

Check it out...



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A Monthly Publication of the Portland Library September 2025

Portland Library hours:

Monday — Thursday 10:00 a.m. — 8:00 p.m.

Friday 10:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.

Saturday 10:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m.

**Saturday, August 30th &
Monday, September 1st**

Library closed in honor of Labor Day!

Adult Craft Night: Pinecone Flower Art Tuesday, September 23, 6:00 p.m.

Create a one-of-a-kind masterpiece using materials found in nature. Participants will be given precut pinecone flowers, a canvas, paints, nature materials, instruction and inspiration. **Registration is required. Space is limited.**



September is Library Card Sign-up Month One Card, Endless Possibilities



The Portland Board of Selectmen have proclaimed September 2025 as "Library Card Sign-up Month" and encourage all residents to sign up for a Portland library

card and explore the endless possibilities it offers. Come visit the Portland Public Library any time in September to sign up for a library card or swap your old card for one with our new library card design. All Portland cardholders will receive a library logo sticker. We also have a selection of Advance Reader's Copy adult books we are giving away, one per adult patron while supplies last.

Thank you to all of our enthusiastic patrons who helped us reach our "Level Up" goal of 150 participants in order to provide two Brownstone Musical Instrument Scholarships! A big THANK YOU goes out to the Friends of the Portland Library for funding the music scholarships and all this summer's programs.



Adult 2025 Summer Reading Wrap-Up

171 participants registered and 131 of them logged at least one book and read over 363,000 pages! Also 240 patrons attended 12 library programs this summer!

FREE Mental Health First Aid Certification Training Thursday Sept. 25 & Friday Sept. 26 from 12:30 – 4:30 p.m.

This two-part MHFA training, provided by Gilead Community Services, teaches community members how to recognize, assess, and assist someone experiencing a mental health challenge. Like CPR training for non-medical professionals, MHFA prepares participants to engage with an individual experiencing a challenge and connect them with appropriate help. Course consists of two 4-hour sessions. Registration is required by 9/12 in order to participate. <https://gileadcs.org/programs-services/mental-health-first-aid/register-for-a-mhfa-training/>

Wednesday Movie 1:00 p.m. September 10th *The Ballad of Wallis Island* (2025, rated PG-13)

Runtime 99 minutes



Friends' Donation Day Saturday Sept. 13, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Donate gently used books, CDs, DVDs, games, and puzzles!

No magazines, textbooks, or VHS please.

Youth Services News and Events



2025 Summer Reading Wrap-up

Thank you to everyone who participated in Portland Library's 2025 Summer Reading Challenge by reading, attending programs, completing our extra challenges to earn bracelet charms or volunteering to help run our programs or staff our volunteer desk.

An extra big THANK YOU goes out to the Friends of the Portland Library for funding the activities, prizes and all other aspects of this summer's program.

We hope you had as much fun as we did!

402 kids and teens registered for summer reading

9,571 days read

50 programs offered for kids and teens

2,434 people attended our kids and teen programs

We're looking forward to next year!

Congrats to our Teen Summer Raffle Winners!

\$25 Amazon Gift Card:

Max H.

\$25 Starbucks Gift Card:

Victoria V.

\$25 Dairy Queen Gift Card:

Aidan W.

\$25 Cumberland Farms:

Liam W.

\$25 Melilli's

Anyia P.

\$25 Dunkin Donuts

Mahreen N.

Scavenger Hunt: Find the Book Buddies!



Stop by the children's department to complete this month's Scavenger Hunt! This month's theme is "I Love My Library" for National Library Card Sign up Month in September!

Search for hidden pictures of different book buddies throughout the library. When you find all 12, hand in your completed form to a staff member and get a special sticker!

Fall Storytimes

Fall storytimes will begin the week of September 8. Registration is required for each program and space is limited.

**Preschool Storytimes (ages 3-5):
Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.**

**September 9, 16, 23, 30,
October 7, 14, 21, 28**

Stories, songs and rhymes that encourage literacy and social skills and help get your preschooler prepared for kindergarten. We will offer a craft each week that can be done at the library or brought home.

**Toddlers and Tots Storytime (ages 0-2):
Wednesdays at 10:15 and 11:15 a.m.**

**September 10, 17, 24,
October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29**

Mother Goose on the Loose, a fun-filled interactive session for our youngest patrons, uses rhymes, a story, songs, puppets, scarves, and more to stimulate the learning process of babies and toddlers.

Youth Services News and Events



Hispanic Heritage Month runs from September 15 to October 15! Check out our display of children's books by and about Hispanic and Latinx people and grab a coloring page to complete.



Buzzing about Bees
Thursdays at 3:30 p.m.
Grades K-5
September 18, 25, October 2
3:30 p.m.

September is National Honey Month, a time to honor and celebrate bees, beekeeping and the natural goodness of honey. Kids in grades K-5 are invited to join us as we learn about some of the things that make honeybees so cool through a variety of crafts, activities, and of course some local honey taste testing! Registration is required and opens on Tuesday, September 2 at 10:00 a.m.

Teen Program:
Acorn Clay
Pot Craft
and
Fall Snacks

Monday,
September 22
at 3:30 p.m.



Students in grades 6 and up are invited to join us to make our own terracotta pot acorns while enjoying some fall-themed snacks.

Register through our website starting Tuesday, September 2, at www.portlandlibraryct.org or by calling 860-342-6770.

Pumpkin Painting
on the Town Green

Monday, September 29
from 5:00—7:00 p.m.

Rain date: Tuesday, September 30

Join Ms. Jenn and Courtney from the Department of Youth and Family Services on the Town Green for an evening of pumpkin painting! Pumpkins and paint will be supplied. A parent or guardian must be with children to help with supervision.

In case of inclement weather, we will move to our rain date of Tuesday, September 30.

Registration is required and opens on Tuesday, September 2 at 10:00 a.m. Registered participants can arrive anytime between the hours of 5:00-7:00 p.m. on the night of the program.

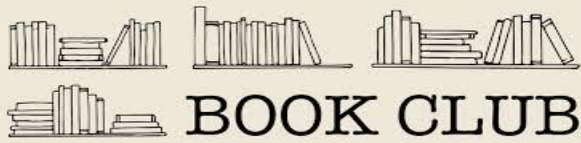


Portland Library
www.portlandlibraryct.org



Instagram
@portlandlibraryct

More News...



September Book Club Picks

T.A.B. Talk about Books

Tuesday, September 9, 1:00 p.m.

Tom Lake

by Ann Patchett

1st Thursday Night Book Club

Thursday, September 4, 6:30 p.m.

The Great Divide

by Cristina Henriquez

Mystery Lovers Book Club

Tuesday, September 16, 1:00 p.m.

The Violin Conspiracy

by Brendan Slocumb

Thank You

Donations:

Memorial Fund:

Victoria, Adeline and Nora Rumpf- lemonade stand proceeds



Ongoing Food Drive

Donate nonperishable food to be delivered to the Portland Food Bank! Fill the shopping cart with love and caring for your neighbors!

Museum Passes & Yard Games

Check out the latest on museums for art, nature, history, and fun! We have Connect 4, Jenga and Dice yard games available for a 3 day loan period.

Go to the library website and click on Library Museum Passes or call to reserve a pass or game. Reservations are recommended.

Library Meetings:

Friends of the Portland Library

Monday, September 29, 7:00 p.m.

Library Board of Directors:

Thursday, September 18, 7:00 p.m.

To Reach the Library

20 Freestone Avenue

Portland, CT 06480

860-342-6770

Website: www.portlandlibraryct.org

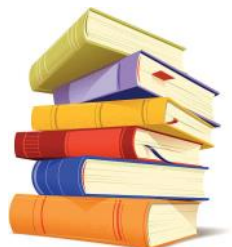
Library Director

Jennifer Billingsley

jbillingsley@portlandct.org

September Book Displays at the Library:

Local Authors, National Hispanic Heritage Month, Banned books, Fall cookbooks, and our favorite Staff Picks!



Knifty Knitters

Saturdays 10:00a.m.-12:30p.m.

The Knitters (and Crocheters) of Portland are open to new, adult members of all experience levels, beginning fiber artists welcome! Drop in at this weekly knitting circle where people share ideas, get helpful knitting tips and enjoy chatting with others who enjoy these creative hobbies.



DID YOU KNOW?

Museum Passes

American Clock and Watch Museum in Bristol, CT.

Free admission for 2 adults & 3 children. Printable pass. clockandwatchmuseum.org



Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame

Admits six visitors (3 adults & 3 children) at discounted prices. <http://www.hoophall.com> Printable pass.

