



GLADYS E. KELLY  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Winter 2023/24

508-949-3880  
WEBSTERCIRCULATION  
@GMAIL.COM

# VISIONS FOR THE FUTURE

Over the past year I have had the privilege of working on a Strategic Plan for our Library. With the help of the Strategic Planning Committee, the Strategic Planning Advisory Committee, focus group participants, and the hundreds of survey respondents, we now have a document that will guide us through the next five years. In it, we have identified needs within the community, uncovered illuminating statistics about patrons and non-patrons alike, and have set goals for meeting the current and future needs of the Library. I encourage you to take a look at the Strategic Plan on our website, which can be found on our website under [About Us](#), or by scanning the QR code to the right. We hope that you had an opportunity to have your voice heard, and can see it reflected in the goals and objectives we have set for ourselves. On this page I have shared a quote from one survey respondent which I think reflects how we all feel about our wonderful Library-- please take a minute this Holiday season to share with your friends, neighbors, and anyone you meet how much you love our Library. It would be the best gift we could ask for!

See you soon,  
Sondra Murphy, Library Director

## FOLLOW US



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@gladysekellypl



Point your phone's  
camera at the QR  
code and tap the  
pop-up link to read  
the Strategic Plan!

“

We should not  
be the  
best kept  
secret in town!

”

# Thank You

To our Friends of the Library  
for a great October!



## Pumpkin Carving and Halloween Costume Swap



# kids

# WEEKLY PROGRAMS



## SCAVENGER HUNT

Everyday Each Month  
During Open Hours

What's more exciting than a scavenger hunt? Come upstairs to the Children's room to pick up a list of things to find all around the library. Once you've completed the scavenger hunt, check in with the Children's Librarian to redeem a prize.



## STUFFED ANIMAL STORYTIME

Wednesdays:  
December 6th and 20th  
January 3rd, 17th, and 31st  
February 14th and 28th  
**10:00-10:45am**

Join Library Director Sondra Murphy for stories, songs, and fun with our plush pals! This storytime is geared toward ages birth to 3, but siblings are welcome.

## STORYTIME

Every Monday in December

**10:00-11:00am**

Changing to every Tuesday starting Jan. 2nd  
**9:30-10:30am** for January only, then back to **10am**

We are happy to be bringing back Toddler Storytime! Mornings are filled with fun stories, songs, and activities perfect for ages 2-5. Siblings are welcome to join.



## LEGO CLUB

Tuesdays:

December 5th and 12th

January 2nd, and 9th

February 6th and 13th

**3:30-4:30pm**

Come play with the library's Legos. If you like, we can put your work on display. Please do not bring in your own Legos or leave with the library's Legos.



## BUILD TUESDAY

Tuesdays:

December 19th and 26th

January 16th, 23rd, and 30th

February 27th

**3:30-4:30pm**

Put your creative caps on and come build with wooden blocks, magnet tiles, or other neat building materials! Materials will change monthly. For children of all ages and their caregivers.

## EVERY WEEK!

## MAKER MONDAYS

**3:30-4:30pm**

Every month we will rotate our craft material- check our website for more information.





# Kids

## Wiggles & Giggles

*Thursdays: January 11th, 18th, 25th ; February 1st, 8th, 15th*

**Time: 10-11am**

Children ages 2-5, with a parent/ caregiver, will sing, move, play musical instruments, learn rhythm and listen to stories with music teacher, Laine Hanlon. Organized by the YFCP. **Registration Required via the YFCP Website, space fills quickly (registration ends Jan. 3rd)**



Music classes are funded by the Friends of the  
Gladys E. Kelly Public Library



## Baby Massage

*Fridays: December 1st, 8th and 15th*

**10:30-11:30am**

Baby Massage can help with gas, constipation, bonding, soothing, and sleep. Sheryl White will model the strokes on a doll as the parents practice the techniques on their babies.



## Baby Sign Language

*Tuesdays: January 9th, 16th and 23rd, and 30th*

**10:30-11:30am**

Sign language for caregivers and babies age 2 months and up who are pre-verbal.



**kids**

# WINTER CRAFT SERIES

**Thursday, December 21st:**

## **Gingerbread Houses**



**Session 1: 3:30–4:30 PM / Session 2: 4:30–5:30 PM**

Join us for a festive craft this winter season. We'll be using cardboard 'gingerbread houses' as our base, all you have to do is decorate with color and yummy treats! Space is limited and the craft is held in two sessions, please register in advance. For all ages with adult supervision. **Registration Required**

**Thursday, December 28th:**

## **Snow Globes**

**3:30–5:30 PM**



Bring your own jar or use one of ours to make your own Snow Globe! We'll have all the glitter and figurines you'll need to create this magical toy. For all ages with adult supervision.



**Tuesday, January 16th:**

## **Marshmallow Art**

**3:30–5:30 PM**

We'll be using fluffy delicious marshmallows to create works of art! Creations include animals, rainbows, and anything else you can dream up. For all ages with adult supervision



**Tuesday, February 20th:**

## **Slime Craft: Snow Dough**

**3:30 PM – 5:30 PM**

Get out of the house during vacation and make some snow-themed slime! You can add glitter, snowflakes, and more to your creation. For all ages with adult supervision.



**Thursday, January 25th:**

## **Hot Cocoa Slime**

**3:30–5:30 PM**

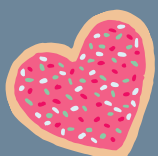
We are making taste-safe Hot Cocoa 'slime!' Made with 3 common pantry staples, you can add chocolate chips or mini marshmallows to your creation! We'll also have hot cocoa for all to enjoy during the program. For all ages with adult supervision.

**Thursday, February 22nd:**

## **Cookie Decorating Party**

**Session 1: 3:00 – 3:45 PM / Session 2: 4:00–4:45 PM**

Who doesn't love cookies and hot chocolate on a cold winter day? Join us for the opportunity to decorate some cookies and sip on hot cocoa. Space is limited and will be held in two sessions, please register in advance. PJs are encouraged!



kids

# WINTER EVENTS



## December



Saturday, December 2nd:

### The Poop Museum

11:30-12:30 PM



The Poop Museum covers the serious science of poop and pooping, and is delivered with the silliness that you might imagine accompanying a program about poop for young kids. It is the perfect combination of fun, and fabulous, fascinating facts, so that kids (and parents) never forget what they learned. Aimed at the 4-9 age group, the program engages kids as young as 3 and as old as 12.

Saturday, December 16th:

### Stuffed Animal Creation

Giraffe: 11:00 AM-12:00 PM

Moose: 12:30 PM-1:30 PM



Settle in for a story or two before you get the chance to make your very own stuffed animal! Please only sign up for one of the two sessions to allow for others to get a chance at participating in this program. The first session is for making a stuffed giraffe and the second is for a stuffed moose!

**Registration is required as materials are limited. Registration will open on December 2nd**

Generously funded by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Library unless noted.



**kids**

# WINTER EVENTS

## January



**Saturday, January 6th:**

**John Porcino: A Heck of a Way to Stay Warm**



**11:30 AM – 12:30 PM**

Storyteller and Musician John Porcino presents a humorous, tall tale celebration of Winter. Celebrations of story and song sparked to life with warmth, humor, a playful touch of audience participation, instruments from around the world and a message of caring for our planet and each other.

**Funded by the Webster Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.**

**Saturday, January 13th:**

**Silent Disco**



**11:30 AM – 1:30 PM**

It is an all-ages dance party at the Webster Library! Come enjoy the music alone while together, through a set of headphones. For up to 32 people at a time.

**Saturday, January 20th:**

**Ms Frizzle Presents: The Solar System**



**11:30 AM – 12:30 PM**

"Fasten your seatbelts kids and travel to the solar system with your favorite wacky science teacher, Miss Frizzle. Students will interact with the Friz as the 8 planets orbiting the sun and travel to space to walk on the moon!" For all ages

**Saturday, January 27th:**

**Drum Circle with Mike Leo**



**12:30 – 2:00 PM**

Local musician Mike Leo will be facilitating a session of rhythm, drumming, and interactive live music for all ages. Be both the audience and the performer as we connect deeper with rhythm, interact with Musical and rhythmic games, and become the Rhythm Section of an interactive live concert. All Instruments provided, all ages welcome. Families and caregivers of individuals with special needs are encouraged to attend.

**Generously funded by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Library unless noted.**



kids



# WINTER EVENTS

## February



**Saturday, February 3rd:**

**EcoTarium Presents: Mission Earth & Mars**



**12:00 - 1:00 PM**

Think you need a billion-dollar telescope to be an astronomer? Think again! Uncover the mysteries of the grandest science of them all through hands-on experiments and demonstrations. Build a star, design a satellite, or maybe even create a cosmic catastrophe! Then head outside and peer through a traveling telescope (weather permitting). **Registration Required (registration opens Jan. 13th)**

**Saturday, February 10th:**

**Bingo**



**12:00-1:00 PM**

Join us for a fun all ages Bingo event! Small prizes will be awarded for the winners. All are welcome, no registration required.

**Saturday, February 17th:**

**One Up Games: LED Mini Golf**

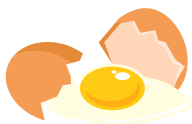


**11:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

Enjoy a fun outing at the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library playing 9 holes of LED Mini Golf with gaming company One Up Games on the Go! Patrons will be able to come and enjoy 9 holes of fun and exciting LED mini golf with friends in a unique setting!

**Wednesday, February 21st:**

**Egg Drop Competition**



**10:00 - 11:00 AM**

It's that time of year again-- we'll be hatching chickens in the lobby, so let's kick off hatching season with an egg drop competition! Can you create a structure to keep your egg protected? We'll toss the eggs off the second floor balcony in the lobby, join us for an eggcellent time! For all ages with adult supervision.

**Friday, February 23rd:**

**Elephant and Piggy Party**



**10:00 - 11:00 AM**

Our friends Elephant and Piggy will be joining us for a story, craft, and photos!

**Saturday, February 24th:**

**Musical Petting Zoo**



**1:00 - 2:00 PM**

The Springfield Symphony Orchestra's Musical Petting Zoo is a fun and informative hands-on traveling exhibit of musical instruments. After an introduction to the instruments, participants get a chance to bow a violin, blow a horn or tap out a rhythm on a drum. Here's your chance to try an instrument in a judgment-free zone that encourages exploration and excitement!



**Generously funded by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Library unless noted.**



# Events for Adults



## YOGA WITH JULIE

Saturdays at **9:30 AM**

**December:** 2nd, 9th, 16th, and 30th

**January:** 6th, 13th, 20th, and 27th

**February:** 3rd, 10th, 17th, and 24th

Bring your own mat- all levels are welcome! Classes may be cancelled due to illness. Please call to confirm prior to attending.

## ADULT BOARD GAME NIGHT 6PM

December Meeting: 19th

January Meeting: 8th

February Meeting: 5th

Come in and play games with other board game enthusiasts. Learn a new one, or play one you know and help others learn it!



# Events for Adults



## Adult Wrapping Night: December 12th 4:00 PM- 7:30 PM

Need a place to get away to wrap your gifts in secret? Drop in and wrap them here! We will have space for you to get all of your gifts wrapped before the Holidays!

## Intro to Foraging: January 4th 6:00 PM

an Intro to Foraging presentation that takes us through the seasons, focusing on foraging safety, beginner-friendly herbals and edibles and their uses, how to collect and preserve. I also talk about foraging ethics, invasive and native species, along with species to avoid.



## Pasta and Wine Pairing: January 18th 6:00 PM

Come in and learn what wines go with different pasta. First make pasta dough to take home. Then Bill from Andy's Canteen will be here to tell you all about what wines go with different sauces!

**Registration Required.**

**Registration Opens January 4th**





# Events for Adults

## **Scrunch-a Scarf: February 6th 6:00 PM**

We welcome back Garine to discuss colors and how to blend them in a successful manner using a permanent, high chroma, highly transparent liquid fabric paint. Instructions will be given for a step by step “tie dye style” creative process and each participant will go home with a beautiful, wearable creation.

**Registration Required.  
Registration Opens January 23rd**



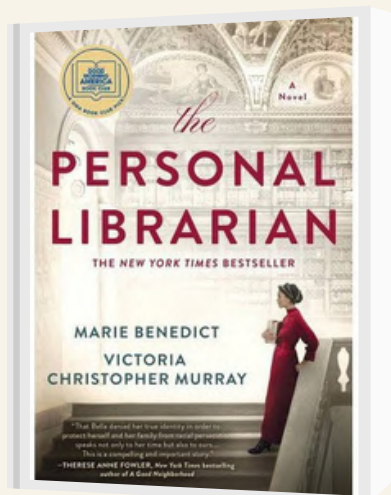
## **How Soon is Now? February 22nd 6:30 PM**

Spend an hour with Dustin Pari as he examines the concept of time, challenges our understandings of the passing days, and questions the way we measure our lives. Make the most of your time by changing your perspective of it. Hurry to this lecture, for there is not a minute to waste!

Generously funded by the Friends of the  
Gladys E. Kelly Library unless noted.

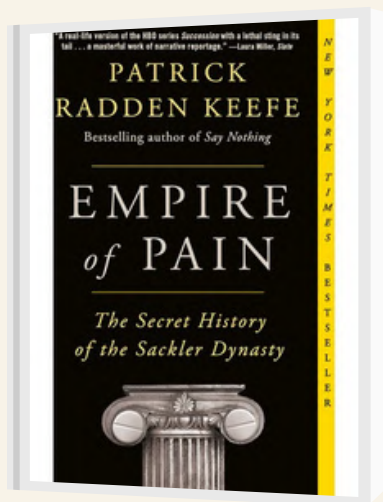
# BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Meetings will be held on the 3rd Monday of the Month (unless otherwise noted) 6:30PM The meetings will be held in the Library Community Room.



**December 18,  
2023**

The Personal Librarian tells the story of an extraordinary woman, famous for her intellect, style, and wit, and shares the lengths to which she must go—for the protection of her family and her legacy—to preserve her carefully crafted white identity in the racist world in which she lives.”



**January 22,  
2024**

The Sackler name adorns the walls of many storied institutions: Harvard, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Oxford, the Louvre. They are one of the richest families in the world, known for their lavish donations to the arts and sciences. The source of the family fortune was vague, however, until it emerged that the Sacklers were responsible for making and marketing OxyContin, a blockbuster painkiller that was a catalyst for the opioid crisis.



**February 26th,  
2024**

Hidden in the depths of eighteenth-century London, a secret apothecary shop caters to an unusual kind of clientele. Women across the city whisper of a mysterious figure named Nella who sells well-disguised poisons to use against the oppressive men in their lives.





# Cookbook Club



***TUESDAY, December 5th (6 PM)***

***TUESDAY, January 9th (6 PM)***

***MONDAY, February 12th (6 PM)***

Every month there will be a new cookbook and you will choose a delicious recipe to make! You can choose anything out of the cookbook to bring and share. Whether you like to cook or bake there will always be something for you! We will eat and discuss our favorite and our least favorite things of the cooking adventure. You can pick up your copy from behind the circulation desk.





# Tasting Classes for Adults



## HUMMUS MAKING

THIS SHORT TASTING CLASS WILL  
HAVE YOU BLENDING  
CHICKPEAS, GARLIC, OLIVE OIL,  
AND OTHER FRESH INGREDIENTS  
TO MAKE YOUR OWN HUMMUS.

DECEMBER 4TH 6:00 PM  
REGISTRATION REQUIRED  
REGISTRATION OPENS  
NOVEMBER 20TH



## GAUC TASTING

THIS SHORT TASTING CLASS WILL  
HAVE YOU MIXING AVOCADOS,  
ONION, TOMATOES, CILANTRO,  
JALAPENO PEPPER, LIME JUICE  
TO MAKE YOUR OWN  
GUACAMOLE!

FEBRUARY 20TH 6:00 PM  
REGISTRATION REQUIRED







# SPICE CLUB



Each month will feature a new spice, recipes, and cookbooks. Stop by the lobby to grab a sample of that month's spice, then take it home and cook!

December Spice:

**Mint**



January Spice:

**Dill**



February Spice:

**Ginger**





GLADYS E. KELLY  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

# Calling all Artists!



**WE WANT  
TO DISPLAY  
YOUR  
WORK IN  
OUR  
EXHIBIT  
SPACE!**

**View the Exhibit Policy and  
the Application [Here](#)**

**If you have further questions  
please contact: Randa Cox  
at [rcox@cwmar.org](mailto:rcox@cwmar.org)**

**2 Lake Street Webster, MA 01570**



# ART EXHIBITION

EXHIBIT DATES:

DECEMBER 11TH-JANUARY 22ND

ARTIST OPEN HOUSE:

DECEMBER 11TH FROM 6:30-7:30PM



## LISA DAVIDSON

I remembered loving the endless possibility of monotype printing way back in secondary school in New Zealand. The vibrancy of the colour combinations and textures dazzled me and I started to see abstract land and seascapes within the prints. The colours and forms suggest groupings, and the groupings create narratives that interest me. Each piece has a visual story, and finding the story is part of what inspires the piece to come together.

Creating each piece is a puzzle. I have to find the colours, textures, and forms that resonate together, and suggest a story. It feels more discovered than created by me... and that is what I find endlessly appealing.



## SUSAN GRASECK

Introduced to watercolor by her grandmother who took her on painting excursions as a child, Susan developed over time a fascination with color, texture, and lines—visual abstractions that found early expression in her weaving, batik, furniture design, and even architectural plans for her owner-built home where she and her husband have lived for more than forty years.



## SALLY ROGERS

My work as a quilter spans 55 of my 69 years. I learned to sew at age 10, made my first quilt at 16 and have continued to sew and make quilts ever since. All artwork is informed by our life's experiences. Music and art share many of the same elements: line, form, color, tempo, etc. While I do think a lot in terms of these elements as I sew, I am mostly an intuitive quilter. I'm always asking the question, "What if...?"



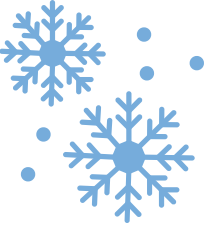
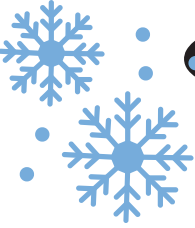
GLADYS E. KELLY  
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# DO YOU COLLECT OLD BOOKS?

COME SHOP OUR RARE BOOK  
COLLECTION UPSTAIRS!

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE FRIENDS  
OF THE LIBRARY.

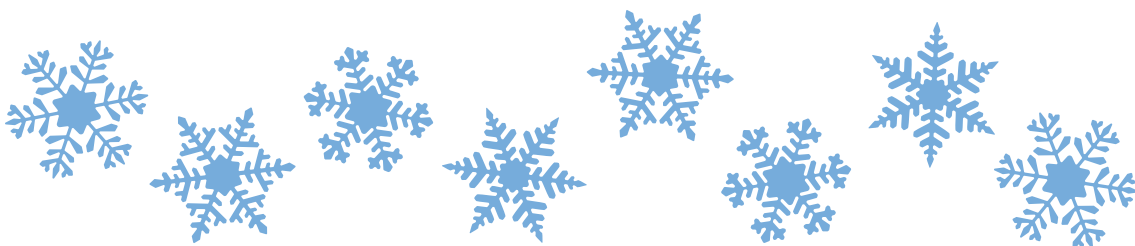


# Thank You!

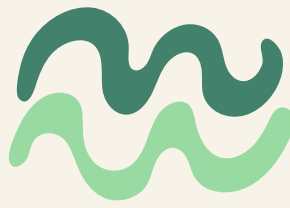
*The "Right Place" since 1923*  
**PLACE MOTOR INC.**  
*Massachusetts Oldest Family Owned Ford Dealership*



**As a part of their 100 year celebration, Place Motors has selected the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library as one of the recipients of a generous donation.**







## TRUSTEES CORNER

### Collaboration and Cooperation

How well do you know your Town?

Webster is a great place to live. It has a glorious past and a promising future. Residents are committed to the Town and spend time volunteering on committees and boards to help make our Town the best it can be. But how well do we really know our Town?

Try this short quiz

What is the median household income (based on 2020 census data)?

- A. \$65,000
- B. \$75,000
- C. \$85,000
- D. \$105,000

What is the percentage of non-native English speakers in Webster?

- A. 5%
- B. 10%
- C. 15%
- D. 20%

Of the area towns, which town supports the most subsidized housing?

- A. Douglas
- B. Dudley
- C. Oxford
- D. Webster

I think some of the answers will surprise you. Webster's median household income is \$64,305; our Town has the highest unemployment rate (2.7%) of all area towns. We have 15% non-native English speakers and when compared with other non-English languages spoken, Spanish is the most frequently spoken other language. Finally of the area towns, Webster supports the most subsidized housing.

Not only has the Town changed, but the services provided to the Town have changed in response to our community.

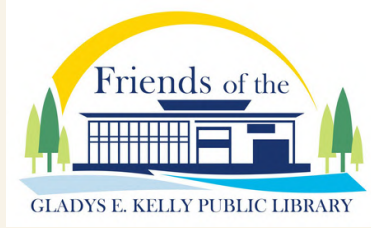
The library is no longer simply a repository of information, the library is now a resource for the community offering classes and services to our residents. For example, our Wi-Fi sessions have increased 25% when compared with 2021; our computer use has increased 75% when compared with computer use in 2021. The Library of Things circulation now includes: mobile Wi-Fi hotspots; Google Chromebooks and STEM kits for children.

So, while the Town has changed, the library has also changed in response to the Town. Services and programs based in the library support our continued growth and help to bring resources to our entire community.

Rena Klebart

Chair, Board of Library Trustees





# The Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Library

Hello from the Board of the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Library!

We hope you have had a good Fall. Winter is coming, so come inside and enjoy programs and activities with us. Check out Winter events in this Newsletter - Board Game Night, Cookbook Club, Music concerts, Hummus Tasting. Explore the Library of Things and Lucky Day Book shelves! Something for everyone!

Who are the Friends? What do we do? Why do we need you? We are a non-profit volunteer group whose purpose is to support the library so it can continue to improve and expand library services, facilities, equipment, and activities for all ages in our greater Webster community. We fundraise and use community grants to financially support library programming. Many of you replied to our recent Friends Volunteer Survey - we have your new ideas and hope to utilize your skills, your time and your energy. Check your emails!

4 new Friends joined the Board at our Annual Meeting in September. We welcome Liz Gray, Judy Keegan, Robin River, and AnneMarie Palermo. Becoming a Friends member is easy. Membership cards are at the front desk, or you can join online at [gladyskellylibrary.org](http://gladyskellylibrary.org). Sign up today!

A big thank you to the volunteers at the Halloween Costume Swap, Pumpkin Carving, and pizza and salsa making events. Our Community Garden has been 'winterized', but it will need continuing care through the winter and into the Spring. The Garden Committee welcomes new faces and new ideas. For more information or to volunteer, contact [gladyskfriends@gmail.com](mailto:gladyskfriends@gmail.com).

There are new Art Exhibits in the Community Room. A black and white photography exhibit was there recently, and a new multi-media exhibit opens soon. We are booked with exhibits through March! Do you know any local artists who would like to participate? Let us know.

The Friends Room is filling up for our 2024 Book Sale. Donations are always welcome! We accept hard cover and paperback books, puzzles and games, and DVDs and CDs, all in good condition, please. We cannot accept textbooks, encyclopedias, dictionaries, or other reference materials. Remember, there is also an on-going Friends book sale in the Library lobby.

We thank you for your support and we hope to see you at the library,

The Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Board

