2014 McIver Lecture Series
The Future of the Fourth Estate
Investigative Reporting with Professor Walter Robinson of Northeastern University

Sunday, February 9th  2:00 PM
With his background of many years of investigative reporting for the Boston Globe and his current work with students and their work on investigative reporting in conjunction with the Boston Globe, Northeastern University Professor Walter Robinson is in a unique position to discuss the future of investigative reporting in the current economic climate for daily newspapers. This is the second in a series of three lectures discussing the present and future of gathering and disseminating the news. This series is sponsored by the Trustees of the Needham Free Public Library.

Created Equal: America’s Civil Rights Struggle — Film Screenings and Scholar-Led Discussion

Film Showing: The Abolitionists (3 hrs)
Sunday, February 23rd  1:30 PM
Discussion: Led by Dr. Barbara Lewis, Director of the William Monroe Trotter Institute for the Study of Black History and Culture, UMASS Boston
Thursday, February 27th  7:00 PM
The Abolitionists: A small group of moral reformers in the 1830s launched one of the most ambitious social movements imaginable: the immediate emancipation of millions of African Americans held in bondage, at a time when slavery was one of the most powerful economic and political forces in the United States. Produced and directed by Rob Rapley, Sharon Grimberg, executive producer for American Experience, WGBH.

Dr. Barbara Lewis is the Director of the William Monroe Trotter Institute for the Study of Black History and Culture, UMASS Boston and will lead this discussion.

Created Equal: America’s Civil Rights Struggle, is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Humanities that uses the power of documentary films to encourage scholarly, community discussions of America’s civil rights history. The Created Equal film set is made possible through a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, as part of its Bridging Cultures initiative, in partnership with the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History.

World War I—A Series of Lectures by Dr. Gary Hylander
Tuesday, February 18th  7:30 PM
Popular speaker and lecturer Dr. Gary Hylander returns with the first in a series of four lectures on World War I, in this 100th anniversary year commemorating this cataclysmic event. This program is sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.

Magic by Scott Jameson
Saturday, February 22nd  10:30 AM
See the show audiences are calling “Superb!”, “A blast!”, and “Heartwarming fun for the whole family.” Join magician and juggler Scott Jameson for an extraordinary performance that will have you laughing out loud and perched on the very edge of your seat. Umbrellas will be plucked from thin air, a drawing will come to life, basketballs will be spun and juggled, and the audience will travel through time. Don’t miss it! This program is sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.

Friends’ Winter Book Sale
Saturday, February 1st
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Sunday, February 2nd
1:00 - 4:00 PM
Sunday is Bargain Day: all items are half-price and a brown bag is $8.00.

For further information about upcoming events, go to www.needhamma.gov/library.
Drop-in Storytimes for ages 5 and under

Wed., February 5, 12, 19, 26 10:00 AM
Wed., February 5, 12, 19, 26 11:00 AM
Thurs., February 27 10:30 AM

Stories, music, movement and more. Storytimes are drop-in—no registration required. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Music, Movement and Me with Sara Epstein**

Tues., February 11 10:30 AM
Tues., February 25 10:30 AM

An interactive music and movement program for adults and children under 4. *Registration is required, one session per month only please.

Ready, Set...Move with Cici Hunt: for ages 3-5**

Tues., February 4 11:00 AM
Tues., February 18 11:00 AM

Join Cici Hunt in this fun-filled music and movement class for children and their caretakers. *Registration is required, one session per month only please.

Sing-Along with Ed Morgan

Fri., February 14 3:00 PM
Thurs., February 20 10:30 AM

For children 2 years and up accompanied by an adult. This is a drop-in program—please arrive on time.

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

Lucy the R.E.A.D. Dog: for ages 3 and up**

Thurs., February 6 10:00 AM

Join Lucy, a black lab, and Pat Howes for a great program that encourages children to read! *Registration required. Begins one week prior to program. Sponsored by the Friends of the Needham Public Library.

“Fun Flicks” Movies for ages 2-5

Thurs., February 6, 13 11:00 AM

Short films based on popular storybooks—shown in the Community Room.

All Drop-In Craft Programs feature two crafts and a coloring page that are related to the theme. There will be 25 of each craft, so be sure to come early for first choice.

Growing Readers: Story/Crafts for Ages 4-6

Wed., February 5 12:45 PM
Wed., February 26 12:45 PM

Join us for this combination storytime and craft session.

LEGO Time! Needham Free Public Library’s BLOCK PARTY!

Due to space limitations, the program is limited to 24 children, ages 6+.

Tuesday, February 18 4:30 - 5:30 PM

Sign-up for program begins one week before the event. You can sign up by phone or in person.
Drop-in Family Playtime—Games and More for all Ages
Fri., February 21 10:00 AM
Join us in the Community Room for this 45 minute Games and More Playtime. Fun for the entire family.

Children’s Movie:
Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2—Rated PG, 95 minutes
Fri., February 28th 3:30 PM
Inventor Flint Lockwood thought he saved the world when he destroyed his most infamous invention—a machine that turned water into food causing cheeseburger rain and spaghetti tornadoes. But Flint soon learns that his invention survived and is now creating food-animals—“foodimals!” Flint and his friends embark on a dangerously delicious mission to battle hungry tacobirds, shrimpangus, hippotatomuses, cheerpider and other foodimals to save the world—again!

February Book Discussions

NPL Book Group
Tuesday, February 11th 1:00 PM
The Given Day by Dennis Lehane
Set in Boston during and after WWI, this engrossing epic brings alive a pivotal period in our cultural maturation through a pulsing narrative that exposes social turmoil, political shenanigans and racial prejudice. The Given Day encompasses the Spanish flu pandemic, the Boston police strike of 1919, red-baiting and anti-union violence.
*March 11, 2014 Book: The Light Between Oceans by M.L. Stedman

NPL Evening Book Group
Wednesday, February 26th 7:00 PM
Isaac’s Storm: A Man, a Time and the Deadliest Hurricane in History by Erik Larson
September 8, 1900, began innocently in the seaside town of Galveston, Texas. Even Isaac Cline, resident meteorologist for the U.S. Weather Bureau failed to grasp the true meaning of the strange deep-sea swells and peculiar winds that greeted the city that morning. Mere hours later, Galveston found itself submerged in a monster hurricane that completely destroyed the town and killed over six thousand people in what remains the greatest natural disaster in American history—and Isaac Cline found himself the victim of a devastating personal tragedy. Using Cline’s own telegrams, letters, and reports, the testimony of scores of survivors, and our latest understanding of the science of hurricanes, Erik Larson builds a chronicle of one man’s heroic struggle and fatal miscalculation in the face of a storm of unimaginable magnitude. Riveting, powerful, and unbearably suspenseful, Isaac’s Storm is the story of what can happen when human arrogance meets the great uncontrollable force of nature.
*March 19, 2014 Book: When We Were Kennedys: A Memoir From Mexico, Maine by Monica Wood

Created Equal: America’s Civil Rights Struggle — Film Screenings and Scholar-Led Discussion

Film Showing: The Freedom Riders (2 hours)
Saturday, March 22nd 11:30 AM
Film Showing: The Loving Story (90 minutes)
Saturday, March 22nd 2:00 PM

Discussion: Fighting for Marriage Rights in the US
Thursday, March 27th 7:00 PM
Dr. Catherine Paden, Associate Professor, Chair, and Faculty Assistant to the Dean on Diversity Initiatives at Simmons College will lead a community interactive discussion that will examine how current issues surrounding marriage struggles may have deep historical roots.

Panel Discussion: Becoming an Ally: Activating One’s Sphere of Influence
Sunday, March 30th 2:00 PM
Manuel Fernandez, Founding Head of Cambridge Street Upper School, will lead a panel discussion which includes the director of METCO, educators and members of the Needham community. His concerns and ideas will focus on: “Becoming an Ally: Activating One’s Sphere of Influence.”

While it is recommended watching the films in advance, the discussions stand alone, independent of the films.

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Upcoming Events...

2014 McIver Lecture Series
The Future of the Fourth Estate
International Reporting with Northeastern University Professor Nicholas Daniloff
Sunday, March 2nd 2:00 PM
With a background of many years of international reporting, NU Professor Nicholas Daniloff will talk about his experiences in reporting from foreign locations. He will share his thoughts about the decline of the number of foreign correspondents around the world with their “feet on the ground” for the locations they are reporting about, and express concern about the seeming increase in ignorance about the world by the average citizen. This is the last in a series of three lectures discussing the present and future of gathering and disseminating the news. This series is sponsored by the Trustees of the Needham Free Public Library.

Author Larry Tye: Superman: The High-Flying History of America’s Most Enduring Hero
Sunday, March 16th 2:00 PM
Superman is the first full-fledged biography not just of the Man of Steel, but of the visionary writers and artists, publishers and performers, who kept aloft the red-and-blue-clad icon through seven decades and counting. Larry Tye shows us how Superman—like few other mythical characters before or since—has evolved in a way that offers a Rorschach test of his changing times and our highest aspirations. This event is sponsored by the Friends of the Needham Public Library.

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Needham’s Art In Bloom
Back by popular demand, Needham’s Art in Bloom will return to the library on Saturday, March 8 and Sunday March 9th. There will be 35+ pieces of art in mixed mediums, by talented Needham High School students, and each piece will be accompanied with a creative, colorful floral interpretation by members of the Beth Shalom Garden Club. Roche Bros. has generously sponsored this FREE event. For more information visit NeedhamArtinBloom.com.

Ben Rudnick & Friends
Saturday, March 29th 3:15PM
Ben Rudnick & Friends play the hippest family music around. With countless awards to their credit, including FIVE Parent’s Choice awards, their adventurous, high-energy blend of happy, upbeat acoustic music is guaranteed to entertain the entire family. Blending musical styles from country to bluegrass, rock to second-line New Orleans, their original songs and fun takes on familiar tunes will make you sing, make you dance and make you happy. Join the fun! This program is sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.

Library Hours:
Mon. - Thurs. 9:00am - 9:00pm
Fridays 9:00am - 5:30pm
Saturdays 9:00am - 5:00pm
Sundays 1:00pm - 5:00pm

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