March 31, 2022

Celebrating Harriet Tubman – Journey to Freedom

From tomorrow, April 1st, through June 30th, the City of White Plains is celebrating the visit of the Harriet Tubman – Journey to Freedom sculpture by Wesley Wofford which will be on display in Renaissance Plaza. Alongside many other community organizations, the Library is offering a wide variety of educational and cultural events during the sculpture's time in the City. We kick off our programs and activities with a StoryWalk on the Library Plaza featuring the book, Before She Was Harriet: The Story of Harriet Tubman, starting tomorrow, followed by a theatrical performance about Harriet Tubman's life, Harriet Tubman, Herself, live (online via Zoom) on Tuesday, April 5, at 7:00 p.m.

Check out the full listing of all of the Library’s events and activities. And if you want to learn more, we’ve put together a list of books, films, and resources for kids and adults about Harriet Tubman and the Underground Railroad.

The White Plains BID’s website is hosting a full community-wide listing of events related to the Harriet Tubman – Journey to Freedom visit. Here at the Library we are so excited to be a part of this collaboration and this historic community event.

Take care,
Josh Carlson
Manager of Youth Services

P.S.: Today, March 31st, is International Transgender Day of Visibility. Raquel has put together a wonderful list of books to celebrate.
P.P.S.: I’d like to take this opportunity to thank the White Plains Library Foundation for supporting so much of what the Library offers to the community, such as this slate of Harriet Tubman related programs. Without their support, none of it would be possible. If you’d like to help the Foundation’s support of the Library, and the many programs and services we offer for kids, teens and adults, perhaps you’d be interested in attending the Foundation’s **Spring FUNdraiser at Congregation Kol Ami on Sunday, May 1**?

P.P.P.S.: As always, feel free to reach out to me by replying to this email or on [Twitter](https://twitter.com).

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**We appreciate support from the White Plains Library Foundation for many of our programs.** Events funded by the Foundation are noted with an ✯.

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**Storytimes: In-Person Update**

We are bringing back in-person storytimes in April. [Read on for full details](#) on how it will work and what to expect.

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**April Break Week Programs**

Some great programs for kids and teens are happening during **school break week, April 11th-14th**. Note: the Library is closed April 15th and April 17th.
Cricut Design Workshop (Gr. 6-12)
During break week, participants can learn design skills and software and then create items with the Library’s Cricut Maker. Offered in hybrid format, virtual and in-person. Registration required, attendance at all sessions is mandatory. More information and registration. This program was made possible with a generous grant from Con Edison to the White Plains Library Foundation.

Book Bunch: The Underground Abductor (Gr. 4-8)
On Wednesday, April 27th, at 4:30 p.m., join librarians Caroline and Lauren for a book discussion and trivia game featuring the historical graphic novel The Underground Abductor by Nathan Hale, as part of the Library’s events in conjunction with the Harriet Tubman – Journey to Freedom sculpture visit. Free copies of the book will be given to the first ten registrants. Additional copies are available via the Library’s catalog and Libby. Information and registration here. Look for details on the May Book Bunch title in early April.

Battle of the Books Club

Masha Munching
(Gr. 6-12)
The Battle of the Books Club will be gearing up for **Battle practice this summer** while meeting to discuss great books. Find more information and register here.

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**Chinese Culture and Language Classes**
The Library will be offering a virtual series of classes for ages 5-15 on Chinese culture and language on **Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. from May 5th–June 2nd**. Space will be limited. Registration is required, attendance at all sessions is mandatory. Registration opens April 14th. Find more info and how to register here.

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**Storytime with Amalia Hoffman**
On Thursday, April 7th, at 11:00 a.m., children and families are invited to join [local author and illustrator Amalia Hoffman virtually](#) as she reads her new picture book, *Masha Munching*, and shows children how she made her amazing illustrations!

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**Let’s Draw Superheroes!**
(Gr. 3+, teens, families)
April 28th is National Superhero Day! Celebrate by joining award-winning cartoonist Rick Stromoski

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**Turtle Dance Music Autism Awareness and Acceptance Show**
On Thursday, April 14th, at 11:00 a.m., join Turtle Dance Music for music, dance, and so much fun in [this sensory-friendly show](#) that will also highlight Autism Awareness and Acceptance Month.
virtually at 6:00 p.m. to learn how to draw some hilarious superheroes!

Dungeons & Dragons for Beginners
For youth in grades 7-12 who are curious about D&D but don't know where to start or don't want to join a long campaign, we will be offering three one-shot games to learn and play D&D.

Middle Grade Pick of the Month
Ashley recommends Katie the Catsitter by Colleen A.F. Venable.

KnowLEDGE: News from Teen Services
In a new feature, keep up to date with what's happening in the Edge, the teen area at the Library.

Parenting Collection: Outdoors with Kids
Lauren highlights some titles in the Trove’s refreshed Parenting Collection that will inspire outdoor learning and play.
Peculiar Picks
Josh shares a selection of fun, interesting, and irreverent penguin picture books.

Free Online Tutoring, Homework Help, Practice Tests & More!
Did you know that with a White Plains Library card students can gain access to free online tutoring, homework support, writing help, practice tests and so much more through Tutor.com? They can! Find out more here.

New YA Fiction
Kat spotlights some new titles in the Edge.

Tiny Tales Videos
Tiny Tales are short “bite-sized” song and story videos created by Trove librarians. Watch one for a little early literacy break, or a few for a whole storytime! Lauren’s “P-I-Z-Z-A” (to the tune of B-I-N-G-O) premiered at the beginning of March, and Raquel’s video of “Five Little Flowers” will be available April 5. Check out all of our Tiny Tales videos (43 and counting!) on YouTube.
Newsletter Archive
Check out previous editions of What's the Story? here!
STEAM Project Facilitators at the White Plains Public Library

The White Plains Public Library is looking for Program Facilitators to develop and lead interactive STEAM/maker projects for teenagers in the White Plains area. Programs will be held inside the Library or outside on the Library Plaza, Monday - Thursdays, from 1:00-4:00 pm, throughout July and August.

Each facilitator will plan and develop four projects (one each day Monday-Thursday) focusing on STEAM skills for students in grades 6-10. We are open to all ideas: Are you an artist and wish to share your talents? Do you have DIY skills and work on maker projects? Perhaps you have knowledge of environmentally friendly practices that could be turned into learning experiences? Are you an engineering student that can help educate students and bring engineering concepts to life? These are just some examples of the kinds of facilitators we are looking for.

These projects can be simple or complex. They can also be in the form of a challenge. Projects can be built by hand or completed on computers. If hired, you will work with Library staff to bring the projects to life. Be prepared to discuss project ideas, as well as supplies or materials needed to make your project(s) happen during the interview process. (Note: If any software applications are being used they should be free or open source.) You can apply to teach more than one program. Salary will be based on experience.

Application Submission
Please email your resume and program idea(s) to
Erik Carlson, ecarlson@whiteplainsny.gov

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From the SW BOCES Commercial Art Exhibit in the Library's Museum Gallery.