The Progressive Era: The Promise of America with Dr. Gary Hylander
Tues., April 17th
7:30 PM
The Progressive Era stretches roughly from 1890 to 1920. The hiss of steam, the rustle of greenbacks and the shriek of factory whistles filled the air. Captains of Industry amassed enormous fortunes in steel, railroads and oil. By the turn of the century, America had also emerged as an imperial power as well. To manage these enormous changes, President Theodore Roosevelt and the Progressives believed that government honestly administered, guided by experts and enspirited by the ideals of the social gospel, could bring order, prosperity and security to all Americans. This is the fourth of five lectures in this series, and is sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.

“Tinseltown Inventor: The Most Beautiful Woman in the World”—Hedy Lamarr
Sun., April 29th
2:00 PM
Upon hearing the name Hedy Lamarr, whom do you see? A smoldering, bejeweled temptress, perched on velour cushions, in the 1949 Hollywood classic Samson and Delilah? Or, a demure and professionally clad inventor, embarking on scientific ideas that were generations ahead of her time? Hedy Lamarr was not only a great starlet in Hollywood’s Golden Age, she was also devoted to helping the Allies beat the Nazi forces in WWII. Whether selling war bonds for $50,000 a kiss, or inventing a secret communication system, with the help of American composer George Antheil, Hedy Lamarr knows she is more than just a glamorous girl! History At Play introduces you to a woman clouded in a fantasy world that only Tinseltown could create. Watch, as this young Viennese refugee transforms to become The Most Beautiful Woman in the World, all the while inventing technology that would become the forerunner to GPS, WIFI, and all wireless telecommunications using Spread Spectrum Technology. Suitable for ages 13 and up. Sponsored by the Friends of the Needham Public Library.

IMMIGRATION JUSTICE FILM SERIES
An American Tail (Rated G, 80 minutes)
Sun., April 8th
3:00 PM
A young mouse named Fievel Mousekewitz and his family emigrate from Russia to the United States by boat after their home is destroyed by cats. During the trip, a fierce storm throws Fievel from the ship, and he loses contact with his family. Luckily, he manages to sail to New York in a bottle. There, Irish mouse Bridget, an Italian mouse named Tony and a kindly cat named Tiger help Fievel search for his loved ones. This movie is for ages 3 and up. With immigration/refugee justice currently a central part of our national discussion, Temple Beth Shalom and the Needham Free Public Library are proud to co-sponsor a film series intended to further community exploration of this important issue. Each film that has been selected will help inspire new ideas and understandings and will serve as a springboard to discussion.

New England Reptiles and Raptors Presents
Birds of Prey
Tues., April 17th
2:30 PM
Join naturalist, artist, and falconer Marla Isaac for this presentation of live birds of prey, a fascinating group of predators that few people fully understand! Marla will talk about the lives of these aerial hunters including: natural history, biology, adaptations, habitats, poaching, falconry and the management of these animals in the wild and how the laws and regulations protect them. Owls, hawks, falcons and vultures await you up-close and personal. Sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.
What’s happening this month in the Children’s Room...

Children’s Story Times in April

- Terrific Toddlers for ages 1-2 years
  Tues., April 3, 17, 24  10:00 AM
  Stories mixed with songs, rhymes, fingerplays, rhythm and sensory activities.

- Babies & Books for up to one year
  Tues., April 3, 17, 24  11:00 AM
  Babies and their adult caregivers explore the rhythms and patterns of speech with songs, lap games and a story or two.

- Drop-In Child’s Play for ages 0-2 years
  Wed., April 4, 11, 18, 25  10:00 AM
  Songs, rhymes, lap games, books and more in this interactive program.

- Pre-School Palooza for ages 3-6 years
  Mon., April 2, 9, 23, 30  10:00 AM
  An interactive themed storyline with picture books, music and movement, followed by a craft (45 min.). Children who are ready may attend independently. Caregivers are also welcome.

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Children’s Programs in April

- Ready, Set...Move with Cici Hunt: for ages 3-5**
  Wed., April 4  11:00 AM
  Join Cici Hunt in this fun-filled music and movement class for children and their caretakers. **Registration is required, beginning two weeks prior to the start of the program.**

- Sing-Along with Ed Morgan
  Thurs., April 19  10:30 AM
  For children 2 years and up accompanied by an adult. This is a drop-in program—please arrive on time.

- Music with Sarah for ages 5 and under
  Tues., April 10 (ages 2-5)  10:00 AM
  Thurs., April 10 (ages 2 and under) 11:00 AM
  Fri., April 27 (ages 2-5)  10:00 AM
  Fri., April 27 (ages 2 and under) 11:00 AM
  Join Sarah Gardner and bring your little ones to play instruments, sing & dance along. Become part of our little library band!

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Storytimes from Around the World

- Chinese Storytime for ages 5 and under
  Sat., April 7  10:00 AM
  This is a Drop-in program for ages 5 and under and is led by a group of Chinese-speaking mothers. The program consists of 45 minutes of reading, followed by a simple craft.

- Fairy Tale Book Party for Grades 3+—Featuring the Books of Liesl Shurtliff **Registration is Required**
  Sat., April 7  3:15 - 4:15 PM
  Have you read at least one of these titles:

  - **RUMP: The True Story of Rumpelstiltskin**
  - **JACK: The True Story of Jack & the Beanstalk**
  - **RED: The True Story of Red Riding Hood**

  Come for the Trivia, Act out a Story, play Games and more based on author Liesl Shurtliff’s books. Enjoy Rock Candy, “Live-for-Ever Elixer” & Sludge! **Registration is Required**

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Funding for Music Enrichment Programs provided by the Friends of the Needham Public Library.

- Pre-school Crafts for ages 2+ years
  Thurs., April 12  10:30-11:30 AM
  Drop-in for age appropriate Make-N-Take Crafts!

- Yoga for Children ages 5-9
  Sat., April 28  10:30 AM

- Super Hero Celebration for ages 4+
  Sat., April 28  1:00 - 2:30 PM
  What is your Super Power?
  Come in costume or design your own superhero costume. Vanquish the villains, play games, and more. For ages 4 and up.

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For further information about upcoming events, go to www.needhamma.gov/library.
ART MAKERS: Monet Artwork for ages 8+
Tues., April 10      4:00 PM
Join Nicole’s Art Spot for this Art Maker Session. Kids will recreate paintings by Monet and other age appropriate multi-media artistic projects.

ART MAKERS: Washer Jewelry for Ages 8 and up
Thurs., April 19     2:30 PM
Join local artist Nicole Donson from Nicole’s Art Spot for this Art Maker Session. Create cool jewelry by painting metal washers with nail polish in a rainbow of colors. Add beads to enhance your bracelets and necklaces. These drop-in classes will be held in the Children’s Department STEAM Center.

Play with STEAM for ages 3-5
Fri., April 13, 20    10:30-11:30 AM
A playgroup with a STEAM centered circle time activity. Explore Science, Art and Math through a variety of hands-on activities and experiments. Children ages 3-5 are welcome, but must be accompanied by an adult. Run by the non-profit Communities United, Inc., through a Coordinated Family and Community Engagement Grant from the Mass. Dept. of EEC.

Crazy 8s Club**
Wednesdays, April 4, 11, 25
K-2nd Grade          3:30-4:15 PM
3-5th Grade          4:30-5:15 PM
Join Bedtime Math’s Crazy 8s Club, where you’ll build stuff, run and jump, make music, make a mess...it’s a totally new kind of math club. Space is limited. **Registration required. Sign up is for all sessions.

Creation Station

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‘Twen/Teen Found and Blackout Poetry Crafternoon

Thurs., April 5th 4:00-5:00 PM

‘Twen and Teens are invited to an hour of Creative writing using Magazines, Damaged and Discarded Books, your imagination, and maybe a typewriter or two, to create a piece of poetry of your own. Spend the time with friends, enjoy some snacks, and craft. As always, materials, snacks, and enjoyment provided! Contact Erin at the Adult Reference Desk if you have any questions (781-455-7559, option 2). Sponsored by the Friends of the Needham Public Library.

Joy of Coloring for ‘Twen/Teens and Up

Thurs., April 12th 3:30-5:00 PM

Coloring and crafting enthusiasts are welcome to color and craft! The Library will supply all you need (pencils, markers, coloring sheets, as well as a few snacks). Come for the coloring and conversation with your fellow coloring enthusiasts! If you don’t feel like coloring but still want to be crafty, we can find you something to create. Coloring sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham and Crafts by the Friends of the Needham Public Library.

‘Twen/Teen Crafternoon - All The Crafts...
a Crafternoon of Crafts past

Thurs., April 26th 3:30 PM

Did you see a ‘Twen/Teen craft program that you wished you could have attended this past year? Then this is the Program for you! Help us clean out our craft supplies and make that craft you missed. Spend an hour and a half with friends, enjoy some snacks, and craft. All materials, drinks and snacks provided. Please ask for Erin (by calling 781-455-7559, option 2) with questions and for more information. Sponsored by the Friends of the Needham Public Library.

‘Twen and Teens Interactive Movie:

Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban (Rated PG, 2 hrs., 22 minutes)

Thurs., April 19th 5:00 PM

As Harry prepares to enter his third year at Hogwarts, events in the wizarding world take a sinister turn. Secrets from the past haunt Harry as he struggles to separate truth from fiction regarding the death of his parents, James and Lily Potter. Sirius Black, accused of betraying the Potters to Voldemort and later convicted of murder, has escaped the wizard prison known as Azkaban. Now he is after Harry, the only person standing in the way of Voldemort’s return to power. To make things worse, the soul sucking dementors, guards of Azkaban who are hunting Black, have developed a taste for Harry as well. With the help of friends old and new, Harry must find the courage to battle his deepest fears and discover the truth. Couldn’t make it to our last Harry Potter Interactive Movie Experience? Come join us for a showing of Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban, with a Trivia contest. Prizes and all sorts of food and fun, with an intermission in the middle. Participants are welcome to come dressed as your favorite Hogwarts character!

Children’s Movie: Disney/Pixar’s Coco (Rated PG, 120 minutes)

Fri., April 20th 2:00 PM

Once every year, ghosts travel from the Land of the Dead to see family members and friends in the living world. There has never been a case of a living person traveling to the Land of the Dead... Miguel dreams of being a musician, but his family has banned music playing for many years. When he finds an old guitar, he tries to play it and finds himself no longer corporeal. Miguel, and his dog, Dante, follow the dead into the Land of the Dead where he meets his deceased family members who attempt to get him home. Sponsored by the Needham Free Public Library.
NEW
Diversity and Discussion Book Club
Cosponsored by the Trustees of the Needham Free Public Library and the Needham Human Rights Committee
The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas
Thurs., May 24th
7:30 PM
Sixteen-year-old Starr Carter moves between two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she lives and the fancy suburban prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Khalil was unarmed. Soon afterward, his death is a national headline. Some are calling him a thug, maybe even a drug dealer and a gangbanger. Protesters are taking to the streets in Khalil’s name. Some cops and the local drug lord try to intimidate Starr and her family. What everyone wants to know is: what really went down that night? And the only person alive who can answer that is Starr. But what Starr does—or does not—say could upend her community. It could also endanger her life. *June 21, 2018—The Underground Railroad by Colm Whitehead*

April Book Discussions

NPL Book Group
Tuesday, April 10th
1:00 PM
The Reluctant Fundamentalist by Mohsin Hamid
At a café table in Labore, a bearded Pakistani man converses with an uneasy American stranger. As dusk deepens to night, he begins the tale that has brought them to this fateful meeting.... Changrez is living an immigrant’s dream of America. At the top of his class at Princeton, he is snapped up by the elite “valuation” firm of Underwood Samson. He thrives on the energy of New York, and his infatuation with elegant, beautiful Erica promises entry into Manhattan society at the same exalted level once occupied by his own family back in Labore. But in the wake of September 11, Changrez finds his position in his adopted city suddenly overturned, and his budding relationship with Erica eclipsed by the reawakened ghosts of her past. And Changrez’s own identity is in seismic shift as well, unearthing allegiances more fundamental than money, power, and maybe even love. *May 8, 2018—The Woman in Cabin 10 by Ruth Ware*

NPL Evening Book Club
Wednesday, April 18th
7:00 PM
The Genius of Birds by Jennifer Ackerman
In The Genius of Birds, acclaimed author Jennifer Ackerman explores the newly discovered brilliance of birds. As she travels around the world to the most cutting-edge frontiers of research—the distant laboratories of Barbados and New Caledonia, the great tit communities of the United Kingdom and the bowerbird habitats of Australia, the ravaged mid-Atlantic coast after Hurricane Sandy and the warming mountains of central Virginia and the western states—Ackerman not only tells the story of the recently uncovered genius of birds but also delves deeply into the latest findings about the bird brain itself that are shifting our view of what it means to be intelligent. This elegant scientific investigation and travelogue weave personal anecdotes with fascinating science. Ackerman delivers an extraordinary story that will both give readers a new appreciation for the exceptional talents of birds and let them discover what birds can reveal about our changing world. *May 16, 2018—Help Choose Next Year’s Titles*

Library Hours:
Mon. - Thurs. 9:00 am - 9:00 pm
Fridays 9:00 am - 5:30 pm
Saturdays 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Sundays 1:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Contact the Library at 781-455-7559
The Progressive Era: The Promise of America with Dr. Gary Hylander

Tues., May 15th
7:30 PM
The Progressive Era stretches roughly from 1890 to 1920. The hiss of steam, the rustle of greenbacks and the shriek of factory whistles filled the air. Captains of Industry amassed enormous fortunes in steel, railroads and oil. By the turn of the century, America had also emerged as an imperial power as well. To manage these enormous changes, President Theodore Roosevelt and the Progressives believed that government honestly administered, guided by experts and inspired by the ideals of the social gospel, could bring order, prosperity and security to all Americans. This is the fifth and final lecture in this series, and is sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.

2018 McIver Lecture Series—The Beanpot Connection

Dr. James Bird, Boston University: Fluid Dynamics (a.k.a. Bubbles!)

Sun., June 10th
2:00 PM
Continuing the theme of the “Beanpot Connection,” Dr. James Bird, Asst. Professor, College of Engineering will discuss his current research interests in fluid dynamics with a specific focus on the capillary dynamics of drops and bubbles. Combining both experiments and theory, he investigates problems such as how drops spread on surfaces and how bubbles pop. His research is motivated by problems in a variety of fields, including healthcare (e.g. virus transfer via droplets), energy (e.g. boiling and condensation), and materials (e.g. foams). This is the third of four lectures and is sponsored by the Trustees of the Needham Free Public Library in memory of former director Vivian D. McIver.

One Book, One Community Read

After the success of last year’s One Book, One Community Read, the Trustees of the Needham Free Public Library, as part of their Diversity Initiative, are pleased to announce this year’s title: Life, Animated: A Story of Sidekicks, Heroes, and Autism by local author Ron Suskind.

Imagine being trapped inside a Disney movie and having to learn about life mostly from animated characters dancing across a screen of color. “A fantasy? A nightmare?” This is the real-life story of Owen Suskind, the son of the Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Ron Suskind and his wife, Cornelia. An autistic boy who couldn’t speak for years, Owen memorized dozens of Disney movies, turned them into a language to express love and loss, kinship, brotherhood. The family was forced to become animated characters, communicating with him in Disney dialogue and song; until they all emerge, together, revealing bow, in darkness, we all literally need stories to survive.

Autism, now affects an astonishing one in every one hundred children. While America’s two million autistic people are just as diverse as the wider population, many possess a subtle weave of gifts and challenges that, year by year, are revealing underlying—and often unrecognized—capacities of the human mind.

The Library will once again provide copies of the book for you to take (and return for the next person), starting in late May and will again host a series of Book Discussions in September 2018, along with other programs relating to this year’s topic.

NEW DATABASE—HOOPLA

Hoopla is a new digital service that allows Needham residents to borrow free digital movies, TV shows, music, audiobooks, e-books, and comics! Access over 50,000 titles on your smartphone, tablet, computer, or TV with just your library card. Visit hoopladigital.com to get started. Generously funded by the Friends of the Needham Public Library.

Thanks to the Friends of the Needham Public Library for providing financial assistance in the production of this Newsletter.