

Upcoming Events

Thursday, May 5:
Friends of the Library Book Sale
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Friday, May 6:
First Friday Art Walk
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Saturday, May 14:
Friends of the Library Book Sale
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Tuesday, May 24:
Friends of the Library Book Sale
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

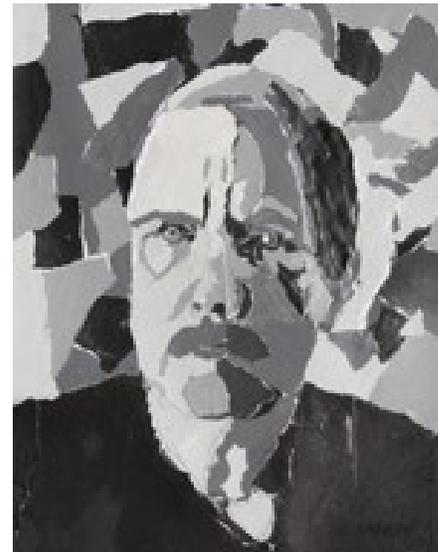
[>>> Click here for more event information](#)

First Friday Art Walk: Charles Sharpe's Abstract and Figurative Acrylic Collage Art
Friday, May 6, 5- 7 p.m. 1270 Madison Ave. N.

The Bainbridge Public Library is adding to the beauty of the month of May with a display of abstract and figurative acrylic collages by Charles Sharpe. His exhibit will debut during a First Friday Art Walk reception in the library meeting room.

His work is the result of playful exploration as he frequently lets the materials dictate the direction of a piece. "I freely explore various mediums, styles, ideas and formats," Sharpe says. "It keeps the learning process interesting.

"Some of the pieces feature silver solder collaged on an acrylic background. Some of the pieces are traditional oils. My job as an artist is to listen and to allow the conversation to unfold between materials, ideas, and technique. The meaning of some of these pieces is developed as the piece is being made, and regardless of what I think that meaning is, the true significance of the piece is only realized as the viewer, who brings the sum total of their life experiences to the viewing, wrests what meaning they will. A successful work of art for me doesn't necessarily spell out the artists' intentions but rather engages the viewer in a dialogue with



the piece.

"Further, a successful work of art forever holds the emotion or vibration of the artist who created it. That is one of the reasons that petroglyphs, as well as rock and cave paintings can have such a powerful impact on the viewer many thousands of years later. A piece of art that strikes one viewer and not the next is because of a sympathetic vibration or lack thereof in the viewer.

Allowing for mystery even in my representational paintings is something I strive for. My wish is to engage the viewer, and to share a common experience, if only for a moment."

He has been making art on and off for about 20 years and has studied with Steven Quiller, Xiogang Zhu, Tom Hoffmann, Bob Burrige, Aimee Erickson, Mitchell Albala, Aaron Coberly,

Robin Weiss, Barbara De Pirro, and many more. He has been attending life drawing sessions regularly for three or four years and considers capturing the human form to be the most beautiful and difficult artistic endeavor, and that all who attempt it should be given medals for bravery.

Sharpe's display will be available in the large library conference room during the month of May. As always, the First Friday event is free to the public. Free refreshments will be served.

Refresh, Revitalize, Renovate!

Plans for the Refresh Project continue to move forward. The planning committee is firming up details with the architects, general contractors have been interviewed and the start date this summer is still on schedule. To learn more about the project, please stop by the library and check out the table with brochures, bookmarks, and information panels that include some architectural drawings. There will also be [Refresh Project updates](#) on our website.

As you've read in previous e-newsletters, most of the project is being funded from the BPL board's reserve funds. We continue to close the funding gap as we move toward the construction date. We will need help moving bookshelves and other items before, during, and after construction so if you're interested in volunteering, please let us know.

Garden Gleanings 2016 By Ann Lovejoy



The deep garden beds that front the Bainbridge Public Library were among the first to be replanted after the remodel in 1997. That year, long-time library supporter Alice Doyle, of Log House Plants in Cottage Grove, Ore., offered to send us plants. The nursery had developed a plant program called the bed and breakfast for birds, bees and butterflies, including both nectar and fodder plants for native pollinators and garden bee favorites. Among the 80 or so flats

Alice sent us were many varieties of mint. Bees and other pollinators love mint blossoms, and with their long, questing roots, these rampant spreaders helped open up the heavy blue slab clay in the beds, preparing the way for less aggressive plants. These days, we mostly weed remaining mints out, but remain grateful for their "living shovel" role in those early days!

Books: New and Used Selections Available

The Bainbridge Island Friends of the Library book sales offer gently used books, CDs DVDs, audiobooks and magazines to support the Friends, who in turn reinvest in the library through endowment gifts, programming and special events, magazine subscriptions, the aquarium in the Children's Library and much more.

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Did You Know...



Our library is a successful public-private partnership. Kitsap Regional Library contributes tax dollars for library staff, technology and media collection. But the Bainbridge Public Library itself is an independent, all-volunteer 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization that owns, maintains and manages the building and its grounds - solely through private donations. Your contributions sustain the library as a community-owned Island treasure.