Remembering Jesse Murry

Jesse Murry (Photo at left by Richard Constable) was a Black, gay art critic, curator and painter. He was born in 1948 in North Carolina and later moved to nearby Greenburgh to live with an aunt. As a youth, he spent a lot of time reading at the White Plains Public Library and became friends with the director, Isabel Duncan Clark, who ended up becoming his legal guardian.

He studied at Sarah Lawrence College and lived in a White Plains apartment in the 1970s before moving to New York City in 1979. In the last 14 years of his life, he wrote for Arts Magazine, taught at Hobart and William Smith Colleges upstate, got his MFA at the Yale School of Art, and exhibited his paintings. He died too young, of an AIDS-related illness, in 1993 at the age of 44.

A collection of his writings, Painting is a Supreme Fiction: Writings by Jesse Murry, 1980-1993 (Library Collection), was recently published. The Library has ordered a copy, and the December 2, 2021 New York Review of Books has a review which includes a brief biography of Murry.

If you knew Jesse Murry when he lived in Greenburgh or White Plains, please feel free to share your recollections here or by emailing aduffy@whiteplainslibrary.org.
We appreciate support from the White Plains Library Foundation for many of our programs. Events funded by the Foundation are noted with an ✫.

Oppenheimer Event Canceled

Due to an unexpected scheduling conflict, this event is canceled. Please check this newsletter for announcements about upcoming Foundation programs. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Interview with Emily X.R. Pan

Emily X.R. Pan, the author of The Astonishing Color of After, sat down with our Forever Young Adult Book Club last month to answer questions and chat with patrons. Read part of her interview here on our website.

Keep your eyes peeled for upcoming Forever Young Adult meetings, special guests, and crafts! We'll be discussing Miss Meteor tomorrow, and The Bear and the Nightingale on January 27th, both at 7:00 p.m.

English Conversation Group

Wednesday, December 22nd
2:00–3:00 p.m.
ESL speakers, come practice your English conversation skills in this fun, supportive virtual setting! Feel free to bring your own conversation topics. Click here for the Zoom link.
December Break Week Programs
The Library has some awesome virtual events planned during school break, December 27th-30th! Draw cartoons with award-winning cartoonist Rick Stromoski and Move and Groove with Miss Jolie!

December LibraryReads
Here are the books published this month that librarians across the country love.

Around the Web
Facts on Coronavirus.

"Never think you're too weird." Read Anne Rice's best writing advice.

The publishing world is finally embracing Black cookbooks.

Two poets chronicle their friendship and isolation during the pandemic.

Students, teachers, and librarians are fed up with book challenges.

Photo of the Week
Left: Along the Saxon Woods Trail. by G. Young.

We want your photos! In each issue of This Week on Martine we feature one patron submitted photo that was taken in White Plains. To submit your photography for a
chance to be featured, visit our [submission page](#), upload a photo, and fill out our form with a short description of the photo and your name.

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