

801 Boston Post Road

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scrantonlibrary.org

Library Hours:

Mon-Thur 9:00 am-8:00 pm

Fri-Sat 9:00 am-5:00 pm



Welcoming New Faces

Volume 4, Issue 3

Jan/Feb 2024

WELCOMING OUR NEW DIRECTOR

This fall, Scranton Library said goodbye to director Sunnie Scarpa, who took the helm at the Wallingford Public Library after four years in Madison. While we were sad to see her go, we are happy to welcome a familiar face, Allison Murphy to Scranton Library as our new director this January.

Allison began her career by working in Children’s Book Publishing for companies such as Scholastic Books and Harper Collins. She worked in the marketing department and traveled to schools, libraries, and bookstores with authors such as Norman Bridwell (of Clifford the Big Red Dog fame), Dav Pilkey (Captain Underpants), and Judy Blume.

Allison received her Masters in Information and Library Science from San Jose State University. She has worked as a Children’s Library Programmer for the Mark Twain Library, Children’s Librarian at the Wallingford Public Library, Head of Public Services at Scranton Library, and Library Director of the East Haddam Library System. Allison believes that Children’s Librarians make amazing Library Directors because they are creative, enthusiastic, inventive, and know how to adapt to all kinds of situations.

Allison firmly believes in early literacy and the importance of bringing children and families to the library. She started Set the Stage, an early literacy library training program for librarians in Connecticut. Allison is most proud of organizing a Skype visit with two NASA astronauts on the International Space Station with children at the Wallingford Library. Who would ever think a librarian could do that?

Allison is excited to return to the Scranton Library to work again with the dedicated staff and devoted patrons. She has three grown children and lives in Clinton with her husband and goofy Golden Retriever, Finnegan.



Allison Murphy returns to Scranton Library in her new position as Director on January 10th.



TEEN LIBRARY OF THINGS!

Supplementing the nontraditional collections in the Adult’s and Children’s departments is our new and ever-growing Teen Library of Things!

Everything from a graphing calculator to a Nintendo Switch Lite console to a Harry Potter coding wand to a tarot deck is available to checkout!

Stop by the Teen Room upstairs to see what items are available to experience today; if you see an item’s card, you can bring it home!

JANUARY FEATURED EVENTS

This is just a small sampling of the free events offered by the Scranton Library each month. Go to our website to see more, read the full details, and register now: scrantonlibrary.org/events

THE SCHUMANN CHILDREN'S ROOM- WELCOMING LEONARDO'S LABS THIS WINTER!

Our second museum exhibit, made possible by the Schumann Foundation and the Ithaca Sciencenter, will arrive in the Children's Room mid-January. Leonardo's Labs explores the inventions, art, and ideas of the original Renaissance man as you engage in a dozen hands-on activities. Create a 'copter, solve math puzzles, try your hand at backward writing, and more. The Grand Opening of Leonardo's Labs will be on Saturday, January 20th at 10:00 a.m.

The Children's Library will be closed to the public Friday, January 12 & Saturday, January 13 for set-up.

SCRANTON LIBRARY NURSERY & PRESCHOOL FAIR

Tuesday, January 9th from 10:30-11:30 am

Drop by the Scranton Library for a meet and greet with some of our amazing childcare providers in town. If you're thinking about placing your little one in nursery school or preschool, this is the place to get your information- all in one place!

All families welcome. No registration required.

AFTER HOURS TEEN NIGHT

Friday, January 26 from 6-8pm

Teen Night is back at the Scranton Memorial Library and taking over the library after hours! Fight for supremacy in our Super Smash Bros. Ultimate game tournament and/or decorate some delectable cupcakes. Food will be served and crafts will also be present. Open to grades 7-12, registration encouraged.

PINT-SIZED PICASSOS

Friday, January 5th & 19th from 10-10:45 am

Do you have a budding artist on your hands? Join us for this art filled storytime. Sing, dance, and then let your little ones unleash their creativity!

For kids ages 1-4. Registration required.

INVENTING WITH LEONARDO DAVINCI

Thursday, January 25 from 4-5 pm

Leonardo da Vinci was an artist, scientist, and an inventor! Are you an inventor, too? Da Vinci hoped to build something that would help humans to fly- he sketched parachutes, helicopters, and more. In this engineering program, build a flying or floating device that will keep your egg protected enough to land safely on the ground. This program is made possible by the Schumann Foundation. For kids ages 5 and up. Registration required.

Adults

IN PURSUIT OF A PHANTOM: FINDING THE HIMALAYAN SNOW LEOPARD

Wednesday, January 10 from 6:30-7:30pm

In this unique presentation, Dr. Richard Benfield will present a summary of his almost 20 years in snow leopard research, beginning with a detailed exploration and rarely seen pictures of the enigmatic and mystical Snow Leopard; he will then take attendees into Kyrgyzstan, Siberia and Northern India and Pakistan culminating in his trip to find Snow Leopards around Mount Everest.

For adults of all ages. Registration required.

FOREVER YOUNG: A YA BOOK CLUB FOR ADULTS

Wednesday, January 31 from 6-7:30pm

A new book club where we know that it's ok to read YA! Join us to discuss a variety of YA selections. This club will meet bi-monthly, on the last Wednesday of the month. Our January selection will be The Firekeeper's Daughter by Angeline Boulley.

For adults of all ages. Registration required.

FEBRUARY FEATURED EVENTS

This is just a small sampling of the free events offered by the Scranton Library each month. Go to our website to see more, read the full details, and register now: scrantonlibrary.org/events

CAN'T MISS PROGRAMMING FOR ADULTS!

In addition to the special events featured here, we also host a variety of regularly scheduled weekly and monthly programming. Check out our online Events Calendar for full details. We have something for everyone!

FREE BIMONTHLY, MONTHLY OR WEEKLY PROGRAMS: Ukulele and Guitar Clubs, Master Gardener Clinic, Tech Help with Chris, Craft of the Month, Scranton Writers' Club, Saturday Sleuths Bookclub, Forever Young Bookclub, Winter Mindfulness Meditation, Madison Movie Chat, Maker Meet-up, and Yoga Nidra. **Thank you to the staff and volunteers who make these free programs possible!**

MADISON SUMMER PROGRAM EXPO

Wednesday, February 7 from 5:30-7:30 pm

Trying to decide what to sign your kids up for this summer? Have a teen looking for a summer job or volunteer opportunities? Come to the library and see what our amazing town has to offer. Sign up for the Scranton Drop-Off program, check out what's happening at the Arts Barn, see what Madison Youth and Family has to offer, and more! This program is sponsored by Madison Advocates for Youth (MAY).

Everyone welcome. No sign-ups necessary.

TEEN FUSE BEAD MANIA

Wednesday, February 21 from 3:30-4:30 pm

Stop by the Teen Room upstairs and let your imagination run wild creating with fuse beads!

For grades 7-12. Registration encouraged.

MUNCH & READ

Thursday, February 8 from 4-4:30 pm

Listen to the classic children's book, Madeline read aloud and make Madeline's signature hat out of Nilla wafer cookies and blue frosting. For ages 2 and up.

For ages 2 and up. Registration required.

Adults

LOVE YOU TO PIECES

Wednesday, February 7 from 6-7 pm

In this fun craft class, we will be making a Valentine's Day frame with decorated puzzle pieces and the laser cut saying "Love you to pieces." Enjoy painting and putting together this neat piece.

For teens and adults of all ages. Registration required.

SOLAR ECLIPSES: A CELESTIAL PHENOMENON

Wednesday, February 28 from 6:30-7:30 pm

Join NASA Solar System Ambassador Geoff McLean for a presentation on solar eclipses with a view toward the upcoming near total eclipse on April 8th, 2024.

Afterwards, he will take the audience outside for a stargazing session with a professional telescope, which will target highlights of the winter sky such as Jupiter and the Orion Constellation.

For adults of all ages. Registration required.

MEET JESSE!

Our new Adult Programming Librarian



A YEAR IN THE HEART OF MADISON: SAME GREAT RAFFLE, MORE CHANCES TO WIN!

Ticket sales begin Friday, January 5th. The drawing will be held on February 14th, 2024 at 2 p.m.—Valentine’s Day—at Scranton Library.

Tickets are \$20 each. Only 2,000 tickets will be sold. Eight (8) great prizes. One winner in each of the following categories:

- 1st PRIZE – JUST 4 U.** This lucky winner receives 46 gift cards to local Madison businesses for a total prize value of \$1,900.
- 2nd PRIZE – I’M YOURS.** This lucky winner receives 38 gift cards to local Madison businesses for a total prize value of \$1,550.
- 3rd PRIZE – BE MINE.** This lucky winner receives 33 gift cards to local Madison businesses for a total prize value of \$1,340.
- 4th PRIZE – 8th PRIZE.** Each lucky winner receives 21 gift cards to local Madison businesses for a total prize value of \$810 each.

Please see our website for a complete list of our sponsors.

Proceeds will go the library’s annual operating fund.

Tickets available at the library, online at:

**<https://go.eventgroovefundraising.com/scrantonraffle>
or text “Scranton” to (406) 302-5086.**



My name is Jesse Bernier and I come to Scranton Library from Wallingford Public Library and Brainerd Memorial Library. My journey to the library world was a long and winding one. My first career was in sales, where 16 years in, in 2020, I was part of a mass-layoff. I was offered a job at my local library shortly afterwards and fell head over heels in love. I wished I had figured out so long ago that this is where I am supposed to be. I graduated with my Masters in Library Science in May of 2023.

I am excited to take on the position of Adult Programming Librarian as this is the perfect fit for my skill-set. I love bright colors and as you may have seen from my holiday wardrobe, I have a lot of spirit! I am an avid kayaker, card maker, and quilter. I enjoy hiking, knitting, scrapbooking, boating, geocaching and camping. I love the outdoors. I am passionate about helping others. I run a charity group called the Card Angels which delivers homemade cards to cancer treatment centers and to nursing homes to bring some much needed joy.

I look forward to bringing my many interests and skills to the programs at Scranton Library. I am happy to be a new part of this community. Hope to see you soon!