



Foundation

MADISON PUBLIC LIBRARY

FALL 2019

A newsletter from
Madison Public
Library Foundation

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2019 Festival Schedule Released

The Wisconsin Book Festival's four-day celebration will take place October 17–20 in and around Madison Public Library's Central Library.

This year's lineup includes:

- National Book Award finalist **Marie Arana** for *Silver, Sword, and Stone: Three Crucibles in the Latin American Story* on Saturday, October 19, 3 p.m.
- Olympic figure skating bronze medalist and *Dancing with the Stars* alum **Adam Rippon** for *Beautiful on the Outside* on Saturday, October 19, 4:30 p.m.
- Political strategists **Donna Brazile** and **Yolanda Caraway** for *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Politics* on Saturday, October 19, 6 p.m.
- Activist **Megan Phelps-Roper** for *Unfollow: A Memoir of Loving and Leaving the Westboro Baptist Church* on Saturday, October 19, 7:30 p.m.
- Acclaimed editor **Michele Filgate** for *What My Mother and I Don't Talk About* on Saturday, October 19, 9 p.m.
- **Maya Dusenbery**, editor of the award-winning site Feministing.com, for *Doing Harm: The Truth About How Bad Medicine and Lazy Science Leave Women Dismissed, Misdiagnosed, and Sick* on Thursday, October 17, 7 p.m.
- Newbery Award-winning children's author **Kate DiCamillo** for the Charlotte Zolotow Lecture on Thursday, October 17, 7:30 p.m.
- Orange Prize winner **Téa Obrecht** for *Inland* on Friday, October 18, 7:30 p.m.
- Economic Policy Institute co-founder **Robert Kuttner** for *The Stakes: 2020 and the Survival of American Democracy* on Saturday, October 19, 1:30 p.m.

The festival will feature more than 60 events over four days, with plenty of opportunities to meet authors, discover new books or favorite writers, and have books signed. View the full festival lineup at wisconsinbookfestival.org.

In addition to the four-day celebration each fall, the Wisconsin Book Festival offers author events throughout the year. Upcoming events include: Christopher Leonard for *Kochland* (September 13); Bud Selig for *The Good of the Game* (September 19); Jesse Lee Kercheval for *America that island off the coast of France* (September 19); Oliver Baez Bendorf for *Advantages of Being Evergreen* (September 20); Samantha Power for *The Education of an Idealist* (September 24); and Anna-Lisa Cox for *The Bone and Sinew of the Land* (September 26).

The Wisconsin Book Festival is hosted by Madison Public Library in partnership with Madison Public Library Foundation.



"It's difficult to pick a favorite from this year's lineup. There are incredibly timely books about topics of national importance like gender equity, representation in the public sphere, and the ideas that make us who we are. We have Wisconsin authors writing in every genre, and the quality of our audiences and events continues to make Madison a marquee event destination."

—Conor Moran,
Wisconsin Book Festival Director

Become a Festival Member

If you love attending festival events, join our membership program! For a gift of \$100 or more, you'll receive:

- reserved seating at up to a dozen select festival programs
- an invitation to an exclusive members and sponsors event

Make your membership gift or learn more at wisconsinbookfestival.org/give.

Thanks to Our Festival Sponsors

Did you know that each year, Madison Public Library Foundation privately raises half the funds — more than \$125,000 — needed to bring free Wisconsin Book Festival events to the community? We're so thankful to the many businesses, foundations, organizations and individuals for their contributions.

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Sperling Family Gift Elevates Health Programming at Meadowridge Library

A recent gift from the David I. "Larry" Sperling family is supporting health programming at Meadowridge Library. In particular, the contribution funded informational sessions and free basic health care screenings led by community health care worker Sheray Wallace. The April 3 kickoff event — the Meadowood Health Partnership Community Health Fair — featured 13 exhibitors visited by 77 attendees. Wallace and her colleagues performed 22 blood pressure checks during the event.

"As anyone who has attended a Sheray Wallace event can tell you, the energy in the space is just incredible," Meadowridge Librarian Amanda Geske says. "Sheray is able to pull together all these community partners into one space, and has everyone laughing and enjoying themselves in no time. She brings top-notch services to the neighborhood, with representation at the Health Fair ranging from cancer survivor support groups to the All of Us Research Program at the UW. We saw families we knew, as well as brand-new faces. I had multiple attendees approach me to marvel at Sheray's work, and to make clear they wanted their neighborhood library to continue to hold such events."

Since the health fair, monthly programs have included awareness events for medical conditions such as Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, hepatitis and autism. Upcoming events include Suicide Prevention (September 19), Mental Health Awareness (October 10) and Diabetes Awareness (November 6).



A gift from Larry Sperling's family funded the Meadowood Health Partnership Community Health Fair, which showcased a variety of local community health organizations.

Short Story: Meet Alicia Ashman Clerk Peg Kostroski



Kostroski

Tell us a little about yourself. I grew up in Prairie du Sac, a lovely place along the Wisconsin River. I moved to Madison right after high school. I am a single mom of two grown daughters, Ann and Leah. I have two pets: a dog (Irish Terrier) that I got from my coworker, Gen Heller; and a calico cat.

How long have you worked at Madison Public Library, and what is your role? I have been with the library for 26 years. I started as a shelving page at Sequoya. I moved up to being a clerk at the South Madison Branch (with the indomitable Chris Wagner). I went from South to Monroe Street. I then did a stint at Meadowridge, and moved to Alicia Ashman about 10 years ago. I assist with all things circulation as Ashman's only clerk.

What do you enjoy doing outside of work? Reading. I love gardening but have no luck growing vegetables, except tomatoes — which I don't even like! I have flower varieties from A-Z in my yard, azaleas to zinnias. I love movies and TV, the Marvel comic universe, detective and paranormal shows. For a year or so I went to Zumba, which was a blast and I hope to get back to classes one day! I love swimming, walking, dancing, singing, hiking in natural settings, and riding my bike. Once a week, I play team trivia. I have several close friends who I spend as much time with as possible.

What's the best thing that has happened to you this year? I had the opportunity to go on a trip to Ireland with my daughter, Ann. We drove 1200 km in eight days, 150 km/day! Gorgeous country, friendly people, castles, the ocean, abbeys and monasteries. It was my first time out of the country!

What do you like to read? Thrillers and fantasy fiction are my favorites ... werewolves and witches and vampires ... oh my! Some authors I like are Charles de Lint, Patricia Briggs, John Sandford, Zoë Sharp, P.J. Tracy, Lee Child and Faith Hunter.

What are two items on your bucket list? The term "bucket list" does not resonate with me, but there are a few things I'd like to do while I am able. I'd love to drive the Pacific Coast Road. Move to Florida ... or at least be there a few weeks of the year. I love the beach! Travel more to see exciting new places.



Pinney Partnership with YMCA Blossoms

When Pinney Library moved to an interim location over the winter, it lost dedicated space for storytimes and other youth events. But thanks to a partnership with the Lussier Family East YMCA, Pinney Library staff have been able to continue these important programs for patrons — and even reach new kids who face barriers to visiting the library.

Briana Kurlinkus, director of early childhood education at the YMCA, said the YMCA has built a strong working relationship with Pinney Youth Librarian Holly Storck-Post and Library Supervisor Sarah Lawton.

Pinney staff have worked on literacy outreach programming with the YMCA for several years, but since Pinney’s move to its interim location at 211 Cottage Grove Road, they have added public storytimes on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings in the YMCA’s multipurpose room. Those who attend do not need to be YMCA members. They’ve also brought early literacy programs and activities to the YMCA’s summer camps and preschool programs, such as the Group Summer Reading Club, and provided literacy training to camp leadership. The library attends YMCA special events like the Back to School Bash and Ice Cream Social as well.

The YMCA has been receiving very positive feedback about the library programs offered there, Kurlinkus says. “It has brought our community closer together ... this is really about community, it’s really about partnership. It keeps getting bigger and bigger, and we just continue to look forward to what’s in store for us with the new location.”

YMCA staff have also participated in discussions about the new Pinney Library spaces, such as the PlayLab, a 435-square-foot area designed to help children develop early literacy skills through open-ended play.

Because summer camps serve a large share of families relying on financial assistance, the YMCA can reach kids who face barriers to visiting the library and teach them about the importance of reading and

literacy, Kurlinkus says. “The library is this great, awesome resource — and we want to teach them to love your local library and to share that the library is for everyone,” she says.

Pinney Library Supervisor Lawton is appreciative of the YMCA’s support throughout the construction phase. “We are thankful to the YMCA for engaging with the library by hosting youth programs, participating in the design process for the new library and the early literacy initiatives we are planning, providing space for community meetings related to the public art, and spreading the word about the library’s move,” she says. “We are so fortunate to have the YMCA as a great neighbor!”



Pinney Library’s Holly Storck-Post leads an early literacy program at the YMCA.

Get Your Gift Matched, Upcoming Tours

All gifts to The Capital Campaign for a New Pinney Library will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$10,000, thanks to a gift from Jill Ball. Donations will support programming and the endowment fund for a secure future. If you would like to contribute, visit mplfoundation.org/donate or mail your gift to the foundation office.

Upcoming tours of the new library will be Friday, September 20, and Friday, October 25. Both will begin at 3:30 p.m. RSVP to events@mplfoundation.org.

The new library is expected to open in March. Visit our Pinney campaign page at mplfoundation.org/pinney in late fall for grand opening details!



Sequoia Friends Shop Moving to Market Square

After 11 years in the Westgate Mall, the Friends of Sequoia Library bookstore will move to a new home at 6672 Odana Road in Market Square. “It’s a wonderful opportunity for the Sequoia Friends to join other shops that sell previously used items because they are next to Play it Again Sports, and near The Pink Poodle, ReThreads and Frugal Muse,” says Friends of Sequoia Library President Nadine Pfotenhauer.

The move will take place September 8 with the help of volunteers from IGNITE – Women of the Madison Fire Department and Mendota Rowing Club. If you have items to donate to an upcoming sale, drop them at Sequoia Library, or at the new location.

Fall Friends Sales Planned

Sales take place at their respective library unless noted otherwise.

Monroe Street Library League Fall Book Sale in conjunction with the 42nd annual Monroe Street Festival: Saturday, September 14, 9:30 a.m.–4 p.m.

Friends of Pinney Library One-Day Book Sale: Friday, September 27, 9:30 a.m.–6:30 p.m.

Friends of Lakeview Library Book Sale: Friday–Saturday, September 20–21. Members-only pre-sale 6–7:45 p.m. Friday (can join/renew at the door); public sale Saturday, 9 a.m.–3 p.m. (bag sale 1–3 p.m.)

Friends of Sequoia Library First Saturday Book Sales: October 5, November 2 and December 7, 9 a.m.–4 p.m., Market Square, 6672 Odana Road.

Friends of Madison Public Library Fall Book Sale in conjunction with the Wisconsin Book Festival (at Central Library): Thursday,

October 17, 9 a.m.–9 p.m.; Friday, October 18, 9 a.m.–6 p.m.; Saturday, October 19, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.; and Sunday, October 20, 1–3 p.m.

Friends of Alicia Ashman Library Fall Book Sale: Thursday, October 31–Saturday, November 2. Pre-sale Thursday 5–8 p.m. (Friends members only; join at the door); public sale Friday 9:30 a.m.–7 p.m. and Saturday 9:30 a.m.–3 p.m.; \$5 bag sale 1–3 p.m. Saturday

Friends of Hawthorne Library Fall Book Sale: Friday, November 8–Saturday, November 9, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. (\$5 bag sale 3–5 p.m. Saturday)

Friends of Goodman South Madison Library Fall Book Sale: Friday, November 22–Saturday, November 23. Friday, 10 a.m.–noon (pre-sale for members); noon–7 p.m. (public sale); Saturday, \$5 bag sale 9 a.m.–1 p.m.

Gifts Boost Wild Rumpus Early Childhood Programs

Madison Public Library and Madison Parks partnered to bring A Wild Rumpus, an award-winning program based on the education approach of Anji Play, to Brittingham, Haen Family and Reindahl parks over the summer. The program is funded in part by a Madison Public Library Foundation annual fund grant.

The library provided special play equipment to spark children’s imaginations. At the end of each event, kids created a Play Story, drawing or writing about their play for that day.

Over the past several months, innovations at A Wild Rumpus helped parents and children to better enjoy the weekly play-centered, child-led activities in the parks. The kickoff included a pre-series orientation, plus new supplies for parents, children and library staff. Technology supplies including phone apps, a printer, portable battery packs and a recording device were provided for parents so they could more easily capture moments of their children playing in the park. A “ladder” bookshelf with circulating books for children and a plank wagon with more storage was on site, and whistles and lanyards allowed library staff to supervise the events.



Kids participate in open-ended play during Wild Rumpus sessions.

Anji Play is an educational philosophy created by Ms. Cheng Xueqin, Director of Early Education in Anji County, China. The approach is based on five pillars: Love, Risk, Joy, Engagement and Reflection.

Foundation Grant Funds Cooperative Business Program

A \$6,000 Madison Public Library Foundation annual fund grant fueled the creation of a cooperative business program at Madison Public Library. The library partnered with the Madison Cooperative Development Coalition (MCDC), the City of Madison’s funded initiative to form and support worker cooperatives. A collaboration of community-based organizations and cooperative developers, MCDC addresses the factors affecting local communities of color, low wealth and traditionally excluded workforces in hopes of building a sustainable system to strengthen Madison’s long-term economic health.

The program served 90 unique participants — most from Madison, but some from Stevens Point and Milwaukee — in six monthly sessions from December 2018 through February 2019 at Central Library and from May to July 2019 at Goodman South Madison Library. Of these participants, 14 continue to work with MCDC to further explore their business idea. Two cooperatives are in development, and three are about to begin development. In addition, members of six prospective businesses attended Co-op 101 meetings, which served as an opportunity to learn and network with other cooperative entrepreneurs.

Georgia Allen — co-founder of Soaring Independent Cooperative, which offers home care services to the elderly and those

with mobility issues — started her journey in worker cooperative development at the library and inspired the foundation grant.

“I spent so many months at the (Goodman) South Madison Library trying to figure out the operating agreement and learning how to write a business plan where it would incorporate the worker-owner model,” Allen says. She and a group of colleagues had started thinking about creating a business because they were fed up with low wages, high turnover and low-quality care.

“We knew about the worker-owned concept, and that’s what we wanted because we knew that that would contribute to everybody wanting to actually work if they knew that ... if we’re profitable and we do really well, it’s not going

to go to investors to buy second vacation homes,” Allen explains.

Another direct outcome of the Pathway to Cooperative Entrepreneurship grant is the beginning of a collaboration between the Northside Planning Council (NPC) and Madison Public Library. NPC is working to develop a childcare worker cooperative on the city’s north side as part of its ongoing economic development strategy. Librarian Martín Alvarado will provide librarianship services to NPC and community members as they work on this project, as well as in exploring cooperative business solutions to meet community needs. These efforts will be supported through the cooperative development manuals, tool kits and other educational materials purchased with grant dollars.



Pathway to Cooperative Entrepreneurship participants attend a session at Goodman South Madison Library.

YOUR DOLLARS AT WORK

EVENTS & HIGHLIGHTS

Johnson Joins Foundation Staff

Madison Public Library Foundation recently welcomed new Development Officer Michelle Johnson to its office.



Johnson

Johnson grew up in Treynor, Iowa. She earned her bachelor's in English at the University of Notre Dame. While in school, she played trombone in the marching band and worked for the university library's gifts and donations department. Johnson moved to Madison after college to work as a technical writer at Epic.

She spends her spare time reading, doing yoga, cooking and gardening. "I've always loved books and reading," she says. "When we were kids, the library was the one place my mom would take my sister and me whenever we asked, even though it was a 20-minute drive. I'm thrilled to be able to support Madison Public Library as a place for Madisonians to satisfy their curiosity."

Johnson's favorite book is *Rising from the Plains* by John McPhee, and her most recent checkouts are books from Alan Bradley's *Flavia de Luce* mystery series.

Foundation Launching New Website

Madison Public Library Foundation is unveiling a new website this fall. The site was redesigned by Kennedy Communications. It's packed with photos and other visual elements, and will improve the user experience on both desktops and mobile devices.

Visit mplfoundation.org, take a look around and tell us what you think by sending us a message through our Contact Us page!



Ex Libris Tickets on Sale September 10

Our Ex Libris Planning Committee and foundation staff picked a winning theme for this year's Ex Libris! The event will be 7-10 p.m. Friday, November 8, at Central Library. You're invited to sport your favorite team attire while you enjoy gameday foods alongside beer, cider, cold-brewed coffee and other Wisconsin-made craft beverages. Blues band The Jimmys will provide live music, and we'll also have several fun tailgating games for guests who want to partake.

There's no "I" in team, so add some friends or coworkers to your roster! Discounted six-packs and 12-packs of tickets are available, as well as individual tickets. They'll go on sale September 10 at 9 a.m. at mplfoundation.org.



Tax Strategy Workshop October 8

Enjoy a hot breakfast and discover how to ease your tax burden at Madison Public Library Foundation's upcoming educational workshop. Attorneys Melissa Selinger of Selinger & Brunette, LLC, and Julie Bogle of BDO Madison will present "Developing a Tax Strategy" from 8-9:30 a.m. Tuesday, October 8. Selinger advises clients on a wide range of estate planning matters, with expertise

in advanced wealth transfer and tax-saving techniques. Bogle has 20-plus years of experience providing business advisory services for families and closely held businesses, as well as state and local tax consulting services, and income and sales tax audit management.

RSVP by October 2 to info@mplfoundation.org or call 608.266.6318.



Beer Release Party October 24

Support your library over happy hour from 4-6 p.m. Thursday, October 24, at Working Draft Beer Co. on the city's near east side. The brewery will donate \$1 from the sale of each pint of Red Scooter, an Irish red ale made specially to start the Ex Libris Vol. IX: Timeout to Tailgate celebration early! The beer is infused with coffee and whiskey-soaked oak spirals, and named in honor of Ex Libris Presenting Sponsor Scooter Software. It will remain on tap at Working Draft until the barrel's empty.

Watch Our Lunch for Libraries Video

Our 2019 Lunch for Libraries conversation with Celeste Ng, author of *Little Fires Everywhere*, and Madison author Chloe Benjamin is now available on YouTube. Visit our website homepage, mplfoundation.org, and click on the link to view it.



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