

# HYDE PARK FREE LIBRARY

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## **It's "Love Your Library Month" – And Time For Library Advocacy To Boot.**

**February 3, 2018**

Dear Hyde Park Library Patrons,

Library Advocacy Day is right around the corner. On February 28, hundreds of library advocates will be trekking to Albany to state the case for continued and sustained state support for libraries.

We are faced with an uphill battle this year. The Governor's proposed budget means cuts to both library aid (4%) AND construction aid (42%).

Library Advocacy Day in Albany is the chance to make a BIG impression on decision makers in Albany at a critical time before the budget is finalized.

As Rebekkah Smith Aldrich, Co-Ordinator for Library Sustainability at the Mid-Hudson Library System observes, those who will join us on February 28th in Albany will find it "an experience every library supporter should have at least once in their life. March through the halls of the Legislative Office Building with like-minded community members, speak face-to-face with legislators and their staff, join the Rally at noon to make some noise and cheer on those legislators who are actively supporting libraries."

Our library system makes participation in this event very easy!

- MHLS will make the appointments with legislators for you. MHLS staff is on hand to kick off each meeting. Just register online so we know you are coming!
- Attendees can participate in an online briefing on Friday, February 16th to learn the most current information and gain valuable tips on what works when talking to your representatives.
- Coordinated transportation with multiple stops along the NYS Thruway is offered. Bus tickets are subsidized by generous donations from area libraries' Friends Groups. Tickets this year are at their lowest price point ever: just \$5.00.

We just ask that you find a way to join the fight to restore library aid. Showing up matters. Your voice matters.

To register and to sign up for the bus visit this link <https://midhudson.org/library-advocacy-day/>

And you don't have to wait until February 28th to reach out to your legislators. They need to hear from you NOW!

What can you do right now to support this effort?

1. Use the NYLA Online Advocacy Center to send a targeted message to your state legislators and the Governor.
2. Contact your library about joining the "Real People. Real Dollars. Campaign" and find at least one other library advocate to do the same. We'll be offering this option until February 21st.
3. Follow your legislators on social media and help connect them with all the great stuff going on at your library.
4. If you can't make it to Albany, please consider reserving time on your schedule--even if it's just 15 minutes--on February 28th to participate in Virtual Advocacy Day. More info coming soon!

Libraries are truly essential to New Yorkers. From early literacy to workforce development to civic engagement New York's libraries are empowerment engines. If you don't speak up for libraries who will? Legislators need to hear from their constituents so they understand what matters to them.

Library supporters need to let legislators know that libraries are making a positive difference in our communities. Our representatives need such input to justify spending their time advocating for library aid and legislation.

Modern, sustainable library service depends on state aid. State aid accounts for more than 60% of the Mid-Hudson Library System's operating budget. These funds are leveraged on behalf of the sixty-six (66) member libraries and therefore the communities served in our region.

These are the funds that support such functions as our shared online catalog that facilitates access for all patrons to over 2.5 million items and the delivery service that saves libraries over \$4 million annually--and much more. If you can join us in Albany on the 28th, we'd welcome having you. Hearing from our actual patrons, Library Friends and supporters is key to increasing our legislators' awareness of the vital importance of libraries to our communities.

Registration for the busses is handled through our sister co-operative, The Ramapo Catskill Library System, you can [register for the bus here](#). It is also useful to visit this page, even if you're considering driving yourself, since there are links to obtaining an informational packet and to obtaining directions (for those who might prefer to drive themselves).

## MORE ON LIBRARY ADVOCACY DAY

# LIBRARY ADVOCACY DAY

### WHEN

**February 28, 2018**

### WHERE

**Albany, NY**

**FEATURING** · Speaking up for Libraries · Meetings with legislators · Making a Difference · Library Advocates Rally · Impacting the Future · Coordinated Transportation · NYSL Tour

### DO YOUR HOMEWORK

**ADVOCACY DAY BRIEFING**

**ONLINE, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16 @10:00**

**REGISTER ONLINE: [HTTP://CALENDAR.MIDHUDSON.ORG](http://calendar.midhudson.org)**

### ALL AGES EVENT

### REGISTER ONLINE

<http://calendar.midhudson.org>

### TAKE THE BUS

\$5 per person payable to the

"Ramapo Catskill System"

Send to: Ruth Daubenspeck

c/o RCLS

619 Route 17M

Middletown, NY 10940

Bus Registration & Payment

Deadline: February 21

### PICK UP POINTS

7:30am | Newburgh

7:45am | New Paltz

8:15am | Kingston

8:40am | Catskill

### QUESTIONS?

Kerstin Cruger

MHLS Library Sustainability

Associate &

Communications Specialist

[kcruge@midhudson.org](mailto:kcruge@midhudson.org)



## Open Mic at the Annex...And More

Our next Open Mic will take place on Sunday, February 25th at 2:00 p.m. We have another featured act who are making their Library Annex debut this month. We are very excited to announce that our featured act will be Sharkey and the Sparks.

Sharkey McEwen is well known for his work with the Slambovian Circus of Dreams in which ensemble he has established himself as "[a] world-class guitarist, vocalist, and producer. Sharkey ... has toured nationally and internationally for over 20 years with performances across the

United States, Japan, Korea, China, Canada, England and Germany. With a soulful, evocative guitar style akin to the spirit of legends Duane Allman, Carlos Santana, and David Gilmour, and yet a signature sound all his own, Sharkey's emotive touch has garnered him deep respect and admiration from peers and fans alike...

Formed around the duo of Sharkey and his young teenage protégé Ben, 'Sharkey & The Sparks' made their debut performance in the fall of 2017." (Source: [www.sharkeymc.com](http://www.sharkeymc.com).)

Sign-up for the open mic portion of the show is at 1:30 p.m. Open mic performances begin at 2:00. And our featured act will take the stage at 3:30 pm.



The poster features a yellow background with a dark brown, textured border. At the top, the words "Open Mic" are written in a large, dark brown, cursive font, flanked by two black musical notes. Below this, on the left, a dark brown box contains the text "Sunday, Feb. 25th 2pm" in yellow. To the right of this box is a photograph of two men playing guitars. Below the photo, a yellow box contains the text "Sharkey & the Sparks!" in dark brown. At the bottom, a white box with a black border contains the text "Hyde Park Library Annex • 4 Main St., Hyde Park, NY 12538 • 845-229-7791".

**Open Mic**

**Sunday,  
Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>  
2pm**

**With  
Featured  
Act:**

**Sharkey &  
the Sparks!**

Hyde Park Library Annex • 4 Main St., Hyde Park, NY 12538 • 845-229-7791

## Book Club News: Mystery Club...Opening A New Chapter"

In recent issues of the newsletter, we've been spotlighting our various book discussion groups (and we do have quite a few to choose from). We've been running a mystery club for more than fifteen years now. We pride ourselves of reading a wide variety of titles, both popular and off-the-beaten-trail. And we generally find plenty to discuss--other than whether or not we were able to solve the mystery before the last chapter.

Our mystery book club is a small but very loyal group. And we'd certainly welcome new members.

Currently our group meets at noon on the first Friday of each month. Also under discussion is the possibility of starting a second session on a weekday evening in order to appeal to mystery lovers who may not be able to make our afternoon discussion.

Time and day are up for discussion. An evening session would revolve around the same title as the afternoon group's. Anyone who might be interested can call [\(845\)229-7791](tel:8452297791) or email us at [director@hydeparkfreelibrary.org](mailto:director@hydeparkfreelibrary.org).

Our selections for the remainder of 2018 include the following:

March	The Lion	Nelson DeMille
April	Snow White Must Die	Nele Neuhaus
May	The Moonstone	Wilkie Collins
June	The Hand That Feeds You	A.J. Rich
July	In For A Ruble	David Duffy
August	The Angel Court Affair	Anne Perry
September	The Waters of Eternal Youth	Donna Leon
October	The Girl In the Spider's Web	David Lagercrantz
November	A Game for All the Family	Sophie Hannah
December	Visions of Sugarplums	Janet Evanovich

Just to sum up: we offer an afternoon session (usually the first Friday of the month at noon) and hope to offer an evening one as well in the coming months. Exceptions to the scheduled date can occur due to holidays or quirks in the calendar, but these are usually announced well in advance (with the exception of the occasional snow day).

**Evening sessions of  
our Mystery Book  
Club forming.**  
Dates and times flexible.

Anyone interested please contact Greg  
Callahan at 845-229-7791, ex.205 or  
[director@hydeparkfreelibrary.org](mailto:director@hydeparkfreelibrary.org)

## More Library News: Movies, Writers' Group, Great Decisions Discussion Group

We're celebrating Black History Month with screenings of a number of recent films that were highly acclaimed, if not necessarily as well-known as they should have been.

Last weekend we screened Quentin Tarantino's provocative 2012 film *Django Unchained*.

On Sunday, February 11th at 2:00 p.m., we'll be showing Spike Lee's 1996 film *Get On the Bus* about the mid-'90s event, the Million Man March. Charles S. Dutton, Ossie Davis and Andre Braugher star. Roger Ebert gave the film a perfect four star rating, stating "What makes *Get on the Bus* extraordinary is the truth and feeling that go into its episodes."

A week later on Sunday, February 18th, also at 2:00 p.m., we will screen the 2010 film *For Colored Girls*, directed by Tyler Perry and starring Janet Jackson, Whoopi Goldberg. The film is based on the Ntozake Shange 1975 stage production *for colored girls who have considered suicide/when the rainbow is enuff*.

A brief discussion will follow the screening of each film.

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And while you're at the Annex, we hope you'll take the time to view our current exhibit featuring the work of regional abstract artist John Banas.

And for those talented artisans out there, remember that our knitting group (aka the Woolsevelt Yarn Spinners) meet every Tuesday (that the library is open) at 2:00 p.m. And our quilters meet on Thursday mornings at 9:30 pm. These talented craftspeople are always glad to welcome prospective new members. Drop by, set a spell and enjoy the company of some great folks.

The Hyde Park Library Writers Group meet the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 6:30 p.m. New members are always welcome.

The next session of our Great Discussions will take place on Monday, February 12th at 6:30 p.m. Discussion guides for in-house loan are available at the library circulation desk. This month's topic is: "The Russian Foreign Policy."

Looking ahead to March, we will be hosting another session of the very successful "Death Cafe" series on Saturday, March 10th at 2:00 p.m. Join "end-of-life douglas" Anthony and Elysabeth Swan for an open-ended discussion of all matters having to do with death and dying. The "cafe" element in the event's title is quite literal. Coffee and pastry will be served...and as convivial an atmosphere as possible seems to always be attained. Most attendees so far have given the Death Cafe sessions the highest possible marks.

For information on any and all of these exhibits and events, call Greg at 229-7791 ext.205.

## News From the Children's Room

Mrs. B. informs us that she is in the process of setting up a special collection featuring books either written or edited by local resident Patricia Lee Gauch. Ms. Gauch has been a strong supporter of our library and helped us organize our annual "Mock Caldecott Event" several years ago. We are honored that she has donated a wealth of materials from her own personal library to our collection.

As her own website notes: "Patricia Lee Gauch was Editorial Director of Philomel Books for almost 25 years. She holds a doctorate in English literature, has taught writing and children's literature on the college level and reviewed for the New York Times. Patti has edited three Caldecott books, *Owl Moon* by Jane Yolen, illustrated by John Schoenherr, *Lon Po Po* by Ed Young and *So You Want to Be President* by Judith St. George, illustrated by David Small. She has worked with many well-known authors and artists, including Patricia Polacco, Eric Carle, Brian Jacques, T.A. Barron, Andrew Clements and Loren Long.

Patti has written thirty-nine books for young readers, among them *Thunder at Gettysburg*, *This Time*, *Tempe Wick?*, *Christina Katerina and the Box* and *Dance Tanya* and the other Tanya books. Her most recent title, *The Knitting of Elizabeth Amelia*, was published in fall 2009."

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