



**MERIDEN
PUBLIC
LIBRARY**

October 2024

Official Newsletter of Meriden Public Library



REGULAR HOURS:

Monday: 9:30am to 5:00pm

Tuesday: 9:30am to 8:30pm

Wednesday: 9:30am to 8:30pm

Thursday: 9:30am to 8:30pm

Friday: 9:30am to 5:00pm

Saturday: 9:30am to 5:00pm



**LIBRARY CLOSED:
Monday, Oct 14th**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

News from the Friends: **Page 2-3**

Adult Programs: **Pages 3-7**

Children's Library: **Pages 8-11**

Teens: **Page 12-13**

Featured News: **Page 14-15**

Meet Our Staff!



Please see page 7 to get to know **Sanna Cheema**, one of our Reference librarians!



@meridenlibrary

Follow us!

www.meridenlibrary.org

105 Miller Street, Meriden, CT 06450 | (203) 630-4730

The Friends of the Library NEWS

Making Possibilities Happen

Volunteers Needed!



We have volunteer opportunities available Wednesday evenings from 4-7pm and Saturday from 10am to 2pm. If you wish to join our expanding staff of fabulous volunteers please contact Alexis Burgess at rrburgess16@gmail.com. We also have space available for people who wish to become an occasional substitute.

How to Donate:



Now that the renovation/expansion is complete we are refocusing to raise funds for Library programming. It is still possible to be listed on the "Donor Plaque" for a donation of \$1,000 and we still have several rooms that can be named. Please contact Frank Ridley at Fridley@cox.net if you are interested in this opportunity. In addition, donations in any amount can be made to the Library through the Friends by either visiting our website or by sending your donation (payable to the Friends) to the Library. As you make your estate planning please consider remembering us. We are able to answer any questions you may have.

Events

40th Anniversary Celebration

As part of our 40th anniversary celebration, a concert featuring Nino Ciampa and the Hartt Salsa All-Stars will be held in Meeting Rooms 1+2+3 on **Wednesday, October 16 at 6pm**. Refreshments will be served. We thank the Library Board of Trustees for sponsoring this event

Bookstore Hours:

Monday: 10am to 4pm
Tuesday: 10am to 4pm
Wednesday: 10am to 7pm
Thursday: 10am to 4pm
Friday: 10am to 4pm
Saturday: 10am to 2pm



We wish to thank those who have made a donation to Library programming or the Holocaust fund since our last update:

Russ and Alexis Burgess
Carolyn MacDuff

The Robert A. Hechtel Revocable
Trust of 2020
in honor of Tomie dePaola

Book Store News

**Our ever popular
\$5.00 a "bag of books" sale
will take place from
October 21-26, 2024.**

**We provide the bags! Frequent
buyer cards will not be stamped
during this sale.**



The Friends of the Library NEWS

Making Possibilities Happen

The Meriden Public Library's programs and services are generously funded by the following organizations:



The Meriden Foundation



Meriden Health
Department



Thank you!



October Event Spotlight



Bewitched : Styles at the Times of the Salem Witch Trials

Do you love learning about the Salem Witch Trials of the 1690's?
Join us for an afternoon of discovering what the folks of Salem, MA were wearing during this time and how their styles differed from those worn by the people of Europe and other areas.

Come spend your afternoon with us and get into the Halloween spirit!



Saturday, October 12th at 2pm
Location: Meeting Rooms 1+2+3



ADULTS | October Programs

Hispanic Heritage Month Reading Challenge



The Hispanic Heritage Month Reading Challenge continues through noon on October 24th!

For more information or to sign up, visit the Information Desk or call **(203) 630-4734**.

Knit & Crochet Club

Join us at the Meriden Public Library for the Knit & Crochet Club! Bring your project (supplies not provided by the Meriden Public Library) and join with others who also love to knit and crochet and craft together!

Wednesdays

October 2nd & 16th at 10am

Location: Adult Reading Area



Practice English Conversation

Join us to practice speaking English in a fun and comfortable environment! Some knowledge of English is recommended.

¡Únete a nosotros para practicar inglés en un ambiente divertido y cómodo! Se recomienda algún conocimiento de inglés.

Thursdays

October 3rd & 17th at 3pm

Location: Meeting Room 5



Read Around the World

Join us to discuss *The Great Divide* by Cristina Henríquez, a powerful novel about the construction of the Panama Canal, casting light on the unsung people who lived, loved, and labored there.

Tuesday, October 8th at 6pm

Location: Meeting Room 6



What's Next? Book Club

The Mystery of Mrs. Christie by Marie

Benedict – With her trademark historical fiction exploration into the shadows of the past, acclaimed author Marie Benedict brings us into the world of Agatha Christie, imagining why such a brilliant woman would find herself at the center of such murky historical mysteries.

Wednesday, October 9th at 6:30pm

Location: Meeting Room 5

Monthly Adult Craft Night - Pressed Flower Suncatchers

Do you love to look at flowers year round? Come to this month's craft night and make a pressed flower suncatcher to hang in your home.

All supplies will be provided.

Thursday, October 10th at 6:30pm

Location: Meeting Room 6



ADULTS | October Programs

Community Costume Swap

Looking to upcycle last year's Halloween costume? Stop by the library on National Costume Swap Day with new or gently used costumes to swap with other community members. Costumes must be clean and family appropriate. This event is open to all ages.

Tuesday, October 12th at 10am

Location: Meeting Room 6



Fat Attack

The Community Health Network of Connecticut will be giving a fun and educational presentation on fat and its effects on the human body.

Tuesday, October 15th at 6pm

Location: Meeting Room 6



Nino Ciampa and the Hartt Salsa All-Stars

Let's celebrate 40 years of the Friends of the Meriden Public Library with an evening of music and refreshments!

Join the Hartt Salsa All-Stars, the first ensemble from the University of Hartford to be devoted exclusively to New York-style salsa music, at the Meriden Public Library on October 16th @6:00 PM.

Wednesday, October 16th at 6pm

Location: Meeting Rooms 1+2+3



The Manson Family: Questions, Answers, and More Questions

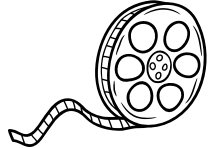


Pat Richardson is a public school history teacher and an adjunct history and philosophy teacher with the University of Connecticut. He has completed a significant amount of research and analysis surrounding Charles Manson and the Helter Skelter mystique that surrounds the infamous murders of 1969.

Thursday, October 17th at 6:30pm

Location: Meeting Rooms 1+2

Monday Matinee: 28 Days Later (2002)



Chilling and suspenseful apocalyptic thriller about resourceful Londoners trying to survive a deadly viral outbreak and the flesh-eating zombies it creates.

Monday, October 21st at 1pm

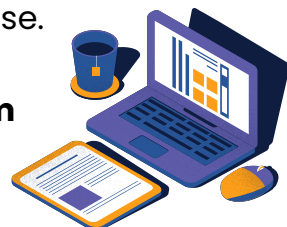
Location: Meeting Rooms 1+2+3

Tech Topics: Google Suite Basics

In this session, you will get an overview of Google Chrome and the Google workspace, and discuss the most important products and functions that you can use.

Monday, October 21st at 3pm

Location: Meeting Room 5



ADULTS | October Programs

Chasing Ghosts: Author Talk w/Marc Hartzman



Just in time for spooky season, writer and historian Marc Hartzman will be talking about his book, "Chasing Ghosts: A Tour of Our Fascination with Spirits and the Supernatural." He will take attendees on a spirited tour through the supernatural history of America, from its haunted sites to its famous ghosts to its ghost-obsessed pop culture.

Tuesday, October 22nd at 6pm
Location: Meeting Room 6

Booktok Bookclub

Join us for BookTok Book Club, where we discuss books that have trended on social media platforms including TikTok & Instagram. October book: *That's Not My Name* by Megan Lally

Wednesday, October 23rd at 6:30pm
Location: Meeting Room 5

Día de los Muertos/Day of the Dead



Join us as we learn about and observe this beautiful holiday celebrated in Mexico and parts of Central and South America on November 1st and 2nd. This celebration will include: traditional ofrenda (altar), paper flower craft, face-painting, and seasonal treats and refreshments. Bring a copy of a photo to add to the ofrenda. Send jpg to Barbara Belejack at bbelejack@meridenct.gov

Thursday, October 24th from 4pm to 6pm
Location: Meeting Room 6

Cinema Classics

The movie will begin promptly at 5:30 pm in the Community Room.

Frankenstein: 1931 · Horror/Sci-fi · 1h 11m
A scientist uses corpses to create a monster, who later incurs the wrath of the local villagers when he impulsively kills a little girl. Subsequently seeking out his creator, the creature flees with him to a nearby windmill.

Thursday, October 24th at 5:30pm
Location: Meeting Rooms 1+2+3

10 Tips to Manage Stress

Stress happens to all of us. Up to 90% of all visits to the doctor's office are stress-related, according to Harvard. Stress can be considered as much a risk factor for disease as smoking. This presentation will provide 10 tips to manage stress. Everyone will learn a technique to minimize stress and maximize vitality.

Saturday, October 26th at 1pm
Location: Meeting Room 6



Classics Clique Movie

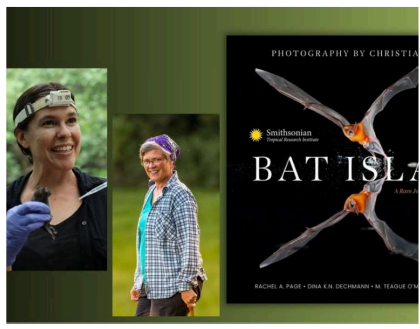
In this meeting, we will be watching the movie *Wuthering Heights* (1939) based on October's book pick *Wuthering Heights* by Emily Brontë.

Tuesday, October 29th at 5:30pm
Location: Meeting Rooms 1+2+3



ADULTS | Virtual Author Talks & Meet the Staff

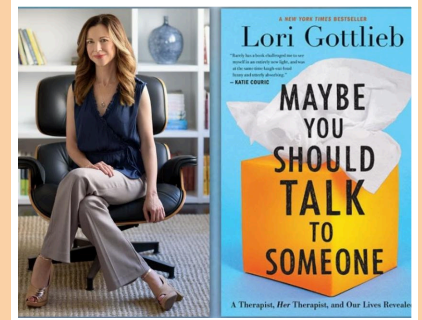
October Authors



A Journey into the Hidden World of Tropical Bats with Scientists from the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute
Wednesday, October 2nd
2pm



Liberating Latin American Genre Fiction: In Conversation with Bestselling Author Silvia Moreno-Garcia
Wednesday, October 9th
7pm



Maybe You Should Talk To Someone: Examining the Truths and Fictions we Tell Ourselves with Lori Gottlieb
Tuesday, October 22nd
2pm

Meet the Staff



Sanna Cheema is a Reference Librarian and has been working at the Meriden Public Library for 1 year.

If she couldn't be a librarian she would be a museum curator or live out her dark academia dream as a classicist.

Her favorite TV shows are Downton Abbey, Victoria, and Peaky Blinders.

The two movies she could watch over and over are Rebel Without a Cause and Mary Shelley.

A fun fact about her is that she went skydiving in Brazil.

Her favorite authors are Charles Dickens, Leo Tolstoy, and Mary Renault.

Famous birthday twin: Sanna shares a birthday with F. Scott Fitzgerald (September 24).

CHILDREN | October Programs

Weekly Storytime

Wiggle Worms

Mondays at 10:30am for Ages 0-3
October 7th-October 21st
(No Class Monday, October 14th)

Wednesdays at 10:30am for Ages 0-3
October 2nd-October 23rd

Join Miss Holly for a special storytime for ages 0-3. This storytime will be filled with songs, puppets, dancing, and more. Stay after storytime is over for playtime.

Location: Children's Storytime Room

Family Storytime

Wednesdays at 6pm for Ages 2-5
October 2nd-October 23rd

Join Miss Melissa for a fun evening of stories, songs, dancing, and more. This program is geared towards 2-5 year-olds, but siblings are always welcome to join in. A craft will follow after the end of storytime.

Location: Children's Storytime Room

Bebés Activos

Fridays from 10am to 12 noon for Ages 0-5
Runs Weekly Beginning September 27th

Join us for a weekly bilingual playgroup! Children ages 0-5 years, their parents, grandparents, and caregivers get together to participate in activities designed to teach early literacy skills and enhance school readiness and success. Please bring a snack and juice or water for your child and please attend to your child at all times. *This program is generously funded through a grant provided by Liberty Bank.*

Location: Children's Storytime Room

Sensory Playtime

1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month
October 1st & October 15th from 5pm to 6:30pm
Ages 0-11 | Registration Required

Join us for a sensory-friendly playtime where children and caregivers can interact with several stations of fun activities while socializing. Registration closes one week before an event. *Proudly partnered with Social Sabby.*

Location: Children's Room & Community Room

STEAM Stories

1st Thursday of every month
October 3rd at 6pm
Ages 6-11 | Registration Required

Join us monthly for science and art based stories and a fun STEAM related activity. Older siblings are welcome to join in.

Location: Children's Storytime Room

LEGO Block Party

Saturday, October 5th at 10am to 2pm
Ages 6-11 | Drop-in

Imagination and creation combine at our Lego Block Party! Get creative and make something to put on display in the library all month long.

Location: Children's Project Room

Flower Crown & Fairy Wand Craft

Tuesday, October 8th at 6pm
Ages 5-11 | Registration Required

Get yourself spooky season ready at this fun crafting event. Participants will have the chance to make their own flower crown and fairy wand using fake flowers, sticks, ribbon and glue. We can't wait to see what you create.

Location: Children's Project Room

CHILDREN | October Programs

Pajama Jams

Thursday, October 10th at 6pm
Ages 4-6 | Registration Required



Join us for a special musical storytime with Miss Holly! Children will get the chance to sing, dance, and play during a fun filled storytime. Participants are welcome to wear their comfy pajamas to rock out in. Younger and older siblings are welcome.

Location: Children's Storytime Room

Community Costume Swap

Saturday, October 12th from 10am to 12 noon
Parents & guardians | Registration Required

Are you looking to upcycle last year's Halloween costume? Stop by the library on National Costume Swap Day with new or gently used costumes to swap with other community members. Costumes must be clean and family appropriate. We look forward to seeing you!

Location: Multi-Purpose Room 6

Family Craft Night: Spooktacular Fun

Once a month on Thursday at 6pm
October 17th at 6pm
All Ages | Registration Required

Join us for a monthly family craft night that is sure to be a grand time. Each month is a different theme. Several craft stations will be available as well as fun themed music. All families are welcome though some crafts may need parental assistance. **This month's theme is Spooktacular Fun.**

Location: Meeting Room 6

Drop-In 3-D Paper Pumpkins

Saturday, October 19th from
10am to 12 noon
Ages 6-11 | Registration Requested



Stop in to make a pumpkin as cute as you for your very own pumpkin patch! Children will use paper strips, glue and pipe cleaners to create their own 3-D paper pumpkin. Younger and older siblings are welcome.

Location: Children's Project Room

Saturday Family Flick: Despicable Me 4 (Rated PG)

Saturday, October 19th at 1pm
All Ages | Registration Required



We can't wait to see you here! Stop by for a showing of Despicable Me 4 (rated PG) with the whole family. Snacks are welcome and any items to make your viewing experience cozy.

Location: Meeting Room 6

Messy Makers: Blow Paint Monsters

Once a month on Tuesday at 10:30am
October 22nd
Ages 2-5 | Registration Required

Come get messy with us! Each month we will try a new art technique! We'll provide aprons but please come in clothes you don't mind getting messy! This month we will be making splatter paintings.

Location: Children's Storytime Room



CHILDREN | October Programs

Nutmeg Newts

4th Tuesday of every month at 6pm
October 22nd
All Ages | Registration Required



Join us for our monthly book club the Nutmeg Newts! This book club is for children with a 4th through 6th grade reading level. Read the book on your own and then join us at the library for a fun discussion and related activity. Stop by the children's department to borrow a copy of this month's pick, **Loki: A Bad God's Guide to Being Good**.

Location: Children's Storytime Room

Pre-School Halloween Party

Monday, October 28th at 10:30am
Ages 2-5 | Registration Required



Get you Halloween week off to a great start with our preschool Halloween Party. Come and enjoy games, crafts, and a Halloween parade around the library. Costumes are encouraged. Bring your own treat bag or make one at the party!

Location: Community Room 1+2+3

Trading Card League

Tuesday, October 29th at 6pm
All Ages | Registration Required



Gotta catch 'em all! Join us for our quarterly Pokémon Trading League for all ages. Bring in cards you would like to trade, stay to play a game or two with a group in your age set, and even do a simple Pokémon craft.

Location: Meeting Room 6

Monster Slime

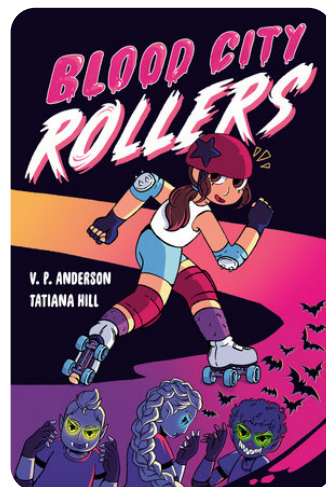
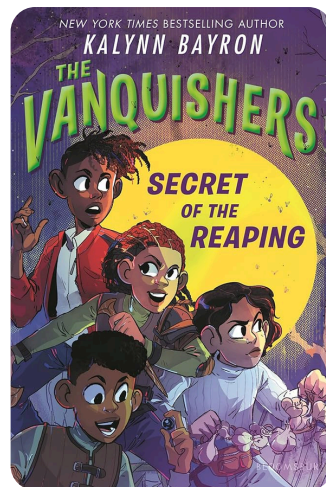
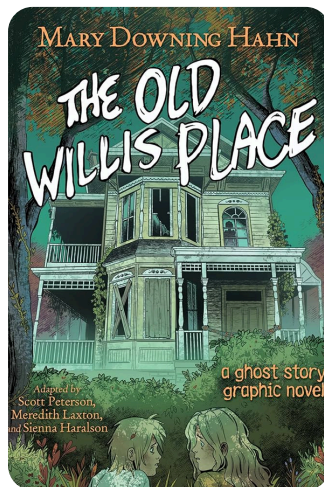
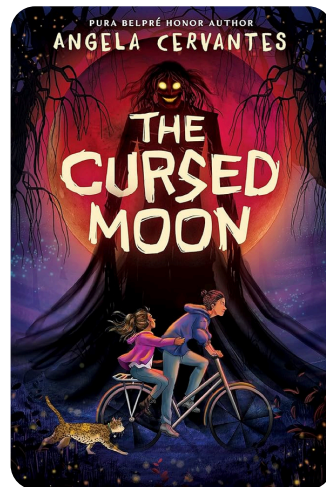
Wednesday, October 30th at 6pm
Ages 6-11 | Registration Required



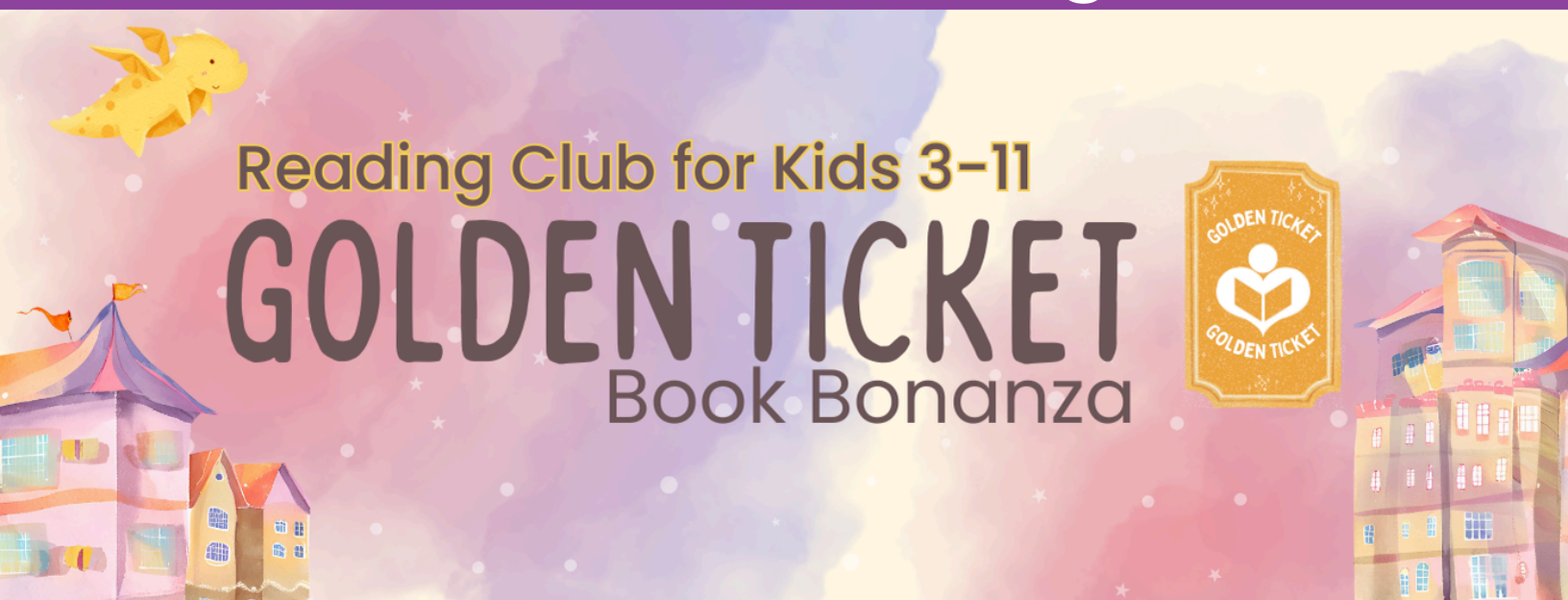
Create your own monster guts for Halloween. Participants will use slime ingredients to create creepy masterpieces.

Location: Children's Project Room

Chilling Chapter Books



CHILDREN | October Programs



Reading Club for Kids 3-11 GOLDEN TICKET Book Bonanza



OUR READING CLUB FOR KIDS AGES 3-11 IS BACK AND IT'S BETTER THAN EVER!

Read, read, read! Every visit, your child will be eligible for a prize token for our Reading Gumball Machine when they read a certain number of books. This school year, we added golden tickets into the prizes. If they receive a prize capsule with a golden ticket, they get to pick a prize out of our treasure chest. *The program concludes at the end of the school year.*

Choose the Program that best fits your child's reading level.

Read to Me: Ages 3 and up. Your child does not read on their own yet or may know some words. Still requires a grownup to understand a story. Read 10 picture books, with a grownup, to earn a prize token.

Early Readers: Your child is reading sentences, paragraphs, or short chapters with some help from a grownup. Read 4 books on your own, or with some help from a grownup, to earn a prize token.

Independent Reader: Your child can read for long periods of time with little or no help from a grownup. They can finish a chapter book and understand the story. Read 1 chapter book to earn a prize token.

Track your progress online by registering your child on **meridenlibrary.beanstack.com** and choosing the program that is the best fit for your child or ask one of our children's staff for a paper tracker.



TEENS | October Programs

Volunteer Opportunities

Do you still need 20 hours of community service required for high school graduation?

The Meriden Public Library Teen Room provides volunteer opportunities to seniors looking to complete this graduation requirement. Tasks include shelving books, program preparation, joining the teen advisory board and ensuring books are in alphabetical order.

Please reach out to our Teen Librarian, Paige, at pgardner@meridenct.gov to schedule volunteer hours.

Teen Advisory Board

Tuesday, October 8th at 5pm

Join the monthly Teen Advisory Board meeting to make sure your voice is heard! Share your ideas and opinions on how to improve your section of the library. Attendees will receive one hour of community service.

Location: Teen Room

Rainbow Roundtable

Tuesday, October 8th at 6pm



The Rainbow Roundtable is a LGBTQIA+ oriented club where we talk about all things LGBTQIA+ related. Hang out in a welcoming environment with like-minded folks. This session we will be joined by Qplus to discussing bullying.

Location: Teen Room

Teen Art Club: Monochrome Art

Thursday, October 10th at 3pm

Registration Required



Join librarian Paige to learn how to apply color in your art. This session focuses on understanding color and value. Use your favorite color in a monochrome painting.

Location: Meeting Room 6

Anti-Bullying Techniques with Leadership Martial Arts

Thursday, October 10th at 6:30pm

Learn all about bullying defenses and how to safely remove yourself from the situation with Sensei Rick from Leadership Martial Arts. This program is open to tweens and teens.

Location: Meeting Room 1+2+3

TEENS | October Programs

YA Yabbies

Friday, October 11th at 3:30pm



Join our discussion of fantasy horror, **A Deadly Education**, by Naomi Novik. The Scholomance has no teachers. No holidays. No friendships. Dangers lurk everywhere.

Location: Teen Room

Money 101: Reality Check

Tuesday, October 15th at 6pm



How far does your dollar really go? Are your future expectations realistic? Find out at this event.

Location: Teen Room

Queer Quetzals

Thursday, October 17th at 3:30pm



Join our discussion of horror mystery, **The Honeys**, by Ryan La Sala. A twisted and tantalizing horror novel set amidst the bucolic splendor of a summer retreat.

Location: Teen Room

Teen Movie Matinee

Saturday, October 19th from 1pm

Enjoy some popcorn while watching *Tomorrow Never Dies*.

Location: Teen Room



Graphic Godzilla

Tuesday, October 22nd at 6pm



Join our discussion of **Squire** by Nadia Shammas. Follow the story of Azia who learns that her lifelong dream of becoming a knight is not as glorious as she thought.

Location: Teen Room

Repurpose: Abstract Pumpkin

Wednesday, October 24th at 3:30pm



Create an abstract pumpkin using a paint resistant technique that utilizes old yarn.

Location: Teen Room

Teen Vent Session

Friday, October 25th at 3:30pm



Let your frustrations out over snacks and soda so you can start your weekend fresh!

Location: Teen Room

Gotta Catch 'em All: Pokémon Trivia

Saturday, October 26th at 2pm

Come prove you know the most about Pokémon! This challenge will take the form of Pokémon Stadium trivia.

Location: Teen Room

Manga Club

Tuesday, October 29th at 6pm



Do you love manga? Join the manga club to talk about your favorites, watch anime, meet fellow enthusiasts and work on fun projects!

Location: Teen Room

FEATURED NEWS

October Author Talk with Kelly M. Moore



INHERITANCE

A Portrait of One Family's Inheritance of Addiction and Recovery
by Kelley M. Moore

When Kelley's daughter was seventeen and a senior in high school, her entire world changed with the discovery of her daughter's alcohol and drug addiction. In her inspiring memoir, Moore shares the road to recovery through the eyes of a mother, the intense emotional and physical turmoil it takes on not only the person afflicted with the disease, but to the entire family unit.



Saturday, October 5, 2024 from 1pm to 3pm
Meeting Rooms 1+2+3



Join Us!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30
1PM TO 4PM

Connect with local authors, learn
about new titles, and purchase
signed copies of books.

FEATURED NEWS



Tomie dePaola Mosaic Dedication

On September 14, 2024, we hosted the dedication of our new mosaic of the book cover of *The Art Lesson* created by Meriden's Gallery 53. Special thanks to Tomie's sister, Judie Bobbi, for facilitating this project. Congratulations to our talented, skilled Mosaic Magic Team for bringing this piece to life!

SAVE THE DATE

The Friends of The Meriden Public Library Presents

LITERARY LIBATIONS

Sipping for a Cause

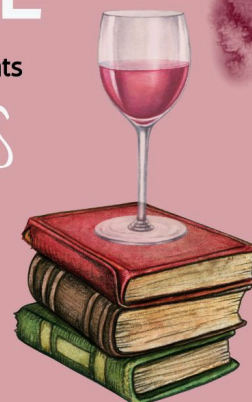
Friday, February 28th, 2025

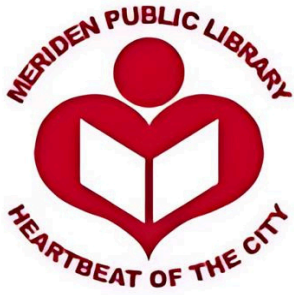
6pm to 9pm

at the Meriden Public Library

Tickets will be on sale December 2nd, 2024,
in the Friends Bookstore at the Meriden Public Library.

Wine, craft beer, and spirits tasting.
Refreshments, music, and raffles.





Friends of the Meriden Public Library

Membership / Renewal Application

NAME (please print): _____

Additional Names (list others in household covered by this membership):

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

E-mail: _____ Cell Phone: _____

() \$100.00 (or more) - CORPORATE

() \$100.00 (or more) - BENEFACTOR

() \$40.00 - PATRON

() \$10.00 - BASIC

() I WISH TO DONATE TO THE WORLD WAR II HOLOCAUST FUND:

AMOUNT: _____

() I WISH TO DONATE TO LIBRARY PROGRAMMING:

AMOUNT: _____

() I WISH TO MAKE AN ADDITIONAL DONATION:

AMOUNT: _____

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Indicate areas of interest - Check as many areas as you desire

_____ Library Advocacy

_____ Book Sorting

_____ Internet Sales

_____ Newsletter

_____ Membership

_____ Bookstore

_____ Any Area Where Needed

Please make checks payable to: Friends of the Library (FOTL)

Return to: Friends of the Meriden Public Library, 105 Miller Street, Meriden, CT 06450

In order to maximize the effect of your membership funds, we will not be providing membership cards; your cancelled check will be your proof of membership.

Thank you!