Piper was a graduate from Dartmouth Medical School who was a physician as well as an artist.

## Thank you

Each fiscal year the Friends ask for your financial assistance for programs and services that are outside of the Library’s budget. Last year your donations supported technological and systems improvements and renovations to the Children’s Room—and allowed the Library to continue to provide an abundance of quality programs. This year we are reallocating funds from the healthy and robust Express Books and using them for projects such as adding to the Library of Things and expanded-capacity virtual offerings that continue to be popular.

Your act of kindness and generosity finds its way into so many lives here in this community. Thank you to everyone who has generously donated to support the Friends and the Library during this unusual year—we were humbled, excited, and grateful to all who contributed!

## WINCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

Ann Wirtanen, *Director*

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We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and your contribution is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

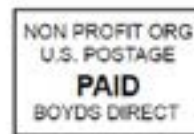
Pay Pal is available for secure online donations via the Friends link on [www.winpublib.org](http://www.winpublib.org).

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**Thank you!**

*Please remember to check if your company will match your donation.*

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ph: 781-721-7171  
winill@minlib.net  
www.winpublib.org



#### **LIBRARY HOURS**

As of January, 2022, the Library is open for our regular hours: Monday through Thursday from 9:30 am to 9:00 pm, Friday and Saturday from 9:30 am to 5:30 pm, and Sundays from 2:00 to 5:00 pm. Please check the Library website for updated information regarding masking protocol.

**Speaking Volumes** is published by the Friends of the Winchester Public Library, a volunteer organization that supports your Library's continuing excellence. We raise funds for publications, equipment, and services which are not included in the Town's budget but enhance the Library's mission of improving the quality of life for Winchester residents.

#### **Editors:**

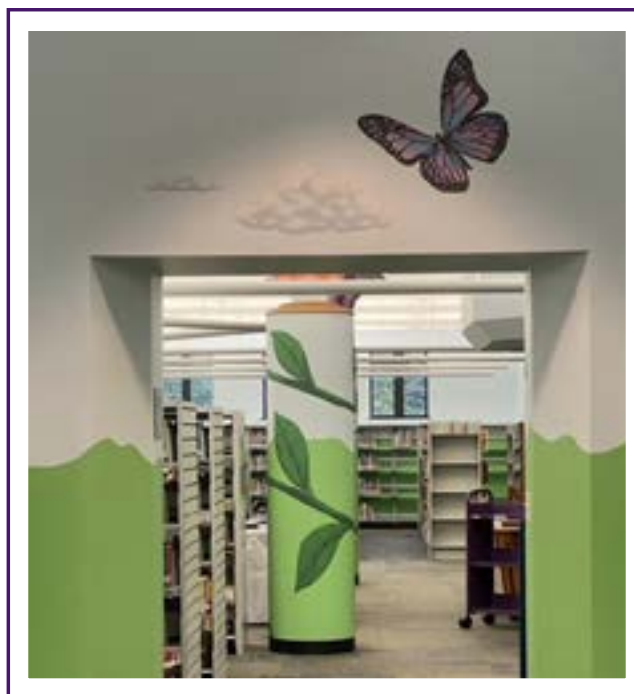
Emily Schwab  
Isabelle Kamikawa (Teen Intern)

#### **Library Liaison:**

Theresa Maturevich, Assistant Director

## WHAT'S INSIDE?

- A New Look at the Children's Room
- Recommended Reading: New Titles
- ❖ NEW ❖ Teen Readers' Corner
- Programs and Events Calendar



Seeking a **newsletter editor** to join the Board!  
Email [fwplibrary@gmail.com](mailto:fwplibrary@gmail.com) for more information.

**LOOK  
INSIDE!**