

# The BOOKMARK

## Newsletter of the Gale Free Library

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## Library Hours

Monday 9:30 am-5:30 pm

Tuesday 9:30 am-8 pm

Wednesday 9:30 am-8 pm

Thursday 9:30 am-8 pm

Friday 9:30 am-5:30 pm

Saturday 9 am-4 pm

Contact Us:  
508-210-5560

[galefreelibrary@gmail.com](mailto:galefreelibrary@gmail.com)

## Library News

- The Library will be closed Saturday, May 25 and Monday, May 27 in observance of Memorial Day.
- Mountview Middle School students' artwork will be featured in the Program Room during the month of May. See page 2 for information about the Artists' Reception on Monday, May 6.
- Children ages 6 and up can stop by for a drop-in craft on Tuesday, May 7 beginning at 3:30. See page 3 for more information.
- Keep up to date with our Adult Programs by subscribing to our weekly emails. Click on the link on our website's homepage ([galefreelibrary.org](http://galefreelibrary.org)) or contact us at 508-210-5569 for assistance.

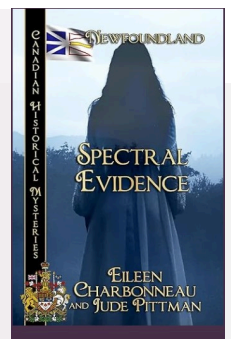


*Witches and Vampires:  
When Old World  
Nightmares Invaded the  
New World*

with  
Eileen O'Finlan and  
Eileen Charbonneau

Thursday,  
May 16  
6PM  
In the Program Room

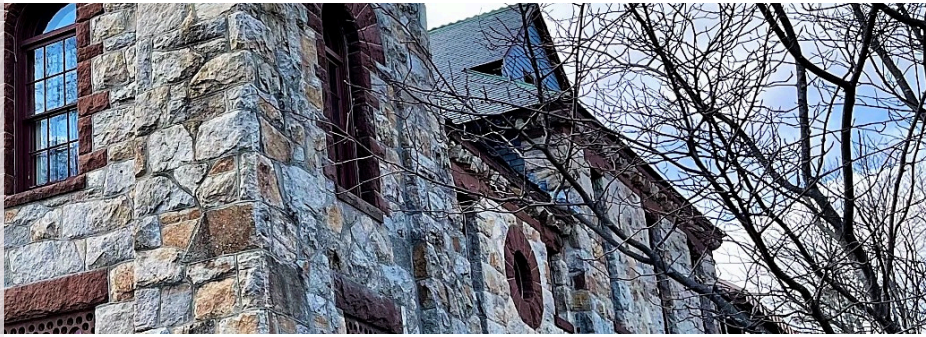
See page 2 for further  
information.







# Art Exhibits, Adult Programs

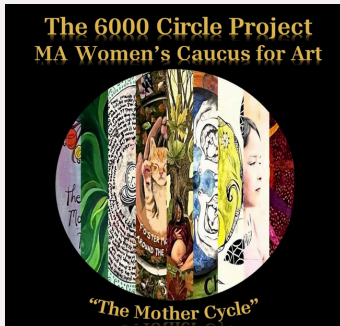


## May Art at the Library

**"The Mother Cycle"**  
*A group exhibit by  
the Massachusetts Women's  
Caucus for Art*  
Upstairs Lobby

The Massachusetts Chapter of the national Women's Caucus for Art (WCA) is participating in The 6000 Circle Project: Honoring the Feminine, an international project organized by the WCA and the art group The Calling. For the 6000 Circle Project, artists of all genders from throughout the world have been called to create works within the framework of an 18" circle, the symbol of balance, unity, and feminine energy, between March and November 2024 for exhibit.

Artists in the Massachusetts chapter have chosen to respond to the 6000 Circle Project by focusing on the theme "The Mother Cycle." Members will present their individual interpretations of the theme within circles created from a variety of materials.



**Cooking Club**  
**"Sourdough Starter  
Workshop"**  
with Sourdough Brandon  
Tuesday, 5/7, 6pm  
Registration required.

Learn how to make, maintain, and store a sourdough starter from an expert sourdough baker and food blogger. You'll leave with some free sourdough starter, many tips and tricks for keeping your starter active, and ideas for what to make with your starter.

**Adult Take-Home Craft**  
Starts Wednesday, 5/8  
Please visit the Reference Desk  
for your kit.

In celebration of Earth and Arbor Day, we will be "Cleaning the Earth and Planting the Trees." Pick up your DIY craft kit at the Reference Desk (while supplies last). Every bag will contain free supplies and instructions. No registration required.

**The Craft of  
Writing Workshop  
with Jennifer Freed**  
"Current Events"

Thursday, 5/16  
10:30am-12pm  
Online via Zoom.

Registration required.

Join us as we look at ways writers have approached and responded to events in the news. All are welcome, no experience necessary.

*For more information or to register  
for a program, please contact the  
Reference Desk at 508-210-5569  
or email us at  
galefreelibrary@gmail.com.*

**"Witches and Vampires:  
When Old World Nightmares  
Invaded the New World"**  
with Eileen O'Finlan  
and Eileen Charbonneau  
Thursday, 5/16, 6pm

No registration required.

Join authors Charbonneau and O'Finlan for a look at what happened when two European folk beliefs arrived in America. Together the writers offer a presentation on how the European beliefs about witches and vampires followed those who emigrated to America, how these beliefs manifested in New England's early centuries, and how the two authors have utilized them in their own novels.

**"Mornings with Maggie!"**

Our friend Maggie will be back to spend some time with us and brighten our day! Maggie and her person, Kelly, are a certified therapy team through the Alliance of Therapy Dogs. Maggie will be visiting when she can, so keep an eye out for her future visits!

**Classics Book Group**  
Thursday, 5/23, 6:30pm  
Registration required.

Join us as we discuss *Passing* by Nella Larsen. Copies of the book can be picked up at the Reference Desk.

**Weekly Knitting &  
Crocheting 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!

## **MOUNTVIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL ART EXHIBITION & RECEPTION** **GALE FREE LIBRARY, PROGRAM ROOM**

Join us for an artists' reception Monday, May 6 from 4-5 pm

It's an arty party... Join us to celebrate Holden's young artists! The art department at Mountview Middle School is sharing work by 21 students in the Gale Free Library Program Room (23 Highland Street, Holden, MA, 2nd Floor) for the month of May.

Come enjoy a refreshment and meet the artists in a fun, informal setting.





# Children's & Teens' Programs

## Teens

### Mountview Art Exhibition Reception Program Room

Monday, 5/6, 4-5 PM

Admire the artwork of Mountview Middle School students that will be hanging in the Program Room all month! Light refreshments will be served.



### Dungeons and Dragons One Shot Grades 6+

Tuesday, 5/21 from 3:45 to 5:45 PM  
*Registration opens 5/14.*

Join the party for a one-shot adventure! The adventure is for 3rd and 4th level characters. Both new and experienced players are welcome!



Friday, 5/10 at 10AM (ages 2-5)

To register, email [communityconnections@wachusettcfce.com](mailto:communityconnections@wachusettcfce.com)

This is not your typical yoga class! Little ones learn basic poses incorporating music and literacy. Yoga helps children improve emotional regulation and develop strength and flexibility!

## Children



### Tissue-Paper Flowers Drop-In Craft Children's Room

Ages 6+

Tuesday, 5/7  
3:30 to 5:30 PM

*No registration necessary.*

Craft a beautiful tissue-paper flower with us! Available while supplies last.



### Graphic Novel Book Club Grades 4+

Thursday, 5/23 at 4:20 PM  
*Register online.*

Read and discuss *Tidesong* by Wendy Xu and learn about making comics!

## Everything LEGO!

### LEGO Club

Ages 6+

Wednesday, 5/8 and  
Wednesday, 5/15  
at 4:20 PM

*Registration opens 5/1 & 5/8.*  
Choose a color to build in for this month's Color Town display!



### LEGO Jr. Ages 4-5

Thursday, 5/9 at 4:20 PM  
*Registration opens 5/2.*

Choose a color to build in for this month's Color Town display!

## Storytimes



### Lapsit Story Time

Every Thursday  
Ages 2 and under  
10 AM

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  
Ages 3-6  
11 AM

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

*All programs take place in the Program Room unless noted otherwise.*



# Museum Passes, Local History

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## Museum Moments



Saturday Open Studio  
Isabella Stewart  
Gardner Museum  
Boston  
Saturday, May 11  
1-4 pm

Drop-in art-making activities inspired by the Gardner collection. Participation is first come, first served. Free with general admission. [gardnermuseum.org](http://gardnermuseum.org)

Muster Day  
Old Sturbridge Village  
Saturday, May 18

Old Sturbridge Village re-creates a typical Muster Day and celebrates local military history. Demonstrations will include marching, musket and cannon firing, and target practice. Included with standard daytime admission. [osv.org](http://osv.org)

Annual Fruitlands Kite Festival  
Fruitlands Museum  
Harvard, MA  
Saturday, May 25  
1-4 pm

Members of Kites Over New England will be showcasing some high-flying kites. This program includes kite making, kites for sale, and advice for flyers. You can also bring your own kite! Space is limited; preregistration is encouraged. Free with general admission. [the.trustees.org](http://the.trustees.org)



Contact the Reference Desk at 508-210-5569  
or [galefreelibrary@gmail.com](mailto:galefreelibrary@gmail.com) to reserve  
Museum Passes or for further information.

## Local History

### Travelling Back to 1944



Following Librarian M. Addie Holden's retirement from the Gale Free Library in 1943, the Damon Memorial Board of Trustees elected to have a representative of the State Division of Public Libraries, a part of the Massachusetts Department of Education, survey the Library for the

benefit of the Town, Trustees, and new Librarian, Amy L. Snow. What follows, and will continue to be presented in future issues of the "Bookmark" until complete, is the submitted report, written by Library Adviser E. Louise Jones and dated April 13, 1944. Note that the format of the report has been altered slightly to improve readability, and a few non-essential lines have been omitted.

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*The following is a continuation of the Massachusetts report. Please see the March and April editions of "The Bookmark" for the first and second installments.*

Juvenile Book Collection. The juvenile collection is exceedingly small and in size does not bear the proper relation to the adult book stock. Much of the material was wornout [sic]. There were many cheap series (probably gifts) and many were by old authors who were not standard authors for children and whose books are out-dated [sic] anyway. The aforesaid books have been discarded. Standard books and those worth binding were set aside for that purpose. There is no mark on the outside to indicate which are children's books.

Recommendations. It is recommended that as a permanent practice one-third of the book money be spent for children's books. Temporarily a larger proportion should be spent on children's books . . . to bring the collection up to a satisfactory level, both as to quality and quantity. The State Certificate Reading Lists should be checked for titles [that] the library does not own at present, and buying them should be as heavy as funds will permit. The children's books should be marked with a J on the outside for fiction, and J with the classification number for non-fiction. The library can borrow a large collection of children's books from the Division of Public Libraries to help out their present needs.

*To be continued in "The Bookmark" next month.  
Past editions can be found at [galefreelibrary.org](http://galefreelibrary.org).*

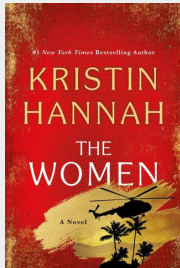
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*Local History content is provided by our Local History Librarian, Nancy Richards.*



# Be on the Lookout for...

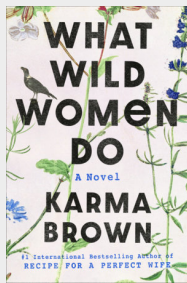
## We Recommend



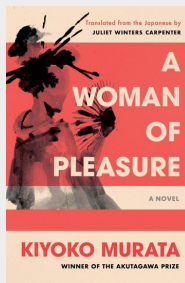
*The Women*  
by Kristin Hannah  
Judy & Nancy Ch.



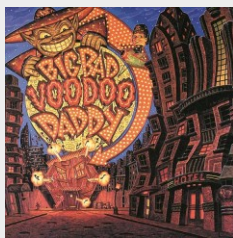
*Next Goal Wins*  
Based on a true story.  
2023 PG-13 DVD  
Comedy  
Wendy



*What Wild Women Do*  
by Karma Brown  
Danielle



*A Woman of Pleasure*  
by Kiyoko Murata  
Magda



*Big Bad Voodoo Daddy*  
by Big Bad Voodoo Daddy  
CD/Music  
Spence



*Black River Orchard*  
by Chuck Wendig  
Katy



## Author Spotlight Susan Meissner

Susan Meissner is an American author, columnist, and the former editor of a weekly newspaper. She was born in 1961 and raised in San Diego. She currently resides in Southern California with her family.

This *Author Spotlight* was written by Judy from Circulation.

**Only the Beautiful** (2023) is a compelling and haunting historical fiction book about eugenics, reproductive rights, and forced sterilization. There is a WWII story line, but it is primarily a book about being a woman, motherhood, and the deep bonds of family ties.

**The Nature of Fragile Things** (2021) is a historical fiction book about the devastating San Francisco earthquake of 1906. This book explores the bonds of friendship. The three women in the story exhibit resiliency, resolve, and a belief that love can overcome fear.

**The Last Year of the War** (2019) is a WWII story told from the perspective of two teenage girls in America whose parents are immigrants from Germany and Japan. When the war breaks, out the families are sent to an internment camp in Texas. The girls meet at the camp and become best friends, but the hardship of war separates them and threatens their friendship.

The novel **As Bright as Heaven** (2018) is a work of historical fiction. Philadelphia seems bright with promise, despite its young men going to fight in WWI, until the onset of the Great Influenza (1918-1920), which was commonly called the Spanish Flu. This flu pandemic infected an estimated 500 million people globally with an estimated death toll of 25-50 million. The Bright family finds the courage and resolve to survive despite losing loved ones.

