



Art in the Library!

Celebrate this holiday season at First Friday's Art Walk, December 6th, from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the Bainbridge Island Public Library. Meet the artists and explore a wide range of original and contemporary artwork; just in time for gift giving!!! Please enjoy the abundance of beautiful paintings, some wine and light refreshments. In addition to First Friday Art Walk from 5-7p, artists will be in the Library room on Friday from 1-5p and Sunday from 1-5pm with paintings for sale in addition to those that are hung on the library walls.

Beignets and Martinis: A Studio and Plein Air Art Exhibit of Friends Who Paint together Dec 6 – Dec 31, 2024.

Welcome to our exhibit showcasing friendship and art! The Beignets and Martinis show features original artwork by ten local women artists. These artists first met and began painting together over 10 years ago at the Winslow Art Center (WAC) on Bainbridge Island, founded by Martha Jordan. Friendships and talents blossomed and grew at the many in-person workshops, classes, and gallery shows at Winslow Art Center.

In 2020, when COVID-19 restricted most in-person gatherings, and Winslow Art Center was forced to go online, Martha set up Zoom calls and we named our group "Beignets and Martinis". Although some are primarily studio painters, many met outside and painted "en plein air." As restrictions have lifted, Beignets and Martinis, meet to paint indoors as well as en plein air, and thus our exhibit combines both studio and plein air works. Each artist's work is a unique expression of their individual journey, showcasing their personal growth and creative style.

The Artists: Diana C. Benjamin, Kristen Carpenter, Joanmarie Eggert, Gigi Godfrey, Nina Jackson, Nora Masters, Bernadette Neff, Hilary Newberry, Joanne Onorato, Laurie Rose.



Kristen Carpenter



Gigi Godfrey



Nina Jackson



Laurie Rose



Joanne Onorato



Nora Masters



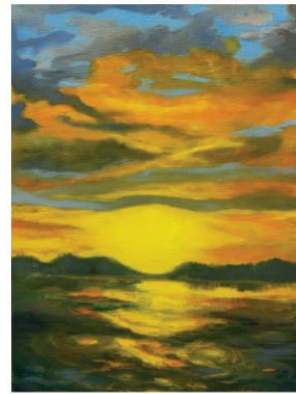
Diana C. Benjamin



Hilary Newberry



Joanmarie Eggert



Bernadette Neff

Art is for sale by the Artists with a portion of proceeds donated back to the library. As always, thank you for supporting local artists and your Bainbridge Public Library.

~ Linda Meier, art coordinator



Bainbridge Public Library proudly participates in One Call for All. Look for your Red Envelope later this month and remember us when you give! (<https://onecallforall.org/bainbridge-public-library/>) You can also give online at www.onecallforall.org.

Facilities Report



On Friday, November 15, friends of the Bainbridge Public Library Gardens, and in particular the Fern Display Garden, gather to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the installation of the Fern Display Garden, the third of BPL's gardens, and to honor John van den Meerendonk, who designed the garden, supervised its installation, and has helped our volunteers and garden staff take care of it all these years. Denton Kiehle, BPL Board President, presented John with a plaque in his honor, donated by the BPL Board of Directors, to be placed on the BPL Garden Fund artwork. Sue Olson, the founder of the Hardy Fern Foundation, talked of her long relationship with John, our fern garden and the other gardens John has worked with. John talked of the garden and thanked the many friends who had gathered in his honor. They availed themselves of refreshments and then John gave them a tour of the gardens. All were pleased to share this moment with John.



A Shout-Out for Help

Our BPL Facilities Committee is looking to recruit a person(s) who has knowledge and experience in the current world of adding solar panels to existing buildings. This would include familiarity with local, state, and federal guidelines, incentives, and codes. They will work with the members of the Facilities Committee to:

- prepare a project description.
- identify and vet potential vendors.
- assess vendor responses.
- oversee the project through completion.

If you know someone (or are someone ☺) with this experience and would like to participate in this exciting opportunity, we'd love to hear from you! The wide-open, south- and western-facing roofs of the library seem to be prime locations for solar panels; however, the research and assessment process we plan to pursue will provide BPL with the facts we need to ascertain whether to pursue the installation of solar panels at this time.

Please email us at: ask@bainbridgepubliclibrary.org and enter "Solar Panels" in the Subject line.

Showcasing Our Local Authors - Kathleen Alcala



The State of Publishing 2024

I have published with the gamut of publishers, from a small feminist press in Oregon that expected to be in business for five years and is going on thirty-five, to the mass-market, mass publicity machine of Chronicle Books. Technologies have come and gone (remember the FAX machine?) while people keep writing stories.

Also, trends in the popularity of certain stories have changed. What I believe was a modest business in children's books has turned into a multi-million-dollar business. I participate in this market every year, by buying books for my sister's four grandchildren. I keep thinking I should write a children's book, but my stories are inevitably for adults or children with an odd sense of humor and history.

As the technology has changed, the price of printing a book has been drastically reduced, so that small-press publishers can compete with the big

boys and girls in the marketplace. Given a smart and engaged marketing team, a modest book can make it big. Right now, a small press I helped found in 1991, Raven Chronicles Press, is in the process of republishing my three novels set in 19th Century Mexico. When a book goes out of print (meaning, the press will no longer print new copies), an author can ask for their rights to publish back from the press. They can then keep it out of print (causing scarcity), resell the rights, or engage in a hybrid model of a press choosing to print a book, while the author contributes to the overall costs. In this case, I am helping to pay for a publicist. This is called hybrid publishing. I also have a traditional book coming out from a small press in Baltimore, Rosarium Press, which suits the book better than a larger publisher might have.

Another path is the Amazon Publishing route. I have not tried this, but I know perfectly legitimate writers who left traditional publishing to pursue the Amazon route. The author in this model is expected to maintain a high Amazon and social media profile, as well as cultivate an online following.

More than in the past when a writer could stay home with their pipe and their cat, the author is expected to go out and be present in the public realm. They must give readings at libraries and bookstores; perhaps staging publicity events complete with swag and photo ops with fans. This is not entirely new. Mark Twain, Edgar Allan Poe, and others made a living giving public readings of their work.

New modes of engagement mean that authors can take Zoom calls from the comfort of their home, reaching far more people than was possible through the old-fashioned publicity tour. Barbara Kingsolver tells the story of her first publicity tour, when she took one outfit, which she had cleaned at the hotel each night, and her cowboy boots. She managed to lock herself out of her room while wearing only a long tee shirt and her boots and had to knock on someone's door to have them call the front desk for her. You can imagine how tired she was to do that. That never happened to me, but I am grateful for the choices available now for publicizing a book.

Write the book before you start worrying about such things. Do not worry if you are writing for adults or children, English speakers or Chinese or Cambodian or ASL. If you can engage with other writers and readers, do so. If there is a market, it will find you. But they must know you are there. Again, write the book first. Make it the best book you can and see what happens. A book is not about words, but people. Tell a good story.

Finally, give back. Support your local library and bookstore. Volunteer to teach a class at BARN, the library, or on your own. And guess what? More people will know about your book, or would-be book, or book dream. They want to read it.

For the last ten years or so, Kathleen has written essays and short stories. She is also working on a novel based on the life of Al-Mu'tamid Ibn Abad, the last taifa king of Seville, set in 11th Century al-Andalus.

During the pandemic, she began studying poetry for the first time and writing qasidas, an ancient, pre-Islamic form of middle eastern poetry. When she has finished a small set, she hopes to find an illustrator for a chapbook.

Her next novel is forthcoming from Rosarium Publishing in 2025. It is called *Why Stars Burn*, and is - a paranormal love story? Another Los Angeles scam? Or what happens when you fall in love with a mysterious stranger.

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!

A Quote for Book Lovers

I cannot live without books.

Thomas Jefferson in a letter to Samuel Adams, June 10, 1815

With Each Leaf, a Promise and an Inspiration



Just as tree roots embed themselves in our garden, sustaining life, nurturing growth--the leaves on our Legacy Tree hold out the promise that Bainbridge Public Library will endure into the future. Each leaf represents the pledge of a gift to the BPL from an estate. Each leaf signifies a love of community and the belief that libraries matter.

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. We'd be pleased to thank and 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).

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



island theatre
Ten-Minute Play
festival

Ten-Minute Play Festival * 2025

Call for Submissions!



All Kitsap Playwrights: **Deadline: February 14, 2025**
www.islandtheatre.org

'25 Theme:
Escape!

Island Theatre is now accepting submissions of ten-minute plays for our 2025 Ten-Minute Play Festival! Submission deadline is February 14, 2025. The theme for the 2025 Festival is ESCAPE. What does ESCAPE suggest to you? Is it an escape from. . . or an escape to? Is it a physical escape. . . or an escape in which one never takes a physical step? Is it bold or surreptitious? Sudden or long planned? An act of choiceless desperation or one of powerful self-assertion? Is "escape" the beginning of the story or the end? Or is it the pivot point that dramatically changes the action? What you make of ESCAPE is up to you – just make sure it's central to your story.

The competition is open to all Kitsap County playwrights – experienced and aspiring – high school age and above. To be a “Kitsap County playwright” means you currently live or work in Kitsap County, or you lived or worked here for a substantial period in the past. The plays will be chosen from all the submissions by a panel of theatre professionals and the Island Theatre board of directors and announced in April. The chosen plays will be produced in four fully staged performances at the Buxton Center for the Arts on Bainbridge Island during Island Theatre’s Ten-Minute Play Festival in August 2025.

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

About Island Theatre. Island Theatre provides high-quality theater in intimate settings for adults who like to think. Our regular schedule includes Island Theatre at the Library (script-in-hand performances at the Bainbridge Public Library); Island Theatre at Your House (YoHo) (potluck play-readings in private homes at which guests are welcome to read a part); and the annual Island Theatre Ten-Minute Play Festival. Run entirely by volunteers, Island Theatre is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization supported by donations, the Bainbridge Community Foundation, the City of Bainbridge Island Cultural Fund, the Rotary Club of Bainbridge Island, and One Call for All. More information is at www.IslandTheatre.org.

Save the Date!

BOOK LOVERS DAY OUT!

SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 9, 2025

11:00am to 1:00pm

Event is free, but tickets required
Space is Limited So Don't Delay!
See scan/link below



Treats! Prizes! Books Available for Purchase!



AT
**BAINBRIDGE PUBLIC
LIBRARY**

1270 MADISON AVE N
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

206-451-5050

Our annual booklovers event is
back! Penguin Random House
Publishing Reps Katie Mehan and
Colleen Conway Ramos reveal
their lists of recently released
books that your community book
group will want to read.

Scan here for eventbrite tickets



or use link below

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/presented-by-eagle-harbor-books-bainbridge-public-library-tickets-1086529943309?aff=oddtcreator>

From 11 am until 1 pm on Sunday, February 9th Bainbridge Public Library and Eagle Harbor Book Company will host the second joint celebration of local book clubs in the meeting room of the library. The event will include presentations from publisher's representatives, drawings for books and swag, light refreshments, and books for purchase from Eagle Harbor. This will be 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](#).

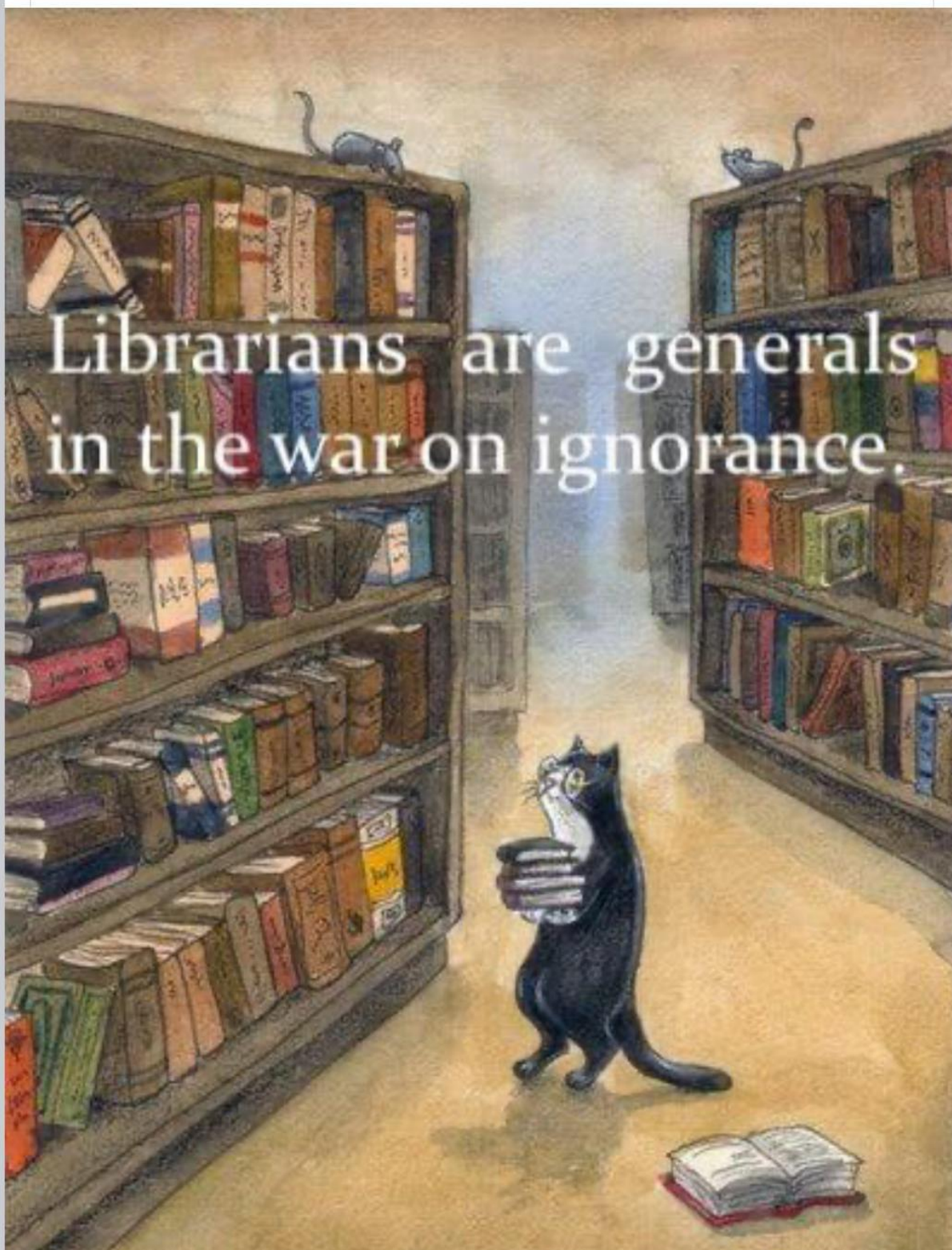
Have You Seen This Library?



This is the Book Barn in Niantic, Connecticut! You have got click on the hyperlink to get the full effect! I could not begin to condense the description of this incredible bookstore, so I copied the description from its website. Thanks to Zach Anderson for sending me this fabulous website!

["The Book Barn in Niantic, CT"](#) valiantly attempts to fulfill our mission as we continuously add and refine our collections to bring the best-used books available to our customers. We recommend checking in periodically for improvements, additions, and rearrangements. We presently have over 350,000 books at The Book Barn, and we are adding to our numbers every day. You will find an information booth at the entrance to the Main Barn, where you can look for your favorite subjects, or pick up a brochure that will guide you through the property. We are always open to questions and are available to assist you if you become overwhelmed and your vision begins to blur. (If this happens to you, just sit down and place your head between two books and breathe deeply until your head clears.) Most days we can count on friendly visits from "old faithfuls" – customers and friends who come in at least once a week if not every day to talk about books or the issues of the day. We also get a great number of people coming in to sell us books. Part of the fun is that we never know what kinds of books are going to come in on any given day. Our new treasures can range anywhere from rare finds to wonderfully illustrated children's books, Janet Evanovich mysteries, to cookbooks or pocketbook paperback dollar books. Whatever the catch of the day, we are always glad to put them on the shelf because we know there is the perfect someone out there just waiting to get their hands on it!"

If you have photos of Libraries or Museums or Bookstores you would like to share, please email [Susan Braun](#).



Thanks to Brian McKenna for these words of wisdom!

Fall Strolls at Bloedel Reserve

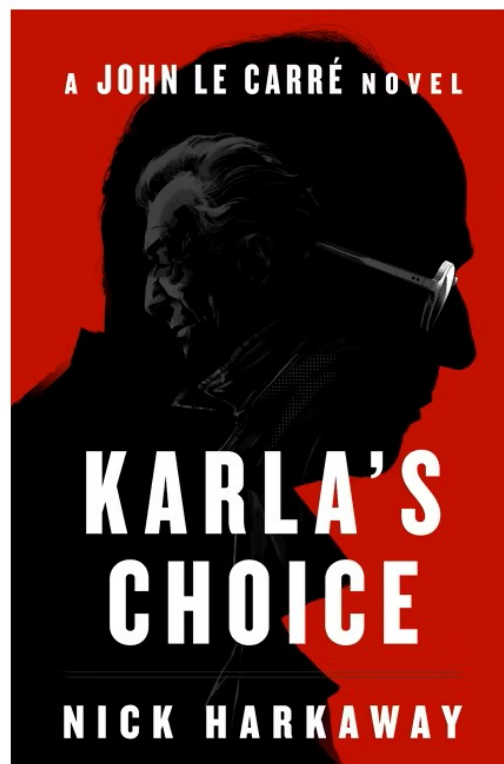


BLOEDEL RESERVE

Registration is open for the Fall Strolls for Well-Being Program at Bloedel Reserve! It is a complimentary seasonal program that supports connection with nature through a series of twelve self-guided walks. Orientations start in mid-September and participants receive a 6-month free membership to Bloedel and a beautiful wire-bound journal with inspiring quotes and maps of the walks.

To sign up, click here: <https://bloedelreserve.org/strolls-for-well-being/>
Questions? Please contact Robin Gaphni at rgaphni@bloedelreserve.org

Books Worth Sharing



By Nick Harkaway

It is spring in 1963, and George Smiley has retired from the Circus. With the wreckage of the West's spy war against the Soviets strewn across Europe, he has eyes only for a more peaceful life. And indeed, with his marriage more secure than ever, there is a rumor that George Smiley might almost be happy. But Control has other plans. A Russian agent has defected in the most unusual of circumstances, and the man he was sent to kill in London is nowhere to be found. Smiley reluctantly agrees to one last simple task: interview Szusanna, a Hungarian émigré and employee of the missing man, and sniff out a lead. But the rules of the game have changed since Gorge retired and he must rethink his strategies. Set in the missing decade between two iconic instalments in John le Carré's George Smiley saga, *The Spy Who Came in from the Cold* and *Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy*, *Karla's Choice* marks a momentous return to the world of spy fiction's greatest writer. Nick Harkaway, the son of the great John Le Carre, has made his father proud in this latest addition to the George Smiley saga.

~ 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



Friends of the Library book sales will be on:

**Sunday, December 1, from 12-4; Thursday, December 12, from 12-4;
Sunday, December 22, 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
US

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Try email marketing for free today!