SPRING 2022 EVENTS & NEWSLETTER

April is National Poetry Month

Instant Poetry for Everyone with Kate Chadbourne, Thu. April 21 at 7 pm (Zoom)

Celebrate National Poetry Month with a fun and easy session of poem-making.

Kate Chadbourne will provide structure through "poetry forms" (a lot like MadLibs) and lots of encouragement and support. You will feel at ease, amused, and amazed by what you create. You don't have to think of yourself as a poet to do this, and you don't even have to like poetry.

Come and enjoy group ingenuity, fill-in-the-blank fun, and each other's words, ideas, and presence.

New: U.S. Newsstream!

The Most Important U.S. and International News in Full Text, Updated Daily.

US Newsstream enables users to search current and extensive backfiles of U.S. news content. It features top newspapers, broadcast transcripts, wires, blogs, and news sites in full-text format.

The best resource for key U.S. national and regional news titles (e.g. Hartford Courant, Baltimore Sun, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Chicago Tribune, L.A. Times, and lots more)!

Available free with your GPL card.

ART EXHIBITS IN THE GALLERY

The Art of Food, The Food of Art March 16 to April 23
GDRSD Student Show April 27 to June 11
My Neighbor Martha, Paintings by Martha Oldham June 15 to August 31

LIBRARY LIFELONG LEARNING (LLL) SERIES

CLIMATE CHANGE CONVERSATIONS with Mass. Audubon
Four Tuesdays: April 26—May 17, 7-8:30 pm (Zoom)
April 26 Climate Change in New England
May 3 Climate and Wildlife
May 10 Climate and People
May 17 Climate Solutions

CULTURALLY CURIOUS ART SERIES with Jane Oneail, Sundays at 3 pm (Zoom)

Join the delightful Jane Oneail for lively, interactive, and informative visual art talks in our monthly series on American Artists:

April 3 Georgia O’Keeffe: Beyond the Blossoms
May 15 John Singer Sargent: Master with a Brush
June 5 Keith Haring: AIDS, Advocacy, and Art

Information as of March 7, 2022; check gpl.org calendar for updates and to sign up, or call us at 978-448-1167.
CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS  Sign up at gpl.org. Groton residents given first preference.

**Mother Goose Storytime for Ages 0-2.** Wednesdays through April at 9:30-10:00 am on Zoom and 10:30-11:00 am in-person. For children age 0-2 and their caregivers. **Sign-up required.**

**StregaMama Storytime for 3, 4, & 5 Year Olds with Special Guests.** Thursdays in-person through April at 10:30-11:00 am. Join Strega Mama for stories & songs selected for the interests and attention of the preschooler. Special guests include Miss Sheila of Mirrors & Windows and Miss Lauren.

**Stories, Songs, and Crafts with the Family Partnership Center (FPC).** For ages 0-5. Meets Tuesdays in-person, 10:30-11:15 am: Mar 29, Apr 12, May 3, 17, & 31. The FPC offers early literacy skills learning through stories, songs, fingerplay, and art activity.

**Creative Kids Drop-In Craft Time.** Every Tuesday in-person through May at 10-4:30 pm.

**Book Worms for Grades 4 & 5.** Meets in-person the 1st Tuesday of every month through May at 4:30-5:15 pm.

**Book Bears for Grades 2 & 3.** Meets in-person the 2nd Thursday of every month through May at 4-4:30 pm.

**Read to a Dog.** Children gain confidence by reading aloud to a non-judgmental, friendly dog. Shiver is certified through the Pets & People Foundation. Check the calendar for dates and to sign up your child for a 15-minute in-person time slot. **Sign-up required.**

**Read-Aloud with Jennie.** Meets in-person the 1st and 3rd Thursday every month through May at 4-4:30 pm. Kids in Grades K-2 listen to Jennie Fitzkee read aloud from the best children's chapter books!

**Cursive Club.** Grades 3 & 4. Meets in-person the 1st Wednesday of the month through May at 4-4:30 pm. Cast aside keyboards & learn cursive writing with Miss Carrie. **Sign up for the series.**

**LEGO® Club.** For Ages 5-12. Meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month in-person through May at 4-5 pm. We supply the LEGO®s—you supply the imagination!

**Preschool Yoga for Children Ages 3-5.** Fridays in-person: April 8, 15, 29, & May 6. 10:30 am-11:15 am. Certified yoga instructor Ellen Olson-Brown’s classes incorporate movement and breathing into simple literacy activities. **Sign-up required.**

**Tales & Tunes with Steve Blunt.** Friday, May 6 at 10:30 am at the Town Field Gazebo. Come listen, sing, and dance along with Steve! For all ages.

**NEW! Comics Club for Kids In Grades 3-5!** First Tuesday of each month, 5:15-5:45 pm, in person.

Come join Comics Club and draw, write, and create your own comics or graphic novels! Bring your own project to work on or start a new one! Bring some graphic novels that you love to share with the group or your own. **Basic materials provided.**

**Save the Date!**

Summer Reading starts June 15
For Ages 18 months—Grade 5

Sign up on our online calendar at gpl.org, call Children’s at 978-448-1168, or email kids@gpl.org for more information.
**TEEN EVENTS & ACTIVITIES**

**ARTS & CRAFTS** (in person in Sibley Hall)

Spring Felting an Earth Keychain with Rachel Benson  
(Grades 6-12) Wed. April 13, 4:15–5:45 pm.  
Perler Bead Bookmarks  (Grades 5-10) Wed. April 27, 4-5 pm.  
Take & Make Arts & Crafts  (Grades 6-12)  
- Junk Journals: Wed. May 11, 4:30-5:30 pm.  
- Sharpie T-Shirt Decorating: Wed. May 25, 4:30-5:30 pm.

**Robotics Battle-Bots Challenge**: (Grades 5-10) Create a battle-ready robot using LEGO® Mindstorms EV3 kits. Compete for prizes! 6:00-7:30 pm. Thursdays, April 21, May 19, June 16.

**GAMES GALORE!**

Our Game Club plays **Among Us** on Zoom.  
Grades 5-10. Almost every Friday. 3:30-4:30 pm.  
April 1, 15, & 22, May 6, 20, & 27, June 3 & 10.

**Chess Club Meets 6-7 pm on Tuesdays**, (Grades 5-10) to learn, practice, and play together with friends. Players should have some familiarity with the basics of the game (such as how the pieces move).  
April 12 & 26 and May 10 & 24.

The Library’s Java Minecraft server is always available, and players meet up on Zoom to play together and chat. Grades 5-10.  
Tuesdays 4:00-5:30 pm on April 12 & 26, May 10 & 24, June 7 & 21.

**Magic the Gathering** (Grades 6-12) Saturdays from 2-4 pm. April 9 & 30 and May 21 in the Community Room.

Board games are always available to use in the library when you visit the YA Lounge.

**TEEN VOLUNTEERS**: If you love the library and library programs, we need your help to advise and assist the Young Adult Librarian, and we invite you to attend our Young Adult Advisory Council. It’s also a great way to earn volunteer hours! We meet once a month on Thursdays 6:30-7:30 pm in Sibley Hall, with a Zoom option. April 28 & May 26. Or contact teens@gpl.org for other opportunities to volunteer.

Events are subject to change. Please check the events calendar @ gpl.org for details or call 978-448-1167.

**ESCAPE ROOM**

Solve puzzles to open the locked boxes and earn a prize!  
(Grades 6-12)  
Thursday, April 7, 6:30-7:30 pm  
Thursday, May 5, 6:30-7:30 pm

**MIDDLE GRADE BOOK CLUB**

**Book Worm MASTERS**: Grades 6 & 7. In person, with option to join on Zoom.  
Join Miss Carrie in Sibley Hall on the 2nd Tuesday of every month for a fun and friendly book discussion. 4-5 pm on April 12, May 10, and June 7. See the calendar for book titles.

**LLAMA LOUNGE DROP-IN**

Grades 5-8 on GDRMS Early Release Days  
Drop in with your friends and play Switch games, board games, do a craft, go online, enjoy some treats, listen to music, and/or get your homework done!  
11:30 am to 3 pm on Fridays April 29 & May 13 and on the last day of school.

**Contact Teen/YA Librarian Deb Dowson**  
teens@gpl.org or 978-448-1167 x 1325

All library programs generously supported by the GPL Endowment Trust and the Town of Groton Trusts’ Lecture Fund.
ADULT EVENTS (AND LOTS OF THEM WITH SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!)

Mindful Eating: Physical & Emotional Hunger and Weight with Sally Palmer, Mon. April 4 at 7 pm (Zoom)
Learn skills to work with your relationship to stress and how it affects behaviors in eating. Uncover the relevance it has in your life and how it affects your mind and body. Understand the difference between physical and emotional eating and learn coping mechanisms you can turn towards healthy behaviors.

Vladimir Putin: The Good, the Bad, the Ugly with Henry Quinlan, Tue. April 5 at 7 pm (Zoom)
A look at Vladimir Putin’s career—as a corrupt autocrat who is competent and an environmentalist and the reasons his popularity stays above 60%. Putin’s policies and actions that could lead to a new “Cold War.” Could Russia become the leading food producer in the world as the result of Putin? (Event scheduled prior to current events.)

God, The Early Years: A Brief History of God in the Rise of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam with Nicole Ruane, Thu. April 7 at 7 pm (Zoom). Presented in partnership with the Groton Interfaith Council.
Do the three major monotheistic religions worship the same deity? UNH Professor Nicole Ruane traces the rise of the deity who comes to be known as The Lord, God the Father, and Allah from his earliest form as a young god (known as Yah, Yahu, or Yahweh) in the area of Syria-Palestine, later merged with the father deity of the local pantheon known as El, and on across the Middle East and through the centuries.

Lighthouses of New England and the People Who Kept Them, Tue. April 12 at 7 pm (Zoom)
There's just "something about lighthouses" that gives them broad appeal, but their vital role in our history and culture is less known. Jeremy D’Entremont tells a history of New England's historic and picturesque lighthouses while focusing on the colorful and dramatic stories of lighthouse keepers and families.

Great Gardens of New England with Suzanne Mahler, Thu. April 14 at 7 pm (Zoom)
Take a colorful journey through the Coastal Maine, Tower Hill, Berkshire Botanical Gardens, Elm Bank, Heritage Gardens, and several other lovely public venues with skilled gardener, Suzanne Mahler.

Finding Beauty in the Everyday: Beginner’s Collage with Kimberly Stoney, Sat. April 16 at 2:30 pm (In Person)
Create colorful, semi translucent papers and use them to make collages based on images found in our everyday lives. Think Eric Carle meets your iPhone. No art experience necessary and everything is provided for you (except scissors and an apron). Made possible by the Groton Cultural Council.

Vital Conversations: Improving Communication Between Doctors and Patients with Dr. Dennis Rosen, Tue. April 19 at 7 pm (Zoom)
Dr. Dennis Rosen discusses topics from his book Vital Conversations including the importance of communication between doctors and patients, why it often goes badly, and guidance on how to improve it.

Instant Poetry for Everyone with Kate Chadbourne, Thu. April 21 at 7 pm—see front cover

LET IT OUT! Thu. April 28 at 8 pm—see back cover

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MORE ADULT EVENTS

A Visit from Author and Humorist Abner Serd, Tue. May 3, 1 pm (In Person)
Come hear storyteller Abner Serd spin yarns from his debut novel *The Legend of Pe-destro* and ask him about his ongoing walk across North America (during his visit, he will be in the third day of a 3,300-mile journey on foot from East Coast to West).

**You and Me—Reflections on Becoming Your Dad, Tue. May 3 at 7 pm**—see back cover

Modern Calligraphy with Debby Reelitz, Thu. May 5 at 6 pm (Zoom)
The importance of hand-lettering in a digital world and why it is still relevant. We’ll discuss three different ways modern calligraphy can be written and how to write this modern calligraphy style with pencils. Debby will provide several digital PDF handouts to distribute to the students in advance. We also discuss how they can use the lettering in everyday life. *Debby Reelitz is an experienced calligrapher with over 20 years as a professional lettering artist.*

Botanical Gelli Plate Printing Workshop with Ann-Marie LaBollita, Saturday, May 7 at 2 pm (In Person)
Working with an inexpensive gel plate, acrylic paints, and cuttings from your own garden you can make beautiful prints without a press! Learn how to use a brayer to lay out color and to pull a print. The process itself is easy to learn and the results are wonderful! Prints can be matted and framed, cut up for collage projects, or made into cards. Some supplies provided; a materials list will be available two weeks in advance. *Ann is a local artist and teacher with a BFA in painting and MFA in studio teaching.*

Why We Still Read Jane Austen with Deborah Lee Luskin, Tue. May 17 at 7 pm (Zoom)
Two hundred years later, how do we account for the continuing global appeal of these drawing room dramas among readers and moviegoers? More important even than getting married, her successful heroines demonstrate the power of reading, and it is by close reading that they discover both text and subtext. Deborah is a writer, speaker, and educator with a PhD in English Literature from Columbia University.

Tea from Your Garden with Seeds2Plate, Tue. May 24 at 7 pm (In Person)
Have you ever thought about using the bounty from your garden to make tea? Join Judith Taylor from Seeds2Plate for suggestions of plants that can be used to make delicious and healthy teas....right from your garden!

A Conversation with Author and Poet, Ocean Vuong, Thu. May 26 at 7 pm (Zoom)

Information as of March 7, 2022; check gpl.org calendar for updates and to sign up, or call us at 978-448-1167.
EVEN MORE ADULT EVENTS

The Middle East with Mohamed Defaa, Tue. May 31 at 7 pm (Zoom)
The term "Middle East" is a changing geopolitical concept. Throughout recent history, this term referred to a political, a cultural, and a geographical region with no clear boundaries. Moreover, this concept serves to generate stereotypes and misunderstanding. Mohamed Defaa provides an analytical framework to understand the histories, social identities, and cultures behind this complex concept of "Middle East."

A Playground for Empire: Cuba with Tim Weed, Thu. June 2 at 7 pm (Zoom)
The Spanish-American war of 1898 ended Spain’s four hundred year rule of Cuba. Cuba became a U.S. protectorate and decades of instability followed, culminating in Batista’s military dictatorship. The 1959 Cuban Revolution is one of the great underdog stories in history, in which a tiny band of young rebels prevailed against all odds. This nationalist revolution quickly fell under the sway of the USSR and Cuba’s previously close ties with the U.S. were abruptly severed.

The Unknown Transcontinental Railroad, Tue. June 7 at 7 pm (Zoom)
Scandals and back door politics ran rampant during the building of the transcontinental railroad between 1862-1869. Justin Lambrecht of the National Railroad Museum also examines how the series "Hell on Wheels" is similar and different from the actual experiences faced by the real folks who built the railroad.

Adolescent Psychology for Parents with Joani Geltman, Thu. June 9 at 7 pm (Zoom)—see back cover

(Not So) Elementary: The Popularity of Sherlock Holmes, Tue. June 14 at 7 pm (In Person)
Holmes is the most portrayed literary character of all time, with over 230 film versions alone in various languages as well as TV shows and book adaptations. Why is Sherlock Holmes so popular? Ann McClellan explores the origins of Arthur Conan Doyle's detective and tracks his incarnations in literature, film, advertising, and modern media in order to crack the case of the most popular detective.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES FOR ADULTS

- Writing Critique Group for Writing in All Genres. Two Different Monthly Groups:
  3rd Tuesday 6-8 pm OR 4th Wednesday 6-8 pm
- Bodies in the Library Group for Mystery Writers.
  Every other Wednesday, 5-6:30 pm. Advice and encouragement from others who love to write within the mystery genre.

Held in partnership with Seven Bridge Writers’ Collaborative (SBWC), these critique groups are for writers who want feedback, support, and revision.

Email 7bridgewriterscollaborative@gmail.com to register or visit sevenbridge.org.

GPL offers interactive activities every month just for grown-ups to enjoy.

Spice Club
April: Oregano and Marjoram
May: Dill
June: Mustard Seed

Online Trivia
New challenges every week. Sign up at gpl.org.

New: Party Bridge Game In Person
Third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm. Join us!

All library programs generously supported by the GPL Endowment Trust and the Town of Groton Trusts’ Lecture Fund.
JOIN THE DISCUSSION WITH ADULT GROUPS AT GPL!

Meeting style is flexible with Covid. Please check gpl.org for the latest information. Books are available to borrow one month in advance. Email circulation@gpl.org to request a copy.

- **GPL PAGE TURNERS** meets monthly on the fourth Tuesday at 7 pm
  - April 26  *Evidence of Things Unseen* by Marianne Wiggins
  - May 24  *The Vanishing Half* by Brit Bennett
  - June 28  Planning for Next Year

- **MAD ABOUT MYSTERY GROUP** meets monthly on the third Thursday at 7pm
  - April 21  *Thursday Murder Club* by Richard Osman
  - May 19  *Bombay Prince* by Sujata Maseey
  - June 16  *Last House on Needless Street* by Catriona Ward

- **GREAT BOOKS GROUP** meets monthly on the second Wednesday at 7 pm. Readings are from *Her Own Accord*, a compilation of writings selected by the Great Books Foundation.
  - April 13  WORK, cont’d
  - May 11  POLITICS
  - June 8  POLITICS, cont’d
  - July 13  POLITICS, cont’d

- **COOK THE BOOK GROUP** meets every other month on a Thursday at 7 pm
  - May 12  *Everyday Dorie: The Way I Cook* by Dorie Greenspan

- **PLANT POWERED GROUP** meets monthly on the first Wednesday at 7 pm
  - A great place to explore non-meat options or a fully plant-based way of eating.
  - April 6  Spring Cleaning Your Body
  - May 4  Smorgasbord of Vegetables: Planting, CSA’s, and Local Farm stands!
  - June 1  Plant Powered Meet and Greet: Outdoor picnic and lawn games at GPL

- **GPL KNITTING GROUP** meets every Thursday, 1:30-3:30 pm
  - Stitch, knit, explore a new craft, or troubleshoot your current project.

- **FOREIGN FILM FAVORITES** meets monthly on the second to last Wednesday at 3 pm
  - Experience films from around the world followed by enlightening conversation.
  - April 20  *Ballad of a Soldier* (Russia)
  - May 18  *Raise the Red Lantern* (China)
  - June 22  *I Am Not a Witch* (Zambia)

- **BOOKIN’ IT AROUND THE WORLD** meets monthly on the fourth Thursday at 7 pm
  - Explore cultures of the world through their literature.
  - April 28  *Small Island* by Andrea Levy (England)
  - May 26  *In Other Rooms, Other Wonders* by Daniyal Mueenuddin (Pakistan)
  - June 23  *Ways of Going Home* by Alejandro Zambra (Chile)

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**ADULT EVENTS For All, but of Particular Interest to PARENTS**

**Victor Bradley Returns! Anti-Bias and Young People, Wed. April 27 at 1 pm OR Wed. May 11 at 8 pm (Zoom)**
Learn tools to address specific circumstances relating to the topics of gender, racism, classism, and activism. Learn to effectively use these resources to proactively and positively engage in developmentally appropriate ways. Ask questions and learn strategies to do this important anti-bias/anti-racist work.

**LET IT OUT! Thu. April 28 at 8 pm (In Person)**
After over TWO YEARS of living with COVID-19, we could all use a moment. Join GPL and other members of the community in a moment of Primal Screaming to RELEASE and REMEMBER that we are ALL in this together. Great for parents! Great for anyone tired of COVID being their most frequently used word!

**You and Me—Reflections on Becoming Your Dad, Tue. May 3 at 7 pm (Zoom)**
Author and New Englander Dan Szczesny discusses *You & Me: Reflections on Becoming Your Dad*. His book consists of fifty essays ruminating on the first five years of his daughter’s life. Through the lens of fatherhood, Dan Szczesny demonstrates what it means to be mindful, curious, and awakened.

**Adolescent Psychology: The Parent Version with Joani Geltman, Thu. June 9 at 7 pm (Zoom).** Learn how the brain affects your teen’s behavior. It is the battle of the thinking brain vs. the feeling brain. Develop effective strategies for keeping your teen safe as they explore the new world of teen life. Learn how to teen-proof your home and cell-proof your teen. *Joani Geltman is an author, professor, and child development & parenting expert.*

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