



300 Spring Street, Newport RI 02840
newportlibraryri.org • 401-847-8720

Library Newsletter

Volume 48 Nov-Dec 2023

Unveiling Newport's Sculptors

Discover the stories behind Newport's most iconic sculptures.

Join Nancy Whipple Grinnell for an illustrated lecture that presents the evolving styles of the artists, both in- and out-of-doors.

Registration is required.

Held in the Friends Program room on the lower level

TUESDAY
11/14
6-7:30 PM



Join Nancy Grinnell on Tuesday, November 14 at 6 PM for a talk on the sculptors of Newport, 1850-1950. This talk will run 1.5 hours and include time for Q&A.

Registration is required.

The Queens of Newport's Gilded Age



TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21
AT 6 PM

Get ready to be transported back in time with a captivating lecture by Fred Zilian. Hear all about the fascinating historical figures from the Gilded Age.

Registration is required.

Held in the Friends Program room



Join us for a lecture on the Queens of Newport's Gilded Age with Fred Zilian, Ph.D. This talk focuses on the four woman leaders of Newport's Gilded Age, roughly, 1880-1914: Caroline Astor, Ava Vanderbilt Belmont, Mamie Fish, and Tessie Oelrichs. We may call these the "Four Queens," with Caroline Astor being the "Queen of queens". These women — because of their pedigree, their personalities, or the plenty of their wealth — stood above the rest of society in their influence & impact. Q & A to follow.

Registration is required.

The Director's Desk - The Pro-Logue

Greetings to all our Newport friends and visitors!

No sun – no moon!
No morn – no noon –
No dawn – no dusk – no proper time of day –
No sky – no earthly view –
No distance looking blue. . .
No warmth, no cheerfulness, no healthful ease,
No comfortable feel in any member.
No shade, no shine, no butterflies, no bees,
No fruits, no flowers, no leaves, no birds! – November!

Thomas Hood (1799-1845), "No!"

Well I usually attempt to begin my newsletters on a cheery note, but I have loved this poem ([read the full text here](#)) since I first heard it read by the great actor Leo McKern. I don't always think of November as lacking all the gifts of nature but it is a time of transition. While July and August were a bit too wet for many of us, we were rewarded with a lovely September and October. Have you seen the leaves in Aquidneck Park? They are simply spectacular and while "carpet" might be too trite to be employed, in this case it is an entirely apt metaphor. The leaves cushion your way as you cut across the park. It has been a long time since I have seen the leaves drop so suddenly and in such numbers. Our waterlogged summer has had its reward in a spectacular autumn. Stop and admire the late afternoon sun hitting the Edward King House, setting the red brick ablaze. It is a wonderful sight.

November also heralds the beginning of "the holidays" – that busy time of year when all sorts of demands on our time make rushing about exhilarating, exhausting, and exasperating. This is a good time to remind patrons that the Library remains an oasis of calm. Come sit and catch up on titles you've been meaning to check out. I've been reading "The Bee Sting" by Paul Murray. It is a heavy undertaking and I can't possibly do it justice here as it whips back and forth in time, and stories are told by alternating narrators. As someone who is predominantly a reader of nonfiction, this book is a challenge. Isn't that, however, the fun – and reward – of reading?

To business: The staff at your Library have devoted themselves to a full slate of seasonal and holiday programming. We have approximately 120 separate and regularly scheduled programs on offer before the end of the year. A Is For Art is a wonderful way for the little ones (ages 2-5) to express themselves creatively ([register here](#)). I will take this opportunity once again to stress the many story times, play times, baby bookworms, and craft

programs on offer by the amazingly talented Children's librarians.

Two programs stood out for me as I was perusing the calendar. For young patrons ages 8-12 we have a Festive Potholder craft program ([register here](#)). With Thanksgiving around the corner home chefs will appreciate any tools that will be of service. As a child I made a potholder one summer at our local playground. I still remember how, months later, my mother using it to handle a pot full of milk for our post-skating hot chocolate.

The other program is a seminar on healthy eating. We all know and have experienced how the holidays can present real challenges to those being mindful of a healthy diet and how easy it is to give in to excess. Kathi Masi will help patrons plan and enjoy their holidays in ways that are fun, festive, and nutritious. This programs [requires registration](#).

The Library now offers a Homebound Delivery service which I've mentioned before and has grown exponentially in the few months we've been able to provide it. For those of you who are homebound by any medical or physical limitation or a disability, please let us know. The full catalog of Library items is open to you. This service can be of great help to parents of newborns as well! There are never fines on any Newport Public Library items. You can email [Deanna](#) or call her at 401-847-8720, x108.

One of the other tools provided by the Library that has been on offer from the Adult Services department for quite some time remains especially popular at this time of year. The Library can transfer your old VHS tapes to a digital format. This is a unique and thoughtful gift as VCRs have more or less vanished. Have old home movies of children, relatives, gatherings, or weddings that you thought were trapped in old technology? Bring them to the Library during regular hours and our staff will convert them when you provide your own storage device (a flash drive of at least 16 GB is required). Enjoying revived memories is a wonderful way to spend time with family and friends.

And speaking of friends – or in this case, Friends with a capital F – the Library received its annual donation of \$25,000 in September. This gift is made possible by the dedicated team of volunteers who labor throughout the year to receive, clean up, prepare, stock, and sell gently used donations by the residents of Newport. Their hard work pays dividends throughout the year as they sponsor many programs during the Summer Reading initiative. I thank and honor the Friends for their ceaseless work either in the back of the house or the front of the house.

Along with the holidays comes some slight alterations to the Library schedule. The staff endeavors mightily to provide all sorts of entertainments during this time of year and does so knowing that they too can partake of the pleasures of the season. November and December dates to keep in mind:

November 7: Election Day and the Library will be open as we are also serving as a polling place! Get out and vote!

November 11: The Library will be closed for Veterans' Day.

November 22: Closing early at 5:00 PM.

November 23: Closed for Thanksgiving.

December 24-26: Closed for Christmas. The Library will open at 9:00 AM on Wednesday, December 27th.

December 31-January 1: Closed for the New Year holiday. The Library will reopen at 9:00 AM on Tuesday, January 2nd.

The Library is now open on Sunday from 1:00-5:00 PM. There are Sundays that the Library will be closed, so please note the dates of November 12, the above holiday dates, the

Sunday before MLK Day and Presidents' Day (that is, January 14th and February 18th), March 17th, and March 31th (Easter Sunday). The last Sunday the Library is open on May 5, 2024.

I hope you take away a sense that the Library is here for you and that the staff is always on the lookout for stimulating programs and innovative services. I send this with my sincere best wishes for a holiday season filled with happiness, good health, and much joy!



Joseph Logue



Venmo

Consider a one-time holiday gift to the Newport Public Library to help support its mission and vision. To receive a letter of thanks and acknowledgement of your tax deductible gift please enter your mailing address in the "What's this for?" section.

Holiday Gift / Annual Appeal Sheila Q. Patron
300 Spring Street
Newport, Rhode Island 02840



Dinosaur Eggs

Wednesday, Nov. 8

4:00pm

6-12 Years Old

Children's Program Room

Kids can create dinosaur eggs with a dino inside! They will "hatch" a dinosaur egg during



the program and make eggs to dry and "hatch" at home.

Registration is required and begins on Tuesday, October 24th.

Ceramic Turkey Painting

Thursday, Nov. 9

4:00pm

5-12 Years Old

Children's Program Room

Children are invited to paint a ceramic turkey. Children will paint a turkey to decorate the Thanksgiving table.



Registration is required. Sign up through the event calendar on the Library's website beginning on Tuesday, October 24th at 9:00am.



Gobble Turkey Fun

Friday, Nov. 17

2:30pm

2-5 Years Old

Children's Department

Children and a caregiver are invited for some turkey fun. Join us for turkey-themed games, activities and a craft. Held in the Children's Department. No registration is required.

Dash Robots

Monday, Nov. 20

4:00pm

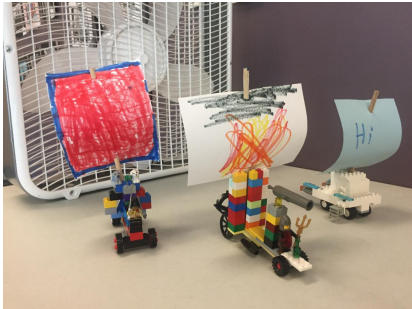
7-12 Years Old

Children's Program Room

Children are invited to explore Dash Robots. Children will code and navigate various obstacles using the Dash Robots.

Registration is required. Sign up through the event calendar on the Library's website beginning on Tuesday, October 31st

at 9:00am.



LEGO Challenge: Wind Racers

Wednesday, Nov. 22

2:30pm

5-12 Years Old

Children's Program Room

Children are invited to LEGO Challenge: Wind Racers! Kids will make wind racer cars that they are able to take home and keep.

No registration is required.

Saturday Family Fun

Saturday, Nov. 25 & Dec. 9

2:30pm

5-12 Years Old

Children's Department

Children and a caregiver are invited to Family Fun one Saturday afternoon per month!

Registration is required. Click on a session below to register.

Nov. 25: Dino-rama

Dec. 9: No-Sew Sock Snowmen



Reindeer Games

Friday, Dec. 15

10:00am

2-5 Years Old



Children's Department

Children and a caregiver are invited to our Reindeer Games! Enjoy reindeer-themed activities and crafts!

No registration is required.

Holiday Stocking Workshop

Saturday, Dec. 16

2:30pm

6-12 Years Old

Children's Program Room

Children are invited to join in the fun of creating their own holiday stockings. Use plastic needles, yarn and other materials to construct the stockings. Come surprise yourself with your hidden talents!

Registration is required. Sign up through the event calendar on the Library's website beginning Tuesday, November 28th at 9:00am.



Children's Storytimes

Nov - Dec 2023

All Held in the Friends Program Room

Family Storytime

Wednesdays

Nov. 15 - Dec. 13

10:00am

Ages 0-5 & Caregiver

Baby Bookworms

Thursdays

Nov. 9 - Dec. 14*

9:30am

Ages 0-24mos &

Caregiver

***No Storytime 11/23**

Saturday Stories

Saturdays

Nov 18 - Dec. 16*

10:00am

Ages 0-5 & Caregiver

No Storytime 11/4, 11/11

Bilingual Spanish Storytime

Tuesday, Dec. 5

10:00am

Ages 0-4 Years

Winter Solstice Storytime & Craft

Thursday, Dec. 21

10:00am

Ages 0-5 Years

[Click here for all Children's and Family Programs](#)



Teen Programs



Manga Drawing

Monday, Nov. 7, Nov. 21

3:30pm

Grades 5-12

YA Area

Do you enjoy drawing or are you looking to learn a new skill? Join us for Manga Drawing workshop, taught by illustrator and artist Jerry Shippee. Supplies provided. All experience levels welcome.

Registration requested.

Anime Watch Club

Mondays, Nov. 14, Nov. 28, Dec. 15, Dec. 12, Dec. 19

3:30pm

Grades 8-12

Friends Program Room

Join fellow Anime and Manga enthusiasts to watch and discuss anime, have a snack and enjoy a fun activity. Any teens who wish to submit a watch suggestion, let the YA librarians know and they will research the title for the next session.



No registration required. Must be 13+ to attend (Grades 8-12).



Dungeons and Dragons

Wednesdays*

3:30pm

Grades 5-12

YA Area

Join us for DnD! If you are a new player who wants to join the campaign, no problem! Just ask the YA librarian for a character sheet.

No registration required.

* No session on Nov. 22.

Teen Advisory Board

Thursday, Nov. 2, Dec. 7

3:30pm

Grades 5-12

YA Area



Do you have any ideas to improve the teen space at the library? This is your opportunity to voice those ideas! TAB members help decide programs, decorate the YA space seasonally and are encouraged to run programs based on their own interests.

College Q&A With URI Admissions

Thursday, Nov. 9

6:00pm

Grades 5-12

YA Area



Are you planning to apply to college? Come learn about college and URI from URI Admissions. Ask questions about the application process, life on campus, the joint admissions program scholarship opportunities and more! Both prospective students and parents are welcome to attend

Registration requested.



Make Your Own Altoids Tin Wallet

Thursday, Nov. 16

3:30pm

YA Area

Inspired by creators on TikTok and Pinterest, we're making Altoids Tin Wallets! The versatile mint tin is the perfect size to hold standard sized credits cards and IDs. We'll have all the materials to make this tin your own and all you'll need is some creativity! Registration requested.

Registration requested.

DIY Holiday Gift Series: Jewelry Making

Thursday, Nov. 30

3:30pm

YA Area



Attention all teens looking for Holiday gift ideas! Join us for

some DIY jewelry making - perfect as a gift or for yourself!
We've got all the materials and all you need is to bring yourself and some creativity.

Registration requested.



Cookie Decorating and Movie Night

Thursday, Dec. 14

4:30pm

Friends Program Room

Get into the holiday spirit with us to watch the Nightmare Before Christmas and decorate sugar cookies!

Registration required.

DIY Holiday Gift Series: Candle Making

Thursday, Dec. 21

3:30pm

Children's Program Room

What's better than a homeade gift? Join us to make candles as a gift or for yourself!

Registration required.



[Click here for all Teen Programs](#)

Adult Programming

Homebound Service

Newport Public Library

Homebound Service

Free delivery of books and more to homebound residents.

For more information, stop by the Circulation desk.



Homebound residents in Newport can now sign up to have books, movies, and more delivered to their homes! To sign up or get more information, contact Deanna at dborges@newportlibraryri.org or call 401-847-8720 ext. 108.

Film Series

FILM SERIES

1980S CLASSICS

Fridays at 2:00pm
Friends Program Room
Light Refreshments Provided!

Oct 20	Beetlejuice (1988)
Nov 3	The Goonies (1985)
Nov 17	The Princess Bride (1987)





The Friday afternoon Film Series continues this season! Movies are held at 2:00pm in the Friends Program Room. No registration required; just drop in!
Light refreshments will be provided.

Meditation for Brain Health

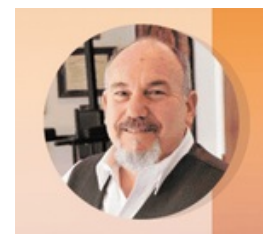
Wednesday, Nov. 15

6:30pm

Friends Program Room

Join us for a lecture and brief meditation session.

Join Dr. Alan Post, Chiropractic Physician and long time meditator who speaks regularly on this topic. He will offer an



engaging lecture on this fascinating subject. Dr. Post will also share a simple and effective meditation technique which has lasting benefits.

Registration is required.



Healthy Eating for the Holidays

Thursday, Nov. 9

5:00pm

Friends Program Room

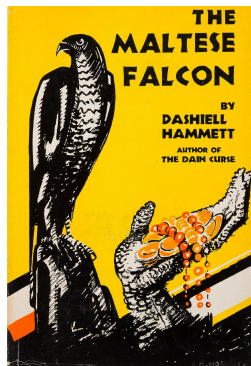
Enjoy delicious food without the guilt. Join us on Thursday, November 9 for tips on healthy eating around the holidays and a cooking demonstration with Kathi Masi. Food samples will be available to taste.

Seats are limited to the first 20 registrants.

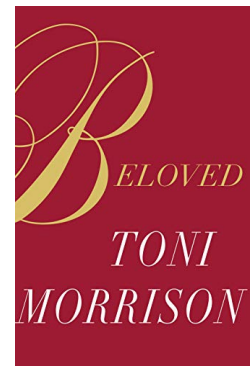
Registration is required.

World Classics Book Group

The World Classics book group meets monthly on select Saturdays at 2:00 PM. Registration is required.



**November 25:
The Maltese Falcon**
by Dashiell Hammett



**December 9:
Beloved**
by Toni Morrison

Air-Dry Clay Ornaments

Wednesday, Dec. 13

6:00pm

Maker Lab

Join us every other month for an in-person craft session! For December, we will be making holiday ornaments out of air-dry clay.



All materials will be provided! Open to Ages 18+.

Registration is required.

Computer Workshops

Thursdays, Nov. 2 & Dec. 7

Maker Lab

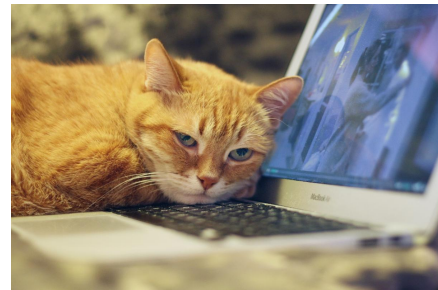
Join us for these adult computer workshops that teaches users computer skills.

Registration is required. Click on a session below to register.

Nov. 2: Google Sheets

Dec. 7: Google Slides

There is a 3 person minimum for these workshops. If the minimum is not met, the class will be cancelled.



[Click here for all Adult Programs](#)



Greetings of the Season!



Our Friends volunteers have been busy collecting an exciting array of books to offer at our Holiday Sale from December 1-9. We will have something for everyone on your gift list including fiction, history, biography, cooking and art. We will also have an excellent selection of books for children of all ages.

In addition, there will be a variety of items for holiday shopping from small gift books offering inspiration and humor to journals, puzzles, and games. We hope to see you there!

In November the bookstore will have a wide selection of seasonal and Christmas novels to get you in the holiday mood!

We now have a selection of paperbacks 3 for \$1.00 in the lower lobby in addition to our selection of books, DVDs and CDs. There is something available during library hours for your shopping pleasure.

For donations, we accept gently used books, CDs and DVDs that are in good condition for resale. We do not accept encyclopedias, textbooks, or outdated technology or medical books.

Thank you for shopping and helping to support the Newport Public Library.

Follow us on **Facebook**, check out our **eBay store**, and remember you can always find a book to read in the lobby during library hours! Payment can be made in the Honor Box for your convenience.



Library Hours

Monday - 12:00PM - 8:30PM
Tuesday - 9:00AM - 8:30PM
Wednesday - 9:00AM - 8:30PM
Thursday - 9:00AM - 8:30PM
Friday - 9:00AM - 5:30PM
Saturday - 9:00AM - 5:30PM
Sunday - 1:00 - 5:00PM*
**(October-May)*

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