

October 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

Sat: 10 am - 2 pm

Children's Services

(781) 438-1325

Mon, Tue, Thu: 9 am - 7 pm

Wed, Fri: 9 am - 5 pm

Sat: 10 am - 2 pm

StonehamLibrary.org

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Follow along online

 @StonehamPubLib

 Stoneham Public Library

THE MONTH AT A GLANCE

Closings

Getting Some Work Done!

Friday, October 6th

The Library will be closed all day

UNDER MAINTENANCE



Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples' Day

Monday, October 9th

The Library will be closed all day

Stoneham Historical Society

Monthly Open House and Museum Opening

Sunday, October 15th, 2:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Stoneham Chamber of Commerce

Thirteenth Annual Halloween Stroll

Downtown–Stoneham Square

Saturday, October 28th, 1:00 - 3:00 P.M.



ART DISPLAY

In the Stoneham Public Library Gallery Hallway

Sheila Falco



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

2

3

**Adult
Creative
Writing
Group
11:30 am**

4

5

**Mysteries
Around the
World
Book
Group
7 pm**

6

**LIBRARY
CLOSED**

7

9

**LIBRARY
CLOSED**

10

11

12

**Queer
Reader
Book
Group
7 pm**

13

**Movie
Matinee:
*The Night
of the
Hunter*
1pm**

14

16

17

**Arty Party
7 pm**

18

**Film Club
Discussion
6:30 pm**

19

**Craft &
Chat
7pm**

20

21

23

24

25

26

**Adult
Board
Game
Night
7 pm**

27

28

**Adult
Creative
Writing
Group
11:30 am**

30

**Monday
Night
Book
Group
7 pm**

31

OCTOBER 2023

MONTHLY ADULT PROGRAMS:

Mondays

Monday Night Book Group

October 30th at 7 pm | The Stoneham Room

Join us to discuss Britt Bennett's, "The Vanishing Half." This novel is "a brave foray into...the tension between personal freedom and responsibility to a community." The group meets on the last Monday of each month. We are ready to welcome you to the discussion.

Registration not required.



Tuesdays

Adult Creative Writing Group

October 3rd at 11:30 am | The Stoneham Room

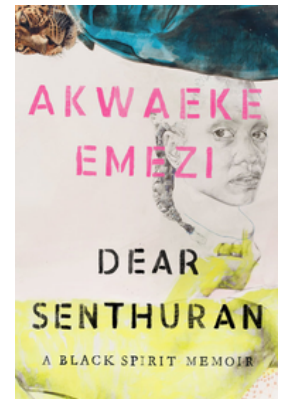
Interested in writing amongst a group of peers? During the meetings you will have conversations about writing habits, sharing work and giving critique (optional of course!), and have a timed writing portion to work on your latest work in progress or write on a theme. Members should bring pencils, pens,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



Queer Reader: An LGBTQ+ Book Club

October 12th at 7 pm | The Stoneham Room

In this group we read and discuss books by and about the LGBTQ+ community! The October book is *Dear Senthuran: A Black Spirit Memoir*, by New York Times-bestselling author Akwaeke Emezi. In their "electrifying and inspiring" memoir, "Emezi traces the unfolding of a self and the unforgettable journey of a creative spirit stepping into power in the human world." Pick up your copy at the circulation desk! **Registration required.**



Arty Party

October 17th 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! October's craft is pumpkin carving! **Registration required. All supplies provided.**



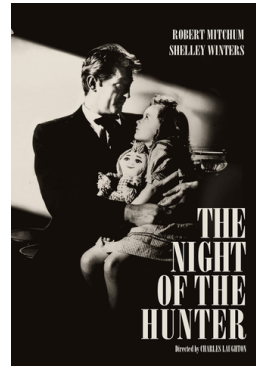
MONTHLY ADULT PROGRAMS CONT.:

Wednesdays

Film Club Discussion

October 18th at 6:30 pm | Zoom

The Film Club will discuss its October choice, *The Night of the Hunter* (1955) on Zoom. *The Night of the Hunter* was directed by Charles Laughton, starred Robert Mitchum, Shelley Winters, and Lillian Gish, and was not rated. Don't miss out on our screening of the movies on Friday, October 13th. **Registration required.**



Thursdays

Mysteries Around the World Book Group

October 5th at 7 pm | The Stoneham Room

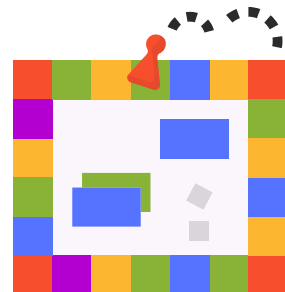
Consider joining our group as we discuss, *Finlay Donovan is Killing It* by Elle Cosimano. "A stressed out single Mom of two and a struggling novelist...Finlay discovers that crime in real life is a lot more difficult than its fictional counterpart." This group meets on the first Thursday of each month. **Registration required.**



Board Game Night

October 19th 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.**



Fridays

Movie Screening: *The Night of the Hunter* (1955)

October 13th at 1 pm | The Marcy Room

Incredibly, the only film the great actor **Charles Laughton** ever directed—is truly a stand-alone masterwork. A horror movie with qualities of a Grimm fairy tale, it stars a sublimely sinister **Robert Mitchum** as a traveling preacher named Harry Powell (he of the tattooed knuckles), whose nefarious motives for marrying a fragile widow, played by **Shelley Winters**, are uncovered by her terrified young children. Graced by images of eerie beauty and a sneaky sense of humor, this ethereal, expressionistic American classic —also featuring the contributions of actress **Lillian Gish** and writer **James Agee**—is cinema's most eccentric rendering of the battle between good and evil. **No registration required.**



OCTOBER

IN YOUTH SERVICES



MONDAY

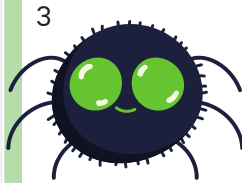
TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

2
Fables & Fun
4pm



4 **Babytime**
9:30 am
Toddler
Tumble 10 am
Switch after
School 3pm

5 **Toddler Tales**
10:30am
Spooky Sensory
Bottles
5:30 pm

6
LIBRARY
CLOSED
Touch-a-Truck 1pm

7
Lego Club
11-12:30

9
Fables & Fun
4pm

10
Musical Mornings with Matt Heaton
10:30 am

11 **Babytime**
9:30 am
Toddler
Tumble 10 am
Switch after
School 3pm

12
Toddler Tales
10:30am
PJ Storytime
6pm

13
Baby Bumble
9:30-11 am

14
Lego Club
11-12:30



17
Animal Crossing Club
3:30pm

18 **Babytime**
9:30 am
Toddler
Tumble 10 am
Switch after
School 3pm

19
Toddler Tales
10:30am
Bullet Journal
Club 6pm

20
Baby Bumble
9:30-11 am

21
Lego Club
11-12:30

23
Fables & Fun
4pm

24
Graphic Novel Club
6:30pm

25 **Babytime**
9:30 am
Toddler
Tumble 10 am
Switch after
School 3pm

26
Toddler Tales
10:30am
Teen Advisory
Board 6pm

27
Baby Bumble
9:30-11 am
Half-day
Movie 1pm

28
Lego Club
11-12:30


30
Fables & Fun
4pm



weekly:


Mondays

Fables and Fun at 4pm

Join Miss Melissa for a fun folktale and a themed craft! **For ages 5+.** 

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.** 

Switch After School at 3 pm


On Wednesdays at 3, our Switch will be on the projector in the Marcy Room. Come play Mario Kart, Mario Party, and more!

Toddler Tumble at 10 am

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

Thursdays

Toddler Tales at 10:30 am

Miss Melissa is so excited to welcome our toddler friends to the library for a fun storytime! She'll be sharing some of her favorite stories with you! 

Fridays

Baby Bumble 9:30 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.**

Saturdays

Lego Club 11 am Come build your Lego dreams during this drop in program! Swing by and hang out with us! **For all ages.**



= Sign up Required

monthly:



Tuesdays

Musical Mornings | Oct. 10th at 10:30 am

The wonderful Matt Heaton is hosting a monthly musical program!!! Come join us for a morning of movin' and groovin'! **For all ages. Intended for ages 1.5-5.** ✓

Animal Crossing Club

October 17th at 3:30pm

Do you love all things Animal Crossing? Bring your Switch to show off your island or sit through a tour of Miss Katie's! We'll share tips and tricks along the way! **Ages 6+.**



Middle Grade Graphic Novel Club

October 24th at 6:30 pm

Join us while we chat about a graphic novel and draw graphic novel panels. Copies are available at the youth services desk. ✓



Thursdays

PJ Storytime

October 12th at 6pm

Bring your beloved stuffed animal and wear your favorite pajamas! We'll sing some songs and listen to a few stories!! **All ages welcome; intended for ages 1.5-5.**



Bullet Journal Club

October 19th at 6pm

Come make a bullet journal with Katie! We'll make a new calendar each month and go over new ideas! Journal and supplies provided. **For teens and tweens.** ✓



✓ = Sign up Required

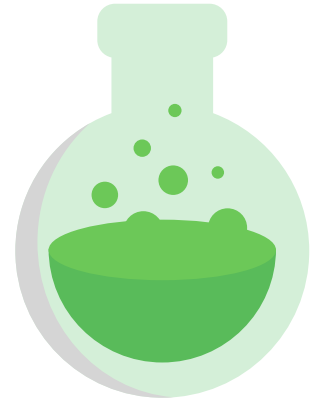
special:

Spooky Sensory Bottles

October 5th at 5:30pm

Sparkles, spooky vibes, and cool glitter? Sounds like a sensory experience to us! Come join Katie and make your own potion for comfort and calm!

Supplies are limited, so registration is required. **For teens and tweens. Sign up required.**



Teen Advisory Board

October 26th at 6pm

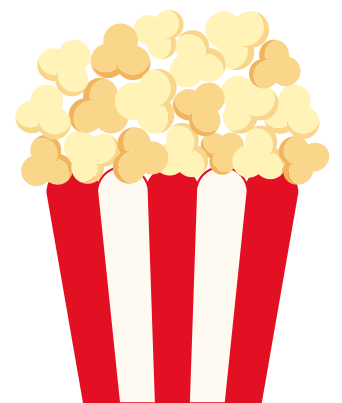
Come chat with Katie and let her know which programs you want to have at SPL. PLUS, TAB members get first access to volunteer opportunities in Youth Services. **For teens and tweens. Sign up required.**




Movie Afternoon


October 27th at 1pm

Need somewhere to hang out on a half day? We'll be showing a movie in the Marcy Room at 1pm! Bring snacks and your friends! **For teens and tweens.**





MUSEUM PASSES



Museum
of Fine Arts
Boston

This pass admits two adults at a discounted rate of \$10 per person. It is an e-voucher that does not need to be picked up at the library. You will receive the pass in an email once you have placed your reservation.

← Click the logo to go to the MFA website.

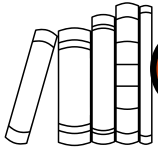
This pass admits up to two adults at a discount rate of \$12 per person. Children age 16 and under are free. This



Click the logo to go to the PEM website.

pass is an e-voucher that does not need to be picked up at or returned to the library. You must book a date and time for your visit after you have reserved the pass. You can do so by visiting the PEM website or by calling (978) 542-1511.

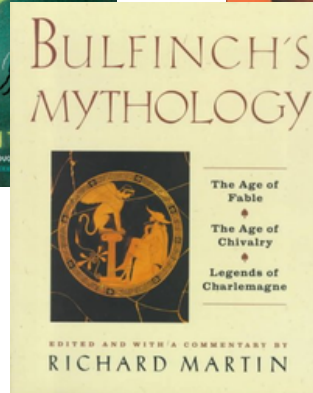
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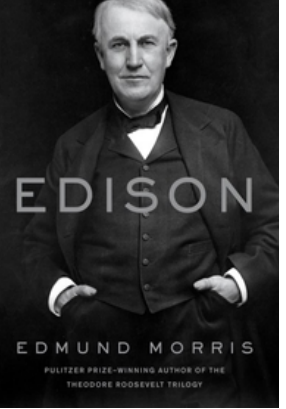
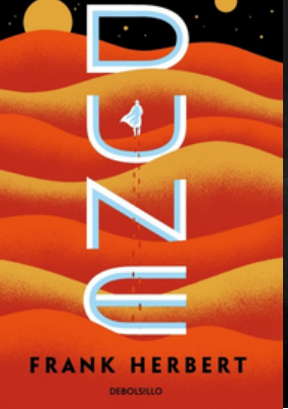
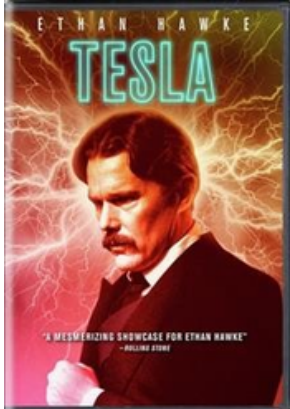
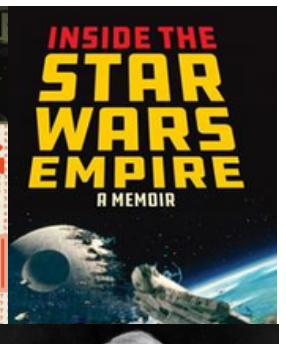
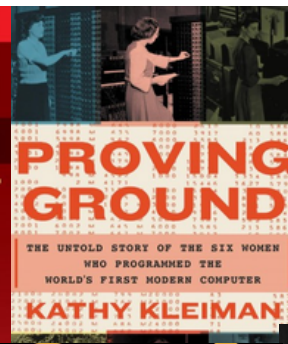
OCTOBER BOOK LISTS



Monsters and Mysteries



Spocktoberfest



OCTOBER BOOK LISTS CONT.

Fine Lines



The Bestseller and You (MCB Challenge)*



TDP 13

MOST CHALLENGED BOOKS OF 2022

The American Library Association tracked **1,269 challenges** to library, school, and university materials and services in 2022. Of the **2,571 unique titles** that were challenged or banned in 2022, here are the top 13 most challenged.



1



GENDER QUEER
by Maia Kobabe
REASONS: LGBTQIA+ content, claimed to be sexually explicit

2



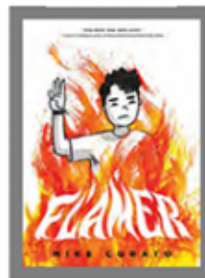
ALL BOYS AREN'T BLUE
by George M. Johnson
REASONS: LGBTQIA+ content, claimed to be sexually explicit

3



THE BLUEST EYE
by Toni Morrison
REASONS: rape, incest, claimed to be sexually explicit, EDI content

4



FLAMER
by Mike Curato
REASONS: LGBTQIA+ content, claimed to be sexually explicit

5



LOOKING FOR ALASKA
by John Green
REASONS: claimed to be sexually explicit, LGBTQIA+ content



THE PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER
by Stephen Chbosky
REASONS: claimed to be sexually explicit, LGBTQIA+ content, rape, drugs, profanity

7



LAWN BOY
by Jonathan Evison
REASONS: LGBTQIA+ content, claimed to be sexually explicit

8



THE ABSOLUTELY TRUE DIARY OF A PART-TIME INDIAN
by Sherman Alexie
REASONS: claimed to be sexually explicit, profanity

9



OUT OF DARKNESS
by Ashley Hope Perez
REASON: claimed to be sexually explicit

10



A COURT OF MIST AND FURY
by Sarah J. Maas
REASON: claimed to be sexually explicit



CRANK
by Ellen Hopkins
REASONS: claimed to be sexually explicit, drugs



ME AND EARL AND THE DYING GIRL
by Jesse Andrews
REASONS: claimed to be sexually explicit, profanity



THIS BOOK IS GAY
by Juno Dawson
REASONS: LGBTQIA+ content, sex education, claimed to be sexually explicit



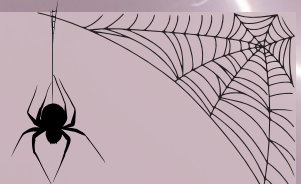
OFFICE FOR
Intellectual Freedom
American Library Association



STAFF REVIEWS



Spooky Reads: Haunted by a Ghostly Tale **Recommendation | Melissa Jackson**



It was a dark and stormy night... So begins the classic line that has appeared in countless stories through the ages. Curling up with a fun, spooky story that includes some magic, perhaps a few ghosts, and hopefully some creaky (and creepy) stairways! It's fun to cozy up with a story that has me just a bit jumpy as I look out in the back yard or turn off the lights as I close up the house at night... *Wait! What was that? Who's there...?*

A great ghostly read that has stuck with me for years is [*Lincoln in the Bardo* by George Saunders](#). It takes place in the cemetery with the inhabitants as they try to help young Willie Lincoln, only recently deceased, and his grieving father Abraham. Really great characters and heartbreaking for all of the souls there. Saunders is a master writer and paints wonderful pictures with his words.

Now for a witch-vampire trilogy that has all I could ever ask for in a series: a witch that works in a library finds a secret book and meets a vampire, who also works at the same university... be still, my heart! [*The All Souls trilogy* by Deborah Harkness](#) is a fun read with a wonderful cast of characters and a great plot. Wonderful and quite spellbinding!

Of course, I love [Anne Rice](#) and [Stephen King](#); they are supremely skilled at dark tales and horror. These reads have darkness and death as well but there is a center of love in them that is their similar quality. Love triumphs in both of these works (spoiler alert!) That keeps me happily spooked and reading.



Tales of the Paranormal

Recommendation | Matthew Sowyrda

I can always go for a good ghost story. For as long as I can remember, I have been drawn to the mysterious, the unusual, the unexplained. I would perk up my ears at any talk about deep forests, haunted houses, old cemeteries, and odd occurrences. Over the years, I have heard from acquaintances about peculiar sensations near a haunted covered bridge, shadowy figures in a college dormitory, a disembodied whisper in the basement of a new house - to name a few stories. While curiosity has driven me to seek out spectral encounters, I have not yet experienced such a thing - that is, not anything to which I can ascribe, with certainty, the word "paranormal."

The appeal for me (and perhaps for many others) with such tales is the Old World-style oral tradition and its effect of close-knit storytelling as fireside entertainment. By this I mean that age-old romantic image, which is evoked by the early darkening of late summer nights and autumn's cool air: a group of people huddled up in a cabin or at a campsite as they exchange personal run-ins with the otherworldly, their backs to the cloud of darkness lurking beyond light's reach.

The most effective stories are those that make the reader glance over his or her shoulder, or suspect every sound and movement - even well after the story has ended. I think the keys to eliciting this reaction from the audience are atmosphere and mood. In my readings, some of the most successful authors are: Edith Wharton*, who weaves her ghost stories with subtlety and twists; Algernon Blackwood, whose "weird tales" contain rich details of setting, strange creatures, and forays into obscure channels of the human psyche; and M. R. James, progenitor of the "Jamesian" ghost story, in which curious academics stumble upon some cursed antique, and end up paying the price with a little fright - or, in some cases, worse.

[In keeping with the spirit of the season, I have procured a set of noteworthy books and films that explore the realm of the paranormal. Some entries deal with ghosts, others with more sinister entities. All, I hope, will entertain.](#)

*Miss Wharton is reported to haunt **her own estate-turned-museum** in Lennox, Massachusetts. For those who are intrigued, see about paying her a visit.