

HYDE PARK FREE LIBRARY

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LIBRARY ADVOCACY THROUGH THE MONTH OF MARCH! YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

March 7, 2019

Dear Hyde Park Library Patrons,

Wednesday, February 27th, was Library Advocacy Day, and local librarians, library staffers and supporters made their yearly trek up to Albany to demonstrate their support for New York State libraries. It has never been more important to show strong support for our public libraries than it is this year.

The Governor's proposed FY2019-2020 Executive Budget was not good news for Library Aid. The Governor's suggested funding for libraries is \$4 million less than what was in last year's enacted state budget. This proposed cut fails to acknowledge the crucial role libraries serve in our communities, to say nothing of the contributions they make to our state's education system.

Library Construction Aid, which received a \$20 million increase in last year's enacted budget, is in jeopardy once again as the Governor has proposed eliminating that additional funding. Over 48% of public libraries in NYS are 60+ years old, and an additional 33% are 30+ years old. Investment in the Library Construction Aid program need to be increased in order to address aging infrastructure, the need for energy inefficient buildings and the evolving roles of libraries in their communities.

This is the third year of proposed cuts to library funding! It's going to be important that we have a strong state-wide voice *throughout* the month of March in support of library funding this year.

Hundreds of library supporters who were unable to attend the event in Albany have already shown their support for adequate state library funding by advocating for libraries online.

And it's not too late for you to do the same. Here are a couple of ways you can advocate for library support.

- Use the New York Library Association (NYLA) Online Advocacy Center to send a custom message to your legislators. Once you've done that, consider getting three additional people to use the OAC's message form as well.
- Call the Albany office of your legislators to express your support for library aid and the State Aid for Library Construction Program.

The Albany offices for Hyde Park's New York State representatives are reachable at the following telephone numbers:

Senator Sue Serino: (518) 455 2945

Assembly member Didi Barrett: (518) 455 5177

We are fortunate to have representatives who have proven themselves to be strong library supporters themselves. Still, in the face of these proposed cutbacks, they need to hear from you.

Thank you for all you have done and continue to do to help get the word out to our legislators in Albany!



LITTLE LIBRARY TEMPORARILY OUT OF COMMISSION

Last week's wind storm took a significant toll in our area--and, unfortunately, one of its victims was the Little Library at the Stop and Shop Plaza, which has been operating successfully at that location for the past four years, and was supplied to our patrons by the Hyde Park Rotary.

But not to worry, we have word from our friends at the Rotary that a replacement structure was in the works in any event (as the climate had already begun to produce significant wear and tear on the Little Library). We will alert our readers when the replacement is ready.

In the meantime, please consider visiting the second Little Library at the Rite Aid Plaza on Crum Elbow Road (if you haven't already) or come by our in-house book exchange, The Book Nook in the Hyde Park Library Annex (open during office hours).

Our thanks go to Mr. and Mrs. Scaringi for promptly alerting us to this situation. We were able to save the majority of the books before they got too wet or weathered.

Music In the Annex

Our next Open Mic will take place on Sunday, March 24th at 1:30 p.m. We're delighted to welcome an old friend and a marvelous talent Kathy Moran as our featured act. Kathy has long been closely associated with the Hyde Park Library assisting in our early concert series, the "Living Room Concerts," and appearing at open mics and in concert here frequently. She recently released her first CD, *When the Rooster Sleeps Late*, which is chock full of great tunes. Please join us in welcoming a great friend and a remarkably gifted singer-songwriter, Kathy Moran.



The poster features a vibrant background of yellow and green musical notes. At the top, the words "Open Mic" are written in a large, black, cursive font, flanked by two black musical notes. Below this, the date and time "Sunday, March 24th 1:30pm" are displayed in bold black text on a yellow rectangular background. To the right of this text is a small inset photograph of Kathy Moran playing an acoustic guitar and singing into a microphone. Below the date, the text "With Featured Singer/Songwriter:" is written in bold black text on a yellow background. To the right of this text, the name "Kathy Moran" is written in a large, bold, black font on a yellow background. At the bottom of the poster, the address and phone number "Hyde Park Library Annex • 4 Main St., Hyde Park, NY 12538 • 845-229-7791" are listed in a smaller black font on a yellow background.

Sign-up for open mic begins at 1:30 p.m. (along with a pre-show, featuring our co-hosts Maureen and Don Black). Open mic performances begin at 2:00 p.m. Kathy Moran will take the stage at 3:15. Online sign-up will be available several days in advance of the event.

Please note a somewhat revised listing in future featured acts. In upcoming months our features will include: Karl Schmitz (April 28); and Sean Schenker (May 26); and George Mallas (June 23). Other performers scheduled for later in the year include: Melissa Holland, Ethan Campbell and Loretta Hagen (dates to be announced).

Our open mic has established itself as a forum for diverse acts and genres. It has been especially rewarding to see how inter-generational these events have become as well. Just goes to show that music is the universal language (and love is the key. And you can quote me--and Mac Davis--on that).

We also have a number of concerts scheduled for the spring and summer. Roots artist Marc Berger will appear on Saturday, April 13th at 7:30. Michael Ronstadt and Aaron Nathans on Sunday, May 5th at 1:00 p.m. Rod MacDonald with Mark Dann on Friday, May 17th at 7:30 p.m.; Grampa Joe's Washboard Band on Saturday, June 5th at 7:30 p.m.; and Ron Renniger on Saturday, July 20th at 7:30 p.m.

Book Club News - Young Adult and Adult Levels

Below please find a re-posting of the schedules of the two adult level book clubs the Hyde Park Library currently sponsors. It's definitely not too late to join up for this year. And even if there are only one or two titles you might be interested in discussing, we always welcome "drop-ins" and other visitors. Our general book club is as diverse as you could hope for, and a great way to discover titles and authors you might not otherwise have considered.

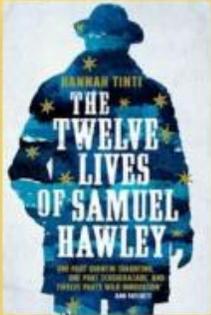
Evening Mystery Club Session Starting April 1

Our mystery club has traditionally only met on either the first or second Friday of the month (it's complicated) at 12 noon. However, we do get periodic inquiries about an evening session. So we're going to give it a whirl. On Monday, April 1st at 6:30, those interested in participating in an evening Mystery Club session should consider attending and providing us with their input on possible permanent schedule, book and author recommendations and any other ideas they may have for an evening group going forward. If you're interested by cannot actually attend, please contact Greg Callahan (at director@hydeparkfreelibrary.org or by calling 845-229-7791 ext. 205) and advise him of your interest and any suggestions you may have.

The Hyde Park Free Library Invites You to Our...

Special Mystery Book Discussion: Interest and Planning Meeting

For A Permanent Evening Session
PLUS a discussion of our April selection,
The Twelve Lives of Samuel Hawley
by Hannah Tinti.



Monday, April 1st
@ 6:30
(Meeting held in the
Main Building)

Hyde Park Free Library
2 Main Street, Hyde Park, NY 12538
845-229-7791

“Re-Joyce”

Over the past several years, we've had a number of "major figure" book clubs, devoted to such literary greats as Shakespeare, Austen and Dickens. We are now exploring the possibility of running a series of book discussions on the topic of James Joyce. If Joyce was an author you've always wanted to read--but weren't sure quite where to begin or what to expect--why not consider a relatively painless, non-academic approach such as we tend to offer. We'll start off with the less demanding early work...and work our way up to the more challenging works gradually, taking our time and perhaps looking at some of the better known guides to reading and understanding Joyce. An interest and planning meeting will be held on Thursday, April 11th at 6:30. We will also discuss Joyce's classic short story "The Dead" (from *Dubliners*) at that time.

YOUNG ADULT BOOK CLUB

Mrs. B. informs us that the Young Adult book club would be most welcoming of new members this year. If you are--or if you know--a young book lover (grades 5-8), this could be an ideal way to read and discuss a varied array of YA books and to meet and share ideas with other young readers.

Plus participants have the added option of participating in next fall's "Battle of the Books" competition, which consists of a Jeopardy-style competition that is challenging and tons of fun. Our young patrons have been participating in this event for well over a decade now, and it has proven a great way to spawn and encourage and love of reading among younger patrons. Why not give it a try?

The next session of the YA group will be on Thursday, March 21 at 6:30 p.m. We'll be discussing the book *The Ruins of Gorlan* by John Flanagan. Young readers interested in attending, should contact Janet Battistoni at (845)229-7791 ext 203 or email childrens@hydeparkfreelibrary.org.

Film Series Continues...After A Brief Pause

Hyde Park film buffs have been enjoying a diverse assortment of worthy films this year--a series called "The Library of Congress Selects..." which consist of those films considered by the LOC as being "culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant" and deserving of preservation. In January and February, we screened such prestigious films as: *Bad Day At Black Rock* (with Spencer Tracy and Robert Ryan); *Days of Wine and Roses* (with Jack Lemmon and Lee Remick); *Hud* (with Paul Newman and Patricia Neal); *The Lady From Shanghai* (starring Orson Welles and Rita Hayworth); *One-Eyed Jacks* (with Marlon Brando, Karl Malden); and Hitchcock's classic *Rebecca* (with Laurence Olivier and Joan Fontaine).

The Hyde Park Free Library Presents:

The Library of Congress Selects



Steven Spielberg's
1993 Film:
**Jurassic
Park**

**Fri., March 22nd
at 7pm**

Hyde Park Library Annex ♦ 4 Main St., Hyde Park NY 12538 ♦ 845.229.7791

We'll be taking a two-week pause in March, but coming up in the second half of March and in April, we'll be screening some equally compelling cinematic fare, some well-known and others deserving of broader recognition. These include:

Friday, March 22nd. *Jurassic Park* (1993). Starring Richard Attenborough, Laura Dern and Jeff Goldblum. Directed by Steven Spielberg and based on

the best seller by Michael Crichton. Winner of three Academy Awards, including Best Visual Effects. First entry in a trilogy of Jurassic movies.

Fri day, March 29th. *On the Town* (1949). With Gene Kelly, Frank Sinatra, Ann Miller and Vera-Ellen. Directed by Gene Kelly and Stanley Donen (the latter of whom just passed away in early 2019). Music by Leonard Bernstein and Roger Edens. Script by Betty Comden and Adolph Green. Academy Award for Best Musical Score. Writers Guild Award for Best Written American Musical. Recognized as well by the American Film Institute in multiple categories.

Friday, April 5th. *Eve's Bayou* (1997). With Samuel L. Jackson, Lynn Whitfield, Debbi Morgan and Vondie Curtis-Hall. Written and directed by Kasi Lemmons. Roger Ebert named it "Best Film of 1997). Multiple nominations and several wins: including NAACP Image Awards, Independent Spirit Award, Acapulco Black Film Festival awards, Satellite Awards and many more.

Also in April, we'll be screening John Ford's classic 1935 drama, *The Informer* (with Victor McLaglen and Heather Angel); *Smoke Signals* (1998), a modern day classic about modern Native American life (with Adam Beck and Evan Adams, and directed by Chris Eyre. And many more intriguing titles are on the docket for May and June.

All films screen at 7:00 p.m.

Download Service For E-Books And Audiobooks Upgraded

E-book lovers and audio book fans have been taking advantage of the option of downloading their favorite books (and audio-books) for several years now. We cannot express enough how "booming" a business downloadable e-books and audio-books have become over the past decade. If you haven't been taking advantage of this option, now is the time to check it out.

Up until very recently (and unlike the situation with physical items), Hyde Park patrons would have to wait on queue with all other cardholders in the Mid-Hudson Library System for their selection. For current best-sellers and other popular titles, this could be a substantial wait. That has all changed, however, for the better.

Like most other libraries in the system, Hyde Park now has its own account with the downloadable book service used by the entire system (OverDrive). We are no longer buying e-books and downloadable audio titles collectively. That means that--as with physical items--Hyde Park patrons now have "local preference" to a title that our library owns. If you select a title that has been ordered in our name, you'll be bumped right to the head of the line. And that's a good thing--and fairer to boot.

You can simply order the title online, and even if we don't currently own the title, we will receive word that it has been ordered by one or more of our local patrons. Or if you like, you can email us at director@hydeparkfreelibrary.org with any and all suggestions.

As with physical books, budgetary realities may mean that we cannot honor every request, but we will certainly do our very best to get you the titles you wish to read--or listen to.

