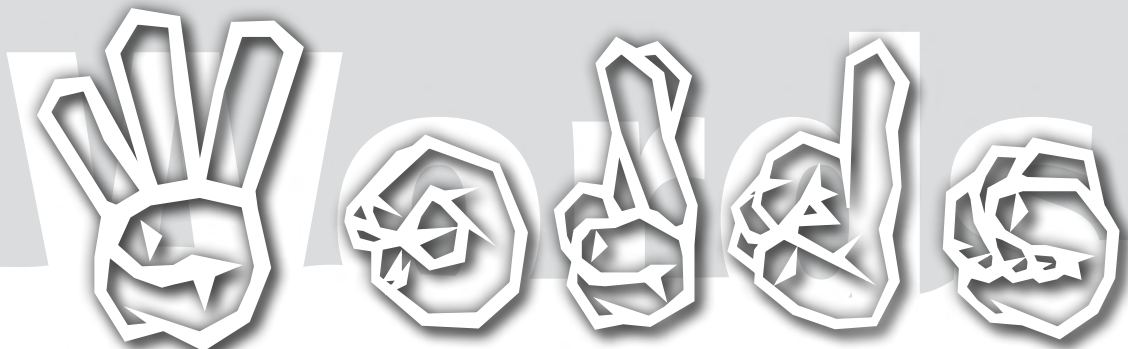


Jan  
2025



# A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE WALLINGFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

## A New Year with New Library Gatherings!

### International Movie Night: "A Man Called Ove"

Friday, Jan 10<sup>th</sup> | 6:30-8:30pm  
Community Room | No registration required

Join us on the second Friday of each month for our new **International Movie Night** to enjoy a fascinating film from another country! Our Jan 10<sup>th</sup> feature will be the acclaimed 2015 Swedish comedy-drama *A Man Called Ove* (PG-13). Based on the bestselling novel by Fredrik Backman, this movie, which inspired a 2022 American remake, tells the story of Ove (Rolf Lassgård), the quintessential angry old man next door. An isolated retiree who spends his days enforcing banal rules and visiting his wife's grave, Ove has given up on life. After a boisterous young family moves in next door and accidentally flattens his mailbox, an unlikely friendship forms, and Ove finds himself with a new reason to live.

### ASL Conversation Group

Wednesday, Jan 15<sup>th</sup> | 7-8pm  
Collins Room | No registration required

Join us on 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.



### Coffee & Connections

Fridays beginning Jan 17<sup>th</sup> | 11am-12noon  
Collins Room | No registration required

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!



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](http://walpublib.org/newsletter). *Words* is edited by Publicity and Public Services Librarian Christopher Ciemniowski from contributions by library staff members.

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

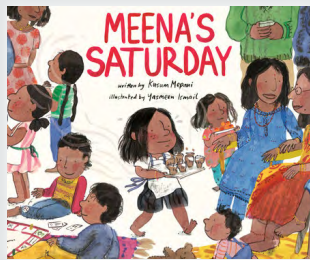
The Wallingford Public Library relies on member contributions in addition to funding it receives from the Town of Wallingford. We hope you will support the Library by becoming a member of the Wallingford Public Library Association. Your support helps ensure that the Library will continue to be a dynamic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

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

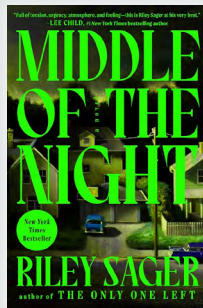
## Staff Picks



**Chris C.**  
*The Congress*  
directed by Ari Folman



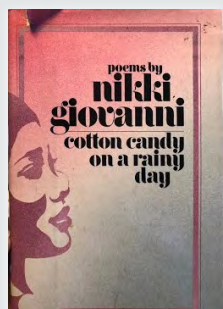
**Jennifer R.**  
*Meena's Saturday*  
by Kusum Mepani



**Kayleigh S.**  
*Middle of the Night*  
by Riley Sager



**Katie D.**  
*There's Nothing Wrong with Her*  
by Kate Weinberg



**Julie R.**  
*Cotton Candy on a Rainy Day*  
poems by Nikki Giovanni



**Max S.**  
*Persona 3 Reload*  
from Atlus Studios

## Words Contents

- 4** Tech Training
- 6** Children & Families
- 8** Adult Events
- 10** For Readers
- 12** Collaboratory
- 14** Just for Teens



View this newsletter online!

# A FEW Words...

Welcome to the 2025 redesign of our monthly newsletter, *Words*! As you can see from our front page, we are always adding new programs, services, and events so we needed some extra room to fit everything. While the look has changed a bit to accommodate all of our monthly happenings, the layout remains roughly the same. For a bit of nostalgia you can take a look at past issues of our newsletter going all the way back to the 1980s on display in the front foyer through the end of December 2024. This new redesign coincides with the launch of our brand new website—

## Visit Our New Website!

We're excited to announce that our new website is now LIVE! We've redesigned it with YOU in mind. It features Quick Links on the homepage for our most popular services and reorganized menus to make everything easier to find. Some new highlights include simplified browsing and sorting for our Library of Things—including Children's and Teen collections (more info on Page 12), visual navigation for Collaboratory appointments and project submissions, seasonal book suggestions and event highlights right on the homepage, and a year's worth of back issues of our monthly newsletter *Words*. Visit here: [wallingfordlibrary.org](http://wallingfordlibrary.org)

## Study Room Expansion!

If you've been in the library recently you may have noticed that books have been moved around. We are currently preparing for a small library renovation. During the construction period, Study Room 3 will not be available. However, we are aware of the high demand for our Study Rooms—so we are adding more! Once the project is complete the library will have a total of five Study Rooms, four of which will seat up to four people and one of which will fit up to eight people. This project will also create a small work area for our Collaboratory staff, so they can work and collaborate even more effectively!

The construction project will take place between January and April of 2025. We anticipate that the library may be noisy on some days, so you can pick up a pair of earplugs at the Information Desk if you need quiet. Most of the activity will be occurring between the color copier and the historical collection. Aside from the temporary unavailability of Study Room 3, we don't expect any other disruptions to programming or services. Our librarians are also ready to help if you are having trouble finding anything. We'll be posting status reports as construction progresses!

# 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](http://walpublib.org/upcomingLSC)

## Virtual Author Visit with TJ Klune

Wednesday, Jan 15<sup>th</sup> | 7-8 pm | Zoom | [Register](#)

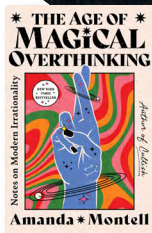


Come have a magical evening with *New York Times* bestselling author **TJ Klune** as he talks about his new novel *Somewhere Beyond the Sea*. Klune's *The House in the Cerulean Sea* introduced Linus Baker, a caseworker in the Department in Charge of Magical Youth tasked with determining whether six magical children might bring about the end of the world, and Arthur Parnassus, the head of the orphanage where the children live. In *Somewhere Beyond the Sea*, Klune focuses on Arthur's story. Arthur loves with his whole heart so none of the children ever feel the neglect and pain that he once felt as an orphan on that very same island so long ago. But when Arthur is summoned to make a public statement about his dark past, he finds himself at the helm of a fight for the future that his family, and all magical people, deserve.

**TJ Klune** is the *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling and award-winning author of several novels. Being queer himself, Klune believes it's important—now more than ever—to have accurate, positive queer representation in stories.

## Virtual Author Visit with Amanda Montell

Thursday, Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> | 2-3 pm | Zoom | [Register](#)



Join us as we chat with the *New York Times* bestselling author **Amanda Montell** about her new book *The Age of Magical Overthinking: Notes on Modern Irrationality*. "Magical thinking" can be broadly defined as the belief that one's internal thoughts can affect unrelated events in the external world. Magical thinking attempts to restore agency amid chaos, but in *The Age of Magical Overthinking*, Montell argues that, in the information age, our brain's coping mechanisms have been overloaded. Montell delves into the cognitive biases that run rampant in our brains, from how the "halo effect" cultivates worship of celebrities to how the "sunk cost fallacy" can keep us in dysfunctional relationships. Her message is one of hope, empathy and forgiveness for our anxiety-laden selves.

**Amanda Montell** is a writer and linguist. She is the author of the books *Wordslut*, *Cultish* and *The Age of Magical Overthinking* and a host of the podcast *Sounds Like a Cult*. She holds a degree in linguistics from NYU and lives in Los Angeles with her partner, her plants and her pets.

# tech Training

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: Messaging on iOS

Saturday, Jan 18<sup>th</sup> | 2-3:30pm | Adults | Collins Room | [Click to register](#)

Connor will talk about how you can use all of the features that the Messages app has to offer and then will demonstrate how to use these features effectively in a conversation. Topics in this class will include:

- How to send media like photos, videos, GIFs, stickers, and more
- How to use Tapbacks to send quick replies
- How to create and send your own Memoji
- How to download apps for iMessage
- Using iMessage among all of your Apple devices
- Sending RCS messages to non-Apple devices

Please bring your fully charged iPhone, iPad, or Mac to the class and make sure the device has been updated to iOS 18 or later. 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!



## Cutting the Cord: Options for TV Without Cable

Saturday, Jan 11<sup>th</sup> OR Monday, Jan 13<sup>th</sup> | 2-3:30pm | Adults | Collins Room

[Register for Jan 11<sup>th</sup>](#) | [Register for Jan 13<sup>th</sup>](#)

Thinking about getting rid of cable? This lecture-style class will explore Internet-based streaming services and various devices that allow you to watch TV without a cable subscription.



## Introduction to Cricut

Saturday, Jan 25<sup>th</sup> OR Monday, Jan 27<sup>th</sup> | 2-3:30pm

Adults | Collaboratory

[Register for Jan 25<sup>th</sup>](#) | [Register for Jan 27<sup>th</sup>](#)

This class will cover how to use Cricut Design Space, the software used to create custom designs with the Cricut Maker vinyl cutting machines.



## Tech Connect



- Free tech help
- Free computers
- Free internet

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 today at **(203) 626-4774** to meet with a digital navigator and learn what you've been missing.

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

# Cardholder Perks for Readers!

Everyone knows that this library has books. *Lots and lots of books.* You may be thinking of a traditional hardcover book sitting on the shelf of the Fiction section, but there are many other ways to “read” a book.

Wallingford Library has non-traditional books like **eBooks** (downloadable books to read on your mobile device), and audiobooks in the form of **Books-On-CD**, **Playaways**, and **eAudiobooks** (downloadable audiobooks). The collections continue to grow for **Manga** and **Graphic Novels** in the Teen, Adult, and Juvenile sections. There are **Large Print** books and books printed in **Spanish**. The Children’s Department carries books in a number of other **World Languages** like **Arabic** and **Chinese**!

Wondering what’s good to read? Borrow *The New York Review of Books* for its in-depth reviews of fiction and non-fiction titles. We also have copies of **Book Page**, a free monthly magazine that recommends books across many genres. It’s available near the self-checkout station. To find books that are similar to other books or authors you like, or who write in a similar style, visit the **Novelist Plus** website. When you search for a particular author or title, **Read-alikes** appear on the screen. Even simply searching our library’s catalog and clicking on one of the results will display “**More Like This**,” a list of titles with similar content.

Readers should also consider joining one of the library’s book clubs. Dates and time of the discussions are listed in the **Words** newsletter.

And just a useful FYI, if you’re tired of keeping a written list of the titles you’ve read, log in to your online account and **Opt In** to record your **reading history**. Going forward, each item you borrow will be listed. Later, you can even use a search feature to search your list for a title or author if you desire.

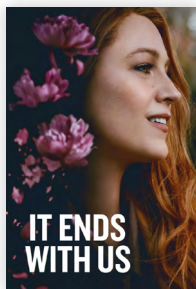
In our latest adventure, members of the Borrower Services Book Club go in search of copies of *The Handmaid’s Tale*.

You won’t believe how many ways there are to read a book!



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

## FRIDAY NIGHT FLICKS



### It Ends With Us

Friday, Jan 3<sup>rd</sup> | 6-8pm  
Community Room  
PG-13

Adapted from the Colleen Hoover novel, Lily overcomes a traumatic childhood to embark on a new life. A chance meeting with a neurosurgeon sparks a connection.



### The Wild Robot

Friday, Jan 17<sup>th</sup> | 6-8pm  
Community Room  
PG

After a shipwreck, an intelligent robot called Roz is stranded on an uninhabited island. To survive the harsh environment, Roz bonds with the island’s animals and cares for an orphaned baby goose.

# CHILDREN & Families

## SCHOOL-AGED PROGRAMS

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

### Game On!

**Saturday Jan 4<sup>th</sup> | 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!

### Dungeons and Dragons: Assault of the Necsnowmancer

**Monday, Jan 6<sup>th</sup> | Grades 4-8 | Children's Program Room**  
**3:30-5:30pm | [Register](#)**  
**6-8pm | [Register](#)**

An evil wizard has besieged the kingdom with their army of snowmen! Can our heroes keep their cool and break the siege? This is a 5th edition Dungeons and Dragons quest for level 5 characters.

### Homeschool Meetup

**Friday, Jan 10<sup>th</sup> | 10am-12noon | 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.*

### Buzzy Bog Bots

**Monday, Jan 13<sup>th</sup> | 6:30pm | Grades 2-5 | Wonder Room**  
[Register](#)

Using supplies from the Connecticut Science Center, build a "bug" bot to learn how electricity can send your creation buzzing off the table. *This program has been made possible by a donation from Ulbrich.*

### American Sign Language Club for Kids

**Wednesday, Jan 15<sup>th</sup> | 4:30pm | 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.

### Colors of My Jewish Year: Shabbat

**Thursday, Jan 16<sup>th</sup> | 4:30pm | Grades Pre-K- 2**  
**Children's Program Room | [Register](#)**

This year we gather together to learn about Shabbat. Join Wallingford's **Beth Israel Synagogue** in reading stories, making a craft, and eating a snack while we focus on a different aspect of Shabbat. Whether you are curious about Jewish traditions or already take part, all are welcome to join the fun. Participants who attend all 4 programs will complete a Shabbat kit (but attendance at all 4 is not required). This program has been made possible through a generous grant from the Jewish Federation of Greater New Haven.



### Paws for Reading

**Saturday, Jan 18<sup>th</sup> | 11am | 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.

### Break It!

**Tuesday, Jan 21<sup>st</sup> | 4:30-6pm | Grades 1-5**  
**Community Room | [Register](#)**

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

### Reading Buddies

**Friday, Jan 24<sup>th</sup> | 6:30pm | Grades K-2**  
**Children's Room | [Register](#)**

Spend a Friday evening reading with a high school buddy! Choate student 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. This is a drop-in event, but register if you'd like an email reminder.

### LEGO Club

**Saturday, Jan 25<sup>th</sup> | 2pm | 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.

### Trading Card Battle Club

**Tuesday, Jan 28<sup>th</sup> | 4-7pm | Grades 4-8**  
**Children's Room | [Register](#)**

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.

# PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

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

## Silly Story Time

Saturday, Jan 11<sup>th</sup> | 10:30am | 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 event, but register if you would like a reminder email.

## Story Walk with Mrs. Stowe

Tuesday, Jan 21<sup>st</sup> | 9:30am OR 1:30pm  
Ages 3-5 | Marcus Cooke Park

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

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

## Music and Movement with Julie Stepanek

Saturday, Jan 25<sup>th</sup> | 10:30am | Ages 0-5  
Community Room | [Register](#)

Join Julie for songs kids know and love. Stretch, move, sing and dance – all while developing early literacy skills through music and rhythm.

# BILINGUAL HOMEWORK

**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.

# 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, Jan 6<sup>th</sup>-Feb 10<sup>th</sup> (No class on Jan 20<sup>th</sup>)

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, Jan 7<sup>th</sup>-Feb 11<sup>th</sup>

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.

## Pajama Family Story Time

Ages 0-5 | 6:30pm | Community Room  
Wednesdays, Jan 8<sup>th</sup>- Feb 12<sup>th</sup>

Join Miss Kari 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!

## Happy Feet

Ages 2-3 | 10:30am | Children's Program Room  
Wednesdays, Jan 8<sup>th</sup>-Feb 12<sup>th</sup>

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, Jan 9<sup>th</sup>-Feb 13<sup>th</sup>

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.

# BE A READING MACHINE: WINTER READING CHALLENGE

For Babies through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade | Jan 18<sup>th</sup> – Feb 28<sup>th</sup> | [Register](#)

Help the children's librarians test out our new reading program software with a fun winter reading challenge! Hit your reading goal of 30 books for babies and preschoolers, or 300 minutes for kids in grades K-5, and earn a token for a prize from our vending machine. You may register for an account at any time, but the winter challenge will not begin until January 18<sup>th</sup>. All reading must be completed and entered by February 28<sup>th</sup> to count towards a prize. *The new software will be used for the upcoming summer reading program and we are hoping to work out all of the kinks beforehand. All feedback is welcome, and please be patient with us!*



# Adult Events



## Happenings



### **A Passeggiata Through Italy: Its Past, Present and Future**

**Wednesday, Jan 8<sup>th</sup> | 7-8pm | Zoom | [Register](#)**

Escape the winter cold with us on this *passeggiata* ("stroll") through the richness and diversity of Italy with **Mariann Millard**, a professional tour guide who has spent time living there herself. Her presentation will weave together fascinating historical and modern events and facts about Italy, guiding participants through the country's geography, language, cuisine, culture, politics and history. This lively, engaging presentation is full of amusing personal stories and beautiful photographs that will immerse you fully in the experience of Italy.



### **My Journey to Freedom: An Evening with Holocaust Survivor Andy Sarkany**

**Tuesday, Jan 14<sup>th</sup> | 6:30-8pm | Community Room | [Register](#) | [Snow Date: Tuesday, Jan 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30pm]**

In January 2025, we will observe the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi concentration camp Auschwitz-Birkenau, marking the end of the genocide now known as the Holocaust. Join us to hear Holocaust survivor **Endre (Andy) Sarkany** speak about his personal experiences during World War II and his time spent living in the Budapest ghetto, as well as how he managed to survive and move forward after leaving Europe. Attendees will hear an indelible story of bravery and love in the struggle against an all-encompassing evil.



### **The British Invasion and American Answer: A Musical Journey**

**Wednesday, Jan 22<sup>nd</sup> | 7-8pm | Zoom | [Register](#)**

Join us for a 60-year retrospective of one of the greatest musical eras of all time! In early 1964, the Beatles became a cultural phenomenon with their first appearance on the Ed Sullivan Show. One year later, the British Invasion was in full swing, and American artists began to mount their own musical response. Take a fun and nostalgic journey with pop culture historian **Marty Gitlin** as he highlights performances by British Invasion superstars such as the Beatles, Rolling Stones, Kinks, Hollies, Dave Clark Five and The Who, as well as their American counterparts like the Beach Boys, Mamas and Papas, Temptations, Simon & Garfunkel, Turtles and Rascals. He will also discuss how these artists influenced pop culture and society as well as each other's music, and offer trivia questions for patrons to ponder. At the end of the talk, Marty will host a lively Q&A session with the audience!



### **Behind the Scenes with The Bushnell: A Virtual Tour**

**Wednesday, Jan 29<sup>th</sup> | 7-8pm | Zoom | [Register](#)**

Experience the beauty of The Bushnell through this virtual, interactive presentation! Trained Bushnell tour guides will show you backstage spaces, talk about the history of the venue, and tell stories about their favorite shows and performers. They will also share a sneak peak at the company's upcoming 2025 season. Go on an adventure with the Bushnell Theatre from the comfort of your own home!



### **Professional Networking Basics**

**Wednesday, Jan 29<sup>th</sup> | 7-8:30pm | Collins Room | [Register](#)**

Are you getting ready for the new year? Join our Professional Networking Basics session on Wednesday, January 29th, 7-8:30pm in the Collins Room. This informative session will provide you with the tools and techniques you need to succeed in the professional world. Whether you are a recent graduate or a seasoned professional, this session is for you. Don't miss this opportunity to learn from experts and meet other professionals in your field. Register now to secure your spot. For more information, contact the Wallingford home library.



**This program has been canceled**  
**We apologize for the inconvenience.**

network effectively? Join Librarian and Career Specialist to learn how to use your network to help you land a great job. In this session, you will learn how to identify potential employers, and prepare for a quick screening interview. All interested participants are welcome. Please check with your home library for more information.



# Gatherings

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

## French Conversation Group

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

**Collaboratory Conference Table**

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.

## Literacy Volunteers

**Tuesdays | 12:30-2pm | Collaboratory Horseshoe Booth**

Denise Codianne-Calabrese from Literacy Volunteers will be available Tuesdays for literacy assistance. If you are an adult who needs help reading, writing, speaking or understanding English—or know someone who does—drop by the library during Denise’s visiting hours for literacy support.

## One-on-One Career Counseling

**Wednesdays | 7-9pm | Zoom**

Sign up today to schedule your appointment with our Career Specialist Sarah Eiseman! Get personalized help with crafting a resume or cover letter or preparing for your big interview. Appointment required. Sessions are scheduled individually and may not fall on this date. Fill out our online form to request a session ([walpublib.org/CareerCounseling](http://walpublib.org/CareerCounseling)). Staff will contact you shortly to schedule your appointment.

## Knit @ WPL

**Mondays, Jan 13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> | 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.

## WPL Play Readers

**Meetings will resume in February**

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.

## Saturday Mornings with Poetry

**Saturdays, Jan 11<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>**

**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](mailto:kjc73048@gmail.com).

## Morning Ukulele Club

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

Join our Morning Ukulele Club on the first Monday of each month! The first hour of each session will be dedicated to more experienced players, while the last half-hour will be focused on beginners. Local Ukulelist Steven Lazarus will teach and facilitate the club. *Please bring your own instruments.*

## Evening Ukulele Club

**Wednesday, Jan 8<sup>th</sup> & Monday, Jan 27<sup>th</sup>**

**6:30-8pm | Collins Room**

Join our Evening Ukulele Club on the second Wednesday and final Monday of each month! The first hour of each session will be dedicated to more experienced players, while the last half-hour will be focused on beginners. Local Ukulelist Steven Lazarus will teach and facilitate the club. *Please bring your own instruments.*

## Tap & Trivia NEW YEAR'S EDITION!

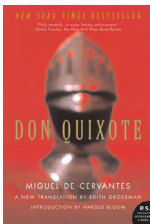
**Tuesday, Jan 28<sup>th</sup> | 7:30-9pm | Tap & Vine**

Join us the last Tuesday of each month for a local trivia night at Tap & Vine! Quizmaster Rich Steeves will test your wits with five rounds of questions on a variety of topics, from General Knowledge to Science & Nature and a whole lot more. As a New Year's retrospective, our January 2025 session will feature 2024-themed trivia questions, so review your recent events before attending! Your team of 2-6 players will compete with other teams for exciting prizes and, of course, bragging rights. So, if you like questions, answers, and the occasional corny joke, tell your friends, tell your enemies, tell everyone you know! **Registration is strongly preferred; please call Tap & Vine at (203) 774-0660 to sign up.**





# For Readers



## Hibernation Book Club: Long Reads for Short Days

**Don Quixote** by Miguel de Cervantes

Tuesday, Jan 14<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>, Feb 11<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>, Mar 11<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>

5:30-7pm | Collins Room & Zoom

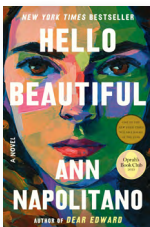
Discussion moderated by  
Readers Advisory Librarian Cindy Haiken

If you have always wanted to read big classic works of literature but have been daunted by their length and supposed complexity, we have a book club just for you! In the Hibernation Book Club, we will read one long classic novel every winter, dividing it up into shorter sections and meeting six times over the course of three months to work our way through it. Our title for the winter of 2025 is Edith Grossman's 2003 translation of *Don Quixote* by Miguel de Cervantes.



Told in two parts that were written ten years apart and widely regarded as the world's first modern novel and one of the funniest and most tragic books ever written, *Don Quixote* chronicles the famous (mis)adventures of an aging man named Alonso Quijano from La Mancha, Spain, who becomes so obsessed with chivalric novels that he believes himself to be a knight errant named Don Quixote and sets out on his old horse Rocinante on a series of absurd quests with his loyal squire Sancho Panza by his side. The novel highlights the clash between fantasy and reality while satirizing the conventions of traditional chivalry stories. It is one of the most-translated books in the world and one of the best-selling novels of all time. In 2002, 100 major writers from 54 countries rated *Don Quixote* the world's best work of fiction. In this six-part program, we will read *Don Quixote* in installments of approximately 160 pages each and meet every other week to discuss it.

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



## Thursday Night Book Club

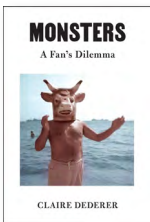
**Hello Beautiful** by Ann Napolitano

Thursday, Jan 16<sup>th</sup> | 6:30-8pm | Collins Room and Zoom

Discussion moderated by Readers Advisory Librarian Cindy Haiken

William Waters, a basketball player from the suburbs of Boston, enrolls at Northwestern in 1978 on an athletic scholarship. After he starts dating fellow student Julia Padavano, he's embraced by Julia's three younger sisters and her parents and is delighted to find a loving and loud family so different from his own. But William's crippling depression tests the bonds of this tight-knit family. Napolitano's bestselling novel was the 100th selection of the Oprah Book Club.

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



## Truth Be Told: A Nonfiction Book Club

**Monsters: A Fan's Dilemma** by Claire Dederer

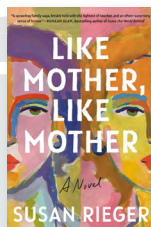
Thursday, Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> | 7-8:30pm | Collins Room & Zoom

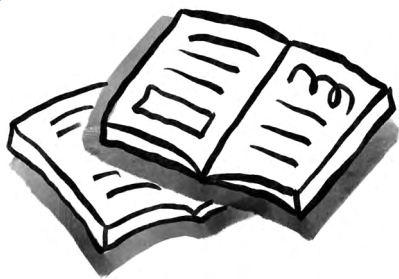
Discussion moderated by Educator Susan Gomes

How should we respond to art we love from artists who behave very, very badly? Dederer tackles the question with insight, clarity, and wit in this personal, lively exploration of the boundaries between art and life. Ann Patchett said that reading it was "like a conversation with your smartest friend."

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

## Cindy's Picks





# Novelty

What's new in novels  
from Cindy Haiken



In her classic novel *Little Women*, Louisa May Alcott wrote: "I keep turning over new leaves, and spoiling them, as I used to spoil my copybooks; and I make so many beginnings there never will be an end." There is something about a new calendar year that feels fresh and invigorating, all the more so when the first month of 2025 brings with it an unusually large number of new fiction releases. Here are some of the novels you can look forward to reading to usher in the New Year:

***Ace, Marvel, Spy* by Jenni Walsh** — After her husband is killed in Germany during World War Two, a #1 tennis champion is asked by the US army to spy for them in Switzerland.

***Beautiful Ugly* by Alice Feeney** — A man whose wife has been missing for a year travels to a tiny Scottish village where he sees a woman who looks just like her.

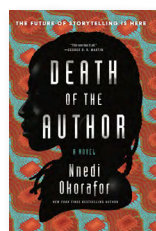
***Been So Wrong It Feels Like Right* by Walter Mosley** — A jazz musician tries to find his estranged father while protecting a woman and her daughter from a violent billionaire.



***Bronshtein in the Bronx* by Robert Littell** — A fictional account of ten pivotal weeks in the life of Leon Trotsky, inspired by his exile in New York City in 1917.

***Clever Little Things* by Helena Echlin** — After the death of their babysitter, a mother notices terrifying changes in her daughter.

***Confessions* by Catherine Airey** — After a young woman is orphaned on 9/11, she receives an offer from her estranged aunt to move into the home in Ireland where her parents lived when they were young.



***Death of the Author* by Nnedi Okorafor** — The life of a 32-year-old woman becomes unhinged after she writes a science fiction novel that becomes a massive bestseller.

***The Forger's Requiem* by Bradford Morrow** — In the final Forger novel, an art crook squares off against his nemesis for the last time.

***Going Home* by Tom Lamont** — After a tragic loss, three men, none of whom are paternal, take charge of a toddler.

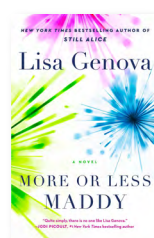
***Good Dirt* by Charmaine Wilkerson** — A woman's life unravels when her brother is killed and a centuries-old family heirloom is shattered.

***How to Sleep at Night* by Elizabeth Harris** — A happily married couple on opposite ends of the political spectrum find themselves at odds when one of them decides to run for Congress.



***The In-Between Bookstore* by Edward Underhill** — After he is laid off, a 30-year-old moves back to his hometown, walks into the bookstore he worked at in high school and slips through time to come face-to-face with his teenage self.

***Isola* by Allegra Goodman** — A woman who is born a French noblewoman in the mid-16th century is banished to a remote island with her lover and her nurse by a spiteful guardian.



***More or Less Maddy* by Lisa Genova** — A young woman diagnosed with bipolar disorder rejects the stability and approval of a traditionally "normal" life for a career in stand-up comedy.

***The Oligarch's Daughter* by Joseph Finder** — A rising Wall Street star who falls in love with the daughter of a Russian oligarch goes on the run to avoid Russian operatives.



***The Stolen Queen* by Fiona Davis** — After a valuable Egyptian artifact disappears during the Met Gala, the Met curator and her assistant head out on a high-stakes search in Egypt.

***The Three Lives of Cate Kay* by Kate Fagan** — An elusive bestselling author decides finally to confess her true identity after years of hiding from her past.

***To Save the Man* by John Sayles** — In September of 1890, Native-American students at the Carlisle School are taught to speak English, forget their languages and customs and learn to be white.

***We Do Not Part* by Han Kang** -- A woman travels from Seoul to a remote island to care for her friend's pet bird and learns troubling information about her friend's family.



***We Lived on the Horizon* by Erika Swyler** — After a series of cataclysms, a walled city run by AI was founded to protect human survivors. But a war is brewing that could upend the order that has been established.

***What Happened to the McCrays* by Tracey Lange** — After his marriage falls apart, a man is offered a second chance as a middle school hockey coach.

Also of note this month are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Holmes, Margaret & Poe thriller by James Patterson (*Holmes Is Missing*), the 3<sup>rd</sup> installment in the Texas Rangers series by James Patterson (*The Texas Murders*), the 4<sup>th</sup> Queen Elizabeth mystery by S.J. Bennett (*A Death in Diamonds*), the 19<sup>th</sup> Swytek thriller by James Grippando (*Grave Danger*), the 20<sup>th</sup> Bourne novel by Brian Freeman (*Robert Ludlum's The Bourne Vendetta*), the 20<sup>th</sup> Cole and Pike caper by Robert Crais (*The Big Empty*) and new novels by Alafair Burke (*The Note*), Freida McFadden (*The Crash*), Jill Shalvis (*Better than Friends*), Danielle Steel (*Never Say Never*) and Scott Turow (*Presumed Guilty*).



# Collaboratory

## Browse the Library of Things

Click the THINGS below to view them in the catalog:



Sewing Machine



Metal Detector



Ukulele



Yarn Ball Winder



Cricket Loom



Home Theater Projector

Crochet Kit



Telescope



## Drop-In Programs

### Open Sew

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

Do you like to sew? Join people who enjoy quilting and sewing at a casual "drop in" program anytime from 6-8:30pm 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!

## Max FAQs from Max Spurr

**Q:** Can the Collaboratory help me create custom stamps?

**A:** Yes, we actually have a few ways that you can create custom stamps! One option is to use our Silhouette Mint stamp making machine which creates custom

stamps using a thermal technology. Because the stamps are created in this way, you do not ink them like a traditional stamp. Instead, you apply ink using a toothpick and blot the excess away. Then you have a stamp that will last for about 50 applications and can be re-inked here in the Collaboratory. Another option is to use the laser cutter to etch the design onto laser-safe rubber.

If you have a question for Max FAQs, let us know at the Information Desk or the Help Desk in the Collaboratory, or you can email it directly to me at [mspurr@wallingfordlibrary.org](mailto:mspurr@wallingfordlibrary.org).



# Lottery Programs

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

[walpublib.org/LotteryJan25](http://walpublib.org/LotteryJan25)

Unless otherwise noted, registration is required and programs are open to adults and teens in grades 9+. You may enter the Collaboratory program registration lottery from the 20<sup>th</sup> to the 22<sup>nd</sup> of the month prior. Participants will be selected via random drawing on the following business day. All others will be placed on the waitlist. Due to high demand, we may limit individual participants to one program per month.

If there are available seats after the lottery, registration will be directly through our online calendar.

Project photos can be found at [walpublib.org/UpcomingCollaboratory](http://walpublib.org/UpcomingCollaboratory)

## Laser Cut Mandala Bowl

Tuesday, Jan 7<sup>th</sup> | 7-8:30pm OR

Thursday, Jan 9<sup>th</sup> | 3-4:30pm

Assemble and decorate a bowl out of a repeating mandala shape, cut out here in the library on our laser cutter.

## Birthday Cards

Thursday, Jan 9<sup>th</sup> | 6:30-8pm

Let's get ready for this year's birthdays! You will use die cuts, embossing folders, ink-blending, and stamps to make three fun birthday cards. No card making experience needed.

## Penguin Hugs Slate

Monday, Jan 13<sup>th</sup> | 6-8:30pm OR

Wednesday, Jan 15<sup>th</sup> | 2:30-4:30pm

Paint a cheery winter-themed penguin family on a repurposed slate. This is an intermediate level painting project.

## Custom Decorated Tote Bags

Tuesday, Jan 14<sup>th</sup> | 7-8:30pm OR

Thursday, Jan 16<sup>th</sup> | 3-4:30pm

Decorate bags using our Cricut Makers and sublimation printer! Bags will be provided. If you have a specific image you would like to use, please bring it on a USB drive.

## Custom Snow Globes

Tuesday, Jan 21<sup>st</sup> | 7-8:30pm OR

Thursday, Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> | 3-4:30pm

Create a decal in Cricut Design Space to place on acrylic for the inside of this easy to assemble snow globe! *Note: This is a repeat program. Please do not register if you have attended previously.*

## Snowflake Name Window Hangings

Tuesday, Jan 28<sup>th</sup> | 7-8:30pm OR

Thursday, Jan 30<sup>th</sup> | 3-4:30pm

Use CorelDRAW to create your name as a snowflake pattern to hang on a window! The snowflake will be etched and cut out on



## Talking TED @ Home

Thursday, Jan 9<sup>th</sup> | 7-8pm | Adults | Registration required | 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 January, we will watch and discuss David Asch's "Why It's So Hard to Make Healthy Decisions."

Why do we make poor decisions that we know are bad for our health? In this frank, funny talk, behavioral economist and health policy expert David Asch explains why our behavior is often irrational—in highly predictable ways—and shows how we can harness this irrationality to make better decisions and improve our health care system overall.

# Just for Teens

## Registration Required

### LEGO Robotics with Choate Robotics

Friday, Jan 10<sup>th</sup> | 4:30-5:30pm | Collaboratory  
Grades 3-7 | [Register](#)

Join the Choate Robotics students to explore basic coding and robot-building skills with Lego.

### Learn to Crochet: Fox

Saturday, Jan 18<sup>th</sup> | 11am-2pm | Community Room  
Grades 6-12 | [Register](#)

Learn to crochet with a kit from *The Woobles!* Woobles kits provide step-by-step video (and written) instructions to complete the project. You will get your own kit and you'll have access to a library laptop to view the instructional videos at your own pace. Kayleigh will also be on hand to provide any live guidance you need. All materials from the kit, including access to the video tutorial are yours to keep after the program. *Due to high demand, please do not register if you have previously attended one of the Learn to Crochet events.*

### Make a Dice Box

Thursday, Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> | 3:30-4:30pm | Collaboratory  
Grades 6-12 | [Register](#)

You've made your own resin dice, now make a resin box to store them in! The box will fit your resin dice set, along with others, but will not fit large dice sets. *Due to the time resin needs to cure, you will need to return to pick up your dice box.*

### Needle Felted Bookmarks

Wednesday, Jan 29<sup>th</sup> | 3:30-4:30pm | Collaboratory  
Grades 6-12 | [Register](#)

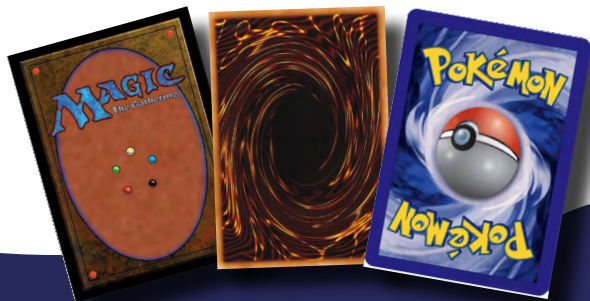
Experiment with 2D needle felting by making a corner-style bookmark! We'll needle felt onto a sturdy felt base and do a little bit of embroidery to finish off the bookmark.

## Drop-in Events

### Trading Card Battle Club

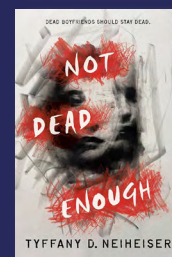
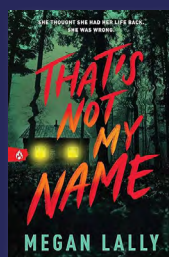
Last Tuesday of the month | 4-7pm  
Wonder Room | Grades 4-8  
[Registration encouraged](#)

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.

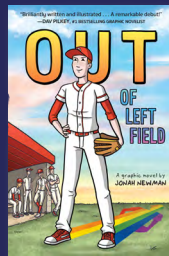
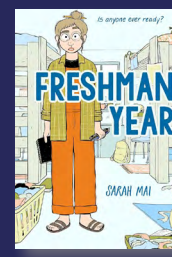


## Top YA Releases in 2024 by Checkouts

### Books



### Graphic Novels





# Last Words:

## Press X to Jump

from Chris Ciemniowski



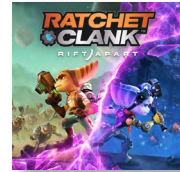
I recently had the chance to play PlayStation exclusive **Astro Bot**, a 3D platformer video game that was released in early fall 2024 in celebration of PlayStation's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Nintendo fans may be familiar with recent 3D platformers such as *Super Mario Odyssey* or *Kirby and the Forgotten Land*.

However, PlayStation has moved away from regularly producing platformers in recent decades even though it has its roots in the genre. So, a platformer for the PlayStation console in 2024 is a rare treat! *Astro Bot* is also a *really good* platformer. As I'm writing this it was just announced that it won Game of the Year. The player controls Astro Bot, a robot character who ventures to different worlds in order to repair a crash-landed PlayStation 5 spaceship (the game is very meta). What makes *Astro Bot* so good is its unique use of the PS5 game controller and the way it easily displays thousands of unique assets onscreen without any lag. For instance, in an ice cream themed level all of the pathways are covered with thousands of giant sprinkles that respond individually as Astro Bot pushes through them. This physics engine is most apparent in levels in which Astro Bot can change size on a whim, becoming larger or smaller and interacting with the world in different ways. You can also tell exactly what kind of surface Astro Bot is walking on from unique vibrations and sounds emanating from the handheld controller. The game is not only joyful to play, but it is also a technological marvel. To celebrate PlayStation's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary players must rescue other "bots" throughout the level who are cosplaying as characters from PlayStation's 30-year-old video game library—including many platformer icons from the 1990s and early 2000s. Luckily, some of these titles are available to borrow from the library. If you enjoyed *Astro Bot* as much as I did, here are some other platformer suggestions:

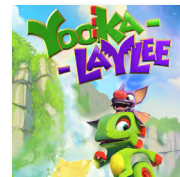
and open hub worlds and rewards curious players who explore each level fully rather than the speed at which the level is completed, making it one of the more cozy platformers.



While other early platformers featured in *Astro Bot* like *Sly Cooper* and *Ape Escape* have not been so lucky to see remakes, the library does have the original **Jak and Daxter: The Precursor Legacy** available to borrow. *Jak and Daxter* is notable for being one of the first open world video games without any load screens (like a precursor to *The Legend of Zelda: Breath of the Wild*). *Jak and Daxter* is slightly more story-driven than *Crash* and *Spyro* and more grounded in its world-building, but it still features platforming challenges and collectibles found across jungles, caves, mountains, and even sunken cities.



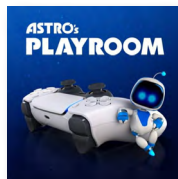
*Ratchet and Clank* is one of the longest-running PlayStation platformer franchises with its most recent game **Ratchet and Clank: Rift Apart** released in 2021. Like *Astro Bot*, *Ratchet and Clank* is a sci-fi adventure taking place across different planets and dimensions. While still retaining its platforming origins, *Rift Apart* also utilizes third-player shooter elements for gameplay variety.



In 2017 Playtonic Games tried to recapture the style of 1997's platformer *Banjo-Kazooie* with **Yooka-Laylee**. *Yooka-Laylee* features book pages as its main collectibles with each level taking place inside a book. There are the obligatory jungle and snow levels, but also a casino level which is very similar to *Astro Bot*'s own casino level. Like *Banjo-Kazooie*, *Yooka-Laylee*'s levels are completely open-ended. Players continue to explore each level until they've collected enough pages to satisfy progression requirements.



If you're a Spongebob fan be sure not to miss **Battle for Bikini Bottom**. This is another one that was originally released back in 2003 but received a remake in 2020 for current gen consoles. You will play as Spongebob, collecting golden spatulas in iconic locations such as Jellyfish Fields, Goo Lagoon, the Kelp Forest, and Rock Bottom in order to stop Plankton's evil scheme. The remake was followed by a sequel **The Cosmic Shake** in 2023. Other notable platformers in the library's collection include **Kao the Kangaroo**, a game similar to *Crash Bandicoot*, **A Hat in Time**, an anime-like platformer, and **Journey to the Savage Planet**, a game which combines elements of *Metroid*, first-person shooter, and platformer.



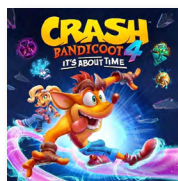
The first game you should play if you enjoyed *Astro Bot* (or if you are waiting for your library hold) is **Astro's Playroom**. *Astro's Playroom* is available to download from the PlayStation store *for free!* It's the original 2020 tech demo that featured the titular character and acts as a prologue to the 2024 game. Even though it's marketed as a tech demo, it consists of four

unique levels and a hub world, and it takes a few hours to complete. It will give you an idea for the look and feel of the full game (although I found *Playroom* to be slightly more challenging) as well as introduce the premise of *Astro Bot*'s world.



One of the first cosplaying robots you will come across in *Astro Bot* is Crash Bandicoot, PlayStation's earliest gaming mascot. The original *Crash Bandicoot* trilogy has been remade as **Crash Bandicoot N. Sane Trilogy** for current gen consoles. Although its levels have a more linear design (and

even feature some 2D platforming) it's still one of the most challenging platformers out there. **Crash 4: It's About Time** was released in 2020 as a sequel to the original trilogy and makes use of new gimmicks for various levels.



Originally released alongside the *Crash Bandicoot* series, the *Spyro the Dragon* trilogy has also been remade as **Spyro Reignited Trilogy**. While *Crash* focuses on the speed at which players can get through the level, *Spyro* features levels with branching paths

*Astro Bot* is a love letter to PlayStation's forgotten genre. While it stands on its own, it also features parodies, cameos, and subtle references to video games throughout PlayStation's history. And if you've ever enjoyed any of the other platformers on this list you are sure to find something you love in *Astro Bot*.





## January Hours

**Monday - Friday**  
9:30am - 9pm

**Saturday**  
9:30am - 5pm

**Sunday**  
12noon-4pm

## Scheduled Closings

### New Year

Close at 4pm on Tuesday, Dec 31<sup>st</sup>  
Wednesday, Jan 1<sup>st</sup>

**Martin Luther King Jr. Day**  
Monday, Jan 20<sup>th</sup>

## 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](http://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](http://rebrand.ly/CTefile)  
Or you can download and print paper forms here: [rebrand.ly/CTtaxforms](http://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 27<sup>th</sup> until Apr 13<sup>th</sup>. You may call to make an appointment at (860) 356-2000.

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.

## ONE BOOK ONE WALLINGFORD

TWENTY TWENTY-FIVE

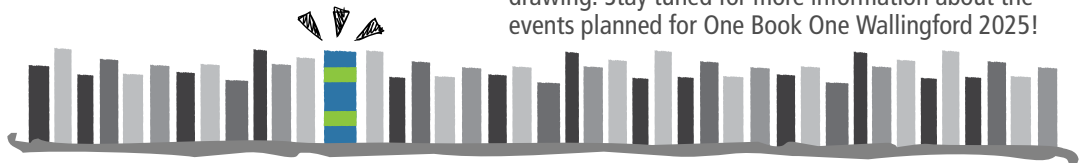
### SAVE THE DATES!

**BOOK REVEAL:** Wednesday, Feb 5<sup>th</sup> | 7pm

**AUTHOR VISIT & BOOK SIGNING:**  
Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup> | 7pm

The goal of One Book One Wallingford is to bring the community together in reading and discussing the same book. After a series of book discussions and events related to the title, we will gather together for a visit with the author.

Throughout the month of January we will reveal clues about the 2025 One Book One Wallingford book selection. Clues will be posted in the library and on social media. Anyone who guesses the book title correctly before the reveal will be entered into a drawing to win a copy. You may guess as many times as you'd like, but only one correct guess per person will be included in the final drawing. Stay tuned for more information about the events planned for One Book One Wallingford 2025!



## IN OTHERS' Words ...

“Look there, Sancho Panza, my friend, and see those thirty or so wild giants, with whom I intend to do battle and kill each and all of them, so with their stolen booty we can begin to enrich ourselves...”



“What giants?” Asked Sancho Panza.

“The ones you can see over there,” answered his master, “with the huge arms, some of which are very nearly two leagues long.”

“Now look, your grace,” said Sancho, “what you see over there aren’t giants, but windmills, and what seems to be arms are just their sails, that go around in the wind and turn the millstone.”

“Obviously,” replied Don Quixote, “you don’t know much about adventures.”



— Miguel de Cervantes, *Don Quixote*



**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

**January Specials**  
Puzzles and Fantasy  
(Adult and YA)