



GUILDERLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

VOLUME 31, ISSUE 8

GUILDERLANDLIBRARY.ORG

FEBRUARY 2024

Library Director Tim Wiles Retires February 2 Photo Memories from Ten Years at GPL



LIBRARY HOURS

Monday—Thursday.....9:30 am–8 pm
Programs & meetings may continue post-closing
Friday.....9:30 am–6 pm
Saturday.....9:30 am–5 pm
Sunday.....1–5 pm

All programs are in-person, unless otherwise noted.

Café Con Mel Hours:

Monday—Friday.....8:30 am–4 pm
Saturday—Sunday.....9 am–2 pm

Nate Heyer Named Interim Director

Following Tim Wiles's retirement, GPL administrator Nathaniel Heyer is stepping up from being an Assistant Director into the temporary role of Interim Director. Nate will ensure smooth operations of the library while the Library Board works through the process of selecting and hiring a new permanent Director.



Nate is a lifelong Capital Region resident who brings 15 years of experience as an information professional to the Interim Director role, as well as a multifaceted background in visual art, education, marketing, and entrepreneurship. Nate honed his library leadership and organizational skills during his decade-long tenure at the William K Sanford Town Library in Colonie, and has also worked at many other public libraries in the region, either as an employee or independent technology trainer.

Nate is passionate about collections, digital media, and self-directed education. He is an insatiably curious reader of audiobooks, with a particular taste for nonfiction social science texts, personal growth literature, and cerebral sci-fi novels, and loves checking out board games to play with his family from our Library of Things. Rain, snow, or shine—when he is not wrangling spreadsheets or working with our staff and board, you can find Nate exploring local scenery and hunting down waterfalls and hiking trails.



Community Corner

Open to all—see Events Calendar

Guilderland Guitar Group

Wednesday, February 7 @ 5 pm

The Caring Closet-Guilderland

Hygiene product collection drive
Sunday, February 11 @ 11am-1pm

Normanskill Strummers

Thursday, February 15 @ 6 pm

Looking for something
to do with the kids?
See page 5 for a
full slate of fun-filled
February school
vacation week
programs & activities!



ADULT PROGRAMS & RESOURCES

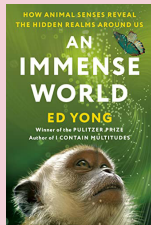
BOOK DISCUSSION GROUPS [R]

[https:// guilderlandlibrary.org/book-discussion](https://guilderlandlibrary.org/book-discussion)

**Read It & Eat! Cookbook Club**

Tuesday, February 6 at 6:30 pm,
Cookbook Club is back!

For February, we're featuring Kelly Senyei's ***The Secret Ingredient***. Register in person at the Information Desk, and choose your recipe to share!

**Night Owls Book Club**

Mondays @ 6:30 pm

Hybrid: in-person or virtual

Led by Librarian Maura Powers-Smith. Monthly group reading the most talked-about fiction and nonfiction titles.

February 12: *An Immense World*
by Ed Yong

March 11: *The Red Address Book*, by Sofia Lundberg

**Hopeless Romantics Book Club**

Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm

Led by Librarian Sam Christenen-Trip

Monthly group reading romance titles, from historical and contemporary picks to newly-popular romantasy.

February 21: *My Roommate is a Vampire*, by Jenna Levine
March 20: *A Lady's Guide to*

Fortune-Hunting, by Sophie Irwin

Fright Club: Misery

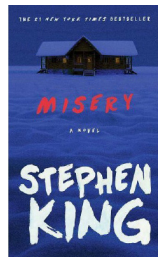
Pick up kit through February 2

Our Stephen King theme continues!

Register and pick up your kit. Then, read at your own pace and answer the discussion questions. Optional: finish up by borrowing the movie from us! [R]

March: *Pet Sematary*

April: *Carrie*

**AARP Tax-Aide Services**

Trained and IRS-certified

volunteers offer AARP

Tax-Aide preparation at

GPL on **Mondays, February**

5-April 8, 9:30am-4 pm (except for Presidents Day

Appointments are required; no walk-ins accepted.

To make an appointment: Call (518) 313-6324, beginning at 9 am. Lines may be busy; please be patient. **Please do not call the Library.** Intake booklets are available at the Adult Information desk for you to complete in advance of your appointment.

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide provides in-person and virtual tax preparation help to anyone, free of charge, with a special focus on taxpayers who are over 50 and have low to moderate income. For details: <https://bit.ly/GPLTaxAide2024>

**Lessons from the Bard:
A Conversation with Marie Wiles and Paul Grondahl**

Friday, February 2 @ 7 pm



Join Marie Wiles, Superintendent of Guilderland Central School District, and Paul Grondahl, Opalka Endowed Director of the New York State Writers Institute at the University at Albany, as they discuss Wiles' first book, ***Lessons From The Bard: What Shakespeare Can Teach Us About School District Leadership***.

A former high school English teacher, Wiles explores five of Shakespeare's most frequently-taught plays—*Romeo and Juliet*, *Macbeth*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Julius Caesar*, and *Hamlet*—mining these timeless stories for themes that can help school leaders help students. Grondahl will interview Wiles, followed by a Q & A, book sale and refreshments [R]

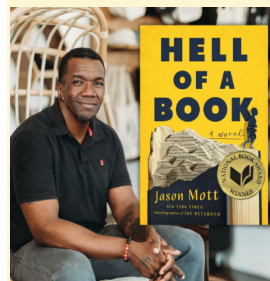
LIVE VIRTUAL AUTHOR TALKS [R]



**Spice, Spirit and Swoon—A
Guaranteed Happily Ever
After: Tessa Bailey**

Thursday, February 8 @ 8 pm

New York Times bestselling author Tessa Bailey talks about the launch of her new super hot sports romance duology with a rom-com about a bad boy pro athlete who falls for his biggest fan in her new book, ***Fangirl Down***.



**Exploring Identity, Love and
Being Black in America in
Fiction Writing: Jason Mott**

Tuesday, February 20 @ 4 pm

You're invited as we talk to New York Times bestselling author Jason Mott about his recent novel ***Hell of a Book***. This magnificent work of fiction is deeply honest, at times electrically funny, and goes to the heart of racism, police violence, and the hidden costs exacted upon Black Americans and America as a whole.



**Be a Kick-Ass Boss Without
Losing Your Humanity:
Kim Scott**

Wednesday, February 28 @ 2 pm

You don't have to choose between being a pushover and a jerk. Kim Scott will explain how to solicit criticism, give praise and criticism, gauge how what you're saying is landing, and build a culture of ***Radical Candor***. Create a culture of compassionate candor; build a cohesive team; and achieve results collaboratively.

ADULT PROGRAMS & RESOURCES

**GPL ACADEMY**

This adult programming series emphasizes lifelong learning on a wide variety of subjects, all designed to educate, inspire and spark community. Enjoy!

**GPL Sunday Concert: Drank the Gold****Sunday, February 11 @ 2 pm**

Chase away the winter blues with another wonderful Sunday concert at GPL! Saratoga Springs-based musicians Oona Grady (fiddle/viola/vocals) and James Gascoyne (guitar/banjo/vocals) collaborate as Drank

the Gold, specializing in North Atlantic and American Irish music for your listening pleasure. **[R]**

**Norman Rockwell and Race: An Art Talk with Professor Dennis Raverty, PhD****Tuesday, February 20****@ 6:30 pm****Virtual**

Norman Rockwell is

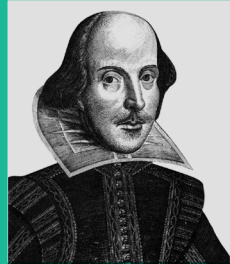
beloved for his charming,

humorous or sentimental illustrations. Less well-known are the socially engaged and sometimes tragic illustrations he executed near the end of his long career. This presentation examines how Rockwell's representations of race shifted during the 1960s, and how social realism became the artist's passionate and brilliant swan song. **[R]**

**The Hollywood Blockbuster: An Illustrated Talk on Zoom****Wednesday, February 21****@ 6:30 pm****Virtual**

In 1974, two revolutionary filmmakers, Steven Spielberg and George Lucas would change the movie industry.

Whether they were making films together or separately, they introduced the age of the "modern blockbuster." **[R]**

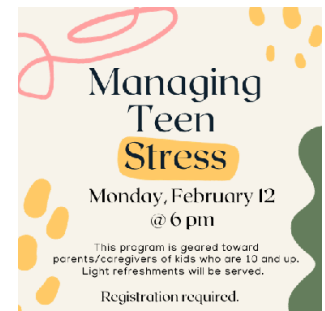
**COMING MARCH 12!**

A six-part virtual reading and discussion series on William Shakespeare's *Hamlet*.

Registration is open now—space is limited. **[R]**

Managing Teen Stress**Monday, February 12****@ 6 pm****Parents/caregivers of children ages 10+**

Teens are reporting more pressure to perform than ever, and struggle to ask for help because of a belief that "other people don't struggle this much." School, societal and social media expectations can create a toxic mix of worry about success, fear of disappointment, and all-or-nothing thinking. In this presentation, parents and guardians will learn about the "Myth of Success," the impact of different types of perfectionism, and strategies for pushing back on the narrative that a brand-name college and a high-paying career are the only markers of success. Adults will also learn steps they can take to help manage their own concerns, and how to identify when to reach out for extra support. **[R]**

**NEW Silent Book Club****Sunday, February 18****@ 1:30 pm**

Tired of deadlines? Not interested in discussions? Want to read your favorite book in quiet? Try the Silent Book Club! Bring a beverage, snack, and a book (or two!) We'll chat for the first half-hour, then silently read for the next hour. This is an

opportunity to enjoy reading in a comfortable space at the Library with others. **[R]**

Technology Help**Wednesdays, February 14 and 28 @ 10 am, 11 am or 12 pm**

Coach Donna can provide you with 1:1 tech assistance on PC functions during your hour-long appointment. Areas of instruction could include:

- ▶ Internet Searches
- ▶ Microsoft Word & Excel
- ▶ Emails
- ▶ Facebook Basics
- ▶ Printing, Scanning, & Faxing...and more!

Reserve your session and get your questions answered. **[R]**

**Computer Coach****Friday, February 23****@ 10 or 11 am**

Volunteer Computer Coach Robin covers Apple tech:

- ▶ Apple Watch
- ▶ iPad
- ▶ Apple TV
- ▶ iPhone
- ▶ Macbooks...and more! Reserve your 1:1 session. **[R]**



YOUTH PROGRAMS & RESOURCES



Take Your Child to the Library Day

Saturday, February 3

This national day was created to emphasize the importance of libraries in a child's development. We're celebrating with a scavenger hunt in the Children's Library; book raffles; button

making in the Foundry; and Family Board Games. Stop by!

Family Board Games

Saturday, February 3

@ 11 am-1 pm

Ages 3+

Kids, teens and families: drop in for board game fun!

Try games from our Library of Things you can check out, plus others. There will be a

variety of classic and new board games / card games suitable for young children,

older kids, and families to enjoy playing together.

Family Board Games!



Storytime @ GPL

Storytimes

February 6-8 / 27-29

Ages 0-5 with caregiver

Storytimes incorporate literacy, music, socialization and hands-on learning fun! No registration is needed.

Please note: storytimes are on break February 12-22.

► **Tuesdays at 10:30 am:**

Family Storytime (infant-five)

► **Tuesdays at 2 pm**—Baby Storytime (birth-18 months)

► **Wednesdays**—Sky Friends (infant-five)

► **Thursdays**—Open Play (infant-five)

D&D Drop-In: Create a Character

Thursday, February 8

@ 5-7 pm

Grades 6-12 & Adult

Dungeons & Dragons characters can get pretty complicated, so we made it easier for you to start playing. Visit us in the Tawasentha Room to make your D&D character.

D&D DROP-IN: CREATE-A-CHARACTER



DUNGEONS & DRAGONS

2/17/24 FROM 1:30PM - 3:30PM



Dungeons & Dragons

Saturday, February 17

@ 1:30-3:30 pm

Adults

Join us for Dungeons & Dragons! Bring a Level 1 character to the McKownville study room to play a Candlekeep Mystery one-shot. Beginners welcome! **[R]**

Realm Explorers Book Club

Saturday, February 10

@ 11 am

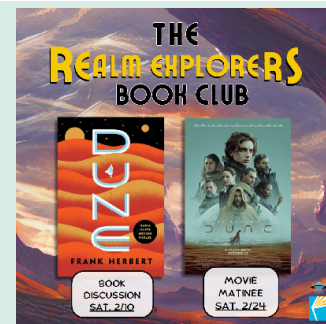
Ages 16-adult

Realm Explorers meets to discuss various science fiction and fantasy novels, plus graphic novels. This month, we're reading Frank Herbert's sci-fi classic, *Dune*.

You can pick up a copy of the book at the Library's Information Desk (while supplies last) or borrow a digital copy from Libby or Hoopla. **[R]**

Bonus! Movie Matinee: Saturday, February 24 @ 1 pm

To follow up on our book discussion, join us for a special viewing of the 2021 movie adaptation of *Dune*. **[R]**



SCIENCE. TECHNOLOGY. ENGINEERING. ART. MATH.



Teen Study Hall & Virtual Tutoring

Thursday, February 15

@ 3-6 pm

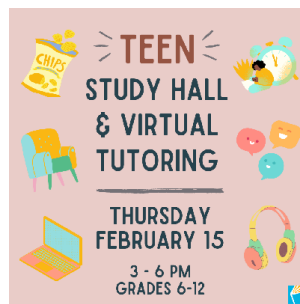
Grades 6-12

Working on homework, studying for a test, or just need a quiet space to focus? We have everything you may need for a productive evening, including comfy seating, snacks, mindful brain-breaks, and access to our new virtual live tutoring service, **Brainfuse**, offering:

► live tutors in math, science, reading/writing, social studies, PSAT/SAT, ACT, AP and state tests

► 24/7 writing lab for feedback on essays/papers

► foreign language lab, and more!



BIRTH-3 YEARS OLD, & THEIR CAREGIVERS

Parent Playdate

Monday, February 26 @ 11:00 AM

LOOKING TO MEET OTHER PARENTS/ CAREGIVERS?

Join us for a special hour of open playtime!



REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Parent Playdate

Monday, February 26 @ 11 am

Infant-Age 3 with Caregiver

Looking to meet other parents / caregivers? Join us for a special hour of open playtime! While you're here, enjoy getting to know other adults and their little ones, and check out all that the Library has to offer. Light

refreshments will be available while your child plays and you both enjoy making new connections. **[R]**

YOUTH PROGRAMS & RESOURCES

February Vacation

**Paint a Wooden Wiggly Shark**

Tuesday, February 20 @ 2 pm: Grades 3-5

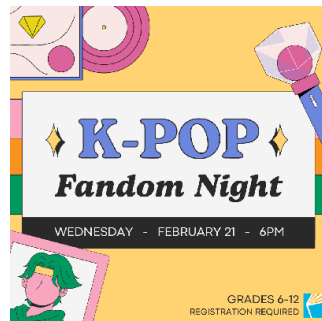
3:30 pm: Grades 6-12

Looking to sink your teeth into some fun during winter break? Come to the Library and paint a wooden wiggly shark! All painting supplies will be provided. Swimmily sweet! **[R]**

K-Pop Fandom Night
Wednesday, February 21 @ 6 pm

Grades 6-12

Calling all K-Pop fans! Come hang out with Emily and Seth and celebrate the world of K-Pop with other fans of the genre. Decorate a photocard holder, watch music videos, play games, and more! **[R]**

**StarLab Day!**

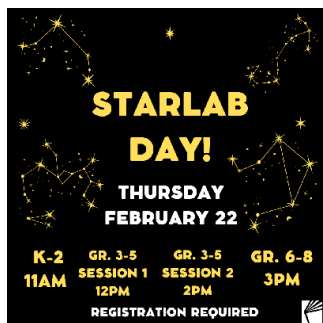
Thursday, February 22 @

11 am: Grades K-2

12 pm OR 2 pm: Grades 3-5

3 pm: Grades 6-8

Come experience the night sky in the middle of the day with the StarLab portable planetarium! Learn about which constellations you can see in the night sky where you live, and how the sky changes



throughout the year. Dudley-at-Siena astronomer Dr. Mindy Townsend will lead us in this galactic odyssey. **[R]**

LEGO Free Play

Thursday, February 22

@ 3-6 pm

Ages 3+

Let's build with LEGOs! Stop by the Children's Program Room to construct the most awesome LEGO creations you can imagine with our extensive collection.



Some programs are already full! Please refer to our online Events Calendar, and make sure you are subscribed to our weekly eNews ("GPL News")!

**Café Rewards!**

February Special: Enjoy a FREE beverage with purchase of a food item, with your GPL library card! Stop in for breakfast, lunch, a beverage or a quick bite. Browse the variety of handcrafted items for sale, including the **book nook!**

**Color Happy! Kids' Coloring Club**

Friday, February 23 @ 4 pm

PreK-Grade 2 with Caregiver

Let's read a story together to inspire us to "color happy" at the Library! Join us for an hour of colorful activities and explore a rainbow world of pencils, pens, markers, crayons, stickers, and assortment of coloring pages. Supplies provided by us, inspiration provided by kids! **[R]**

Art Room

Wednesday, February 28

@ 3-6 pm

Ages 3+

Calling all budding Picassos and Rembrandts: bring your creativity to the Library! Drop in anytime and use our wide variety of arts and crafts supplies to create your very own masterpiece(s).



Register now for **TELLING YOUR STORY**, a Four-Part memoir writing workshop beginning **Friday, March 1st at 10 am** with award-winning author Janine De Tillio Cammarata!

ON THE CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

THE LIBRARY IS CLOSED:

Monday, February 19

Presidents Day

February Exhibit—Roundtable Artists

Drop-In Knit & Stitch—Tuesdays

@ 10-11:30 am

Let's Talk: Coffee & Conversation for

Seniors—Wednesdays @ 11am-12:30 pm

Genealogy Assistance with Lisa Dougherty—

Wednesday, February 14 @ 5:30-7:30 pm

Guilderland Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting

Thursday, February 15 @ 6 pm In-person and streamed

on YouTube. Public commentary may be submitted to:

pc@guilderlandlibrary.org or in person.

Guilderland Library Foundation Meeting—Thursday,

February 22 @ 6:15 pm Want to get more involved with GPL? New members always welcome on the Foundation!

