

The Bookmark

Monthly Newsletter of the Gale Free Library

August 2023

Vol. 3, No. 2



Contents

Library News

Library News
Page 1

Adult Programs
Page 2

Children's Programs
Page 3

Be on the Lookout for...
Window Restoration
Project
Staff Picks
Art Exhibits
Page 4

Local History and
Museum Highlights
Page 5

Contact us:
508-210-5560
galefreelibrary@gmail.com

- The Library will be closed September 2-4 in observance of the Labor Day holiday.
- Summer programs continue this month! See page 2 for more on Adult Summer Reading and page 3 for Children's summer programming.
- Thank you to all of our patrons who return their books using our book return just outside the Library entrance. If the book return is full, please use our classic book drop opposite the entryway.
- In August, our Art Exhibit will be featuring "Seasonal Changes," a group show of artists studying with Jan Legare at the Holden Senior Center. See page 4 for details.
- "Gamespace!" is here! The Program Room will be open and stocked with games for all ages to enjoy! No need to register-- just drop in, relax, and have fun. Stop by the Reference Desk anytime to let us know if there is a particular game you would like us to have on hand. See page 2 for dates and times.



HOLDEN DAY AT POLAR PARK **AUGUST 30, 2023**

The WooSox host Holden at Polar Park for
"Town Takeover" Night!
Tickets purchased for this night will
benefit the Gale Free Library!
Scan the QR code, click the image link on our
homepage at galefreelibrary.org,
or contact us at
the Reference Desk for more details!



Adult Programs

Page 2



Historic Tour of the Gale Free Library

Saturday, August 5, 10am-12pm

(Registration required)

Join us for this historic tour of the Damon Memorial building, home to the Gale Free Library, led by Local History Librarian Nancy Richards. We will be exploring all levels of the building, as well as the outbuilding. Participants will also have the opportunity to ring the school bell, housed in the combination belltower and clock tower. The rain date will be Saturday, August 12. For more information, or to register, please contact the Library at (508)210-5569, or at galefreelibrary@gmail.com.

Contemporary Book Group

Wednesday, 8/2, 1pm

(In-person; registration required)

This month, we will be discussing *The Dictionary of Lost Words* by Pip Williams. Please note that registration is required, as space is limited. Copies of the book can be picked up at the Reference Desk.

"Gamespace!"

Tuesdays, 8/1 and 8/15

Wednesdays, 8/9 and 8/23

5-8 pm, in the Program Room

(Drop-in, no registration required)

This summer, escape the heat by joining us each week for an evening of tabletop games. Bring your friends along, relax, and have fun! A variety of board games will be available.

Cooking Club: "Summer Pie!"

Tuesday, 8/8, 6pm

(In-person; registration required)

We dedicate our August Cooking Program to summer pies. Which is your favorite? We'd love to try it and get the recipe from you! Let's also learn about making the perfect pie crust from our special guest, a local pie baker, who will share her baking tips, methods, and experiences!

Weekly Knitting Group

Mondays, 1-2:30pm

We offer an in-person meeting, as well as a virtual meeting. (No registration is needed for the in-person meeting. For the virtual meeting, please contact the Library for an invitation.) All are welcome, from beginners to experienced!

Please contact the Reference Desk for more information or to register for our programs at 508-210-5569.

Adult Summer Reading Program

Adult Summer Reading 2023 "Go Anywhere...With a Book!" continues through August 19!

One reader will be drawn each week to receive a fantastic gift card to a local business! It couldn't be easier—read a book (any book of your choice—audiobooks count too!), fill out a SHORT entry form, stuff it in our suitcase, and you're on your way! You can find entry forms and instructions on display near our entrance. Can't make it to the Library? Call us at the Reference Desk at 508-210-5569 or email us at galefreelibrary@gmail.com, and we'll fill out the entry form for you! Give us a call with any questions!



Children's Programs

Page 3

Story Times

Lapsit Story Time

Every Thursday

through 8/10

at 10AM

on the Library Lawn

Ages 2 and under

(In the Program Room
if it's raining)

Join Miss Rachel for songs, short picture book stories, and more. This story time will focus on routine, repetition, and early literacy skills like ABCs and 123s.

Preschool Story Time

Every Thursday

through 8/10

at 11AM

on the Library Lawn

Ages 3-6

(In the Program Room
if it's raining)

Join Mr. Kevin for lots of laughs and fun stories! This story time will focus on picture book stories and include games or activities and of course Mr. Kevin's great sense of humor!



Summer Fun in the Children's Room



Paint Pour Fun

Friday 8/4 from 3-4PM

on the Library Lawn

Ages 12+

Beautiful galaxies, elegant seashores, and fantastical locations can all be made with this fun, abstract art form!

Bubble Fun

Monday 8/7 from 10-11AM

on the Library Lawn

Get ready to play with soapy suds and rainbow bubbles! Miss Patty will bring the bubble fun to this story time and scavenger hunt!

Tanglewood Marionettes Presents: Cinderella

Wednesday 8/9 from 2:15-3:15PM

in the Senior Center

Best for ages 4+

This production of Cinderella is a Tanglewood Marionettes masterpiece, featuring a witty script and over a dozen lavishly costumed marionettes. Thank you to the Holden Cultural Council for sponsoring this event.



End of Summer Reading

Saturday 8/19

This will be the last day to check in and claim your prizes for Summer Reading!

Be on the Lookout for...

Page 4



Photo by
Bethany Peterson

Let There Be Light!

Spotlight on Our Future Window Restoration by Richard Maurer

On the southwest face of the original 1888 Library building is a sandstone relief sculpture, showing the goddess Wisdom, flanked by two inscriptions. To the right: "Character is destiny." And on the left: "Let there be light," which are the first spoken words in the book of Genesis.

To let the light in, that side of the building has fifteen beautiful, large windows (not counting the windows in the 1989 addition). It's the most weather-beaten side of the structure, which means the window sashes and glazing are showing 135 years of New England winters and summers. On the opposite side of the building and on the front side, the windows are in slightly better condition, but also in urgent need of restoration and repair.

Altogether, there are sixty exterior windows in the 1888 building. That's over a thousand square feet of glass and hundreds of linear feet of wooden sills, jambs, and muntins. It's going to be a big job restoring these complex architectural features while maintaining their historic character—and it won't be cheap. The town can't yet put a figure on the final cost, but it's clear that the project can use the fundraising skills of the Friends and the grant largesse of the state, combined with town support.

Stay tuned for more details as this project comes into sharper focus. But please step forward if you would like to volunteer for fundraising, grant writing, or other roles. We can use your skills and enthusiasm!

Art Exhibits in the Program Room

Throughout the year, the Gale Free Library will be displaying the artwork of a variety of artists. In August, we will be featuring "Seasonal Changes," the work of a group of artists studying with

Jan Legare at the Holden Senior Center. Jan is a certified Artis4every1 instructor. This method breaks down the painting process into smaller steps to help new students learn to paint and gain confidence. Many of Jan's students have been painting for quite a while and have developed their own personal artistic style. The students learn from one another and have fun in a relaxed atmosphere. Occasionally they do a group project, such

as the 13-artist collaboration currently hanging in a Senior Center activity room. The Library's Art Exhibits are supported by the Friends of the Gale Free Library.

Staff Picks

Danielle

"Hello Beautiful"

By Ann Napolitano

I didn't want this book to end.
Easily my favorite of 2023 so far.

Nancy Ch.

The House on Prytania

By Karen White

Nancy E. C.

Empire of Light

Rated R--2022

Thoughtful, heartbreaking, poignant,
beautiful. Olivia Coleman
deserved awards!

Stephanie

Beneath

J PIC by Cori Doerrfeld

A story of a Grandpa and his grandson,
learning lies beneath everything in the
physical world, but also concerning feelings.
Beautifully and colorfully illustrated.

Wendy

M3GAN

Rated PG-13 (Horror)

2022

A human-size, life-like doll begins to
take on a life of its own, which leads
to unimaginable consequences.

Judy

Lessons in Chemistry

By Bonnie Garmus

This novel contains laugh-out-loud funny
and entertaining subplots but the hard
truth is in the 1960s smart, ambitious
women had few options.

Spencer

The Other: Encounters

with the Cthulhu Mythos

Book One

By Troy Young

H. P. Lovecraft's 133 birthday is
August 20, 2023!



Local History and Museum Highlights

Page 5

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum Boston, MA



Located in the Fenway area of Boston's Back Bay, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum offers museum goers a glimpse into the life of one of Boston's most prominent art collectors, philanthropists, and art patrons.

The Museum houses significant examples of European, Asian, and American art in what used to be the home and private museum of its namesake. Its collection includes paintings, sculpture, tapestries, and decorative arts. Our pass, sponsored by the Friends of the Gale Free Library, admits up to 4 people at \$5 each.

Children under 18 are admitted free.

Information and pictures courtesy of the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum.

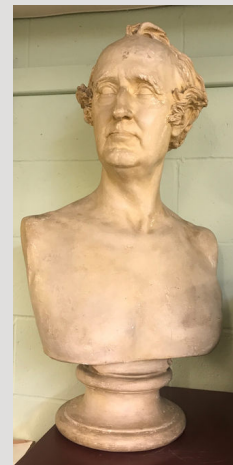


Discounted passes to the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum and other museums are available at the Reference Desk or by calling 508-210-5569.

Local History

One of the larger treasures in the collection of the Local History Room is a plaster bust of the 19th Century abolitionist and orator Wendell Phillips. This bust, which was once displayed in Holden High School (HHS) when it was on the Second Floor of the Damon Memorial, served as more than decoration. Along with plaster busts of such well-known figures as George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, and Charles Dickens, as well as plaster copies of famous ancient statues, including the Venus de Milo, the Phillips bust was used not only as an instructional aid for art class, but also as a transmitter of Western values and culture. Furthermore, the presence of Phillips (and others) spoke to contemporary issues and courage. Early yearbooks from HHS reveal that students occasionally had fun too with the statues by writing imaginatively of their residence in the school (see the forthcoming September issue of "The Bookmark.")

*"Happy 135th Birthday,
Damon Memorial-Gale Free Library
August 29"*



Plaster bust of Wendell Phillips (1811-1884), Massachusetts abolitionist, social reformer, and lawyer.