



Silas Bronson Library BOOKS AND HAPPENINGS

The Newsletter of Waterbury's Public Library

WINTER 2024 - 2025

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50TH ANNUAL POETRY CONTEST

We're celebrating fifty years of our annual poetry contest for kids! We will be accepting contest submissions starting January 27 through March 30, 2025. Please stop by the library or contact us at bronsonkids@waterburyct.org or 203-574-8213 for details. Full contest rules will be posted to our website in December.

Calling all past poetry winners! Help us celebrate the poetry contest's 50th Anniversary. Stop by the library or contact us via email or phone to see how you can be involved.

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 **Edith Reynolds**. The exhibit title, "What Sustains," refers to the state motto, "Qui Transtulit Sustinet" (He Who Transplanted Still Sustains), and the artwork explores the value of shellfish throughout Connecticut's history.



Edith Reynolds

In January, we will feature the work of **Clyde Watson**, a self-taught artist who came to America from Jamaica at age 11. For Watson, art embodies his essence and serves as a source of inspiration and upliftment.



Clyde Watson

Our February artist is **Steve Parlato**, who will exhibit his 16-piece collage series, "They Are Not Disposable," depicting sixteen Black Americans whose lives were stolen due to racial violence.



Steve Parlato

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



bronsonlibrary@waterburyct.org

203-574-8200

bronsonlibrary.org

ONLINE RESOURCES

Visit our online resources at bronsonlibrary.org/digital

ACORN APP

Access your library account, use the app instead of your library card, and search our catalog, all on your phone. Download the Acorn Catalog, then log in with your library barcode number and password.



AMERICA'S HISTORICAL NEWSPAPERS

Search or browse the *Waterbury American* from 1844 to 1865, one of more than 100 historical newspapers in this database.



ANCESTRY LIBRARY EDITION

Gain free access to billions of historical documents, including census records and immigration records, to help you find out more about your family history.



AUTO REPAIR SOURCE

Accurate, authoritative, and up-to-date service and repair information for thousands of domestic and imported vehicles.



BLACK LIFE IN AMERICA

Search or browse the *Waterbury American* from 1866 to 1877, one of thousands of newspapers in this database.



LIBBY

The Libby app connects you to our OverDrive collection of ebooks, audiobooks, and magazines on your smartphone or tablet.



MANGO

Learn a new language with Mango, which has dozens of languages to choose from.



MUSEUM PASS PROGRAM

Our museum passes give you free or reduced price admission to more than a dozen museums, zoos, and science centers.



NEWSBANK

Use NewsBank to search for news articles from more than 10,000 sources, or browse more than 30 popular magazines.



NORTHSTAR DIGITAL LITERACY

Build your computer skills and confidence in using new technology for work or daily life.



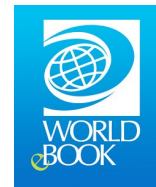
REPUBLICAN-AMERICAN

Search for articles published in the *Republican-American* from 2004 to the present.



WORLD BOOK

The World Book is more than just an encyclopedia! Discover activities, ebooks, theater, science, social studies, and more.



UNIVERSAL CLASS

Brush up your skills with hundreds of free online courses to help you learn new skills or prepare for tests.



Learn Something NEW

Access Universal Class through the Libby app or on a browser using the link on our website.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

AFTERNOON COMPUTER CLASSES

Tuesdays, 1:30 p.m.

Computer Classroom

Get the skills you need to start using computers today.



December 3: Computer Basics:

Mouse & Keyboard Skills

December 10: Computer Basics:

Organizing Files on Your Computer

December 17: Internet Skills: Intro to Browsers
and Keyword Searches

January 7: Internet Skills: Downloading,
Printing, & Saving Documents

January 14: Internet Skills: Staying Safe Online

January 28: PowerPoint

February 4: Word

February 11: Android Phones

February 25: Excel

EVENING COMPUTER CLASSES

Wednesdays, December 18,

January 15, February 26, 6:30 p.m.

Computer Classroom

Get the computer skills you need for work or school.



December 18: Word

January 15: Excel

February 26: PowerPoint

MYSTERY BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, January 7, 1 p.m.

Bunker Hill Branch Library

Our Mystery Book Club meets every other month at the branch. In January, we'll be discussing *Vera Wong's Unsolicited Advice for Murderers* by Jesse Q. Sutanto.



BRASS BOOK CLUB

Thursdays, December 19, January 23,

February 27, 12:30 p.m.

Zoom

Sign up at bronsonlibrary.org/programs.

For seniors age 60+.

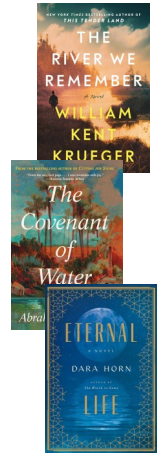
December 19: *The River We Remember*

by William Kent Krueger

January 23: *The Covenant of Water*

by Abraham Verghese

February 27: *Eternal Life* by Dara Horn



BUNKER BOOKIES

Thursdays, December 12, January 9,

February 13, 1:30 p.m.

Bunker Hill Branch Library

Join us at the branch for a monthly book club.

December 12: *Uncommon Type*

by Tom Hanks

January 9: *The Big Sleep*

by Raymond Chandler

February 13: *Clementine: The Life of Mrs. Winston Churchill*

by Sonia Purnell



SISTERS TO SISTERS BOOK CLUB

Thursdays, December 12, January 2,

February 6, 6 p.m.

Auditorium

New members welcome.

December 12: *The Teacher*

by Frieda McFadden

January 2: *The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store*

by James McBride

February 6: *Rogue Justice* by Stacey Abrams



PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

WINTER READING BINGO

December 2—January 31

Get cozy with a good book this winter! Pick up your winter reading bingo card at the main library or Bunker Hill Branch and complete three activities in a row. Return your card with completed squares to the Reference or Teen Desk or Bunker Hill Branch to be entered into a raffle. For adults and teens.

COLORING & CONVERSATIONS CLUB

Fridays, December 27, January 24, Feb. 28, 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.



SEAT OF THE PANTS COOKING

Thursday, December 5, 7 p.m.

Zoom

Chef Bill returns for a special holiday program. Join us on Zoom and learn how to make a delicious holiday entrée. Advance registration required. Sign up at bronsonlibrary.org/programs or call us at 203-574-8225.



SNOWFLAKE CRAFT WORKSHOP

Friday, December 13, 3 p.m.

Auditorium

Come enjoy a relaxing afternoon of creativity. Make a beautiful beaded snowflake you can give as a gift or keep for your own home décor. We'll provide all the supplies you need.



GENEALOGY TIPS: ANCESTRY.COM

Thursday, December 19, 6:30 p.m.

Computer Classroom

Learn how to research your family tree using Ancestry.com, a powerful tool available for free at the library. Explore billions of census, vital, census, military, immigration, and other records that can help to tell your family's story.



MINDFULNESS & MEDITATION

Saturday, December 21, 1:30 p.m.

Main Reading Room

Have you ever wondered what mindfulness is? Did you know it can decrease stress, increase joy, and enhance overall well-being? Join us for this introductory session designed for both newcomers and those looking to deepen their understanding of mindfulness. Presented by Susan Peck & Sally Gencarelli, graduates of the Mindfulness Facilitator Course at Copper Beech Institute in West Hartford.



MY TOWN, MY STORY

Saturday, January 4, 1 p.m.

Main Reading Room

Come learn about a new digital archive initiative designed to help you preserve and share photos and stories about Waterbury and the many communities that live here.



AMERICORPS HEALTH EDUCATION

Saturday, January 11, 11 a.m.

Snow Date: Saturday, February 15, 1 p.m.

Auditorium

Learn about patient rights & responsibilities, get tips on nutrition and reading medicine labels, and learn about chronic diseases. Presented by AmeriCorps.



PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

HOW TO BUY A HOME

Tuesday, January 14, 6:30 p.m.

Main Reading Room

Learn the essentials of the home buying process, including down payment assistance, pre-qualification requirements, and resources for first-time buyers. Get the tools and confidence you need to begin your journey toward home ownership. Presented by Liberty Bank.



GENEALOGY TIPS: DNA & YOUR FAMILY TREE

Thursday, January 16, 6:30 p.m.

Snow Date: Thursday, January 30, 6:30 p.m.

Hybrid: Zoom and Auditorium

DNA is a powerful tool to confirm a lineage for those who know their family history and for those who don't, it can be life changing. Learn from professional genealogist Jennifer Zinck about the most popular DNA tools and techniques available today and how you can use them. Join in person at the library or at home via Zoom. For Zoom participation, register in advance at bronsonlibrary.org/programs.



SAVE MONEY ON HOME ENERGY BILLS

Saturday, January 18, 1:30 p.m.

Snow Date: Saturday, January 25, 1:30 p.m.

Main Reading Room

Sharod Blizzard from Clean Water Action will explain how you can get no-cost and low-cost energy efficiency improvements to your home through home energy assessments, as well as rebates and incentives for energy efficiency upgrades in your home.



VITA TAX PREP

January 25 - April 15

By appointment only

Call 211 to schedule



United Way
of Greater Waterbury



The VITA Tax Prep program will be held at the library on Saturdays by appointment only. IRS-trained volunteers will be available to prepare tax returns for individuals who made \$64,000 or less, persons with disabilities, and limited English speaking taxpayers who need assistance in preparing their tax returns.

Free tax prep assistance is also available for individuals who are self-employed and have business expenses less than \$25,000. IRS-trained volunteers are certified to prepare simple tax returns and screen customers for special tax credits and savings plans.

ROCK 'N' ROLL DJs

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

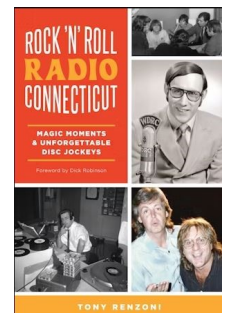
Snow Date: Thursday, February 13, 6:30 p.m.

Main Reading Room

Waterbury native Tony Renzoni will discuss his new book, *Rock 'n' Roll Radio Connecticut: Magic Moments & Unforgettable Disc Jockeys*, which tells the stories of the state's charismatic DJs, including those at Waterbury's WCCO and WATR.



With in-depth interviews and photos, Renzoni traces the influential role of past and present on-air personalities. Copies of the book will be available for purchase and signing.



PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

ART FOR CHANGE

Saturday, February 8, 1 p.m.

Main Reading Room

In conjunction with an exhibit of his collage series, "They Are Not Disposable," artist/author and college professor Steve Parlato will discuss his process and inspiration in creating the series, which depicts sixteen Black Americans whose lives were stolen due to racial violence. Part tribute, part call to action, the presentation, featuring Parlato's poetry honoring those lost, will offer an opportunity for community conversation. Parlato previously exhibited the collages at the Silas Bronson Library before the full series was completed.



GENEALOGY TIPS:

BRINGING FAMILY HISTORY ALIVE

Thursday, February 20, 6 p.m.

Snow Date: Thursday, February 27, 6 p.m.

Hybrid: Zoom and Auditorium

Marian Burk Wood will offer practical tips on how to bring your family history alive in bite-sized projects. Get fresh ideas for documenting and sharing your family history stories in engaging projects that can be shared with relatives and posted online for future generations. Each example takes a short time and gives you flexibility to be creative in spotlighting one aspect of your family history.



Join in person at the library or join from home via Zoom. Register in advance for Zoom participation at bronsonlibrary.org/programs.

PHILIP V. BENEVENTO CULTURAL PROGRAM FOR ADULTS



Marian Anderson, 1940

CONNECTICUT'S AFRICAN AMERICAN HEROINES

Saturday, February 22, 1 p.m.

Snow Date: Tuesday, February 25, 6:30 p.m.

Main Reading Room

The Connecticut Women's Hall of Fame will inspire you with stories of Connecticut's most remarkable African American women, from women's rights advocate Maria Miller Stewart and legendary contralto and Civil Rights catalyst Marian Anderson to pioneering journalist Adrienne Baughns-Wallace and former State Treasurer Denise L. Nappier.

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.

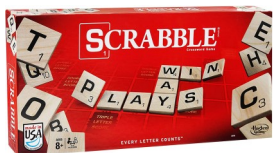
SILAS BRONSON GEEKDOM

SCRABBLE MEETUP

Mondays, December 16, January 13,
February 24, 2:30 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.



CHESS MEETUP

Tuesdays, December 10,
January 7, February 4, 6 p.m.

Auditorium

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



ANIME CLUB

Wednesdays December 11,
January 8, February 5, 4:30 p.m.

Auditorium

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



DND 101

Wednesdays, December 4 & 18, January 15 & 29,
February 12 & 26, 6 p.m.

Auditorium

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



CHESS ON ZOOM

Thursdays, December 12, January 9 & 30,
February 6 & 27, 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

NOT YOUR PARENTS' BOARD GAMES

Saturdays, January 11,
February 15, 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

TEEN GAME NIGHT

Tuesdays, December 17, January 14 & 28,
February 11 & 25, 6 p.m.

TeenZone

Come relax with a board game. Bring a friend or meet new friends. For ages 13+



WINTER CITY SILHOUETTE

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

TeenZone

Have fun making a snowy luminaria out of an empty mason jar. Supplies are limited: first come, first serve. For ages 13+



CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

WEEKLY PROGRAMS

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.

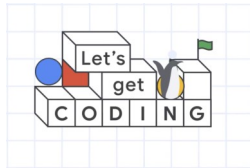


KIDZONE CODING CLUB

Wednesdays, 2:30 p.m.

Computer Classroom

Join one of our librarians to learn about coding. For ages 6-11.



LITTLE MOVERS STORY TIME

Thursdays, 10 a.m.

Picture Book Room

Join us for a story time with music, dance, nursery rhymes, and fables. For ages 2-4. Starts December 12.



JAMMIN' WITH MISS JULIE

Thursdays, 5 p.m.

Children's Room

Come wear your PJ's and your dancing shoes if you so choose. We'll have stories, music, and dancing for children ages 3-5.



New! Every story time will now include a fun craft to complement the story being read.

MONTHLY PROGRAMS

WHERE IN THE LIBRARY IS SILAS THE CAT?

Wednesdays, December 18, January 22,

February 19, 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.



SATURDAY MORNING MOVIES

Saturdays, December 7, January 4,

February 1, 11 a.m.

Children's Room

Bring the kids to the library to watch the latest family movies. Rated PG

December 7: If

January 4: Garfield

February 1: Harold & the Purple Crayon



SNOWBALL READERS

December 2 - January 31

Children's Room

Join our Winter Reading 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 Monday, December 2,

2024 through Friday, January 24, 2025 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

HOLIDAY SHOW

Wednesday, December 4, 6 p.m.

Main Reading Room

Join us for our annual holiday show featuring Mr. B's balloon animals and a little bit of magic.



CHRISTMAS WREATH CRAFT

Friday, December 13, 3:30 p.m.

Children's Room

Come make a Christmas wreath out of recyclable material. For ages 6-12.

SNOWFLAKE ORNAMENT CRAFT

Tuesday, December 17, 5 p.m.

Children's Room

Make a snowflake out of beads to decorate your home. For ages 6-12.

CHRISTMAS CARD CRAFT

Friday, December 20, all day

Children's Room

Stop by the library to create a Christmas card for someone special. For ages 6-12.

HANUKKAH CRAFT

December 26 - January 2, all day

Children's Room

Stop by the library during Hanukkah to make a Dreidel with your favorite colors and patterns, and design a menorah using cloth, paper, and glue.



KWANZAA STORY TIME

Saturday, December 28, 11 a.m.

Children's Room

Come learn about Kwanzaa with a special story time. For ages 3-8.



THREE KINGS DAY / DIA DE LOS REYES

Monday, January 6, all day

Children's Room

Stop by the library to make a crown and a Feliz Dia De Los Reyes card on Three Kings Day. For ages 6-12.



SNOWFLAKE BOOKMARK CRAFT

Tuesday, January 7, 6 p.m.

Children's Room

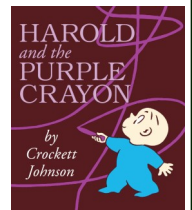
Come make your own bookmark with a winter snowflake theme. For ages 6-11.

TAKE YOUR CHILD TO THE LIBRARY DAY

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

Children's Room

To celebrate National Take Your Child to the Library Day, we'll be reading Harold and the Purple Crayon and giving away free copies of the book. Then stay and watch the new movie inspired by the book.



VALENTINE'S DAY CRAFT

Friday, February 14, all day

Children's Room

Fall in love with your creativity! We'll make designs with scratch art and create heart shaped ornaments with construction paper, felt and glue. For ages 6-11.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH TRIVIA CONTEST

Thursday, February 20, 6 p.m.

Children's Room

Celebrate African American History with a fun and friendly quiz. For ages 6-12.



FAMILY RESOURCES

PUBLIC COMPUTERS FOR PARENTS & KIDS

The KidZone features six computers for use by children and their caregivers. The computers have filtered access to the internet and include Microsoft Office. Adults, feel free to use these computers when you bring your children to the library.

EARLY LEARNING STATIONS

The AWE Early Learning Stations are designed for younger children to use. Loaded with educational games and activities, the Early Learning Stations are not able to browse the internet.



PARENT & TEACHER COLLECTION

Whether you're a parent looking for how-to books, or a teacher in need of extra resources, we have a special collection of books just for you.

GRADE-LEVEL READING LISTS

Wondering what books are best for your child's reading level? We have recommended reading lists organized by grade level which you can download from our website or pick up in the KidZone. We also keep special carts in the KidZone with a selection of books organized by grade level.

MUSEUM PASS PROGRAM

Save money when you take the kids to a museum or zoo. Our museum pass program features free or reduced price admission to a dozen museums and zoos. Find out more at bronsonlibrary.org/museums or ask us about it when you're at the library.



WORLD BOOK ONLINE

The World Book is more than just an encyclopedia. Their online resource includes biographies, science projects, research guides, tools for teachers, puzzles, games, and craft ideas. The World Book is available in English and in Spanish.

EBOOKS FOR KIDS & TEENS

The Libby app connects you to our ebooks and audiobooks on your smartphone or tablet. The app includes special filters to help you find books for kids or teens.



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.



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



SILAS BRONSON LIBRARY

Something for Everyone

LIBRARY HOURS

Main Library

Monday 9 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.
Tuesday-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:

We will close at 4:45 on January 21 and February 19.

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 20
Presidents' Day, February 17 & 18

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