



Art in the Library!

Happy New Year and celebrate with our January artist, Sharon Johnson, hosting an opening reception for her exhibit titled "From Boston to Bainbridge Island" on First Friday Art Walk, January 3, 5-7PM in the library meeting room. Here is Sharon's description of her work:

Artist Statement

An invitation to join me in my paintings....

I am the daughter of a boatbuilder so perhaps heritage plays a role in my obsession to paint the ocean and the boats that sail on it. Many of us enjoy the lure of the sea for various reasons and I invite you to immerse yourself in my seaside vistas and dream. But everything is not the sea. In life at my cottage on Bainbridge Island, or in my paintings, there is a feeling of "hygge" that I hope to share with you in my paintings whether they be of the garden, a musical inspiration, a landscape, or a simple subject that has caught my attention. I prefer subjects with a story or ones that remind me that the world is still a beautiful place no matter what is going on in it, and I try to inspire them with the paintings I create. A lifetime of learning, schooling, and mentors have been integral to the technical side of my art education, but nothing has been as important to me as learning to invoke a response from someone looking at my work and hearing, "I can see myself there" or "do you know what this reminds me of?" It is then that the conversation begins, stories and experiences are exchanged, and the painting comes to life. Perhaps each time it is viewed, the story changes and you wonder what it might have been or what it will be. There is a good feeling. Success.



"Bainbridge Island" is an original oil painting and is the first I have done of the Island since moving here from Boston. To me, the colors are the spirit of the island and there is a suggestion that if the sun comes out it will be even more beautiful. It speaks to the history of the Salish people who have called this area home for so many years and the natural beauty that we strive to protect. I can imagine a centuries old canoe setting out to fish or a modern ferry skimming the waters - either way, an amazing and ever-changing experience. (Available in print form.) You can view this exhibit in January during regular library hours (unless a program happening).

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

Facilities Report

Greetings, Library lovers! And Happy New Year!

We hope you and your family enjoyed a merry holiday season. We can't say it enough (but we'll try!) A BIG Thank You! to all of our generous donors for their continued support through: One Call for All; direct contributions to Bainbridge Public Library; establishing a Legacy Gift as part of your estate planning; donating to the BPL Garden Fund to keep our gardens and grounds beautiful and thriving; by donating and purchasing books from the Friends of the Library (a heavy chunk of the proceeds are donated to the BPL endowment); and to the dozens and dozens of individuals who volunteer their time and energy to ensure the library continues to thrive and fulfill its motto: "The Library the Citizens of Bainbridge Built" [and they continue to support!] THANK YOU!

The Madison Ave Bundled Project

Undoubtedly, there are few-to-no folks on island who won't be happy when the construction on Madison is finally complete. BPL and KRL watched in awe as our patrons managed to find our Madison Ave entrance and exit despite the confusing array of cones and caution tape. Hang in there, "The End is In Sight!"



A throw back in history . . .

When the Madison Ave / High School Rd roundabout was installed many years ago (our very first, and maybe the first in the county!), the library's garden volunteers, the Friday Tidies, volunteered to plant an array of vegetation in the center of the roundabout. At the time, it was felt that taller plants would reduce vehicular speed navigating through the intersection, and thereby make for a safer intersection.

Time has passed, and we've grown more accustomed to maneuvering through roundabouts. As part of the Madison Ave Bundled Project, it was determined that by removing the taller plantings in the roundabout, there would be improved visibility, particularly to spot pedestrians navigating the intersection. Welcome back, Friday Tidies! The Tireless Tidies stepped up to remove the plants and shrubs they'd planted years before. And now, the visibility issue has improved. Yea, Friday Tidies! You're the best! (There will be new plantings, but they will be shorter.)



In closing, we have a busy year ahead. On our Facilities Agenda we have: a) to improve safety and aesthetic concerns we will: 1) install new pathway lights in the Haiku Garden; 2) install additional hand railings for our exterior stairways; b) to improve comfort and access, we will add a new bench in the Haiku Garden; c) to become better stewards of our natural resources, we will continue our research into installing solar panels on the roof of the library, as well as to pursue applying for available grants and programs to help defray the costs.

Stay tuned . . . it's going to be fun ride!

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.

A Quote for Book Lovers

My library was dukedom large enough.
William Shakespeare, The Tempest

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.

Coming Soon! Get Your Tickets!



And
present



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](#).



island theatre
Ten-Minute Play
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Ten-Minute Play
Festival * 2025

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www.islandtheatre.org

'25 Theme:
Escape!



Island Theatre presents "This Wide Night," the moving story of two women, recently released from prison, who are attempting to navigate the world "outside" and challenges to the friendship they developed "inside."

Performances take place at the Bainbridge Public Library on Saturday, January 25 at 7:00 pm and Sunday, January 26 at 3:00 pm. Admission is by minimum donation of \$5. No reservations are necessary. It is recommended for high school age and up. Both performances of the one-hour play will be followed by an audience discussion with the director and actors. On Sunday, special guest State Representative Tara Simmons, who has served time herself and focuses, as a legislator, on the criminal justice system, will discuss what is happening in Washington State and issues facing women as they re-enter society.

"This Wide Night" is directed by Jeffrey Brown and features Charlie Malo and Terrace Yeatts. The piece was commissioned by the English theatre group Clean Break, which was created by two prisoners in 1979. Today, the group commissions an annual original production, which then tours theatres and prisons in England. They also run an education program, focused on skills helpful to re-entry, including theatrical skills. They work in prisons, and with young women at risk.

More information is available at islandtheatre.org

Have You Seen This Library Exhibit?



The real Winnie-the-Pooh won't be found on a video, in a movie, on a T-shirt, or a lunchbox. Since 1987, Pooh and four of his best friends—Eeyore, Piglet, Kanga, and Tigger—have been living at The New York Public Library.

Long before Walt Disney turned Pooh and his pals into movie stars, Christopher Robin Milne, a very real little boy living in England, received a small stuffed bear on his first birthday. He named him Edward Bear (later renamed Winnie-the-Pooh). Following Edward came the rest of the stuffed animals, which Christopher loved and played with throughout his childhood.

One day, Christopher's father, A. A. Milne, and an artist named Ernest H. Shepard, decided that these animals, and two other imaginary friends, Owl and Rabbit, would make fine characters in a bedtime story. From that day on, Pooh and his friends have had many fanciful adventures, from Piglet's encounter with a Heffalump to Eeyore's loss of his tail. These stories have been embraced by millions of children and adult readers for more than 70 years.

Winnie-the-Pooh and his pals are now a vital part of the [Polonsky Exhibition of The New York Library's Treasures](#), which opened in 2021. Pooh and his friends are as happy as when they lived in the Hundred Acre Wood. [See more about Winnie the Pooh here.](#)

Thanks to Jim McKeever for this wonderful bit of library history!

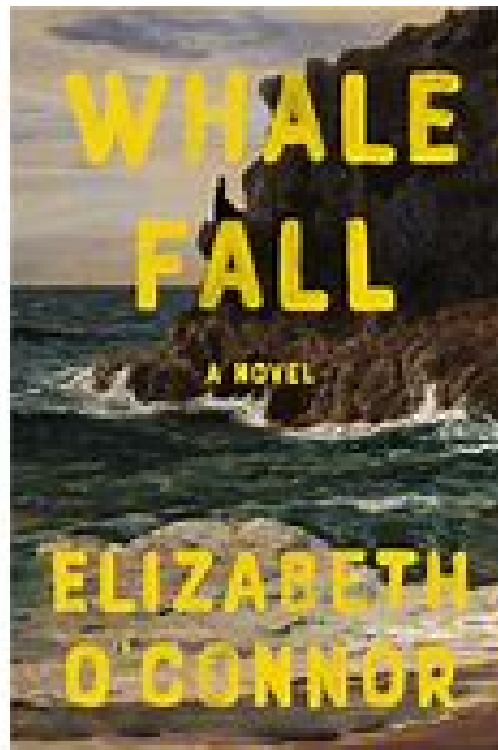
If you have photos of Libraries or Museums or Bookstores you would like to share, please email [Susan Braun](#).



GREAT DECISIONS AT THE LIBRARY 2025

Foreign Affairs Discussion Series
at the
Bainbridge Public Library
Free!

Books Worth Sharing



Whale Fall
By Elizabeth O'Connor

In September 1938, a whale washes ashore on a remote, sparsely populated Welsh Island. Rumors of another World War are seeping to the island and the minister suggests the whale may have fallen to a German submarine. But the superstitious populace has other thoughts, linked to myths and legends. Eighteen-year-old Manod sees the whale as an omen. Fresh from finishing her studies in the Island's one room school, she sees the whale as a link to the world beyond. When a pair of ethnographers from Oxford University arrive to study the whale and document the island's customs, they employ Manod as a translator, giving her even more thoughts of a wider life. But she struggles with being an object of their anthropological gaze, with their romantic misrepresentations of her culture, and with what it would mean to leave the island. This slender story is a powerful meditation on what it means to be seen from the outside and how hard it is to break away from the

present for a chance at a very different future. This is a prime candidate for book group selection!

~ 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, January 5, from 12-4; Thursday, January 16, from 12-4; Sunday, January 26, 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!

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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