



**Foundation**

MADISON PUBLIC LIBRARY

**FALL 2022**

A newsletter from  
Madison Public  
Library Foundation

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## 20th Anniversary Fall Celebration to Feature 50 Authors

Fifty authors are on the lineup for the Wisconsin Book Festival’s 20th anniversary fall celebration October 13–16 at Central Library. Their work spans the literary genres, from fiction and nonfiction to poetry and more.

“We’re delighted to be able to celebrate the 20th anniversary with a return to in-person events during our four-day fall celebration,” said Wisconsin Book Festival Director Conor Moran. “Being in person presents the opportunity for our attendees to ask questions and elevates the rich discussions that the festival prides itself on encouraging.”

The festival hosted Pulitzer Prize winner and best-selling author David Maraniss on August 16 for a discussion of *Path Lit by Lightning*, his latest biography about two-time Olympic gold medalist Jim Thorpe. The event drew more than 400 attendees.

“Before any of my books come out, I know that one place I most want to go to on tour is the Wisconsin Book Festival at the Madison Public Library, and any author who has been there even once understands why,” Maraniss said. “Year after year for 20 years it brings out the smartest, friendliest book-reading audience in the country.”



Pulitzer Prize-winning author and longtime Wisconsin Book Festival ally David Maraniss (pictured onstage, right) discusses his Jim Thorpe biography, *Path Lit by Lightning*, with Madison journalist Doug Moe at an August 16 festival event.

Highlights of the fall celebration weekend are listed below. All events will take place at Central Library unless otherwise noted.

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14**  
**6 p.m.** Dr. Steven Thrasher, acclaimed journalist and academic, for *The Viral Underclass*  
**7:30 p.m.** International best-selling author Andy Weir for *Project Hail Mary*  
**9 p.m.** Leading arts and culture critic Maya Phillips for *Nerd*

**Other fall events include:**

- Lauren Groff for *Matrix*, Thursday, October 20, 7 p.m.
- National Book Critics Circle Award winner Clint Smith for *How the Word Is Passed* (UW-Madison’s Go Big Read selection), Tuesday, November 1, 7 p.m., Memorial Union’s Shannon Hall
- Celebrated poet and essayist Ross Gay for *Inciting Joy*, Thursday, November 3, 7 p.m.
- Pulitzer Prize winner Art Spiegelman for *Breakdowns*, Tuesday, November 29, 7 p.m., Crowdcast (virtual event)

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15**  
**10:30 a.m.** World-renowned comic creator Alan Moore for *Illuminations* (also will be live streamed via Crowdcast)  
**1:30 p.m.** International best-selling novelist Emma Straub for *This Time Tomorrow*  
**3 p.m.** Reese’s Book Club author Thrity Umrigar for *Honor*  
**3 p.m.** Wisconsin journalist and editor Ruth Conniff for *Milked*, Wisconsin Historical Society Auditorium  
**6 p.m.** *New York Times* Editorial Board member Elizabeth Williamson for *Sandy Hook*  
**7:30 p.m.** Activist and advocate Brenda Myers-Powell for *Leaving Breezy Street*

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16**  
**1:30 p.m.** Cody Keenan, former Director of Speechwriting for President Obama, for *Grace*, and former White House Photographer Pete Souza for *The West Wing and Beyond*

The Wisconsin Book Festival is presented by Madison Public Library in partnership with Madison Public Library Foundation. For program details and the full schedule, go to [wisconsinbookfestival.org](https://wisconsinbookfestival.org). Follow the festival on Facebook and Instagram (@wibookfest) or on Twitter (@wibookfestival) for bonus content.

### Thank You to Our Festival Sponsors!

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## Support Free, Year-Round Author Programs with a Book Fest Membership

The Wisconsin Book Festival is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year, and with some exciting author programs on the horizon, it’s the ideal time to become a festival member!

Presented by Madison Public Library in partnership with Madison Public Library Foundation, the Wisconsin Book Festival offers free, year-round public programs led by a wide representation of authors — from local to internationally acclaimed — with works in many genres. The festival gives book lovers access to authors and facilitates deep discussions about literature, public policy, social and cultural issues, and much more — encouraging critical thinking and lifelong learning that enrich our community.

Donations to Madison Public Library Foundation make festival programming possible. To become a member, simply make a gift of \$100 or more to the festival. Exclusive member benefits include:

- reserved seating at select author events
- an invitation to our fall festival celebration kickoff party
- book discounts
- email newsletters

Memberships also make great gifts for family, friends, teachers and other book lovers in your life!

Make your membership donation at [wisconsinbookfestival.org/give](https://wisconsinbookfestival.org/give).

## Grants Add Self-Checks, Expand Central’s Adult Nonfiction Collection

Madison Public Library Foundation issued \$110,000 in grants to Madison Public Library to cover the costs of new self-check machines at Sequoya, Meadowridge and Goodman South Madison libraries, and replacement materials for Central Library’s collection.

The three self-check replacement machines will allow the library to have all its self-checks on the same management system, creating efficiency for technology, marketing and collection support staff.

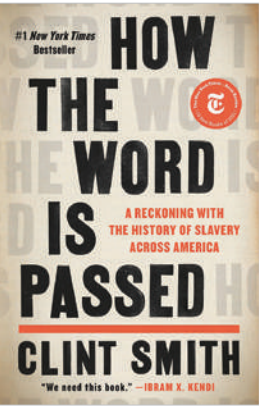
The Adult Nonfiction collection at Central Library received \$40,000 in new items, allowing additions to the self-help, LGBTQIA++, sports, history and travel sections.



A family uses the self-check machines at Sequoya Library.

## Go Big Read Events Planned

Book Discussion Kits for UW-Madison’s Go Big Read 2022-23 selection, *How the Word Is Passed*: *A Reckoning with the History of Slavery Across America* by Clint Smith, are now available at Madison Public Library.



A deeply researched and transporting exploration of the legacy of slavery and its imprint on centuries of American history, *How the Word Is Passed* illustrates how some of our country’s most essential stories are hidden in plain view — in places we might drive by on our way to work, holidays such as Juneteenth, or entire neighborhoods like downtown Manhattan, where the brutal history of the trade in enslaved men, women and children has been deeply imprinted.

Informed by scholarship and brought to life by the story of people living today, Smith’s debut work of nonfiction is a landmark of reflection and insight that offers a new understanding of the hopeful role that memory and history can play in making sense of our country, and how it has come to be.

You’re invited to take part in any of the library’s scheduled book discussions:

- Wednesday, September 21, 6 p.m.**, Hawthorne Library
- Wednesday, September 28, 7 p.m.**, and **Thursday, September 29, 1 p.m.**, Sequoya Library
- Saturday, October 15, 1:30 p.m.**, Goodman South Madison Library
- Monday, October 17, 4 p.m.**, Meadowridge Library
- Thursday, November 3, 1:30 p.m.**, Alicia Ashman Library
- Tuesday, November 8, 7–8 p.m.**, Pinney Library
- Saturday, November 12, 2 p.m.**, Monroe Street Library

Smith will speak at Memorial Union’s Shannon Hall at 7 p.m. Tuesday, November 1, in a jointly presented UW-Madison and Wisconsin Book Festival event.

For more information about Book Discussion Kits at Madison Public Library, go to [madpl.org/bookclubs](https://madpl.org/bookclubs).

Book Discussion Kits are funded in part through gifts to the Judy P. Olson Book Discussion Kit Endowment Fund. If you would like to make a contribution to this fund, visit [mplfoundation.org/donate](https://mplfoundation.org/donate) and select the fund in the dropdown menu upon checkout, or write it on the memo line of your check, which can be mailed to our office.



# Making Justice Participants Step Into Shoe Design

Madison Public Library’s Making Justice program recently brought teaching artists to teen participants at the Dane County Juvenile Court Shelter Home for an inaugural shoe design residency.

Artist Carlos Eduardo Gacharna worked with a teen participant from a previous Bubbler program to experiment with different types of footwear and different levels of design while documenting their processes and sharing their findings — all in an effort to begin building the foundation of an in-depth shoe design program for at-risk and court-involved Madison teens. Gacharna is a Colombian native who moved to Madison during his childhood. He studied art at UW-Madison and led library workshops in the Bubbler’s early days. Today, he teaches art to youth in Los Angeles.

Teaching artist Rodrigo Carapia used his painting and graffiti skills to start students out at square one by considering meaningful shoe design options on paper or canvas prior to grabbing a real pair of sneakers.

Teaching artist Sam Christensen led an afternoon shoe painting workshop with students at the Dane County Juvenile Detention Center that resulted in some one-of-a-kind products. Some students finished within the visit, and others were allowed to continue working on their shoes when time allowed throughout the rest of their stay. All students were allowed to put their creations into their personal property to take with them upon release.

The shoe design residency and programs were funded with a gift from Scooter Software. If you would like to make a gift to the Making Justice program, visit [mplfoundation.org/donate](https://mplfoundation.org/donate) and select Making Justice in the dropdown menu upon checkout, or mail a check to the foundation office with Making Justice on the memo line.



Making Justice teen participants created artful shoes — and drawings and paintings of shoes — through a new shoe design artist residency.



# Summer Filled with We Read Literacy Activities

Madison Public Library’s *We Read* program, which celebrates the joy of reading, featured a wide assortment of fun library events and activities throughout the summer.

In June, each of the nine libraries, along with the Dream Bus, hosted *We Read* bookmaking programs. The library provided supplies for patrons to customize a blank book by writing their own story, drawing their favorite characters or making a list of their favorite reads.



Madison Public Library brought the Dream Bus and *We Read* activities to the Kennedy Heights Block Party in July.

Throughout the summer, kids and families were given multiple opportunities to share about what they chose to read. Whether it was reading a traditional book, a comic book or graphic novel, an eBook or audiobook, movie subtitles, video games or social media, the library helped readers celebrate and talk about their reading with other community members.

In August, *We Read* programs centered on storytelling and story sharing. Each library offered workshops and self-directed activities, including stop-motion animation, informal comic making, spoken word poetry and more.

The library also gave away *We Read* stickers, color-changing pencils, temporary tattoos and the popular *We Read* tote bags for patrons to fill with library materials of their choosing.

*We Read* is funded by Madison Public Library Foundation, Ascendium Education Group, Steve Stricker American Family Insurance Foundation, Dick Goldberg and Lisa Munro, and Jane Doughty and David Wood.

“An awesome way to spend time is to bring your children to the library and let them find something they are truly excited to read. If they don’t already enjoy reading, ask a librarian for ideas!”

— Tammy Ocampo, Youth Services Manager

# Library Hosts Its First-Ever Naturalist-in-Residence

Local naturalist John C. Newman has been named the first Naturalist-in-Residence at Madison Public Library, through which he will lead a series of events, walks and workshops this fall.

The goal of the Naturalist-in-Residence project is to encourage the Madison community to explore, learn and reflect upon the natural world — and people’s place in it — through the guiding vision of an experienced local naturalist. Those who participate will get to enjoy Madison Parks, as well as the many green and urban spaces around the city and at libraries.

“Libraries are places of learning, enrichment and joy,” said Kristina Gómez, Community Engagement Librarian at Central Library and program coordinator. “The new Naturalist-in-Residence brings those elements to the outdoors as we celebrate nature and build awareness of our role in preserving and protecting the environment. With free and accessible events throughout Madison, the residency will be a welcoming and inclusive space for both those experienced with and new to naturalism.”

The theme of Newman’s residency is *Nature is for Everyone*. It will include nature-inspired art activities, walks in beautiful new places, foraging expeditions, and more.

“I think to be a naturalist can certainly involve visiting beautiful places, but it also is about recognizing how we ourselves are nature, and how the homes and communities we create are part of nature,” Newman said. “Nature is all

“Nature is all around us, and even inside of us. I want to help as many people as possible start to see the world this way.”

— John C. Newman, Madison Public Library Naturalist-in-Residence



John Newman, Madison Public Library’s first Naturalist-in-Residence, will lead nature programming this fall.

around us, and even inside of us. I want to help as many people as possible start to see the world this way.”

Newman describes himself as a lifelong forager, a giant science nerd, a passionate educator, and the kid who would excitedly start sentences with “Hey, did you know that ... ?” He earned his B.S. in botany at UW-Platteville, and has been a Wisconsin Master Naturalist since 2019.

Upcoming activities include a birding outing with the Feminist Bird Club – Madison Chapter, a foraging expedition, a modeling nature art workshop, a canoe trip and more. Visit [madpl.org/naturalist](https://madpl.org/naturalist) for a complete list of programs.

The Naturalist-in-Residence program is made possible in part by generous support from the Friends of Madison Public Library and in partnership with Madison Parks.

# Foundation Grant Outfits Libraries with Birding Backpacks

Madison Public Library will begin to offer Birding Backpacks for checkout, thanks to a Madison Public Library Foundation grant and a gift from the Feminist Bird Club – Madison Chapter.

This past spring, the Feminist Bird Club joined the Great Wisconsin Birdathon to raise funds to buy backpacks stocked with birding equipment and make them available for checkout at the library. The group raised more than \$4,000 during the Birdathon, with half the funds supporting Wisconsin’s highest-priority bird conservation projects, and the other half funding one Birding Backpack at each of the library’s nine locations. Madison Public Library Foundation matched that donation by granting funds for an additional nine backpacks. The project’s goal is to eliminate the cost barrier that can come with trying a new hobby like birding: All of the necessary equipment is provided in the backpack.

“Birding is such a joyful hobby, but it can feel exclusionary from the start if you don’t have access to binoculars; they can be a pricey investment,” said Caitlyn Schuchhardt, a Feminist Bird Club – Madison Chapter Leadership Team member. “We wanted to make it easier for those who are ‘bird curious’ to get started with this hobby.”

There are many benefits to birding, including mental health and overall wellness, Schuchhardt said.

“Birding can open up a whole new world of wonder and curiosity! You can feel transported to a different place, mentally. Immersing yourself in nature and the wonder of birds can help you step away from the very real problems of the world and find some needed joy,” said Schuchhardt.

Birding Backpacks can be checked out for one week at a time. They are first-come, first-serve; backpacks cannot be placed on hold. Each Birding Backpack includes:

- one pair of binoculars for adults
- one pair of binoculars for kids
- one Sibley’s field guide for adults
- one youth field guide, donated by Madison Audubon Society
- one birding location guide to help you explore potential birding spots near each library

A Madison Public Library card is required to check out a Birding Backpack, and all lost/damaged item protocols will be followed.



Members of the Feminist Bird Club – Madison Chapter contributed Birding Backpacks to each Madison Public Library location.



# EVENTS & HIGHLIGHTS



## Estate Plan Workshop Sept. 20

Did you know that two-thirds of adults don't have a will or an estate plan in place? If you've been putting off decision-making as it relates to these important documents, let Madison Public Library Foundation help you! Join us for our next free virtual Educational Series program, *Estate Planning: Getting Started at Any Age*, from noon-1 p.m. Tuesday, September 20.

Our two guest presenters — both from Stafford Rosenbaum LLP — will be Johanna J. Allex, Partner, and Rachel Snyder, Senior Associate. They'll guide participants through the estate planning process, discussing the differences between wills and trusts, how probate works, basic estate and gift tax concepts, how to plan for incapacity and more.

You can send questions in advance or ask them during the live event, which takes place via Zoom. Send questions to [events@mplfoundation.org](mailto:events@mplfoundation.org) and reserve your spot for the workshop by visiting [mplfoundation.org](http://mplfoundation.org).

## Monthly Live Jazz at Sequoya

The Friends of Sequoya Library group is once again bringing live jazz to Sequoya Library! Visit the library on the third Saturday of each month from 2-4 p.m. to enjoy performances by the following local musicians:

- September 17 – Essensual BeatZ
- October 15 – Sandhill Cranes
- November 19 – Caravan
- December 19 – Gerri DiMaggio Quartet



## September Is Library Card Signup Month

Support Library Card Signup Month by encouraging someone you know to apply for a card! Tell them to visit Madison Public Library staff at the **Madison Night Market** at State and Gilman streets from **4-8 p.m. September 8**, and at the **Forward Madison FC soccer game** on **September 17**.

Those who would like a card can complete an application at these two events, online at [madpl.org/library-cards](http://madpl.org/library-cards) or in person at any of the library's nine locations.

A free library card provides access to:

- books, magazines, newspapers, CDs and DVDs
- downloadable books and audiobooks
- video streaming
- computers and high-speed Wi-Fi
- hundreds of library programs each month



## 12th Annual Ex Libris Nov. 4

Feast on a wide array of flavorful dishes and handcrafted beverages at Ex Libris Vol. XII: New Recipe, fall's premier local food event! Spend the evening of Friday, November 4, at Central Library, where you can sample culinary creations from nearly 40 local businesses that make up Madison's diverse food and drink vendor community — each bringing its own authentic flavor. There will also be live music and an online silent auction.

The event runs from 7-10 p.m., and tickets are \$85 each. You may also purchase a \$250 Community Sponsor package, which includes two tickets, or a \$500 Community Sponsor package, which includes a bonus ticket when purchased before September 30.

Make Ex Libris a fall tradition and enjoy the good company of fellow library lovers! Buy your tickets beginning September 7 at [mplfoundation.org](http://mplfoundation.org).

Warm up for  
Ex Libris at  
our  
BEER  
RELEASE  
PARTY  
Wed., Oct. 19  
4-6 p.m.

at



Free admission

## Jazz at Sequoya Library

3rd Saturdays from August-December 2022



For more details about each group, visit [madpl.org/jazzatsequoya](http://madpl.org/jazzatsequoya).

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