



FORBES library

NORTHAMPTON'S PUBLIC LIBRARY

Save the Date

**Wine Tasting
2017**

The Friends of Forbes' annual fall **Wine Tasting Fundraiser** at the library: **Friday, September 22 6 to 8 p.m.**

It is always a very festive event, with an enticing variety of wines, irresistible appetizers, music, flowers, and exceptional raffle prizes. Tickets will be on sale beginning in the latter part of July at \$30 per person. Come and join the fun!



Garden Tour

**The Northampton Garden Tour
Saturday, June 10 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

Rain or Shine.

Come visit six delightful gardens on display for the 2017 Northampton Garden Tour. The Garden Tour is intended to inspire and educate everyday gardeners with plantings in a variety of appealing and unique landscaping styles and creative use of hardscape. At each garden there are descriptions of the plantings, and garden guides are on hand to answer questions. Directions to this self-guided tour of gardens within easy driving distance of the library come with the tickets.

Tour Tickets:

In Advance \$15 at Forbes Library, Bay State Perennial Farm, Cooper's Corner, Hadley Garden Center, North Country Landscapes and Garden Center and State Street Fruit Store.

Day of the Tour : \$20 at Forbes library only

Raffle: 2 tickets/\$5 or 5 tickets/\$10

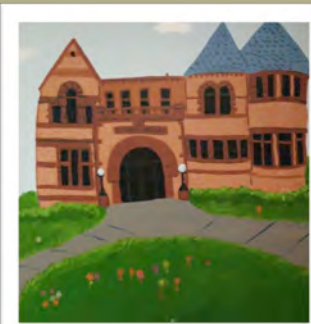
Raffle tickets for sale at Forbes Library, from May 10 - June 8 & on the day of the tour, at one of the gardens. Win gift certificates, compost, landscape consult or gardening supplies.

All proceeds benefit the Friends of Forbes Library, Inc. to support programs, events, and projects for the library that could not otherwise be funded.

For details: www.forbeslibrary.org

For more information, contact: Lyn Heady 413-584-7041

Trustees' Award



On Wednesday, June 14 at 7 PM, the Trustees of Forbes Library will present Mikki Michon and Jarrett Krosoczka with the Gertrude P. Smith Trustees Award. This is the 30th annual award ceremony, established to recognize community members who have given exceptional volunteer service to the library. Members of the public are invited to attend the short program in the Coolidge Museum on the library's second floor, followed by a reception in the Hosmer Gallery. Mikki Michon faithfully served for over 15 years on the Friends of Forbes Library Board, and Jarrett Krosoczka, a New York Times best-selling children's book author and illustrator, created a gorgeous mural for the children's Department of the library.

Thank you for a successful Valley Gives Day!

Forbes Library raised \$7,905 from 134 generous donors on Valley Gives Day 2017. This exceeded the library's matching challenge grant of \$6,000 from the Friends of Forbes Library. The library was the lucky winner of a \$500 "golden ticket" as well, bringing the total for the day to \$14,405.

"We are so touched by the outpouring of generosity. The funds raised are so gratefully appreciated and will be used to provide free educational and life-enriching programs for patrons of all ages," said Lisa Downing, Library Director. Programming at Forbes Library is an integral part of the library's mission, which serves to support the civic, intellectual, and cultural pursuits of the community. Last year over 20,000 people attended a program at the library. "Our programs bring the community together and encourage curiosity, free inquiry, and lifelong learning for all ages and income levels. The funds raised on Valley Gives Day will support a year's worth of amazing free programs and we couldn't be more delighted," said Downing

The Gift of an Outreach Delivery Service



One year ago Forbes embarked on an exciting new direction for outreach. Built upon the solo efforts of now retired Frank Heston, the program was reorganized to enable vetted Forbes's volunteers to visit homebound residents of Northampton, Leeds and Florence; bringing with

them a plethora of library materials from magazines to DVDs.

"The Outreach Delivery Service brings the joy of reading to many people in our community who would otherwise not have access," said Lisa Downing, Director of the library. "But it is so much more. The personalized visits by our volunteers not only bring books, but companionship. As one patron recently stated, "I feel blessed to have my volunteer in my life."

The coordinator of the service, Maria Sperduti, has an M.Ed in Curriculum Development and Administration and has loved libraries since early childhood. At present there are 21 volunteers, who serve 42 patrons throughout Northampton. When asked what they value most from the experience, one volunteer stated, "The wonderful conversations with patrons have enriched my experience. Learning about their lives, their history, their interests, has had a lasting impact."

Patrons of Forbes are encouraged to apply to be Outreach Delivery Service volunteers! We welcome applicants who are able to donate a couple of hours a week for one year. To learn more about becoming a volunteer, come to an informational meeting on Saturday, June 3rd at 12:30. Applications for volunteers and for those in need of services can be found on the library's website: <http://forbeslibrary.org/accessibility/outreach/>

Sensory Storytime

Forbes Library is committed to serving all members of its community, at every age and stage of life! One way we've recently broadened our programming is through a new Sensory Storytime. Launched in September, this monthly sensory-based program includes singing, dancing, reading, and other fun activities for children ages 4 to 9 and their caretakers. If your child has difficulty sitting still at a regular storytime, or needs some extra space or attention in activities, then this program is for you! While the storytime is designed to accommodate the needs of children with disabilities, we welcome any young patrons. We make noise, take breaks, and follow the flow of the room.

Thanks to a grant we received from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners with funds from the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA), a Federal source of library funding provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, we have a variety of wonderful resources to support the program, including bean bags, sensory balls, a storytime collection of books, and stepping stones. Our storytimes are interactive, educational, and personalized to the needs of our patrons to ensure that everyone has a great time!

We hope you'll join us for our next Sensory Storytime taking place on Wednesday, May 24th at 3:15 PM in the Community Room. This summer the program will be held on the first Friday of every month at 3:15 PM. As always, feel free to call the Children's Department at 587-1010 with any questions you may have. We look forward to seeing you and your children soon!

Two New Members of the Forbes Family



Meet the two new children's book devotees working at Forbes. Both were drawn to work in libraries at a very young age and have happily landed in the Anna Gertrude Brewster Children's Room on the lower level of Forbes. Sarah Johnson was named the Head of Children's & Young Adult Services and arrived in December, leaving a position at the Brooklyn Public Library. She has been working in libraries and around books since the age of 16. She views Northampton as a vibrant community and immediately perceived a friendly staff and a welcoming environment in her new workplace. Forbes, she says, is an "energetic and inspiring place to work."

Ralph Holley began volunteering in libraries at the age of 10 and later worked in the Canton Public Library in Connecticut, where he was a page, a book shelver, and was also involved in assisting with some of the programming. He was named a Children's Department Assistant at Forbes in December. Ralph says he could go on and on about how special Forbes is and places the staff at

the top of his list. He is also impressed with the programs, the non-traditional circulating items and the beautiful building.

When asked to name a favorite children's book or author, Sarah chose the *FROG and TOAD* books by Arnold Lobel, which were favorites of hers as a child and have remained so because of the themes of friendship and dealing with obstacles. She also noted the terrific sense of humor that Lobel brings to this series of books. Ralph named a Dr. Seuss book as his favorite, *THERE'S A WOCKET IN MY POCKET*, but is spending more time these days reading Young Adult Literature. Ralph is leading some young adult book discussions at Forbes.

The two newest members of the Forbes Community are settling in and are sure to enhance an already exceptional Children's Room. To both of them, with the greeting of a famous children's book's beloved spider, we say, SALUTATIONS!



New Group: Needle Felting and Fiber Crafts

Join a new drop-in group of fiber crafters!

Wednesdays, 2-4 PM In the Arts and Music Lounge

Lisa Melnick will demonstrate how to felt flat and sculpt three-dimensional objects, figures, animals, jewelry or anything else you can imagine. The library will supply some wool to get you started. Feel free to bring your own fiber craft projects to work alongside similarly occupied companions!

Lisa Melnick is a self-taught fiber artist and former social worker with decades of experience in sewing clothes and accessories, knitting, making art dolls, drawing, painting, and mixed media.

Free Money for Forbes



Thank you to everyone who voted for the **Friends of Forbes** in the Florence Bank Customer Choice awards.

We received \$2,503 from the bank in March as part of its program allowing customers to vote for their favorite non-profit.

It's not too early to vote for next year's award. Fill out a

ballot at the bank or the library, or simply go online to the Florence Bank Customer's Choice web page and type in Friends of Forbes and Northampton. Enter your name and email address, click the "count my Vote" button and that's it. Thank you for your vote!

Be a Friend of Forbes

Help Support Forbes Library by becoming a member today!
Pick up an envelope at the circulation desk or use the PayPal button on our web page <http://forbeslibrary.org/friends/support/> to send in your membership for 2017.

Summer Reading Program

What would summer be without the Forbes Library's annual Summer Reading Program?

In the spirit of this year's theme, Build A Better World, the Forbes Library is kicking off the Summer Reading Program by hosting an Awareness Fair. On June 3rd, patrons may stroll through an open-air bazaar on the West Lawn where they will have the opportunity to talk to representatives from various community organizations in the area, such as Safe Passage and the Food Bank of Western Mass, about the work that they do. There will be entertainment throughout the day, including a performance by the AEIOukes Ukulele Orchestra, face-painting, balloon animals, and a temporary tattoo parlor.

This year, when they register for the Summer Reading Program, adults and kids alike will travel the library, the community, and the literary world with their summer reading "passports"! Passports will include reading and activity challenges. Kids will win a prize for every month they complete, and will be entered into a grand prize raffle if they finish the whole passport! Adults will receive an entry into a grand prize drawing for every challenge they complete, one additional entry for every four completed challenges, and another additional entry for completing a special twelve book challenge. We're looking forward to a summer of reading and strengthening community connections!

In tandem with The Awareness Fair and our Summer Reading Program kick-off, Forbes Library will offer its second annual book sale on the front lawn from 9-2 PM on June 3. There will be an enormous selection of like-new books and media, unique items removed from the Forbes collection, and a new limited edition tote bag, all at bargain prices. We hope to see you there!"

The Friends Welcome Two New Board Members



Scott Monroe moved from California to Northampton in 2015 to start working at UMass Amherst as an Assistant Professor in the College of Education. Prior to graduate school, Scott was a high school teacher for several years in

Brooklyn, and then in Los Angeles. Though he has long considered himself a "city person," Scott has quickly grown fond of the Northampton area and all of its history. He believes Forbes Library is a great asset to the community and is thrilled to have the opportunity to serve with Friends of Forbes.



Bill Breitbart began coming to Forbes Library when he first moved to the area in 1977. He has had a forty-year career in the field of affordable housing and community development, having served as Executive Director of a regional nonprofit housing agency, founding partner in a consulting firm that assists local nonprofits, and regional housing director of a state community development finance agency. Bill considers himself very fortunate to come from a family of librarians, and is delighted to join the Board of the Friends of Forbes and have the opportunity to support the services provided by this wonderful community resource.

Annual Meeting Performance



The duo Skylarkz provided a musical performance as part of the Friends Annual Meeting in April. The audience was entertained with some wonderful arrangements from the Great American Songbook. Between songs, Sarah Clay, vocalist, and Nick Kachulis, keyboard, delighted listeners with tales about the composers. The Coolidge Museum was filled with the magic of music for the evening.

Expanded Musical Instrument Collection

If you're ready to try something new, check out the expanded musical instrument collection at the Arts & Music desk. By popular demand, we've added a concertina and a mandolin.

We've been especially fortunate to receive the generous gift of a beautiful half-size violin from Stamell Stringed Instruments of Amherst. This is the right size for a child to start learning on, at about age 7 to 11 depending on their height. It comes with a bow and rosin as well as an accessible beginner book and CD, "Strings Fun and Easy."

And if you like your music plugged in, we now have an electric guitar that can be borrowed with or without an amplifier. In other electronics, we've added a keyboard which can sound like a piano or any of 200 other voices, a Korg Volca Keys synthesizer; and a Moog Theremini.

The Theremini is an easier-to-play version of the original electronic instrument invented by Leon Theremin in 1919. If you're not familiar with the theremin, it's responsible for the ethereal sounds heard in some movie



soundtracks and pop bands in the '50s, '60s and '70s. It's played without touching it and is good for

some vintage, space-age experimentation.

To round out the collection, we still lend ukuleles, guitars, banjos, violin, and dulcimer as well as a range of hand drums. Come check them out, or call 587-1013 to reserve one.

Instruments

- Guitars (acoustic and electric-acoustic)
- Ukuleles (soprano and tenor)
- Banjos (resonator and open-back)
- Violin
- Mountain Dulcimer
- Djembe
- Doumbeck
- Bongos

New Instruments

- Concertina
- Mandolin
- Half-size violin with Beginner book and CD
- Electric guitar and cube amplifier
- Theremin
- Electronic keyboard

June 21: "Fête de la Musique",
Lawn concert, performers TBA

Summer Concerts

July 5: Li'l Bee-Dee and the Doo-Rites



Band members: Betsy-Dawn Williams (Bee-Dee), Jeff Potter, Frankie Blandino, Mark Neveu, and Doug Plavin.

North Carolina native, Betsy-Dawn Williams also plays with GIRL HOWDY and SLIPPERY

SNEAKERS. Now fronting her

own combo,

Li'l BeeDee & the Doo-Rites, she showcases her own songwriting, in addition to mined gems from the deep well of Rockabilly and Rhythm & Blues.

July 19: The Gray Divas
Residency Concert
Coolidge Museum, 7 PM

Divas Jeannette Muzima and Frances Blasque sing a varied repertoire of Hawaiian songs, classics from Tin Pan Alley, jazz standards and more, accompanying themselves on ukulele

The Gray Divas will rock you and soothe you with an eclectic musical mix.



Photo by Kay Canavino.

September 13: The Gray Divas
Residency Concert –
Coolidge Museum, 7 PM

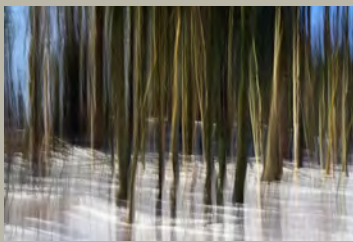
Hosmer Gallery

June

NHS Teen Advisory Group :
Photos& Narratives New Americans



Jan Ruby *Paintings*



Ellen Augarten
Photography

July

Zea Mays Printmaking –
 Members Group Show



Judith Wolf



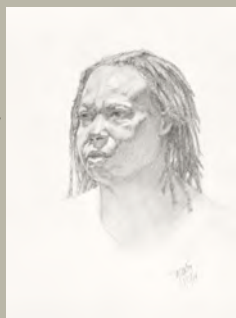
Anne Beresford

August



Raymond Radigan
Landscape Paintings

LisaYeisley
Portraits



Shannon Ryan *Underwater Photographs*

Paco's Upscaled Home

Patrons of the Children's and Young Adult Department



have been visiting with Paco, a pacu fish, for over 25 years. Library visitors find her soothing to watch and she is one of the main attractions for people of all ages on library tours. Paco's fish tank was greatly increased in size this spring thanks to the **Friends of Forbes Library**. The fish now has 40% more room to swim around.

Although pacu fish are related to the piranha, Paco is naturally peaceful and friendly. Pacu fish come from the Amazon region in South America and also some places in Central America. Paco will eat anything. Normally an herbivore, Paco will eat small fish or shrimp, and is wild about treats like strawberries and bananas. Believe it or not, Paco is almost THIRTY years old!

Cookies with a Curator

Informal conversation and show and tell of objects in the Forbes Library's collection.



Third Thursdays at 2 PM in the Coolidge

June 15 Calvin Coolidge's Summer White Houses

July 20 Summer time in the Pioneer Valley

August 17 Smith College student Erica Linderman will talk about her project with the Edwards and Bullard family letters and life in 19th century Northampton.

September 21 Images, yearbooks, and memories of Northampton Schools

October 19 Family History Month