SUMMER 2022 EVENTS & NEWSLETTER

SUMMER READING KICK-OFF EVENT!

2022 FANFEST @ GPL!
Friday, June 24
2-5 PM
For all ages! Fun for everyone!

Teen Events
Costume Contest, Cosplay, Karaoke, Green Screen, and more!

Kids Events
Costumes, face painting, and more! Meet Encanto’s Mirabel and Therapy Dogs Shiver Blitzen!

Celebrating Strong Roots:
Exploring America’s African Roots through Music and Dance
Tuesday, June 21* at 7 pm
Town Field Gazebo

Join GPL in a celebration of Juneteenth and America’s African roots through a fantastic live concert! Bring a picnic dinner for the entire family and top it off with red velvet cupcakes provided by the Racial Social Justice Group.

From Pop/Rock/Neo-Soul music to Tap dance/Charleston and Lindy Hop, categorization has been seemingly simple, but how familiar are you with how the origins overlap? Join pianist/composer Kevin Harris, dancer/choreographer Ricardo Foster, and drummer Tyson Jackson for an outdoor performance to celebrate the legacy and resilience of Black Culture through music and dance.

For all ages. This event generously sponsored by the Town of Groton Trust Funds’ Lecture Fund and the GPL Endowment Trust.  

*Rain date Thursday, June 23

Information as of MAY 15, 2022; please check our calendar for updates and to sign up, or call 978-448-1167.
ADULT EVENTS IN JUNE

Cuba: A Playground for Empire, Thu. June 2 at 7 pm on Zoom
Join award-winning author Tim Weed for a peek at Cuba’s intriguing and complex history. This talk will cover the Spanish-American war of 1898, Batista’s military dictatorship and the 1959 Cuban Revolution, one of the great underdog stories in history. See how these and other events in Cuban history contributed to a fascinating culture in Cuba today. Tim is a Cuba Writers Program Co-founder and leads National Geographic Expeditions in Cuba.

The Unknown Transcontinental Railroad, Tue. June 7 at 7 pm on Zoom
All aboard for some rarely told tales and secrets involving the building of the Transcontinental Railroad (TR) that linked the East and West and tried to bring unity to a divided nation in post-Civil War America. Join Justin Lambrecht, Education Director at the National Railroad Museum, as he takes you through some of the mysteries of the TR along with many of the scandals and a who’s who list of characters who were involved with its building (some names may surprise you!)

Adolescent Psychology: The Parent Version, Thu. June 9 at 7 pm on Zoom
Learn how the brain affects your teen’s behavior. It is the battle of the thinking brain vs. the feeling brain. Learn effective strategies for arguing—The Four Ways Of Fighting. 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 a licensed social worker as well as a child development and parenting expert. She has 30+ years experience working with parents, children, and school and community groups.

(Not So) Elementary, My Dear Watson: The Popularity of Sherlock Holmes, Tue. June 14, 7 pm at GPL
Sherlock Holmes is the most portrayed literary character of all time, with over 230 film versions alone in several different languages. Over the past century, Sherlockians created societies like the Baker Street Irregulars, wrote articles sussing out the "sources" of Doyle's works, and, most recently, developed an entire online world of fan fiction. Ann McClellan explores the origins of Arthur Conan Doyle's famous detective and tracks his incarnations in literature, film, advertising, and media in order to crack the case of the most popular detective. Ann is an English Professor at Plymouth State University.

Dan Shaughnessy - Wish It Lasted Forever, Thu. June 16 at 7 pm IN PERSON at GPL
Groton native, Boston Globe editor, and sports columnist, Dan Shaughnessy visits Groton to discuss his new book, Wish It Lasted Forever: Life with the Larry Bird Celtics. It is an immersive read that colorfully captures the Boston Celtics 1980’s dynasty during an era in professional sports and journalism now long gone. Wish It Lasted Forever grounds the Celtics’ run in an era of NBA basketball and newspaper reporting that has given way to today’s ecosphere of player tweets, team-controlled websites, and limited player access.

Hiking with Kids with Dan Szcesny, Thu. June 30 at 7 pm IN PERSON at GPL
Dan Szcesny, author of The Adventures of Buffalo and Tough Cookie, discusses a year of hitting the trails with his foster daughter when she was nine years old. Together, they tackled one of New Hampshire’s least known, but most beautiful mountain lists, called “the 52 With a View.” From how they started hiking to why she now feels such passion for the activity as well as how they learned to become a father/daughter team and how to keep your own kids safe in the outdoors, Dan covers it all!

Events are subject to change; please check gpl.org calendar for updates to sign up or call 978-448-1167.
ADULT EVENTS IN JULY & AUGUST

Massachusetts Micro-Adventures with Alison O’Leary, Tue. July 12, 7 pm IN PERSON
Experienced hiker and outdoorswoman Alison O’Leary provides a virtual tour of a dozen day trip options in Massachusetts that are sure to excite adventurers of all ages! Specific topics include hikes with great views, kayak and canoe trips, waterfalls, “island” adventures, and even abandoned towns!

Walking in the Woods with Robert Frost by Jeffrey Zygmont, Tue. July 26 at 7 pm IN PERSON
Author and poet Jeffrey Zygmont recites a selection of nature poems by Robert Frost, using Frost’s expressive and much-loved poetry to deepen our understanding and appreciation of New England’s natural environment. Each delivery is accompanied by commentary about the experiences and emotions expressed in the poem and background on Frost’s life that gives us insight into the poem’s origin and intention. This lively discussion and recital of some of Robert Frost’s best poems is a celebration of both natural New England and his unique gift for capturing it in poetry.

Gardening is Murder with Author Neal Sanders, Thu. August 4 at 7 pm IN PERSON
Mystery author and spouse of a gardener, Neal Sanders will present a “husband’s point of view” of gardening. It is filled with humor and insight from someone who gardens less from an abiding love of horticulture than for the love of a spouse.

Naturescaping Your Yard with Karen Bussolini, Thu. August 11 at 7 pm on Zoom
Naturescaping, or Ecological Landscaping, is landscaping with nature – attracting and sustaining wildlife, using native and well-adapted plants, using resources wisely, and avoiding environmental pollution. But it also means landscaping like nature. Nobody plants, waters, or fertilizes the forest or the prairie, yet they survive – beautifully – on their own. Naturescaping creates self-sustaining (i.e. low-maintenance) landscapes that function like nature. She is informed both by notable ecologists and ecological designers and her own understanding that everything comes from somewhere, everything goes somewhere, and it’s all connected. Karen combines the big picture and nitty-gritty how-to tips with images of yards and gardens that are useful and beautiful, while functioning as small ecosystems.

This Wild Land with Ranger and Writer Andrew Vietze, Thu. August 18 at 7 pm on Zoom
Park Ranger Andrew Vietze, author of This Wild Land—talks about the two decades he spent as a ranger in Baxter State Park (Maine), which is also home to Mount Katahdin, the northern terminus of the Appalachian Trail. Andrew will share the compelling details of life as a park ranger, including his time spent managing relationships with his fellow rangers, and the 60,000 visitors Baxter State Park sees each summer.

Bees in Groton with William Winn, August 25 at 7 pm IN PERSON
Local Bee Keeper, William Winn, discusses various bee-related topics including: human history with bees, threats to honey bees and other pollinators, and what we can do to help. He will also cover bees in our backyards - how to get started with honey bees, but also what we can do to help pollinators without actually becoming a beekeeper. Lastly, William will talk about the products that honey bees make and jobs they perform—hint, it is about more than just honey!

Library programs supported by the GPL Endowment Trust and the Town of Groton Trust Funds’ 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.*

- **PLANT POWERED GROUP**
  A great place to explore non-meat options or a fully plant-based way of eating.
  *June 1 at 7 pm* Plant Powered Meet and Greet: Outdoor picnic and lawn games

- **GREAT BOOKS GROUP**
  Readings are from *Her Own Accord*, a compilation of writings selected by the Great Books Foundation.
  *June 8 at 7 pm* POLITICS
  *July 13 at 7 pm* POLITICS

- **MAD ABOUT MYSTERY GROUP** meets monthly on the third Thursday at 7 pm.
  *June 16* *Last House on Needless Street* by Catriona Ward
  *July 21* *Before the Fall* by Noah Hawley
  *August 18* *The Guest List* by Lucy Foley

- **FOREIGN FILM FAVORITES**
  Experience films from around the world followed by enlightening conversation.
  *June 22 at 3 pm* *I Am Not a Witch* (Zambia)

- **GPL PAGE TURNERS**
  *June 28 at 7 pm* Planning Reading for Next Year

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

**ART EXHIBITS IN THE GALLERY**

- GDRHS Art Club & National Honor Art Society Student Show
  *April 27 to June 11*

- My Neighbor Martha, Paintings by Martha Oldham
  *June 15 to August 31*

**SPECIAL ACTIVITIES FOR ADULTS**

- **SPANISH CONVERSATION GROUP** meets two Tuesdays per month at 7 pm on Zoom.
  Have fun while you learn and practice!
  Led by a native speaker and Spanish teacher, Verónica Mazzu.

- **SPICE CLUB**
  June: Mustard Seed
  July: Fennel Seed
  August: Lemongrass

- **ONLINE TRIVIA**
  New challenges every week. Sign up at gpl.org.
Children ages 18 months through Grade 5 will use the Beanstack app to record reading over the 10-week program! Benefits of the Summer Reading Program include:

- Helping to prevent the academic “summer slide” and supporting the development of literacy skills!
- Fun and educational programs! Plus, the popular Letterboxing Challenge returns!
- Earning stickers, badges, and buttons to show off goals met and your accomplishments!
- Amazing prizes and raffles, including a special raffle during week 10 to symbolically adopt an animal through our chosen charity the World Wildlife Fund. The winners will receive a special prize!

**June**

Tuesdays in June, 4-5 pm. LEGO Spike Building and Coding. Gr 3-5.

Thu, June 16, 10:30-11 am: Juneteeth for Mazie Storytime for Preschools with Strega Mama.

**Fri, June 24, 2-5 pm: Summer Reading Kick-Off: FanFest!** See front cover for details.

Thu, June 30, 1-2 pm: Musician Mary Jo Maichack sings Campfire Songs at the Gazebo. All ages.

**July**

Two Wednesdays, July 13 & 27, 10:30-11 am: Mother Goose in the Garden for infants through preschool.

Wed, July 6, 2:30-3:30 pm: Craft a clay S’more charm with Rachel Benson. Gr 3-5.

Fri, July 8, 11 am-12 pm: Musician Tom Sieling’s Take a Tromp Through the Swamp at the Gazebo! All ages.

Tues, July 12-Fri, July 15, 1-3:30 pm: Comics Camp with Jonathan Todd. Sign up for the whole series. Gr 4-6.


Thurs, July 21, 11 am-12pm: Cooking Class with Food Explorers: Gooey Three Cheese Pizza Bites. Gr 2-5.

**August**

Two Wednesdays, August 10 & 24, 10:30-11 am: Mother Goose in the Garden for infants through preschool.

Fri, August 5, 10:30-11:15 am: Musician Steve Blunt at the Gazebo. All ages.

Sun, July 31-August 7: Caterpillar Hunter Virtual Program. Online all week long. All ages.

Tues, August 9, 1-2 pm: Hands on Nature: Reading Stories in Animal Tracks. All ages.

Wed, August 17, 1-3 pm: Craft with Mandy Roberge: Make a Cactus Rock Garden. Gr 3-5

Thurs, August 18, 6:30 pm: PJ Storytime Campout with Craft. Gr PreK-2.

**Thurs, August 25, 2-2:45 pm: Summer Reading Finale with Magician Mike Bent!** All ages.

For more information and to sign up for events and the Summer Reading Program, visit the Children’s Room, gpl.org, email kids@gpl.org, or call 978-448-1168.

*The Summer Reading Program is generously sponsored by the Groton Public Library Endowment Trust.*

Information as of **MAY 15, 2022**; please check our calendar for **updates** and to **sign up**, or call 978-448-1168.
For the Read Beyond the Beaten Path Summer Reading Program we encourage teens in Grades 6-12 to READ ANYTHING and log the time spent reading to earn gift cards, movie passes, and a donation to The Marion Stoddard Greenway Fund, as well as a chance to enter the grand prize drawing for an iPad!

To participate, download the Beanstack tracker app or go to grotonpubliclibrary.beanstack.org to create an account with your email and register for the teen program. Once you have an account, log the time you spend reading and the app will tell you when you have earned a prize that can be picked up at the mid-level circulation desk. Complete other activities on Beanstack to earn tickets for additional raffle prizes. For more details, go to gpl.org, email teens@gpl.org or call 978-448-1167.

**Teen Summer Events & Programs**

### Nature Adventures

**NRWA Summer Naturalist Adventure Series** (Grades 5-12) Classes lead by NRWA Naturalist Educators.

- **Animal Adaptations**, Thurs. June 16, 4-6pm,
- **Birdways**, Thurs. July 7, 4-6pm,
- **Aquatic Insect Investigations**, Thurs. Aug. 11, 4-6pm.

**Foraging & Fire With Owl Eyes Wilderness Survival** (Grades 6-12) Thurs. June 23, 6-8:30pm. Sibley Hall & Rail Trail. Dress for outdoors.

**Mass Audubon Nature Explorations Series** (Grades 6-12) Tuesdays July 12, 19 & 26.
3-5pm. Meet at Rocky Hill Sanctuary parking area and dress for a walk in the woods.

### Arts & Crafts

**All held IN PERSON in Sibley Hall**

- **All supplies and instructions are provided. Please sign up as space is limited.**

- **Felting a Fire-pit** with Rachel Benson (Grades 6-12) Wed. June 22, 6:30-8pm.

- **Perler Bead S’mores Treasure Box** (Grades 5-10) Wed. June 29, 6:3-8pm.

- **Painting an Owl on Canvas** with Pop-Up Art School (Grades 6-12) Thurs. July 14, 6:30-8pm.

- **Perler Bead Camp Out** with Amy Loveless (Grades 5-10) Wed. July 27, 6:30-8pm.

- **Clay S’mores Charm** with Rachel Benson (Grades 6-12) Wed. Aug. 3, 6:30-8pm.

Please sign up @ gpl.org or email Teen Librarian Deb Dowson at teens@gpl.org to get details for each program.

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

*Library programs supported by the GPL Endowment Trust and the Town of Groton Trust Funds’ Lecture Fund.*
**Teen Summer Events & Programs**

**Fan Fest! Summer Reading Kick-off!**

Costume Contest, Cosplay, Karaoke, Green Screen & more. Friday June 24, 2-5pm. ALL AGES!

**More Fun & Games...**

**LGBTQ+ Hang Out with OUT MetroWest.** (Grades 6-12) OUT MetroWest welcomes LGBTQ+ youth in middle school and high school to join us for ice breakers, games, and hang out time! Wed. June 8, 6-8pm.

**Minecraft Meet-Up on Zoom.** (Grades 5-10) Play on the library server and chat on Zoom. Players must have a Minecraft Java account. If you would like to join the server to play anytime, email teens@gpl.org with your gamertag, and we will add you to the whitelist. Meet-ups are Tues. 2-4pm on June 21, July 5 & 19, and August 2 & 16.

**Among Us On Zoom:** (Grades 5-10) We play on most Friday afternoons and welcome new players! Sign up to receive the Zoom link. 3:00-4:30pm. June 3 & 17, July 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29, and August 5, 12, 19, & 26.

**Creepy Campout Escape Room** (Grades 6-12) Solve the puzzle and earn a treat! Wed. Aug. 10, 6:30-8pm. Sibley Hall.

**Cooking Class with Food Explorers:** (Grades 6-12) Learn to make Ricotta Gnocchi & enjoy some S’mores, for an extra treat! Thurs. July 21, 1-2pm. Sibley Hall.

**Robotics Battle-Bots Tournaments.** (Grades 5-10) Build a robot using Lego Mindstorms EV3 kits and battle for a prize! Thursdays, June 9, July 28, & August 18, 6:00-7:30pm in Sibley Hall.

**End of Summer Sundae Social** (Grades 6-12) Meet up for a sweet treat, and maybe a little karaoke? Wed. Aug. 24, 6:00-7:30pm. Sibley Hall.

**Movie Nights**

Grades 6-12, In Person in Sibley Hall. Tues. June 28, Wed. July 20, Tues. Aug. 9, & Tues. Aug. 23 @ 6:30-8pm depending on the movie. Please check events calendar for details.

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**Rising Writers**

(Grades 5-8) Do you love to write? If so, we have the club for you!

Rising Writers is a student-led group where young writers can share, create, and discuss their work. The club is a safe, non-judgmental space, and all writing forms are welcome.


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**MVLC Teen Library Passport**

June 1—August 31

Why not go beyond the beaten path this summer and visit another library? We have a passport for you to take to participating Merrimack Valley Library Consortium (MVLC) teen/young adult rooms. Get your passport stamped to win prizes!

Pick up your passport and a stamp in GPL’s Teen Lounge (GPL 3rd floor) and start your adventure!

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The Young Adult / Teen Summer Reading Program is generously supported by the GPL Endowment Trust.

Information as of MAY 15, 2022; please check our calendar for updates and to sign up, or call 978-448-1167.
Adult Summer Reading Program

Join us for an exciting season with our Read Beyond the Beaten Path Adult Summer Reading Program. We have partnered with the Groton Conservation Trust (GCT) to bring you a fun-filled summer of adventures in reading! Explore different genres with our Summer Reading Challenge and complete the GCT’s Trail Passport for your chance to win prizes and earn donations for the Groton Conservation Trust.

Sign up online or in person on JUNE 15 with your library card & PIN. Then, read read read! (Or listen listen listen!) and record your reading. Earn prizes and chances to win a weekly prize drawing and support Groton conservation by reading.

For every 5 books you read, the GPL Endowment Trust will donate $2 to The Groton Conservation Trust. The GCT enhances the quality of life in Groton through environmental conservation and engages residents in the enjoyment and stewardship of Groton’s remarkable natural landscapes.

Information as of MAY 15, 2022; please check our calendar for updates and to sign up, or call 978-448-1167.