

# Check it out...



A Monthly Publication of the Portland Library December 2016

## Library closed:

Saturday December 24th & Monday December 26th for Christmas

Saturday December 31st & Monday January 2nd for New Year's Day

## Food for Fines

November 14, 2016 through December 30, 2016

You may pay overdue library fines with non-perishable food items that will be given to the Portland Food Bank. Please bring your donations to the circulation desk so that your fines may be cancelled. We ask that your donations reflect the spirit of the season.

Food may not be used to pay for missing/lost or damaged items.

Thanks to Tri Town Foods for the use of their shopping cart.

## Featuring: Consumer Reports

an online resource on our library website, [www.portlandlibraryct.org](http://www.portlandlibraryct.org), for Portland residents with library cards. It has reviews of thousands of products, automobile buying guides and all the information you love to read in the paper source in one quick search tool.



## Adult Winter Reading Program

January 3 — March 3, 2017 Look for our winter reading club and Adult programs in our January newsletter and on our website.



## December Lunch and Learn

Tuesday, December 13th, 2016 at 12:00 noon

*The Life & Times of Thunderbolt Kid* by Bill Bryson



Bill Bryson was born in the middle of the American century—1951—in the middle of the United States—Des Moines, Iowa—in the middle of the largest generation in American history—the baby boomers. As one of the funniest writers alive, he is perfectly positioned to craft his memories of a totally all-American childhood with a rich fantasy life as a superhero.

Books will be available for borrowing prior to the discussion. Bring a lunch if you like. Dessert and beverages will be served.

Registration appreciated!



Coloring

Thursday December 8, 2016  
2:00 p.m.

**Adult Coloring & Coffee**  
(& snacks)

Drop in and enjoy a pleasant hour of coloring and conversation! Coloring provides a relaxing, stress-relieving pastime — and it's fun!

## ART ON DISPLAY



The month of December will bring a very special exhibit to our Library entitled

**“What I Love About Portland!”**

Students from all five of Portland's Public Schools will display their paintings and drawings depicting their favorite thing about their hometown.

What a fitting ending to Portland's 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration! **A reception will be held for the students, their families, teachers and friends on Tuesday, December 6 from 4:00-6:00 p.m.**

# Youth Services News and Events



## Starry Nights, Twinkling Reads

### 2017 Winter Reading Club

The Portland Library's Winter Reading Challenge runs from January 3-March 3, 2017. No registration is required for this fun program. Just pick up a Winter Reads Packet next time you are in the library and you will have everything that you need to get started.

Participants will receive a wire star with their Winter Reads Packet. Special beads will be available at the circulation desk for you to add to your star, every day that you check out items. Stars will remain on display in the library throughout the duration of the program and given to participants as a memento in early March.

Look for more information on our Winter Reading Challenge and our winter programming for kids of all ages in the January newsletter and on our website.



## Late Fall/ Early Winter Storytimes

Registration for our 2016 late fall/early winter story time mini-session is underway. **Registration is open for the following programs.**

### Preschool (ages 3-5)

Children are invited to have some fun while sharing some of Miss Lauren's favorite stories, songs, and games every week.

**Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.** December 6, 13

### Toddler Time (ages 24-36 months)

Laugh, create, and connect with new and old friends, while listening to stories and enjoying related activities.

**Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.** December 7, 14

### Bouncy Babies (ages 0-24 months)

This introduction to story time provides important bonding time and early literacy skills through stories, songs, games and playtime with new friends.

**Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.** December 1, 8, 15

### Family Story Time

Come out and play with your child(ren) and enjoy a variety of *Language* and *Art Enrichment* activities for your family to share together. This program is open to all families with children in grades pre-K through 2nd grade. Younger siblings are always welcome. Family story time is held every **Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m.**

December 7, 14

**Registration for all of these story times is required. Go to [www.portlandlibraryct.org](http://www.portlandlibraryct.org) or call 860-342-6770 to register.**



## Holiday Storytimes

**Wednesday, December 21st**

**at 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.**

We'll welcome the upcoming holidays with a special morning *Holiday Storytime* for kids ages 0-5 and their caregivers and an evening version best suited for kids ages 3-8 years old. We'll share holiday stories, songs, rhymes, and finish each program with a craft and a special visitor!

**Registration is required and extremely limited.**

# Youth Services News and Events

## New and Upcoming

### Teen Books

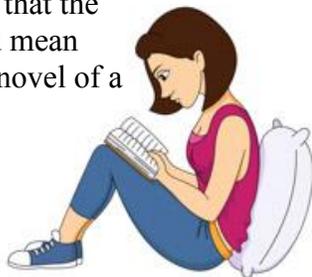
Call the Portland Library at 860-342-6770 or visit our website at [www.portlandlibraryct.org](http://www.portlandlibraryct.org) to place a hold on these highly anticipated new books and series sequels!

**Heartless (Marissa Meyer):** Long before she was the terror of Wonderland, she was just a girl who wanted to fall in love. When Catherine meets Jest, the handsome and mysterious court joker, she feels the pull of true attraction. Cath is determined to define her own destiny and fall in love on her terms. But in a land thriving with magic, madness, and monsters, fate has other plans.

**Carve the Mark (Veronica Roth):** On a planet where violence and vengeance rule, in a galaxy where some are favored by fate, everyone develops a current gift, a unique power meant to shape the future. While most benefit from their current gifts, Akos and Cyra do not—their gifts make them vulnerable to others' control. Can they reclaim their gifts, their fates, and their lives, and reset the balance of power in this world?

**King's Cage (Victoria Aveyard):** In this third installment to the Red Queen series, allegiances are tested on every side. And when the Lightning Girl's spark is gone, who will light the way for the rebellion?

**Scythe (Neal Shusterman):** Humanity has conquered hunger, disease, war, and even death. Now Scythes are the only ones who can end life—and they are commanded to do so, in order to keep the size of the population under control. Citra and Rowan are chosen to apprentice to a scythe—a role that neither wants. These teens must master the “art” of taking life, knowing that the consequence of failure could mean losing their own in this first novel of a thrilling new series by Neal Shusterman.



## Random Fandom

Monday December 19

3:45 - 5:00 p.m.

Grades 6 and up

Attention all fangirls and fanboys! Watch the pilots, obsess over the books series, write the fanfiction....different fandoms will be featured every month.

December's Fandom will celebrate:

ABC's *Once Upon a Time*

Registration is required.



## You Are Invited....

If you are entering **grades 7 and up**, you are invited to be part of the Portland Library's Teen Advisory Board. Our board members meet monthly on **Monday afternoons from 3:30-4:30** and help us in selecting materials for purchase, brainstorming and running programs for teens and children, and having a lot of fun while making a difference in our community. If this is something that interests you, please contact Jennifer Renk or Lauren Coleman at 860-342-6770 or [jrenk@portlandct.org](mailto:jrenk@portlandct.org).

Upcoming meeting dates:

December 12



**Portland Library  
Teens**

# More News...

## Monthly Book Discussions



All are welcome to attend the adult book discussion held one Thursday each month at 6:30 p.m. Titles are available to borrow; no reservations are necessary.

**Thursday December 1st at 6:30 p.m.**

### ***Sisterland* by Curtis Sittenfeld**

When the strongest earthquake in U.S. history occurs just north of their St. Louis home, Kate and Jeremy find the disaster further complicated by Kate's self-proclaimed-medium twin's prediction about a more powerful earthquake, a situation that places Kate under public scrutiny and reveals her own psychic abilities.

**Thursday January 5th at 6:30 p.m.**

### ***The Hundred-Foot Journey* by Richard C. Morais**

Follow the life journey of chef Hassan Haji, who progresses from his family's modest restaurant in Mumbai to master haute cuisine in an elegant Parisian restaurant.



## Movies in the Afternoon

**Wednesday, December 14th, 2016 at 1:00 p.m.**

### **Showing: *Florence Foster Jenkins***

**Starring:** Meryl Streep, Hugh Grant & Simon Helberg.

**Director:** Stephen Frears; Paramount Pictures; PG-13, 2016, 111 minutes.

In the 1940s, New York socialite Florence Foster Jenkins dreams of becoming a great opera singer. Unfortunately, her ambition far exceeds her talent. The voice Florence hears in her head is beautiful, but to everyone else it is quite lousy. Her husband St. Clair goes to extreme lengths to make sure his wife never finds out how awful she truly is. When Florence announces her plans for a concert at Carnegie Hall, St. Clair soon realizes that he's facing his greatest challenge yet.

## Movies in the Evening

**Monday, December 19th, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.**

### **Showing: *The Beatles: Eight Days a Week, the Touring Years***

**Starring:** Ringo Starr, John Lennon & George Harrison.

**Director:** Ron Howard. Imagine Entertainment. PG-13, 2016, 137 minutes.

In the 1960s, the Beatles exploded on to the public scene. Accompanying new interviews of the remaining Beatles, their associates and fans as well as archival interviews of the late ones, this musical documentary directed by Ron Howard features footage of the amazing concert years of 1963 to 1966 when the band became a worldwide cultural phenomena, toured 15 countries and performed more than 250 concerts. It also follows how the Fab Four began to change and grow while the excitement of Beatlemania began to sour their personal lives. Paul McCartney provides context: "By the end, it became quite complicated. But at the beginning, things were really simple."

**No reservations necessary! The Friends of Portland Library supports the Library's DVD collection.**

## Thank You

### Recent Donations

#### Book Donations:

Cindy Andrus  
Carolyn Freeman  
Elaine Law  
Henry Strom

Carolee Collins (Historical Pamphlet of the Middletown-Portland Bridge)

#### Endowment:

Gerald & Eileen Burke in memory of George Sawyer



### Library Closing:

Saturday December 24th & Monday

December 26th for Christmas

Saturday December 31st & Monday January 2nd for New Year's Day

### Library Hours:

Monday - Thursday 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Friday - Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

### Library Meetings:

#### Friends of the Portland Library:

Monday, December 5th at 7 p.m.

#### Library Board of Directors:

Thursday, December 15th at 7 p.m.

#### To Reach the Library

860-342-6770

[www.portlandlibraryct.org](http://www.portlandlibraryct.org)

#### Library Director

Janet Nocek



During the month of December, the Library will be featuring CDs of Holiday music & Holiday DVDs.



### Books on Display

In December, the Library will have book displays of newly arrived materials, Holiday Fiction and books commemorating National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day and the 75th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.