



Art in the Library!

Always at this time of the year, we are asking "where did summer go"... but you can pose another question with our September artist group presenting their version of ***"is it art yet?"***

Artists Jamie Brouwer, Mandi May, Michael Pontieri, Heather Polverino, Mary Rowland, Gareth Williams, and Gerald Lonning will host an opening reception for First Friday, September 5, 5-7PM in the library meeting room.





You can view this exhibition all of September 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 \$175,000. 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 RSVP@bainbridgepubliclibrary.org.



We're Celebrating Sun Day

On Sunday September 21, Bainbridge Island will be one of hundreds of communities across the country celebrating Sun Day. These gatherings celebrate the unstoppable rise of clean energy and the movement to leave fossil fuels behind. Our Sun Day celebration will be held at the Bainbridge Public Library from 11:00 to 12:30. To attend, [please register here](#).

We will honor the library's plans to install a solar system on its roof this coming November. Jeremy Smithson, the founder of Puget Sound Solar, which will install the library's system, will review the history of solar in the U.S. and tell where the industry is now headed. You will also learn about other nearby projects that have solar or will be installing solar soon, including

the Suquamish tribe. The managers of several of those projects, as well as some homeowners who have installed solar, will serve as "Solar Ambassadors" to help you learn from their experience.

Sun Day celebrations across the country are sponsored by Third Act and widely promoted by founder Bill McKibben, who just released his latest book *Here Comes the Sun*. Bill will be speaking at Town Hall on September 16. [You can get tickets here.](#)

You will learn of the momentum for solar here and across the country and what more we can all do as we care for the Earth that sustains us. To attend, be sure to [register here.](#)



Facilities Report

**Greetings, Library lovers!
And the beat of progress pounds on!**

This month we highlight the addition of two new exterior handrails, installed to improve safety around our building. Pictured below, the custom-made handrails provide additional points of contact for those (of all ages!) maneuvering throughout the grounds the gardens.



The new curved railing serves the rustic stone stairs between the nationally recognized Fern Garden and the Children's Library entrance. And the new railing closest to the building serves the stairs between the north parking lot and the Haiku Garden. (Many folks don't know these stairs led to the original - 1962 - main entrance to the library which now serves as an Emergency Exit

from the non-fiction / "living room" area of the library.)

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

A Quote for Book Lovers

**The unread story is not a story; it is little black marks on wood pulp.
The reader, reading it, makes it live: a live thing, a story.**

~ Ursula K. LeGuin

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

Get your Family History Questions Answered with TreeBuilder



Do you have questions about your family history? Maybe you are just getting started. Or you've already got a good deal of information about your ancestors and want to learn more. Either way, our **TreeBuilder** program is designed to help.

TreeBuilder is a drop-in program offered by BIGS in partnership with the Kitsap Regional Library (KRL). Our experienced member coaches are on hand to answer your family history questions, offer guidance, and even help you start building your family tree. While we won't do all the research for you, we'll show you how to find the information you're looking for and guide you through the process.

If you have questions about family history research or maybe you are finally ready to discover your roots, be sure to visit our website, bigenealogy.org, to find the date and time of our next **TreeBuilder** session. We typically meet on the first Saturday of most months from 1-3PM. No membership or registration is required – just drop in!

Next TreeBuilder: Saturday, September 6th at 1:00!



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.

Featuring Local Authors - Mark Salvadalena



Birding Bainbridge Island (self-published, 194 pages, July 2025) is my guide to the birds and birding locations of the island. It began as my lecture notes for a birding course I teach through Bainbridge Island Parks, which grew over the years from my own observations, insights from mentors, and ideas drawn from countless bird books and online resources. Encouraged by my family, I decided to turn those notes into the kind of guide I would have wanted as a beginning birder.

Most of the book is made up of species that account for 115 birds. This is not an arbitrary number but the species I can reliably find and show people on field trips around the island throughout the year. For each species, I set out to answer a few key questions: When are they here? Do they breed locally? Where can they be found? What might you see them doing there, such as flying after insects, diving for fish, or nesting? I also include brief identification tips and notes on population history and trends.

The book also has short sections on good public birding spots and a month-by-month guide to seasonal changes, such as when migrants arrive or depart and how birds gather where food is abundant.

As I worked on the draft, I reached out to photographer John Knox, whose images I had long admired in a local Facebook group. His photos often capture action and interesting behaviors and seemed perfect for inspiring readers to get outside and see birds for themselves. I also created eBird-based graphics, drawing on data from the Cornell Lab's community science project, using light-to-dark shading to show seasonal presence. I found this approach more visually appealing than standard bar charts and less clunky than long text descriptions.

Once these elements came together, the finished book exceeded my expectations. In the coming years I hope to learn even more from local birders, replace the few stock photos, and work with editors and designers to produce an even stronger second edition.

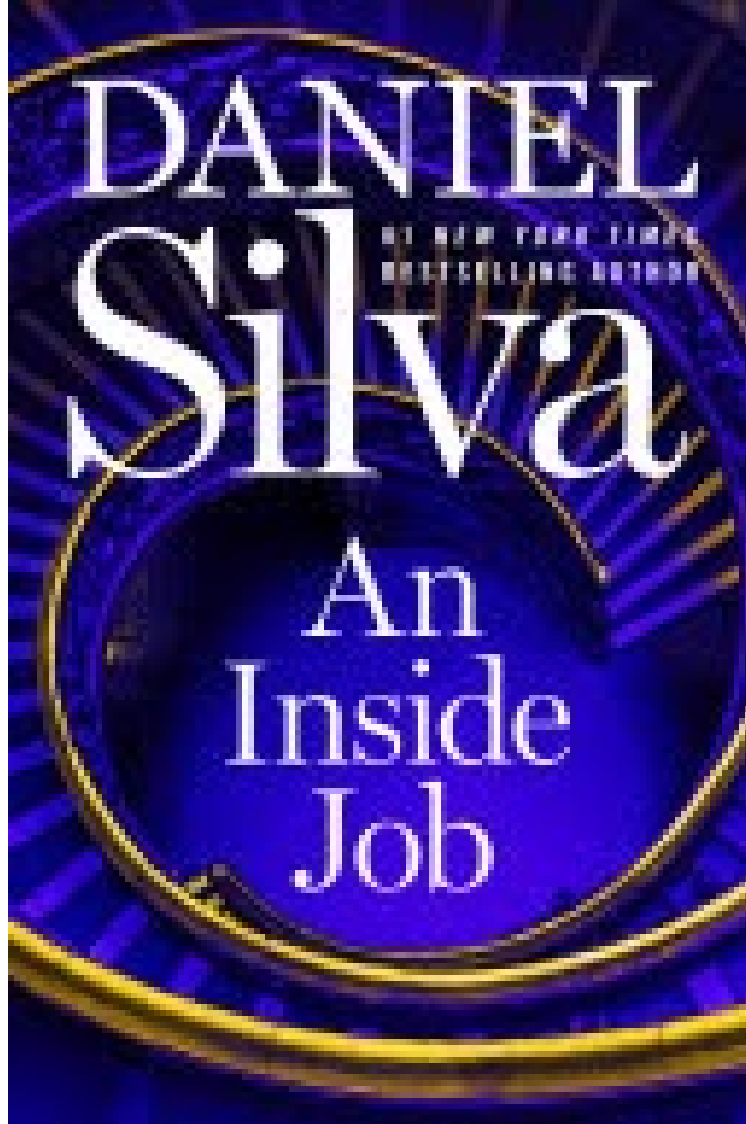
Have You Seen This Library?



Founded in 1901, the Haskell Free Library & Opera House supports the cultural needs of the community on both sides of the Canada-U.S. border, in both English and French, through access to information, reading material, a broad range of library services, and programming, as well as the visual and performing arts. As a heritage building and cultural center, the Haskell Free Library & Opera House plays a critical role in enriching the lives of its members and the community. In answer to the complicated border crossing issues now in force, [click here](#) to find out more about how the library has worked to retain access for its patrons.

If you visit Libraries, Museums, or Bookstores on your travels, please email photos of them for inclusion in this newsletter to [Susan Braun](#).

Books Worth Sharing



An Inside Job
By Daniel Silva

Legendary art restorer Gabriel Allon finds the body of a young woman in the Venetian lagoon. She's an intern at the Vatican tasked with the restoration of a painting in their storage vault, that just might be an undiscovered Da Vinci. The disappearance of her project sets off a firestorm in galleries, museums, and auction houses worldwide. Gabriel must leave Venice for Rome to assist in the hunt, protect the new Pope, and potentially authenticate a lost masterpiece. Murder, theft, greed, and international intrigue are touchstones of Silva's masterful thriller series, and this very timely tale may be his absolute best!

~ 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:

Thursday, September 11, from 12-4; Sunday, September 21, 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

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