

## FPL's Book Sale Raises More Than \$1,400

Portland was buzzing with excitement and plenty of activity on Friday, October 24. Along with the costumed trick-or-treaters enjoying Portland's Halloween Downtown event, book enthusiasts lined up at the Library for FPL's Annual Book Sale.

The Friends held another successful book sale that weekend (October 24-26), and raised \$1,400 to support Library programs. The Annual Book Sale, which is FPL's largest fundraising event (other than the Membership Drive), is a much anticipated event for many area residents. It's a great opportunity to stock up on reading material for the upcoming long winter season. With blizzards, a hurricane, a tropical storm and extended power outages in recent years, it's always a good idea to have a good supply of reading material on hand!

We received a good quantity of high quality donated materials at our four Read & Recycle collection events this year, so setting up the Book Sale was quite a challenge. Our small but eager group of volunteers worked in earnest Thursday afternoon and evening to move the books from our storage facility to the Library, where they were quickly loaded on to tables.

Sales were steady throughout the weekend, and the Friends donated all remaining books, games, puzzles and audiovisual materials to Goodwill Industries and to local schools, who will use these materials to supplement their programs.

The Friends would not be able to run a successful Annual Book Sale without our volunteers. This year's volunteers included students from St. Mary's CCD program, PMS, PHS and staff from the Public Works Department and the Portland Library. Many thanks to Portland Fire Department Company #1 for the use of their tables and to Portland Library and BIS for the use of their facilities. Finally, we would like to thank the many Friends' members who spent countless hours organizing, planning and executing the event.

Thank you so much for your support. Please mark your calendars for our 2015 collection dates (January 10, March 28, June 27, and September 26) and our next Annual Book Sale in October, 2015!

### To Reach the Library

General Information and Reference: 860-342-6770  
Fax: 860-342-6778  
Website: [www.portlandlibraryct.org](http://www.portlandlibraryct.org)

Check out FPL's website at  
[www.friendsofportlandlibraryct.org](http://www.friendsofportlandlibraryct.org)

## Upcoming Art Shows and Receptions

The Library's Mary Flood Room will host an exciting series of art shows during the coming months.

From December 5 to January 22, the Mary Flood Room will feature artwork by the members of the Art Guild of Middletown. The Guild fosters and encourages art and the development of visual artists in the Middletown area. A reception, sponsored by the Friends of the Portland Library, will be held on Saturday, December 13 from 2-4 PM at the Library. The Art Guild will sponsor a closing reception on Saturday, January 17 from 2-4 PM.

In February, the photography of Stanley Tetrault will be displayed at the Library. Stanley's favorite photo genres include nature, landscapes, seascapes, macrophotography, architecture and patterns found in nature. He is a member of the Photographic Society of America and a trustee of the Charter Oak Photographic Society. A reception will take place on Saturday, February 7 from 2-4 PM in the Mary Flood Room.

The Portland Schools Youth Art Exhibit will grace the Mary Flood Room during the months of March and April. The Exhibit will feature art by talented students from all five Portland Public Schools. A reception will be held for the students, their families, teachers and friends on Thursday, March 12 from 4-6 PM at the Library.

Christopher Graham will present his photography show entitled *Portland – From a Different Light* at the Library during the month of May. Chris specializes in long exposure and high dynamic range photography and brings a unique and exciting perspective to familiar objects and locations around town. Chris has also photographed several hidden Portland gems that may be new to most residents. A reception date will be announced in the Library newsletter and in the *Rivereast News Bulletin*.

Please check the *Rivereast News Bulletin* for further information regarding featured artists and reception dates. The Friends provide home-baked goods and beverages for the receptions.

Area artists interested in exhibiting their artwork in the Mary Flood Room should contact Amy Giveans at the Portland Library at 860-342-6773.

Supplement  
to the  
*Rivereast  
News  
Bulletin*



# FRIENDS OF THE PORTLAND LIBRARY

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2015 Membership Information Enclosed

Fall 2014

## FPL Supports Art and Culture in Portland

Are you looking to add some art and culture to your life? Local residents can experience both by taking advantage of various Library programs funded by the Friends of the Portland Library. For example, you can pick up Museum Passes at the Portland Library that provide free admission to five excellent art museums. You also can view an art show or attend one of FPL's Artist Receptions in the Library's Mary Flood Room. Perhaps you could choose a DVD of your favorite opera, Broadway show or classic movie from the Library's extensive DVD collection. Or attend one of the many FPL-funded art, music or literature programs offered for adults or children at the Library.

FPL's Museum Pass Program provides free admission to four outstanding Connecticut art museums. Hartford's Wadsworth Atheneum, America's oldest public art museum, boasts an impressive collection of European, American and Contemporary art, along with an extensive Costume and Textile Collection. At the 152 acre Hill-Stead Museum in Farmington, you can experience paintings by Degas, Cassatt, Whistler and Monet and wonderful ceramics and furniture, all set in the Pope family's comfortable and livable home. The New Britain Museum of American Art, the first museum dedicated strictly to American Art, now has a collection of over 10,000 pieces that spans from John Trumbull to Georgia O'Keefe and beyond. Or you can visit the home of American Impressionism and the famous Lyme Art Colony at the Florence Griswold Museum in Old Lyme.

FPL recently added The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art to our stable of free art museum passes. Located just one hour north of Portland in Amherst, Massachusetts, The Carle is the only full-scale museum in the United States that collects, preserves, presents and celebrates picture books and picture book illustrations from around the world. The pass provides free admission for two adults and up to four children per visit. FPL's Museum Pass Program is funded entirely by the Friends at a cost of \$2,500 per year. See the article on Page 3 for a full list of available passes.

The Library's Mary Flood Room not only serves as the main venue for Town meetings and community groups, but also as the home of art shows by talented local artists. Recent shows include works by members of Brownstone Arts (a local artists' group) and Paula Slym, a Portland artist who works in acrylic and watercolors. FPL sponsors an Artist Reception for each art show, and beverages and homemade baked goods are always served. See the article on Page 4 for a description of upcoming shows.

FPL funds the entire cost of Portland Library's impressive DVD collection at a cost of approximately \$12,000 per year. From *Anna Karenina* to *Annie Hall*, from *Great Opera Arias* to performances from *The Grand Ole Opry*, from *Swan Lake* to *Duck Soup*, the Library's collection contains something for everyone.

FPL finances many children's, family and adult programs throughout the year. In 2014, FPL has funded Library programs on puppetry, chocolate, music, the science of bubbles, magic, acrobatics, Zentangle (a Zen inspired art form) and the role of women in the World War II workforce. We also fund both the Children's and Adult Summer Reading Programs as well as provide refreshments, supplies and prizes for children, teen and adult programs held throughout the year. All told, FPL budgeted \$10,000 for these programs in 2014.

All of these programs are possible only because of the generous support of our members. With tight Library budgets in recent years, FPL's role has become more crucial than ever. Please join FPL (or renew your membership) by sending in the enclosed membership form today. With your help, Portland Library will continue to serve as a vital resource for art and culture in our community.

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## Selected Upcoming Library Events

**Minute to Win It: Tuesday, November 25, 3:30-4:30 PM** - Based on the popular game show of the same name, this friendly competition is designed for kids in Grades K-5. **Registration required.**

**Celebrating Series: Thursday, December 4, 3:30-4:30 PM** – Children in Grades K-2 are invited to join us for games, crafts and more as we celebrate some of our favorite book series for early readers. Reading at least one book in the series is recommended, but not required. Our December series is *Elephant and Piggie*. **Registration required.**

**Holiday Story Time: Wednesday, December 10, 10:30-11:15 AM** - Join Miss Lauren for this special holiday story time for kids ages 2-5. **Registration required.**

**Animal Rescuer: Thursday, December 18, 3:30-4:30 PM** - Do you love animals? So do we! Read a fiction or nonfiction book about the featured animal and join us for an after-school program for kids in Grades 3-5 that includes special guests, service projects and more! Our featured animal for December is the **Cat!** **Registration required.**

**Book Group Upcycling: Monday, November 24, 1:00-2:00 PM** and **Monday, December 15, 3:30-4:30 PM** - This book group for teens in Grades 6-8 is unlike any you've joined before. Brimming with laughs and full of opportunities to use your creativity, we will just talk about whatever we are reading at the moment while we learn a new crafting technique to express ourselves. **Registration required.**

**Teen Advisory Board (TAB) Meetings:** TAB is a teen-run group of dedicated students in Grades 6 and up. Members advise staff on book purchases, programming, and teen issues. Meetings are held at the Library on the **third Monday of each month** from **3:30-4:30 PM**. Next meeting will be **December 15**. New members are always welcome! **Registration required.**

**Movies in the Afternoon for Adults: 1:00 PM** on selected Wednesdays. Next movie is on **Wednesday, December 10, 2014**. Movie title TBA.

**Movies in the Evening for Adults: 6:30 PM** on selected Mondays. Next movie is on **Monday, December 15, 2014**. Movie title TBA.

**Lunch & Learn:** Feed your brain while you eat at our Lunch & Learn book discussions and/or informational presentations. Next meeting will be **Wednesday, December 3, 12:00-1:00 PM**. Bring your own lunch. Dessert and beverages will be provided.

**Monthly Book Discussion: First Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM.** Open to all. Call Library or check website for featured titles. Multiple copies of featured books will be available. Next book discussion will be **Thursday, December 4, 6:30 PM**.

**Knifty Knitters: Saturdays at 10:00 AM** – Join beginner and experienced knitters for a fun and informal get together. No registration required.

**Portland Library's Email Newsletter** – Would you like to learn about Library news and events by email? Subscribe to the Library's email newsletter at <http://eepurl.com/wB5zT> to receive email blasts about the latest happenings at Portland Library!

Or...visit the Library to pick up a monthly paper newsletter or view the web page ([www.portlandlibraryct.org](http://www.portlandlibraryct.org)) for more information on events and services offered at the Library. Also find Library events listed in the *Rivereast News Bulletin*. To register for programs, call the Library at 860-342-6770, or sign up online using the Calendar of Events.

## Holiday Book Store

The Friends of the Portland Library will open their Holiday Book Store featuring gift quality used books on Saturday, December 6th from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM in the Second Hand Prose Book sale area of the Library.

The sale will feature a variety of coffee table books and holiday books. Many items are like new and would make great gifts. So get an early start on your holiday shopping on December 6th! The sale will continue for the remainder of December during regular Library hours.

All proceeds benefit programs funded by the Friends, including the Library's DVD collection, Museum Pass Program and a wide variety of children's, family and adult programs held throughout the year.

## Join Us!

Want to help support Portland Library? Join FPL's Executive Board! We are looking for new members with fresh ideas and a bit of free time. The Board meets once a month and runs FPL's book sales (including the Second Hand Prose Bookshop ongoing book sale), Read & Recycle Book Collections and Artist Receptions. We also decide how money raised through our Membership Drive and book sales is allocated. Contact Alison Harris at 860-342-0635 for more information. Help us support Portland Library!

## Mark Your Calendar!

In 2015, FPL will collect gently used books, DVDs, CDs, puzzles and games on the following dates:

- Saturday, January 10
- Saturday, March 28
- Saturday, June 27
- Saturday, September 26

The collections will be held from 10:00 to NOON in the Library's Mary Flood Room. All donated items must be in "sellable" condition. We cannot accept items that are dirty, moldy or in poor condition. No textbooks, business books, computer books, self-help books or magazines, please. Thank you for your support!

## Books for Babies

It's never too early for children to learn the joy of books! The Friends want to give every new Portland baby a free "Books for Babies" kit. Each kit contains:

- *Touch and Feel* Board Book
- Books for Babies bib
- Baby's First Library Card
- *Books for Babies* brochure with Reading Tips
- *Raising a Reader, Raising a Writer* brochure
- *Babies Love Books: A Guide for Grown-ups* brochure
- Bookmark with Reading Tips

To receive a free "Books for Babies" kit, please contact Phyllis Prokop at 860-342-3460 or [phylprokop@sbcglobal.net](mailto:phylprokop@sbcglobal.net).

## Museum Pass Program

Looking for family entertainment that won't cost an arm and a leg? Why not plan a day trip to a local museum or attraction? With Portland Library's Museum Pass Program, you can visit many of these local treasures for free or at significantly reduced admission. Here is a list of available passes:

### Free Admission

Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo  
Connecticut's Old State House  
The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art +  
Florence Griswold Museum  
Hill-Stead Museum  
KidCity: A Hands-on Children's Museum  
Lutz Children's Museum  
New Britain Museum of American Art  
New Haven Museum  
No Child Left Inside/State Parks & Forests Day Pass  
Wadsworth Atheneum

### Reduced Admission

Children's Museum (formerly Science Center of Connecticut)  
Connecticut River Museum  
Imagine Nation Museum  
Maritime Aquarium and Imax Theater  
The Mark Twain House and Museum  
Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center  
Mystic Aquarium  
Mystic Seaport  
New England Air Museum  
Peabody Museum of Natural History  
Roaring Brook Nature Center  
Roger Williams Park and Zoo

### + New Pass for 2014

All passes are funded by the Friends of the Portland Library. Passes can be reserved online at [www.portlandlibraryct.org](http://www.portlandlibraryct.org), by phone at 860-342-6770 or by visiting Portland Library.

## Find Bargains at the Friends' Second Hand Prose Bookshop

When visiting the Library, be sure to browse the Friends' Second Hand Prose Book Sale area. We have mysteries, general fiction, non-fiction, romance, young adult and children's used books, as well as used DVDs and videos. Many items are like new and would make great gifts. Hardcover books sell for \$2.00 and trade paperbacks (such as those from Oprah Winfrey's book club selections) cost \$1.00. Paperbacks and books for children and young adults sell for \$0.50. DVDs cost \$3.00 and videos sell for \$1.00. We also sell discarded books from the Library's collection for only \$0.50 each. New treasures arrive each week!

FPL also holds several targeted book sales in the Second Hand Prose Bookshop during regular library hours throughout the year. In February, when "Love is in the Air" at the Portland Library, we offer hundreds of romance novels for sale. During June and July, patrons can stock up on paperback books for their vacation reading at the annual Books for the Beach sale. The Holiday Book Store, which is held on the first Saturday in December, starts our month long sale of gift quality used books including coffee table books and children's holiday books. At various times throughout the year, we often have a large inventory of discarded Library books that we sell at discounted prices.

All proceeds from the Second Hand Prose Bookshop benefit programs funded by the Friends, such as the Books for Babies Program, Artist Reception Program, and the purchase of computers and reference materials for the Library.