

Check it out...



A Monthly Publication of the Portland Library January 2008

Featured Artist

This month our display cases will feature the lovely collections of two Portland sisters! Georgia Carlson will be bringing in her tea sets for us to view and Charlotte, her snow globes. Please be sure to stop and peruse our changing displays every month. They are located in the lobby of the Library, near the circulation desk.



If you have a collection or artwork that you would like to share with library patrons, please speak with Administrative Assistant Gail Pititto, or call the Library at 342-6770.

The Library will be closed on Monday, January 21st in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Film Showings

Portland Library's "Movies in the Afternoon" show this month will be held on **Wednesday, January 16th at 1:00 pm**. Join us one Wednesday a month for big screen entertainment with films recently released on DVD.

The selection for this month is *Hairspray* starring John Travolta, Queen Latifah, and Michelle Pfeiffer. It's 1962, and Tracy Turnblad, a teenager with huge hair, a big grin, and all the right moves, becomes the queen of Baltimore's number one dance revue!

The Friends of Portland Library group provides the library with DVDs to borrow.

Perhaps no place in any community is so totally democratic as the town library. The only entrance requirement is interest.

~Lady Bird Johnson

Read and Recycle

Bring your gently used books, games, puzzles, tapes, CDs, videos, and DVDs to the next Read & Recycle collection, Thursday, January 3rd from 3:00 to 6:00 pm at the Brownstone Intermediate School on Main Street. Friends of the Library's volunteers will be in front of the building to assist you with your donations. Tax forms are available upon request. Proceeds from the sale of donated items benefit library programs and materials.

Museum Passes for Family Outings

Resolved to spend more time with your family? The Portland Library can help! We have passes to over a dozen attractions: museums, aquariums, and a zoo. You can see the available dates for museum passes and make reservations right from the web at <http://www.portlandlibraryct.org>! All you need is a library card. Reserve a date now! If you would like to have a librarian reserve a pass for you, please feel free to telephone the library.

Thanks to generous donations from the Friends of the Portland Library, the Library is able to offer museum and attraction passes to the public. Using your library card, you can borrow a pass for Children's Museum/ Roaring Brook Nature Center, Connecticut River Museum, Florence Griswold Museum, Kidcity Children's Museum, Lutz Children's Museum, the Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk, Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center, Mystic Aquarium, Mystic Seaport, New Britain Museum of American Art, New England Air Museum, Peabody Museum of Natural History, Roger Williams Zoo, and Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art.

The passes allow for a set number of people to attend the museum for a reduced rate or for free admission. Stop by the Library to pick up a museum brochure or check out the museum pass program online.

Children's Events

Ready to Read!

'Ready to Read' is a new program series for children in *kindergarten and 1st grade* making the transition into reading. This fun and lively monthly program is designed to enhance the core components a child needs to learn to read. We will be reading more advanced picture books, playing literacy-oriented games, creating a craft, and making a snack together.

Registration is required and is going on now for the first event. Registration for subsequent programs will take place during the previous month's event.

The first event will take place on **Thursday, January 10th from 4:00-5:00 p.m.**

Event themes for our first two meetings are:

Thursday, January 10th: Theme: Snow!

Thursday, February 14th: Theme: Chocolate!

Spiderwick Event

Thursday, January 31st @ 4:00 p.m.

Children in grades 3 and up are invited to join us as we forage into the world of the fairies, pixies, sprites and goblins created by Holly Black and Tony DiTerlizzi.

Although we cannot guarantee that these magical creatures will even allow this event to take place, we have planned an abundance of **SPLENDID** activities to enchant and intrigue, as we anx-

iously await the February release of the Spiderwick movie. Participants should read at least 1 of the books from the Spiderwick series before the program!

Multiple copies of the books will be available for loan at the Library in January.

Registration is required for this event and will begin on **January 7th.**



Nutmeg Voting

There is still time to read a Nutmeg nominee or two! Voting for this year's Nutmeg Award Winner will take place at our school and public libraries this month.

The Portland Library has multiple copies of this year's nominees available for loan. You must have read at least two Nutmeg nominees and be in grades 4 and up to vote!

Drop in Story Times begin in January!

Say, Say Oh Baby: *Children ages 0-11 mos.*

Wednesdays @ 10:15 a.m. January 16, 23, 30, and
February 6, 13, 20

Lapsits introduce the sounds and rhythms of language to our youngest library users. Nursery rhymes, songs, and the simplest of stories build a foundation for a lifelong love of books and reading. Parents/caregivers attend these story times with their infants.

(Program length: 30 minutes, includes free playtime)

Fun Ones: *Children ages 12-23 mos.*

Wednesdays @ 11:00 a.m. January 16, 23, 30, and
February 6, 13, 20

Young children and their caregivers will enjoy this lively program of songs, rhymes, movement, play, and read-alouds. (Program length: 30 minutes, includes free playtime)

Toddler Time: *Children ages 24-36 mos.*

Tuesdays @ 10:30 a.m. January 15, 29, and
February 5, 12, 19, 26

Toddlers are encouraged to continue their exploration into language and sound with a fun interactive program. We combine the best in children's literature with songs, games, rhymes, and other reading-related activities. (Program length: 45 minutes, includes free playtime)

Story Garden: *Children ages 3-5 years old.*

Mondays @ 10:30 a.m. January 14, 28, and
February 4, 11, 25

With an appealing combination of new and familiar stories, songs, crafts, imaginative play, and movement activities, *Story Garden* broadens children's horizons while reinforcing the pleasures of reading to encourage lifelong readers. (Program length: 45 minutes)

Family Fun Story Time: *All Ages!*

Tuesdays @ 6:30 p.m. January 15, 22, 29, and
February 5, 12, 19

Designed for families to enjoy together, *Family Fun Story Time* features picture books, songs, rhymes, music and movement, and simple crafts, based on a weekly theme. (Program length: 45 minutes)

Book Groups and More!

VACATION EVENTS

"What is there to do in Portland in the middle of the winter?", you ask.

Why come to the Library, of course!

In addition to all of our regularly scheduled story times, we have planned some special events during February school vacation to help ease those mid-winter blues.

Family February Bake Off!

Tuesday, February 19th @ 6:30 p.m.

Bring your favorite, famous, fabulous, family dessert and recipe to our Family February Bake Off event and join in the fun. Families with children of all ages are invited to enter a recipe along with samples of the recipe and participate in an evening of shared delights. Stories, songs, and fun will follow as participants taste each family's baked goods and vote for their favorites. Recipes will be compiled as a keepsake book for everyone to take home. Please register for this event beginning **February 5th**.

Movie Showing

Wednesday, February 20th @ 2:00 p.m.

Don't feel like spending another afternoon of vacation inside in front of the television? Why not join us for a newly released movie on the big screen in the Mary Flood Room? Fresh, hot popcorn will be served as you enjoy an afternoon with friends. **All ages are welcome!**

Games... Unplugged

Thursday, February 21st @ 1:00 p.m.—2:00p.m.

Welcome to our **first ever** winter games event! Children in **grades 2 and up** are invited to join in the fun as we host a tournament style, unplugged gaming event.

Uno will be the game of the day, so bring your deck and sign up by calling the Library on **February 4th**. Refreshments will be served along with the fun.

Audio Books for the Listening!

Using the Library Connection collection of download audio books is easy! In just a few minutes, even the newest user can be enjoying a downloaded title. With a valid library card, you can browse and search hundreds of great titles, download them to your computer, transfer them to a portable device, or burn them onto a CD for your listening pleasure anywhere, anytime. Try the link at www.portlandlibrary.org; it's easy!



Downloaded titles are checked out for 14 days and are automatically returned to the library. You may have a maximum of 7 titles checked out from the Digital Library. If you have any questions about downloadable titles, ask a library staff member at the Information Desk or if you're online, click on "Support" for more assistance. This service is intended for home use. While you may browse this collection and checkout titles within the library, you will not be able to download the files to a library PC.

Recent additions to the service:

Then She Found Me by Elinor Lipman
Autumn Lover by Elizabeth Lowell
Can't Take My Eyes Off of You by Judith McNaught
Watchman by Ian Rankin
The House by Danielle Steel

New DVDs!!!

The Aristocrats
The Caine Mutiny
Georgia Rule
The Hoax
License to Wed
The Namesake
Pirates of the Caribbean. At World's End
La Vie en Rose



Popular DVDS circulate for one week and there are no limits on the number you may check out!!

More News...

Lifetime Learning @ Portland Library

Portland Library supports lifetime learning! January is a good time to try something new, broaden your horizons, make a new resolution...

Here are some new titles to get you started:

50 Things Every Young Gentleman Should Know by John Bridges

Do You: 12 Laws to Access the Power in You to Achieve Happiness and Success by Russell Simmons

The Extreme Fat Smash Diet by Ian Smith

The Flexitarian Table: Inspired, Flexible Meals for Vegetarians, Meat Lovers, and Everyone In Between by Peter Berley

Getting Started Crochet by Judith L. Swartz

How to Photograph Absolutely Everything by Tom Ang

Money Can Buy Happiness: How to Spend to Get the Life You Want by M. P. Dunleavy

Never Too Old to Knit by Karin Strom

Organize Your Life: Free Yourself from Clutter and Find More Personal Time by Ronni Eisenberg

The Passion Test: the Effortless Path to Discovering Your Destiny by Janet Bray Attwood

Sixty Things to Do When You Turn Sixty edited by Ronnie Sellers

Ultralongevity: the Seven-Step Program for a Younger, Healthier You by Mark Liponis

Women & Money: (DVD) Owning the Power to Control Your Destiny by Suze Orman

Younger You: Unlock the Hidden Power of Your Brain to Look and Feel 15 Years Younger by Eric R. Braverman

Thank You!

Memorial Fund donations were received from the following individuals during the month of November:

Laurel Duvall and Luva Hoar

Gift books and donations were gratefully received from:

Carolyn Freeman

Michele Grzejszczak

Hemlock Grange #182

Henry Strom

Adult Book Discussion Group

The adult book discussion meets the first Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm. Please join us on January 3rd to discuss *The Secret of Lost Things* by Sheridan Hay.

On February 7th, the discussion title will be *Born on a Blue Day: Inside the Extraordinary Mind of an Autistic Savant: a Memoir* by Daniel Tammet.

Journey into one of the most fascinating minds alive today: twenty-seven-year-old Daniel Tammet can perform extraordinary calculations in his head and learn to speak new languages fluently in a week! In this triumphant and uplifting story, Daniel guides us through his early childhood when he was unable to make friends, to his young adulthood, when he learned to live independently.

Multiple copies of this title will be available beginning at the January 3rd discussion. No registration is required to attend the discussion and new members are always welcome!

The richest person in the world - in fact all the riches in the world - couldn't provide you with anything like the endless, incredible loot available at your local library. ~Malcolm Forbes

Library Hours

Monday– Wednesday
10:00 am-8:00 pm
Thursday 12 pm-8:00 pm
Friday 10:00 am-5:00 pm
Saturday 10:00 am-5:00 pm

Contact Information

Questions or concerns about the library may be directed to
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