

DIMMICK DIGEST

Official Newsletter of the Dimmick Memorial Library
November/December 2022

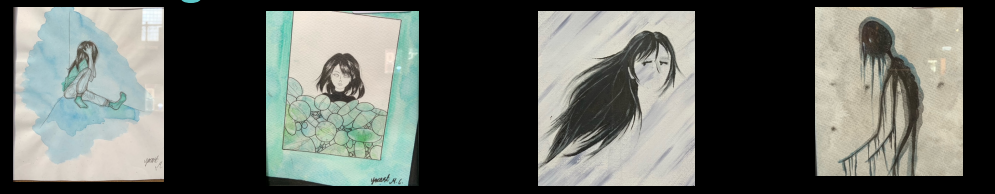
From The Director's Desk

BY KARA EDMONDS, LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Ready or not, we are moving into one of the most hectic times of the year. Our "busy-ness" and celebrations, while exciting and fun, can often cause us overload and stress.

Perhaps, this year, as we approach our winter festivities and gatherings of family and friends, we can be more purposeful about how we spend our time. Consider this... an audiobook to share with the kids on that long drive to Grandma's house. Read-alouds from favorite childhood books with your siblings over dessert. Maybe a group of friends read the same Kindle title so you can discuss it when you finally get together on Zoom. Or, after all the dishes are done, and everyone is sleepy from good food and talking, we all snuggle up with our own books and our own tea, coffee, or hot chocolate. Whatever you do during this busy season, we encourage you to be purposeful about how you spend your time--maybe that happens by reading a book that is soothing, maybe by saying no to a difficult family function. Sorry, we can't help with that last one, but we can absolutely help with the previous ideas. Let us help you find your perfect books to meet your needs for this season. Let's all make this season a great one!

Fall Foliage Guests Admire Autumn Art Show



This fall, the Dimmick was excited to introduce the artwork of local up-and-coming artist, Yocasti Collazo. Yocasti's artwork certainly draws the eye with it's relatable subject matter and many guests admired the color palette of Yocasti's work.

The artist explained that her artwork represents "emotions that most people have but cannot find the words to explain." She said the pieces are not just about emotion, but also about mental health and putting together what words fail to. Collazo uses watercolor and ink as her mediums because they are not easy to control and she feels it represents the difficulty of controlling mental illness in a way that other mediums don't. Those that feel inspired by her art should feel welcome to view the display at the library. The pieces are also available for sale, with a portion of the proceeds benefiting the library. Along with Collazo's work, returning artist Michael Sauers also displayed pieces inspired by his work as a teacher. The bright, lively characters represent a motivational tool as part of a writer's workshop that Sauers used in a second-grade classroom. These pieces will be on display until the beginning of December.



Dimmick Library Events:

STORYTIME WITH MISS BRENDA

Every Tuesday at 10AM

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING

2nd Tuesday of every month at 5:30PM

READER'S CIRCLE

2nd Wednesday of every month
from 6:00-7:30PM

DIMMICK BOOK CLUB

2nd Wednesday of every month
at 2PM @ Stabin Museum

COALTOWN CRAFTERS

2nd Thursday of every month at 7PM

Penn Kidder Events:

STORYTIME FOR AGES 0-5

Every Wednesday at 11AM

CLASSICS CLUB

3rd Tuesday of the month
from 6:00-7:30PM

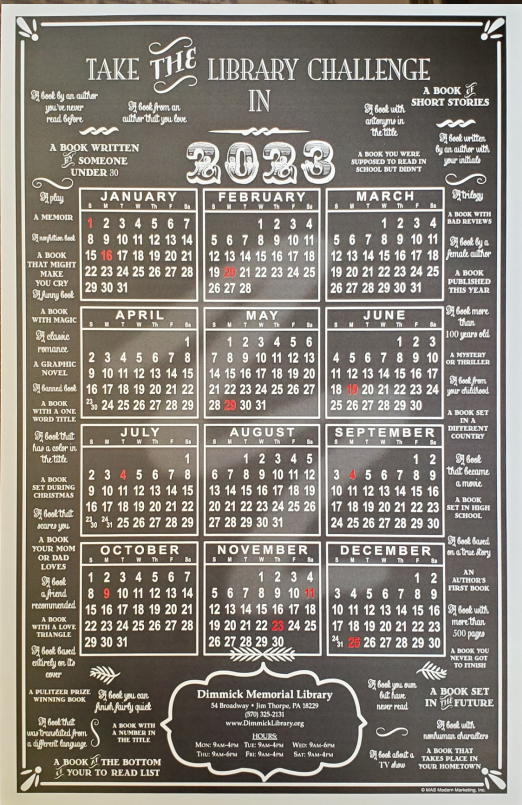
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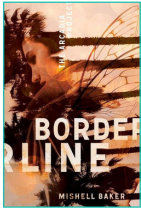
TAKE THE LIBRARY CHALLENGE

Eye of the Tiger plays in the background. Your never-ending TBR list is staring you down. You keep coming home with one too many library books that you can't finish... and yet--there always seems to be *more*. Join us in accomplishing a few books on your list and a few on ours by **taking the library challenge!** This exciting opportunity comes on our new 2023 calendar, which is available at the library for a \$3 donation.

The calendar includes 48 different categories. Here are a few of our favorites, but to try them all, come get one for yourself and try it out!

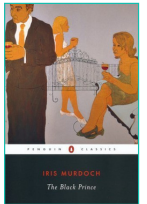


Kara: "A Book With An Inhuman Character"



Borderline, by Mishell Baker, is the first book in the Arcadia Project trilogy, which follows a deeply flawed, tortured heroine into an investigation that gets...pretty weird. Unique baggage and quirky humor creates a character for which I would Ride.or.Die. Oh no, wait, the new prosthetic legs Millie wears due to a failed suicide attempt means she can't drive, yet. I'll drive, she rides shotgun.

Chris: "A Book By A Female Author"



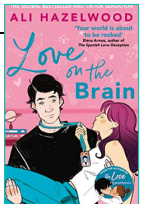
The Black Prince, by Iris Murdoch, is a ridiculously funny and yet intensely philosophical story about love, art, and passion, and their countless intersections. A brilliant balance of dark humor and emotional probity, it is doubtless one of my favorite books. *Ever*.

Brenda: "A Book Recommended by a Friend"



I chose *Agatha of Little Neon*, an intriguing book centered around its main character, Agatha, a Catholic sister. The book gives the reader insight into the lives of women wearing the habit; It's about sisterhood, friendship and religious devotion, about figuring out how we fit in (or not) and about the unexpected individuals who help us find our true selves along life's journey. A wonderful read recommended by a coworker.

Jackie: "A Book Published This Year"



For my challenge, I picked Ali Hazelwood's August 2022 release, *Love On The Brain*. This contemporary romance features STEM heroine Bee Konigswasser, who has been offered a lead position on an exciting initiative for NASA. Enemies to Lovers meets Academia in this steamy yet corny Booktok staple.

Cheyenne: "A Book Translated From A Different Language"



Temple Alley Summer is about Kazu, who wakes up one night and sees a young girl walking out of his house in the middle of the night. She must be a ghost, but the next day at school she is there. Everyone is shocked Kazu doesn't remember Akira, they all seem to have years of memories with her. As the book evolves, Kazu decides to research the Kimyo Temple, a place connected to a legend about the dead rising, getting Kazu wrapped up into a crazy adventure to help old and new friends.

Atlas: "A Book With A One Word Title"



The book I chose is *Bunny* by Mona Awad, a weird topsy-turvy novel that has the feel of both *Heathers* and *Alice in Wonderland*. The novel follows main protagonist Samantha Heather Mackey as she gets drawn into a clique-turned-cult in her upscale art school, and as she tries to make nice with a group of annoying, saccharine sweet girls, reality starts to bend. Fast paced and intriguing, Mona Awad definitely keeps you on your toes!

What's Happening... At Penn Kidder!?

Dog Month Comes To Penn Kidder 🐾

After a successful September at the Dimmick, we knew we had to offer Dog Month to our Penn Kidder Patrons! Dog lovers of all ages came to participate in events like "adopting" a stuffed dog, which taught kids all about dog adoptions. We also had a dog training demonstration with local dog trainer, Rose Reese, who explained to children and parents how to safely interact with dogs they don't know, *and* how to tell when their own dogs at home are uncomfortable. Younger kids were able to participate too, with themed storytimes that revolved around dogs. Children learned, through reading, about service dogs like Gracie, a Golden Retriever that helps an employee at the Dimmick Library. The kids were able to interact with Gracie during several events, learning when it's okay to pet her and when it's not okay. Throughout the duration of October, we also had several dog-themed displays and posters with dog-related reading and learning for all ages. What a fun and educational endeavor!



Join us For Classics Club!

Have you always wanted someone to discuss Literature with? Do you drool while reading Shakespeare? Are you interested in joining a book club out on the mountain?

Currently, we have a "Classics Club" at Penn Kidder, moderated by a long-time literature professor! Join us for discussions about classic novels and short stories.

For more information, please check our Facebook page for details and dates, or call the circulation desk. Our Next meetings are as follows: Tuesday, November 29th from 6:30-8. Tuesdays, December 13th & 27th from 6:30-8.

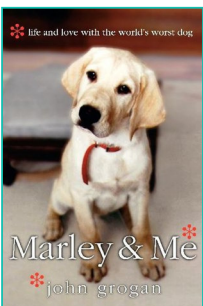
Looking for a modern book club? We'll soon be starting a Contemporary Book Club at Penn Kidder! Please reach out to us if you're interested so that we can find a time that works for as many people as possible.

Penn Kidder Takes On The Library Challenge

Laura: Fits Several Categories!

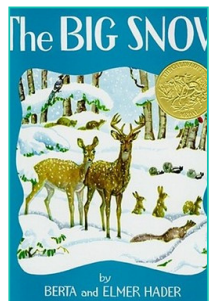
Marley & Me by John Grogan fits several categories: it is based on a true story, it was made into a movie, and it definitely made me cry (and laugh out loud!).

The book is about a young couple who get a sweet puppy, and the chaos that enters into their lives as a result. The movie was very good - starring Jennifer Aniston and Owen Wilson. The book was even better! I have read it several times, and enjoy it every time. I highly recommend this book!



Linda: A Favorite Childhood Book

A favorite childhood book of mine is *The Big Snow* by Berta and Elmer Hader, a Caldecott book medal winner. Colorful illustrations make the woodland animals come to life as they make preparations for the winter weather. After a big snowfall, an elderly couple comes out of their house to see all their forest friends. This book reminds me of how fortunate we are to live in the Poconos, surrounded by nature.





Impress Your Friends with New Library Merch!

Support your local library and update your closet with our one-of-a-kind Dimmick merchandise! Our incredible Friends of the Library Group has been busy this year and we've got a ton of new colors and styles to show for it!

In stock now (and the perfect gift for the holidays), we have tote bags in a variety of colors, from mint to pink to navy... and more! We also have tshirts, sweatshirts, and long sleeve shirts in so many colors and sizes. Best of all, prices range from affordable to affordable! Come on down and clear our closets! Your support directly impacts the Dimmick Library.



Gingerbread Houses Make A Comeback

For the first time since 2019, our annual Dimmick Gingerbread House Contest is finally back! Your cookie creations will once again grace our library shelves and we're so excited to see what you all come up with!

Applications are available now, at the circulation desk, and drop off is December 9th. Individuals or families are welcome to enter and the general public is encouraged to participate.

Once the houses are installed, we will allow library visitors to vote by purchasing a ticket. The three gingerbread houses with the most votes will win library merchandise! We are so excited to see what you all come up with! For more information about how to enter the contest (or vote!), please call the circulation desk.

Holiday Crafts Are Here!

Get in out of the cold and join us for some fun holiday crafting this season! We have a few different events happening so be sure to join us! No pre-registration is necessary, but we do have limited room due to supplies, so first come first serve.

December 1st: Come and design your own ornaments! We'll be painting wooden ornaments like Santa, Trees, Snowflakes, Snowmen, Gingerbread Men, Stockings, and Presents. There's something for everyone! This event will be from 6-7pm.

December 8th: Join us for a fun Gingerbread craft! We will be creating wooden houses out of a kit and then painting and designing them! This is a two hour event from 5-7pm.



Winter Storytime

Storytime is held in person every Tuesday morning beginning at 10AM at the Dimmick. The following are our winter storytime themes:

- Dec 6th:** Manners
- Dec 13th:** Gingerbread
- Dec 20th:** Holiday
- Dec 27th:** Pajamas
- Jan 3rd:** Snowman
- Jan 10th:** Hats and Gloves
- Jan 17th:** Winnie the Pooh
- Jan 24th:** Winter Animals
- Jan 31st:** Hot Cocoa

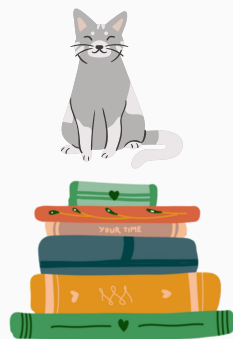


Meet Our New Library Helpers!

I took to the shelves to get the scoop on our worker's thoughts about books, old libraries, and resident ghosts.



Cheyenne



Mary

Cheyenne, a new hire at the Dimmick, has quickly fit into her role here, helping us to totally transform our basement storage space, among other tasks!

What many of our patrons don't know? Cheyenne is actually in the process of getting her Masters in Library Science! She spent her time studying for her undergraduate degree at the Lycoming College Library, which inspired her to spend her free time working there and continue her education in the realm of Library Science (and work with us!)

I asked Cheyenne what her favorite section of the Dimmick is, and she said The Children's Library: "I have loved reading my whole life and still am so excited to see the beautiful new children's books! There is so much more variety in children's literature than there was just a few years ago."

I also asked Cheyenne if she thought we had any library ghosts--a hot topic of discussion among employees here. She said she felt the chances of the building being haunted were good, since it's so old. She said she even kept hearing mysterious noises in the basement while working on cleaning up the holiday decorations, though she felt like it probably was a friendly spirit, if it was a ghost.

When it comes to book recommendations, Cheyenne has some thoughts. She said, **if there's one book she could recommend**, it would be Neil Gaiman's *Neverwhere*. It's her all time favorite book and she wants everyone else to enjoy it! "I feel like even people who know Neil Gaiman never know *Neverwhere* and I believe it's a hidden gem."

Our new volunteer Mary has been hard at work here at the Dimmick. In her first few weeks, she helped us completely reorganize the back office!

Mary used to work in academia as a professor. She loves books and knowledge, which is what inspired her to help us out at the library!

Her favorite part of coming in is the range of things she gets to do when she volunteers. She said, "One day, you could be working with Chris on Genology. Another day, you could be stacking books." She also appreciates the staff, who she said are a "warm and supportive group of people."

When I asked Mary about her first experience visiting a library, she told me about when her mom used to bring her to the Philadelphia Library when she was young. "I fell in love with it," she said. "It was gorgeous, huge, ornate, beautiful. I used to pretend I lived there." It's clear Mary's always been a lover of books!

Lastly, I asked Mary, **What's one library book you'll never stop recommending?**

She said *The Prophet* by Kahlil Gibran. "It's beautifully written; his viewpoints on marriage, family, etc. are open-minded. He's religious in a way that's so spiritual--it applies to whatever you believe. You don't have to believe anything and it would still be a beautiful book. I highly recommend it if you enjoy poetry. It's very inspirational."

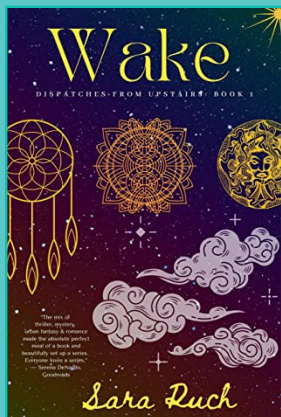
Books to "Check" Out This Season

Local Author Publishes Book

Local Author, Sara Ruch, recently released her debut novel, the first in a series, *Dispatches from Upstairs*. This urban fantasy is a complete page turner and we're excited to share more about it with you!

In her book, *Wake*, the protagonist (Chuli Davis) is the editor-in-chief of an occult publishing house. She's got an interesting job and she's pretty sure she's heard it all. But when a mysterious whispering hero saves her in the dark, she begins an enlightening journey into a mystical world hiding in plain sight, all while struggling to maintain a cordial relationship with Ram, her infuriatingly attractive yet bristly coworker. Can she keep it together as her world begins to unravel?

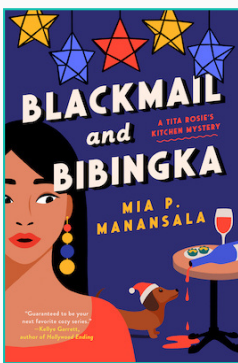
This book is available at the library on our HighDemand Shelf! Search for call number F RUC



Blackmail and Bibingka, Mia P. Manansala

It's Christmastime in Shady Palms, but things are far from jolly for Lila Macapagal. Sure, her new business, the Brew-ha Cafe, is on track to turn a profit. And yes, she's taken the first step in a new romance with her good friend Jae Park. But, her cousin Ronnie is back in town after ghosting the family fifteen years ago, claiming that his recent purchase of a local winery shows that he's back on his feet and ready to contribute to the Shady Palms community. Tita Rose is thrilled with the return of her prodigal son, but Lila knows that wherever Ronnie goes, trouble follows.

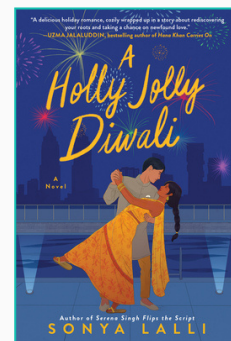
She's soon proven right when Ronnie is suspected of murder, and secrets surrounding her shady cousin and those involved with the winery start piling up. Now Lila has to put away years of resentment and distrust to prove her cousin's innocence. There's no way her flesh and blood could actually be a murderer...right?



A Holly Jolly Diwali, Sonya Lalli

29-year-old Niki Randhawa has always made practical decisions. So, when she's laid off, for the first time ever, she throws caution to the wind and books a last minute flight for her friend Diya's wedding. Nika arrives in India just in time to celebrate Diwali, the festival of lights, where she meets a London musician. Maybe it's the splendor of Mumbai or the magic of the holiday season, but Niki is immediately drawn to him. At the wedding, the champagne flows and their flirtatious banter makes it clear that the attraction is mutual.

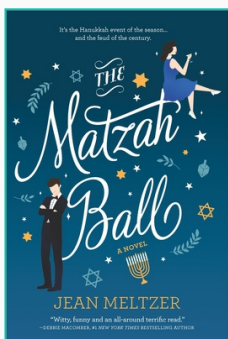
When the two join Diya, her husband, and their friends on a group honeymoon, their connection grows even deeper, helping Niki connect with her Indian roots. Yet, when she gets a new job offer back home, Niki must decide what she wants out of the next chapter of her life--to cling to the straight and narrow like always, or to take a leap of faith.



The Matzah Ball, Jean Meltzer

Rachel Rubenstein-Goldblatt is a nice Jewish girl with a shameful secret: she loves Christmas. For a decade, she's hidden her career as a Christmas romance novelist from her family. Her talent has made her a bestselling author even as her chronic illness has always kept the kind of love she writes about out of reach.

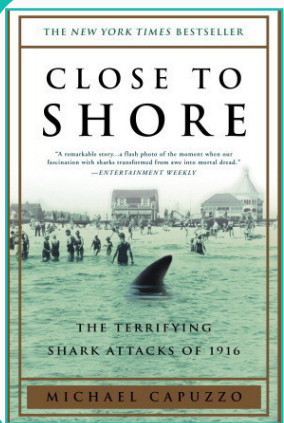
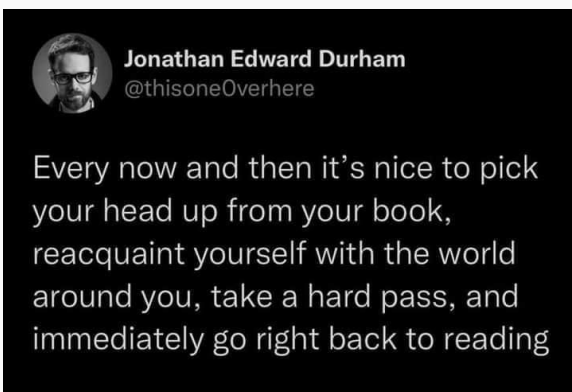
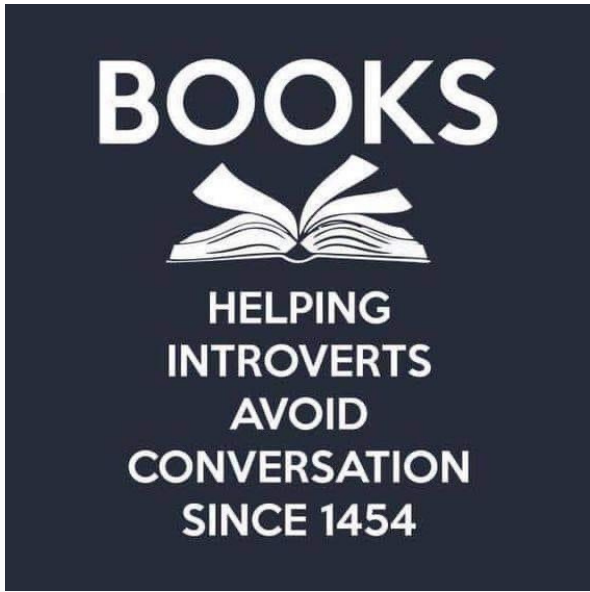
But, when her diversity-conscious publisher insists she write a Hanukkah romance, her well of inspiration suddenly runs dry. Hanukkah's not magical. It's not merry. It's not *Christmas*. Desperate not to lose her contract, Rachel's determined to find her muse at the Matzah Ball, a Jewish music celebration on the last night of Hanukkah, even if it means working with her summer camp archenemy--Jacob Greenberg. Though Rachel and Jacob haven't seen each other since they were kids, their grudge still glows brighter than a menorah. But as they spend more time together, Rachel finds herself drawn to Hanukkah--and Jacob--in a way she never expected. Maybe this holiday of lights will be the spark she needed to set her heart ablaze.



The Funnies: Librarian Edition



We're happy you got your Taylor Swift tickets but where is this energy when we're trying to sign up people for library cards



Patron Book Review: Close To Shore By Michael Capuzzo

BY RICH O., PENN KIDDER BRANCH

A true life "Jaws" from 1916.

The author alternates between the shark's perspective and the terror of the beachgoers. Full of interesting facts (sharks have been around longer than modern trees!). Well researched and fast paced--heart thumping!

The only thing this book is really missing is the "duh dum, duh dum, duh dum" soundtrack. This is especially interesting for those familiar with the Jersey Coast, and those with old photos of our parents and grandparents in the swimwear of that era.

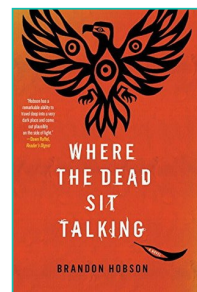
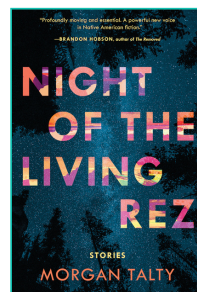
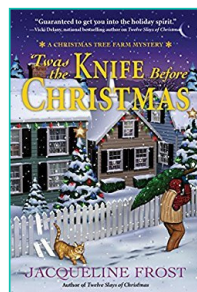
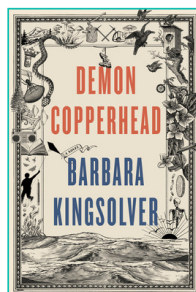
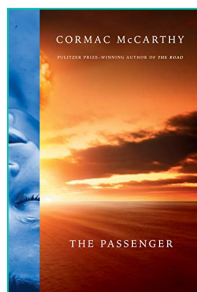
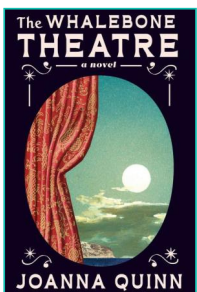
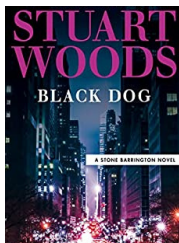
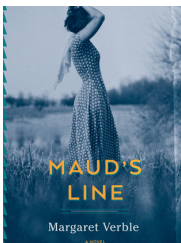
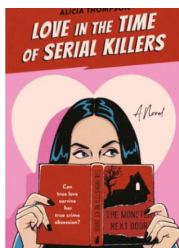
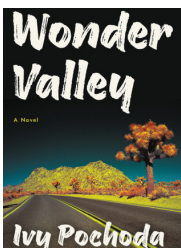


High Demand Shelf Brimming With New Titles

We've been hard at work filling our High Demand Shelf with New Fiction for your winter reading escapades!

This October/November, our library has purchased over 350 items to add to our selection, including DVDS, Audiobooks, and new fiction. Many of these items are new, trending hardbacks that are placed on our HighDemand shelf.

If you're a regular visitor of the library, be sure to check out our New Fiction section, located to the left of the building, by the Circulation Desk. We add new titles every single week and our stock is often changing. The books on this shelf are never there for more than 6 months, so be sure to check out the selection for yourself!



New Adult Section Comes To Library

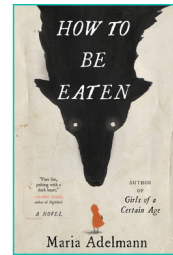
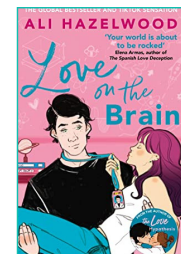
As of November, we're happy to announce our New Adult section is finally here!

This library section targets ages 18-29 and books in this genre often features protagonists that are leaving home, negotiating education, determining career choices, and exploring sexuality.

This genre has gained popularity in recent years due to its relatability and it's capability to target a specific audience that's often overlooked.

Our Cataloguer, Atlas, has taken a special interest in this section, ensuring that books meet the distinguishing features of the New Adult genre.

To get help finding our New Adult section, be sure to ask someone at the Circulation Desk when you visit the library! We'd be happy to show you our ever-growing selection.



Graphic Novels Hit The Shelves

Love graphic novels? We do too! Graphic novels are a great way to enjoy reading and they simultaneously help to develop verbal and visual literacy. No matter what age you are, graphic novels are an exciting literary adventure to try.

This fall, we've focused on adding even more graphic novels to our collection, so be sure to check out some of the many new titles we've been adding!

