

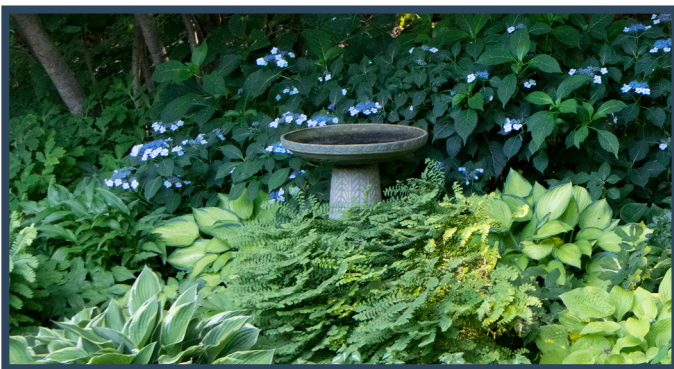
Friends of Forbes Library Summer Newsletter



Garden Tour 2023

It's Time for Our
29th Northampton Garden Tour
Saturday, June 10
from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., rain or shine.

Once again, lovers of gardens and Forbes Library may explore six delightful home gardens featured on this year's 29th Annual Friends of Forbes Library Northampton Garden Tour. Join us along this 9-mile scenic route. Tickets provide driving directions to this self-guided auto route as well as to recommended bicycle routes, courtesy of our collaboration with the Friends of Northampton Trails. All proceeds benefit the Friends of Forbes Library, Inc. to support library programs, events, and projects that could not otherwise be funded. As a Garden Tour, our additional goal is to inspire and educate interested gardeners with a variety of appealing landscape styles, collections of garden plantings, and approaches to garden design. At each garden there will be handouts that describe the plantings, as well as volunteer garden guides to answer questions. The tour will also include opportunities to enjoy lively music or observe a plein air painter.



Tour tickets are \$20 if bought in advance; tickets are available until June 9 at Bay State Perennial Farm (Whately), Cooper's Corner, State Street Fruit Store, Gardener's Supply Company/Hadley, Wanczyk's Nursery and Forbes Library.

- Pre-pay online at www.forbeslibrary.org/friends to reserve tour tickets from May 1 through Wednesday, June 7, for pick up at Forbes Library **ONLY ON Thursday** afternoon, June 8 from 4-8 pm; Friday, June 9 from 10:00 am-6:00 pm; and Saturday from 10:00 am-1:00 pm.
- On Saturday, June 10th, tour day, tickets are \$25 and available **ONLY** at Forbes Library, from 10:00-1:00.

For details: www.forbeslibrary.org/friends

Questions? Contact: Kendra at keadahlquist@gmail.com
or Deena at 413-320-2804



Garden Tour Raffle

The Northampton Garden Tour also offers a raffle of items that appeal to both gardeners and other library supporters. Win a weekend farm stay in Maryland, a beautiful garden bench, a hand-crafted rug, organic compost, gift certificates, garden supplies, a landscape consultation, and more! Purchase raffle tickets at Forbes Library beginning May 1 and at one of the gardens on the day of the tour. Ticket prices are 2 tickets/\$5, 5/\$10 or 12/\$20. The raffle drawing will take place at the end of the tour. Whether you are a gardener or garden admirer, there is bound to be a prize for you.

Provisions Fundraiser

Partnerships with local businesses are critical to successful fundraising, so we were excited and grateful when local wine and spirit store, **Provisions** agreed to hold a fundraiser for the Friends. It took place the week of April 24-29 to celebrate National Library Week. Provisions offered a package which included two wines from Glendale Ridge Vineyard and two cheeses from Round Table Farm. On Saturday, April 29, Provisions held a zoom session which was open to anyone who purchased the wine and cheese package. Benson Hyde from Provisions and employees from Glendale Ridge and Round Table Farm talked about their products, emphasizing their commitment to community engagement, and Jo Ellen Mackenzie, president of the Friends, in thanking them all described the kind of projects the fundraiser would likely support.



This is the second fundraiser Provisions has held for the Friends of Forbes Library. We are so grateful to them for their support for the Friends and so many other non-profits in the area. Thank you, Provisions, for being a valued friend of Forbes Library.

Attention Gardeners



The Friends of Forbes Library's 30th Annual Garden Tour will be held in June, 2024, and we are looking for gardens to feature on the tour. You can nominate your own garden or that of a friend. Featured gardens must be located in Northampton, Florence or Leeds, and can be large or small, formal or informal. If you have a garden you'd like to be considered, please contact Kendra at keadahlquist@gmail.com.

Library Giving Day

This year's Library Giving Day was a record-breaking success! 226 library lovers gave a total of \$25,257 to support Forbes Library -- the largest number of donors and dollars for a Library Giving Day for the second year in a row. In addition, the Friends of Forbes Library provided \$16,000 in matching funds. The donations from Library Giving Day will be put to use in support of the library's new outdoor performance stage, coming soon. The Friends are excited to have been part of this fantastic day in support of the library and the excellent resources it provides to our community.

Forbes Has a Brand New Look



Forbes has a brand new look! The library engaged strategic brand consultant Seth Gregory to develop a new logo and style guide for the library and its affiliates including the Friends of Forbes Library. The logo is inspired by the sandstone arch over the front doors and the shape is also reminiscent of the rays of the sun and the open pages of a book. "The building is such an important part of our identity that we wanted to feature it. We also wanted something that was fresh and contemporary while also being stately and I believe the new logo achieves that," said Lisa Downing, Library Director.



Forbes Library

Wireless Printing Available

Thanks to the generosity of the **Friends**, Forbes now offers wireless printing through an app called PrintOn. PrinterOn lets you send print jobs to the library printer in the Reference Room from your computer, tablet, or mobile phone. Print jobs sent this way must be collected on the day they are sent, before the library closes. Android and iOS users will have the best experience using the mobile apps from PrinterOn Inc. If you can't install the app there is a way to email in the job, and staff-mediated printing continues to be available by emailing reference@forbeslibrary.org.

Children and Young Adult Events

Find Your Voice

Saturday, June 3 at 11 am:

GRAMMY Nominee Alastair Moock Family Concert

Saturday, June 10 at 11 am:

Author & Hip-Hop Artist Tem Blessed (ages 9+)

Saturday, June 17 at 11 am:

GRAMMY nominee Divinity Roxx Family Concert



This program is supported by a grant from the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.”

Our Summer Reading Special Events

Saturday, June 24 at 10 am-12 pm: Summer Reading Kickoff Party with Trevor the Games Man featuring facepainting and bubbles!

Wednesday, June 28 at 3:30 PM: Collage Flower Art for Tweens Workshop

Wednesday, July 5 at 11 am: Rockabye Beats Family Concert

Saturday, July 15 at 2pm- Rainbow Curl Soap Making Workshop for Teens

Saturday, July 22 at 11 am: Happier Valley Comedy Family Improv

Saturday, July 29 at 11 am: Tom Knight Puppets

Friday, August 4 from 3-5 pm: Laura Campagna Tarot for Teens

Friday, Aug 11 at 10 am Toe Jam Puppet Band Family Concert

Hosmer Gallery

June 2023

William Sharp: Paintings

Alicia Saxe: Mixed media

Michelle Vigeant: Paintings

July 2023

Lee Sprull: Textile art

Eva Lin Fahey: Mixed media

August 2023

Richard Getler: Photography

Sally Greenebaum: Photography

Rob Weir: Photography

September 2023

Ruth Sanderson: Illustration

Judy B. Messer: Photography

October 2023

Paul Griffin: Photography

Virginia Sandman: Photography

Ken Kipen: Photography

November 2023

Amalia FourHawks: Mixed media, beadwork

Cheri Cross: Scratchboard

Ellen Koteen: Photography

BIPOC Art Opening

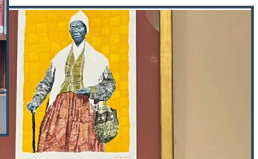
On February 4, Forbes Library unveiled 10 new paintings by regional artists of color that have been added to its permanent art collection. The purchases were funded by an anonymous donor, who wished to see the collection better reflect the residents of the Pioneer Valley, and by the Trustees of Forbes Library. A painting of Sojourner Truth by the late Richard Yarde, a gift of the Sojourner Truth Memorial Statue Committee, was also unveiled.

A committee consisting of staff, Trustees, and local artists selected the paintings, with an eye to racial and ethnic diversity as well as gender. You can see the paintings in the Reference Room, the first floor reading room, and in the Children’s Department.

The artists whose works now reside in the Forbes Library permanent collection are Alex Callender, Mike Curato, the late Julius Lester, Grace Lin, Anthony Melting Tallow, Ryan Murray, and Richard Yarde. When you’re next in the library, stop by the Circulation Desk, pick up a guide to these new works and take some time to discover them for yourself.



Carlie C. Tartakov
Sojourner Truth Memorial
Committee



Artist, Anthony Melting Tallow and Library
Director, Lisa Downing



Owen and Marcus
Sons of Richard Yarde

COMMEMORATION OF CALVIN COOLIDGE CENTENNIAL BEGINS WITH VIRTUAL PANEL OF HISTORIANS

“When the President Dies” forum will explore how Coolidge and other vice presidents managed their sudden ascension to the presidency

(NORTHAMPTON, MA) To commemorate the 100th anniversary of Calvin Coolidge’s presidency, the Calvin Coolidge Presidential Library and Museum at Forbes Library in Northampton will host a series of centennial events, beginning with a June 7th, 7 PM panel discussion titled, “When the President Dies: How Calvin Coolidge and Others Guided America Through Mourning.” The public can attend the event on Zoom by registering at <https://forbeslibrary.libcal.com/event/10472112> or by calling 413-587-1014.

The discussion will feature three historians:

- **Dr. Lindsay M. Chervinsky** (<https://www.lindsaychervinsky.com/>), a fellow at the Kluge Center at the Library of Congress and a Senior Fellow at the Center for Presidential History at Southern Methodist University. She co-edited the book “Mourning the Presidents: Loss and Legacy in American Culture” which comes out later this month.
- **Prof. Michael J. Gerhardt** (<https://law.unc.edu/people/michael-j-gerhardt/>), Burton Craige Distinguished Professor of Jurisprudence at The University of North Carolina School of Law, and the author of “The Forgotten Presidents: Their Untold Constitutional Legacy”
- **Nathan Masters** (<https://www.nathanmasters.me/>) is the host and executive producer of “Lost LA” on California’s public TV station KCET, and the author of the new book about the Teapot Dome affair, “Crooked: The Roaring ‘20s Tale of a Corrupt Attorney General, a Crusading Senator, and the Birth of the American Political Scandal”

The discussion will be moderated by Bill Scher, vice president of the museum’s Standing Committee.

Panelists will explore how Coolidge navigated the presidency after his predecessor, Warren G. Harding, suffered a heart attack on August 2, 1923 in the midst of the brewing Teapot Dome scandal. They will also compare Coolidge’s experience with other vice presidents who were suddenly and unexpectedly thrust into the presidency. This program is free and open to the public.

Thank You Florence Bank



On May 16, 2023, Florence Bank held its Annual Customers Choice Community Grants Awards ceremony at Look Park. Thirty-six local non-profit organizations received a total of \$125,000 in grants for the year 2022. The Friends of Forbes Library received \$5000, the maximum grant amount. We plan to use our award to help fund a performance stage to be built on library grounds in 2024. This stage will be used for library programming and community events.

We are grateful to the Florence Bank for its incredible generosity and community engagement, and we are grateful to all of you who voted for the Friends of Forbes Library. Florence Bank customers can vote any time during the year 2023. If you are eligible to vote but haven’t yet, please consider filling out an online ballot (www.florencebank.com/vote) or picking one up at the circulation desk. We were told that this year every vote was worth \$38! Should we receive a grant next year, we will spend the money wisely in support of adult or children’s programming.



Friends Annual Meeting

On Wednesday, April 12, 2023, approximately 40 people gathered in the Coolidge room for the 42nd Annual Meeting of the Friends of Forbes Library. Following Director Lisa Downing’s welcome to everyone, Jo Ellen Mackenzie, president of the Friends, reported on their very successful fundraising year, and how the money was used to support a variety of library programs and initiatives. Vice President Martha McCormick read the financial report prepared by Treasurer Scott Munroe, who was out of town.

Board member Nicole Sibley presented the slate of officers for 2023-24. Jo Ellen Mackenzie, President, Martha McCormick, Vice President, Scott Monroe, Treasurer, and Chris Hannon, Secretary were voted in for another term.

The business meeting was followed by an illustrated presentation by Dylan Gaffney, from the local history and special collections department at Forbes. Curating material from those collections, he presented a photographic history of Main Street, Northampton, from 1887-1987. From the Northampton National Bank Fire in 1895 and the flood of 1936, to images of the downtown sidewalk sales in 1968, the audience was able to see how Main Street evolved over the years. Dylan provided historical context and some fascinating anecdotes about some of the individuals who were part of the history of downtown. As the exhibit moved into the 1950s and beyond, members of the audience could be heard whispering their recognition and memories of people and places. A recording of Dylan’s well-received talk is in process.

Cedar Chest Donates Bulbs

If you visited the library this spring, you may have noticed delightful dashes of color surrounding the outside of the building. A variety of tulips and miniature daffodils among other blossoms provided a note of cheer on quite a few rainy, gray days. The bulbs were a gift to the library from a popular local business, Cedar Chest, located in Thornes Market.



Cedar Chest donated all the bulbs they hadn't sold by the end of the planting season last fall. Katie McLaughlin, Cedar Chest's marketing director, said, "Cedar Chest was thrilled to donate our additional inventory of bulbs to Forbes Library this past fall. Knowing that Forbes Library has volunteers who could get the planting done before the frost made the decision that much easier." It

turned out that one dedicated volunteer, Forbes Trustee Debin Bruce, enlisted her friend Dave, and on a cold, rainy day in early December they went to work planting several hundred bulbs.

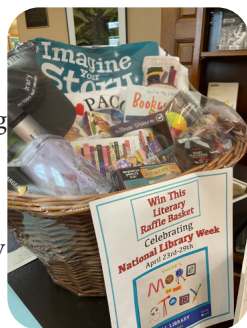
Given the lateness of the planting and the very active squirrel population, we all crossed our fingers and hoped that at least some of the bulbs would come up. Not to worry! A cool rainy spring and bulb-seeking squirrels did not spoil the lovely spring display.

In response to Director Downing's thank you to Cedar Chest, Ms. McLaughlin said, "Community engagement is important to us, and with the library being a pillar of our community, rich in history and architecturally stunning, we knew the spring blooms would be appreciated by many."

Raffle Basket

The Friends filled a large basket with book related goodies and held a raffle during National Library Week, April 24 - 29. The basket contained a signed copy of Tracy Kidder's latest book, *Rough Sleepers*, a children's book, *The Bookworm*, and literary themed puzzles, socks, and notecards. A Paco tee shirt, a Forbes library cap and a book bag were also included.

The winner of the basket turned out to be a library volunteer, which was very fitting since we were celebrating National Library Week. The raffle raised just shy of \$500, which will be used to support library services. Thanks to all who purchased a ticket and supported the library.



Coolidge Corner



Welcome to a new feature of the Friends' newsletter - Coolidge Corner. Surprisingly, it is not a well-known fact in our area that the Calvin Coolidge Presidential Museum, the only Presidential Museum located in a public library in the nation, is in Forbes Library. The Trustees of the library are the main governing body for the museum, and they are assisted in an advisory capacity by the Standing Calvin Coolidge Presidential Library and Museum Committee, which meets monthly. The chair of that committee is writer and historian A.J. Greene, and the vice chair is Bill Scher. For the past nineteen years the curator of the museum has been Julie Bartlett-Nelson, who heads up a team of volunteer docents and student interns from Smith College and Northampton High School. The museum is open Monday-Friday from 10-5 and Saturdays from 12-2.

A Vermonter by birth, Coolidge had a long history with Northampton. He studied and then practiced law here, was elected mayor in 1909, and maintained a home on Massasoit Street while a member of the Massachusetts legislature and as governor. Coolidge returned to Northampton with his family after his presidency and lived here until his death in 1933. His wife, Grace, lived in Northampton until her death in 1957. The former President and First Lady were known for living quiet, ordinary lives in town and not "putting on airs."

In the next year and a half, several events are planned at Forbes to mark the 100th anniversary of Coolidge's becoming President:

On **Wednesday, June 7**, there will be a virtual panel discussion by three historians on the subject of "When Presidents Die." The public can register on Zoom at <https://forbeslibrary.libcal.com/event/10472112> or by calling 413-587-1014.

On **Saturday, July 29**, the library will host an afternoon of music. The festivities will take place on the library lawn. The popular O-Tones will play music from the 1920's, and the Florence Pie Bar will provide hand pies (featuring two of the Coolidges' favorites).

Look for other events to be scheduled through November 2024, the 100th anniversary of his election in 1924.

In other museum news, the very successful Presidential Book Club, led by Bill Scher, continues to meet. The group has read and discussed 40 biographies from George Washington to George H.W. Bush. The group meets on the 4th Monday of each month. Participation has grown to include individuals from out of state, and new members are welcome. The next book to be read and discussed is *The Survivor* by John F. Harris, which is about Bill Clinton. The series will be complete in October of this year, and a new series, starting with George Washington, will start in January or February.

Women's Work: New Acquisitions by Women Artists

Recently Forbes Library has added several new works by western Massachusetts women artists to the permanent collection. These are now on display in the building and are an exciting addition to the Library's substantial collection of paintings, engravings, photographs, sculptures and other art pieces of the 18th to the 21st centuries. Fine Arts have been part of Forbes Library's collecting mission since the beginning, and the collection has historically included many more male-identifying artists than female or non-binary. These new pieces make some progress toward more equitable gender representation. They are beautiful, moving, local, and unique! You are welcome to come and see them any time the Library is open.



Michelle Falcón Fontánz

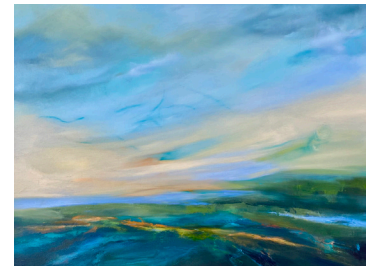
In the Reading Room, two new oil paintings are on view. These were purchased with the Lyman Special Collections Fund.

Peace of Land, by Laura Radwell, is an imagined landscape inspired by the Valley. Laura is a self-taught artist and designer who has lived in western Massachusetts for decades and has been painting since the 1980s. In her current paintings she focuses on atmosphere and her inner impressions of the landscape.

Northampton's Lights, by Maggie Hodges, depicts a streetscape near Main and Bridge streets. Maggie worked as a graphic designer for a number of years. More recently she developed a passion for painting. Her paintings reflect her deep connection to nature through color, light and atmospheric perspective. She is a member of the Amherst Plein Air Society.

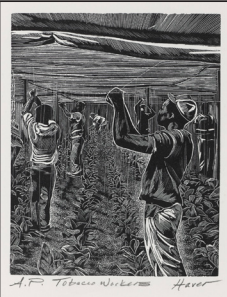


Northampton Lights Maggie Hodges



Peace of Land Laura Radwell

A *photographic print* by Michelle Falcón Fontánz features bomba performer Brendaliz Cepeda in a traditional dance posture and costume. This image is part of the multimedia series *A Call to Our Ancestors*, honoring women of the past and present who transmit Puerto Rican culture through the generations. It was purchased with BIPOC Art Committee funds, and hangs near the Main Desk. Michelle is an award winning storyteller working in photography, film, theater and installation art. Her artistry has primarily focused on social issues, where she has created work to illuminate voices that have not been heard.



Hadley Tobacco Workers
Nancy Haver

A small woodcut by Nancy Haver overlooks the Hampshire Room. Titled *Hadley Tobacco Workers*, it represents the long history of tobacco farming in the Valley and the young and migrant workers who do the bulk of the agricultural labor. Nancy is an illustrator, printmaker, and teacher, and is a member of Zea Mays Printmaking. This print was given to Forbes by Martha McCormick.

These and other works by women artists can be found on the library's online special collections portal.

Photo credits: Radwell, Hodges, Falcón Fontánz by the artists

Haver by Stephen Petegorsky



The Friends of Forbes Library Presents an *Artisans Fair*

The Friends of Forbes will be holding its Second Annual Artisan Fair on Sunday, October 1st. from 10am to 3pm. Please join us for this fun fall event. We will feature over 40 artisans selling a wide array of art and craft. There will be food trucks and a pumpkin sale, two raffles featuring a Janna Ugone Lamp and other fantastic items. Last year's Fair was a smashing success with all profits going to the Friends of Forbes. Mark your calendars!

If you are interested in **sponsoring** our Fair, please contact us at friends@forbeslibrary.org

If you would like to participate as an Artisan, go to our web page for an application
forbeslibrary.org/friends