



June 2022 | Volume 29, Issue 6

Library News and Events

OCEANS OF POSSIBILITIES

Kennebunk Free Library's summer reading program is coming!! This year's theme is Oceans of Possibilities, and all ages are welcome to participate! Keep track of how many hours you've read using Beanstack or a paper log, and earn raffle tickets for local business gift cards! All ages will be eligible to enter a raffle in their age group. The summer reading program will run from June 27-August 20. Keep an eye on the newsletter for all of the amazing programs that we'll be offering this summer!

Reception for New Merry Hermans Poetry Corner at KFL - June 29



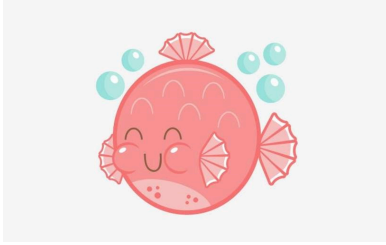
The Kennebunk Free Library and the George Hermans Family invite you to a reception celebrating the dedication of the Merry Hermans Poetry Corner at KFL on Wednesday, June 29 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Participants are encouraged to bring a favorite poem – original or otherwise – to share in Merry's honor. Light refreshments will be served.

Merry Hermans brought her love of poetry to each day of her nearly 26 years of service at KFL. In addition to matching numerous patrons with their perfect book of poetry, she also succeeded in her mission to make poetry lovers out of some reluctant staff members, posting a "poem of the month" in the staff break room.

The Merry Hermans Poetry Corner, made possible by a generous donation from Merry's family, will provide a cozy, comfortable reading and writing space for poets and aspiring poets in the community. The space will be stocked with stationary, notebooks, pens, and other supplies to help spark creativity.

Summer Reading Kick-Off Party - June 27

This year's summer reading theme is Oceans of Possibilities, and Kennebunk Free Library is making a splash! On June 27 at 6:00 p.m., KFL will host an Under the Sea Party – and you're invited! Come dressed in your best under the sea



costume! Our party will include a DJ, fun crafts for all ages, games, a photo booth, and tasty treats. You could even win a prize! Come dive into a fun summer with us!

The Under the Sea Summer Reading Kickoff Party is part of Oceans of Possibilities, our Summer Reading Program. To learn more about the fun programs we're offering this summer, visit the library or our website for more information!



Seeking Firewood Donations

We've only just welcomed our warm weather but we are already planning for the Maine winter. After a two-year hiatus, our wood-burning fireplace will be operating again on Wednesdays and Thursdays, December through March. However, we need wood to burn. We are now accepting donations of split wood preferably 16"-20" in length and no greater than 3" in diameter. We can pick up donations. If interested, please reach out to us via [email](#) or call 985-2173.

KFL 25th Edition 5K

In-Person: July 8 at 6:00

Virtual: June 27 - July 7



We are delighted to announce that for our 25th Edition 5K, we are partnering with our neighbors Hope Cemetery and Woods and the Friends of Hope Cemetery and Woods to bring a portion of the race through their beautiful trails. This land is truly a treasure of the community. In 2017, Hope Woods was protected by a conservation easement held by Kennebunk Land Trust. A few years later a trail system including a Universally Accessible Trail and accessible parking was added.

THE COURSE

Through Local Roads...

The course will now start in the parking lot of Kennebunk Free Library, head down Fletcher, turn down Oakwood, then wind through Colonial to Woodhaven, followed by a loop around Rosewood Circle, and finally bringing participants to the trail head for Hope Cemetery & Woods.

Then into the woods...

From here they will proceed onto the Black Trail then onto the eastern side of the Universally Accessible Trail before emerging at the kiosk. The next stretch follows the access road until participants reach the perimeter of the cemetery which they will follow counterclockwise until reaching the Yellow Trail.

And back to Kennebunk Free Library...

They will follow the Yellow Trail for a short distance back to Fletcher where they will make a left and retrace their steps back to the Library.

Parking Lot

The race will start and end in the Kennebunk Free Library parking lot. At the start of the race, participants will loop around the parking lot counterclockwise before turning onto Fletcher. At the conclusion of the race, participants will enter the parking lot the same way they exited and proceed clockwise. Participants will be asked to hug the outer edge. This will be marked with cones and tape.

Register for In-Person

Register for
Virtual

Ben's Tiny Tech Tips

Mastering Technology Bit by Bit

A very underutilized quick key on computers is Ctrl+F (Windows)/ Cmd+F (Mac). This tells your computer to “find” and opens up a search box for the document or website you are currently working on. This can be incredibly helpful when you need to jump to a specific part of a lengthy document or quickly scan for keywords.



Staying Safe Online

Unfortunately, it has become very in vogue for journalists to use emotional language in order to call attention to their work and gain engagement online. This is especially a problem on social media networks. While a small amount of colorful language can be brushed off as just the state of the media, a larger amount, especially language that seems to be trying to persuade or cast blame rather than inform, could be a sign that the author has a bias or agenda that may affect the factuality of their work.

Adult Programs

Writer's Workshop - June 1



In June and July, the Kennebunk Free Library will host a series of writing workshops on the first Wednesday of each month, led by Caroline Joy Adams, M.Ed. Workshops are limited to 12 participants. If you have not already registered for the series, please call or email the library to be added to the list. Each workshop will have a unique theme. On June 1, the theme will be “The Power of Place”; and on July 6,

“Memorable Characters, People of Influence.”

Caroline Joy Adams is an artist, writer, and photographer. She has taught writing at the college level, in addition to hundreds of writing workshops over the past 20 years, including in Maui, Hawaii; Newport, RI; Woods Hole, Boston, and Martha’s Vineyard, MA; and Scottsdale, AZ. She is the author of seven books, including *The Power to Write: Seven Keys to Discover Your Writer Within*. Her newest title, *The Great Travels Writing Journal*, will be released this spring.

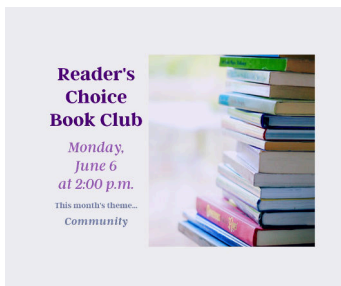
Improv - June 4, 11, 18, 25

Participants had so much fun with Improv, presenter Lisa Niedenfuhr has returned to host another session! The new session will run on Saturdays through June 25 with a new time: 10:30 to noon. Stop in for one session, or join us for all. Class size will be limited. Please [email the library](#) to



register.

Reader's Choice Book Club - June 6



Reader's Choice Book Club will meet on Monday, June 6 at 2:00 p.m. in the Walker Room at the library, and our theme will be: *Community*.

How does this book club work? You choose your own book to read, [based on the monthly theme](#), and then join us for a casual and fun conversation. Everyone is welcome!

In Stitches - June 7, 14, 21, 28



Do you love to knit? Crochet? Sew? Have you always wanted to learn? Do you have an unfinished project hidden on the closet shelf? Then join us every Tuesday at 11:00 for "In Stitches", our weekly handicrafts group! Grab that half-finished project and enjoy the company of others while you work; all skill levels are welcome. Feel free to stop by for a few minutes or stay the whole hour.

On the first Tuesday of the month, In Stitches will take place on Zoom; see our events calendar for the link to the meeting. The rest of the month, the group will meet in-person either inside the library or, weather permitting, outside at the picnic table between the library and the church. See our events calendar the day of for location. Masks are required when meeting inside.

Nonfiction Book Group - June 13

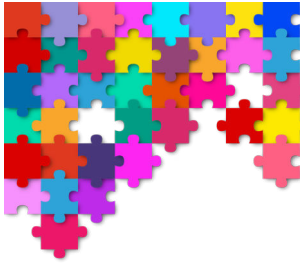


Join us on Monday, June 13 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss *On Juneteenth* by Annette Gordon-Reed.

"Pulitzer-winner Gordon-Reed (*The Hemingses of Monticello*) interweaves history, politics, and memoir in these immersive and well-informed essays reflecting on the history of Juneteenth. She places the story of June 19, 1865, the day (two years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation) when African Americans in Galveston, Tex., learned they were free, in the context of the bargain struck between settler Stephen F. Austin and the Mexican government in the 1820s to allow chattel slavery in what became east Texas, and notes that after winning independence from Mexico in 1836, Texans pushed for annexation into the U.S. in order to protect themselves from the rising tide of abolitionism. Gordon-Reed also describes the 'oddity of being on display' as the first student to integrate schools in her hometown of Conroe, sketches the history of Indigenous peoples in the region, and discusses the story behind the song 'The Yellow Rose of Texas,' which was based on a (likely false) legend that Mexican general

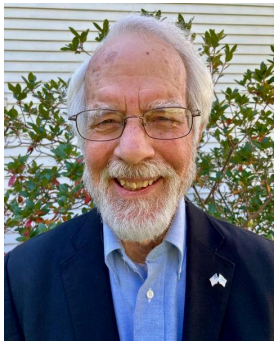
Antonio López de Santa Anna lost the Battle of San Jacinto because he was 'distracted' by a 'beautiful woman of color' spying for the Texas revolutionaries. Despite the thorny racial history, Gordon-Reed expresses a deep fondness for her native state, writing that 'love does not require taking an uncritical stance toward the object of one's affections.' This brisk history lesson entertains and enlightens." (Publishers Weekly, vol 268, issue 9)

Puzzle Exchange - June 14



Over the long, trapped-inside months of the pandemic, many of us developed an expensive puzzle habit. On Tuesdays, June 14, and July 12 stop by the Kennebunk Free Library from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. to swap a stack of puzzles you've completed for new-to-you puzzles. Puzzles of all sizes are welcome! We do ask that puzzles brought for the swap be in good condition, have all of their pieces, and come from a smoke-free home. It's helpful if the pieces are contained in a large Ziploc bag so none get lost during the exchange.

Bill Hall on the War in Ukraine - June 14



Bill Hall, of the World Affairs Council of Maine, will be at the Kennebunk Free Library on Tuesday, June 14 at 6:30 to discuss the War in Ukraine. He will provide a brief overview of Ukraine's history, talk about the current situation in Ukraine, and discuss American and European responses.

Bill Hall is the president of the World Affairs Council of Maine. He was an intelligence officer in the U. S. Air Force and spent nearly 18 years overseas, in Asia and Europe. Bill graduated from Princeton University with a bachelor's degree in politics and from the University of Virginia with a master's degree in foreign affairs.

He lives with his wife, Nancy, on Peaks Island.

Trivia Night - June 15



Carol's Trivia Night is back! Join us on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 for an evening of fun, challenging questions. Play as an individual, bring your own team, or join a team at the library.

Author Marpheen Chann: *Moon in Full* - June 21



Author Marpheen Chann will be at the Kennebunk Free Library on Tuesday, June 21 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss his new book *Moon in Full*. A signing will follow the discussion, with books available to purchase at the event.

Moon in Full, a contemporary coming-of-age story, shines light on one young man's search for truth and compassion in a complicated era as it unwinds the deep-seated challenges we all face finding our authentic voice and true identities. Author Marpheen Chann's heart-warming journey

weaves through housing projects and foster homes; into houses of worship and across college campuses; and playing out in working-class Maine where he struggles to find his place. Adopted into a majority white community, Chann must reconcile his fears and secret longings as a young gay man with the devoutly religious beliefs of his new family. Chann, a second-generation Asian American, recounts what he has learned, what he has lost, and what he has found during his evolution from a hungry refugee's son to religious youth to advocate for acceptance and equality.

Marpheen Chann is a politician, thinker, author, and speaker on social justice, equity, and inclusion. As a gay, second-generation Asian American born in California to a Cambodian refugee family and later adopted by an evangelical, white working-class family in Maine, Marpheen uses a mix of humor and storytelling to help people view topics such as racism, xenophobia, and homophobia through an intersectional lens.

Ukulele Group - June 22



Join us on Wednesday, June 22 at 5:30 p.m., for ukulele group with leader Dan Riggall. People of all skill levels are invited to stop by and play along. This month, the group will be held in person at the library. If you are not already part of the ukulele email list, please [register](#) for this month's music.

Kathy Ostrander Roberts on the Kennebunk Poor Farm - June 22

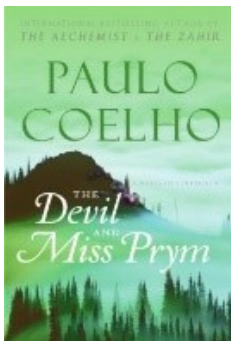


In the 18th and 19th centuries, even into the 20th century, most Maine towns had "poor farms." These were properties owned and supported through taxes which took in and cared for children and adults who could not take care of themselves. On Wednesday, June 22 at 6:30 p.m., Town Historian Kathy Ostrander Roberts will be at the Kennebunk Free Library to share information about the Kennebunk Poor Farm.

The Kennebunk Poor Farm was on Cat Mousam Road and ran from 1825 to 1936. The building was torn down in 1959 but those who died there are still buried in unmarked graves on the site.

Ostrander Roberts has spent years learning who these individuals were and how they were cared for. It is both a heartwarming and sad tale.

Adult Book Discussion - June 28



Join us on Tuesday, June 28 at 1:00 p.m. to discuss *The Devil and Miss Prym* by Paulo Coelho.

"Coelho's latest parable (*The Zahir*, 2005, etc.) has vague Kafkaesque overtones as a town is challenged to murder an innocent in exchange for prosperity.

The small village of Viscos has a proud past, but at present is dying. All the young have moved to the city, leaving middle-aged shepherds and farmers and a tavern owner dependent on the occasional tourist in search of a mountain idyll. Its demise is only a matter of time as the world is in short supply of civic miracles. When a stranger comes to town, only old Berta sees what no one else can—that his invisible traveling companion is the Devil. The stranger invites Chantal Prym for a walk in the woods and there shows her two burial spots—one contains a single bar of gold, the other ten bars. It is a test for the town, and as the tavern's barmaid, Chantal is the chosen mouthpiece. The village

can have the gold if in three days they commit a murder. Seeking an answer to the question of evil, the stranger is betting that humanity is immoral, even in the quaint village of Viscos. An arms manufacturer, the stranger's wife and daughters were killed by terrorists (using guns that he made), and ever since, he has had the Devil at his back and the eternal struggle between good and evil on his mind. Initially, Chantal refuses to speak, afraid of becoming complicit in the crime, but the stranger forces her hand, and soon the whole village knows of the proposed bargain. To Chantal's horror, the town accepts his offer (thanks in large part to the priest, who, eager for the deal to go through, offers a sermon on how the sacrifice of one saved humanity). Now Viscos has only to decide the victim, unless Berta and Chantal, the top choices, can change their minds. Filled with Coelho's trademark mysticism and philosophical anecdotes to illustrate a *point*, the brief tale is made finer by the Kafka- Shirley Jackson-derived motifs—the creepiness of a town eager for a murder offsets the author's tendencies to spiritual pontificating.

A bit more playful than some of Coelho's other efforts, and all the better for it."

Kirkus Reviews

Take Note - June 27



Take Note will meet on Monday, June 27 at 2:00 p.m. in the Walker Room at the library.

What is Take Note? It's a monthly meetup for folks who love journals, planners, digital notebooks, snail mail, stationery, pens, & more! Our discussion is free form, and no experience is needed. All are welcome!

Author James Paruk: *Loon Lessons* - June 29



The call of a loon is a familiar summer sound for many Mainers. But how much do you know about these fascinating birds? On Wednesday, June 29 at 6:00, biologist James Paruk will be at the Kennebunk Free Library to discuss loons and his book *Loon Lessons: Uncommon Encounters with the Great Northern Diver*.

James D. Paruk is a Professor in the Biology Department at St. Joseph's College of Maine. He is a senior scientist at the Biodiversity Research Institute's Loon Center for Conservation. Paruk has studied breeding loons in Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Saskatchewan and Maine and non-breeding loons in California, Louisiana, South Carolina, and Maine. He also spent seven years monitoring the health of a population of loons off the Louisiana coast in the aftermath of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

Tech Time - Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays

Now more than ever, technology has become a constant in our daily lives. Though advertised as simple and easy, it moves too fast for most of us to keep up with. Whether it be trying to use one of the library's digital services, making heads or tails of a new device, or just to have a second pair of eyes help troubleshoot a piece of software, don't worry, the library is here to help!



Sign-up for one of our Tech Time appointments, Tuesdays at 2:00 and 3:00 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays from 2:00-5:00 p.m., to meet one-on-one with a librarian and work through your technology question.

Appointments are only 45 minutes long so just keep in mind there may only be time to discuss a small number of things. When setting up the appointment help us to better assist you by describing the issue you want to discuss. If possible, also make sure to bring your device with you along with any needed usernames and passwords.

Contact us at 207-985-2173 or via email at kfl@kennebunklibrary.org to setup your appointment today.

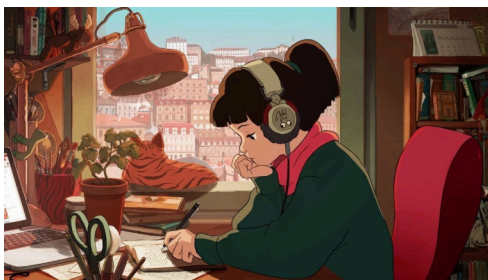
Take-and-Make: Nature Suncatchers



Bring a little nature inside! This month's take-and-make kit is collaborative - we provide the supplies to create your suncatcher, you provide its filling. Take a walk outside and collect small, flat natural items like leaves and petals to encase in your own unique suncatcher. Kits will be available starting Tuesday, June 7, while supplies last.

Teen Programs

Chill Gaming - June 9 & 23



Starting in June, Teen Magic The Gathering will transition into Chill Gaming! Come hang out with friends, test out your gaming card decks, play online, try out new RPG board games, or anything else in between. Basically anything that relaxes you is welcome and encouraged! We will meet every other week on Thursday on June 9 and 23 from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. Players are free to bring their own games, learn new games at their own pace, and there will be

games provided by the library available as well. Open to teens ages 10 and up! If you have any questions, call Miss Emmaline in the Children's Room at (207) 985-2173.

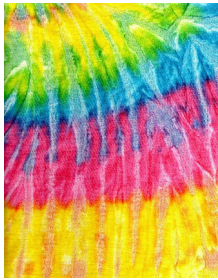
The Dragon Hunter and Treasure Seekers Guild - June 6, 13, & 27



Welcome young adventurers! Come and join in on an exciting quest in the world of Dungeons and Dragons. Open to new and experienced players alike, we will meet every Monday on June 6, 13, and 27 from 3:30-4:30 P.M. You're welcome to bring in a character from a previous game, to make a new one, or to use one of the pre-made characters provided in the starter set. All other supplies will be provided, just bring your imagination! Open to

Teens ages 10 and up, and new players are encouraged to join in on the adventure. If you have any questions, see Miss Emmaline downstairs in the children's room at (207) 985-2173.

Teen Tie Dye Party - June 30



Summer is here, so come join us for a fun afternoon as we Tie Dye T-shirts as a part of our Summer Reading Program, Oceans of Possibilities! Tables and supplies will be outside of the Kennebunk Free Library on Thursday, June 30 from 2:30-4:30 p.m. In case of rain, an announcement will be made, and this event will be moved to Wednesday, July 6 from 2:30-4:30 p.m. This event will be open to teens and tweens ages 10 and up. White T-shirts will be provided in a variety of sizes; but you may also bring your own plain white t-shirt if you would like to repurpose it for this program. Please wear clothes that you don't mind being stained - just in case! Masks are required when attending library programs. This event is free and wheelchair accessible. If you have any questions, see Miss Emmaline downstairs in the children's room, or call (207) 985-2173. To learn more about the fun programs we're offering this summer, visit the library or our website for more information!

Children's Programs



Lindsay & Her Puppet Pals - June 29

What better way to celebrate the start of summer reading than with a visit from Lindsay & her Puppet Pals? On Wednesday, June 29, at 3 pm, Lindsay and friends will join us at the library for some fun! Lindsay's funny, fast-paced, and highly interactive variety show delights the young and the young at heart! Kids will meet several larger-than-life, hand-crafted puppets... Perhaps a goofy moose, a heroic tiger, or a lovable bear. Oh my! Maybe a dancing robot or flamingo, an adorable mouse, a stubborn goat, a shy dragon, or a singing dinosaur! Come find out who's making an appearance this time! Lindsay has been performing full-time since 2011, presenting to several thousand children each year. Through animated storytelling and thoughtful messaging, she hopes to inspire creative play, resilience, and empathy in even the youngest. She also believes shared joy and laughter strengthen communities. This program is a great fit for ages 3-8 and families. This event is planned to be held outside. In inclement weather, we will be inside the library. Masks are required when attending library programs.

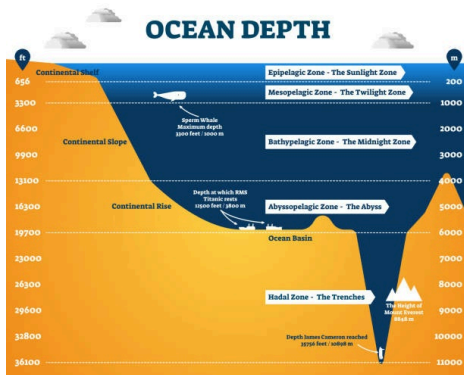
Outdoor Storytimes - June 6, 13, 22, 27

Outdoor storytimes are back! We're so excited! On most Mondays at 10:00 a.m., storytimes will be held outside the library near the faerie garden. Join Miss Maria for songs, stories, and fun! Bring a blanket or towel to sit on, and don't forget your sunscreen! In



the event of rain or inclement weather, storytime will be held indoors. The location of storytime will be announced by 8 a.m. on the morning of storytime, and will be shared on our Facebook page and website. Masks are required when attending library programs. These events are free and wheelchair accessible. Kennebunk Free Library is located at 112 Main St., Kennebunk. For more information, please call 985-2173. Upcoming storytime dates include:

- June 6
- June 13
- **Wednesday, June 22**
- June 27



Ocean Zone Crafts

Kennebunk Free Library is going on a deep dive with crafts! Throughout the summer, explore ocean zones with a new craft every 2 weeks. Complete your craft during a visit to the library! Crafts will be set up to complete at the craft table in the Children's Room. You'll learn about the five zones of the ocean and make something fun to take home! From June 23-July 2, stop by the Children's Room during open hours and visit the Sunlight Zone of the ocean to make a whale friend.



Take and Make Kits

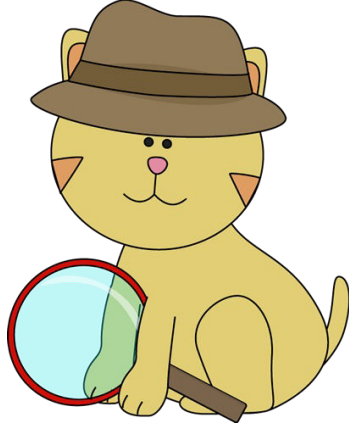
Looking to get crafty? Kennebunk Free Library will be offering take and make craft kits with all the materials to make a craft or two. No registration required, available while supplies last! Kits will be available in the library and curbside by request. This month, we will be offering crafts to celebrate summertime! The kits will include everything you need to make a rainbow fish, an ice cream cone, and a watermelon paper plate fan. Kits will be available starting Wednesday, June 1. Visit us to grab some supplies that will help you get creative!

STEAM To Go Kits



Looking for an activity with a side of STEAM? Kennebunk Free Library will be offering STEAM To Go kits for grades K and up with all the supplies for a fun experiment or activity. No registration required, available while supplies last! Kits will be available in the library and curbside by request. This month, we will be offering the materials for a rocket activity! Kits will be available starting Wednesday, June 1. Visit us to grab everything you need for a STEAM-tastic good time!

Scavenger Hunt



Calling all sleuths and searchers! Kennebunk Free Library offers a new scavenger hunt every month in the Children's Room. This month, rainbow cats are hiding in the children's room, and it's time for supper! Can you find them? Keep up the kitty cat fun at home by checking out some cat books!



Book Stacks

Would you like to borrow a stack of library items handpicked by a librarian? We'd love to choose some materials for you! A KFL library card is required. If you're interested, fill out the [Google Form](#) and give us some information about your interests and the types of things you like to borrow from the library. If you have any questions, you can reach us via email at ys@kennebunklibrary.org or by phone at 985-2173. We're excited to choose library items for you!



Would You Rather?

The results for this month's Would You Rather question are in! In May, we asked, "Would you rather meet a mermaid or a fairy?" 34 friends wanted to meet a mermaid, while 36 friends would prefer to meet a fairy. 13 friends thought would love to meet both, and placed a sticker right on the center line. It's a tough question! Which would you choose? Keep an eye out for our next Would You Rather question in the Children's Room!

The 2022-2023 Maine Student Book Award nominees are in! Stop by the library and pick up some titles to get a head-start on the list!



June Artist: Joy Bennett Roberts

The Kennebunk Free Library announces its next Speers Gallery exhibit, "The Sea is Calling" by Joy Bennett Roberts, opening June 1. The exhibit features acrylic pours on canvas as well as some painting on upscaled items.

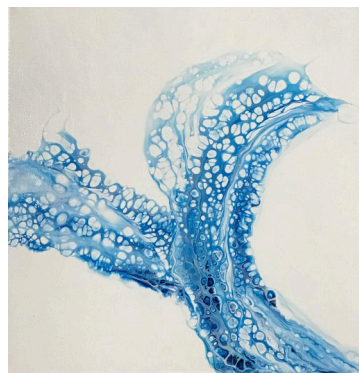
The public is invited to attend an artist reception on Wednesday, June 8 from 6:00 - 8:00 pm.

Joy's pieces are inspired by the sea. She has been creating art since childhood, but acrylic pouring is something she stumbled upon a few years ago and fell in love with. She has not taken an art class since college but found this type of painting to come very naturally.

Joy was born and raised in Kennebunk and still resides here with her family.

Kennebunk Free Library is pleased to display the work of this talented artist.

The public is invited to view the exhibit in the library's Speers Gallery from June 1-30, 2022 at 112 Main St., Kennebunk, Maine during regular library hours when the gallery is not in use for library programs. Please check the library website for current hours and gallery access, www.kennebunklibrary.org.



New Books, Audio Books, and DVDs

Please note that the new items lists below are updated regularly, but through a quirk of the system, the newest items go to the end of the list. If you want to see the newest arrivals, start on the last page and work your way backward.

[Click here](#) for a look at books that arrived in the last month.

[Click here](#) for audio/video that arrived in the last month.

[Click here](#) for new children's items that arrived in the last month

[Click here](#) for new teen items that arrived in the last month

Want to know if we have this week's New York Times bestsellers available in our various collections (print, large print, audio, ebook, eaudio)?

[Click here](#) to see the fiction and nonfiction best seller list.

Hot New Releases on Order for June

June 7

[The Darling Dahlias and the Red Hot Poker – Susan Wittig Albert](#)

[The Omega Factor – Steve Berry](#)

June 14

[The Hotel Nantucket – Elin Hilderbrand](#)

[Horse – Geraldine Brooks](#)

[A Face to Die For – Iris Johansen](#)

[Trouble With the Cursed – Kim Harrison](#)

June 21

[Escape – James Patterson](#)

June 28

[Suspects – Danielle Steel](#)

[Hatchet Island – Paul Doiron](#)

A Message from the Friends of KFL



The Friends of KFL had a great turnout for the May Day book sale –thank you to all our volunteers and our community for your support!

This year the Friends and the Trustees teamed up to march in the May Day parade too. Did you see us? We had:

- colorful banners painted by our children’s room visitors
- rolling book carts festooned with paper flowers and streamers
- three generations of library patrons bearing bright pennants and road race tee shirts
- free bookmarks handed out to the crowd

We look forward to seeing you at our next book sale in July during the Blueberry Festival. Enjoy the early days of summer!



A Message from the Library Director



Kennebunk Free Library is very supportive of staff pursuing professional development opportunities. In April, five of our librarians virtually attended Reading Roundup, a conference that brings together those serving youth in Maine schools and public libraries. In May, Head of Youth Services and Children’s Librarian, Maria Richardson served on a panel at the Maine Library Association’s Annual Conference. Her session was *Connected Learning Ecosystems: Build Your Peer Network and Connect Youth to Authentic STEM Experiences*. Assistant Director and Head of Adult Services, Allison Atkins, is currently attending a workshop and guest speaker program *Equity in Action: Solidarity in Social Justice*. I’m also currently attending a series called *Human Resources Crash Course for Library Managers*. We bring everything we learn back to the community to give back to you.

This month’s picture is my son Max proving that literacy is important, no matter the orientation of the book.

Staff Picks & Messages

Kat, Library Assistant

New Native Kitchen – Celebrating Modern Recipes of the American Indian - Chef Freddie Bitsoie and James O. Fraioli

“With deep symbiotic roots, there’s an interconnected trust between natural resources and the Indigenous communities who have always cared for the land where they live.” The authors explain how traditional Indigenous planting and harvesting respect the delicate balance of nature from many areas of this country. “Alongside these regional recipes, you will read about the ancient communities whose traditions inspired them.” I am tempted to try many of these dishes: Cheyenne Beef & Sage Soup, Glazed Root Vegetables and Three Sisters Bean Stew. How to instructions: cleaning cactus paddles, trussing a bird and sectioning a rabbit. Includes an informative list of “Native American Pantry” items, opening a whole new world of flavor!

Cyrano – movie produced by Joe Wright, Starring Peter Dinklage, Haley Bennett and Kelvin Harrison, Jr.

This often-told tale of 17th century Paris is reimagined, set to music, peppered with dance, fantastic costumes, and settings in an endearing way. Romantic and sappy, poetic and highly emotional, I found it very enjoyable. Roxanne is breathtakingly lovely and floats like a cloud in her cloak as she rushes to meet her love. Cyrano is feisty, witty, and believable. Christian is handsome, bumbling and ultimately victimized. It ends with a poignant message. (Sigh.)

The 1619 Project: A New Origin Story by Nikole Hannah-Jones

The project consists of eighteen essays recounting history from the perspective of enslaved people and their descendants in America. It starts with the ship *White Lion* arriving in Virginia in 1619 with the first cargo of captive people from Angola, Africa. Originally a journalism project, the book expands upon that scope. It often links events from the past with current events. This author also wrote a children’s book *The 1619 Project: Born on the Water*, cowritten with Renee Watson.

Denise, Library Assistant



June is PRIDE Month!

Here are a few titles from the KFL Collection which celebrates the LGBTQ+ community and their history.



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