

June
2024

WORDS



A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE WALLINGFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

JUNE

HOLLYWOOD'S LGBTQ+ History: Out of the Shadow & Into the Spotlight

Tuesday, June 4th | 7-8pm | Zoom | [Click to register](#)

For over a century, Hollywood and the films it produces have had a troubled history with both onscreen depictions and real-life interactions with the queer community. Presented by Frank Mandosa, a Massachusetts-based educator and film critic, this virtual talk explores not only the ongoing evolution of this dynamic before, during, and after the cameras roll, but also of different portrayals of the LGBTQ+ experience in films of all genres, past and present.

LGBTQ+ NEWS: Current Topics for Queer People & Their Allies

Thursday, June 13th | 7-8pm | Community Room | [Click to register](#)

The state of LGBTQ+ rights, particularly when it comes to social acceptance and understanding, is an ever-changing landscape. How do we wade through the confusion and frequent misinformation and show up for the community? Join us for a learning session around current events and issues faced by LGBTQ+ people, from the impacts of bias and bullying to drag queen story hours and queer representation on social media to "Don't Say Gay" bills. Informed allyship is effective allyship!

We Are Here, We Are Queer: A WPL Pride Film Series

Fridays, June 7th, 14th, & 21st | 6:30-8:30pm | Community Room | Drop-in

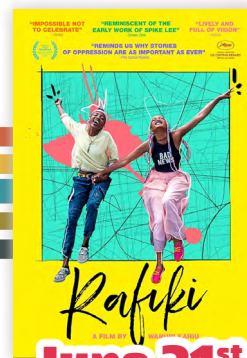
Come celebrate Pride at the Wallingford Public Library! Join us on Friday nights this June for a three-part film series centering on LGBTQIA experiences. We will feature the 2018 romantic comedy *Love, Simon* (PG-13) on June 7th, the 2023 documentary *Every Body* (R) on June 14th, and the 2018 Kenyan drama *Rafiki* (unrated) on June 21st. This series will showcase stories that bring awareness to the vast history, challenges, triumphs and dreams of those who identify as Queer. All are welcome; no registration required! #LibrariesAreForEveryone



June 7th



June 14th



June 21st




WALLINGFORD
PUBLIC LIBRARY

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.

Vol. 17 Iss. 06



WALLINGFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

OUR DOORS OPEN TO ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES

Wallingford Public Library
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. *Words* is edited by Publicity and Public Services Librarian Christopher Ciemniowski from contributions by library staff members.

BECOME A MEMBER OF THE WALLINGFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION:

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. *Words*, a publication of the Wallingford Public Library, is sent electronically to members of the Wallingford Public Library Association. As a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, we are also eligible to accept a bequest from your estate plan.

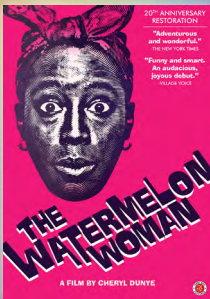
kanopy

Free with your library Card!

Stream critically-acclaimed movies, inspiring documentaries, and award-winning foreign films from your device with an ad-free experience: walpublib.org/kanopy

LGBTQ+ Films Streaming on Kanopy!

Staff Picks from Dune



The Watermelon Woman (1996)



Neptune Frost (2021)



The First Fallen: Os Primeiros Soldados (2022)

Stay-Connected!

Words is the Wallingford Public Library's monthly newsletter of events. Each month, the first 50 copies are printed in color followed by an unlimited printing in grayscale.

View the current issue in color on our website using this QR code or at the following link: walpublib.org/newsletter



Register for events online through our digital calendar of events: walpublib.org/events

Never Miss an Event!

Join our email list to receive personalized emails so you never miss the events that interest you the most: walpublib.org/email

Follow us on social media for more news, events, and photos: @WallingfordLibrary on Facebook and @WalPubLib on Twitter and Instagram.

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Spread the **Word...**

Virtual Author Events

For the Love of Mars: A Human History of the Red Planet with Smithsonian Curator Matt Shindell

Monday, June 3rd | 2-3pm | Zoom | [Click to register](#)

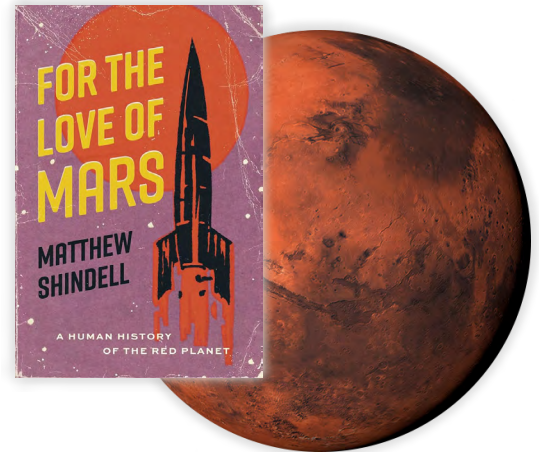


Mars and its secrets have fascinated and mystified humans since ancient times. Due to its vivid color and visibility, geologic kinship with Earth, and potential as our best hope for settlement, Mars embodies everything that inspires us about space and exploration. **For the Love of Mars** surveys the red planet's place in the human imagination, beginning with ancient astrologers and skywatchers and ending in our present moment of exploration and virtual engagement.

Matt Shindell will introduce us to historical figures across

eras and around the world who have made sense of this mysterious

planet. By focusing on the diverse human stories behind the telescopes and behind the robots we know and love, Shindell will show how Mars exploration has evolved in ways that have also expanded knowledge about other facets of the universe.



Matthew Shindell, Ph.D., is Curator of Earth and Planetary Science at the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum and co-hosts the Museum's podcast, *AirSpace*. Shindell is the author of *For the Love of Mars: A Human History of the Red Planet* (2023) and *The Life and Science of Harold C. Urey* (2019) and coauthor of *Spaceships* (2023), *Our Future in Space* (2023), and *Discerning Experts* (2019).

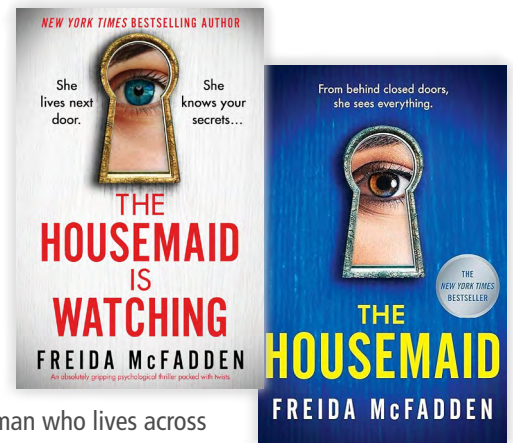
Psychological Thrillers and the Queen of Twist— An Author Talk with Freida McFadden

Thursday, June 13th | 8-9 pm

Zoom | [Click to register](#)



Join us as we chat with **Freida McFadden** about writing psychological thrillers and her bestselling Housemaid series, in particular the upcoming third installment in the series, **The Housemaid Is Watching**. Former maid Millie Calloway used to clean other people's houses, but now she lives in a wonderful new home. She and her husband saved for years to give their children the life they deserve. But there are strange things on their street. Their neighbor's maid is cold to Millie, and she is sure she sees a shadowy figure watching them. Her husband leaves the house late at night. And when she meets a woman who lives across the way, her words chill to the bone: Be careful of your neighbors.



#1 New York Times bestselling author Freida McFadden is a practicing physician, specializing in brain injury, who has written multiple bestselling psychological thrillers and medical humor novels. Her novels have been translated into over 30 languages. She lives with her family and black cat in an old three-story home overlooking the ocean, with staircases that creak and moan with every step.



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

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 to do that. You may even have tried to teach yourself, but that can be overwhelming and confusing.

The library can help! **Tech Connect** is a free service staffed by digital navigators who will teach you what YOU want to do on your devices. Our digital navigators will develop a customized plan to help you successfully connect to the online world. This includes one-on-one training, assistance in signing up for free or discounted home Internet and a long-term loan of your very own computer.

Call us today at **(203) 626-4774** to meet with a digital navigator.

Registration for all programs is required unless otherwise noted.

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 Matt, as they teach beginner classes in computer topics and answer your most important questions.



Dear It: Android Phone Basics

Saturday, June 1st | 3-4:30pm | Adults | Board Room | [Click to register](#)

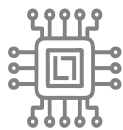
Have an Android device and don't know how to use it? Want to be able to navigate your phone with ease? Learn the fundamentals of Android devices with Matt.



Dear It: Digital Citizenship

Saturday, June 15th | 3-4:30pm | Adults | Board Room | [Click to register](#)

Elijah will teach you how to responsibly and appropriately interact with the Internet... There will be time for Q&A.



Artificial Intelligence For Everyone

Saturday, June 8th OR Monday, June 17th | 2-3:30pm | Adults | Collins Room

[Register for Saturday](#) | [Register for Monday](#)

AI assistants can act as your own personal secretary. Learn how they can improve your day-to-day life!



Coding Basics

Monday, June 10th OR Saturday, June 22nd | 2-3:30pm | Adults | Collaboratory

[Register for Monday](#) | [Register for Saturday](#)

Ever wonder how websites are created? This class will go over the basics of HTML & CSS, coding languages that are used to make up about 95% of all websites, by coding a webpage featuring a recipe card! Basic computer skills are required, but prior coding experience is not.



NICHE
ACADEMY

Video tutorials on library resources and online services are available for free with your library card on Niche Academy!

Some highlights include:

- How to use Hoopla, Kanopy, and Libby to download eBooks and Audiobooks or stream movies
- How to use other library resources such as NoveList, CreativeBug, JobNow, Ancestry, and more
- How to use social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn
- How to use other online services such as Gmail, TinkerCad, and Zoom

From the **Borrower Services Department**

Cardholder Perks for Travelers!

Planning a vacation in the great outdoors?

But the cabin has no internet?? The Wallingford Public Library has a solution for you! Borrow a **Wi-Fi hotspot**, a portable device that provides internet access, for up to 2 weeks. Be sure to reserve it in advance at the Information Desk. walpublib.org/techdevices

Need a way to pass the time on the car ride?

Check out an **audiobook** from Hoopla or Libby or even a good old fashioned **audiobook**! Keep the kids entertained, too, with a portable **Playaway** audiobook from the Children's Department! walpublib.org/digitalmedia

Want to bring back family game night? Check out the library's selection of **lawn games** like giant chess, cornhole, or bocce. Is rain in the forecast? Be sure to bring along a **board game** or two and a **jigsaw puzzle**! (Two Library of Things items may be borrowed per library card.) walpublib.org/LibraryOfThings

Looking for things to do at your destination?

Browse our collection of **travel books**. If you're planning a day at the beach, check out a beach read from the **Book Club Favorites** display near the Checkout Desk. And don't forget to download **eMagazines** on your Libby app; there are literally hundreds of titles from which to choose. walpublib.org/travelguides

Afraid that your holds will come in while you're away? Well don't you fret—log into "My Account" at walpublib.org/MyAccount and freeze your holds until you return. When you unfreeze them you won't even lose your place in line.

Planning a staycation instead? Borrow a **Discount Pass** to visit local attractions like the Beardsley Zoo, the Discovery Science Center and Planetarium, the Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art, Old Sturbridge Village, and many others! Visit walpublib.org/DiscountPasses to see the list of attractions and reserve your pass.

Bon voyage and safe travels!



See our Pre-Vacation
Adventure here:
walpublib.org/ForTravelers



Summer at the LIBRARY

Summer is the busiest season for the Library, and this year the staff have something extra to contend with. As summer planning got underway, the librarians began to notice strange sightings and occurrences throughout the library. Staff have reported sightings of aliens, cryptids, bats, and even a headless horseman roaming the

stacks, while pirate ghosts have been spotted plundering the children's room. Library staff have been unable to find the root cause of these experiences. As the busy season approaches, staff have decided to accept these encounters as part of their new normal and will delay finding a solution until the fall. They have gone so far as to theme their annual summer program "Eerie Encounters." The Eerie Encounters summer program will consist of multiple programs that target each age group. All programs will run from July 1st-August 17th.

For Kids Entering Grades K-6:



Registration will begin on May 28th. When registering, you will be asked to create a username and password to access your summer reading account. You may begin logging books on June 17th and begin completing missions in the library on July 1st. The last day to log minutes, complete missions, and submit prize drawings is August 17th. Please ask at the children's desk if you have any questions or need help setting up your account.

To complete the program and earn a FREE book from the Wallingford Library's Book Seller, you need to read 600 minutes this summer. If you finish early, keep going! By reading 900 minutes, you will get a token for our prize vending machine. By reading 1200 minutes before the program officially ends on August 17th, you will earn a chance to win one of our Grand Prizes. For added fun, each week beginning July 1st, there will be weekly missions to complete at the library. Complete all of the missions to get another token for the prize vending machine.

For Babies, Toddlers, & Preschoolers:



Spend time reading as a family! For every 10 books your family reads together, you will earn a sea creature to add to our ocean, and once you've read 60 books, you will be entered into a drawing for a gift basket. You may read the same book more than once—we know that's how many preschoolers enjoy their favorite books.

For added fun, for every ten books you read (up to 60 books), stop by the library for a special scavenger hunt. Search around the tree for hidden pictures and earn a sticker for finding them all!

You can begin logging your books beginning June 17th. The last day to log books and submit prize drawings is Aug 17th.

BILINGUAL HOMEWORK HELP

Bilingual Homework Help Wednesdays | 4-8pm

Grades K-5 | 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 Bilingüe con las Tareas 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.



SCHOOL-AGED PROGRAMS

Sign Language Club for Kids

Wednesday, June 12th | 4:30pm
Wonder Room | Grades 2-5

[Click to 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.

Ghost Ships with the Mystic Seaport Museum

Thursday, June 20th | 6:30pm
Community Room | Ages 5-11

[Click to register](#)

As long as humans have been sailing, the sea has been full of mystery and danger. In this program, we will be exploring the accounts and legends of ghostly ships. What can cause a ship to lose its crew and continue to travel the world's oceans on its own? Who sights these phantom vessels? Should they be feared? Presented by the Mystic Seaport Museum.

Trading Card Battle Club

Tuesday, June 25th | 4-7pm
Children's Room | Grades 4-8

[Click to 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.

Mystic Aquarium's Touch Tank

Thursday, June 27th | 3:30-6:30pm
Community Room | All ages

[Click to register](#)

Mystic Aquarium's animal ambassadors are swimming up to the library! Their human educator friends will bring an assortment of live invertebrates such as lobsters, horseshoe crabs, and shellfish that you will have an opportunity to pet. Drop in any time during their visit, but you may register for a reminder email. Participants will be allowed into the room in smaller groups so as not to overwhelm the animals.



PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

Silly Story Time

Saturday, June 8th | 10:30am
Children's Program Room | Ages 0-5

[Click to 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, June 11th | 9:30am OR 1:30pm
Marcus Cooke Park | Ages 3-5

[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.

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

Bouncing Babies

Ages 0-18 months | 10am or 11am | Wonder Room
Mondays, June 17th- Aug 5th

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.

Waddling Ones & Twos

Ages 18 months – 35 months | 10am or 11am
Wonder Room | Tuesdays, June 18th-Aug 6th

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 songs, rhymes, books and more. Playtime to follow.

Happy Feet Story Time

Ages 2-3 | 10:30pm | Children's Program Room
Wednesdays, June 26th- Aug 7th

Join Miss Kari at this active, early literacy enriched story time where we will explore books, songs, and rhymes for all ages.

Family Story Time

Ages 0-5 | 6:30pm | Community Room
Wednesdays, June 26th- Aug 7th

Join Miss Kari at this active, early literacy enriched story time where we will explore books, songs, and rhymes for all ages.

Preschool Story Time

Ages 3-5 | 10:30am | Children's Program Room
Thursdays, June 27th-Aug 8th (No Class July 4th)

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.

Happenings *Registration for these programs is required unless otherwise noted.*



Open Doors: A Community Conversation on Affordable Housing

Wednesday, June 5th | 6:30-8:30pm | Community Room | [Click to register](#)

Join representatives from Wallingford's town government, service providers, realtors, homebuilders, and other neighbors for an open and honest conversation about the state of housing in Wallingford—our needs, opportunities, and concerns. If we want a community where everyone can afford a home, we need to hear your voice, your experiences, and your perspective about what options and solutions we can pursue together. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions about what "affordable housing" is and isn't, and learn the facts about who needs housing in Wallingford and what we can do about it together.



Wildlife & Connecticut's Changing Landscape

Tuesday, June 11th | 7-8pm | Community Room | [Click to register](#)

Paul Colburn, a CT DEEP Master Wildlife Conservationist will present a natural history of Connecticut from the early 1600's, when European colonists arrived, to the present day. He will describe the relationships between native species and Europeans, particularly in terms of habitat and harvest interactions. You will learn about Eastern mountain lions, coyotes, wolves, elk, white-tailed deer, black bears, and more. Paul will conclude by addressing the state of Connecticut's wildlife today, current habitat and population issues, and the challenges we face living responsibly alongside them.



Resume Basics

Tuesday, June 18th | 7-8:30pm | Collins Room | [Click to register](#)

Has it been a while since you've written a resume? Do you need to put together a resume soon and don't know where to start? Are you wondering what information employers are looking for in a resume? Join **Librarian and Career Specialist Sarah Eiseman** for a session learning how to write a quality resume. We'll go over general guidelines and find out about some free resources to help you put together a resume that makes you shine! Wallingford library card (or card from another subscribing library) recommended. Non-WPL participants are welcome. *Please check with your home library to see if they subscribe to JobNow! before registering. This is a great session to attend before a [one-on-one session with Sarah](#) for those who want to create a new resume.*



Ask Attorney Allinson

Wednesday, June 26th | 6:30-8pm | Collins Room | [Click to register](#)

Attorney Steven Allinson, an attorney in Wallingford, will speak and answer your questions about probate, trusts, wills, estates, Medicaid, and other estate planning. At this forum, the Attorney cannot give specific legal advice; all his responses will be procedural in nature and contain a general overview of the law. Come with questions!



THE Wallingford TABLE

Where everyone has a seat.



The Wallingford Table presents: A Juneteenth Celebration!

Tuesday, June 18th | 6:30-8pm | St. Paul's Episcopal Church | [Click to register](#)

Join us for the second event in our Wallingford Table series: A Community Celebration of Juneteenth! Juneteenth is a holiday commemorating the end of slavery in the United States. On Tuesday, June 18th, we will gather at St. Paul's Episcopal Church to learn all about the history, food & traditions of this storied celebration from a panel of local speakers. Attendees will enjoy delicious Juneteenth refreshments from local Black-owned restaurants and Mayor Cervoni will be present to read the official Juneteenth Proclamation. Following the panel, attendees will be invited to participate in a traditional African dance featuring live drumming! The Wallingford Table is sponsored by donations from The Great Give.

Gatherings

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

French Conversation Group

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

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

Spanish Conversation Group

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

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

Literacy Volunteers

Tuesdays | 11:30am-1pm | Board Room

JoDenise 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 Board Room 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 Staff will contact you shortly to schedule your appointment.

Knit @ WPL

Monday, June 3rd & 17th | 6-7:30pm | Board Room

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

Wednesday, June 5th | 6:30-8:30pm | Collins Room

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

Saturday Mornings with Poetry

**Saturday, June 1st & 15th | 9:45am-12noon
Board 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.

Ukulele Club

Collins Room | Drop-in

Morning Ukulele Club—

Monday, June 3rd | 10-11:30am

Evening Ukulele Club—

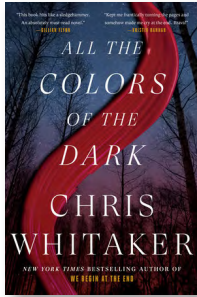
Wednesday, June 12th | 7-8:30pm

Join Local Ukulelist Steven Lazarus at one or both of the library's ukulele clubs! The first hour of each session will be dedicated to more experienced players, while the last half-hour will be focused on beginners. Please bring your own instruments. No registration is required to participate! If you have any questions you can contact Steven at steven@lazarusmail.net

New in Novels by Cindy Haiken

If you are viewing this newsletter digitally, you can click any of the book covers below to view them in the catalog.

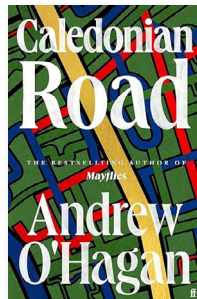
In her 2010 novel *Love in the Afternoon*, Lisa Kleypas writes: "This is the smell of June... honeysuckle, green hay, wet linen hung out to dry." June is one of those transitional months, as schools let out for the summer and the weather shifts from the warm pleasantness of spring to hotter, beach-appropriate temperatures. And June also ushers in the start of the summer reading season, when lighter schedules and vacations free up much needed reading time. Here is a sample of the wonderfully long list of new novels scheduled for publication this month:



***All the Colors of the Dark* by Chris Whitaker** — 1975 is a time of change in America. The Vietnam War is ending. Mohammed Ali is fighting Joe Frazier. And in the small town of Monta Clare, Missouri, girls are disappearing.

***Bear* by Julia Phillips** — On an island off the coast of Washington, the lives of two sisters who are barely getting by are upended when a bear appears.

***Becoming Ted* by Matt Cain** — A predictable 43-year-old man reimagines his life and takes new chances on friendship and love after his husband leaves him for another man.



***Caledonian Road* by Andrew O'Hagan** — A Dickensian-esque story of the rise and decline in the fortunes of five interconnected families.

***Devil Is Fine* by John Vercher** — A man who is reeling from the death of his son inherits land that turns out to be a former plantation.

***Enlightenment* by Sarah Perry** — The friendship of two kindred spirits living in a small village in Essex, England is fractured by romantic entanglements.

***Eruption* by Michael Crichton and James Patterson** — A volcanic eruption is predicted to destroy the Big Island of Hawai'i and expose long-held, explosive military secrets.

***The Glassmaker* by Tracy Chevalier** — The story of a family of glassmakers from the height of Renaissance-era Italy to the present day.

***Horror Movie* by Paul Tremblay** — The only surviving cast member of a doomed 1993 film joins its Hollywood reboot three decades later, but reality and script blur as he remembers the bizarre events of the original movie.



***How to Age Disgracefully* by Claire Pooley** — A woman takes a job running the Senior Citizens' Social Club, but they are not the docile group she's expecting.

***Little Rot* by Akwaeke Emezi** — Five people try to survive in a Nigerian city after a sex party goes awry.

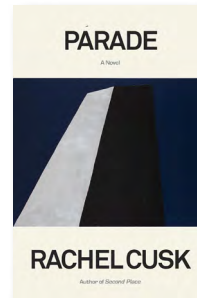


***Margo's Got Money Troubles* by Rufi Thorpe** — A young single mother becomes an internet sensation.

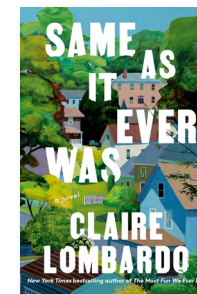
***Middle of the Night* by Riley Sager** — 30 years after the fact, a man tries to find out what happened the night his best friend disappeared.

***The Midnight Feast* by Lucy Foley** — A locked-room mystery set in The Manor, a luxury resort playing host to a range of characters with agendas and hidden pasts.

***Parade* by Rachel Cusk** — An artist achieves unexpected success after she starts to paint upside down.



***The Road to the Country* by Chigozie Obioma** — A shy, bookish student heads out on a rescue mission when his brother disappears during his country's civil war.

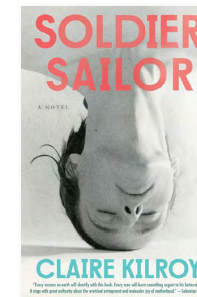


***Same As It Ever Was* by Claire Lombardo** — A 57-year-old married woman who has contentedly raised two kids in the suburbs has a chance encounter with the old friend who almost ended her marriage decades earlier.

***Sandwich* by Catherine Newman** — During a family's annual Cape Cod summer vacation, a woman finds herself in the

sandwich generation between her kids and her aging parents.

***Shanghai* by Joseph Kanon** — After the violence of Kristallnacht in 1938, European Jews flee to Shanghai, the only port not requiring an entry visa.

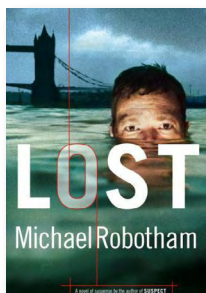


***Soldier Sailor* by Claire Kilroy** — An exhausted mother is struggling while her son goes through the "terrible twos." Shortlisted for the 2024 Women's Prize for Fiction.

Also of note this month are the sequel to *The Last Mrs. Parrish* by Liv Constantine (*The Next Mrs. Parrish*), the 6th Lady Sherlock mystery by Sherry Thomas (*A*

Ruse of Shadows), the 11th Kendra Michaels thriller by Iris and Ray Johansen (*Flashback*), the 18th Maisie Dobbs mystery by Jacqueline Winspear (*The Comfort of Ghosts*), the 24th Dave Robicheaux thriller by James Lee Burke (*Clete*), and new novels by Elin Hilderbrand (*Swan Song*), Susan Mallery (*For the Love of Summer*), Danielle Steel (*Resurrection*) and Beatriz Williams (*Husbands & Lovers*).

Book Discussions



Mystery Book Club

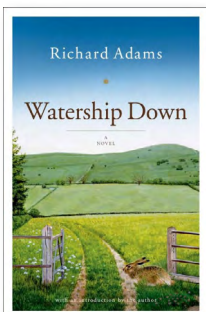
Lost by Michael Robotham

Wednesday, June 5th | 3-4:15pm | Community Room & Zoom

Discussion moderated by Professor and Author Carole Shmurak

After Detective Inspector Vincent Ruiz is pulled out of the Thames with a bullet wound in his leg and no memory of the shooting, let alone how he wound up in the water, he retraces both his steps and his prior investigation of a missing child.

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



Classics Book Club

Watership Down by Richard Adams

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

Discussion moderated by Readers Advisory Librarian Cindy Haiken

Hazel is an average rabbit who finds himself thrust into an extraordinary situation when his friend Fiver foresees the destruction of their current warren. Hazel convinces just a few of his fellow rabbits to join him and Fiver in a quest for a new place to live. Each rabbit has a unique skill to contribute, which comes in handy as the group must overcome many obstacles in their hunt for a new warren. Richard Adams' debut novel is a classic tale of adventure, courage and survival.

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



Thursday Night Book Club

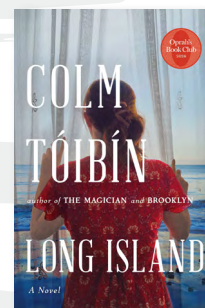
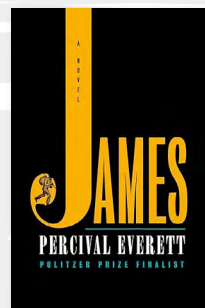
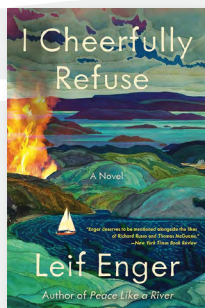
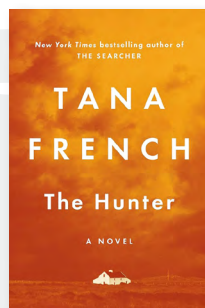
Romantic Comedy by Curtis Sittenfeld

Thursday, June 20th | 6:30-8pm | Collins Room & Zoom

Discussion moderated by Readers Advisory Librarian Cindy Haiken

Sally Milz is a 30-something divorcee who writes for The Night Owls, a Saturday Night Live-esque comedy show. After she and the handsome pop star hosting the show start to flirt, Sally sabotages their budding relationship, believing that beautiful women go out with averagely-attractive men, but never the other way around. Sittenfeld's bestselling novel was a Reese's Book Club pick and was named one of the best books of 2023 by NPR, USA Today and the Washington Post.

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



Have you heard?? We've brought back the Library's podcast, **The Bookmark**, hosted by Readers Advisory Librarian Cindy Haiken and Library Director Sunnie Scarpa. Join Sunnie and Cindy quarterly for conversations about books, authors, reading experiences, library happenings and what they love about their jobs and working together. The most recent episode aired on **May 1st**!



Listen here: walpublib.org/TheBookmark

Drop-In Programs



Open Sew

Tuesday, June 4th | 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!



Now featuring CRYPTIDS!

Max FAQs from Max Spurr

Q: I think I saw a cryptid around town!!
What should I do?

A: Stay calm! The Cryptids that have been seen around town seem harmless. I recommend you record this sighting by recreating it in your artistic medium of choice and entering it in this year's **Some Assembly Required** maker contest. This way the encounter will be documented, you can show off your artistic skills to the rest of the town, and you will be in the running to win great prizes!

In addition to our Cryptid category, the other categories this year are: Art, Best Looking Food, B&W Photography, Color Photography, DIY, Textile Arts, Upcycling, and Videography. Submissions must be made by email and will be collected July 1st through July 27th. Voting will take place on social media August 1st-17th, and winners will be announced on August 19th. Best of each category gets a \$25 gift card to the Wallingford business of their choice, and the overall grand prize winner receives an additional \$100 gift card. Full details are available on the Some Assembly Required page of the Collaboratory section of the library's website: walpublib.org/SomeAssemblyRequired

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.



Lottery Programs

Visit the June program lottery to register for the events below:
walpublib.org/JuneLottery2024

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

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

Project photos can be found at walpublib.org/UpcomingCollaboratory



Painted Daisy Wine Bottle

Monday, June 3rd | 6:30-8:30pm OR

Tuesday, June 4th | 2:30-4:30pm

Celebrate spring by painting daisies on a wine bottle. *Note: This is a repeat program. Please do not register if you have attended previously.*



Koi Rock

Tuesday, June 18th | 6:30-8:30pm OR

Thursday, June 20th | 2:30-4:30pm

Paint a swimming koi onto a rock using decorative painting techniques.



Japanese Side Sewn Sketchbook

Wednesday, June 5th | 7-8:30pm OR

Thursday, June 6th | 3-4:30pm

Learn a Japanese style sewn bookbinding technique to bind a small book perfect to use as a sketchbook or journal. This tutorial is available online through Creativebug for Wallingford card holders.



Sublimation Decorated Hats

Wednesday, June 26th | 7-8:30pm OR

Thursday, June 27th | 3-4:30pm

Use the sublimation printer to create artwork to iron onto a trucker-style baseball hat. If there are specific images you would like to use, be sure you are able to access them digitally. *Note: This is a repeat program. Please do not register if you have attended previously.*



Decorative Bowls

Wednesday, June 12th | 7-8:30pm OR

Thursday, June 13th | 3-4:30pm

Make a beautiful wooden bowl, perfect for decoration (but sadly not for holding food, and definitely not liquids). These bowls are exclusive to the Wallingford Public Library! *Note: This is a repeat program. Please do not register if you have attended previously.*



Talking TED @ Home

Thursday, June 13th | 7-8pm | 7-8pm | Adults | Registration required | Zoom
[Click to 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 June, we will watch and discuss Norman Lear's "An Entertainment Icon on Living a Life of Meaning."

In the 1970s (and decades following), TV producer Norman Lear touched the lives of millions with culture-altering sitcoms like *All in the Family*, *The Jeffersons*, and *Good Times*, pushing the boundaries of the era and giving a primetime voice to underrepresented Americans. In an intimate, smart conversation with Eric Hirshberg, he shares with humility and humor how his early relationship with "the foolishness of the human condition" shaped his life and creative vision.

Registration Required

Cosplay Con at WPL!

Saturday, June 1st | 11am-3pm
 Grades K-12 | [Register for a reminder](#)
 Come celebrate your favorite characters and fandoms at Cosplay Con! You can come dressed up as a character you love or make your own cosplay at some of our stations! There will be sword fighting, a photo booth, arts and crafts, a costume contest, and more!

Cross-stitch Pride Keychains

Wednesday, June 12th | 3:15-4:45pm
 Collins Room | Grades 6-12
[Click to register](#)
 Back by popular demand... Show your pride and learn a new craft at the same time! Choose the pride flag that represents you best and then learn the basics of cross-stitch to turn it into a keychain. No experience necessary.



Make Your Own Dice Set!

Thursday, June 13th | 3:30-4:30pm
 Collaboratory | Grades 6-12
[Click to register](#)
 Use resin to create your own dice set for Dungeons & Dragons and other tabletop games! Each participant will make a full set of custom dice. Please note: due to the time resin needs to cure, you will need to pick up your dice the following week.

Virtual Author Visit with Tiffany Jewell

Thursday, June 20th | 2-3pm | Zoom
[Click to register](#)
 In partnership with the Library Speakers Consortium, we're streaming Unpacking a History of Systemic Racism in the American Education System with Tiffany Jewell. This is a live author event with an interactive Q&A session!

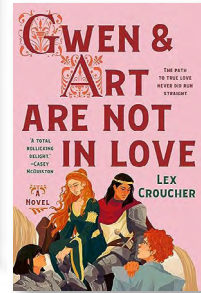


Drop-in Events

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.

New Queer YA Books!



Summer at the LIBRARY

EERIE ENCOUNTERS! for Teens

- The Teen Eerie Encounters program is open to anyone entering grades 6-12 in the fall
- Beginning May 28th you can register: walpublib.org/SummerLog or download the ReadSquared app
- Log your reading and activities on your program account from July 1st - August 17th
- Visit the website for more info: walpublib.org/SummerAtTheLibrary

LOST IN THE WORDS

Part I of III: Under a Diverse Kanopy

by Chris Cierniewski

Listening suggestion:
Trees by twenty one pilots

According to entomologist Terry Erwin, “Forest canopies are arguably considered some of the most species-rich environments on the planet.” Like the diversity of plant and animal life that can be found in the tree tops, a similar diversity of human experiences can be found on the library’s movie streaming service Kanopy. Kanopy is free for all Wallingford Public Library cardholders to use. At the beginning of each month every account is credited **30 tickets** which can be used to stream content. Most feature length films cost two tickets, which allows for streaming access of the selected film for 72 hours. Shorter films and TV show episodes may only cost one ticket each. The interface for Kanopy is elegant in its simplicity. In comparison with pay-for streaming services that constantly push the content they want you to watch or force you to spend hours trying to find something, Kanopy makes it easy for the indecisive to find content by guiding users through a series of genre tabs that become more refined until you find the movie that most appeals to you. Best of all, there are never any ads!

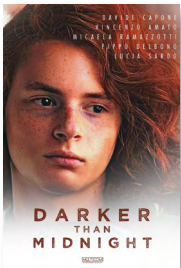


Kanopy’s strength also lies in its curation of foreign films. The service features Oscar-nominated films like **Everything Everywhere All at Once** and **Past Lives**. Although mostly in Chinese and Korean respectively, there is enough English peppered throughout these two films to act as a primer or segue for audiences who are new to reading subtitles. Kanopy is a great place to find earlier works from prolific directors such as **Hunt for the Wilderpeople** which was directed by Taika Waititi before he joined up with Marvel Studios.

After having read Albert Camus’ *The Stranger* for the first time I decided to watch the Italian film **The Battle for Algiers** to better understand the politics of French-occupied Algeria during the mid-20th century. Although made in 1966, the film’s anti-colonial message still resonates today. I followed this up with another Italian film, 2022’s **The Eight Mountains**. The story follows the lives of two friends from a small village in the Italian Alps. As they become teenagers one of the boys decides to move to Turin to pursue his dreams, thinking the village is too suffocating with its traditions, while the other decides to remain in the village his entire life, establishing a family and enjoying solitude in the mountains. The film contrasts these two different lifestyles at various intervals by showing the fulfillments and the heartaches of each man with the acknowledgement that no one person will ever get to experience both lives. If you’d like to pair this Italian film with the French philosopher, I’d suggest Camus’ *The Myth of Sisyphus* which is also about finding happiness on the metaphorical mountain.



And because everything works better in threes, the final Italian film I watched recently was 2014’s **Darker Than Midnight** which follows an androgynous teen who is rejected by his parents because of his gender expression. However, he finds friendship among a group of prostitutes on the streets of Catania. Pair this one with Camus’ *Exile and the Kingdom*, a collection of short stories about feeling alone in society.



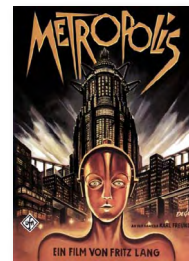
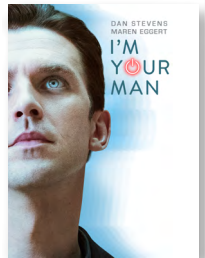
There is no shortage of queer cinema on Kanopy, which delightfully has LGBTQ+ stories for every culture. On June 21st the library will be showing **Rafiki** as part of WPL’s Pride Film Series organized by WPL’s Outreach Coordinator Dune Bryant (more info on the cover). **Rafiki** is a 2018 Kenyan coming-of-age film about two women who fall in love. The story follows their budding romance as it comes under attack by neighbors and local political leaders. **Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe** is a 2022 adaptation of the 2012 novel about two Mexican-American teens who fall in love over one summer and explores the kaleidoscope of messy and beautiful feelings that everyone feels when they realize they are in love for the first time.

The Blue Caftan is a 2022 Moroccan film about a married man who develops feelings for his apprentice. The film sensitively demonstrates that it is never too late to become who you are. See page 2 for more LGBTQ+ films available on Kanopy selected by Dune.



Among Dune’s LGBTQ+ recommendations is **Neptune Frost**, which, in addition to being LGBTQ+ is also an allegorical sci-fi film featuring an Afrofuturism aesthetic. In a beautifully surrealist way it shows how even as technology advances, damaging societal structures remain in place. Kanopy has a variety of sci-fi films including the Lithuanian film **Vesper**, which imagines a dystopic world in which humans have embraced bioengineering that is more plant-based than machine-based. As a side effect of this bio-engineering, plants are only able to grow for one season before dying—but the protagonist, Vesper may have found a solution to re-seeding the world’s vegetation.

The German film **I’m Your Man** explores the idea of human-like AIs becoming companions for humanity. The film’s protagonist must test and evaluate one of these companion AIs over the course of three weeks in this romantic dramedy. While some films portray their robots as being too human and others portray them as too much of an algorithmic machine, **I’m Your Man** lands somewhere in the uncanny valley similar to having a discussion with Chat GPT. The AI in the film sounds nearly human except for the occasional odd word choice or subtle misinterpretation of a question.

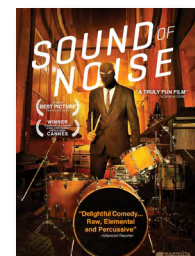


Aside from indie films Kanopy is also a great way to discover classic cinema such as 1927’s **Metropolis**. One of the earliest sci-fi films that only seems to become more relevant with age, **Metropolis** examines the dangers Artificial Intelligence can bring to a non-egalitarian society. Utilizing the “New Tower of Babel” to symbolize the separation of the elite and working classes, the film reminds us that “the mediator between the head and the hands must be the heart.” Mid-century classics on the service include **The Graduate**, **Roman Holiday**, and **Dial M for Murder**. And for any Anglophiles reading this, you will be charmed to know the cryptic British sci-fi series **The Prisoner** is also available.

In addition, Kanopy has a whole side of the platform dedicated to Kids with a variety of animated shows from PBS like **Franklin the Turtle** and **Reading Rainbow**. Kanopy is also home to the films of Laika Studios, most well-known for their stop-motion films **Kubo and the Two Strings** and **The Boxtrolls**. Anime fans will find plenty to love such as **Patema Inverted**, which is perfect for anyone who has exhausted the library of Studio Ghibli. Kanopy even hosts the oldest surviving animated film **The Adventures of Prince Achmed**. Produced by the German film director Lotte Reiniger in 1926, it features the first use of the multiplane camera, which Reiniger invented years before the Walt Disney Studios’ first usage in 1937.



Each month Kanopy also highlights a certain genre of cinema. While June typically features selections of LGBTQ+ films to coincide with Pride month, the May highlight is musicals. Some of the notable world cinema musicals available include **Sound of Noise**, a Swedish comedy in which the characters use public music as a form of protest, and **Black Orpheus**, a musical retelling of the Greek myth set during Rio de Janeiro’s *Carnaval*.



The most recent film I’ve watched on Kanopy as of this writing was the meditative 2023 Vietnamese film **Inside the Yellow Cocoon Shell**. On a pilgrimage to bring his dead sister-in-law’s body to the village where she grew up, the protagonist grapples with his personal beliefs. The work features some of the longest shots I’ve ever seen in a film, ranging from a static dinner table scene to an extended bike ride without camera cuts. There is even a shot lasting several minutes depicting only a pair of roosters with the sound of the wind rustling the tree tops.



June Hours

Monday - Friday
9:30am - 9pm

Saturday
9:30am - 5pm

Scheduled Closings

Memorial Day
Saturday, May 25th
Monday, May 27th

Juneteenth
Wednesday, June 19th

Staff Development
Friday, June 28th

Independence Day
Thursday, July 4th



Monday
10am - 12noon

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

Wednesday
10am - 12noon

Thursday
2:30pm - 4:30pm

Friday
10am - 2pm

Sat
10am - 12:30pm

June Specials
James Patterson – BOGO

WORDS



Visit Us at the

WALLINGFORD GARDEN MARKET

We're excited to participate in the Wallingford Garden Market this season. Stop by our booth to meet our amazing staff, take part in a fun activity, and even get a library card! We hope to see you there. Find us under our green tent on these dates:

June 1st, 15th, 29th | July 13th, 27th | Aug 10th, 24th

A picture is worth a thousand Words...



Summer is almost here! Do you have your library hat yet? Show your support for the library in the style that represents YOU! **Three varieties of hats are now available at the Check-Out desk for \$10.** Proceeds benefit the Wallingford Public Library.



Elijah, Matt, and Dune represented WPL at Spanish Community of Wallingford's International Celebration where guests got to experience the sights and tastes of many different cultures. If you enjoy learning about different cultures while also sampling authentic cuisines, join us for the library's Wallingford Table series. More info on Page 9.

In Others' Words...

“ ‘I love you,’ I say to him, only it comes out, ‘Hey.’
‘So damn much,’ he says back, only it comes out, ‘Dude.’ ”

—**Jandy Nelson,**
I'll Give You the Sun