

The Page Turner

Easton Public Library's Quarterly Newsletter



One Book/One Town Community Read

A Snake Falls to Earth by Darcie Little Badger is our One Book/One Town Community Read for 2023. This book was written for Young Adults but the themes of environmentalism and diversity have a universal appeal to a wider audience. The award-winning author draws on her Lipan Apache heritage to create an engaging story that embodies the culture of her tribe.

Kirkus Reviews describes the novel as “a coming-of-age story that beautifully combines tradition and technology for modern audiences.” We are looking forward to exploring this intriguing and timely novel, especially with the author. Darcie Little Badger also has a Ph.D in Oceanography, and lives in Fairfield County. For more on One Book/One Town Community Read, go to page 7.

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Easton Public Library

691 Morehouse Road

Easton, CT 06612

203-261-0134

<https://eastonlibrary.org>

From the Director

Holiday Greetings!

As we prepare to close out another year, I would like to recognize our wonderful Library staff and thank them for working hard each day to meet the needs of the Easton community. Each staff member, no matter what their position is or how many hours they work, is vital to fulfilling the Library's mission. Speaking of our mission, I would like to thank all of our patrons who completed the most recent User Experience Survey. Most of the feedback was positive, but there is always room for improvement. Our goal for the new year will be to address some of the suggestions provided, so that we can ensure we are offering the residents of Easton the best Library experience possible.



Happy New Year!

Lynn

Holiday Hours

CLOSED Friday, December 23—Monday, December 26

OPEN 10am-3pm New Year's Eve, Saturday, December 31

CLOSED Monday, January 2

CLOSED Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Monday, January 16

CLOSED Presidents' Day, Monday, February 20

Library Update

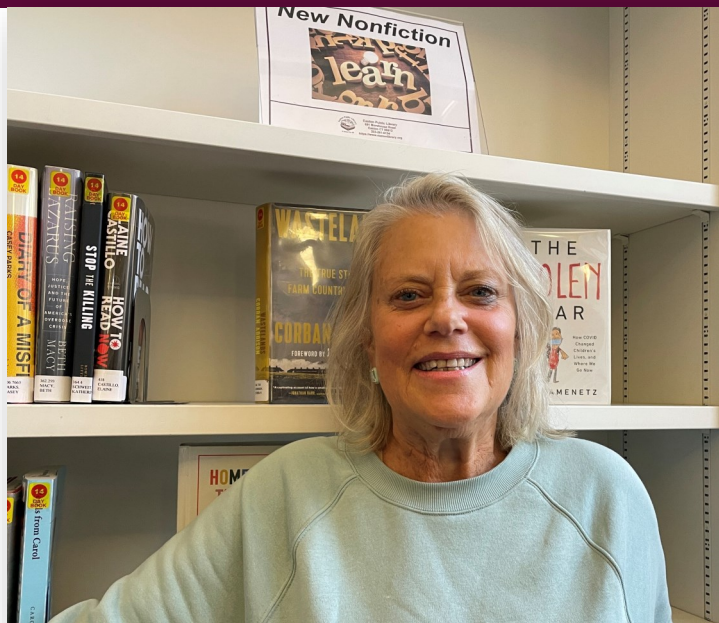
The Library Board has approved new audio equipment and lighting for the Community Room, and new lighting for the Conference Room.

Curbside pickup is still available. Patrons can call the Library at 203-261-0134 or email a request to epnews@eastonlibrary.org. Homebound delivery is also available. Call the Library or email your request to Lynn at lzaffino@eastonlibrary.org.

Patron Voices: Leslie Bouchard

I can remember the time and place when I began a lifelong love affair with libraries. I grew up on Long Island, in a town blessed with two public libraries and a traveling bookmobile. While the libraries offered a wonderful selection of books and cultured events, including intimate performances from members of the New York Philharmonic Orchestra and NYC Ballet, who lived in our town, I loved the bookmobile that pulled up to our town green in all types of weather. Located near our home, I would go with my mother in rain or snow, with my rain boots, book bag, and umbrella or snowsuit, anticipating what new Laura Ingalls Wilder books I would find on the narrow shelves.

Fast forward to high school and college, and I found myself biking to work in the local library. My first job was working the front desk, meeting wonderful patrons and checking out their books and records, and when the evenings were quiet, I shelved returned books, studying the Dewey Decimal System. In the process, I discovered Thornton Wilder and Greek mythology. I had the opportunity to manage the Children's Room on the weekends, reading *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and *Lyle, Lyle Crocodile* to a rapt audience.



“When I enter the Library, it is always comforting, especially in these times, to see familiar faces.”

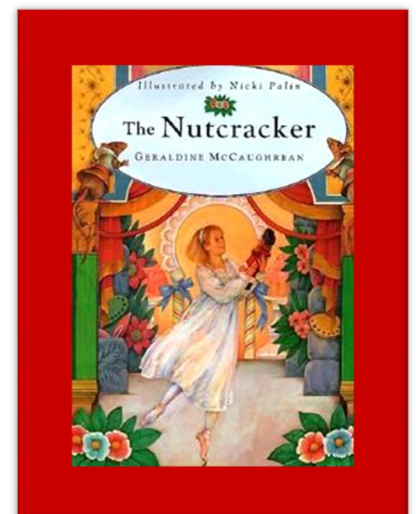
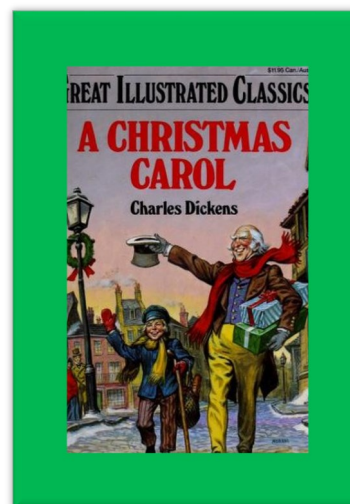
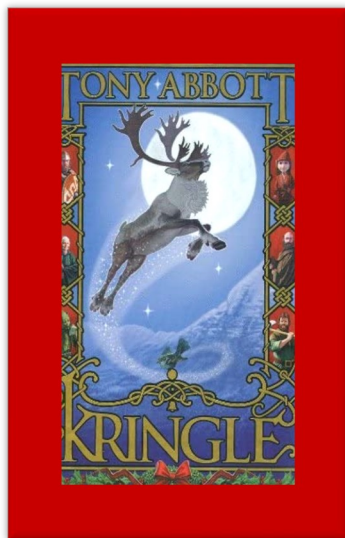
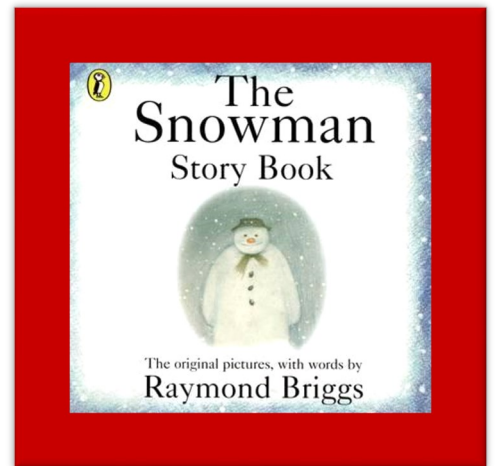
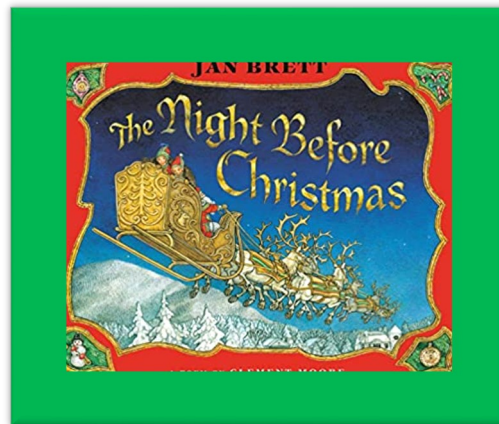
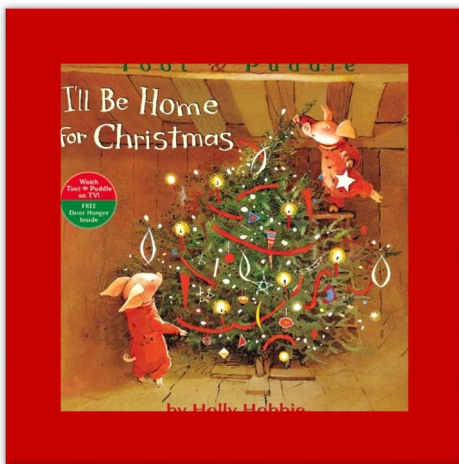
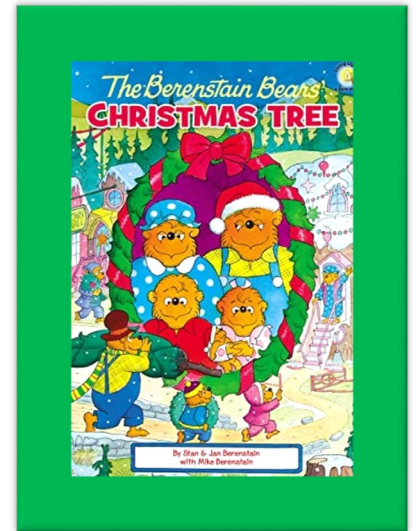
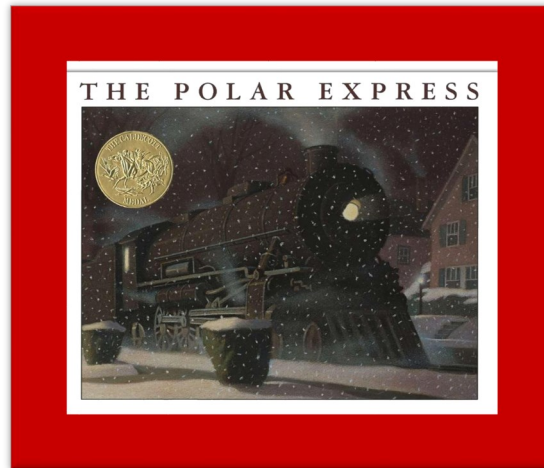
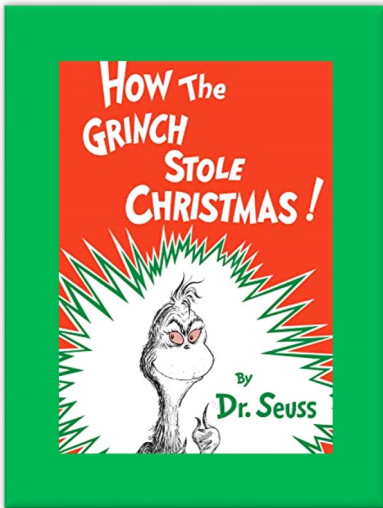
Over the years, I gravitated to libraries in my home towns, and when I moved to Easton 18 years ago, the first visit I made was to the Easton Public Library. In the last several years, Director Lynn Zaffino has elevated the library to include offering all of the best sellers, a plethora of CDs and new movies, and if it's not part of Easton's collection, the team secures requests when possible. Each member of the staff has an expertise from technology to circulation, and the team's collegiality is palpable. Lynn and her team have worked hard to offer diverse cultural programs, as well as those geared to younger patrons, including new moms and their babies.

Recently retired, I am enjoying the library during the day, having more time to peruse newspapers, periodicals, and books on tape, while making new friends and learning new skills, including how to set up my laptop, thanks to Shannon Bruchal. When I enter the library it is always

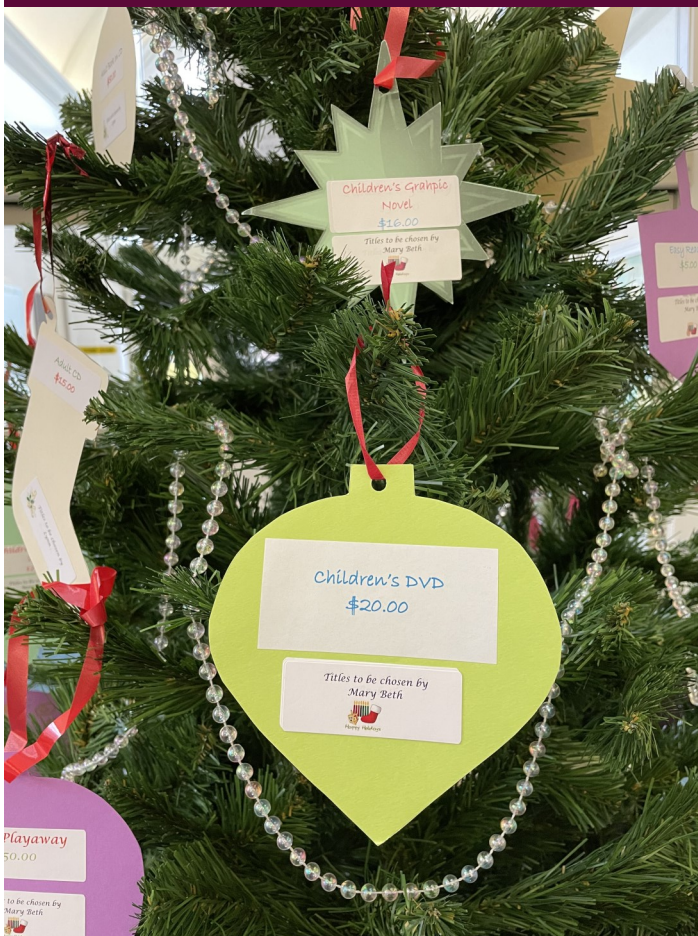
comforting, especially in these times, to see familiar faces, like Bob, Larry, Ryan, and Penelope, who are helpful and kind.

I am grateful that my parents instilled a love of reading in me as a child, and was delighted to be reminded of this when I attended a recent art opening at the library. The following quotation on the table from Helen Hayes caught my eye. It read, “From our parents you learn love and laughter and how to put one foot before the other. But when books are opened, you discover that you have wings.”

Staff Picks: Children's Holiday Books



The Giving Tree

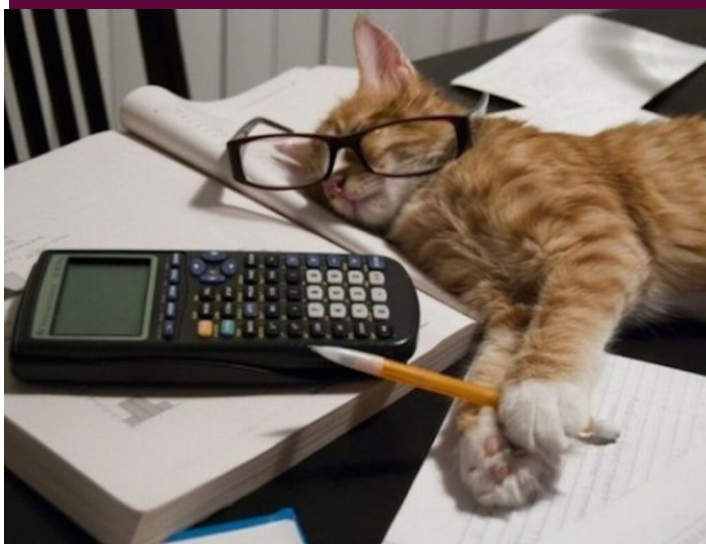


Donate a book or other item to the Library, and at the same time, honor a friend or loved one. Whether it's for the person who has everything, a memorial gift, to commemorate a special occasion, or to celebrate your favorite reader, this gift truly keeps on giving.

Just stop by the Library or contact us by phone or email with the item of your choice, and the amount. A Librarian will choose an item that is needed for our collection. The person you've honored will receive a letter stating that the gift is in their honor.

A bookplate with your name, as well as the honoree's name, will be placed in the item you've donated.

Midterm Study Nights Are Back!



Need a quiet place to study for midterms?

The Library will be open until 9:00 pm Tuesday-Thursday, January 17th-19th

Dates may change depending on any weather-related school closures.

We'll even provide food!

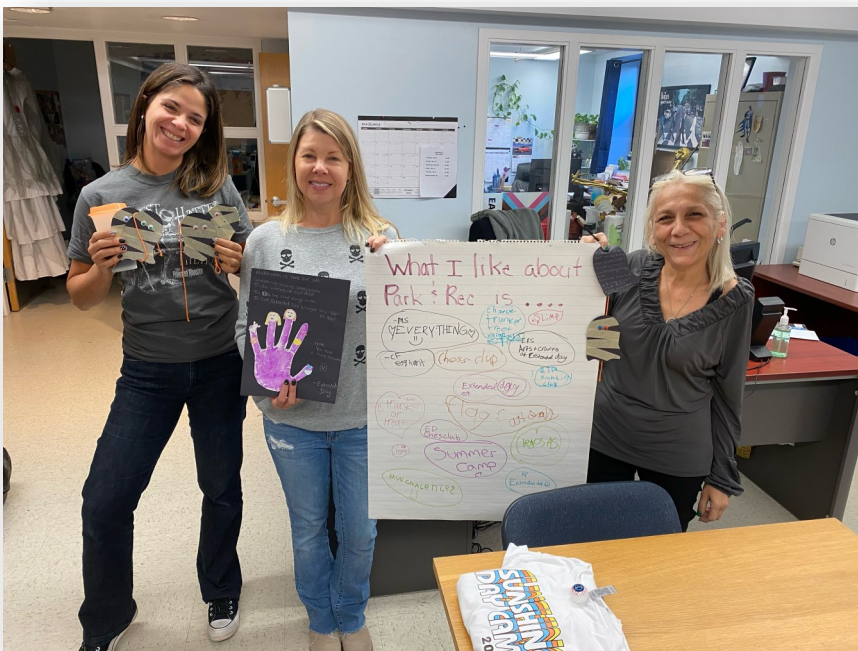
Community Partner Spotlight: Easton Park & Recreation



It's our mission at Easton Park and Recreation to enhance the quality of life of Easton residents, by utilizing all resources under our control, including public parks and public facilities, to foster beneficial use of personal and family time for recreation and leisure. To accomplish this, we provide a wide variety of quality recreation services that meet residents' needs and interests at a reasonable cost.

We have always had a good relationship with the Easton Public Library, as our jobs are similar—we both enjoy having educational and fun programs for Easton residents. During COVID, when things were challenging and we could not run our normal programs, we came together with the Library to offer several virtual programs. We put our

“If we were able to give people a fun hour or so a week, it was worth it for all of us.”



heads and our lists of community members together and tried to reach as many Eastonites as we could. Our goal was to keep as many people engaged and give them as much of a sense of normalcy as possible. If we were able to give people a fun hour or so a week, with Virtual Jukebox Bingo or Virtual Trivia Night, it was worth it for all of us! We also offered a fun Comedy Night in conjunction with the Easton Community Center. We all came together as one, and it worked well.

We also joined together with the Easton Cemetery Committee and Christ Church this past October and held the first ever Lady in White 5K

and event day. We had so much fun at Park and Recreation that day, offering a Zombie Maze, Arts & Crafts (put together by our Extended Day Supervisor), Games, and Airbrush Tattoos. We look forward to next year's events, and to continuing to work closely with the Library to serve our Easton residents.

For more information and to find out about the programs Easton Park and Recreation offers, go to <https://www.eastonct.gov/park-and-recreation>, or call 203-268-7200.

One Book/One Town Community Read 2023

A Snake Falls to Earth

by **Darcie Little Badger**



Nina is a Lipan girl in our world. She's always felt there was something more out there. She still believes in the old stories. Oli is a cottonmouth kid, from the land of spirits and monsters. Like all cottonmouths, he's been cast from home. He's found a new one on the banks of the bottomless lake.

Nina and Oli have no idea the other exists. But a catastrophic event on Earth, and a strange sickness that befalls Oli's best friend, will drive their worlds together in ways they haven't been in centuries. And there are some who will kill to keep them apart.

- synopsis from Levine Querido, Publisher

Meet Darcie Little Badger!

Saturday, March 18

2:00 p.m.

Darcie Little Badger will be at the Library to discuss her book, *A Snake Falls to Earth*. Copies will be available for purchase and signing.

Stay tuned for more themed events!



Art Exhibits



Easton Arts Council
Regional Juried Photography
Contest & Exhibit
Through January 6
Community Room

This show highlights the natural beauty of Easton and includes a general category as well. The contest is open to all photographers, amateur and professional. Adger Cowans judged the show. For more information, go to <http://eastonartscouncil.org/>.



Congregation Adath Israel
Newtown, CT
Jewish History & Culture
December 1-31
Glass Display Case
Come and view this exhibit of Jewish history and culture.

Art Exhibits



Peter McCrea

Patterns of Nature

January 3 - February 15

Conference Room

Art Reception: Saturday, January 14, 4-7 pm

These are pictures of natural things, in natural settings, with natural light. The theme explores how earth, sky, water, stone, atmosphere, light, wind, flora, and fauna—close or far—echo each other's patterns and textures in nature's masterful designs. My hope is that the viewer feels that the whole of the show is greater than the sum of its parts, generating a mood of serenity, awe, and peace, while savoring the grand majesty and exquisite intimacy of nature—finding, as Shakespeare wrote: "...tongues in trees, books in the running brooks, sermons in stones, and good in everything." - Peter McCrea

Easton Arts Council

Architects of Easton

February 16 - March 30

Conference Room & Glass Display Case

Art Reception: Saturday, February 25, 4-7 pm

Our town of Easton is home to a number of very talented Architects and Landscape Architects. In an effort to recognize some of these members of our community, we present you with an exhibition highlighting an array of their architectural drawings.



Friends of the Easton Public Library

Holiday Market and Tree Lighting

At the Easton Public Library,
Sunday, December 4
2:30-6:00 PM*

17 Artisan Vendors + Barlow
Chamber Singers + Kids
Activities + Holiday Sing-along
+ Cookies and Hot Chocolate +
Tree Lighting

PLUS
a visit from Santa and Ms. Claus!

* Ms. Claus kids' sing-along, 4:30 PM; tree lighting, 5:15 PM

**A wonderful
community event
to kick off the
season!**



Brought to you by the Friends of the Easton Public Library
eastonlibraryfriends.org



The Friends of the Easton Public Library is a 501(c)(3) organization made up of local volunteers and members who raise money to help support the library.

Past fundraisers have included participating in the nationwide Library Giving Day in early April; hosting a wine and cheese gathering to kick off the summer with Eastonites old and new; running a fabulous used book sale; and hosting a holiday craft fair and tree lighting in early December. More events are in the works!

Recent events have already raised \$12,500 to support the library for 2022: in April we raised nearly \$4,500 as part of the National Library Giving Day campaign, and in June we raised \$2,000 more, as part of our Wine Tasting fundraiser. Our book sale garnered \$6,000. Thank you to the generosity of our wonderful library lovers from all across the town. We are grateful. All these provide financial support to the library beyond what is in its annual budget. In the past year the Friends have given money to support the refurbishment of the patio at the library for gatherings and fun activities for library patrons and their friends; the Summer Reading Program for adults and children alike; the One Book/One Town initiative, and the purchase of museum passes for everyone in town to use.

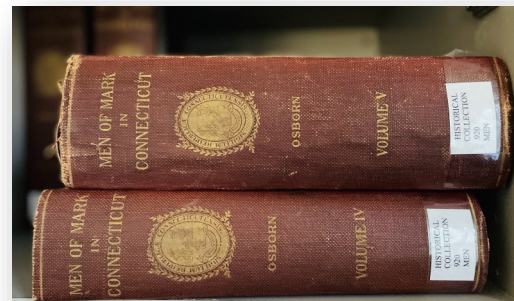
Collection Spotlight: *Historical Collection*

Did you know that the Easton Public Library has a collection dedicated to the town's history? Primarily located inside the Conference Room, the Historical Collection features many items that historians or genealogists might find useful.

Physical copies of the Annual Town Report, dating back to 1932, and older versions of the Easton Directory make up a large part of the collection, but there are numerous other

resources too, including digital copies of the print version of *The Easton Courier*, from 2009-2017, information on area cemeteries, the Aspetuck Land Trust, the town's archaeological survey, a

binder with information about the historic homes in Easton, and items related to Easton schools. There is also a section with the works of local authors, including Ed and Lorraine Warren, Elizabeth George Speare, Edna Ferber, and Patricia Hubbell, as well as several copies of *Easton — Its History*. In addition to books and other print media, there is also original music by resident Jim Freund.



We couldn't talk about the

Historical Collection without mentioning the Dolly Curtis Collection. Dolly made a name for herself with her radio show where she interviewed hundreds of people doing what they do best. These DVDs can be found in the DVD section in the front of the Library. Staff members are always willing to help patrons with their research about the town's history, so stop in and browse the collection yourself. You may find out something you never knew before.



Red Cross Blood Drives



Tuesday, December 27

11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Friday, February 10

11:15 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Look What's New!



Tech Talk

Join us as we kick off a quarterly series of technology workshops. The first one (Dec. 1), will focus on Facebook and Instagram, as well as our new Northstar Digital Literacy resource. Future workshops will cover smartphones, computers, social media, and more. Whether you're a newbie, in need of a refresher, or want to learn more, these workshops are for you!



Chess Club

Join the Chess Club! This weekly, volunteer-led chess club is for adults and teens (Grade 6 and up), and meets Mondays from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. For more information, contact Upendra Chitnis at 408-833-5814. Knowledge of chess is required.



New Innovation Space

The Innovation Space is coming back in 2023, and will have a new home in the Story Time Room. We're working hard to get everything ready, and we can't wait to show it to you when it's done. Special thanks to the National Charity League for their support.



Heritage Hub

Check out Heritage Hub, the premier collection of U.S. obituaries and death notices for genealogical research, from 1704 - today. Go to <https://eastonlibrary.org/digital-library>.



Connect with us!

Follow us on social media!



Thank You!

The Library Board of Trustees and the staff of the Easton Public Library are so grateful for the donations we receive throughout the year.

We would especially like to thank:

Casimir and Janina Dobkowski

The Easton Garden Club

Anne Engen

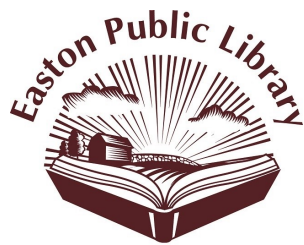
Patricia B. Hayman

Joelle Johnston

Brianne McKissick

Darlene Rubenstein

Upcoming Winter Programs



A Space For All

Easton Public Library

691 Morehouse Road

Easton, CT 06612

Phone: 203-261-0134

Fax: 203-261-0708

<http://www.eastonlibrary.org>

Library Hours

Monday-Wednesday: 10-6

Thursday: 10-7

Friday: 10-5

Saturday: 10 – 3

Sunday: Closed

Color Key

Adults—Blue

Teens—Green

Kids—Red

Intergenerational—Purple

For more information, call us at 203-261-0134. Click here to register for any of these programs: <http://www.eastonlibrary.org/calendar-list>.

Toddler Be-Bop, (Walkers-Age 3), Tuesdays & Wednesdays, 10:30 am

NEW! Preschool Play (Ages 3-5), 1/25, 2/22, 2:15 pm

Babies Boogie (Birth-Walkers), Wednesdays, 1:00 pm

NEW! Toddler Time (Ages 2 and Up), 1/10, 2/14, 2:15 pm

Pre-School Story Time (Ages 3-5), Thursdays, 2:15 pm

Easton Yarnsmiths, Tuesdays, 3:30-4:30 pm

Tech Talk, 12/1, 7:00 pm

The Library Squad (Grades 6-8), 12/2, 1/6, 2/3, 3:30 pm

Photo Editing and Enhancements Using Your iPhone, 12/3, 1:00-3:00 pm

Friends of the Library Annual Tree Lighting & Holiday Market, 12/4, 2:30-6:00 pm

Graphic Novel Book Club (Grades 4-5), 12/5, 2/6, 4:30 pm

Year of Wonders Book Discussion, 12/8, 1/12, 2/9, 10:30 am

Pinecone Snow Owl Craft (Grades K-5), 12/8, 4:30 pm

Hot Glue Art (Grades 8-12), 12/9, 3:30 pm

Book Brigade (Grades 2-3), 12/12, 1/9, 2/13, 4:30 pm

Beyond Reading Book Discussion, 12/15, 1/19, 2/16, 7:00 pm

Lego Master Builders (Grades K-5), 12/15, 1/19, 2/16, 4:30 pm

TLC (Teen Library Council) (Grades 9-12), 12/16, 1/20, 2/17, 3:30 pm

Little Ones Program Hiatus, 12/22-1/2

Red Cross Blood Drives, 12/27, 11:00 am-4:00 pm, 2/10, 11:15 am-4:00 pm

Chess Club (Grades 6 and Up/Adults), Mondays (starts 1/9) 5:30-8:00 pm

Peter McCrea Art Reception, 1/14, 4:00-7:00 pm

Midterm Study Nights (Grades 9-12), 1/17, 1/18, 1/19, until 9 pm

Classic Film Series with Jon Sonneborn, 1/18, 7:00 pm

Bookworm Crafters (Grades K-1), 1/23, 2/27, 4:30 pm

Sport Stacking with Glenn Costello (Grades 3 and Up), 1/28, 11:00 am

Truck-a-Palooza (Ages 2-5), 1/26, 4:30-5:30 pm

Cartie CT Mobile Art Museum (Grades K-5), 2/2, 4:30 pm

Take Your Child to the Library Day (All Ages), 2/4 10:00 am-3:00 pm

Easton Arts Council Architects of Easton Reception, 2/25, 4:00-7:00 pm