

Silas Bronson Library BOOKS AND HAPPENINGS

The Newsletter of Waterbury's Public Library

WINTER 2023 - 2024

Table of Contents

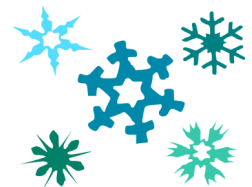
Library News & Exhibits	1
Friends of the Library	2
Computers & Printing	3
Adult Programs	4-7
Geekdom Programs	8
Teen/YA Programs	9
Children's Programs	10-11
Hours & Locations	12

ELEVATOR UPDATE

The new elevator is now in service! Our old elevator was installed in 1968 and broke down frequently. Replacement cost approximately \$500,000. The Board of Aldermen for the City of Waterbury approved the use of local bond funds for \$250,000 to be used as a one-to-one match for a \$250,000 Construction Grant from the Connecticut State Library in 2021. The State Bonding Commission approved our Construction Grant request in 2022.

WINTER WEATHER CLOSINGS

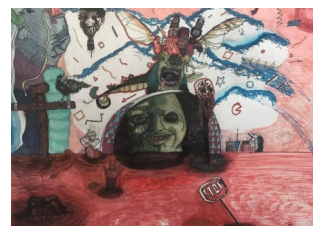
The library is usually open even when the schools are closed. Weather-related closures will be announced on our social media and website; closing alerts will also be sent to area news stations.



WINTER EXHIBITS

Each month we will feature different local artists in our first floor exhibit spaces. We will also have a rotating exhibit of children's artwork on the second floor in the KidZone. Exhibits are open whenever the library is open.

In December, we will feature work by Waterbury artist Diana Stubic. Art has been a major part of her life and wellbeing ever since she was introduced to the world of art at a mental health resource center.



Elijah Miller



Diana Stubic

In January, we will feature the work of Elijah Miller, an illustrator, painter, writer, and animator.

Our February artist is Clyde Watson, a self-taught artist. Born in Jamaica, Watson grew up in Bridgeport. His work has been exhibited at numerous galleries.



Clyde Watson

If you are interested in exhibiting your work at the library, call the Reference Desk at 203-574-8225 or email bronsonlibrary@waterburyct.org.



NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Update from the Friends

If you haven't been involved with the Friends of the Library, now is a great time to get started! We'll be holding a special emergency meeting at the library on December 12 at 6 p.m. to elect interim officers, update membership rolls, and start planning a great new future for the Friends of the Library. Light refreshments will be served. Can't make the December meeting? We meet on the second Tuesday of every month. Drop in and find out how you can help support the library!



Monthly Meeting of the Friends

Second Tuesday of the month, 6 p.m.

December 12, January 9, February 13

Hybrid: Auditorium and Zoom

Open to all members of the Friends and anyone interested in joining. We will be holding a special emergency reorganization meeting in December to elect interim officers and develop a strategic plan. Light refreshments will be served. If you are unable to join in person, you can join via Zoom. Advance registration is required for Zoom participation; visit bronsonlibrary.org/programs to register.



Join the Friends of the Library

Members of the Friends receive this newsletter in the mail. Membership rates start at \$15/year for students and seniors; \$25/year for individuals; \$50/year for patrons; and \$100/year for corporate memberships. To join, please send a check payable to the Friends of the Silas Bronson Library, P.O. Box 2853, Waterbury, CT 06723 and indicate that it is for a new membership. Membership brochures are available at the library with additional information.

Gifts & Bequests

The Friends of the Silas Bronson Library is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting the mission and programs of the Silas Bronson Library. Donations and bequests may be made to the Friends to support the library's programs or to assist with building improvements. Donations to the Friends may be sent to us at P.O. Box 2853, Waterbury, CT 06723.

Book Donations

Please note that we are not accepting any donations of books or other items at this time.

COMPUTERS, WIFI, PRINTING, & COPYING

PUBLIC COMPUTERS

Our public computers are available for anyone to use. You can log on with a library card from any public library in the Bibliomation consortium. Not sure if your library is in the consortium? Ask at the Reference Desk for a list of Bibliomation libraries. If you don't have a library card, guest passes are available. ID must be shown to use a guest pass.

Parents and guardians — if you need to use one of our computers, and you have your kids with you, please feel free to use the computers in the Children's Room.

CHARGING STATIONS

The library has small lockers for charging your phone while you go do something else. We also have a number of tables with power outlets and USB outlets for charging laptops, tablets, and phones. You must bring your own USB or power cord for charging your device.

WI-FI

Access the internet with your own laptop, tablet, or phone using our free wifi. No password required, just select **SBL-WiFi-hotspot** on your device.



WI-FI HOTSPOTS AT HOME

Our Wi-Fi Hotspots let you borrow the internet for free! These small devices let you connect your phone, tablet, computer, or smart television to the internet. Hotspots can be borrowed for one week at a time.

PRINTING & COPYING

Black-and-white printing and copying is available at 15 cents per page. Color printing is available at 50 cents per page; please ask for assistance at the East Wing Reference Desk if you wish to print in color.

In order to print, you will need to pre-load money onto your library card or guest pass at the Circulation Desk.

ONE-ON-ONE COMPUTER HELP

By Appointment

Have a tablet, but don't know how to use it?

Need to figure out how to set up an email account?

Wondering how to use the library's Wi-Fi?

Want to learn how to use our online resources? What about resume or job search assistance? Our skilled and friendly staff are available to help you!

Schedule your appointment by calling 203-574-8225, visit the Reference Desk at the library or visit the Book a Librarian page on our website.

B.R.A.S.S. COMPUTER CLASSES

Fridays, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Waterbury Senior Center

Call Debra at 203-574-6746

to reserve a space



Learn how to use a tablet, smartphone, or computer. You will be assisted in using the internet, Wi-Fi, eBooks, and more! For seniors ages 60 and over. Free parking. For more information, call us at 203-574-8225.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

COMPUTER & SMARTPHONE CLASSES

Tuesdays, 1:30 p.m.

Computer Classroom

Get the skills you need to start using computers today.



- December 5: Computer Basics 1
- December 12: Computer Basics 2
- December 19: Using Email (bring your user name, password, and smartphone if you have them)
- December 26: Android Basics
- January 9: Internet Basics
- January 23: iPhone Basics
- January 30: Computer Basics 1
- February 6: Computer Basics 2
- February 27: Android Apps

DIGITAL ARTS LAB

Tuesdays, December 5 & 19, January 16 & 30,
February 13 & 27, 4:30 p.m.

Computer Classroom

Are you trying to edit photos, compose a song, make a movie, or work on another digital project? Use one of the library's iMacs with creative suite software to help you with your project! Call the Reference desk to reserve a 1 hour session on an iMac to work on your projects.



KEYBOARDING/TYPING SKILLS

Saturdays in January, 1 p.m.

Computer Classroom

Start the new year by learning a new skill. We'll meet every Saturday in January and use online tutorials to practice keyboarding/typing skills.

BRASS BOOK CLUB

Thursdays, December 28, January 25, February 22,
12:30 p.m. Zoom

Sign up at bronsonlibrary.org/programs.
For seniors age 60+.

- December 28: *Perestroika in Paris*
by Jane Smiley
- January 25: *The House of Silk*
by Anthony Horowitz
- February 22: *When Harry Met Minnie*
by Martha Teichner



BUNKER BOOKIES

Thursdays, December 14, January 11, Feb. 8, 1:30 p.m.

Bunker Hill Branch Library

Come join our new book club at the
Bunker Hill Branch!

- December 14: *Rules of Civility*
by Amor Towles
- January 11: *Full Dark House*
by Christopher Fowler
- February 8: *Seven Sisters* by Lucinda Riley



SISTERS TO SISTERS BOOK CLUB

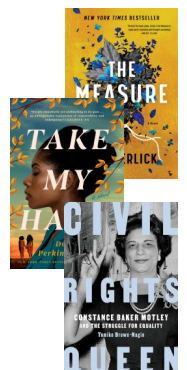
Thursdays, December 7, January 4, February 1, 6 p.m.

Auditorium

New members welcome.

Call 203-574-8225 to register.

- December 7: *The Measure* by Nikki Erlick
- January 4: *Take My Hand*
by Dolen Perkins-Valdez
- February 1: *Civil Rights Queen*
by Tomiko Brown-Nagin



PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

COLORING & CONVERSATION CLUB

Thursdays, December 28, January 25, Feb. 29, 2:30 p.m.

Auditorium

Meet and chat during our Coloring and Conversation Club. Whether you are looking to relax and de-stress, practice your English conversation skills, or meet new people, you are welcome to join us! Coloring pages and supplies will be provided.

FOOD SAFETY FOR HOLIDAY GATHERINGS

Thursday, December 7, 6:30 p.m.

Hybrid: Computer Classroom and Zoom

Food inspector and chef Thomas Solury from the Waterbury Department of Public Health will give you expert tips on food safety and preparation.

BRIGHTEN THE HOLIDAYS WITH SNOWFLAKES

Wednesday, December 13, 1:30 p.m.

Main Reading Room

Help brighten up the holidays by making paper snowflakes to decorate the windows of the library and to give out. All supplies will be provided.



MENTAL HEALTH THERAPY THROUGH ART

Wednesday, December 13, 6:30 p.m.

Main Reading Room

Diana Stublic will share her experience with art and how it helped shape and improve her mental health. Learn about Diana's introduction to art and how art helps her express difficult feelings and experiences.

DIY YARN HAT ORNAMENTS

Thursday, December 14, 1:30 p.m.

Auditorium

Create your own adorable winter hat ornament using yarn and take home what you have made. No sewing or knitting skills required! All supplies will be provided.



SEAT OF THE PANTS COOKING

Thursday, December 21, 7 p.m.

Zoom

Join Chef Bill in his kitchen for a special holiday cooking program.

Learn food prep tips, tricks and hints.



Advance registration required. Sign up at bronsonlibrary.org/programs or call us at 203-574-8225.

GENEALOGY TIPS: ONE-ON-ONE

Thursday, December 28, 5:30 p.m.

Computer Classroom

Just starting your family history research? Reached a "brick wall" in tracing your ancestors? Come get help from one of our librarians and learn how we can help you build your family tree. Reserve a 30-minute session with a librarian by calling 203-574-8225.

HAND-PAINTED TOTE BAG

Tuesday, January 9, 2:30 p.m.

Auditorium

A hands-on program for painting on a tote bag using watercolor. Learn to paint on canvas fabric using fabric ink pens and take home the tote bag you design. All supplies will be provided.



PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

PAID LEAVE INFORMATION SESSION

Wednesday, January 10, 6:30 p.m.

Main Reading Room

Join the Connecticut Paid Leave



Authority for an Informational Session to learn more about the state's Paid Leave program, including eligibility, covered reasons for leave, and how to apply for benefits.

GENEALOGY TIPS: FREE RESOURCES

Thursday, January 11, 6:30 p.m.

Hybrid: Computer Classroom & Zoom

You don't need to spend a fortune to research your ancestors. Learn about a wide range of free, online resources that can help you to learn about your family history. Join in person in our computer classroom, or sign up in advance at bronsonlibrary.org/programs to join on Zoom from home.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Thursday, January 18, 6 p.m.

Snow Date: Thursday, February 1, 6 p.m.

Main Reading Room

Get the year off to a safe start. Learn to recognize diverse emergency scenarios and how to develop personalized emergency plans. Presented by the Waterbury Health Department.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE PREVENTION

Tuesday, January 23, 6 p.m.

Snow Date: Thursday, February 1, 6 p.m.

Main Reading Room

Learn about the impact of nutrition on infectious disease. Find out how eating clean can benefit the immune system. Presented by the Waterbury Health Department.

MYTHICAL CREATURES OF CONNECTICUT

Thursday, January 25, 6 p.m.

Snow Date: Thursday, February 8, 6 p.m.

Auditorium

The Little People Village in Middlebury and the Elves of Cheshire Village are just a few of the legendary creatures profiled in *Connecticut Cryptids: A Field Guide to the Weird and Wonderful Creatures of the Nutmeg State*. Join writer Patrick Scalisi and illustrator Valerie Ruby-Omen as they discuss creatures that may or may not exist.



HYDROPONIC GARDENING

Tuesday, January 30, 6:30 p.m.

Auditorium

Learn how to grow your own indoor garden without using soil. Decorate a mason jar and then use it to start your garden. All supplies will be provided.

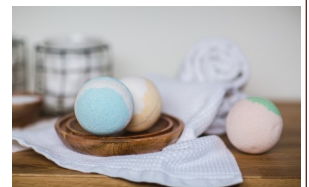


SENIOR ARTS & CRAFTS

Friday, February 2, 2:30 p.m.

Auditorium

DIY heart-shaped bath bombs for Valentine's Day! Learn how to make bath bombs using essential oils and dried flowers, then pack and wrap them nicely as a thoughtful gift for your loved ones. All supplies will be provided.



PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

BLACK HISTORY IN CONNECTICUT

Saturday, February 10, 1:30 p.m.

Main Reading Room

Take a virtual tour of items from the Connecticut



Museum of Culture & History

representing a spectrum of the Black experience in Connecticut.

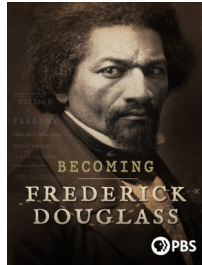
BECOMING FREDERICK DOUGLASS

Wednesday, February 14, 6:30 p.m.

Snow Date: Wednesday, February 21, 6:30 p.m.

Main Reading Room

Join us for an inspiring documentary about the life of Frederick Douglass, one of the most influential voices for freedom and democracy in American History.



GENEALOGY TIPS: FAMILYSEARCH.ORG

Thursday, February 15, 6:30 p.m.

Hybrid: Computer Classroom & Zoom

Familysearch.org is a powerful and free tool with billions of records for genealogy research. Learn how to effectively use the site and find its hidden gems. Join in person in our computer classroom, or sign up in advance at bronsonlibrary.org/programs to join on Zoom from home.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH TRIVIA NIGHT

Thursday, February 28, 6:30 p.m.

Main Reading Room

Join us for a trivia night celebrating Black History Month and the accomplishments of African Americans.



PHILIP V. BENEVENTO CULTURAL PROGRAM FOR ADULTS



CONVERSATIONS: A CONCERT WITH NEO-SOUL SINGER TEEKAY

Saturday, February 17, 1 p.m.

Snow Date: Saturday, February 24, 1 p.m.

Main Reading Room

Celebrate Black History Month with a concert by TeeKay, a neo-soul singer-songwriter and producer from Waterbury, who will be performing with keyboardist Gregory Hunte and vocalist Trayvone Rush. TeeKay has performed alongside some of the greats, such as Steven Scales of The Talking Heads, and Nona Hendryx of Labelle. Her debut EP, *Conversations*, was recorded in her home studio and released on all platforms in August, 2022.

The Philip V. Benevento Fund for Cultural Programs for Adults at the Silas Bronson Library was established in 2016 in honor of Waterbury's City Historian and former Silas Bronson Library Board member Philip V. Benevento. The fund continues to grow through individual donations made to the Friends of the Silas Bronson Library.

SILAS BRONSON GEEKDOM

CHESS MEETUP

Tuesdays, December 12,
January 9, February 6, 6 p.m.

Auditorium

For all skill levels. Learn new techniques, strategy and tactics or just come to have fun playing chess.

Note: Chess will be held in the Main Reading Room on December 12 and January 9.



CHESS ON ZOOM

Thursdays, December 14, January 11 & 25,
February 8 & 22, 4:30 p.m.

Zoom

Our chess master will be available to play against you, teach new techniques, and answer questions.



Advance registration is required.

Sign up at bronsonlibrary.org/geekdom

WEBTOON GUILD

Tuesdays, December 19,
January 30, February 27, 6 p.m.

Zoom

Join us on Zoom for our Webtoon Book Club, discussing favorite character, art style and the wonderful world of webcomics.



December 19: *The Top Dungeon Farmer*
by Lim Hyeong and Lee Ha-kyung

January 30: *Surviving the Game as a Barbarian*
by Han tae-su and Jung Yoon-kang

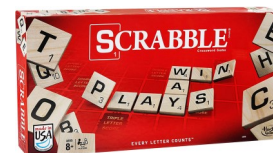
February 27: *Be My Villain* by mintibi

SCRABBLE MEETUP

Saturdays, December 16,
January 20, February 24, 1 p.m.

Main Reading Room

Come play Scrabble at the library! Bring a friend, or meet new friends. We'll have all the supplies you need.



ANIME CLUB

Saturdays, December 9 & 23,
January 6 & 20, February 3 & 17,
2:30 p.m.

Auditorium

Watch the latest YA Anime coming out of Japan and have fun with trivia challenges.



DND 101

Wednesdays, December 20,
January 31, February 14 & 28, 6 p.m.

Auditorium

Join us to learn the basics of DND 5th Edition through a tutorial campaign.



NOT YOUR PARENTS' BOARD GAMES

Saturdays, December 30, January 13,
February 10, 2:30 p.m.

Auditorium

Discover a whole new world of board games beyond traditional choices and see what all the fun is about!



TEEN / YOUNG ADULT PROGRAMS

NEVER ENDING STORY: TEEN BOOK CLUB

Wednesdays, December 13, January 10,

February 7, 6 p.m.

TeenZone

Join us to explore world of stories with books from a variety of genres, author, settings. Copies of the books are available to borrow. Snacks will be provided.



December 13: *My True Love Gave to Me*
by Stephanie Perkins

January 10: *Blood Debts* by Terry J Benton-Walker

February 7: *Heartstopper* by Alice Oseman

TEEN GAME NIGHT

Thursdays, December 14 & 21,

January 11 & 25,

February 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29, 6 p.m.

TeenZone

Come in and relax with our Thursday Game Night.



WRAPPED STRING ORNAMENTS

Tuesday, December 5, 6 p.m.

TeenZone

Using stencils, trace and cut out a winter themed shape and then wrap it with different colored yarn and decorate it with beads and buttons.



SNOWMAN CHARMS

Friday, December 22, 3:30 p.m.

TeenZone

Come and make wooden snowmen to use as charms or ornaments.



Borrow eBooks,
eAudiobooks
& magazines



Read on Libby.
The one-tap reading app from our library.

TEENZONE STUDY AREA

The library's TeenZone is a great place for teens to study or meet up to work on projects. Use of the room and computers is restricted to teens only.



CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

WEEKLY PROGRAMS

MEET & GREET, STAY & PLAY

Mondays, 10 a.m.

Children's Room

For children who are not yet in school, bring them to the library to help them learn to socialize. Parents can socialize too and share child-raising tips while the little ones play. For ages 4 and under.

BABIES AND BOOKS

Tuesdays, 10 a.m.

Children's Room

Enjoy stories, lullabies, nursery rhymes, and finger plays. Works best with one child per caregiver. For ages 24 months and younger.



WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY STORIES

Wednesdays, 10 a.m.

Children's Room

Come listen to wonderful stories that will transport you to far away places. For ages 2-5.



WHERE IN THE LIBRARY IS SILAS THE CAT?

Wednesdays, December 13, January 3,
February 14, all day

KidZone

Use clues provided by our librarians to find where Silas the Cat is hiding, then snap a photo of him and show your photo to the librarian to win a prize.



KIDZONE CODING WITH GIRLS WHO CODE

Wednesdays, 3:30 p.m.

Computer Classroom

Join us for our coding club using elements of the Girls Who Code coding programs. For Grades 3-12.



LITTLE MOVERS STORY TIME

Thursdays, 10 a.m.

Children's Room

Join us for a story time with music, dance, nursery rhymes, and fables. For ages 2 - 4.

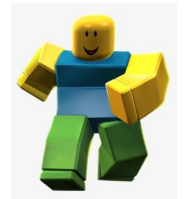


ROBLOX MEETUP

Fridays, 3:30 p.m.

Computer Classroom

Come play Roblox at the library on your own or with friends. For ages 5 - 14.



SNOWBALL LEARNERS

December 1 - January 31

Children's Room

Join our Winter Learning Program to learn and earn while you read this winter! For all children from birth through 8th grade. Children who can't read can still join if someone reads to them.



Registration is open from Friday, December 1, 2023 through Wednesday, January 24, 2024 in person, online at bronsonlibrary.org/kids, or by calling us at 203-574-8213. There will be a raffle for the grand prize at the end of the program. Visit the Children's Room for more information.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

HANUKKAH CRAFT

Thursday, December 7 - Friday, December 15

Children's Room

Stop by the library during Hanukkah to make your own dreidel and greeting card. For ages 3-13.



HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

Saturday, December 9, 12 p.m.

Children's Room & Main Reading Room

Bring the whole family to learn about the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. We'll have a craft activity in the Children's Room at 12 p.m., followed by a ceremony in the Main Reading Room at 1 p.m. Sponsored by the City of Waterbury Human Rights Commission.



FINGERPRINT GINGERBREAD MAN CRAFT

Monday, December 11, 6 p.m.

Children's Room

Make a gingerbread man ornament using your fingers and paint! For ages 2+ (adult assistance needed for younger children).

CANDY CANE STORY TIME

Friday, December 22, 11 a.m.

Children's Room

We'll be having a special story time followed by a "candy cane" craft and treat. For ages 2-5 (adult assistance needed for younger children).



THREE KINGS DAY / DIA DE LOS REYES

Friday, January 5 and Saturday, January 6,

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Children's Room

Stop by the library to create your own Three Kings crown. For ages 3+



THE LEGEND OF OLD BEFANA

Saturday, January 6, 1 p.m.

Children's Room

Angela Buzzelli shares the story of La Befana, who delivers gifts to children throughout Italy on Epiphany Eve. For ages 7+

SNOWMAN CRAFT

Tuesday, January 23, 6 p.m.

Children's Room

Make a snowman with felt, buttons, and glue. For ages 5+

GEOGRAPHY BEE WITH MR. C

Thursday, January 25, 5 p.m.

Children's Room

Geography can "bee" fun! Join us for a friendly competition to test your knowledge of climate, culture, countries, cities and other categories. Hope you will "bee" able to rise to the challenge. To sign up call 203 574 8212 or email bronsonkids@waterburyct.org. For Grades 4 through 8.

BE CREATIVE WITH MS. KIMKELLY

Saturday, February 10, 2 p.m.

Children's Room

Create a world of art using your gifts and imagination. Create art jewelry with natural objects such as wood, fabric, metal and or paint. For ages 4-13.

SILAS BRONSON LIBRARY
267 GRAND STREET
WATERBURY, CT 06702
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



SILAS BRONSON LIBRARY

Something for Everyone

LIBRARY HOURS

Main Library

Monday-Thurs. 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.

Bunker Hill Branch

Tuesday 12 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Thursday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

SPECIAL NOTES:

For weather closings, please check our social media or website.

LOCATIONS

Main Library

267 Grand Street
Waterbury, CT 06702

Bunker Hill Branch

192 Bunker Hill Avenue
Waterbury, CT 06708

CONTACT INFORMATION

Main Number: 203-574-8200
Bunker Hill Branch: 203-574-8240
Circulation Desk: 203-574-8206
Children's Division: 203-574-8213
Director's Office: 203-574-8222
Reference Desk: 203-574-8225
TTY/TDD: 203-574-8226

LIBRARY CLOSINGS

Christmas, December 25
New Year's Day, January 1
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, January 15
Presidents' Day, February 19 & 20

PARKING INFORMATION

Main Library

Kiosk parking is available on Grand Street and in the parking lot between the Library and City Hall. Spaces are available in the parking lot. Parking rates apply.

Parking rates: \$1 per hour; free after 6:30 p.m.

Bunker Hill Branch

Free parking is available in our lot on Aurora Street.



bronsonlibrary@waterburyct.org

203-574-8200

bronsonlibrary.org