

August 2025 Newsletter



# Art in the Library!

Summertime.....and the livin' is easy....certainly on the eyes as our August artists Katy Gilmore and Martha Makosky open their exhibit for First Friday, August 1, 5-7PM in the library meeting room.

Katy's exhibit is titled "72 Seasons": Inspired by the Japanese concept of 72 Seasons – dividing the year into not just four seasons but 72 micro-seasons – Katy Gilmore recorded the year from 4 February 2024 to 3 February 2025. For this show, she used the pages of old, deaccessioned garden encyclopedias to form a record of the natural world's rhythms in the Pacific Northwest.

Finding subjects each five days – the activities of plants, birds, humans – and

using the 72 Seasons format of title, image and word – Gilmore paid attention to her

surroundings, and reaped the rewards of close observation. This is indeed a time of

"ecological anxieties" as Simon Barnes wrote in "The Year of Sitting Dangerously," but

Gilmore found a slowing down with paying attention, much learning and appreciation, and pleasure from forming rough notes onto an ordinary page.



Martha Makosky is a visual artist using a variety of printmaking techniques to represent the natural world.

Using her own papers, which are printed with linoleum cut, stencil, etching, and collagraph techniques, she creates layers of image and color. By playing with scale, abstraction, and pattern, she looks for ways to express the glory of wildness in the human experience on mental, physical, and spiritual levels. These works developed from collage work done in the tradition of an orange-peel quilt and then worked over with paint. Responding to the surface through this process of addition and subtraction is one way Martha arrives at abstractions of nature and where the manmade and natural worlds meet.



You can view this exhibition all of August during regular library hours (unless a meeting happens).

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

~ Linda Meier, art coordinator

We're Going Solar!



The Bainbridge Public Library (BPL) is the non-profit organization that owns, operates, and maintains the library building and grounds. The BPL board leadership recognized an opportunity to leverage the unique design of the library building and its large roof surface to reduce the carbon footprint of the library while maintaining its historic beauty. The BPL board has approved the installation of solar panels on the library roof with the following objectives: reducing energy costs, creating a solar energy educational component, and demonstrating prudent stewardship of this cherished community resource.

After an extensive search and vetting process, a vendor has been selected. The decision was based on design, system components, cost, and payback timeline. The project timeline has a target completion date of no later than December 2025. This timeline is critical in order to be eligible to realize government rebate incentives and to lock in materials prices. BPL will be seeking funding from PSE, federal rebates, Rotary, and individual donors to fund the project. We are pleased to share that 100% of the Library Board and CoFun Committee have contributed to a \$25,000 matching gift which we now invite you to help meet. The total cost of the project is \$112,000. We are pursuing a combination of individual donations and grant funding to bring it to life. To meet our match and move forward, we hope to receive pledges by October 1. To donate to this important community project click here.

Want to learn more about this project? Please join us for a brief information session on Sunday, August 10 at either 5 p.m. or 7 p.m. where you can meet board members who have led this effort and hear directly from our chosen vendor. Please RSVP for the sessions to <a href="mailto:RSVP@bainbridgepubliclibrary.org">RSVP@bainbridgepubliclibrary.org</a>.



# **Facilities Report**

Greetings, Library lovers!
Already it's been another busy summer at the library!

With the skilled design, construction, and installation by our much appreciated and honored partners of the BARN woodworking shop (lead by David Grant), we now have a handsome new permanent sign to announce the upcoming Friends of the Library (FOL) book sales. As you might know, the proceeds from these book sales pay for such things as the beloved fish tank and its maintenance, special programs for kids, and a large portion is contributed to the library to help pay the overhead of operating the library.

Here are Before and After pictures of the old and the new FOL Sale Sign ©





But wait . . . there's more! Three new beautiful (purple) Crepe Myrtle trees have been added to the garden's boundary along Madison Ave. And a wooden bench that had served us well since the creation of the Fern Garden 28 years ago has been replaced by a handsome metal bench that invites you to have a seat and enjoy the cool shade of the Fern Garden.





We look forward to seeing you and your family at the library . . . enjoying its wonders (inside and out!)



#### **ISLAND THEATRE PRESENTS**

The 12th Annual
Ten-Minute Play Festival
August 21 - 23, 2025
7:00 pm Th, F, Sat; 3:00 pm Sat
at

The Buxton Center, Bainbridge Performing Arts
Bainbridge Island

Tickets are now on sale for Island Theatre's much-loved Ten-Minute Play Festival!

Now in its 12th iteration, the festival features ten of Kitsap County's best short plays penned by Kitsap County playwrights in a three-day festival of live performances.

Performances will take place in the Buxton Center at Bainbridge Performing Arts. Curtain times are 7:00 pm Thursday August 21, Friday August 22, and Saturday August 23, with an additional 3:00 matinee on Saturday. The ten plays were selected from over 65 submissions by a panel of theatre professionals. They are helmed by ten local directors and cast with over two dozen local actors.

The festival's theme this year is ESCAPE. How have our ten playwrights interpreted that theme? For some, it's an escape *from*. For others, an escape *to*. For some, it's a physical escape; for others, an escape of the mind. For some, it's an act of choiceless desperation; for others, one of powerful self-assertion. The resulting program includes plays that are funny, serious,

quirky, surprising, and thought-provoking. Plays are suitable for young adults and older people.

The ten plays in this year's Festival are:

#### "Even Butterflies Aren't Perfect"

Author: Karen Polinsky Director: Sabrina Fiander Cast: Autumn McMurry, Jessica Khailo

#### "Mojave Lift"

Author: Aleks Merilo Director: Jennifer Pippin Montanez Cast: Wayne Purves, James Macpherson

#### "Chances of Winning"

Author: James Anderson
Director: Jeff Brown
Cast: Steve Crampton, Elissa Kratzer

#### "Hilltop"

Author: Nora Vitz Harrison
Director: Kristi Ann Jacobson
Cast: Sandi Spellman, Stacy Higginbotham, Ellery Hatfield

#### "Buffaloed"

Author: Doug O'Connor Director: Kristi Ann Jacobson Cast: George Shannon, Tyler Weaver, Jacob Freimark, Kathy Currie

#### "First Time Carmen"

Author: Jeffrey Brown
Director: Ruth Bookwalter
Cast: Alex Sanso, Dolly Courtway

#### "Lesser-Known Snakes of the Bayou"

Author: Gina King
Director: Wilson Milam
Cast: Ali Lovie Zollo, Helen Heaslip, Ashley Duffy

#### "Time for a Chat"

Author: Jennifer Pippin-Montanez
Director: Fred Saas
Cast: Jackie O'Brien, Richard Gustafson

#### "Barking Mad"

Author: Jason Erickson Director: Tracy Dickerson Cast: Matt Alder, Claudia Soisson

#### "Space or Time"

Author: Christopher Albrecht Director: Steve Stolee Cast: Carmen Pinto, Kim Hamilton

Tickets are on sale now at <a href="https://www.islandtheatre.org">www.islandtheatre.org</a>.

The 2025 Ten-Minute Play Festival is produced by Island Theatre, a nonprofit, volunteer-run theatre company affectionately known as "the best damn theatre company in the world!" In addition to the annual Ten-Minute Play Festival, regular programming includes *Island Theatre at the Library*—staged dramatic play-readings at the Bainbridge Public Library, and *Island Theatre at Your House* ("YoHo")—potluck play-readings in private homes at which guests are welcome to read a part. The Island Theatre and The Ten-Minute Play Festival are supported by ticket sales, patron donations and One Call for All.

More information is at www.IslandTheatre.org.

MEET THE PLAYWRIGHTS!
A lively Q&A with the playwrights behind the 2025
Ten-Minute Play Festival
August 5, 2025
7:00 pm
Bainbridge Public Library

Come meet the playwrights behind this year's **12<sup>th</sup> annual Ten-Minute Play Festival.** Hear them talk about their plays, ask them questions, and enjoy a wide-ranging discussion about plays, playwriting, and theatre.

Join us on Tuesday August  $5^{th}$  at 7:00 pm in the Bainbridge Public Library to hear from the playwrights and get a sneak preview of the  $12^{th}$  annual Ten-Minute Play Festival. Tickets for the Ten-Minute Play Festival are on sale now at www.islandtheatre.org.

### A Quote for Book Lovers

I find television very educational. Every time someone turns it on, I go into the other room and read a book.

~ Groucho Marx

# We're new to the newsletter, but not to the library!



We are BIGS, your local community of family history enthusiasts. We are a non-profit organization that has been meeting at the Bainbridge Public Library since we were first organized, way back in 2005.

Our mission is simple: to help anyone interested uncover their family's history. All families have histories, but sadly, many families don't know them. Those family histories can help us understand just who we are and where we come from.

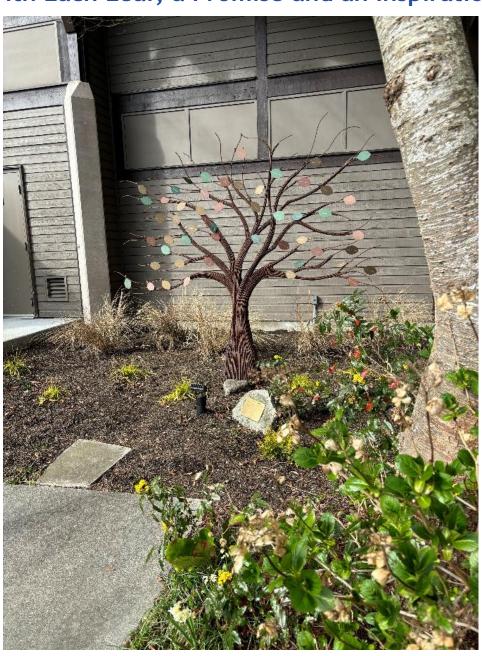
Over the coming months, we'll be telling you about some of our programs. For example, we regularly offer engaging presentations, from nationally renowned speakers, and our TreeBuilder drop-in coaching program will give you some tips on where and how you can uncover your family history.

Our library offers some wonderful family history resources, including all kinds of helpful books. Still, these days much family history research is done online. But that's no problem because the library provides some great family history services, absolutely free on the library's laptops. We'd be happy to show you how to find your way around.

We'll be sharing more in upcoming issues of E-News. In the meantime, check us out and find details about our upcoming events at our website <a href="bigenealogy.org">bigenealogy.org</a>. While you're there, you can drop us an email if you have any questions.

Our programs are always open to the public. No membership required. Come as you are and see for yourself what we offer. Our welcome mat is always out.

# 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 <a href="mailto:legacy@bainbridgepubliclibrary.org">legacy@bainbridgepubliclibrary.org</a>. Or visit the BPL website, <a href="mailto:bainbridgepubliclibrary.org">bainbridgepubliclibrary.org</a> 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 <u>bainbridgepubliclibrary.org</u> or leave a contact number at 206-866-1250 (message line).

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

Featuring Local Authors - Jennifer Longo



Every story begins in a writer's mind with a single spark; a person, or a word, an emotion, a sentence; it might bloom fully formed in a dream or in the middle of an argument. The stories in my novels all begin with Place; places I've lived in, traveled to, or dreamed of visiting, all inspiring the same question: Who lives here, and how does it color what is their life about?

My first novel, Six Feet Over It, takes place in a small-town cemetery, because an author's first book is often about how your dad made you mad. My dad bought our town cemetery and put my sisters and me to work there - fifteen years old, selling graves to our neighbors after school. This book is about a girl finding the will to truly be alive, a lesson best learned surrounded by death.

My second novel is set in Antarctica and in San Francisco; *Up to This Pointe* explores the themes of a life in flames that must begin again, not unlike San Francisco's repeated 'phoenix from the ashes' resilience, but the protagonist is frozen with fear and finds only on the ice of Antarctica can she learn to face an uncertain future with Shackelton-worthy bravery.

What I Carry (Washington State Book Award 2020) is my third novel, a story about the idea of Home; who deserves to have one, who makes that decision, and how does one know if they've arrived? This story is set in a place with its own embattled history of who gets to call it home, who is made to leave, and why; Bainbridge Island inspired this story of a child's entire life lived in foster care until her last placement on Bainbridge Island, and the disorienting but hopeful quiet that ensues. It is a love letter to our Place. Our Home.

Jennifer Longo is the 2021 Washington State Book Award recipient and the 2022 Iowa Book Award winner for her novel *WHAT I CARRY*. Her debut novel *SIX FEET OVER IT* received starred reviews from *Kirkus* and *The Bulletin*, was

selected as a 2015 Washington State Book Award finalist, and an Indies Introduce New Voices title. UP TO THIS POINTE is a 2017 Washington State Book Award finalist, shortlisted for the YALSA 2017 Best Fiction Young Adult list and received starred reviews from The Bulletin and Shelf Awareness.

### Have You Seen This Library?

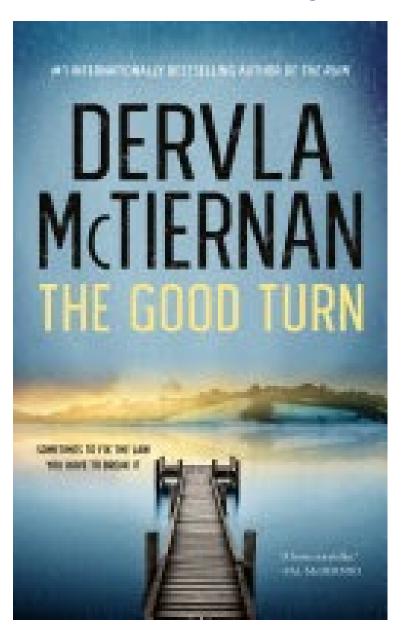


Yes, you have! It is a reprise of the Rijksmuseum's art-historical library, visited recently by BPL's Art Coordinator, Linda Meier. Completed in 1881, the library has retained most of its original form and ornamentation as the museum has been renovated over time. The walls are decorated with painted bricks and the ceilings and galleries with foliage motifs. The names of writers on art are inscribed in cartouches in the highest colonettes. The most striking element in this interior is the cast-iron spiral staircase, which connects the galleries and draws one's gaze upward. The four-story library contains one

kilometer of books and the Museum's underground storage facility houses five more kilometers of books, catalogues, and periodicals.

If you have photos of Libraries or Museums or Bookstores you would like to share, please email <u>Susan Braun</u>.

### **Books Worth Sharing**



# The Good Turn By Dervla McTiernan

Garda Detective Peter Fisher is called to the scene of a purported kidnapping. A young boy says he witnessed a little girl being bundled into the boot of a car, and Peter believes him. Resources are slim so Peter and DI Cormac Reilly set off to investigate without the usual support, resulting in a fatal mistake. Cormac is suspended from duty and Peter is banished to a tiny town on the West Coast of Ireland, pushing paper for his Garda Dad. In the process Peter uncovers a murder investigation that has been left unsolved, revealing potential police corruption and jeopardizing both his and Cormac's careers. Fans of Australian mystery phenom McTiernan will relish this latest addition to the Cormac Reilly series. Its twisty plot, atmospheric Irish setting and likable characters make it a true page turner!



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 <a href="mailto:ask@bainbridgepubliclibrary.org">ask@bainbridgepubliclibrary.org</a>. Time commitment is flexible, and creativity is appreciated!

### Friends of the Library



Friends of the Library book sales will be on:

Sunday, August 10, from 12-4; Thursday, August 21 from 12-4; Sunday, August 31, from 12-4.

To see future sale dates and times check our website at <a href="https://www.bifriends.org">https://www.bifriends.org</a> 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 <a href="books4all@bifriends.org">books4all@bifriends.org</a>.

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.



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 <u>Bainbridge Island Resource</u> <u>Directory (BIRD)</u>? 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





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

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