We're excited to announce that the title of the book for 2022's One Book One Wallingford is *Transcendent Kingdom* by Yaa Gyasi. Join us to meet Yaa as she discusses her award-winning book. Copies of the book will be available for purchase and signing at the event. Stop by the library to get your free ticket and visit our website to check out all of the events leading up to Yaa Gyasi’s visit to Wallingford! See below and Page 6 for other OBOW events leading up to Yaa’s visit to Wallingford.

**ONE BOOK GHANAIAN FOOD & CULTURE WITH OH SHITO!**

**Tuesday, Feb 1st | 7-8:30pm**  
Zoom & Community Room* | Registration required  
[Click to register](#)  

Kwame Asare of New Haven County’s own Oh Shito! hot sauce will join us for a hands-on cooking demonstration of a traditional Ghanaian dish. Participate in person (space will be limited) or follow along at home!

**Attend Virtually:** The program will be streamed live from the library straight to your home through Zoom. Once registered, you will be contacted prior to the program with participation instructions.  
**Attend In-Person:** Face masks covering the nose and mouth are still required in all areas of the library at all times.  
**Watch the Recording:** Can’t make it? The program will be recorded and uploaded to the library’s YouTube soon after.
**Words**, a publication of the Wallingford Public Library, is sent electronically to members of the Wallingford Public Library Association. **Words** is edited by Publicity and Public Services Librarian, Christopher Ciemniewski from contributions by library staff members.

**Library Director:** Jane Fisher  
**Main Library:** 200 North Main Street, Wallingford, CT 06492  
Phone (203) 265-6754 | Text (203) 903-8447 | wallingfordlibrary.org  
**Yalesville Branch:** 400 Church Street, Yalesville, CT 06492 | Phone (203) 269-3688

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**Become a member of the Wallingford Public Library Association:**

The Wallingford Public Library relies on member contributions in addition to funding it receives from the Town of Wallingford. We hope you will support the Library by becoming a member of the Wallingford Public Library Association.

Your support helps ensure that the Library will continue to be a dynamic hub that serves and inspires individuals and families throughout our community. To join the Wallingford Public Library Association, visit our website or request a membership envelope at the Library. WORDS, a publication of the Wallingford Public Library, is sent electronically to members of the Wallingford Public Library Association. As a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, we are also eligible to accept a bequest from your estate plan.

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**Book Seller Hours**  
**Mon, Tue, Fri, & Sat**  
10am - 12noon  
**Wed**  
10am - 12noon & 2:30pm - 4:30pm  
**Thu**  
2:30pm - 4:30pm

**February Specials:**  
Danielle Steel DVDs, CDs and Audio Books  
**Buy One, Get One Free**

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**Did You Know? Now You Do!**

We share photos, documents, and newspaper clippings from the library’s historical collection every Thursday morning on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. This year we are focusing on Wallingford Public Library history. #TBT

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**Word of Mouth - Staff Picks!**

- **Homegoing** by Yaa Gyasi  
  Leah F.
- **Termination Shock** by Neal Stephenson  
  Kristina G.
- **Win Me Something** by Kyle Lucia Wu  
  Katie D.
In Much Ado about Nothing, Shakespeare’s Don Pedro says to Benedick: “Why, what’s the matter that you have such a February face, so full of frost, of storm and cloudiness.” February is a tricky month indeed: the days grow longer but the weather can be desperately cold and unforgiving. Luckily, there are lots of new books arriving in February to keep us enthralled and engaged while things outside remain uninviting. Here are some of novels slated for publication this month to look forward to:

**The Berlin Exchange** by Joseph Kanon — A captured American physicist who spied for the KGB is swapped by the British in 1963 and returns to East Berlin where he is determined to find out who arranged for his release and why.

**The Books of Jacob** by Olga Tokarczuk — Set in the mid-18th century, this epic novel follows a mysterious religious leader who makes his way through the Hapsburg and Ottoman empires, reinventing himself as he goes and wreaking havoc on the conventional Christian and Jewish orders.

**The Christie Affair** by Nina de Gramont — A reimagining of the still-unexplained 11-day disappearance of Agatha Christie, narrated by Miss Nan O’Dea, who infiltrated the Christies’ world in order to destroy their marriage.

**Circus of Wonders** by Elizabeth Macneal — A young woman is sold as a human wonder to the ringmaster of a traveling Victorian circus in 1860s London and becomes an international superstar.

**Cleopatra and Frankenstein** by Coco Mellors — A young British painter with an affair with the 20-something son of family friends, while the 20-something son of family friends, who arranged for his release and why.

**Finlay Donovan Knocks ‘em Dead** by Elle Cosimano — As she tries to keep her ex-husband safe, struggling novelist and single mom Finlay Donovan uncovers a world of Russian mobsters and assassins disguised as soccer moms in the sequel to Finlay Donovan is Killing It.

**Free Love** by Tessa Hadley — In London in 1967, a 40-year-old married woman begins an affair with the 20-something son of family friends, which leads to the revelation of unexpected connections between the two families.

**The Goodbye Coast** by Joe Ide — Against his better judgment, a detective takes on two missing-persons cases while grappling with his troubled relationship with his father, a once-decorated LAPD homicide detective.

**Life Without Children** by Roddy Doyle — A collection of ten short stories that paints a portrait of our strange times and how living under lockdown changes each of us in different ways.

**Mercy Street** by Jennifer Haigh — As anti-abortion protests intensify, a counselor at a clinic turns to a friendly pot dealer through whom she meets a random assortment of customers, one of whom may unintentionally bring about the clinic’s destruction.

**Our American Friend** by Anna Pitoniak — After the mysterious First Lady asks her to write her official biography, a former White House correspondent gets nervous when the First Lady starts sharing sensitive information.

**Reader, I Buried Them & Other Stories** by Peter Lovesey — A collection of short stories spanning 50 years and celebrating the author’s 100th short story.

**Very Cold People** by Sarah Manguso — A young girl grows up amidst the suffocating constraints of a very old, and very cold, small town in Massachusetts.

Also of note this month are the 3rd Instinct thriller by James Patterson (Steal), the 3rd novel in the Gwendy’s Button Box trilogy by Stephen King (Gwendy’s Final Task), the 7th Orphan X thriller by Gregg Hurwitz (Dark Horse), the 24th Ian Rutledge mystery by Charles Todd (A Game of Fear), the 34th Hamish Macbeth mystery by M.C. Beaton (Death of a Green-Eyed Monster), the 37th Alex Delaware thriller by Jonathan Kellerman (City of the Dead), the 54th installment in the In Death series by J.D. Robb (Abandoned in Death) and new novels by Lucy Foley (The Paris Apartment) and J.A. Jance (Nothing to Lose).

**Cindy’s Picks!**

**Crossroads** by Jonathan Franzen

**How to Find Your Way in the Dark** by Derek B. Miller

**On Animals** by Susan Orlean

Need More Reading Suggestions? The Bookmark Podcast is a production of the Wallingford Public Library. Readers Advisory Librarian, Cindy Haiken and Assistant Director, Julie Rio take you inside the library world to talk about books, authors, reading experiences, and what they love about their jobs.
With the rise of COVID cases in our community, the Children’s Department may cancel or move programs to virtual as necessary. We will continue to evaluate holding indoor programs on a week-to-week basis and program registrants will be contacted with any changes. Please contact the Children’s Department at (203) 284-6436 with any questions.

**IN-PERSON INDOOR PROGRAMS**

All participants of in-person programs are required to wear masks.

**Saturdays with Sara: Lava Lamp Experiment**  
Saturday, Feb 5th | 10:30am | Grades K-2  
Wonder Room | Registration required  
Click to register  
K-2 students will have a blast learning about physics and chemistry while creating their very own lava lamps!

**Reading Buddies**  
Friday, Feb 11th | 6:30-7:30pm | Grades K-2  
Registration encouraged  
Click to register  
Spend a Friday evening reading with a high school buddy! Choate student volunteers will join us to do some group read-alouds, small group reading practice, and other fun activities.

**LEGO Club**  
Saturday, Feb 12th | 10:30am | Grades K-5  
Wonder Room | Registration required  
Click to register  
At this program, kids and their grown-up will have a chance to show off their building skills with LEGO bricks provided by the library.

**Girls Who Code Club**  
Wednesdays, Feb 16th, Mar 2nd, 16th, 30th, Apr 13th, & 27th | Grades 3-5 | 4:30pm | Wonder Room  
Registration required  
Click to register  
Register once for all 6 classes  
Come learn to code and change the world...  
Girls Who Code Clubs are spaces where kids can join a sisterhood of supportive peers and use computer science to change the world. No coding experience necessary. This club is inclusive to all genders. Registrants will receive an email with an invitation to join the Wallingford Public Library Girls Who Code Club online. Please bring your username and password to the Club meetings.

**Dungeons and Dinos**  
Tuesday, Feb 22nd | 4:30-6:30pm | Grades 4-5  
Collins Room | Registration required  
Click to register  
Dungeons and...dinosaurs!? Come travel back to prehistoric times for this paleontology-themed D&D adventure!

**Gaming Club**  
Saturday, Feb 26th | 10:30am | Grades K-5  
Wonder Room | Registration required  
Click to register  
Come connect with other gamers in our community! We will have plenty of games on hand to choose from, but feel free to bring your own board, tabletop, or card games.

**Pokémon Club**  
Saturday, Feb 26th | 2-4pm | Grades K-5  
Children’s Program Room  
Registration required  
Click to register  
Come hang out and play/talk Pokémon with Mr. Josh! Whether you’re a new trainer who wants to learn to play or you’re a champion looking for a challenge there is fun to be had at the Pokémon Club!

**Choate Tutors**  
Tuesdays & Thursdays* | 5-6pm  
Grades K-5 | Children’s Room | Drop-in  
*There will be no tutoring on Tuesday, Feb 8th.  
Have questions about your homework? Student volunteers from Choate Rosemary Hall are here to help! Drop by with your homework and a tutor will be happy to assist you. Many thanks to Choate Rosemary Hall and the student volunteers for offering this great program!

**Bilingual Homework Help**  
Mondays & Wednesdays | 4-8pm  
Grades K-5 | Children’s Room | Drop-in  
The Wallingford Public Library offers FREE drop-in Homework Help! Homework Help is offered in English and Spanish and follows the public school calendar. The program is not offered on days that the public schools are closed. This program is made possible by generous support from The Latimer Group.
**STORY TIMES**

Registration is required for all story time classes and opens online at 9am weekly on the Sunday prior to the program. You may register your child for one program and/or time slot. Please ask us if you need help deciding which program is the best fit for your child.

Click for registration calendar

**Baby & Toddler Time**

**Ages 0-2 | 10:30am | Community Room**

**Tuesdays, Feb 1st-Feb 15th**

**Wednesdays, Feb 2nd-Feb 16th**

This class introduces babies, toddlers, and their grown-ups to the library and each other while learning how to support their growth and development through songs, puppets, rhymes, and books. *Class on Tuesday, Feb 1st will take place in the Children’s Program Room*

**Twos and Threes Story Time**

**Wednesdays, Feb 2nd-Feb 16th | Ages 2-3 | 6:30pm**

**Children’s Program Room**

Full of music, movement, and stories, this program is perfect for older 2s and younger 3s making the transition to Preschool Story Time.

**Independent Preschool Story Time**

**Thursdays, Feb 3rd-Feb 17th | Ages 3-5 | 10:30am**

**Children’s Program Room**

Books, puppets, and songs will reinforce your child’s pre-reading skills through repetition and rhyme. Children are encouraged to attend the class independently while parents stay close by in the Children’s Room. A craft is included that will help kids develop their fine motor skills.

**Virtual Family Story Time**

**Fridays, Feb 4th-Feb 18th | Ages 0-5 | 10:30am | Zoom**

This early literacy enriched story time will explore books, songs, and rhymes for all ages from the comfort of your own home! A Zoom link will be sent via email the day of the program.

**Family Story Time**

**Saturday, Feb 19th | Ages 0-5 | 10:30am**

**Children’s Program Room**

Join us for a fun story time for the whole family! We will meet once a month for an interactive story time suitable for all ages and stages.

**Movers and Shakers Story Time**

**Wednesday, Feb 23rd | 10:30am | Ages 3-5**

**Children’s Program Room | Registration required**

Click to register

Come move, shake, jump, dance and exercise with Mr. Josh as we read stories and sing songs.

**IN-PERSON OUTDOOR PROGRAMS**

**Story Walk with Mrs. Stowe**

**Wednesday, Feb 9th | 9:30am OR 1:30pm | Ages 3-5**

**Marcus Cooke Park | Registration required**

Click to register

Take a walk in nature and listen to a story! Join retired kindergarten teacher Mrs. Stowe to find hidden pages from a book along a trail through the woods and learn about nature along the way! Meet under the pavilion at Marcus Cooke Park in Wallingford.

**TAKE AND MAKE KITS**

**STEAM Story Time @ Home: Pizza**

**Week of Monday, Feb 7th | Ages 3-7**

Registration required

Click to register

National Pizza Day is Feb 9th, so our theme is pizza! For this kit each family will need flour, yeast, oil, salt, marinara sauce, mozzarella cheese, and any pizza toppings you like from home.

**Story Time To Go**

**Week of Monday, Feb 14th | Ages 0-5**

Registration required

Click to register

Each kit will include a personalized story time plan with two developmentally appropriate books checked out on your library card and a list of songs and rhymes!

**FOR PARENTS & EDUCATORS**

**2022 Early Childhood and Information Fair**

**Saturday, Feb 5th | 9:30am-12noon**

Open to Families | Community Room | Drop-in

Choosing the right preschool or childcare facility for your family is a difficult decision. Make the decision a little easier by joining us at this event highlighting Wallingford’s preschools, licensed childcare centers, and town services available for our preschool population. Meet representatives from local agencies and have all of your questions answered! Jointly sponsored by WECARE.

**WECARE Workshop: Developing Young Children’s Oral Language Skills**

**Monday, Feb 28th | 6:30pm**

**Preschool Teachers & Parents**

**Community Room & Zoom**

Registration required | Click to register

Find out about oral language—that is, speaking and listening—and what language has to do with learning to read and write. Learn some fun activities that you can do to enrich children’s language experiences at home, in libraries, and in preschool classrooms.

When registering, you will be able to choose whether you’d like to attend the program in person or via Zoom. For those who select Zoom, the link will be sent out on the day of the program.

Part 2 of this workshop will be offered Tuesday, March 29th. While it is not required, we encourage you to attend both.

**INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY**—If the Wallingford Public Schools cancel school due to inclement weather, all children’s programs at the library will be cancelled that day. For other questions, please contact the Children’s Department at (203) 284-6436.
**Happenings**

**Cooking Demonstration** with Spanish Community of Wallingford  
**Tuesday, Feb 8th | 7-8:30pm | Zoom & Community Room* | Registration required**  
[Click to register](#)

Join Spanish Community of Wallingford and Ana Avila of Rivas Taqueria to learn all about how to make a tasty Mexican dish (TBA—but it will be delicious, we promise!) The presentation will be in Spanish and English.

**Attend Virtually:** The program will be streamed live from the library straight to your home through Zoom. Once registered, you will be contacted prior to the program with participation instructions.

**Attend In-Person:** Face masks covering the nose and mouth are still required in all areas of the library at all times. Attendees may be able to bring samples home but may not eat them in the library. Thank you for helping us to keep our community safe!

The program will also stream live on Facebook and be uploaded to the library's YouTube.

**Connecticut Women in Science**  
**Wednesday, Feb 9th | 7-8pm | Zoom**  
[Registration required](#) [Click to register](#)

Women have been transforming our world through science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) for centuries—yet they have historically been left out of the conversation and even discouraged from participating in these fields. Today only 25% of STEM jobs in the United States are held by women and more than two-thirds of young women feel they must work harder than men to be taken seriously in STEM. This program traces the roots of those issues and demonstrates the myriad ways Connecticut women in STEM have transformed our world. Presented by the Connecticut Women’s Hall of Fame.

**Attend Virtually:** The program will be streamed live from the library straight to your home through Zoom. Once registered, you will be contacted prior to the program with participation instructions.

**Are You Smarter than a Librarian? Virtual Trivia Night**  
**Tuesday, Feb 15th | 7-8pm | Zoom | Registration required**  
[Click to register](#)

Team up with family and friends or play alone! We will be accepting 15 teams, but individuals are welcome to play as their own team! Only one registration per team. Prior to the program you will receive an invitation to the Zoom meeting along with instructions on how to play.

**Meet the Author: Ross Douthat**  
**Wednesday, Feb 16th | 7-8:30pm | Zoom & Community Room***  
[Click to register](#)

Ross Douthat is a political analyst and an Opinion columnist for The New York Times. His column appears every Tuesday and Sunday. He is the author of several books, including To Change the Church: Pope Francis and the Future of Catholicism, Bad Religion: How We Became a Nation of Heretics, Privilege: Harvard and the Education of the Ruling Class and The Decadent Society. His most recent book, The Deep Places: A Memoir of Illness and Discovery, about his exhaustive efforts to recover from chronic Lyme’s disease, was published in October of 2021. Douthat lives with his wife and four children in New Haven. He will be joining us to talk about The Deep Places, to answer questions and to sign copies of the book, which will be available to purchase at the event.

**Attend Virtually:** The program will be streamed live from the library straight to your home through Zoom. Once registered, you will be contacted prior to the program with participation instructions.

**Attend In-Person:** Face masks covering the nose and mouth are still required in all areas of the library at all times.

**One Book**  
**One Wallingford**  
**Faith and Science: An Inter-faith Discussion**  
**Thursday, Feb 24th | 7-8:30pm | Zoom & Community Room***  
[Click to register](#)

Over the centuries, science and religion have sometimes been in conflict and other times have existed in harmony and collaboration. Some believe that the two concepts are inherently separate and at odds, while others believe that science and faith are necessary components of a broader understanding of the world and our place in it. Join local religious leaders as they offer their own perspectives on this complex issue.

**Attend Virtually:** The program will be streamed live from the library straight to your home through Zoom. Once registered, you will be contacted prior to the program with participation instructions.

**Attend In-Person:** Face masks covering the nose and mouth are still required in all areas of the library at all times.
WPL Play Readers
Wednesday, Feb 2nd | 6:30-8:30pm
Collins Room* | No registration required
The Wallingford Public Library Play Readers perform short plays, skits, scenes and monologues from long plays and movies. Comedy, tragicomedy, tragedy, melodrama and domestic scenes will be portrayed. The door is always open to newcomers. Stop by for a warm welcome by members of the troupe. And, of course, we hope you stay for our show!

Knit @ WPL
Monday, Feb 7th | 6-7:30pm
Board Room* | No registration required
Knit @ WPL is a place where knitters and crocheters can practice their work in the company of others. Newcomers are welcome to join, but knitting experience is required.

Saturday Mornings with Poetry
Saturday, Feb 12th & 26th | 9:45am-noon
Zoom & Board Room*
No registration required
A meeting of people who love reading and writing poetry. SMwP provides poetic opportunities for anyone to share their poetry, discuss the literary works of poets known and unknown, and expand skills in writing and editing poems in the shared camaraderie of comfortable, supportive members.

Wallingford Writers Community
Saturday, Feb 19th | 2-4pm
Zoom & Board Room*
Join the Wallingford Writers Community and discover how the fellowship of other writers can help you pursue your writing goals! All meetings include dedicated writing time, craft techniques for fiction and literary nonfiction, and the opportunity to share work in a supportive, creative forum. To participate, contact Leah Farrell at lfarrell@wallingfordlibrary.org.

Mystery Book Group
A Charitable Body by Robert Barnard
Feb 2nd (snow date: Feb 3rd) | 3-4:15pm | Zoom & Community Room*
Discussion moderated by Professor and Author Carole Shmurak
Felicity, the wife of Yorkshire Detective Inspector Charlie Peace, is thrilled when she’s asked to help oversee Walbrook Manor, one of England’s most distinguished stately homes and a recent gift to the nation. But when the remains of a body turn up in a nearby lake, Charlie and Felicity discover that old sins are never forgotten and that sometimes there is a good reason for murder.
To participate, contact Carole at cshmurak@gmail.com.

Classics Book Club
Great Expectations by Charles Dickens
Thursday, Feb 3rd | 7-8:30pm | Zoom & Collins Room*
Discussion moderated by Readers Advisory Librarian Cindy Haiken
A humble, orphaned boy named Pip is apprenticed to a blacksmith but dreams of becoming a gentleman. One day, under mysterious circumstances, he finds himself in possession of “great expectations.” Charles Dickens’ classic story of crime, guilt, revenge and reward is filled with compelling characters, including the fearful convict Magwitch, the beautiful and haughty Estella and Miss Havisham, an eccentric jilted bride.
To participate and for details about meeting virtually or in-person, contact Cindy at chaiken@wallingfordlibrary.org

Thursday Night Book Club
At Weddings and Wakes by Alice McDermott
Thursday, Feb 17th | 6:30-8pm | Zoom & Collins Room*
Discussion moderated by Readers Advisory Librarian Cindy Haiken
Twice a week, two sisters and a brother go with their mother from their home on Long Island to Brooklyn, where their mother’s stepmother and three unmarried sisters live. Gradually the children learn the personality differences and tensions among the sisters and start to understand their mother’s unhappiness in her marriage. They also realize with joy that their middle-aged aunt, a former nun, is getting married. McDermott’s second novel captures the dignity of ordinary lives led amidst inevitable sadness.
To participate and for details about meeting virtually or in-person, contact Cindy at chaiken@wallingfordlibrary.org

*WPL is closely monitoring the current public health situation, and may require masking during meetings or for them to be held virtually. You will be notified of our final decision no later than one week in advance. Refreshments will not be served at in-person meetings at this time. Thank you for helping us keep our community safe. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Leah Farrell at (203) 284-6425 or lfarrell@wallingfordlibrary.org.
Collaboratory Programs

Registration is required for all programs unless otherwise noted. Registration begins at 7am on the 22nd of the month prior. Collaboratory programs are open to adults and teens in grades 9+ unless otherwise noted.

WPL is closely monitoring the current public health situation and may require events to be cancelled or rescheduled if deemed necessary for the health and wellbeing of our patrons and staff. Please note that masks are still required in the library at all times. Check our website or social media for the most up-to-date information. Thank you for helping us keep our community safe. If you have questions or concerns, please contact us at (203) 265-6754.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Audience</th>
<th>Registration Required</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open Sew</td>
<td>Tuesday, Feb 1st</td>
<td>5:30-8:30pm</td>
<td>Collaboratory</td>
<td>Adults &amp; Teens in Grades 9+</td>
<td>Drop-in</td>
<td>Do you like to sew? Join people who enjoy quilting and sewing at a casual &quot;drop-in&quot; program. Bring your unfinished projects, either hand sewing or machine. There are 4 portable sewing machines (or bring your own) and lots of sewing supplies and tools provided by the library for your use.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finger Knit Coasters</td>
<td>Tuesday, Feb 1st</td>
<td>7-8:30pm</td>
<td>Collaboratory</td>
<td>Adults &amp; Teens in Grades 9+</td>
<td>Registration required</td>
<td>Learn how to finger knit (an easier form of knitting which doesn’t require needles) and create coasters or a placemat with a felt backing.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Snowman Holding a Heart Decorative Painting</td>
<td>Monday, Feb 7th</td>
<td>1:30-8:30pm</td>
<td>Collaboratory</td>
<td>Adults &amp; Teens in Grades 9+</td>
<td>Registration required</td>
<td>Paint a snowman holding a heart on a wooden board using techniques like highlighting and shading.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hanging Heart Art</td>
<td>Tuesday, Feb 8th</td>
<td>7-8:30pm</td>
<td>Collaboratory</td>
<td>Adults &amp; Teens in Grades 9+</td>
<td>Registration required</td>
<td>Make a beautiful wall hanging made out of hearts. They are great decorations to fill your home with love!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Talking TED @ Home</td>
<td>Thursday, Feb 10th</td>
<td>7-8pm</td>
<td>Zoom</td>
<td>Adults</td>
<td>Registration required</td>
<td>Click to register</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wax Paper Candle Shades</td>
<td>Tuesday, Feb 15th</td>
<td>7-8:30pm</td>
<td>Collaboratory</td>
<td>Adults &amp; Teens in Grades 9+</td>
<td>Registration required</td>
<td>Create a candle shade with pressed flowers, paper, or any other decorative elements you’d like to use placed between layers of waxed paper and assembled with patterned washi tape.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Painting With Stencils</td>
<td>Tuesday, Feb 22nd</td>
<td>7-8:30pm</td>
<td>Collaboratory</td>
<td>Adults &amp; Teens in Grades 9+</td>
<td>Registration required</td>
<td>No painting experience? No worries! Everyone will be coming home with a stunning painting, because we will be using stencils to make them!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter Chickadee Plaque</td>
<td>Monday, Feb 28th</td>
<td>6:30-8:30pm</td>
<td>Collaboratory</td>
<td>Adults &amp; Teens in Grades 9+</td>
<td>Registration required</td>
<td>Paint a winter scene depicting a chickadee on a pine branch on a heart-shaped plaque.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Seed Library**

Feb 7th to choose your favorites. Please limit yourself to 10 packets per household from the indoor Seed Library to ensure an abundant supply for the entire community.

On fair weather days, the Mini Seed Library will return to the outdoor tables by the rear entrance for those unable to enter the building.

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**Technology Programs**

**Getting Started With Kanopy**
Monday, Feb 7th | 3-4:30pm | Adults | Registration required | Zoom | [Click to register]
In this class we will go over how to get started using Kanopy, a video streaming platform you can access with your Wallingford Public Library card. Kanopy offers films, documentaries, and children’s programming. Once registered, you will receive an invitation to the Zoom meeting via email on the day of the event.

**Don’t Send It Off: Maintaining a Computer at Home**
Friday, Feb 11th | 6:30-7:30pm | Adults | Registration required | Collins Room | [Click to register]
(additional sessions on March 25th and April 15th)
Don’t Send It Off: Maintaining a Computer at Home is a series of lectures hosted by the Computer Hardware Club from Choate Rosemary Hall aiming to teach the community how to fix basic tech issues and ways to keep a computer running smoothly. Come and learn about file management, screen cleaning, virus protection, and more!

**Intro to Cricut**
Monday, Feb 28th | 3-4:30pm | Adults | Registration required | Zoom | [Click to register]
Have you heard about the Cricut Maker, but aren’t sure of exactly what it does? If you do any kind of crafting or making, serious or casual, learning how to use the Cricut machine is a must. In this lecture-style class we will cover what the Cricut Maker is, what it can do, and how you can use it. Once registered, you will receive an invitation to the Zoom meeting via email on the day of the event.

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**Max Facts from Max Spurr**

We have recently received two exciting additions to the Collaboratory! I am happy to announce that we now have a needle felting machine and a serger! As you may have guessed, the needle felting machine is a machine designed to help you needle felt designs onto fabric. The serger is a specialized sewing machine that has one job: making strong seams, which makes it perfect for making or repairing clothing and other heavy-duty sewing jobs.

The needle felting machine is fairly simple to operate (much easier than even a basic sewing machine), so we do not require any training for it. The serger however, is more advanced than a typical sewing machine and therefore requires a short 30-minute training session, just like our embroidery machine and longarm quilting machine. To schedule training, just visit or call the Collaboratory, or check out the Collaboratory section of the WPL website.

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**Take Home Kit**

Due to ongoing interest, we will continue offering a monthly take home kit through the winter. Just fill out the request form, and we will contact you when it is ready for pickup.

**Laser Cut Mandala**
These mandalas are beautiful! They are easy to construct, but very customizable, as it is made of six layers. Paint it in your favorite colors, make it look like a beautiful flower, or maybe paint each layer so that the mandala has a nice color gradient. Of course, you can always leave it unpainted if you prefer that look. Please note that paint is not included with this kit. [Click to request a kit]
WPL is closely monitoring the current public health situation and may require events to be canceled or held virtually if deemed necessary for the health and wellbeing of our patrons and staff. Please note that masks are still required in the library at all times. Check our website or social media for the most up-to-date information. Thank you for helping us keep our community safe. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Head of Teen Services, Kayleigh Sprague at (203) 265-6754.

**How to be a Dungeon Master**
Tuesdays, Feb 1st & 8th | 6-8pm | Collins Room | Grades 6-12
Registration required | [Click to register](#)
Have you ever wanted to run your own Dungeons and Dragons games for your friends or family? This program covers everything from character creation to designing the perfect villain. **Please note: this is a two-part program.**

**Anime Night: Your Choice!**
Thursday, Feb 3rd | 6-8pm | Community Room | Grades 6-12
Registration appreciated | [Click to register](#)
For this Anime Night we’re trying something a bit different! You get to vote on what we show. The winning title will be announced the week before the program. Be sure to vote early for your selection! Vote here: [https://forms.gle/urbn3mCSza6PbPHc6](https://forms.gle/urbn3mCSza6PbPHc6)

Contact Kayleigh (ksprague@wallingfordlibrary.org) with questions.

**GirlTech STEM Club**
Wednesdays, Feb 9th & 23rd | 6-7:30pm | Collins Room | Grades 5-8
Registration required | [Click to register](#)
GirlTech is a club at Choate Rosemary Hall that seeks to empower young girls to be interested in STEM. Join them to interact with students passionate about programming, engineering, and all things STEM.

**LED Valentine Cards**
Thursday, Feb 10th | 3:30-4:30pm | Community Room | Grades 6-12
Registration required | [Click to register](#)
Learn the basics of circuits by crafting a paper circuit to bring light to a valentine! We’ll cut out pieces to make 3D popup valentines and then create a paper circuit to add light to the card.

**Teen Gaming Club**
Tuesday, Feb 15th | 6-8pm | Community Room | Grades 6-12
Registration required | [Click to register](#)
Come jam some board games, trading card games, and video games at the library! Whether you’re looking to learn a new board game, trying to test out a new Magic the Gathering Deck, or seeking to assert your dominance in classic Mario Kart you’ll find something fun here!

**Drama Workshop: Pandora’s Box**
Thursday, Feb 17th | 6-7:30pm | Community Room | Grades 6-12
Registration required | [Click to register](#)
Has your curiosity ever got you into trouble? Have you ever been so desperate to know a secret that you took no notice of a warning? All through history there are stories of people being told not to open doors, caskets, cupboards, gates and all sorts of other things and, in so many of the stories, the people just did not listen. One person who did not listen was Pandora. Her story comes from Ancient Greece and her curiosity brought a whole heap of trouble! Come find out about great Greek gods like, Zeus and Apollo, great Greek goddesses like Aphrodite and Athena, and discover what evil spirits Pandora lets out into the world as well as the one who stays and gives “hope.” In this workshop we will read a short one-act script. Then we will cast the play, add some costume pieces and act it out!

**Watercolor Signs**
Thursday, Feb 24th | 3-4:30pm | Community Room | Grades 6-12
Registration required | [Click to register](#)
Design your own custom negative space painting using watercolors and removable vinyl! We’ll use the Silhouette Cameo to cut out your text in removable vinyl before painting.
The thought of Valentine’s Day can either invoke sentiments of passion or incite groans of annoyance for couples and individuals alike. Valentine’s Day is marketed as a day to celebrate romantic love, but what if it didn’t have to be? What if Valentine’s Day could be a day to celebrate love in all forms? The Ancient Greeks had terms for eight different types of love, some of which include familial love, friendship, erotic love, and of course enduring love. What if romance wasn’t the default for the idea of love, but one of its many facets?

Franz Wisner’s *How the World Makes Love* (306.7309 WIS) describes how love is practiced in different cultures all over the world. After travelling to Egypt, India, The Czech Republic, Nicaragua, New Zealand, and Botswana, Franz shares humorous stories of love he encountered in each of these locations and what they taught him about his own love life. The book is written with deep insight into the human psyche but also with self-deprecating humor.

Many people fail to find romantic love because of stringent social norms and dating customs. For instance, you may have heard that the man should always make the first move, that you should never date a co-worker, or that long-distance relationships don’t work. *It's Okay to Sleep with Him on the First Date* (306.73 SYR) by Andrea Syrtash and Jeff Wilser encourages readers to throw out all these preconceptions of how to date correctly and to do what feels right. Overthinking can doom what might have otherwise become a long-lasting relationship.

In our connected world with the technology at our fingertips (and certainly exacerbated by the pandemic) dating apps are more popular than ever. 49-year-old *Vanity Fair* writer Nancy Jo Sales one day found herself with a laundry list of shared traits and interests they presented with many interested parties, our mind can lead us to believe that the perfect partner is still out there. In *Marry Him* (646.7708 GOT) Lori Gottlieb argues that readers should settle for “Mr. Good Enough” rather than waiting for “The One.” She explains that society has built up dating fantasies and expectations that work to destroy the possibility of true love. *Marry Him* urges readers to better balance their desire for a loving partner with a laundry list of shared traits and interests they hope for in a potential partner.

Cultural norms have influenced dating culture so much that we are conditioned to believe that we can only have one romantic love at a time. The *State of Affairs* (306.736) by Esther Perel examines the long history of adultery and how it has come to be seen as taboo. Infidelity has existed as long as marriage existed and can only exist because of marriage. She argues that an extra-marital affair can reveal to couples their attitudes toward love and commitment and can actually be turned into a positive experience, reshaping the marriage into something stronger than before.

Other people choose to forgo a traditional marriage altogether and have relationships with multiple romantic partners at once. In *Many Love* (306.8423 JOH) Sophie Lucido Johnson describes (and illustrates) her journey from serial monogamist to polymorast. She debunks many of the misconceptions about polyamory, for instance that it somehow is a failure to commit, and shares experiences unique to polymorasts such as looking for a partner as a couple. *Many Love* demonstrates that so much is possible when we stop looking for “The One.”

The first love most of us experience is a love for our parents. And those who choose to have children of their own then do not reciprocate this love. In his book *Love That Boy* (B FOU) Ron Fournier uses personal experiences as a parent to describe the balance that must be taken in loving children. Parents want their kids to do well—become popular, smart, successful—but if left unchecked the impact these expectations have can be detrimental to parent/child relationships.

Laura Brodie offers similar insight into the psychology of parent/child relationships in her book *Love in a Time of Homeschooling* (471.042 BRO). In the book she describes how after years of watching her daughter struggle academically she decided to homeschool her for one year. Throughout the course of that year she comes to terms with the double-edged sword of parental expectations.

Platonic love is often overlooked in favor of romantic love and familial love, but friendships are one of the most important types of relationships we experience. In *Big Friendship* (177.6208 SOW) authors Aminatou Sow and Ann Friedman examine how close friendships can be the most rewarding relationships we have and that they also require the most work. They share their stories on what keeps them close and how to maintain lifelong platonic relationships.

In contrast to *Big Friendship*, Lydia Denworth’s *Friendship* (158.25 DEN) provides a more biological and evolutionary perspective on platonic companionship. Denworth calls friends “the family we choose” and describes friendship as not only pleasant, but essential to our well-being. In addition to helping maintain psychological health, connecting with and sharing experiences with each other keeps so many of our physical systems healthy as well. She begins with the origin of friendships, when ancestral tribes came together to help each other outside their familial bonds. Moving forward through time, she concludes by speculating about the impact social media today has on our friendships and possibly our longevity.

Sometimes we fall in love with characters we have never met—characters we’ve read about in books or seen on screen. While this kind of love isn’t reciprocal, it can teach us a lot about ourselves and what we value in others. Relationships of fictional characters are examined in *Shakespeare on Love and Friendship* (822.33D BLO) by Allan Bloom and *A Jane Austen Education* (823.7 AUSTEN DE) by William Deresiewicz. *Shakespeare on Love and Friendship* explores the dynamics between some of the bard’s most famous romantic partners like Antony and Cleopatra as well as friendships like that of Hal and Falstaff. While touching on a variety of other subjects as well, in *A Jane Austen Education* William Deresiewicz examines what Jane Austen’s *Persuasion* can teach us about friendship and what *Sense and Sensibility* can teach us about true love. What is evident in both books is how important fictional narratives are in helping us to learn empathy. The more relationships we see demonstrated the more opportunities we have to see things from others’ points of view and improve ourselves and our real-life relationships. At its heart, what is love but a deep empathy for others?
Bienvienidos!
WPL Is Expanding Our Services for Spanish Speakers

Thanks to a generous donation from The Latimer Group, a locally-owned company that provides communication skills coaching and training for Fortune 500 companies, Wallingford Public Library welcomed Gina Cabrera to our team in January! Gina, a bilingual paraprofessional at Moses Y. Beach School, works with us during out-of-school hours to enhance our services to Wallingford’s Spanish-speaking community, including:

- **Homework Help:** On Mondays and Wednesday from 4-8pm when school is in session, Gina is available in the Children’s Room to assist elementary and middle school students with their homework.

- **Serving Spanish Speakers:** On other afternoons & evenings, Gina helps Spanish-speaking visitors learn about library services, get a library card if they don’t already have one, and find library materials to borrow.

- **Connecting with the Community:** Gina represents the Wallingford Public Library at community events when Spanish-speaking members of the community are expected to attend, and she also reaches out to the library’s partner organizations to be sure they know about library services available.

- **Spanish Conversation Group:** With guidance from Gina, the library launched a drop-in Spanish language conversation group that is open to community members and to library employees alike. The Spanish language conversation group meets most Thursdays from 4:30-5:30pm in the Collins Room. Anyone who wishes to gather for basic Spanish language conversation in a friendly and non-judgmental space is welcome to attend.

Library Director Jane Fisher says “Gina is known for being positive, encouraging, and for helping people of all ages and backgrounds feel welcome in our community. She is a wonderful addition to our team and we are so grateful to The Latimer Group for making this opportunity possible.” Registration is not required for these services. Check out the library’s website or give us a call at 203-265-6754 for more information. To learn more about our sponsor, The Latimer Group, visit [www.TheLatimerGroup.com](http://www.TheLatimerGroup.com).

In Others’ Words...

“...As for you and your heart and the things you said and didn’t say, she will remember them all when men are fairy tales in books written by rabbits.”

—Peter S. Beagle, *The Last Unicorn*