

August 2023

ILLUMINATED STACKS

The Official Newsletter of the Stoneham Public Library

Stoneham Public Library

431 Main Street
Stoneham, MA
02180

Adult Services

(781) 438-1324

Mon, Tue, Thu: 9 am - 9 pm
Wed, Fri: 9 am - 5 pm

Children's Services

(781) 438-1325

Mon, Tue, Thu: 9 am - 7 pm
Wed, Fri: 9 am - 5 pm

StonehamLibrary.org

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 Stoneham Public Library

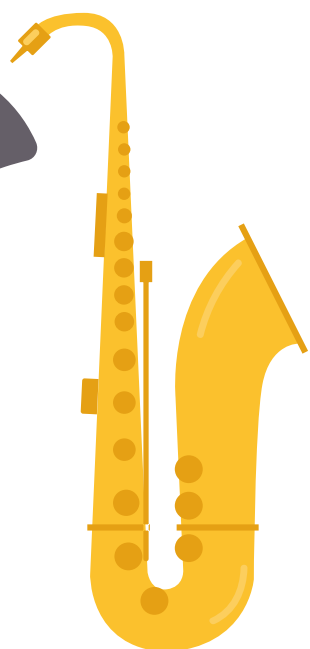
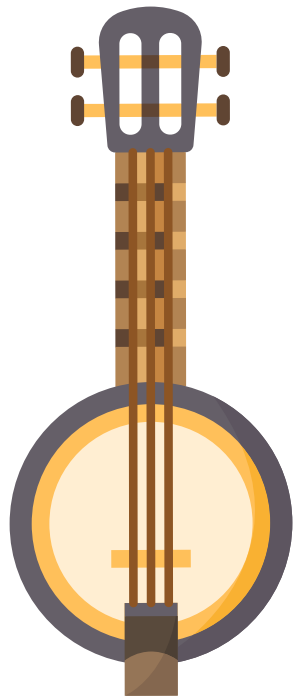
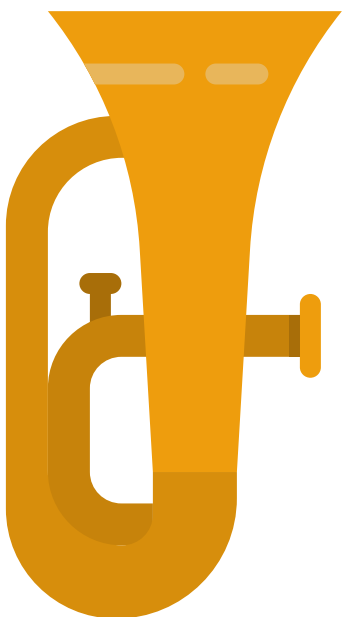
THE MONTH AT A GLANCE

STONEHAM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Summer Concert Series

Thursday, August 3rd @ 7:00 P.M.

The Late-Risers will perform on the Town Common, bringing the upbeat sounds of New Orleans-style jazz to Stoneham Square! The Church Street Beer Garden will open at 5:30pm, music will begin at 7pm.

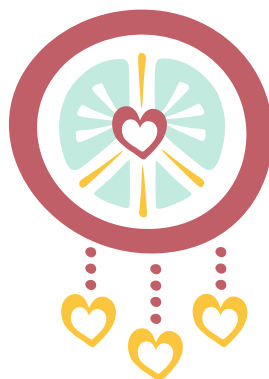


ART DISPLAY

JUNIOR ROOM SUMMER LEARNING ARTS & CRAFTS

This month we will be exhibiting pictures of kids having an amazing time crafting from our summer programming! Crafts include but aren't limited to:

- glow in the dark bugs
- spaceships
- woven blankets or turtle shells
- lion masks
- pressed flower suncatcher ornaments



Each month, the library hosts a different local artist! For more information about displaying artwork at the Stoneham Public Library, contact Reference Librarian Maureen Saltzman: **781-507-2483** or

sto@noblenet.org.

ADULT PROGRAMS

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

1
Adult Creative Writing Group
11:30 am

2

3
Mysteries Around the World Book Group
7 pm

4

5
CLOSED FOR SUMMER HOURS

8

9

10
Queer Reader Book Group
7 pm

11

12
CLOSED FOR SUMMER HOURS

15

16

17
Craft & Chat
7 pm

18
Film Club Screening: Red River (1948)
1 pm

19
CLOSED FOR SUMMER HOURS

22
Arty Party
7 pm

23
Film Club Discussion
6:30 pm

24
Adult Board Game Night
7 pm

25

26
CLOSED FOR SUMMER HOURS

29

30

31

CLOSED FOR SUMMER HOURS

28
Meet the Author: Eugenia Gold
7 pm

MONTHLY ADULT PROGRAMS:

Mondays

Monday Night Book Group

No August Meeting

There will be no August meeting. See you in September! *The group meets on the last Monday of each month.* **Registration required.**



Tuesdays

Adult Creative Writing Group

August 1st at 11:30 am | The Stoneham Room

Interested in writing amongst a group of peers? During the meetings you will have conversations about writing habits, sharing work and giving critique (optional of course!), and have a timed writing portion to work on your latest work in progress or write on a theme. Members should bring pencils, pens, notebooks, loose-leaf paper and/or a laptop for brainstorming and taking notes. **Registration encouraged.**



Arty Party

August 22nd at 7 pm | The Marcy Room

Do you miss the days of arts and crafts when you could get a little messy and just have fun while creating something? Well here's a craft program just for adults! August's craft is corner bookmarks! Decorate them however you please. Add your favorite book character. Your only limit is your imagination. **Registration required. All supplies provided.**



Wednesdays

Film Club Discussion

August 23rd at 6:30 pm | Zoom

The Film Club will discuss its August choice, *Red River* (1948) on Zoom. This classic from director Howard Hawks has spawned many imitations, but few have managed to top its mixture of action, suspense, and humor. With the offbeat casting of John Wayne with Montgomery Clift, and featuring Walter Brennan, Joanne Dru, John Ireland and Colleen Gray, this is first-rate western entertainment. Don't miss out on our screening of the movie on Friday, August 18th. **Registration required.**



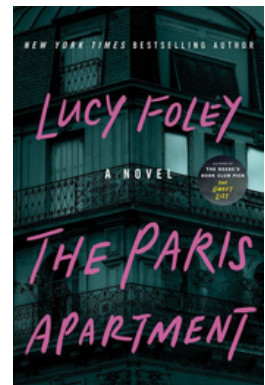
MONTHLY ADULT PROGRAMS CONT.:

Thursdays

Mysteries Around the World Book Group

August 3rd at 7 pm | The Stoneham Room

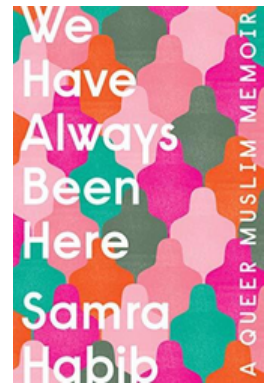
The Mystery Group meets to discuss *The Paris Apartment*, the latest book by bestselling writer, Lucy Foley. The book tells the tale of down-on-her-luck Jess, her missing half-brother Ben, and Ben's troupe of eclectic, standoffish neighbors. This story is "locked room mystery, set in a Paris apartment building in which every resident has something to hide..." This group always looks forward to welcoming new members, and meets on the first Thursday of each month. **Registration required.**



Queer Reader: An LGBTQ+ Book Club

August 10th at 7 pm | The Stoneham Room

Join us for our newest book group, Queer Reader! In this group we will read and discuss books by and about the LGBTQ+ community! The August book is *We Have Always Been Here*, named by Book Riot as one of the most influential queer books of all time, by award-winning author, Samra Habib. "A triumphant memoir of forgiveness and family, both chosen and not. . . a rallying cry for anyone who has ever felt out of place and a testament to the power of fearlessly inhabiting one's truest self." Pick up your copy at the circulation desk! **Registration required.**



Craft and Chat

August 17th at 7 pm | The Stoneham Room

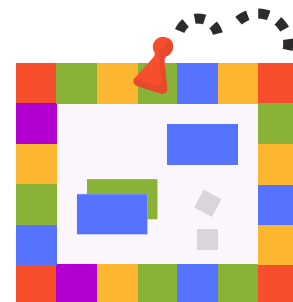
Bring your current project to the library to work in the company of fellow crafters. This is a drop in program for adults, come when you can, leave when you need. Any and all crafts welcome, tables and comfy chairs provided! *This program happens once a month, date to be determined.* **No registration required.**



Adult Board Game Night

August 24th at 7 pm | The Marcy Room

Join us from 6-8pm to play board games, card games, put together puzzles, etc! There will be an array of games available. Choose what you want to play. It's a great opportunity to meet new people or get together with friends or BOTH! This program is open to anyone 18 or older and occurs every third Thursday. **Registration encouraged.**



MONTHLY ADULT PROGRAMS CONT.:

Fridays

Film Club Screening

August 18th at 1 pm | The Marcy Room

The film club selection for August is *Red River* (1948). This classic from director Howard Hawks has spawned many imitations, but few have managed to top its mixture of action, suspense, and humor. With the offbeat casting of John Wayne with Montgomery Clift, and featuring Walter Brennan, Joanne Dru, John Ireland and Colleen Gray, this is first-rate western entertainment. All Film Club Screenings are free and open to the public. **No registration required.**



SPECIAL ADULT PROGRAMS:

Meet the Author: Eugenia Gold

Monday, August 28th at 7 pm | The Marcy Room

Join us as local author and paleontologist Eugenia Gold talks about her children's book *She Found Fossils* and the journey to get it published. Published in 2017, *She Found Fossils* is a picture book about the history and present diversity of women in paleontology. It tells the remarkable stories of women all over the world in paleontological careers. This book is available in English and Spanish (Ella econtró fósiles). **No registration required.**



NOTE: Each adult program that you attend qualifies you for a punch on your Summer Learning card and gets you one step closer to a Stoneham Public Library tote bag, designed by our own Ali Fletcher!



YOUTH SERVICES PROGRAMS



MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

1

2

Babytime
9:30 am

Toddler Tumble 10 am

Hands on Nature
3:30 pm

3

STEM & Stories
1:30 pm

4

Baby Bumble
9:30-11 am

5

CLOSED FOR SUMMER HOURS

7

Toddler Tales
10 am

Fables & Fun
4 pm

8

Tales & Tunes
Storytime
10:30 am

9

Babytime
9:30 am

Toddler Tumble 10 am

Teen Movie
Afternoon
3 pm

10

STEM & Stories
1:30 pm

11

Baby Bumble
9:30-11 am

12

CLOSED FOR SUMMER HOURS

14

Toddler Tales
10 am

Fables & Fun
4 pm

15

Middle Grade
Graphic Novel
Club 3:30 pm

16

Babytime
9:30 am

Toddler Tumble 10 am

Teen Movie
Afternoon
3 pm

17

STEM & Stories
1:30 pm

18

Baby Bumble
9:30-11 am

Matt Heaton
10:30 am

Capture-the-flag
10:30 am

19

CLOSED FOR SUMMER HOURS

21

22

23

24

25

26

PROGRAMMING BREAK

28

29

30

31

PROGRAMMING BREAK

Want to register for an event?
 Head to stonehamlibrary.org
 Hit the 'Calendar' tab.
 Scroll to the day and the event you want.
 Hit 'Register'!



weekly:



Mondays

Toddler Tales 10 am

Miss Melissa is ready to share a new picture book story with you! Come join us for a sweet story time! **Sign up required.**

Fables and Fun at 4pm

Join Miss Melissa for a fun folktale and a themed craft! **For Prek+. Sign up required.**

Wednesdays

Babytime at 9:30 am

Join Miss Katie for a quick, fun babytime program! We'll have bounces, rhymes, and loads of fun! **For babies 0-12mos.**

Toddler Tumble at 10 am

We have special toys specifically picked for toddlers that will be available during this program!

Teen Movie Afternoon at 3 pm

On Wednesdays at 3, a movie for teens will show in our Marcy room. Bring snacks and enjoy a movie in the a.c.! Vote on our instagram stories to pick the movie! @stonehampublib
For teens and tweens.

Thursdays

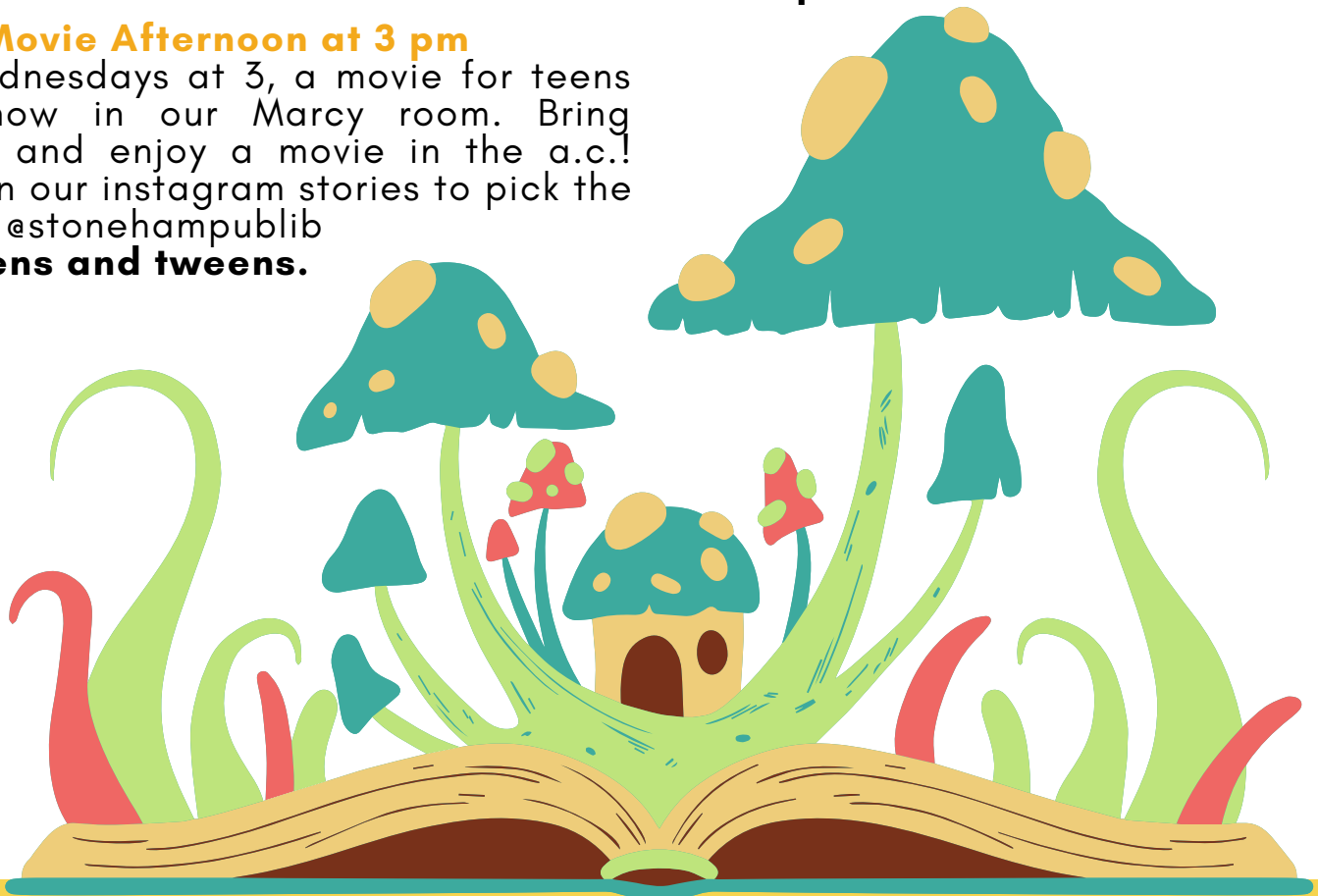
STEM & Stories at 1:30 pm

Miss Melissa is ready to share a story with you and guide you through a related STEM activity! **For grades 2+. Sign up required.**

Fridays

Baby Bumble 9:30-11:00 am

This drop-in style program is to encourage our young friends to socialize, play, and communicate with one another. **For babies 11ish months and up.**



special:

Wednesday, August 2nd at 3:30pm Hands on Nature

Come join us as we discover what makes those amazing songs we hear outside our window during the warm summer nights! Is that a cricket or a katydid or a treefrog? **All ages welcome; intended for ages 2-5. Sign up required.**



Tuesday, August 8th at 10:30 am Tales & Tunes Storytime

Join Miss Rachel to sing favorite songs and rhymes, meet new friends, and have some fun! **All ages. No sign up required.**



Tuesday, August 15th at 3:30 pm Middle Grade Graphic Novel Club

This month we are reading *The Okay Witch*. We'll talk about the book and draw our own graphic novel panels! For grades 4 and up. The graphic novel can be picked up at the Jr. library desk and should be read prior to the meeting. Happy reading! **Sign up required.**



Friday, August 18th at 10:30am Matt Heaton

The wonderful Matt Heaton is coming for a musical visit! Join us on the library lawn for a beautiful summer concert to close out Summer Learning 2023! **All ages welcome; intended for ages 1.5-5.**



Friday, August 18th at 10:30 am Capture-the-Flag Tournament

A capture flag tournament will be at the Stoneham Recreation Field, behind the Stoneham Wakefield Boys and Girls club! There are spots for 4 teams of 5 kids to sign up! Spectators do not need to sign up! **Teams must be in 5th grade and up. Sign up required.**



SUMMER LEARNING 2023

Kids, teens and adults can all participate in Summer Learning 2023! Sign up, complete activities, and win prizes!

KIDS

Check out the [Juvenile Summer Learning page](#) on our website to sign up, see the programs we're offering, and access your summer learning pamphlet.

TEENS

Check out the [Teen Summer Learning page](#) on our website to sign up, see the programs we're offering, and access your summer learning bookmark.

ADULTS

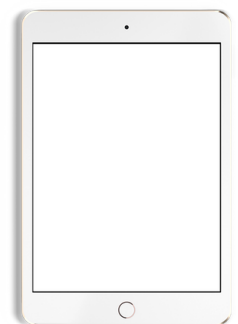
Check out the [Adult Summer Learning page](#) on our website to sign up, see the programs we're offering, and access your summer learning punch card and bookmark


what kinds of prizes can you win?

Tags and beads for your summer learning NECKLACE!


An iPad or a Kindle Fire!

A Stoneham Public Library bookplate tote bag, designed in house by our own Ali Fletcher!



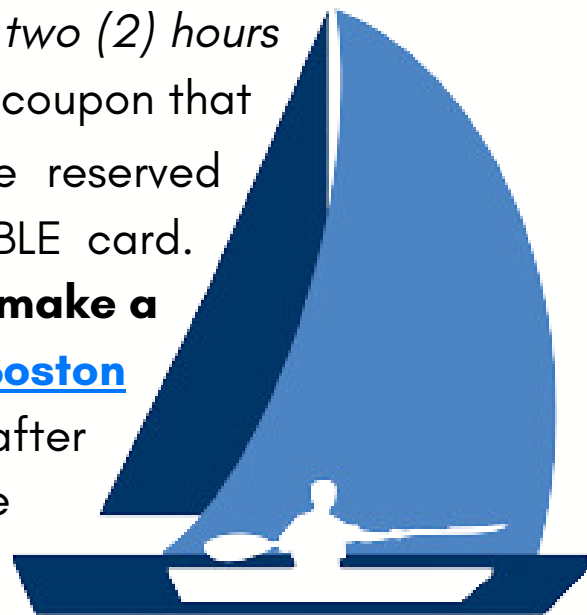


MUSEUM PASSES



Boating in Boston

Patrons can rent up to *four (4) rowboats* for *two (2) hours* on Spot Pond in Stoneham. This pass is an e-coupon that will be sent to your email after you have reserved the pass through the library with your NOBLE card. Please note that, before your visit, **you must make a timed reservation** on the [Boating in Boston website](#). To do this, use code your received after booking the pass. This pass is available to use every day in the summer before Labor Day.



DISCOVERY MUSEUM

science. nature. play. 

This pass admits three visitors at half price admission per person. Any additional visitors must pay the regular admission price. Please note that this is not a ticket.

[Tickets can be reserved on the Museum's website](#) or by phone (978-264-4200). You must reserve a ticket for a specific day and time-block prior to coming to the Museum campus. Payment is transacted upon admittance.

AUGUST 2023

AUGUST BOOK LISTS

Stoneham Summer Drive-in Theatre

Put it in park and check out these movies in our collection! We have a range of action-adventure films, comedies, romantic dramas, thrillers, and summer-blockbusters. [Hoopla Digital](#) and [Kanopy](#) are great resources for streaming films that might not be not available at the library.



Job Hunters and Business Makers

Print and electronic materials in our collection that cover career development, life and work skills, resume-building, and business trends. The library also offers access to the database, [Reference Solutions](#), which provides information that job-seekers and employees alike can use for business and marketing research.



AUGUST BOOK LISTS CONT.

Via Italia

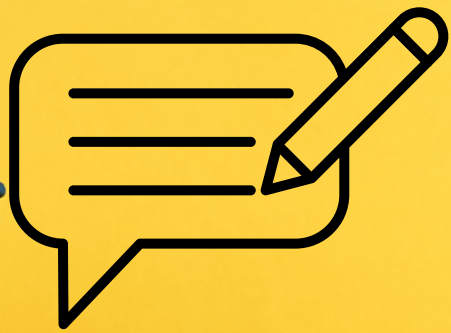
Explore Italian art, history, literature, film, and cuisine with this list of print and electronic materials! Also, consider checking out [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) to discover your family's genealogical history!



August 2023 Reading Challenge



This month's theme from the [Massachusetts Center for the Book](https://www.masscenterforthebook.org) is to **read a translated book**. We have many titles in both print and e-book formats to help you complete this challenge!



STAFF REVIEWS

Reimagining a Classic

Recommendation | Melissa Jackson

The greatest stories not only spark our minds and hearts but they seem to transcend time by continuing to delight us generation after generation. I find the remixing of a classic story in a modern setting to be a fun way to look at the “bones” of the story and enjoy its plot and characters with “new eyes”. Two series of retellings have caught my eye, one I have dived into and am quite fond of recommending, the other I have just come across and am excited to read.

The first collection is the [Hogarth Shakespeare Project](#), published by Penguin Random House, which has well known authors rewriting Shakespeare's stories. At this date seven books have been published in the series. Authors such as Anne Tyler, Jo Nesbo, and Tracy Chevalier have written for the project with Gillian Flynn on deck. They are great reads! The stories are inventive, clever, and quite entertaining!

The next series from Macmillan publishing is called the [Remixed Classics](#). In this collection, authors from diverse backgrounds take on literary classics like *The Great Gatsby*, *Wuthering Heights*, *Little Women*, and more, but with their own unique cultural lens. I love this! I am a huge *Little Women* fan and am going to read the remix called *So Many Beginnings* which is about four black sisters during the Civil War.

I hope that you enjoy these “old-made-new” stories; they are a lot of fun!

The Amazing World of Dr. Seuss Museum

Review | Ali Fletcher

Cats in Hats, Goose Juice, Truffula Forests, and Green Eggs with a side of Ham await the creative and curious minds who enter the Amazing World of Dr. Seuss Museum in Springfield, Massachusetts! In an homage to the artistry and creativity of Theodore Seuss Geisel, otherwise known as “Dr. Seuss” or “Ted,” the newest addition to the Springfield Museum Quadrangle and brings his wacky worlds to life in a colorful and interactive way while encouraging playfulness for visitors of all ages and promoting early literacy skills for the youngest of Seuss fans.



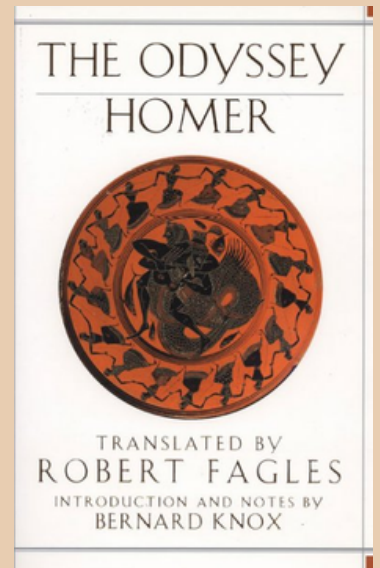
Nostalgia meets innovation in the “Young Ted in Springfield” area of the museum where visitors can design their own digital fish at McElligot’s Pool, use a giant marble maze to get “Ted” from his Fairfield Street home to the Library, and try their hands at “working” in a recreation of the bakery that Ted’s grandparents ran in his youth. Interactive games inspired by the Grinch’s holiday heist await in Whoville, and Things 1 & 2, Horton the Elephant, and the Lorax can be found in Readingville (pictured)! Here, visitors can make illustrations from Seuss’s ABC float across touch screens, test their rhyming skills with *Sam I Am*, build stacks of Yertle the Turtle Shells, and use shape-sorting knowledge to separate trash, recycling, and compost in the Lorax’s recycling game. For friends who may need a sensory break from the first floor, descending the pink staircase to the Cat’s Corner leads to craft areas and comfy reading spaces full of picture books in multiple languages by various authors. Recreations of Seuss’s work spaces, collections of his original artwork, letters to family members, and more insight into his life outside the world of creating children’s books can be found by climbing the stairs next to the Mulberry Street mural - which received backlash when the museum first opened.

Originally, this mural included Seuss’s “Chinaman” character from 1937, which was deemed offensive. Seuss and his work have been criticized for his perpetuation of racist stereotypes, some of which he has admitted were inappropriate. Children’s literature scholar Professor Philip Nel, author of *Dr Seuss: American Icon* and *Was the Cat in the Hat Black?: The Hidden Racism of Children's Literature...* has stated for the New York Times that “Mr. Geisel’s evolution on race was ‘incomplete,’” and that “he was responsive to criticisms of his own work” which “is a story worth telling in the museum.” The offensive illustration has been removed from the mural in an effort to “contextualize any perceived racist content in Dr. Seuss’s body of work” “without censorship,” said Susan Brandt, the president of Dr. Seuss Enterprises, in response.

***The Odyssey* by Homer**

Review | Matthew Sowyrda

All of life is a journey: long and - as in any story worth reading - replete with trials for the characters who are destined to become heroes. If the *kosmos* of human experience were to be drawn as a circle, the *Iliad* would constitute the first half, while the *Odyssey* would complete the second. The former shows noble actions amidst violence and danger, and the latter tells how one cultivates wisdom through experience over the passage of many years (Aristotle, *Poetics*, ch. 24, 1459b 13-16; Longinus, *On the Sublime*, IX, 13.20).



Following the culmination of the Trojan war, the heroic warrior-king Odysseus (the namesake of our colloquialism for lengthy travel) must embark on a 10 year-long trek back to Ithaca where he is awaited anxiously by ever-faithful Queen Penelope and their son, the young and meek Telemachus. As he sails across "the wine-dark sea", Odysseus and his crew escape the jaws of Polyphemus the murderous cyclops, resist the temptation of the siren's song that leads to destruction, out-wit the wicked spell-casting Circe, and steer clear of death-dealing Scylla and Charybdis. Telemachus, uncertain of his father's fate, is at odds about whether he ought to search for Odysseus, or stay home to fend off the horde of insidious suitors who, taking Odysseus for dead, are vying for Penelope's affection. Unbeknownst to them, Odysseus returns to Ithaca - alive - and, with the help of Athena, is residing among them, disguised as an aged beggar. All of this builds up to the finale: a showdown in which a reunited father and son fight side-by-side against the pernicious enemies that have attempted to spoil the king's house.

Apart from universal life's afflictions that are figuratively embedded in Odysseus' tribulations, Homer portrays the relationship between soul and body, as well as their struggle against the manifold evils from without, when the soul neglects or fails to employ reason and prudence. Perhaps it is only with the last two, aided by forces from above, that the soul can overcome the power of darkness. While there are many translations of this great work, I recommend the Penguin edition by Robert Fagles (883.01/HOM). This is mostly due to his retention of verse; for those who are accustomed to prose, try the Barnes & Noble Classics edition (883/HOMER). Like Fagles' translation of the *Iliad* (883 HOM), this book contains an introduction, a bibliography of critical texts, a glossary, and maps of the Hellenic world.