

2021 McIver Lecture Series on ZOOM

Author Michelle Chalmers—*The Skin on my Chin*

Sun., January 31st

5:00 PM



The Trustees of the Needham Free Public Library are happy to collaborate with *Equal Justice in Needham for Families* and bring you a Family Storytime designed for adults and children who wish to learn about racial identities, social justice, and empathy. Our featured book is

The Skin on My Chin, by Michelle Chalmers.

Copies of the book will be available to take out from the Library. *This is the first of three events, and is sponsored by the Trustees of the Needham Free Public Library in memory of former*

director Vivian D. McIver. This event will be on ZOOM, and registration is required at needhamma.assabetinteractive.com/calendar



Winter Reading Challenge



From January 1st to January 31st, the Needham Free Public Library will participate in Beanstack's Fourth Annual Winter Reading Challenge. Sponsored by *Simon & Schuster*, Books Like Us is a celebration of diversity, harnessing the transforma-

tive power of seeing oneself reflected in a book. This Winter, participating communities are invited to explore these books, from authors spanning an array of diverse backgrounds. We challenge our patrons to read at least 5,000 minutes during the month and keep track of their reading at <https://needhamma.beanstack.com/reader365>

This Month in the Virtual Friends' Gallery

Sculptor Goce Davidov

Thoughts Take Form

go to <http://www.needhamma.gov/3168/>

for our virtual slideshow

Upcoming Programs—January 2021 on ZOOM

Casper Grathwohl, Senior Executive, Oxford University Press, *The Oxford English Dictionary in the Digital Age*, a virtual program on ZOOM

Sun., January 24th

2:00 PM

Mr. Grathwohl, Senior Executive with Oxford Univ. Press discusses the ongoing relevance of dictionaries in the digital age, how the granddaddy of all dictionaries keeps its listing up to date, and how the OED is helping to preserve world languages threatened by modern times.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Needham Public Library.



The Art of Crossword Construction with Ruth B. Margolin, a virtual program on ZOOM

Sun., January 31st

2:00 PM

Have you ever wondered what is involved in producing the small bit of entertainment with which you might start your day? This program will walk through the steps of creating a publishable crossword puzzle, from concept to completion. Follow the process, see the resources used, and gain insight into the attention to detail that is

at the foundation of a quality puzzle. *Sponsored by the Friends of the Needham Public Library.*

Registration is required for both programs and is available at needhamma.assabetinteractive.com/calendar



Are you looking for some advice on what to read next? Need some help figuring out *Overdrive/Libby/Hoopla* or any one of our other online resources or databases? Any other questions? Our Reference Librarians are here to help! Join us

every other Monday afternoon from 2:00-4:00 PM on Zoom for our biweekly Reference Office Hours. Our first ones will be on January 11th and 25th, 2021.

Registration is required to receive the Zoom link. Register is located here at needhamma.assabetinteractive.com/calendar.

Please note: all conversations will be held one at a time, so you may be in our waiting room for a bit as we help each patron individually. Think of it as waiting for the librarian to be free at the desk!

Send questions to neemail1@minlib.net or call us at 781-455-7559 ext. 502. We are happy to help!

Children's Virtual Programs in January

Music with Stacey Peasley for ages 2-5



Wed., January 6 10:00 AM

Mon., January 25 10:00 AM

Sing-Along with Ed



Fri., January 15 10:00 AM

Thurs., January 21 10:00 AM

Lego Club with Veronica and Marianna
Every Wednesday @3:00 PM

Build and share Lego creations for kindergarten and older.



Preschool Palooza - Wednesdays at 10:00 AM

Join Ms. Elise for stories, song, and movement.

Yoga for Kids with Lyn Jekowsky—Saturday, January 9 at 10:00 AM

A 30-minute set of yoga for young children and their families. No experience necessary - all levels welcome for ages 5 and up.



Read to Tucker the Reading Dog

Build confidence in reading with Tucker the popular therapy dog. Alternating Mondays and Tuesdays at 3:00 PM. Individual 15-minute reading sessions for kindergarten and older.

Nappy's Puppets—Jack and the Beanstalk

Thurs., January 14th 10:00 AM

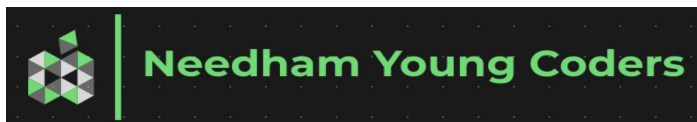


A Shadow Puppet Show for all ages
sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.

Dance Me a Story

Tues., January 19th 10:00 AM

Ms. Lisa from the Joanne Langione Dance Center brings a half hour of music movement and storytelling for ages 2 to 5.



Explore basic computer science concepts as well as introductory coding in the programming language, Java. No prior experience is necessary!

Who: Aspiring coders grades 3 to 6

What: Free virtual CS lessons

When: 4:00 PM on Mondays

Where: Zoom

Registration begins two weeks before events. Go to <https://needhamma.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/> to register for these sessions.

Upcoming Virtual Events in February

Dallas Hetherington, C-Change Conversations—
*Climate Change and You on ZOOM**

Sun., February 7th 2:00 PM



How do we know climate change is real and is caused by humans? What is the scientific consensus? What are the dangers? Is there hope?

This accessible overview summarizes the science behind climate change and presents a clear-eyed view of the risk this existential threat poses to humanity. The presentation is an engaging and compelling program that uses visual data, charts and photographs to provide an accessible overview of climate science and a clear-eyed assessment of the risks ahead. *Co-sponsored by the Friends of the Needham Public Library and Green Needham.*

Bob Begin: *Race to the South Pole on ZOOM**

Mon., February 8th 7:00 PM

In 1900, the last major unexplored and unclaimed region of the earth was Antarctica. Great Britain felt obligated to explore and claim this area for the British Empire.



At that time, the British Empire was the largest in the world. And the saying was, "The sun never sets on the British Empire." Antarctica was known to be a land of extreme conditions: the coldest temperature ever recorded, 98% covered in ice, separated from other land masses by the Southern Ocean, and had no indigenous peoples, no wildlife except near the coastal areas, no gold or silver, and was plagued by constant storms. Why would anybody want to go there? What possible value could it hold? And why would men willingly risk their lives to go there? Join Bob Begin as he presents another in his series of lectures here at the Needham Library. *Sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.*

2021 McIver Lecture Series on ZOOM

Enslavement and Its Aftermath in Needham on ZOOM*

Sun., February 21st 2:00 PM

It happened here: many of Needham's eighteenth-century founding families were enslavers, and the historical record was "whitewashed" or buried after slavery was abolished in Massachusetts in 1783. As Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. observed, "We are made by history." Join us for a discussion of the role of enslavement in Needham's history, and how its effects are shaping our current ideas of community and justice. Presented



by Gloria Polizzotti Greis, PhD - Executive Director, Needham History Center & Museum and the Rev. Catie Scudera, Minister, First Parish in Needham, Unitarian Universalist.

This is the second of three events, and is sponsored by the Trustees of the Needham Free Public Library in memory of former director Vivian D. McIver.

*Registration for all of these programs is required on Assabet to receive the Zoom link. Register here at needhamma.assabetinteractive.com/calendar.

January 2021 Book Clubs on ZOOM

NPL Book Group

Tuesday, January 12th

The Fire Next Time

by James Baldwin

At once a powerful evocation of James Baldwin's early life in Harlem and a disturbing examination of the consequences of racial injustice, the book is an intensely personal and provocative document from the iconic author of If Beale Street Could Talk and Go Tell It on the Mountain. It consists of two "letters," written on the occasion of the centennial of the Emancipation Proclamation, that exhort Americans, both black and white, to attack the terrible legacy of racism. Described by The New York Times Book Review as "sermon, ultimatum, confession, deposition, testament, and chronicle...all presented in searing, brilliant prose," The Fire Next Time stands as a classic of literature.

Please email neemail1@minlib.net if you wish to have your email address added to our monthly ZOOM link mailing.

*February 9, 2021—*Valiant Ambition: George Washington, Benedict Arnold, and the Fate of the American Revolution* by Nicholas Philbrick*

NEW The Bookworm's Evening Book Club *NEW*

Monday, February 22nd

Such a Fun Age

by Kiley Reid

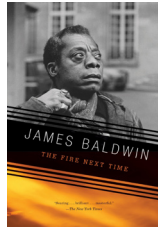
Join our newly rebranded *Bookworm's Evening Book Club*, now on Mondays! Hosted by Reference Supervisor Sarah! The first virtual meeting on our new night will be on February 22nd on ZOOM. Adults and older teens (16+) are welcome!

A striking and surprising debut novel from an exhilarating new voice, Such a Fun Age is a page-turning and big-hearted story about race and privilege, set around a young black babysitter, her well-intentioned employer, and a surprising connection that threatens to undo them both. Alix Chamberlain is a woman who gets what she wants and has made a living, with her confidence-driven brand, showing other women how to do the same. So she is shocked when her babysitter, Emira Tucker, is confronted while watching the Chamberlains' toddler one night, walking the aisles of their local high-end supermarket. The store's security guard, seeing a young black woman out late with a white child, accuses Emira of kidnapping two-year-old Briar. A small crowd gathers, a bystander films everything, and Emira is furious and humiliated. Alix resolves to make things right.

Such a Fun Age is available to borrow in print, large print, book on CD, and digitally on Overdrive/Libby as an ebook and digital audiobook. *March 22, 2021—*The Library Book* by Susan Orlean*

Registration required on Assabet to receive the Zoom link. Register here at needhamma.assabetinteractive.com/calendar

1:00 PM



NEEDHAM COMIC BOOK CLUB!

Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021

Time: 7:00 - 8:00pm

Location: Virtually via Zoom

Reading: Asterios Polyp
Written By: David Mazzucchelli

Come join us for this month's book discussion as a group

Asterios Polyp, its arrogant, prickly protagonist, is an award-winning architect who's never built an actual building, and a pedant in the midst of a spiritual crisis. After the structure of his own life falls apart, he runs away to try to rebuild it into something new.

Join us as we discuss this month's Graphic Novel around the Zoom screen with friends. Participants must register to receive the Zoom link.

For more info contact Erin Bassett at ebassett@minlib.net

Copies of this month's titles available for request from Minuteman Libraries!

Virtual Meeting for Ages 16 +

Register Online <https://needhamma.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/2021-january/>



Diversity and Discussion Book Club

Co-sponsored by the Trustees of the Needham Free Public Library, Needham Diversity Initiative & Needham Human Rights Committee

An American Marriage: A Novel by Tayari Jones

Wed., January 27th

7:00 PM

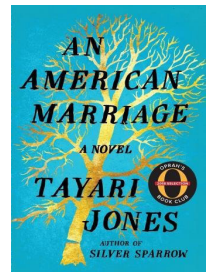
Newlyweds Celestial and Roy are the embodiment of both the American Dream and the New South. He is a young executive, and she is an artist on the brink of an exciting career. But as they settle into the routine of their life together, they are ripped apart by circumstances neither could have imagined. Roy is arrested and sentenced

to twelve years for a crime Celestial knows he didn't commit.

Though fiercely independent, Celestial finds herself bereft and unmoored, taking comfort in Andre, her childhood friend, and best man at their wedding. As Roy's time in prison passes, she is unable to hold on to the love that has been her center. After five years, Roy's conviction is suddenly overturned, and he returns to Atlanta ready to resume their life together.

This stirring love story is a profoundly insightful look into the hearts and minds of three people who are at once bound and separated by forces beyond their control. An American Marriage is a masterpiece of storytelling, an intimate look deep into the souls of people who must reckon with the past while moving forward—with hope and pain—into the future.

This discussion on Zoom will be facilitated by Gretchen Cook-Anderson. Registration is required at needhamma.assabetinteractive.com/calendar



Teen/Tween & Adult Craft Activities for January

Teens & Adults (Ages 15+) Craft & Chat Program!

A VIRTUAL PROGRAM FOR AGES 15 & UP!

FIRST THURSDAYS FROM 7:30 - 9 PM

REGISTRATION REQUIRED TO GET LINK

Register Online for Each Program:
<https://needhamma.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/>

Contact Erin at neeya@minlib.net with questions!

Weekly Program: Tween Craft & Chat Hour!

A VIRTUAL PROGRAM FOR AGES 10 - 12

WEDNESDAYS FROM 3:30 - 4:30 PM

REGISTRATION REQUIRED TO GET LINK

Register Online for Each Program:
<https://needhamma.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/>

Contact Erin at neeya@minlib.net with questions!

Take and Make: CD Mandalas and Other Window Decorations

A Craft at Home Program for Ages 12 + (yes, Adults - you too!)

Young Adult Librarian, Erin, is bringing tweens, teens, and adults (ages 12+) a bit of colorful window magic.

Sign ups open Monday, January 4th and will remain open until filled (limited to first 20 people). Materials needed will be provided in the kits. (Pickups and distribution for Craft Kits during the week of Monday, January 11 - 15th).

This kit will be making use of older Young Adult Books on CD that have not circulated in a few years (silver parts removed) along with some other fun things - recycling at its colorful-est!

- Kits include:
 - A set of clear cd discs
 - A set of other window decorations to be enhanced
 - Fishing line or other string and some beads
 - container of black puff paint
 - some markers to add color
 - Mandala patterns that may or may not be used (crafters choice)
 - instructions to be able to complete a project (or two)
- Kits do NOT include scissors

Register Here: <https://needhamma.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/2021-january/>



Virtual Office Hours

with Erin Bassett,
Needham Free Public Library, Young Adult Librarian

Between the ages of 10 and 18? Looking for some advice on what to read next? Need some help with something? Just want to chat? Join our Young Adult Librarian for a one-on-one help session via Zoom!

Please note: all conversations will be held one at a time, so you may be in our waiting room for a bit as we bring in people one by one. Conversations will be kept short if there are people waiting. Please be patient with us as we navigate a new system of helping!

Registration required to receive Zoom link information.

To register and find out what days and times are being offered, check out our Program Calendar Here:

<https://needhamma.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/>

Chromebooks Now Available for Checkout



The Needham Free Public Library is looking to close the town's technology gap for those patrons who used to come into the library building for their computing needs. Since the coronavirus pandemic began, the library, just as all other Town buildings, per order of the Needham Department of Public Health, has been closed since March 14th to the general public.

To help those without computers at home stay safe and get the information they need, the library is now offering Chromebooks for checkout. Thanks to funding from the *Library Foundation of Needham*, in an effort to meet the needs of the many library users who are working and learning at home, you can now start checking out a Chromebook laptop, by calling the library's reference department at 781-455-7559, ext. 502. The five available Chromebook laptops can be checked out for five days. They must be picked up between 12 pm and 2 pm on a Monday and returned to the library on Friday of the same week by no later than 3 pm (Chromebooks can then be requested after another week, as they will be quarantined for seven days in between check-outs). All of the Chromebooks can connect to any Wi-Fi network, including the Library's wireless network, available from our parking lots.



The Library can print out your print jobs (20 page maximum) for you. Please send your document(s) to neemail@minlib.net, and call us at 781-455-7559, ex. 502, to let us know it's been sent. Documents will be put out with curbside delivery within 2 hours of notification.

January

Needham Free Public Library

1139 Highland Avenue

781-455-7559 x204 neechild@minilib.net



Registration Required for
Children's Events
www.needhamma.gov/3035

Events subject to change

Friday

Saturday

1 Closed for
New Year

2

Winter Reading
Challenge
Starts

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday

3

4

STEM
Biomes Kits
All Week

5

6

10 am
Music with
Stacey Peasley
ages 2 to 5
3 pm Lego Club
Grades K to 5

7

8

9

10 am
Yoga for Kids
with Lyn
Ages 5 to 10

10

11

4 pm
Needham Young
Coders
Grades 3 to 6

12

3 pm Read to
Tucker
Grades K to 5

13

10 am PreSchool
Palooza
Ages 3 to 5
3 pm Lego Club
Grades K to 5

14

10 am
Nappy's Puppets
Jack and
the Beanstalk
All Ages

15

10 am
Sing Along
with Ed
ages 2 to 5

16



17

18

Closed for
Martin Luther
King Day

19

10 am
Dance Me a Story
Ages 3 to 5
Winter Craft
Bags
All Week

20

10 am PreSchool
Palooza
Ages 3 to 5
3 pm Lego Club
Grades K to 5

21

10 am
Sing Along
with Ed
ages 2 to 5

22

23

24

25

10 am
Music with
Stacey Peasley
ages 2 to 5
4 pm Needham
Young Coders
Grades 3 to 6

26

3 pm Read to
Tucker
Grades K to 5

27

10 am PreSchool
Palooza
Ages 3 to 5
3 pm Lego Club
Grades K to 5

28

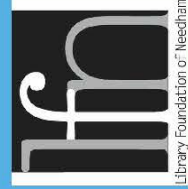
29

30

Winter Reading
Challenge
Ends



Funding for special
events generously
provided by



Foundation of Needham