



Art in the Library!

It's the holiday season! Let's celebrate with our December artists, "The Rockettes: Landscape, Plein Air and More" on First Friday, **December 1st, 5-7PM** in the library meeting room.



The Rockettes **Painting & Camaraderie**

Welcome to a collaborative exhibit of friendship and art. This show features the work of seven women who first met and painted together at Winslow Art Center on Bainbridge Island. In 2020, when COVID-19 restrictions limited their in-person gatherings, they turned to Zoom and weekly prompts to stay connected as a community of artists. Over time, "The Rockettes" have had various paint-outs and exhibitions.

Each artist's work is a unique expression of their individual journey, showcasing their personal growth and creative style. The hope is that these

paintings inspire and delight you, as well as provide you an opportunity to share with your loved ones during the holiday season. Thank you for your support of the arts.

The Artists:

Fatima Young

"On location I study nature and simplify it. My goal is always to capture the freshness and rhythm found in majestic landscapes."

Diana C. Benjamin

"Just like in my photography, I love capturing moments, movement, tone, and color; always intent on evoking emotion and nostalgia."

Nora Masters

"I paint from life, expressing nature as I see and feel capturing that moment in time."

Tannis Moore

"My art is inspired by and created in times of personal peace and reflection. Light, strong value contrasts and color are what intrigue and draw my attention."

Joanne Onorato

"I paint to explore the beauty of form through the language of paint. I am drawn to light and shadow, creating dramatic space through these natural illuminations."

Gigi Godfrey

"For me painting is about observing and experimenting. I enjoy discovering nuances in color, pattern, and light. I try to interpret gesture and emotion with the medium to evoke intrigue with the viewer."

Wendy Armstrong

"Life is a journey, and I live it with intention that every day counts. The life of intention encompasses traveling populated and well-known paths as well as breaking new ground and creating one's own path. It is my own passion to make things that I hope will add to the quality of life of others, as well as my own."



You can view this exhibit in December during regular library hours or on the library website, www.bainbridgepubliclibrary.org. A portion of sales are donated to the library.

As always, thank you for supporting your Bainbridge Public Library and local artists.

~ Linda Meier, art coordinator



The Bainbridge Public Library has been a centerpiece of our community for over 60 years. Built on donated land, with funds from the first Rotary Auction, Bainbridge Public Library embodies the spirit of public/private partnership. Our library building and grounds are supported by donations and managed by a volunteer board of directors on behalf of Island residents. Tax dollars from our public partner, Kitsap Regional Library, pay for library staff, materials, technology, and programming. That's why we ask for your support through One Call for All. Please help us to maintain, operate, and improve our community's library home by supporting BPL when you make your One

Call for All donations.

<https://onecallforall.org/bainbridge-public-library/>

You can also give online at www.onecallforall.org.



"Ask Us Where We Give!"
Bainbridge Public Library Board of Directors

Another Addition to Our Bainbridge Public Library Gardens



We are pleased to present a new art piece introducing the Bainbridge Public Library Garden Fund.

Created by Island artist Dick Strom and erected by volunteers from BPL's Facilities and Garden Committee, the metalwork mural is located near the Legacy Tree on the south side of the library building. Nameplates below the mural will recognize honorees in whose names gifts were made to the fund. The minimum donation for a nameplate is \$500.

For information about making contributions to the BPL Garden Fund, visit our website at bainbridgepubliclibrary.org or leave a contact number at 206-866-1250(message line).

Thank you for your continued support of our community's library home.



Your Facilities Team

Greetings, Library Lovers!

In this season of Giving Thanks and Sharing with Others, the members of the Facilities Committee of the BPL Board wish to extend a very hearty "Thank You!" to our many volunteers and donors who truly help keep making our Bainbridge Public Library the vibrant, much-loved, and well-used space that it is. We can't do it without you and your support!

We've had a busy and productive year, some of which disrupted the normal functions of the library, so we especially want to thank you, our patrons, as well as the fabulous Kitsap Regional Library staff who have been so patient and creative to work around the challenges in order to provide the outstanding service and programs we all appreciate so much! Thank you and have a wonderful Holiday Season!

Again, we cannot say it enough . . . thank you to our donors who help make it possible to keep our library the vibrant, comfortable, up-to-date facility we all love, and to all our patrons for their support and patience. And now, here we go into winter! Brrrrr!

~ *Kip Bankart*

Become a Legacy Circle Member

You can make a pledge to the future by making a gift to BPL as part of your estate plan and becoming a member of the Bainbridge Public Library Legacy Circle. In this season of thanksgiving, we would like to honor the generous donors who've made legacy gifts to Bainbridge Public Library. If you'd like to learn more about making a gift to BPL through your estate or how to remember a special person through our new BPL Garden Fund, please visit our website, bainbridgepubliclibrary.org, and click on A Lasting Legacy under the Support BPL tab to learn more about putting your leaf on the Library's Legacy Tree. You can leave a message at (206) 866-1250 or email us at legacy@bainbridgepubliclibrary.org to record your pledge.



Showcasing Our Local Authors!

Anna Du Pen



As a Hospice and Palliative Care Nurse Practitioner, I knew the end of life from all angles. Or so I thought. Four months ago, I lost my husband. The love of my life. My soulmate. I lost my mind after he took his last breath. But not in the way you would expect. I leaned down next to his ear and whispered, "Oooh my darling." The thing is, I never called him that. I remember my head jerking back a bit after it came out. But it wasn't the first time this happened. Almost twenty years before, when my dad died, I loudly

cried out "Papa!"

What?!? Where did that verbiage come from? Certainly not my conscious mind. I never called my father that. He was Daddy or Dad. Did it come from somewhere in my memory? Papa is common down south where I grew up as a term of endearment for dads and grandads. It seems possible as well that I may have heard "my darling" as a term of affection as a child.

They call it Widow Brain. It's a thing. The symptoms are forgetfulness, brain fog, irritability, exhaustion, confusion, numbness, and nausea. The brain reacts to grief trauma by flooding the brain with chemicals that decrease activity in the thinking center, increase activity in the fear center and decrease the activity in the feeling center.

When my husband died, I felt disconnected. I felt numb. The pain of losing him paralyzed me. I recognized that the words coming out of my mouth were odd but could not process why. I searched for the words to describe my feelings. Am I bereft? Forlorn? But no words seem to fit. I felt fear in the form of being overwhelmed. What would I do without him? My life made no sense now.

On top of the parts of the various parts of the brain not working so well, the thinking part and the feeling part of the brain don't communicate well with each other to provide context—disorientation. Maybe that disconnect was at play when I uttered those words that didn't make sense to me.

People smarter than me (yes, I have a therapist here on the island) say time, plus feeling the pain of loss while at the same time feeling gratitude for the life, I had with my darling husband will help my brain rewire. Darling. It's a good word.

For more on Widow Brain:

Shulman, Lisa. *A Neurologist's Perspective on Loss, Grief and Our Brain*. Johns Hopkins University Press. 2018

Davis, Deborah. *How the Brain Rewires as We Grieve*. *Psychology Today, Laugh, Cry, Live Blog*. March 2023 <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/laugh-cry-live/202303/as-you-grieve-your-brain-redraws-its-neural-map> (Accessed 9/7/2023)

Anna Du Pen is a retired nurse practitioner who writes legacy stories and family history. She has written pieces for the International Society of Family History Writers and Editors Newsletter and the North Carolina Genealogical Society Journal. She can be found at www.abucketlistbook.com.

Bainbridge is home to many distinguished and hugely popular authors. In this column, we will profile a local author each month. Many will already be favorites, but we may just introduce you to a new author whose profile will send you right to the library to pick up a new read! Happy reading and thank you to Delight Willing for her assistance!

~ *Susan Braun*

Other local authors' profiles are on the [library's web page](#)



Island Theatre invites Kitsap County playwrights—both established and aspiring—to submit original plays, no more than ten minutes in length, to Island Theatre’s 11th Annual Ten-Minute Play Festival! Deadline for play submissions is Valentine’s Day, February 14, 2024.

The theme for this year’s festival is HUNGER. Hunger can be literal, or figurative. Unmet or satisfied. Regardless, it powers our emotions and drives our actions. Playwrights may interpret HUNGER as they wish, but the notion of HUNGER must be central to the play. In support of our theme, Island Theatre will donate 10% of ticket sales to a nonprofit agency that addresses hunger. Ten winning plays will be selected by a panel of theatre professionals and members of the Island Theatre board and will be announced in April 2024. The ten plays will be fully produced for the stage and presented in four performances at the new Buxton Center on Bainbridge Island, August 22-24, 2024.

The contest is open to all playwrights high school age and older who currently live or work in Kitsap County or who previously lived or worked in Kitsap County for a significant period.

For more information and submission guidelines, go to www.IslandTheatre.org.

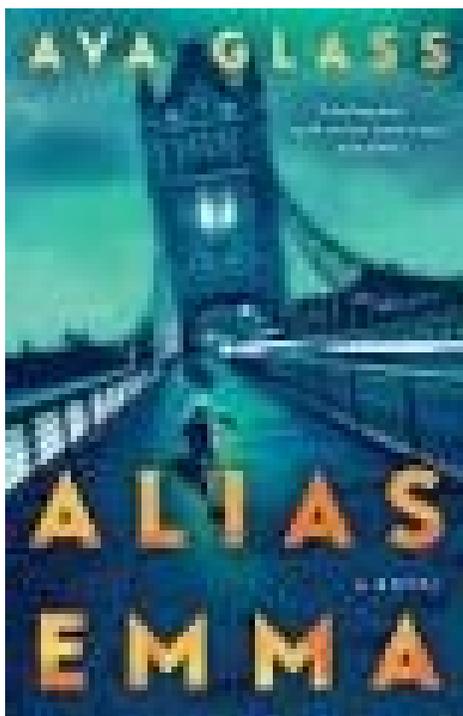
Have You Seen This Library?



In honor of the December holidays, we feature the Kegoayah Kozgoa Public Library in Nome, Alaska (maybe Santa’s local branch?). The collection of the library contains **20,617** volumes. The library circulates **12,665** items per year and serves a population of **3,759** residents.

If you have photos of Libraries *or* Museums you would like to share, please email Susan Braun.

Books Worth Sharing



Alias Emma **By Ava Glass**

Emma Makepeace has barely graduated from basic training when she gets the call for her first major assignment as a spy. She must covertly travel across London, one of the world's most watched cities to bring the son of Russian dissidents into protective custody, before the Russian spies seize him. London's famous Ring of Steel has been hacked by the Russian government, so the two must cross the city without being seen by the hundreds of thousands of CCTV cameras that document every inch of the city. Traveling on foot without phones or bank cards that could reveal their location or identity, they have twelve hours to make it to safety. One misstep could get them killed. This homage to the spy craft of Ian Fleming's James Bond is a nailbiter of the first order. Great character interaction, wonderful chase scenes and a stunning ending.

~ Susan Braun



BPL is looking for volunteers to assist with social media and other fund raising and marketing activities. If you have skills in Facebook, Instagram, fund raising or other marketing areas and would like to increase the library's impact in our community please contact the library at ask@bainbridgepubliclibrary.org. Time commitment is flexible, and creativity

is appreciated!

Friends of the Library

Book Sale



The Friends of the Library are having book sales:

**Thursday, December 7, from 12-4; Sunday, December 17, from 12-4,
Thursday, December 28, from 12-4.**

To see future sale dates and times check our website at <https://www.bifriends.org> Books are plentiful, and the sale is a great way to support the library. If you have any questions, please sent us a message at books4all@bifriends.org.

Friends of the Library continue to welcome donations of books in clean, undamaged-saleable condition during open library hours. (Damaged books must be recycled at our expense) Small quantities can be left in bins behind the hold shelves on the main floor. Larger quantities should be left inside the Friends door adjacent to the Children's library downstairs. There is a hand truck available. For questions about donations please send us an email. Please do not leave books outside or in the library drop box or request help from the library staff.

Useful Community Links



As a community service for our newsletter readers, we are introducing a list of links to important local resources. We invite our readers to send us additional links to include in this list. If you have a link that you would like to suggest for inclusion, send it to susangb01@aol.com.

- [Bainbridge Community Foundation](#)
- [Bainbridge Island Genealogical Society](#)
- [Bainbridge Island Historical Museum](#)
- [Bainbridge Island Museum of Art](#)
- [Bainbridge Island Native Food Forest Field Guide](#)
- [Bainbridge Island Senior/Community Center](#)

- [Bainbridge Youth Services](#)
- [BARN \(Bainbridge Artisan Resource Network\)](#)
- [Bloedel Reserve](#)
- [Boys and Girls Club of Bainbridge Island](#)
- [Helpline House of Bainbridge Island](#)
- [Housing Resources Bainbridge Island](#)
- [Island Volunteer Caregivers](#)
- [PAWS of Bainbridge Island and North Kitsap](#)
- [Raising Resilience](#)
- [Sustainable Bainbridge](#)

But wait! There's more! Do you know about [Bainbridge Island Resource Directory \(BIRD\)](#)? It is another great source for valuable community resources!

Did You Know?

- **Bainbridge Public Library**, a separate nonprofit organization, owns, operates, and maintains the Library building and grounds through community donations and grants.
- **Kitsap Regional Library** provides the library staff, collection, classes, and a virtual library at [KRL.org](#) with funding from property tax revenues.
- **Together** we provide the quality library our community wants and has come to expect.

Be safe... Be well!



"A library is a cross between an emergency exit, a life-raft and a festival—a cathedral of the mind; hospital of the soul; theme park of the imagination." ~ Caitlin Moran

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