



Foundation

MADISON PUBLIC LIBRARY

SPRING/SUMMER 2022

A newsletter from
Madison Public
Library Foundation

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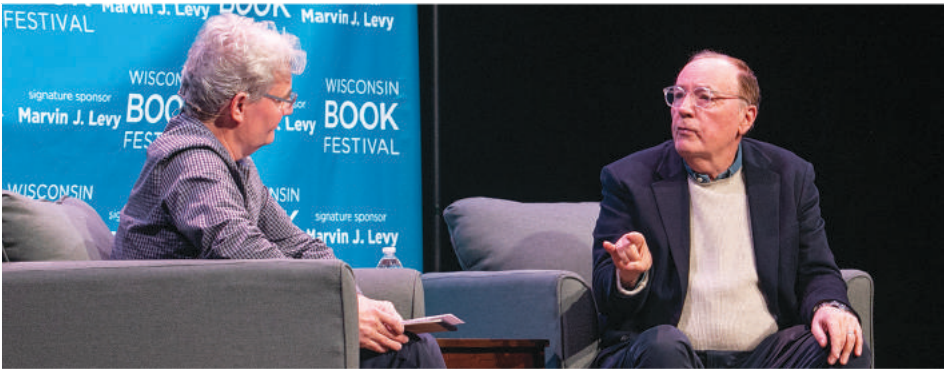
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Wisconsin Book Festival Celebrates 20th Anniversary



Best-selling author James Patterson (right) discusses his writing process with Steve Paulson of NPR's *To the Best of Our Knowledge* at a 2018 Wisconsin Book Festival event.

The Wisconsin Book Festival is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year! To mark the occasion, the festival gave away free books at two May events, and it will distribute free books on Wednesday, June 15, when world-renowned author James Patterson will visit Madison to speak about his new autobiography, *James Patterson by James Patterson*.

The festival is currently accepting proposals for its fall celebration (October 13–16), which will include a full lineup of in-person events at Central Library. The schedule will be released in early September.

The festival has come a long way since the Wisconsin Humanities Council started the event in 2001. In 2013, Madison Public Library — in partnership with Madison Public Library Foundation — assumed the festival’s ownership. Well-known authors with local ties, such as David Maraniss, immediately signed on to participate, and have returned time and again as new books are written.

Patterson Event

James Patterson by James Patterson: The Stories of My Life
Wednesday, June 15, 7 p.m.
Capitol Theater, Overture Center for the Arts

Guests will learn how a small-town New York boy became the world’s most successful storyteller. Thanks to a gift from the Cheryl Rosen Weston Estate, each event attendee will receive a free copy of the book!

The book cover features a black and white portrait of James Patterson. The title "James Patterson by James Patterson" is prominently displayed in a large, serif font, with "The Stories of My Life" in a smaller font below it.

The festival eventually transitioned into a year-round event to provide more consistent opportunities for connection with authors, publishers, media and book lovers. It also gave the festival a flagship location for events when Central Library was rebuilt in 2013, and it boosted its efforts to feature a diverse lineup of participants that includes local and award-winning authors, authors of color, LGBTQ authors and a wide range of literary genres.

“We’re incredibly proud to be our region’s source for free programs that give our community access to a wide range of authors and literary masters, from first-time local writers to acclaimed, award-winning authors and poets,” said Wisconsin Book Festival Director Conor Moran, who has provided festival leadership since 2013. “We love the role we play in being the place for voices — especially the underrepresented — to express their ideas and shape community conversations that deepen our knowledge and understanding, and intensify the desire to read and learn.”

The festival has built unique partnerships with both local and national organizations. A regular joint event with UW-Madison’s Program in Creative Writing showcases rising regional talent among students and fellows, facilitating important literary conversations. C-SPAN’s Book TV airs live broadcasts of festival programs during the fall festival celebration weekend to make them accessible to viewers nationwide. In 2021, the festival partnered with the library and UW-Madison’s All of Us research program (affiliated with National Institutes of Health) to host a series of events on health care-related topics.

The festival has also enjoyed a strong, longtime partnership with A Room of One’s Own bookstore, offering event attendees the chance to purchase books through the



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store at in-person and virtual events, and it regularly encourages festival-goers to support local, independent bookstores.

When the pandemic began, the festival quickly adapted its programs to an all-virtual format and became a national leader in the book festival world, owning the digital space. It continues to offer some virtual programs via Crowdfunder to meet the continued demand of many who found virtual programs to be more convenient for them.

Madison Public Library Foundation privately raises funds for festival costs; the library provides event space and staffing support. Over the years, the foundation has secured multiple grants from high-profile arts organizations like the National Endowment for the Arts, as well as sponsorships from local individuals, foundations and businesses.

Visit wisconsinbookfestival.org for a current schedule of events.

Lunch for Libraries Grosses \$101,000+

More than 600 library supporters attended Madison Public Library Foundation’s 11th annual Lunch for Libraries fundraiser on May 16 at Monona Terrace. The event featured hit podcast host and producer Guy Raz, who spoke about his book, *How I Built This*, which shares a name with his NPR podcast. For the first time, the event broke the six-figure mark in gross fundraising — pulling in more than \$101,000 before expenses to benefit the Wisconsin Book Festival and Madison Public Library youth literacy efforts. Thank you to Presenting Sponsor BMO Harris Bank and our many other sponsors, as well as our guests and planning committee, for their support!



Award-winning journalist, podcast host and author Guy Raz (left) talks about his experiences interviewing entrepreneurs with Madison Public Library Foundation board member and event moderator Aaron Olver.



Camille Carter, president and CEO, Madison Black Chamber of Commerce, and Martin Lackey Sr., First Weber Realtors, were guests at the Wisconsin Public Radio table.



Jillana Peterson (top row, second from right) was a table captain, and invited friends and Zendesk coworkers to join her.

Foundation Funds Kanopy Video Streaming Service

Thanks to a Madison Public Library Foundation grant, Madison Public Library card holders now have full access to more than 30,000 free videos from Kanopy, a company that streams high-quality films that inspire, educate and entertain via libraries around the globe.

Kanopy’s unique selection includes award-winning indie films, timely documentaries, foreign films, popular cinema, children’s shows and more. Many of Kanopy’s videos are not available on any other streaming video platform, and the experience is easy to use and advertisement-free. With your library card, you can use 10 play credits per month.

To access Kanopy, visit madpl.org/kanopy.



Community Engagement and Electronic Resources Librarian Neeeyati Shah demonstrates how to use Kanopy, a new video streaming service available from Madison Public Library.

Grant Outfits Libraries With We Read & Play Materials

Madison Public Library Foundation recently granted Madison Public Library \$31,000 from its budget surplus for We Read & Play materials that will boost literacy and educational play in the libraries.

The sturdy, attractive new materials — which include rainbow rockers, Wobble boards, magnetic wooden Tegu blocks, Magna-Tiles, and Squigz and Stapelstein toys — will provide children with tools that help them grasp essential early literacy concepts, grow socially and emotionally, and develop physically, said library Youth Services Manager Tammy Ocampo.

Madison Public Library’s Anji Play approach — evident in the Pinney PlayLab and A Wild Rumpus programming — has helped it become an innovative leader in the intersection between libraries and child-led play. Anji Play embraces the idea that kids learn from all sorts of play, but especially play with minimally structured materials that allow them to come up with their own ideas and solve problems. The new materials will make the libraries a destination for families — especially during the winter months, when there’s a greater need for free, indoor, safe, warm locations for children to play.

Visit your favorite library to see some of these materials! If you’d like to support We Read & Play, visit mplfoundation.org/donate and select “Other” in the drop-down menu, then enter We Read & Play in the comment field.



The Rainbow Rocker is one of many new items that will provide play opportunities for children in the libraries.

Foundation Welcomes Three New Employees



Pictured from top to bottom are Wisconsin Book Festival Director Conor Moran, Donor Relations Associate Elissa Russell, Executive Director Jenni Jeffress, Grants Writer Erin Woodard and Foundation Manager Katy Kaufman.

Three new employees joined Madison Public Library Foundation’s staff earlier this year. They are:

Katy Kaufman, Foundation Manager
Before coming to the foundation, Kaufman served on several nonprofit boards in Madison, including Mothers’ Milk Alliance, Monona Grove Nursery School and Nuestro Mundo Inc. Prior to that, she worked at Metro Theater Company in St. Louis, Mo. She earned her undergraduate degree from Washington University in St. Louis, where she studied psychology, Spanish and African-American Studies. She also has dabbled in graduate work in nonprofit management and counseling. She is originally from Wauwatosa, Wis. She enjoys reading, playing the piano, quilting, singing, baking and doing all kinds of puzzles.

Elissa Russell, Donor Relations Associate
Russell previously worked at Aptiv, a service provider that aids individuals with disabilities. She earned her bachelor’s degree at UW-La Crosse,

where she majored in marketing. A native of West Salem, Wis., Russell makes a hobby out of taking road trips with her husband. They always try to include at least one major library on the itinerary, and they love traveling to amusement parks throughout the country to ride every rollercoaster possible. She also spends a lot of time taking care of the couple’s “pandemic puppy.”

Erin Woodard, Grants Writer
An Appleton, Wis. native, Woodard attended UW-Madison, where she earned bachelor’s degrees in botany and French, and a master’s in professional French. For 10 years, she was on the Grants staff at Rotary International’s Foundation in Evanston, Ill. After moving back to Wisconsin in 2015, she was a nonprofit consultant and a translator for a variety of organizations, followed by two years as the Certification Operations & Communications Manager for the nonprofit Green Seal. She enjoys swimming, running, knitting, camping and reading, with her favorite books related to food and cooking.

Seed Libraries Are a Great Resource for Gardeners

Getting ready to plant your garden? Four Madison Public Library locations — Goodman South, Meadowridge, Lakeview and Pinney — offer Seed Libraries where you can pick up seeds for your direct-to-sow vegetables and herbs this spring.

Participating in the seed library allows patrons to help create a culture of sharing and community. Saving seeds leads to a sustainable future for the community and your garden.

There’s no limit to the number of seed packets you can request, and each packet contains about 10 seeds. But just like with other library items, there are a limited number of seeds in the collection.

The library also offers helpful book lists to get you started with planting your seeds. Visit madpl.org/seedlibrary for those lists, or ask a librarian.

Goodman South Madison Library used dollars from its endowment fund for a staff-designed window garden display that holds potted plants that the staff grew from seed, and for new seeds.

“We have our Seed Library drawers available for the public to peruse and take seeds they want,” said Library Supervisor Ching Wong.

Last year, Goodman South Madison Library expanded its seed inventory to include flowers, melons, squashes, cucumbers and zucchini. By July, the library had given out more than 1,000 seed packets, including annual flowers, herbs and a variety of veggies. More than 100 packets were given to community partners, including Centro Hispano, Briarpatch and Spanish-speaking, in-home day care providers. The most popular seeds included flowers, herbs, beets, watermelon, spinach and squash.

The Seed Library is available year-round for those who want to grow plants indoors.

The Seed Library began as a larger project called the Dane County Seed Library, which was started in 2014 with a \$5,000 grant from the John A. Johnson Fund and an anonymous donor through Madison Community Foundation. The Seed Library is currently funded by Madison Public Library and the Friends of Lakeview Library.



Goodman South Madison Library tapped its endowment fund to purchase Seed Library inventory and window displays to showcase the plants its staff grew.

New Madison, Sun Prairie Stops for Dream Bus This Summer

The Dream Bus will be making the rounds six days a week this summer! The mobile library, operated by Dane County Library Service and Madison Public Library, will bring books, movies, music, Wi-Fi service and more to the following locations on a weekly basis:

- Eagle Heights
- Wisconsin Youth Company
- Allied Learning Center
- Theresa Terrace
- Fairways Apartments
- Leopold Park
- Monona Shores

- Vera Court
- Kennedy Heights
- East Madison Community Center
- Owl Creek neighborhood
- Sun Prairie apartment complexes and the Sun Prairie Farmers’ Market

The Dream Bus will also visit Elver, Eken, Penn, Brittingham and Reindahl parks for various summer events. Find the full schedule at madpl.org/dreambus.

Gifts to Madison Public Library Foundation help the Dream Bus serve everyone in the community — especially those who face transportation barriers. To donate, go to



Dane County Library Service Director Tracy Herold checks out books for Dream Bus visitors.

mplfoundation.org/donate and select “Other” in the drop-down menu, then enter Dream Bus in the comment field.

Bubbler Artists in the Neighborhood All Summer Long

Madison Public Library’s Bubbler is kicking off a citywide summer series featuring neighborhood library community artists.



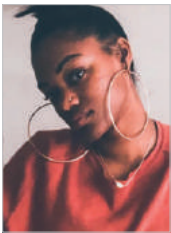
Audifax, Central Library (Bubbler Artist-in-Residence)

At Central Library, longtime Bubbler collaborator Audifax will do a longer-term residency in the Bubbler Room. Kids, families and adults looking for art and making projects at Central Library can learn and engage with Audifax starting in July.



Angela Johnson, Pinney Library

Johnson offers creative and mindfulness services and products; personalized creativity coaching; commissioned works of art that include handmade books, boxes, slipcases and photographic prints; and customized art classes and workshops.



Ciara “Cee” Nash, Hawthorne Library

An acrylic painter and freelance graphic designer who works with children, Nash is a graduate of Edgewood College, majoring in art therapy. She attends Maryland Institute College of Art, working toward her master of business degree in art and design.



Alexis Dean Jr., Meadowridge Library

Dean (also known as “L.E.X” and “Mr. Alexis”) is a clean Hip-Hop artist, author, poet, DJ and educator from Milwaukee.



Mike Lroy, Lakeview Library

Lroy is an artist and entrepreneur with a focus on beautifying spaces. His work includes several indoor and outdoor murals across Madison.



Maria Schirmer Devitt, Goodman South Madison Library

Devitt’s work tends to focus on how our world hurts and how we can heal. Using traditional and digital media, and practicing ancient and modern techniques, she is drawn to collage and community art.



Kailea Saplan, Sequoya Library

Originally from Hawaii, they are a scholar, artist and educator working with young people to express themselves through creative writing, theater and maker-based learning.



Madison Weist, Monroe Street Library

A New Jersey native, Weist is training to become a school psychologist. She hopes to inspire a love of learning and creativity in the next generation. Her favorite medium is encaustic painting, using wax and heat to create dimensional abstract landscapes that remind her of both real and fictional places.

True Play Studio – Alicia Ashman Library will be supported by multiple Bubbler artists all summer long. Come meet them in person!

Visit madisonbubbler.org or the calendar page at madpl.org for dates and times. Bubbler programming is made possible in part with Madison Public Library Foundation donations.

EVENTS & HIGHLIGHTS



Friends Book Sale June 4

Seven library Friends groups are pooling their inventory for a large book sale from 9 a.m.–4 p.m. Saturday, June 4, at Madison Public Library's Service & Support Center, 1301 W. Badger Road. All proceeds will benefit Madison Public Library.

"Last year's first-ever joint book sale was so successful, raising thousands of dollars to support Madison's libraries," said Kathy Schneider, President of the Friends of Pinney Library and coordinator of this year's sale. "We're especially grateful to American Girl, who donated two pallets of their iconic children's books for this sale, which we think will be very popular."

The sale — which will include gently used and donated books, CDs, DVDs and audiobooks — will be held rain or shine. Prices are as follows:

- hardbound books – \$2
- paperback books – \$1
- children's hardbound books – \$1
- children's paperback and board books – 50 cents
- CDS, DVDs, and audiobooks on CD – \$1

Inventory will be replenished throughout the day, and there will be a bag sale from 3–4 p.m. for \$5 per bag. The Friends accept cash, check or credit card payment.

Hidden Gems Recording Offers Hiking, Camping Tips

Looking for camping, hiking and other outdoor activities throughout the state as you plan your summer getaways? We have a great resource for you! Watch the recording of our spring Educational Series virtual event, *Wisconsin's Hidden Gems: State Parks, Forests and Trails*.

In the presentation, Missy Van Landuyt — Recreation Partnerships Chief with the state Department of Natural Resources' Park and Recreation Management Program — highlights her favorite Badger State spots for all sorts of outdoor recreation, from the leisurely scenic overlook stop to challenging hikes and places to swim.

We record each of our free Educational Series events, which you can access anytime on our website, mplfoundation.org. From our homepage, simply hover over the Events menu, and you'll see the Educational Series page, where you can find the recording links.



Parfrey's Glen is a short distance from Madison and offers numerous scenic views from above.



Pinney Library's PlayLab is designed specifically for ages birth to 5 and uses a variety of natural materials.

OPN Architects Earns Award for Pinney Library Design

Congratulations to OPN Architects! The firm recently received the 2022 Award of Excellence from the International Interior Design Association's Wisconsin Chapter for its design of Pinney Library.

The 20,500-square-foot library, which opened in Royster Commons in 2020 at the onset of the pandemic, doubled in size from its previous location. It has numerous sustainability features, including a highly efficient mechanical system; furniture made from ash trees that were cut down to prevent the spread of ash borer disease; a geothermal system that reduces heating and cooling loads, and will help the library hit net zero energy usage in the long term; sensors to reduce LED light usage when daylight is providing sufficient lighting; energy-efficient windows; and more.

Pinney patrons can enjoy a PlayLab space for ages birth to 5, a large community room, study and reading rooms, a patio for outdoor programming and a studio for arts activities. Pinney is the third-busiest library of Madison Public Library's nine locations.



201 W. Mifflin Street
Madison, Wisconsin 53703
608.266.6318
mplfoundation.org
info@mplfoundation.org

MADISON PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Alicia Ashman 733 N. High Point Rd.
Hawthorne 2707 E. Washington Ave.
Lakeview 2845 N. Sherman Ave.
Meadowridge 5726 Raymond Rd.
Monroe Street 1705 Monroe St.

Executive Director Jennifer Jeffress **Newsletter Editor** Amy Mertz
Contributing Writers Carlee Latimer **Newsletter Design** Georgia Rucker

Pinney 516 Cottage Grove Rd.
Sequoia 4340 Tokay Blvd.
Goodman South 2222 S. Park St.
Central 201 W. Mifflin St.