

## March 2022

### Library Hours

Monday	9:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Tuesday	9:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Wednes	9:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Thursday	9:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Friday	9:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Saturday	9:00 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Sunday	Closed

### 2022 Friends Board

Gail Young	President
Carm Sosik	V. President
Unfilled	Treasurer
Annette Heffelfinger	Secretary

#### Board Members:

Tory Bieber, Wendy Fritz, Karen Howard, Gerry Hynes, Kathi Malloy, Trish Ott, Barbara Stolz, Joanne Yoder, Janet Yost

#### Friends Meetings:

3rd Tuesday at 2 p.m.

### 2022 Library Board

Lucy Muth	President
Barbara Coffin	V. President
Harry Heffelfinger	Treasurer
Robert Shade	Secretary

#### Board members:

Linda Foulke, Gery Hynes, Judy Koller, Joshua Sprinkle, Mary Beth Miozza

#### Board Meetings:

2nd Thursday at 7 p.m.

### Library Staff

Janet Yost	Director
Taylor Kutz	Youth Librarian
Jackee Sharayko	Asst. Director

Joanne Englehart, Mary Beth Friedle, Charlotte Hoare

## Library Selected for \$10,000 Grant

The Kutztown Community Library is one of 200 libraries nationwide which the American Rescue Plan: Humanities Grant, an emergency relief program to assist libraries affected by the pandemic. The participating libraries represent 45 states and Puerto Rico with an emphasis on reaching historically underserved and/or rural communities.

With funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, the library will use the \$10,000 grant to deliver programs and services related to culture, history, literature, and more.

“We are so proud to be chosen for this amazing opportunity,” said Library Director Janet Yost. “This grant will allow our library to better serve our patrons and plan strong, enriching humanities programming as we come out of the pandemic.”

Kutztown Community Library is using the funds to support "Beyond Kutztown," a yearlong humanities series embracing the diversity that is found in and beyond our borders. Monthly themes will feature an underrepresented nationality, race, religion, or identity. We will incorporate programs, guest speakers, book discussions, craft activities, story times, Passport to Unity kits, and a StoryWalk®.

The library is creating a stronger sense

of community as we gain a better understanding of various lifestyles, faiths, and holidays. Anticipated highlights are engaging with Bollywood dancers, a performance by the Philadelphia Chinese Opera Society, a workshop on implicit

bias with an acclaimed poet and activist, and a forum for allies of the LGBTQ community. Our inaugural month delved into Judaism. A holocaust survivor spoke on his experiences and answered questions. A group discussed *The Zookeeper's Wife* by Diane Ackerman. Patrons painted a faux stained glass window based on a synagogue in Australia.

Families explored Judaism through the Passport to Unity kit. Youth discussed *The Diary of Anne Frank* and her hiding place. Future months have a similar format.

Many “Beyond Kutztown” activities such as the Passport to Unity boxes are family-oriented. Others target specific age groups, from young to old. The StoryWalk® is a display of children’s picture books installed along a path promoting literacy, reading, health, exercise, and movement. Caregivers and kids learn and share as they travel through the storybook. The Borough of Kutztown will set up the StoryWalk® in the park.

“Libraries have faced significant hardships throughout the pandemic — from budget cuts to staff furloughs to building closures — especially in our



Yocum Institute presents an Elephant & Piggie storybook by Mo Willems for a sensory friendly performance

# Beyond Kutztown

*Beyond Kutztown is a year-long series embracing the diversity that is found in and beyond our borders. Each month will feature a nationality, race, religion, or identity.*

## Talk with a Blogger– Girl Refurbished

Blogger, entrepreneur and Muslim convert Sara Mertaban will speak with us from her home in Southern California. Sara will talk to us about motherhood and how her family celebrates Muslim holidays as well as being an entrepreneur with her company, Eid Collective.

Eid Collective has decorations, DIY ideas and all the things you need to celebrate Ramadan and Eid. Visit [eidcollective.com](http://eidcollective.com) to learn more.

The session is on Thursday, April 14, via Zoom at 6:30 p.m. Register at the library or on our website's events calendar at [kutztownlibrary.org](http://kutztownlibrary.org).



## The Muslim-American Experience

Teaching While Muslim (TWM) is a group seeking to help include anti-islamophobic curricula in schools. Learn about the Muslim-American experience.

TWM will address the basics of Islam so patrons can better understand the religion. They will also describe types of implicit and explicit bias and how to address these situations. Lastly they will show us how to create safe and inclusive environments. Visit [teachingwhilemuslim.org](http://teachingwhilemuslim.org) for more information.

The event is on Tuesday, April 19, via Zoom at 5:30 p.m. Register at the library or on our website's events calendar at [kutztownlibrary.org](http://kutztownlibrary.org).



## GRANT >> from page 1

communities of the greatest need,” said American Library Association President Patty Wong. “This crucial support from National Endowment for the Humanities will enable our beloved institutions, and the dedicated people who run them, to rebuild and emerge from the pandemic stronger than ever.”

American Rescue Plan: Humanities Grants for Libraries is an initiative of the American Library Association made possible with funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

## Passport to Unity Boxes

In order to unify a community, everyone should have an understanding of other people's experiences. Values, views, hopes, and fears can be impacted by a person's identity. Not only can diving into different cultures reveal interesting differences, but it can also shed light on similarities.

KCL has been creating a monthly educational family experience with our Passport to Unity boxes. Each month features a new focus on religions, identities, races, and more. The monthly theme is accompanied by a box filled with books, snacks, activities and more that allow families to delve further into the subject. So far this year we have celebrated Judaism, black history, and women while being met with overwhelming support from the community.

Kits are available for anyone to request. Boxes are limited. Subscribe to our e-newsletter or follow us on Facebook to see what each month has in store. This project was made possible through the Berks County Community Foundation's Quire Fund.



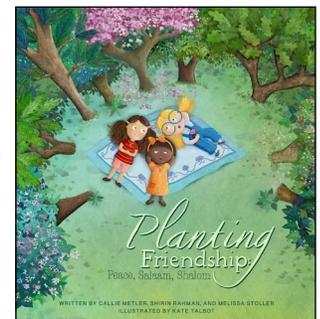
January's Passport to Unity box featured Judaism

## Author Chat with Shirin Shamsi

Families are invited to explore Islam with Shirin Shamsi. She is an author of children's books including *Zabra's Blessing: A Ramadan Story* and *Planting Friendship: Peace, Salaam, Shalom*. Join us on Zoom to hear Shirin read one of her stories, talk to us about the Muslim religion, and

answer questions Through sharing stories from her heritage, Shirin hopes to inspire an appreciation for all of the diversity on our beautiful planet.

This program will be held Thursday, April 21 at 6 p.m. on Zoom. Register at the library or on our website's events calendar at [kutztownlibrary.org](http://kutztownlibrary.org).



## Story Times

Reading to children, it stimulates their imagination and expands their understanding of the world. Language and listening skills are developed, while a love for books is also formed. Join Miss Taylor for story times children enjoy stories, songs, movements and interactions with others!



As a PA Forward Gold Star Library, KCL strives to provide resources for the community to succeed in all literacies. Story Time promotes “Basic Literacy,” which is the ability to read, write, speak and listen with comprehension at all levels of life.

Put Story Time, a fun experience for both children and caregivers, put Story Time on your calendar and take part in the fun! This is best for ages under 5. Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. at the library and Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. on Zoom. Links for all virtual programs can be found at [kutztownlibrary.org](http://kutztownlibrary.org). Masks are still required at Story Times.

## Teen Reading Lounge

Books, snacks, and activities for teens to keep all to themselves. Can it get any better? It sure can. All of those items are free!

Teen Reading Lounge supplies middle and high school students with fun and unique items to accompany a book. All they have to do is attend one virtual meeting per month.



Favorite books so far include *With the Fire on High* by Elizabeth Acevedo, where cooking materials were provided, *Dear Martin* by Nic Stone, where snacks from a unique black-owned business were enjoyed, and *One of Us is Lying* by Karen McManus where participants found themselves in a full blown mystery.

Teens can take part by contacting Miss Taylor at [skuchild@berks.lib.pa.us](mailto:skuchild@berks.lib.pa.us).

## Library Receives Two Awards for Excellence

Kutztown Community Library received two awards at the recent Berks County Public Libraries awards ceremony.

The Country Cruise was awarded the Outstanding Fundraising Effort. This 30-mile self-guided tour explored the picturesque countryside of Greenwich and Albany Townships and included covered bridges, historic sites, ten local businesses, and the Albany Arts Fest. The tour expanded its pool of customers and helped small businesses recovering from COVID restrictions. This event proved successful not only in the funds and awareness we raised but by strengthening ongoing relationships with those living and doing business within our community.

Our Public Relations efforts earned the Chet Hagen Memorial Public Relations award. The library strives to keep the community residents and local organizations well-informed about the library’s resources and services. Joanne Englehart created a scrapbook illustrating the extraordinary ways we found creative, innovative ways to move forward through virtual and in-person programming despite the



Janet Yost (left) and Joanne Englehart receive the Outstanding Fundraiser and Public relations

pandemic. Stop in to see it on display.

In addition to the two awards, two volunteers received nominations. Cathy Ruhf, past Board President, was a Trustee of the Year candidate. As President, Cathy focused on the small details that others skip over. She was familiar with the workings of the library and founded the Caregivers Support Group, Craft of the Month, and the Library Express train ride fundraiser.

Linda Rodolff received the Friend of the Year nomination. Linda started as a shelving volunteer but wanted to help more. Linda organizes the Used Book Room. She maintains a sale collection of nearly 3,000 books and DVDs. Thoroughly competent, she single handedly runs the Friends' biggest fundraiser, earning approximately \$7,000 a year for the library. She suggests books that meet the readers’ specific needs.

A customer said, “Linda is not only a great volunteer but also a friend to many book lovers in the community.”

## Plant Sale is Back!

Countryside Farm & Greenhouse is the place to be on Saturday, April 23, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Shop a beautiful selection of healthy bedding plants, hanging baskets, perennials and annuals, vegetable plants, herbs, gift items, and more. It's the perfect time to pick up something special for Mother's Day on May 8th.

With a nod to Earth Day, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., children are welcome to plant a seed or two in a pot they can take home.

Local children's book author Lisa Schnell of *High Tide for Horseshoe Crabs* is our featured author and will be on hand to talk about her books.

No coupon is needed. Gift cards are excluded. Ten percent of sales go to support library programs.



## Fill-a-Bag Book Sale

It's time to stock up for books to read during those lazy summer afternoons!

The Fill-a-Bag Sale is on Saturday, April 23, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. We have best sellers, paperbacks, how-to books, DVDs, CDs, audio books and puzzles. The library accepts cash, checks, and credit cards.

We are accepting donations of gently used items. We can not accept damaged books, encyclopedias, National Geographic's, magazines, VHS tapes, or text books older than 5 years. Please drop off donations only when the library is open.

Regular sales are held on Thursdays 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and Saturdays 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Be sure to stop on in. There is something for everyone and you're supporting the library!



## Need a Passport or Photo?

The world is reopening for travel and it's time to get ready. The library can help. We process passport applications during weekday afternoons and evenings, and Saturday

mornings. Passport photos can be done without an appointment and are \$10. Think about getting a passport card to fly within the United States, cruise to the Caribbean or Bermuda, and drive across the Canadian and Mexican borders. Did you know that you can use the passport card for your PA Real ID needs? It's easier to get, plus it lasts ten years instead of four years.

Call the library at 610-683-5820 to schedule a passport appointment or get questions answered



## Love Sparkle? Shop the Jewelry Sale

Stop and shop our Jewelry Pop-up Shop. The Big Sale is Saturday, April 23, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and features three times the stock of our daily display. Take a look at the beautiful bracelets, necklaces, and earrings. Most pieces are only \$2.

We are always looking for donations, so dig through your jewelry boxes today!



## Need WiFi or Internet Access?

Are you looking for an affordable way to access the internet? The library has wireless hot spots that use T-Mobile data to provide you with unlimited internet access.

Hot spots are \$45 per month or \$15 per week. Use it everyday or whenever you need extra internet access. It's portable so take your hot spot with you on road trips and to sports games.

Try it risk free. If it doesn't work in your area, return it within three days for a full refund. Our hot spots are cheaper than most internet providers and you're supporting the library.



## Get ready to shout BINGO!

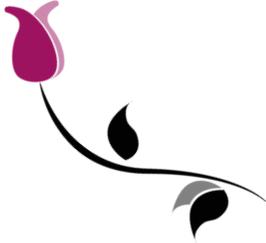


The Friends are hosting BINGO on Sunday, October 2. To help make this fundraiser a great success we are asking for your help. Consider donating \$25 gift card, a new designer bag with tags, or an unused desirable item for prizes. Remember, all proceeds benefit the Friends.



# BUS TRIP

Library Fundraiser



## Thursday, June 16, 2022

### \$85 per person



Includes bus fare, driver's tip, and admissions  
Does not include lunch

### Join us for a trip to Hershey, The Sweetest Place on Earth<sup>®</sup>

-  Guided tour of **Hershey Garden's Historic Rose Garden** and **Butterfly Atrium**
-  **Lunch is on your own.** See locations on the reverse side of this sheet.
-  **Hershey Chocolate Museum** presents the highlights of Milton Hershey's life, his chocolate company, this generous philanthropic legacy and the town of Hershey, PA
-  **Hershey's Chocolate World's** famous fun tour ride follows cocoa beans on a delicious journey
-  **Gift shops** are at each of the locations

**Trip details-** Meet 8:30 a.m. at the Weis Plaza parking lot . The bus leaves Hershey at 4 p.m. and returns to Kutztown at approximately 5:30 p.m. Masks may be required at some locations and on the bus.

**Questions?** Call the library at 610-683-5820. No refunds for cancellations. Bus seats are assigned upon receipt of payment. The Library is not responsible for lost items. Proceeds benefit the Friends of KCL.

**Sign up early. Seats are limited!**



1. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (day of trip) \_\_\_\_\_

2. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (day of trip) \_\_\_\_\_

Number attending \_\_\_\_\_ x \$85= \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total

Make checks payable to: **Friends of the KCL**

**Mail to:** Kutztown Community Library, 70 Bieber Alley, Kutztown, PA 19530



# Hershey Restaurants



Lunch is on your own during the two and a half hour Hershey Chocolate Museum stop. All restaurants are in walking distance.

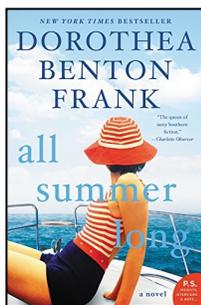
- **Lisa's Café**— 63 W Chocolate Avenue, 717-508-1729. This is located inside the Hershey Story Museum building. Enjoy a unique selection of breakfast and lunch items, including fresh sandwiches, crisp salads and decadent pastries.
- **Starbucks**— 169 W Chocolate Avenue, 717-534-3246. Seattle-based coffeehouse chain known for its signature roasts, light bites and WiFi availability.
- **Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant** — 101 W Chocolate Avenue, 717-312-5164. Regional brewpub chain dispensing housemade beers & elevated American comfort fare.
- **Tropical Smoothie Café** — 169 W Chocolate Avenue, 717-298-1566. Casual, health-conscious chain cafe featuring custom smoothies, sandwiches & wraps.
- **Primaneti Bros. Restaurant and Bar** — 131 W Chocolate Avenue, 717-500-5334. Long-running Pittsburgh-born chain known for its sandwiches piled high with coleslaw & french fries.

- **Jersey Mike's Subs** — 151 W Chocolate Avenue, 717-298-6652. New Jersey-based counter-serve sandwich chain serving jumbo subs filled with cold cuts & toppings.
- **Freshidio**- 151 W Chocolate Avenue, 717-500-5335. Asian fusion restaurant.
- **First Watch** — 151 W Chocolate Avenue, 717-500-2230. Cafe chain for health-minded breakfast, brunch & lunch options such as omelets, salads & soups.
- **Houlihan's** — 27 W Chocolate Avenue, 717-534-3110. Relaxed chain restaurant with an expansive menu including pub fare, steaks & pasta. Reservations may be recommended.
- **Chocolate Avenue Grill** — 114 W Chocolate Avenue, 717-835-0888. Airy bistro space with a patio for an eclectic menu of wraps, pastas, seafood & chocolate martinis.
- **Au Bon Lieu~French Creperie** — 100 Rear W Chocolate Avenue, 717-533-4074. French cafe serving 50 varieties of sweet & savory crêpes with salads, coffee & tea drinks.
- **Chipotle Mexican Grill** — 210 W Chocolate Avenue, 717-533-2980. Fast-food chain offering Mexican fare, including design-your-own burritos, tacos & bowls.

## Looking for Something to Read? Try These Books.

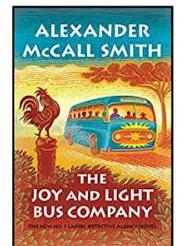
If winter seems never-ending, these three best-selling authors wrote page turners set in the sunny and warm regions you can escape to- South Carolina, Botswana, and Texas.

Dorothea Benton Frank wrote more than 20 novels set in her beloved Carolina Low Country. *All Summer Long* is a story of people whose lives are changing—a southern gentleman returning home to lead a more peaceful life and his talented New York wife who is not sure she is ready to slow down. During one summer they get glimpses into other people's lives that will amuse, shock and transform them. The characters are funny, complicated, and as real as our friends and family as they wrestle with complexities, pain, and joys. At the end readers recognize the power of love, the kind that deepens and endures.



Alexander McCall Smith has written 23 novels in the beloved No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency series, set in beautiful Botswana, a country in southern Africa. *The Joy and Light Bus Company*, his most recent installment, concerns

a son who learns that his aging father's caregiver now stands to inherit the family home. Because he doubts her intentions, he takes his case to the premier detective agency, run by Precious Ramotswe and Grace Makutsi. Mma Ramotswe knows that the most creative solutions are often found with the support of loving friends and family. She and Mma Makutsi rely on their tact, humor, and goodwill to ensure that all involved find happiness.



Winston Groom was the best-selling author of *Forrest Gump* and 20 other books, fiction and nonfiction. *El Paso*, written in a folksy style, tells the tale of Pancho Villa, the revolutionary Mexican general who kidnapped children and the manhunt through the Sierra Madre in the early 1900s. Though not a historical novel, colorful American characters



such as railroad tycoons and the satirist Ambrose Bierce show up along the way. Replete with gunfights, daring escapes, and an unforgettable bullfight, *El Paso* is a portrait of the American Southwest in the waning days of the frontier, one that is sure to entertain.

# Become a Friend of the Library

Are you a Friend of the Library? Friends are library supporters who share a passion for books, discovery, and learning. They are committed to helping the library grow. Last year Friends supported youth programming, Miss Taylor said that the “funding from the Friends allowed us to create memorable Summer Quest programs filled with educational and exciting happenings.”

To make this happen in 2021, the Friends held a spring plant sale at Countryside Greenhouse, hosted the Holiday Tour of Churches, sponsored a tea and tour at Bethlehem’s Sayre Mansion, and hosted book sales. Proceeds from all these events directly benefited the Kutztown Community Library.

Big fundraising plans are in the works for 2022. The plant sale returns in April. If you love roses and

chocolate, join the Friends for a bus trip to Hershey. In the fall, play BINGO.

The library is a busy place with books, DVDs, programs and activities. Not everything is covered in the Library’s budget. The Friends are a non-profit organization and fundraising, dues, and donations are a big part of allowing the library to afford the extras.

Friends receive the Gonser Gazette, our eNewsletter, and advance notice of special events such as our Holiday House Tour, bus tours and book sales.

As a Friend, you have the satisfaction of knowing that you are a part of making our community library even better. Please join or renew your Friends of the Library membership today. Thank you!



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to receive an eNewsletter. Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Add me to these additional email lists:

We will not sell or pass on your email address.

- Adult programs  Book Club  Book Club  Bus trip  Craft Night  Friends meetings  Youth Activities

**Tax deductible membership dues are for the calendar year January 1 to December 31.**

- \$10 Friend  \$25 Family  \$50 Contributor  \$100 Benefactor

- \$250 Individual Lifetime Member  \$350 Family Lifetime Member

In addition to my Friends membership, I am making a donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- New  Renewal  New address Donations are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.

Please make checks payable to: **Friends of the KCL**, 70 Bieber Alley, Kutztown PA 19530

610-683-5820  
kutztownlibrary.org



or current resident

## Sign up for our eNewsletter

Don't miss out on exciting library happenings!

Subscribe to our weekly eNewsletter for up-to-date news about programs and activities. Go to our website [kutztownlibrary.org](http://kutztownlibrary.org) or email [kutztownpl@berks.lib.pa.us](mailto:kutztownpl@berks.lib.pa.us).

Choose one or all of our special interest categories: Adult Programs, Book Club, Bus trips, Craft Night, and Youth Activities.

 SIGN UP

## Volunteers are Vital

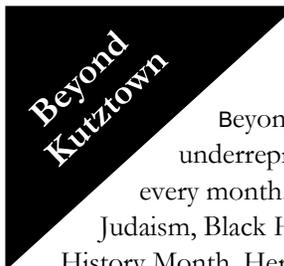
Volunteers are a large part of the workforce in the library. They provide many services that help keep us running smoothly.

Are you interested in helping? We are looking for people who can:

- Shelve items
- Do garden work
- Provide simple electrical work



KCL has openings at various times, six days a week. Come in and pick up an application today.



## Sneak Peek

Beyond Kutztown focuses on a different underrepresented race, religion or peoples every month. We started our series with Judaism, Black History Month and Women's History Month. Here is a sneak peak of upcoming themes.

April focuses on Islamic culture as Muslims across the world celebrate Ramadan, a holy month of fasting. May features the diverse cultures of Eastern Asia which include China, Japan, and Korea.

Join us in June when we celebrate Pride Month as members and allies of the LGBTQ community. July focuses on India and its unique cultural traits. In August, dance the day away as we celebrate world music with an open mic night and performers of all different genres.

In September, the library will focus on Hispanic heritage. In October we will look at art across the world, and in November we will learn about Indigenous Americans from local members of these cultures. Lastly, celebrate "Anything but Christmas" as we come together with community members to find out the unique ways in which they celebrate the holidays.