Tuesday, February 25, 7:00 pm:
Join Manisha Sinha, author of, The Slaves Cause: A History of Abolition, for a talk that will illuminate the forgotten origins of the women's suffrage movement in the abolition movement, and reconsider the break between abolitionists and some feminists during Reconstruction. It will show how the Reconstruction constitutional amendments opened a path to women's suffrage rather than shut the door on women's enfranchisement. The 19th amendment eventually passed in 1920 and continued the abolitionists' legacy, but the women's suffrage movement ignored and downplayed the issue of white supremacy. Despite black disfranchisement, the 19th Amendment eventually paved the way for black women to emerge as the most progressive voting bloc in American politics. A book sale will follow.

Ms. Sinha is the James L. and Shirley A. Draper Chair in American History at the University of Connecticut.

Intelligent Lives Movie Screening

Tuesday, February 4, 7:00 pm:
Intelligent Lives, a documentary created by award-winning filmmaker Dan Habib, stars three pioneering young American adults with intellectual disabilities. In the film Micah, Naieer and Naomie challenge perceptions of intelligence as they navigate high school, college and the workforce. Academy Award-winning actor and narrator, Chris Cooper, contextualizes the lives of these central characters through the emotional story of his son Jesse, as the film challenges what it means to be intelligent, and points to a future in which people of all abilities can fully participate in higher education, meaningful employment and relationships.

Lisa A Goldthwaite, M.S.Ed., Ed.S., Assistant Department Head of Special Education at Newton North High School will be joined by Understanding Our Differences (UOD) volunteer Nathan Persampieri and UOD Program Director, Jenni Acosta, for a Q and A session follow the screening. (contd. p. 6)
Art Exhibits: February 4-27

Gallery: *Veiled* by Mary McSweeney
Joint Reception: Wednesday, February 5, 7:00 pm

Mary McSweeney’s main interest is oil paint though she has created art in watercolor, pastel, mixed media and acrylic. The face is her greatest inspiration whether invented, from life, idealized, distorted, sculptural or flat. An earlier series called *The Ladies* involved fictional characters and an element of humor. In these new works she pushes the limits, veiling faces and taking them to a new level.

Mary McSweeney’s life has always been centered on art. As a child she often went to the MFA with her family. She is the recipient of many awards.

Main Hall: *Wander and Wonder* by Dan Brenton
Joint Reception: Wednesday, February 5, 7:00 pm

From describing form and light with small strokes to creating ambiguous spaces with broad and untamed washes, Dan Brenton explores a variety of mark-making techniques to create scenes that attribute a consciousness to nature and allude to a harmony between the wanderers and their environment. The titles of his works reinforce this personification of nature and the interaction between creature and landscape, encouraging the viewer to consider their own relationship with the outside world.

Teen Gallery: *Printmaking by Newton High School Students*

Each year as part of their course of study, Newton’s high school students from both North and South engage in a printmaking project. Printmaking as an art form has been around since the 15th century and has deep artistic roots. Despite its traditional role, it is still practiced today and variations on the classic medium abound. On view through spring 2020.

The library wishes to extend its gratitude to Eric Blomster of Abraxis Framing Co. in Newton, who generously provided the frames cost-free.

Displays on View
February 4-27

Atrium 1: Learn about the Chinese opium trade in Boston, including links to families in Newton. Info at Historicnewton.org.


Main Hall: See work by the talented participants in the ceramics classes at the Senior Center which are led by Bet Lee.

Third Floor Language and Literacy Center Country Display: Learn about Belgium from a display of books, CDs and DVDs!

Newton History Series: Black Tiger: The Opium Trade

*Thursday, February 27, 7:00 pm:* Join us for talk that will examine how the history of the opium trade provides background for understanding today’s opioid crisis. Frederic Delano Grant, Jr., a Boston-based lawyer who holds a Ph.D. in history, will examine the legality, morality, economics and some lessons to be drawn from the international opium trade from 1700-1900. Follow the drug from major centers of production in India and Turkey, to places where it was consumed in the West and in Asia for recreational as well as medicinal purposes. Learn about the controversial opium storeships moored at Lintin Island near Canton, key to the illegal distribution of opium in China by British and American merchants, and meet colorful personalities in the trade, including some with ties to Newton. This program is cosponsored by Historic Newton.
Teen MTG, Tuesday, February 4, 3:00 pm, Teen Area: Meet up to play Magic: The Gathering after school! Moderated by a local Newton South student, please bring your enthusiasm and strategic cards.

Anime/Manga Club, Wednesdays, February 5 & 19, 4:00 pm, Teen Area: Meet and hang out with lovers of all things anime! Activities will range from anime screenings to discussion of our favorite series, manga share and swap, anime-themed crafts, cosplay workshops, art trades and more! Yummy Japanese snacks will be served. For tweens/teens in grades 6-12.

Tweed/Teen Early Release Movie, Thursday, February 6, 1:00 pm, Druker Auditorium: We’ll be watching a teen-chosen RomCom on the big screen in Druker Auditorium! Stop by the Teen Area to vote for which movie we’ll watch, Clueless (1995) or To All The Boys I’ve Loved Before (2018). Snacks and refreshments provided. Grades 5-12.

Freestyle Learning Innovator’s Program (FLIP), Thursdays, February 6 & 20, 1:00 pm, Teen Area: Experience what the library has to offer for the homeschooling community! Each month will have a different theme that is explored through book groups and maker concepts. This program takes place every first and third Thursday. For ages 5-14.

Tweed/Teen Advisory Board, Friday, February 7, 4:30 pm, Teen Area: Interested in making the Teen Room a space for all tweens and teens? Experience the Tweed/Teen Advisory Board, where members will have direct involvement in ideas, events and displays in the Teen Area! There will be pizza and refreshments. Grades 5-12.

NNHS Film Club Hosts Saturday at the Movies, February 8, 2:00 pm, Druker Auditorium: Find the Film Club from Newton North High School for a screening of the Alfred Hitchcock classic, North by Northwest. A quick discussion will follow. Snacks will be provided. Runtime 136 minutes. All ages.

Newton North STEMetors Earth Science Stations, Tuesday, February 11, 4:30 pm, Teen Area: Join us for a hands-on science program brought to you by the Newton North STEMetors! Engage with science through station-based lessons that explore earth sciences! Registration (required) begins Monday, January 13. Grades 5-7.

Tweed Graphic Novel Book Club, Wednesday, February 12, 4:30 pm, Teen Area: This month the group will discuss NewsPrints by Ru Xu. Please pick up the book in the Children’s Room. Meetings will continue on 2/12, 3/11, 4/15, 5/13 and 6/10. Grades 5-7. Registration (required) is for all remaining meetings.

Overbooked: A Teen Book Club, Thursday, February 13, 7:00 pm, Teen Area: Have too much to do? Want to add something else to your plate? Join our book club, directed at the overscheduled teen! We'll discuss the book and have some fantastic snacks. This month we'll discuss One of Us is Next by Karen McManus. Please pick up the book at the Main Desk. Grades 9-12.

Got Questions About Teens or Tweens?
Contact Megan Coffey, Teen Librarian, with questions about how Teens or Tweens can get involved at the library. Email: mcoffey@minlib.net.

3-D Printing for Tweens/Teens, Tuesday, February 18, 2:00 pm, Computer Lab: Learn how 3D printing works by designing your own three-dimensional creation in Tinkercad! Your creations will be available for pickup a week or two after the event. Grades 5-12. Online registration (required) begins Monday, January 27.

Tweed Make & Take: Accordion Envelopes, Tuesday, February 18, 4:00 pm, Makerspace: Join us for crafts and fun! See what you can make and take home with you. This month: accordion envelopes. Registration (required) begins Monday, January 27. Grades 5-7.

LGBTQIA+ Drop-in, Tuesday, February 18, 7:00 pm, Teen Area: Are you a lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, intersex, ace or questioning teen? Are you a teen ally for LGBTQIA+ teens? If you answered yes to either of these questions, then we invite you to come to this event! Meet like-minded teens from the community and enjoy an evening of fun! This month: bring your own bake! Grades 7-12.

Anime Movie: My Hero Academia: Two Heroes, Thursday, February 20, 3:00 pm, Teen Area: Join us for a vacation anime movie! Rated PG-13. Runtime 95 minutes. Snacks provided. Grades 5-12.

Decorate Your Own Sequin Pillow, Friday, February 21, 2:00 pm, Teen Area: Embrace your creative side! Stop by the Makerspace to decorate your own sequin flip pillow. Stencil or free-draw a design on each side to make a unique and stress-relieving pillow! Registration (required) starts Monday, January 27. Grades 5-12.

Jackbox Party Games, Friday, February 21, 3:30 pm, Teen Area: Join us for some quirky trivia and party games. All you need to play is your phone! Snacks provided. Grades 5-12.

(contd. p. 5)
Children's Programs

All programs are held in the Children's Room unless otherwise noted.

Drop In Storytimes: Space is limited

Make Way For Storytime (geared toward kids through age 4), space is limited as this is an intimate storyline. A limited number of tickets will be available 15 minutes before the program:

- Mondays, February 3, 10 and 24, 10:00 am and 11:00 am (20 tickets available)
- Saturdays, February 1, 8, 15 and 29, 10:30 am and 11:30 am (15 tickets available)
- Saturday, February 22, 11:30 am (15 tickets available)

My First Storytime (birth through 23 months), space is limited as this is an intimate lapsit storyline. Twenty tickets will be available 15 minutes before the program:

- Wednesdays, February 5, 12 and 26, 10:00 am and 11:00 am

iStorytime (geared toward kids through age 4), Druker Auditorium: Thursdays, February 6, 13 and 27, 10:00 am

Stories and Craft (geared toward kids through age 4), Druker Auditorium: Fridays, February 14 and 28, 10:00 am

Story Music Fun (geared toward kids through age 4), Friday, February 7, 10:00 am, Druker Auditorium: Join our staff for a fun-filled music storyline. Listen to a story, sing songs, play instruments and move your body to the music.

Sensory Play Storytime (ages 2-4), Fridays, February 14 and 28, 11:15 am, Druker Auditorium: Look, listen, touch and play! Children will enjoy a storyline and activities to explore different concepts each week. Tickets will be available at the Children’s desk 15 minutes before the program.

Explore and Play (ages 0-4), Friday, February 7, 11:15 am, Druker Auditorium: Join us for unstructured play time with age appropriate toys and sensory experiences.

Spanish Bilingual Storytime (ages 3-5), Saturday, February 22, 3:00 pm: A special bilingual storyline with stories, songs and movement in English and Spanish. Space is limited as this is an intimate storyline. Twenty tickets will be available 15 minutes before the program.

Programs and Classes

Dance Me A Story with Joanne Langione Dance Center, Tuesday, February 4, 10:00 am, Druker Auditorium: Don’t miss this fun, family event where music, movement and literature align to encourage exploration and imaginative play!

Scratch Club, Tuesday, February 4, 7:00 pm, Computer Lab: Kids come for an hour to explore and work with Scratch (a free programming language designed at MIT) to create games, animation and stories. For grades 3 and 4. Space is limited. Tickets will be available at the teen desk 15 minutes before the program.

Book Bunch, Wednesdays, February 5 or 12, 6:30 pm: Join our book club for beginning readers (Grades 1-2) and their grownups! Read the selected book in advance and then join us for fun book related activities and discussion. Book Bunch 1 meets on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm on 2/5, 3/4, 4/1, 5/6 and 6/10. Book Bunch 2 meets on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm on 2/12, 3/11, 4/8, 5/13 and 6/10. Online registration (required) is for February through June and begins Wednesday, January 15 at 6:30 pm. Please register for either Book Bunch 1 OR Book Bunch 2.

Freestyle Learning Innovator's Program (FLIP), Thursdays, February 6 & 20, 1:00 pm, Teen area: Experience what the library has to offer for the homeschooling community! Each month will have a different theme that is explored through book groups and maker concepts. This program takes place every first and third Thursday. For ages 5-14.

Cool Stories and Snacks, Monday, February 10, 7:00 pm: Read aloud for older kids! Enjoy cool, strange, weird and wacky stories...and snacks! For kids in grades 2 and up.

LittleBeats Dance, Tuesday, February 11, 10:00 am, Druker Auditorium: A moving body is a learning body! Join us for creative dance at the library for ages 0-4. There will be music, dancing, and stories to stimulate our busy brains and bodies.

Read to a Dog at the Library, Wednesday, February 12, 4:00 pm & Saturdays, February 1 & 29, 2:00 pm: Our canine friends Poppy, Katie and Milani will visit to listen to children in grades K-5 read. Appointments are for 15 minutes. Appointment times will be sent via email once you have registered. Space is limited. Online registration required.

Valentine’s Day Storytime and Craft, Friday, February 14, 3:00 pm, Druker Auditorium: Join us for a Valentine’s celebration! Enjoy stories and songs about friendship, love and family. Make a card for someone special! For children ages 3-8 and their caregivers.

Disco Dance Party, Tuesday, February 18, 10:00 am, Druker Auditorium: Join us for a special Disco Dance Party! Move and groove to the music! Kids and caregivers dance together to contemporary music and some children’s favorites. All ages.

(contd. p. 5)
(Children's contd.) Magnificent Monster Circus performed by CactusHead Puppets, Tuesday, February 18, 3:00 pm, Druker Auditorium: CactusHead Puppets presents a circus like no other! Join Max, the Monsters’ Caretaker, in this fun and interactive show performed with several different styles of puppets as they guide you through the world of monsters. You'll meet many friendly monsters in this table-top big top, and witness their amazing tricks of daring-do!

Puppet Making, Wednesday, February 19, 3:00 pm, Druker Auditorium: Create your own puppet whether it be an animal, a friendly monster or even a character from a favorite book! For children ages 3 and up.

Family Sing-a-long, Thursday, February 20, 10:00 am, Druker Auditorium: Join us for a fun-filled sing-a-long filled with children's favorites for ages 0-4.

Learn about Japan, Thursday, February 20, 3:00 pm, Druker Auditorium: What do kids do for fun in Japan? Come find out with visiting student teachers from Showa University in Tokyo! The program will start with a sing-along that will introduce traditional songs and some simple Japanese words. Then, stop by the learning centers to explore traditional toys, read a folk tale, make some origami or discover written traditional toys, read a folk tale, make some origami or discover written

stuffed animals anytime at the Children's Desk during our regular hours on Thursday, February 20 so that they can spend a fun filled night at the library! Come back on Friday, February 21 at 10:00 am to pick them up. Meet in Druker Auditorium to enjoy donuts and a slideshow of all the fun adventures your animal friends had during their sleepover!

Robot Zoo and Stem Family Fun, Friday, February 21, 3:00 pm, Druker Auditorium: Build with Legos and Keva Planks! Create a Robot Zoo with Hexbugs, Ozobots and more! For ages 6 and up.

Family Yoga Class, Saturday, February 22, 10:30 am, Druker Auditorium: Poses and games in this class are designed for children ages 3-12 and their caregiver(s). No yoga experience required.

Matt Heaton Family Sing-a-long, Tuesday, February 25, 10:00 am, Druker Auditorium: Peppered with well-known classics and a few soon-to-be classics, and performed with panache on guitar & banjo, Matt makes music for parents and kids alike. Appropriate for all ages.

The Write Stuff, Wednesday, February 26, 6:30 pm: Join us for a beginner's writing workshop for children in second grade and their grownups. Children will learn skills to further develop their writing, practice ways to build a story and create a story of their own! The program will focus on both fiction and non-fiction writing formats. We meet on the fourth Wednesday of the month. Online registration (required) begins Wednesday, February 4. When you register, you register for ALL 5 sessions (2/26, 3/25, 4/29, 5/27 and 6/24).

Little Lab Coats, Thursday, February 27, 6:30 pm: Pull on your surgical gloves as we explore Diseases. Learn about what happens when your doctor gives you a shot. Discover how your body deals with viruses and keeps you healthy. No experience or previous knowledge required. For ages 6-9. Space is limited, tickets will be available 15 minutes before the program.

Behind the Scenes Library Tour

Friday, February 28, 11:00 am, meets inside the parking lot entrance: Have you ever wondered what goes on behind the scenes at the library? We will be offering tours the last Friday of the month that will:

• Show you where and how we process new materials
• Introduce you to some of our talented staff members that help make the library such a special part of the community
• Get you up close to the sorter machine
• Fill you in on some of the little-known details of our wonderful library

Tours last approximately one hour. Come when you can!

(Teen/Tween contd.) Typewriter Poetry, Monday, February 24, 7:00 pm, first floor Lobby: Get creative with the monthly Typewriter Poetry group. We'll use old-school typewriters and write poems for library patrons on the spot! Grades 7-12.

Video Game Drop-In, Tuesday, February 25, 3:30 pm, Teen Area: It's time to level-up! Stop by to play your favorite game on our Nintendo Switch. Grades 5-12.

Tween Dessert Pizza, Friday, February 28, 4:00 pm, Teen Area: Drop by to design, decorate and munch on sweet pizzas! Grades 5-7.

(Suffrage contd.) This program is part of the Women’s Right-to-Vote Coalition of Newton’s year-long celebrations of the passage of the 19th amendment granting women the right to vote. Through education and the arts, the Coalition honors the struggle suffragists endured to gain this first step in voting rights and acknowledge that the journey continues. This program is cosponsored by the League of Women Voters/Newton.
Make a Valentine's Pillow, Tuesday, February 11, 2:00-3:30 pm, Makerspace: We will be making heart shaped pillows with sequin fabric. All supplies will be provided. A little sewing experience is recommended and we also have a no-sew version of this project. Register online.

Device Advice After Dark, Thursday, February 13, 6:30-8:30 pm, Computer Lab: Need help setting up or using your smartphone or tablet? Want to learn how to access free eBooks, audiobooks, movies and more? Drop by for a one-on-one help session. Remember to bring your charged devices and/or laptop and any login and passwords you may need. No registration required.

Bullet Journaling, Tuesday, February 18, 10:00-11:30 am, Computer Lab: Cut down on your to-do list, simplify your calendar and maintain a diary hassle-free with the bullet journal (BuJo). Practice productivity through mindfulness and streamline your life in one handy notebook. Walk-through of the BuJo system components and additional resources will be included. Register online.

Knit a Mini Rabbit and Carrot House, Thursday, February 20, 6:30-8:30 pm, Makerspace: Join us to make a mini knit rabbit and carrot house, both of which are created with just a single knit square. Perfect for beginners or any skill level. All supplies will be provided. Register online.

Keys to Genealogical Research with Books and Periodicals, Monday, February 24, 7:00-8:45 pm, Special Collections Room: From “how to” books, to local histories, to books and articles that can give you critical information for tracking down an ancestor, discover how to enrich your genealogical research. We’ll cover a variety of available resources. Register online.

iPhone Series: Beginners Guide to Your iPhone, Tuesday, February 25, 10:00-11:30 am, Computer Lab: Learn (or review) many of basic iPhone’s functions such as email, text, iMessage, address book and searching the web. Please bring your charged phone. Register online.

(iPhone contd.) We will also cover iPhone settings such as push notifications, privacy and show you how to preserve battery life. Register online.

Organize Your Book Collection Using Goodreads, Thursday, February 27, 6:30-8:00 pm, Computer Lab: We will cover topics such as how to create a virtual bookshelf, scan your books with your mobile device and how to organize your books for easy access. Register online.
Coffee, Tea and English Too!
Monday, February 10, 10:00-11:30 am, Druker Auditorium:

- A free informal social gathering for adult English Language Learners
- Interact and make friends
- Speak English in a relaxed setting
- No registration is needed
- Light refreshments served

Let’s Talk! Tuesdays, February 4-25, 7:00-8:30 pm & Wednesdays, February 5-26, 12:30-2:00 pm, third floor Rear Arc: Free conversation groups for all levels of adult English Language Learners. No registration is necessary. Come when you can!

Info contact Susan Bécam, Program Coordinator, at 617-796-1360 or NewtonELL@minlib.net.

Movies

I Am Not Your Negro, Saturday, February 1, 2:00 pm: Rated PG-13. 93 minutes.

Love and Basketball, Monday, February 3, 6:30 pm: Rated PG-13. 124 minutes.

Maleficent: Mistress of Evil, Saturday, February 15, 2:00 pm: Rated PG. Runtime 118 minutes.

Moonlight, Saturday, February 22, 2:00 pm: Rated R. Runtime 110 minutes.

SCORE Workshop: Product/Service Pricing Strategies

Wednesday, February 19, 10:00 am-noon: Join SCORE Counselors, Gloria Spence and Stu Agler, for the second in a two-part series for new business owners. All are welcome, whether or not they attended Part 1. This session will help small business owners understand the key factors that go into pricing, helping them optimize their pricing for success. Register (required) at boston.score.org.

Ongoing Help for Area Small Business Owners

Every Thursday, every second Wednesday and every fourth Tuesday SCORE volunteers will provide area small business owners with free, one-hour counseling and advice sessions. SCORE (mentors for small businesses), America’s premier source of free and confidential small business advice for entrepreneurs and small businesses, is a nonprofit association dedicated to entrepreneur education and the formation, growth and success of small business nationwide. Register (required) at boston.score.org.

Call for Artists

The library is seeking proposals of two-dimensional, original work by local artists for January-June 2021 shows. Exhibiting policy at newtonfreelibrary.net under the About tab. Deadline: Friday, July 10, 2020 at 11:59 pm. Questions? Contact Ellen at emeyers@minlib.net or call 617-796-1410.

Volunteer with the Friends!

Do you love our library? The Friends of the Newton Free Library would welcome your help volunteering for activities such as mailing the newsletter, preparing for book sales and more. For information please call 617-213-0428 and leave a message or email friends@newtonfreelibrary.net.

Free Tax Help

Saturdays, February 8-April 11, 9:30 am-1:00 pm, third floor Rear Arc: The AARP® Tax-Aide™ Foundation will have trained volunteers on hand to prepare tax returns and answer questions related to regular (non-business) taxes. The program is designed to serve low and moderate income taxpayers and there are some limits on the scope of the returns that can be prepared. Patrons will be asked to register on arrival and will be assisted on a first come-first served basis.

Please bring your social security card, a photo ID, copy of last year’s (2018) federal and state tax returns plus all relevant 2019 tax documents you received such as W-2 wage statement, 1099 interest statement, health insurance coverage, etc. The new 2019 tax returns will be eFiled for free.

Mindfulness Meditation

Thursdays, February 6 & 20, 7:15-8:30 pm, third floor Rear Arc: Come experience the ancient practices of breathing and meditation in an informal setting. Patrons age 14 and older are welcome to join. Yoga mats are optional.

The door to your imagination
David Won and Timothy Steele Return

Sunday, February 16, 2:00 pm: David Won, tenor, and Timothy Steele, piano, will perform favorite songs of Dr. Hyun Kook, an accomplished composer whose extensive compositions and recordings are frequently published in the U.S. and Korea. Dr. Hyun Kook writes regularly for internationally recognized chorales and has received several composition awards.

A popular recitalist and concert singer, David Won made his European debut in 2016 at recitals in Padova and Venizia Mestre. Timothy Steele is on the opera faculty at New England Conservatory and has also conducted for outreach tours with the Boston Lyric Opera.

Climbin’ Up the Mountain: Historic Struggles of African American Opera Singers

Wednesday, February 19, 7:00 pm: In honor of Black History Month, opera and classical music expert, Ed Tapper, will give a presentation highlighting several historically significant African American opera and concert singers from the 19th century to the present. They persevered in the face of racial prejudice and violence, blazing the trail for future generations of singers from every race. The program will include variety of audio selections ranging from spirituals and African-inspired folk songs from throughout the Pan-American hemisphere, to art songs and arias from grand opera. The lecture will also pay homage to many superb African-American singers who have sadly been long forgotten.

Mr. Tapper is the owner of Orpheus (362 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston), an internationally known retail store that specializes in opera and classical music recordings and more.

Violin Performance

Sunday, February 23, 2:00 pm: Violinist Dorisiya Yosifova will perform works by Telemann, Bach, Kreisler and others. A native of Gabrovo, Bulgaria, Ms. Yosifova is a Boston-based violinist and instructor. She earned a Master of Music degree in violin performance at the Boston Conservatory at Berklee. During her time at the Conservatory, she took part in a string leadership masterclass for principal players with Boston Symphony Orchestra member Haldan Martinson and performed as Principal Second violinist with multiple orchestras at the Conservatory.

Seating is limited at our concerts and programs and is provided on a first come, first served basis.
Clubs and Groups

African Literature Discussion Group, Wednesday, February 19, 7:30 pm, Room A: They will discuss She Would Be King, a novel by Wayetu Moore of Liberia. In March they will discuss North of Dawn a novel by Nuruddin Farah of Somalia. Info contact: Anne Serafin at 617-527-1072.

Board Game Night, Thursday, February 6, 6:00 pm, Room B: Bring games you’ve been itching to play with other likeminded folks or use ours. If you enjoy games like Settlers of Catan, Pandemic, King of Tokyo or Dominion, this is the club for you! Ages 16+. Info contact: Sara at sbelisle@minlib.net.

Children's Book Writers Group, Monday, February 24, 7:00 pm, Room A: The group is for adult writers who are working on picture books, easy readers and other work for younger children. This group is currently full. To be placed on the wait list please contact: John Bell at jnolbell@earthlink.net.

Contemporary Books Discussion Group, Wednesday, February 5, 7:30 pm, Room A: They will discuss Beneath a Ruthless Sun: a True Story of Violence, Race, and Justice Lost and Found by Gilbert King. In March they will discuss Alienated Labour by Karl Marx. Info contact: Abra Rosenzweig at 617-964-4064.

Disability Awareness Book Club, Monday, February 3, 7:00 pm, Room A: They will discuss Deafening by Frances Itani. In March they will discuss Beneath a Ruthless Sun: a True Story of Violence, Race, and Justice Lost and Found by Gilbert King. Info contact: Jenni Acosta at jacosta@understandingourdifferences.org.

Fiction Writing Group, Tuesday, February 4, 7:00 pm, Room A: The group is for serious writers pursuing publication. This group is currently open to new members. For information please contact: Peter Myerson at ppmyerson@aol.com.

Friday Music Workshop, Friday, February 28, 3:00 pm, Druker Auditorium: They sing and play songs of the season, some show tunes, popular standards and favorites that you suggest. Drop-ins welcome! Info contact: Tai at liunienlung@yahoo.com.

Genealogy Club, Wednesday, February 12, 7:00 pm, Special Collections Room: Participants are encouraged to bring records and problems from their own research for discussion. Info contact: Ginny Audet at NewtonGenealogyClub@gmail.com.

Great Books Discussion Group, Tuesday, February 11, 7:00 pm, Room A: They will discuss Conscience by Immanuel Kant. In March they will discuss Alienated Labour by Karl Marx. Info contact: Abra Rosenzweig at 617-964-4064.

Hooked on Books, Thursday, February 27, 7:00 pm, third floor Rear Arc: They will discuss The Trial of Lizzie Borden by Cara Robertson. In March they will discuss Nothing to See Here by Kevin Wilson. Info contact: Sara Belisle at bookclub@newtonfreelibrary.net.

Memoir Writing Group, Monday, February 10, 7:00 pm, Room A: This group is currently full. To be placed on the wait list please contact: Tom Yee at newton.memoir@gmail.com.

Murder by the Book Club, Wednesday, February 12, 10:00 am, Special Collections & Tuesday, February 18, 10:00 am, Room B: They will discuss Knots and Crosses by Ian Rankin. In March they will discuss Nature Girl by Carl Hiaasen. The Tuesday group is currently full. For information please contact: Kathleen Hennrikus at khennrikus@minlib.net.

Sequences: A Women’s Forum, Wednesday, February 12, 10:00 am, Trustees’ Room: Spark your creativity in an inspiring, intergenerational group for women. Read, converse and write in response to poems, essays and personal stories. Info contact: Robin at 617-965-2178.

Short Story Discussion Group, Monday, February 10, 7:30 pm, Trustees’ Room: They will discuss Jim Shepard’s The Zero Meter Diving Team from Like You’d Understand, Anyway, Knopf, 2007 and Doris Lessing’s The Day Stalin Died, The New Autumn Reasoner, number 2, 1957. This group is currently full. To be placed on the wait list please contact: Dotty at drgonson@comcast.net or 617-547-3833.

Twen/Teen Book Writers Group, Wednesday, February 26, 7:00 pm, Room A: The group is for adult writers who have work in progress focusing on Tween and Teen novels. This group is currently full. To be placed on the wait list please contact: Josh at chapter11studios@gmail.com.

55+ Conversation Group, Thursday, February 13, 10:00-11:30 am, third floor Rear Arc: An informal group for people age 55+ to socialize and engage in conversation on topics that are most important to them. Cosponsored by the City of Newton Department of Senior Services. Info contact: Elizabeth Lund, 617-796-1665 or elund@newtonma.gov.

Poetry Series Continues

Tuesday, February 11, 7:00 pm: This year’s Poetry Series continues with readings by Joyce Wilson, James Najamar and Ravi Yelamanchili. An open mike will follow with a limit of one poem per person. Come early to sign up for the open mike; limited slots are available, time permitting. The series is facilitated by Doug Holder of Ibbetson Street Press.

Joyce Wilson is editor of The Poetry Porch, an online literary magazine. James Najamar’s first book of poetry, The Goat Songs, won the Vassar Miller Prize. Ravi Yelamanchili’s writing has been published in Ibbetson Street, Muddy River Poetry Review and others.
All are invited to join the library's ELL and Literacy program in reading this year's One Book, One Program community read selection, *Because of Winn-Dixie*, a heartwarming family tale for all ages written by Newbery Medalist Kate DiCamillo. Whether or not you choose to read the book, you are welcome to participate in any of the related programs.

Explore the world of therapy dogs in this interactive program where you'll meet Sophie, Norah and their owner-handlers. Both dogs were certified by Dog B.O.N.E.S., a Massachusetts non-profit whose primary purpose is to provide well-trained therapy dog teams for visits to hospitals, schools and anywhere else they may give therapeutic contact with the elderly, disabled or young.