

March 2024 Newsletter



Art in the Library!

Spring is just around the corner.... get out and enjoy with our March artist, Mary Anne Smith hosting an opening reception for her exhibit titled "Watercolor Landscapes of the Pacific Northwest", First Friday art walk, March 1, 5-7PM in the library meeting room.



Upper Dungeness River



Totem

Artist's Statement

My paintings reflect my love for the outdoors, particularly the Pacific Northwest. I like to focus on capturing the atmosphere of a place with a combination of realism and impressionism afforded with watercolors. I pack my phone on my outdoor adventures around the country and paint from the photographs I take. I am inspired by the beauty that surrounds us and love to bring the memory of a place alive again as I focus on painting it. I have loved painting my entire life but have had little time to pursue it until my recent retirement from architecture. I now have many more opportunities to both explore and paint this beautiful world we live in.

You can view this exhibit during regular library hours (unless a program is happening) all month. A portion of sales are donated to the library.

www.bainbridgepubliclibrary.org.

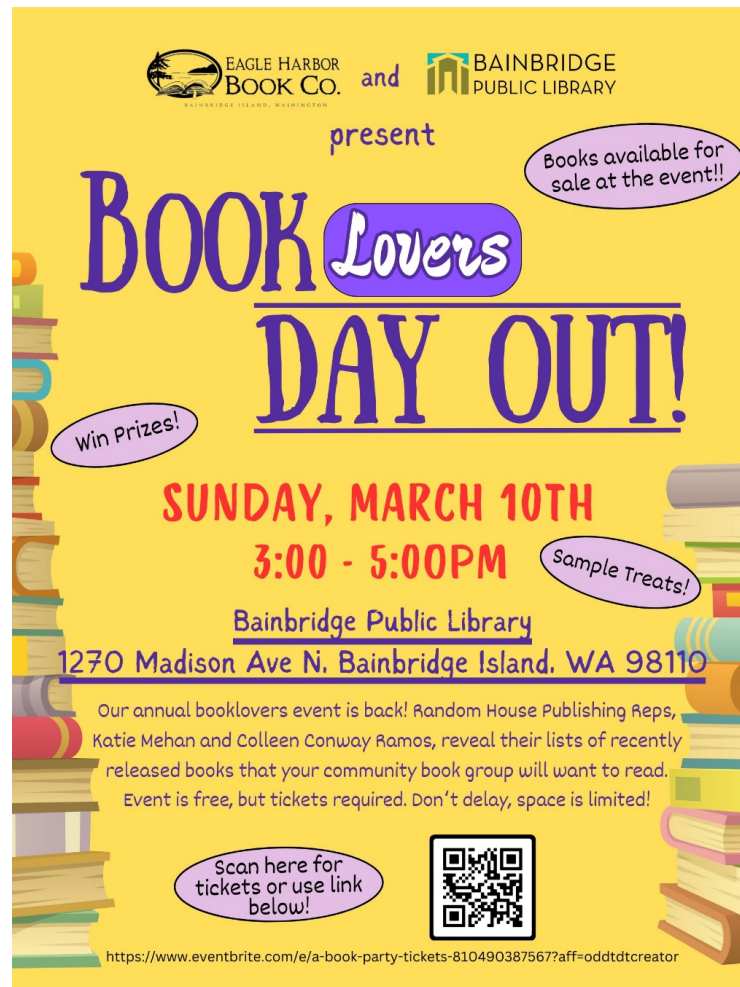
As always, thank you for supporting local artists and your Bainbridge Public Library.

~ Linda Meier, art coordinator

Celebrating Book Groups!

From 3 – 5 on March 10th, Bainbridge Public Library and Eagle Harbor Book Company will host the first joint celebration of local book clubs at **Book**

Lovers Day Out in the meeting room of the library. The event will include presentations from publisher's representatives Katie Mehan and Colleen Conway Ramos from Random House, drawings for books and swag, light refreshments, and books for purchase from Eagle Harbor. This is a free ticketed event. Seating is limited. If you are a member of a book group or would like more information about joining a book groups [click here for a ticket to attend this event.](#)



FACILITIES REPORT

Greetings, Library lovers!

If you've been to the library recently, you will have already marveled at the great work being done every Friday by the tireless volunteers (known as the Friday Tidies) in the gardens and grounds surrounding the library. The approach of Spring is a busy time in all our gardens, and so supplementing the Friday Tidies (and majorly responsible for the recent spreading of nourishing mulch throughout the gardens) is Fernando Ramirez and his crew of landscape professionals. We can't thank them (volunteers and professionals alike) for providing the lovely grounds we all so enjoy! If you're itching to help out, show up at about 9:30 or 10:00 every Friday; wear your garden grubbies, your work gloves, knee pads, and bring your favorite hand tools! The Tidy "regulars" will welcome you with open arms and guide you into the flow.

Inside the library, in the large meeting room, we are finally tending to a need we've been wrestling with for quite a long time: the three-panel, sliding art walls are getting renovated! This entails replacing the upper and lower tracts that guide the panels. In addition, handles will be added to the panels to give a handhold when moving them! Ask anyone who has ever tried to move the walls since they were installed in 2017: NOT EASY! Hopefully by the time you read this edition of e-News, the panels will have been re-installed, and another significant task checked off the Facilities list!

A Lasting Legacy: Pledge to the Future



It's 2013: Picture a small group of islanders around a crystal ball, imagining a library's future.

Most of us take libraries for granted. Since our childhood, they've offered us inspiration, refuge, connection. We are proud to say that hundreds of visitors of all ages flock daily to our welcoming Bainbridge Public Library and grounds.

But what about tomorrow?

How do we inspire library lovers to help create a vibrant future for our extraordinary BPL?

Our answer: A Lasting Legacy!

We launched a legacy program modeled on the proven, effective approach called planned giving, a way for people to designate gifts from their estates for the library. These future donations represent an enduring expression of commitment to the community and the belief that libraries matter.

Now, ten years on, a lovely Legacy Tree stands on the library's south side, adorned with leaves inscribed with names of Legacy Circle members. Local metal artist Dick Strom created the tree, which features ceramic leaves (contributed by BARN artists) that continue to "sprout" on the limbs as more library patrons help assure our library's future well-being.

Recently the Legacy Tree was joined by a metalwork mural, also designed, and fabricated by Dick Strom. A beautiful banner of fern fronds waves above nameplate tributes made by donors to the new BPL Garden Fund. These important contributions are targeted to provide funds for ongoing care for the library building's exterior and lovely grounds.

On your next library visit, stop by the Legacy Tree and the Garden Fund art wall and look through the names. Chances are you'll find some you recognize! All have made the promise, "We're dedicated to BPL's handsome building and surrounding gardens now and into the future."

With each commitment to make a legacy gift, an inscribed leaf is added to the Legacy Tree located in the library garden. Please notify us if you have made provisions in your estate plan to leave a legacy gift. If you would like more information about making a legacy gift leave a message at 206-866-1250 or at legacy@bainbridgepubliclibrary.org. Or visit the BPL website, bainbridgepubliclibrary.org and click on A Lasting Legacy under the Support BPL tab to download a Donor Intention Form. It would give us enormous pleasure to thank and to honor you now.



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 or leave a contact number at 206-866-1250(message line).

And one last note: Please consider adding your own name(s) on leaf or plaque as your pledge to help secure our library for coming generations to enjoy. Remember, Bainbridge Public Library, a nonprofit corporation, built and now operates and maintains the building and grounds solely with donor dollars. Our partner, Kitsap Regional Library, provides the library staff, collection, classes, and a virtual library at KRL.org with funding from property tax revenues.

Showcasing Our Local Authors - CINDY VANDERSLUIS



After living on Bainbridge Island for 21 years and frequenting Eagle Harbor Book Co. as a customer, I am now enjoying being on the other side of the counter as a bookseller. Writing reviews for the Staff Pick wall, making recommendations for customers, and helping with author events is a great way to spend time! I am also enjoying selling my postcards featuring local points of interest at both the bookstore and Bay Hay and Feed.

The natural beauty and creative spirit are what drew me to Bainbridge, when my husband and I were relocating to the region from Northern California. My professional background is in broadcast news and communications for nonprofits. Locally, organizations have included Field's End Writers' Group, Bainbridge Island Land Trust, EduCulture, and the Bainbridge Island Downtown Association.

Through the years I have enjoyed being represented in Poetry Corners through Arts & Humanities Bainbridge, as well as being featured in Ars Poetica during National Poetry Month in April. It is particularly fulfilling to see an artist's interpretation of your poem in their chosen medium, whether it is a painting, photo, or in one case, an elaborate, wooden "treasure box." Another unique project was having my poem "Weightless" represented in the "Last Poem on Earth; A Jazz Requiem," with original compositions created for the poems and performed at Bainbridge Performing Arts.

I was also honored to have my videopoem "At Day's End" featured in BPA's "Covid Monologues" in the spring of 2020. This streaming anthology of poems, songs, and short stories from local writers and performers represented the life and times of the Covid-19 quarantine on Bainbridge Island.

In the past five years, I have self-published two poetry/art anthologies: First Date at the Seaside Arcade, and Restoration Point. Both are available at Bainbridge Island Museum of Art. These collections represent poetry and photos from the past 25 years. I am currently working on compiling a collection of first-hand accounts of experiences aboard the ferries. As anyone who lives in the area knows, what takes place daily on the ferries is a fascinating microcosm of life experiences. Having already collected some

wonderful stories, I am on the lookout for more! If you have had an experience aboard the Washington State Ferries that you would like to share, please contact me at: cindyvandersluis@yahoo.com, subject line: Ferries.

Thank you!

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 for more info on local authors.

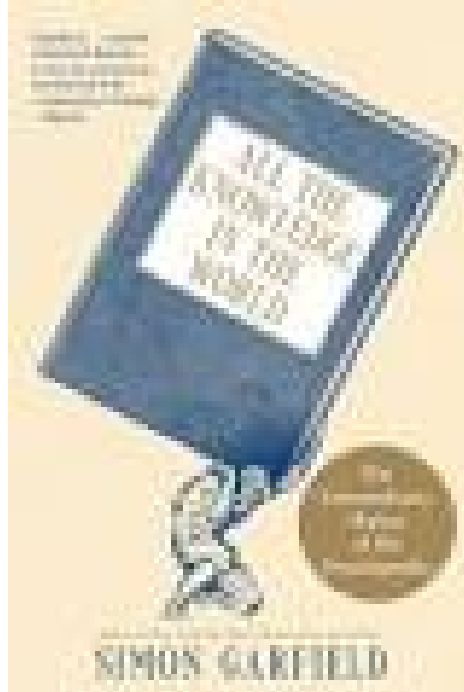
Have You Seen This Library?



Among the many wonderful public libraries in our state, this is the Vancouver, WA Community Library. Hailed as a regional destination and downtown Vancouver's sparkling gem, this 83,000 square foot library opened in 2011 and has been named a New Landmark Library by Library Journal and one of the Top 10 Children's Libraries in the U.S. by Livability.com. The library has a dedicated children's floor, a fifth-floor outdoor terrace, 69 computers with Internet, and a used bookstore called the Booknook.

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

Books Worth Sharing



All Knowledge in the World: The Extraordinary History of the Encyclopedia
By Simon Garfield

Once the possessors of pride of place in home libraries throughout the Western World, encyclopedias were the top of a flourishing industry of books of knowledge. At the beginning of the nineteenth century, possession of the Encyclopedia Britannica was a source of pride; an emblem of status akin to a Patek Philippe. Now, once proud owners can scarcely give them away! In this fascinating tale of the life of this publishing phenomenon and the road to Wikipedia, author Garfield leads us through the labyrinth of defining what knowledge is and how it should be presented in a book. Readers who loved *The Professor and the Madman* and *Dictionary of Lost Words* will love the stories of politics, deceptions, errors, and competitive intellectualism tucked among the historical events that shaped the noble encyclopedia.

~ 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:

Sunday, March 10, from 12-4, Sunday, March 24, 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.

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!

A Special Partnership

- **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.



"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

Find us on 



Bainbridge Public Library | PO Box 11815, 1280 N Madison, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

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