

FRIENDS

of the Joshua Hyde Public Library

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Spring Edition

From Our President



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Happy Spring! As always, this is a time for the Earth...and the Friends...to revitalize. This year, we tried to help both parties by offering free lilac plants to patrons who made purchases at our Earth Day book sale. Hopefully you were able to stock up on some good reads and have gotten your new plants in the ground. Next Mother's Day, think of us as you're luxuriating in the heady scent of lilacs!

And speaking of the Friends, we're winding down our annual **Membership Drive**. We hope you remembered to renew for the upcoming year. This is our main fundraiser that allows us to provide all of the valuable programs you enjoy throughout the year. Have you been to a book discussion, movie program, heard a speaker, visited a museum with a reduced-price pass or brought your child to a story time? None of these programs would be possible without your support.

Our **book discussions** are winding down for the summer, but we're already planning how to make this program even better for next year. In that light, we are planning a breakfast meeting for June 14 to choose the next group of books. We're looking for new offerings that will appeal to a wider audience. If you have some great books that you think others will love as well, please consider joining us and sharing your insight. Please contact us if you'd like to attend.

Other programs that are in the works include the always-exciting **Summer Reading Program** and some pop-up book sales. Check the website for more information and head over to the Sturbridge Farmer's Market to come say hi. With the weather getting better, we also hope you'll get out and explore the area. The Friends' **Museum Pass Program** provides a number of free and reduced-price museum/attraction passes to help. Remember, only Friends members are allowed to reserve these passes up to two weeks in advance so your pass is available the day you'd like to use it.

See you at the library!

Donna Englander - President

From Our Librarian

Dear Friends,

Summer is coming and we have a fantastic line up of programs for all ages!

Wednesday, June 7 – 6:30 pm;

Pamela Means: The Power of the Protest Song

We will unofficially kick off the "Find Your Voice" Summer Reading Program on June 7th with musician Pamela Means. Part-performance and part-presentation, this family-friendly public event explores the origin stories and lineages of protest songs, how their meanings and effects continue to transform through time and space, and how they have inspired--and continue to inspire--movements and cultural shifts within the realms of racial and social justice. This program is supported in part by a grant from the Sturbridge Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency, as well as, the Friends of the JHPL

You may have noticed that the library hours have changed a little – we are finally open on Monday mornings! In order to accommodate this, we are closing at 8pm on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. All other hours remain the same:

New Hours

Monday, Friday, & Saturday 10am-5pm

Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday 10am-8pm

And just a quick update on our HVAC project at the library. The contract has been awarded and while supply chain issues are still a thing, we hope to get to work on this in the fall and complete the project by the spring of 2024. During this time, there may be some disruptions in library service, but staff will work to make it as seamless as possible.

You can keep track of what is going on at the library on our website sturbridgelibrary.org and on the JHPL Facebook page and Instagram accounts.

Becky Plimpton - Your Librarian



Friends Online

Find out what the Friends are doing or renew your membership

online:

slfriends.org

or

www.SturbridgeLibraryFriends.org

Grab a Pass and Go

One of the best benefits of your Friends' membership is the ability to access our free or reduced-price museum passes. Only Friends can reserve these passes up to two weeks in advance so they will be there when you choose to go. We recently added the following attractions to this program and hope you will take the time to head out and explore our area:

Historic New England

It's mission is to save and share New England's past to engage and inform present and future generations. Historic New England operates a number of properties around New England. These include historic homes, farms, and gardens. One interesting property you can visit nearby is the Roseland Cottage in Woodstock, CT. This Gothic Revival home, built in 1846, is known for its colorful pink exterior. Four US presidents have been guests here. This pass provides free admission to 2 adults and their children at any one of its properties. Go to www.historicnewengland.org for a full list of properties.

New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill

Experience the wonder of plants at a botanic garden in Boyleston, MA. It is open to the public year-round for garden viewing, trail walking, educational programs, exhibitions, and more. The Garden includes conservatories, formal and naturalistic gardens, a Garden Shop, café, and expansive views of the Wachusett Reservoir. The pass provides for 2 half-price admissions. We have 4 passes available. For more information, go to www.nebg.org

Worcester Historical Museum

Any local history fans out there? A few examples of WHM's holdings include correspondence of abolitionist Abby Kelley Foster, Blackstone Canal Company records, Civil War era diaries and letters, and artifacts including early woodenware and ceramics, weaponry from the colonial era through World War II, paintings and sculptures, and a significant costume and textile collection. The pass admits 2 guests for free. For more information, go to www.worcesterhistory.org

A complete list of our Passes:

- Boston Museum of Science
- Ecotarium
- Historic New England
- MA State Parks
- Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
- Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame
- Old Sturbridge Village
- Salem Witch Museum
- New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill
- USS Constitution Museum
- Worcester Art Museum
- Worcester Historical Museum



**New England
Botanic Garden**
AT TOWER HILL



Book Discussion Breakfast Open To All

BY Ellen K. Duzak

Please join us for our annual breakfast to choose the selections for next year's Armchair Travelers books on Wednesday, June 14 at 9 a.m. at the Joshua Hyde Public Library.

The breakfast is a long-standing tradition and is open to anyone with one or more suggestions of possible titles that might be a good fit for our evening book discussion group at the library. The breakfast discussion is always fun and lively and it brings a great diversity and range of titles and themes for the year ahead.

After a few year's break due to Covid restrictions, it is a delight to have this tradition restored. We look forward to your attendance and your input.



Next book sale on the common is May 20th



Friends of the Joshua Hyde Public Library
306 Main Street
Sturbridge, MA 01566
www.sturbridgelibraryfriends.org

PLACE
STAMP
HERE



Thank You to the Friends of JHPL

Thanks Friends!

The Friends of the Joshua Hyde Public Library values each and every one of our friends. Without the generous donations and membership dollars we receive, programs at the library simply wouldn't be able to be funded. In fact, in 2022, your membership dollars helped fund 147 programs for all ages to enjoy!

So far this year, we have been able to offer our patrons the following programs:

- Deb Hudgins Sing and Swings
- Magic Fred
- Various Book Discussions
- Granny McWilliams Spring Tonic
- Training Active Bystanders
- Korean Lantern
- Magic Show
- Drum Away the Blues
- Baby Massage Class
- Baby Sign Class
- Stewing Over Mysteries

We have plenty of other great programs to come. The support of our Friends is what makes our library the dynamic addition to our community that it has become. Please encourage your friends to join today!

From the Children's Room

Dear Friends,

Our Children's Room has been a hopping place these past few months, with some wonderful performances from Deb Hudgins, Magic Fred, and our very popular STEM programs that were offered through the IF/THEN Grant we received. Along with our bi-weekly story times, LEGO Clubs, and drop-in "crafternoons", we have had a wonderful few months with our youngest patrons!

Spring has sprung and with the warmer weather and lovely sunshine, we are gearing up for another wonderful summer reading program. This year's theme is "Find Your Voice" and we will be focusing on various ways for our youngest patrons to showcase who they are!

We will be kicking off our summer program with a performance of various Aesop's Fables from Bright Star Theatre on Wednesday, June 28th. As always, we will be offering outdoor story times, drop-in craft programs, and some wonderful performers, both new and old. We will also have a few new programs, including "Meet the Artist Mondays" and "First Chapter Fridays." Our closing program will be a bubble party with Magic Mike on Wednesday, August 9th – we are looking forward to celebrating with lots of bubbles and music!

We are very excited for another busy summer! Be sure to stop by the Children's Room and check out the wonderful programs we will be offering!

All the Best,

Lisa - Children's Librarian