

January 2024 Newsletter

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## Art in the Library!

Ring in the New Year with our January exhibit, "Beth Van Liere: a Retrospective", hosted by her husband, Eldon, in her honor. First Friday opening reception is on January 5, 5-7PM, in the library meeting room. Beth was featured in many galleries, museums and private collections before her passing in 2020.



**Dusk on the Scottish Coast. Pastel, 12 ½"x16 ½". Krasl Art Cente, 1995, Partners, 95.**

BETH VAN LIERE:

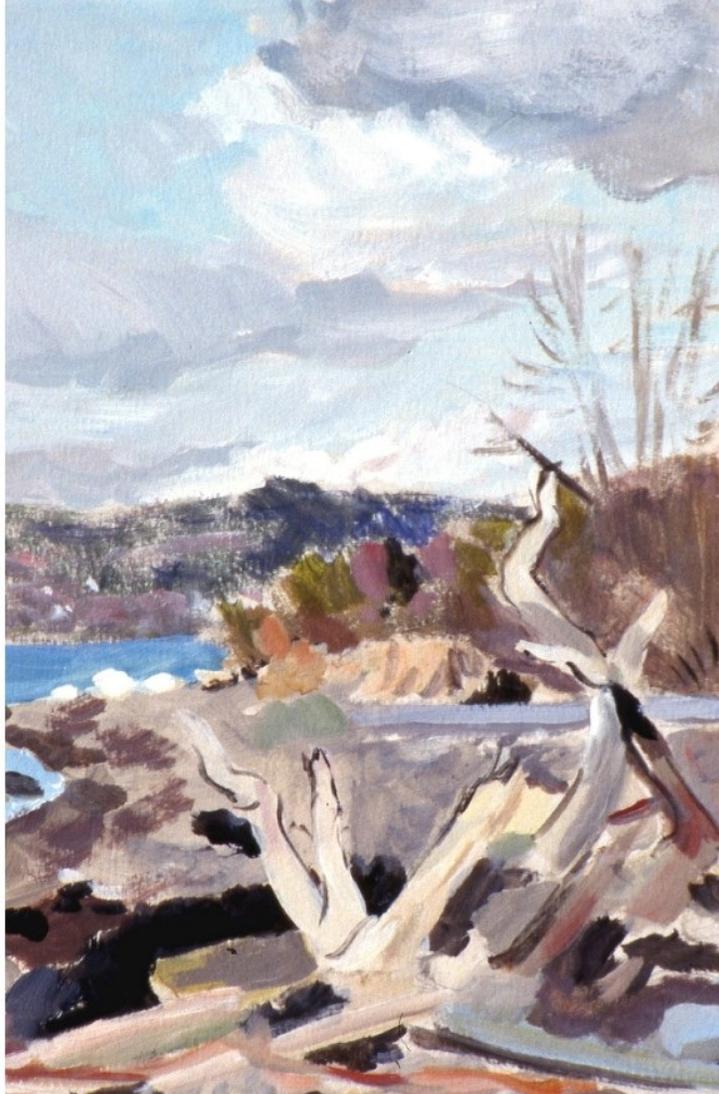
I am intrigued by the world around me, and contrary to many artists of the mid twentieth century to the present I believe it holds great meaning for civilization.

The intellectual and emotional qualities of abstract art are sufficient for some, exciting for others. However, I hold true to the belief that mankind responds most directly and with most depth to representations of images of things familiar to it, in other words the world around us. To see the world we all live in and our relationship to it in new ways is to appreciate and renew it. There are many approaches to achieve these representations, some are trivial, others profound. Each era and each artist within it must find the techniques to achieve the vision that taps the profound relationship each generation has with its surroundings.

Emerging from the abstract movement, it has influenced much of my vision. Its emphasis on line, color and flat versus space I have appropriated to use in the service of recognizable images from the world around me. I am continually exploring new surfaces and techniques to achieve my vision.

A painter of nature, my interest in landscape blends with a deep attachment for the countryside of France with its lovely and varied landscape, ever changing light and ever present sense of man's cultivation and care. This landscape, along with the wild coastlines of France and Scotland and the provincial markets and street scenes in France are the subjects for my acrylic paintings, pastels, and also monotypes and lithographs.

In my small intimate works that are on exhibit here (oil pastel and color and black and white monotype) I have focused mainly on the figure although you will also see several landscapes. The figure in situ has a great tradition and deserves to be revived in a vibrant way. By nature both oil pastel and monotype are intimate mediums which serve this subject matter perfectly. Masses, sometimes delicate, sometimes powerful, combine with the delicacy of line and the subtlety of tone to provide a duality of opposites. Altogether, these qualities create the mystery and significance of the image I am searching to produce.



Driftwood, Fort Ward. Acrylic, 2002.

You can view this exhibit in January during regular library hours (except when meeting room events are in session) or on the library website, [www.bainbridgepubliclibrary.org](http://www.bainbridgepubliclibrary.org).

A portion of sales are donated to the library.

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

~ Linda Meier, art coordinator

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## FACILITIES REPORT

Greetings, Library Lovers!

One of the seasonal celebrations that many of us look forward to each December 21st is the winter solstice (also known as the hibernal solstice – yeah, as in hibernate). It is the point of the year that the north pole is at its farthest tilt away from the sun, the length of daylight the shortest of the year. It may be the start of winter, when much of life takes a break to rest, but there are many hearty plants in our gardens that start to poke up new growth, despite the possibility of getting covered with snow before winter comes to an end. Here are a few photos of such brave and stalwart plants in the library's gardens, as well as a nod to plants that are still providing spectacular color for us to enjoy despite the short daylight hours.

Hope you've enjoyed a wonderful holiday season!  
~ Your BPL Facilities and Garden Teams



**It's never too late to support your community!**



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](http://www.onecallforall.org).



2023 Bainbridge Public Library Board of Directors

## Bainbridge Public Library Garden Fund Honoring Special People



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](http://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.**



## A Lasting Legacy: Pledge to the Future

**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 holiday giving, 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](http://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](mailto:legacy@bainbridgepubliclibrary.org) to record your pledge.



**Showcasing Our Local Authors - Judy Friesem**



I didn't start out planning to write a book. I was living through a cataclysmic time when Life shook me hard and rearranged everything I had known. I wrote to regain balance, find my way, and stay connected to loved ones. The seas were dangerously rough and tempestuous. Writing saved me.

My husband Kim and I had recently returned from a seven-month sojourn in Rwanda, Burundi, DR Congo, Kenya and South Africa meeting with peace builders and offering mediation training. It was a powerful and formative journey; we forged our relationship in the heat and pressure of challenging travel and extraordinary experiences. We didn't know how lucky we were, for that strength held us well.

It was a glorious first day of fall, 2007. Kim had just turned 67. We celebrated by hiking up the new trail from Lynwood Center. As we neared Gazzam Lake, Kim 'wilted like a flower' (as he would later describe). I instantly knew he had a stroke. This 6'3" strong, capable and vibrant man never walked again.

Kim lived another 4+ years, though paralyzed (now using a wheelchair) and with very compromised vision. That was especially painful for he was a voracious reader! His nickname was 'Books'; you can guess why. During these years I was his companion, caregiver, adventure-buddy, and witness. Kim worked hard; his decades-long Buddhist practice helped him integrate his new self without pity. I believe that he was 'summoned' by the stroke; this singular event pulled out his highest self. Kim served on the Library Board (and insisted on carrying the banner at a July 4th parade), volunteered with Juvenile Court's 'Diversion' program for at-risk youth, introduced 'Disability Awareness' to third graders, and still taught high school youth. He was unstoppable.

Throughout this time I kept a blog. It was my ballast, and the supportive responses were food for our sanity. Many told me to turn it into a book though I didn't believe it could hold meaning for others. It took seven years before I trusted that the very personal can be universal. The lessons I learned continue to offer me steady guidance, now chapters in this book.

May our intimate and loving journey offer some comfort and companionship to you, as well.

[Summoned by a Stroke: an homage to love, relationship, and living life fully](https://summonedbystroke.com/)  
<https://summonedbystroke.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

Go to [bainbridgepubliclibrary.org](http://bainbridgepubliclibrary.org) for more info on local authors.

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## 11th Annual Ten-Minute Play Festival

### Submit an Original Play - Deadline Feb. 14



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](http://www.IslandTheatre.org).**

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## Have You Seen This Library?



**It is the Halifax, Nova Scotia Public Library!** The Central Library blends the best of traditional library services with new technology and innovative spaces, making it a vital center for learning and culture. Thousands of people visit us each day to enjoy a performance or lecture, engage with each other in lively debate, or simply to relax and appreciate a great book. Central Library opened in December 2014 and reached 2 million visitors within just a little over 1 year. It has received LEED Gold Certification from the Canada Green Building Council. The library includes a beautiful performance space in Paul O'Regan Hall—a 300 seat auditorium acting as a hub for both Library and community-hosted events. The Halifax Living Room—a reading and relaxing space overlooks Spring Garden Road and (in the distance) the Halifax Citadel.

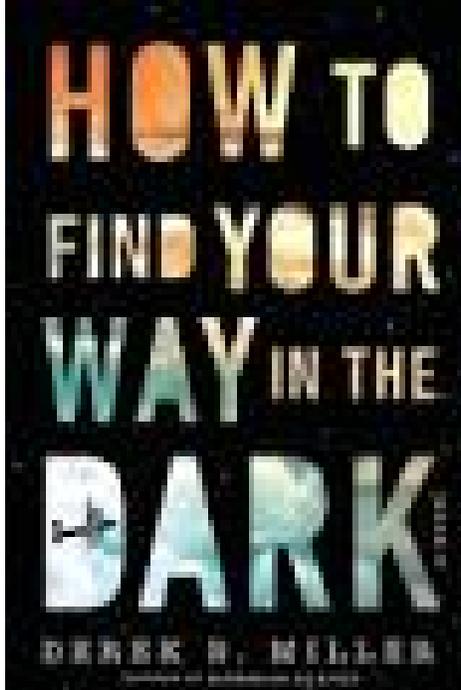
Central Library houses 2 sound-resistant studios with instruments and technology for music and video making, podcasting, recording, and editing. The library includes 4 study pods spread across floors 2-4 that offer comfortable seating for conversation, studying, and meeting. There are also 120 public-use computers throughout floors 1-4.

A First Nations Circle and displays celebrate First Nations culture. The Local History Room houses research material focusing on Halifax, Nova Scotia and Atlantic Canada. There is a Books of Remembrance display dedicated to Halifax County's military men and women who fell during World War I through to present day. Also on display are features celebrating African Nova Scotian as well as Acadian/Francophone heritage and culture.

If you have photos of Libraries *or* Museums you would like to share, please email [Susan Braun](mailto:Susan.Braun@nspl.ca).

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## Books Worth Sharing



**How to Find Your Way in the Dark**  
*By Derek Miller*

In this prequel to Miller's superb *Norwegian By Night*, we meet Sheldon Horowitz at age twelve, recovering from the murder of his father and adapting to life with his Uncle Nate and two teenage cousins. It's 1938 and Sheldon is consumed with desire for vengeance for his father's death. As he lurches toward adulthood with his best friend, Lenny, he encounters comedians in the Catskills, mafia hitmen, wacky accordion players, and a burning desire to defend his country. If you loved *Norwegian By Night* and *American By Day*, Miller's third book featuring Sheldon Horowitz will make you laugh out loud and wipe away tears as you share the coming of age of this stunningly crafted character. *Norwegian By Night* is one of my all-time favorite novels and *How to Find Your Way in the Dark* just might be a close second.

~ 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](mailto: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:

**Sunday, January 7, from 12-4; Thursday, January 18, from 12-4,  
Sunday, January 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 send us a message at [books4all@bifriends.org](mailto: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.

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## 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](mailto: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!

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## 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.

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## 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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