

News of the **Friends** of Schenectady County Public Library

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Winter Book Sale Raises More Than \$7,000

To be honest, I was nervous.

I thought no one would leave the warmth of home and brave the frigid temperatures on Saturday, Feb. 4, the first day of our Winter Book Sale. The sale is not as big as our Spring and Fall sales, but it does bring in a fairly large amount of money. The sale also frees up much-needed space on our shelves so we can be 100 percent full by the May sale.

So, imagine my surprise when I turned the corner in the parking lot that Saturday morning to see a line of customers waiting in the foyer of the library to get into the sale. A line!

For the first few hours, the sale was mobbed. We had a great turnout of volunteers as well. Sunday was well-attended also.

By the second day of the sale, the core team is pretty tired. This Sunday, we had plenty of volunteers to help us! Thanks to Robin's very diligent work organizing the volunteers, we didn't



have to overdo it when time came to clean up after the sale.

Talking to the customers is one of the fun parts of the sale. The readers who attend are always ready to share a story about their favorite book. And so, we get to share a story about our favorite book too!

We made \$6,833.50 in sales and \$243.25 in donations for a total of \$7,076.75 — one of our largest Winter sales in recent years.

And I was nervous.

— Lisa



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PRESIDENT'S REPORT



We have had a wonderful start to 2023. Whitney Book Corner participated in the IlluminoCity competition and, although we didn't win, it brought great attention and interest to our store. A Second Look is busy thanks in part to "winter walkers," but also to many who drop by the mall because of the store.

With COVID restrictions lifted and events returning to downtown, we have experienced increased traffic at the Whitney. The new location has been very successful thanks to the added visibility near City Hall.

Thanks to the wonderful book sale committee and all of the volunteers who braved subzero temperatures to set up on Friday; work the book sale on Saturday; and to the Sunday volunteers who worked the sale and cleaned up afterward, we had an extraordinary sale: our Winter book sale made \$6,833.50 in sales and \$243.25 in donations for a total of \$7,076.75. This is one of the largest Winter sales in recent years. I can't say enough about this organization and its commitment to providing for the library system.

— Charlene Roman

SPRING BOOK SALE MAY 6-7



It's never too early to plan for the next book sale! The Spring Book Sale is scheduled for May 6 – May 7. Visit our web site or watch your email for more information and volunteer sign up!

NEWSLETTER IN YOUR INBOX

Did you know that you can receive this newsletter via e-mail? Reading all the news from the Friends of the Library can be just one click away. To change your delivery preference, send an email to friendslibrary12305@gmail.com.

BOOK DONATIONS TO SUPPORT SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY

The SCPL board of trustees and Friends of the Library are excited to partner together to provide books to Brookdale Senior Living Community of Niskayuna. The SCPL board of trustees is required to have a long range plan of service, which includes outreach to people who may not have access to library branches and programs. Trustee member Cheryl Cufari was alerted that Brookdale's library was outdated and in need of an overhaul.

"I thought this would be a perfect pilot program for outreach to a local facility using books that have been donated to the Friends," Cheryl said, "and the Friends board of directors responded positively."

Brookdale's residents are excited that their library is getting attention. The Friends are spreading goodwill in the community by sharing their inventory with avid readers at Brookdale Senior Living Community who will have a collection of newer titles.

This project could not be done without the generous book donations from our community!



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

We would be hard pressed to find a volunteer more dedicated to the Friends than Robin Eddy.

Robin retired from teaching in 2008 and joined the Friends in 2010, sorting the donated non-fiction books. She joined the book sale committee in 2012, recruiting volunteers to work at sales, which she continues to do.

"During my first sale, I saw a lot of dealers scanning books and some even told me the profit they would make when they resold them. I then suggested to the committee that we purchase a scanner and scan our own books like the dealers were doing," Robin said. A presentation was made to the online sales committee and the board of directors. A scanner was purchased and expansion of the Friends' online sales resulted.

Robin has been the assistant manager of Whitney Book Corner since 2017, the year she also joined the board of directors. She was on the committee to find a new location for Whitney Book Corner. She has also been the assistant manager for A Second Look since it opened in 2019.

When she is not volunteering with the Friends or the American Association of University Women, for which she is co-president, Robin likes to travel, spend time with her family and friends, and read. She is currently reading "The Soul of an Octopus" by Sy Montgomery. Other recent books she recommends are "The Book of Lost Names" by Kristin Harmel; "I Must Betray You" by Ruta Sepetys; "The Henna Artist" by Alka Josa; "Horse" by Geraldine Brooks; and "The Spy" by Paulo Coelho.



FRIENDS TRIPS UPDATES

Spring Day Trip Planning Underway

We are researching locations for a spring day trip, so watch your email for more information or check the “Travel With Us” page of the Friends website for updates.

September 15–26: Discovering Poland

We are looking forward to a 12-day trip to Poland that will include Warsaw, Gdansk, Wroclaw, Czestochowa, and Krakow. Poland is a land of amazing castles, poignant history, and a welcoming culture. Enjoy traditional Polish foods, learn to make pierogi, visit a 700-year-old castle, an amazing Medieval salt mine, take a guided tour of Auschwitz, and more.

Space and rates are guaranteed for the Friends until March 16. Visit <https://friendsofscpl.org/travel-with-us/> to view the complete itinerary, a recorded presentation about this trip, and registration link.

We hope to travel with you soon!

— Gail Denisoff & Sue Crawford



GREAT DECISIONS PROGRAM RETURNS

We are excited to announce the return of the Great Decisions program, a weekly discussion group about U.S. foreign policy and trade issues. The nationwide program is based on material provided by the Foreign Policy Association.

Each session will consist of a short video providing information about the topic and a one-hour interactive discussion segment. To register for or ask questions about the program, contact Pete Sheridan at psheridan3@nycap.rr.com. Visit <https://friendsofscpl.org/great-decisions-program/> for more information about the discussion topics.

Books for the program (entirely optional) are available for \$31.50 at Whitney Book Corner. Please make checks payable to Friends of SCPL.

Meetings are held from 9:30 am to 11:00 am in the McChesney Room at the Central Library.

- March 7 Energy Geopolitics
- March 14 War Crimes
- March 21 China and the U.S.
- March 28 Economic Warfare
- April 4 Politics in Latin America
- April 11 Global Famine
- April 18 Iran at a Crossroads
- April 25 Climate Migration



Membership News

NEW MEMBERS & RENEWALS

Benefactor — \$200+

- Charles & Debra McCambridge
- Cynthia & Herb Shultz

Patron — \$50+

- Diane Bengtson-Kilbourn & Scott Kilbourn
- Stephen & Roberta Berk
- Audrey Chouffi
- Ruth & Arthur Clayman
- Nancy Curran
- Brian & Toni Doherty

- Julia Eddy & Dan Mayer
- Mary Fitzgerald
- Howard Hart, Jr.
- Russell McDonald
- Kristina Philip
- Paul Rieschick
- Lawrence Schmidt
- Bryant Wood
- Kathryn Ylvisaker

Supporting — \$35+

- Sally & Alvin Magid

DONATIONS

In Memory of Nancy Ottati

- Stephen & Kathleen LaMantia

John C. & Susan K. Hubbard Foundation

WINTER BOOK SALE



THE BOOK SALE THAT ALMOST WASN'T ...

Permits? Who thinks of permits? Certainly not me, and that's a bad thing: bad, because in order to have a book sale in Schenectady, a mass gathering, a permit is required. And a permit in Schenectady is not something that you can get for the next day; it has to be obtained far ahead of time. A trip to City Hall is necessary, and paperwork must be filled out, and fees paid!

So, THANK YOU CHARLENE!

If not for Charlene, we might not have had a book sale in February. She not only reminded me that we need a permit for each sale this year, but she went to City Hall to get the permit. The book sale committee is very thankful to have her watching our backs.

Next time you see Charlene, please thank her!!!!!!

— Lisa E.

March/April Adult Programs & Events

“BEAT THE SNOW” CONCERT SERIES CONTINUES

Sundays, 2:00 pm
McChesney Room
Central Library

Crowds of listeners have filled the McChesney Room for our Beat the Snow Concert Series. Brighten up your winter afternoons and join us for these free concerts featuring local talent!

- March 5 Empire State Youth Orchestra, Sponsored by Young Musicians Forum (more info below)
- March 12 Quintocracy Spring Seasonings
Wonderful Winds
- March 19 Bien Baez and Michael Clement “I Want Magic! Songs of Hopes and Dreams”
- March 26 Filene Competition Winners from Skidmore College, Sponsored by Young Musicians Forum (more info below)
- April 2 The Etude Club of Schenectady (Instrumental Ensembles)
Classical



YOUNG MUSICIANS FORUM CONCERTS RETURN

Sundays, 2:00 pm
McChesney Room
Central Library

March 5
Principal players from the Empire State Youth Orchestra (at right) will perform works by Bartók, Chopin, Dvorák, Prokofiev, Schumann, and Mendelssohn

March 26
YMF will present exceptional young musicians from Skidmore College: Marlowe Jacques, violin; Nate Lucas, piano; and Seth Spital, piano. They will perform works by Scriabin, Liszt, Chopin, Bonds, Haydn, Tchaikovsky and Ysaÿe.

April 30
Cellist Tamar Sagiv from the Mannes School of Music in New York City will make her second appearance in the series. She has won many awards and performed in festivals in Switzerland, Holland and Israel. She is completing her Master’s degree at Mannes this spring. Her program will include sonatas by Rachmaninoff and Brahms.



Clockwise, from top: William Lauricella, piano; Caitlin Weinheimer, violin; Romeo Vashishth, violin; Trey Coughlin, cello; Yu-Heng Wang, viola

March/April Adult Programs & Events

Register for these programs and more on the [Events & Class Registration](http://www.scpl.org) page at www.scpl.org

ALEXANDER HAMILTON: A CLOSER LOOK

Monday, March 13, 6:00 pm
McChesney Room
Central Library

As one of the biggest Broadway musicals of all time returns to Proctors Theater, presenting its award-winning theatrical look at the life of Alexander Hamilton, join us for a more academic examination of the Founding Father. Schenectady County Historian and longtime Daily Gazette reporter Bill Buell will sit down for a conversation with Jessica Serfilippi, an authority and scholar on the life of Alexander Hamilton, and a member of the interpretive staff at the Schuyler Mansion in Albany. All ages.



INNER BLISS CHAIR YOGA

Thursday, March 16, 1:30 pm
McChesney Room

Chair Yoga is one of the gentlest forms of yoga available. Students perform postures and breathing exercises with the aid of a chair. Students can experience the many benefits of yoga without having to get up or down from the floor. Benefits include increased balance, strength, flexibility, range of motion, and stress reduction. Suitable for all. Wear comfortable clothing and bring water. Ages 18+. Registration required.

SPRING WREATHS

Thursday, March 23, 6:00 pm
McChesney Room

Join Pauline from Electric City Barn to create a spring-inspired wreath made from scrap fabric, ribbon, and extra embellishments.

All materials will be provided. Ages 18+. Registration required.



PAINT WITH A PROFESSIONAL

Friday, April 14, 2:00 pm
McChesney Room

Join Kreative Expressions at this springtime-themed painting class. Participants will leave with their own work of art.

Ages 18+. Registration required.

JAZZ CONCERT

Saturday, April 15, 2:00 pm
McChesney Room

Musician Michael Benedict will lead a jazz quartet consisting of vibraphone, piano, bass and drums. The material will draw from jazz standards, Latin jazz, and original compositions. This concert will be given in celebration of Jazz Appreciation Month. All ages.

POEMS & PAVANES - LYCAEIDES

Sunday, April 16, 2:00 pm
McChesney Room

Local poets read their own poems, interlaced with early music and world music. All ages.

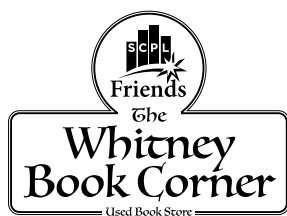


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