Message from the City Librarian

Phoenix Public Library is looking forward to a very busy year of continuing to serve our communities. Our focus is to offer resources, programs, and dedicated staff providing our customers and visitors a safe and welcoming library experience in which to explore, learn, satisfy a curiosity, grow or simply a space in which to reflect.

We are committed to providing free access to information, ideas, education and lifelong pursuit of knowledge. During 2019 Phoenix Public Library supported:

- Over 10 million check outs of physical and digital books;
- Almost 4 million visits to one of our 17 locations a year;
- Over 60 thousand visits a day to phoenixpubliclibrary.org;
- 300,000 attendees to library programs including: early literacy Storytimes, Tools for School, Kindergarten Bootcamp, STEM programs such as Little Bytes, Builders Clubs and Robotics; personalized college application guidance; entrepreneurs connecting with local and small business resources; adults learning or practicing a new language, discovering a love for art, or diving in to the rich history of Arizona…these are just a sampling of the enriching and engaging programs we bring to our community members throughout the year.

But our biggest accomplishment was eliminating overdue fines in November of 2019. We are especially proud of making this significant change in policy and becoming a “fine free” library system, eliminating our practice of charging fines on overdue materials and forgiving all existing overdue fines. This change increased access and removed a significant barrier for over 100,000 cardholders with blocked library accounts due to overdue fines.
And happily, many customers have returned to the Library. In addition, we have issued 12,000 new Phoenix Public Library cards since then! Fall of 2019 also saw Phoenix Public Library customers able to now visit any one of our 17 locations on a Sunday with the restoration of Sunday operating hours at Acacia, Agave, Desert Broom and Desert Sage libraries.

I am very proud to lead the dedicated, professional and passionate Phoenix Public Library staff as we strive to do our part in building stronger communities. Plan to visit us regularly, whether you are looking to increase young children’s school readiness skills, connect with science and art programs, explore higher education resources, develop or broaden career/employment options, start a business, or enjoy an enriching program, Phoenix Public Library is a place where you belong and we look forward to seeing you throughout 2020!

Rita Hamilton
Phoenix City Librarian

Voices: Black History
Communities are comprised of a diversity of experiences and perspectives and the voices that emerge from those experiences and perspectives. We believe that these voices make for a richer, more meaningful experience for all.

Join Phoenix Public Library in enjoying and learning from the many voices of our community through monthly themes meant to educate, entertain and inspire.

Visit the library website in early February for programs, books, and films that capture the rich and diverse history and ongoing contributions of African-American people in our communities.

Just Read: L O V E
We at Phoenix Public Library want you to maintain your goal to read for leisure and/or reading for self-education. Just Read is a come-as-you-are, read-what-you-like online book club and so much more!

Each month, we will announce a book club genre or theme on our website. Read what you like within this genre or theme. Participate throughout the month by posting on social media, tagging Phoenix Public Library and #justreadppl to share, discuss and
recommend your book choice. Or, follow along on your own without posting on social media – it’s all good! Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube or visit our website for more about the Just Read online book club.

February’s theme is L O V E

It’s in the air. Read a classic romance, watch a rom-com, read with your children about family love, or listen to love songs.

Visit our website in early February and click on the Just Read ad to find reading recommendations for kids, teens, and adults.

Share what you’re reading with us! Tag us on social media with #justreadppl

View Holocaust by Bullets now through March 11

The exhibition "Holocaust by Bullets 10 Years of Investigation" is based on the work of Father Patrick Desbois and his organization, Yahad-in Unum, to document and uncover the systematic killing of Jews that started before the creation of concentration camps.

The exhibition gives viewers a chance to learn about this lesser-known side of the Holocaust through eyewitness testimony, photographs, quotes and other archival material.

The 2,000-sq. foot exhibit will be located on the 2nd floor of Burton Barr Central Library and all programs will be held in the Burton Barr Central Library’s Pulliam Auditorium on the 1st floor.

Disclaimer: Some of the images in this exhibit are graphic in nature and may be disturbing. Suitable for children in grades 7 and above.

Programs

Inheriting Trauma: Genocide as a Case in Point
Thursday, February 6 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Janice Friebaum, M.A., M.S., daughter of a Holocaust survivor and published author, will present the topic of transgenerational trauma and its present-day relevance to individuals, communities, and larger political issues. Her talk will focus on the offspring of genocide survivors, in particular descendants of Holocaust survivors, as a prototype for understanding intergenerational transfer of trauma.
Memory and Family History in Post-War Germany  
Thursday, February 13 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Lecture by Dr. Bjorn Krondorfer, Director of the Martin-Springer Institute at NAU. A personalized talk on the effects of the Holocaust and war on German society, family and German post-war generations. It begins with the story the presenter's family (including his father's war experience as a 17-year old German soldier, in the vicinity of a Jewish slave labor camp in Poland), addresses more general themes in society, and concludes with brief remarks on the value of dialogue between the communities and individual affected by the traumatic memory of extreme (state-sponsored) violence.

We Tell the Stories of the Holocaust We Never Saw  
Sunday, February 16 from 1 to 4 p.m.

How does one write about the experiences of Holocaust survivors? The authors, on the panel, are children or grandchildren of survivors who have found a way to bring their families’ stories to life. Join them as they tell the audience what motivated them to write their books and the process each went through to bring their stories to you. Featuring authors: Mirla G. Raz, Ettie Zilber, Adena Astrowsky and Phyllis Palm.

Trapped in German Occupied Eastern Europe: Collaboration and Resistance  
Thursday, February 20 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Lecture by Dr. Kimberly Allar and Dr. Yan Mann, Clinical Assistant Professors of History, Co-Directors of the World War II Studies online MA degree, Arizona State University. This presentation offers a look at some of the paths that opened to civilians trapped in German occupied Eastern Europe during the war. Dr. Allar and Dr. Mann will each explore the choices and decisions different groups made, while further analyzing how local anti-Semitism, and resistance to it, thrived under German occupation.

Commemorating the Crimes of Ordinary Men: The 75th Anniversary of the End of WWII  
Tuesday, February 25 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Three short lectures by ASU faculty including:

Dr. Kimberly Allar, Clinical Assistant Professor of History speaking on "Who were the Perpetrators? Auschwitz and Holocaust by Bullets."

Dr. Aaron Moore, Associate Professor of History discussing "WWII Memory of Japan."

Dr. Volker Benkert, Assistant Professor of History speaking on "The Murderers Among Us. The Holocaust by Bullets in German Memory after 1945."

For more events and information on Holocaust by Bullets, visit the library website or HolocaustbyBulletsPhoenix.com
Featured eResource: Press Reader
PressReader offers access to more than 5,000 newspapers and magazines from over 100 countries, all for free with your Phoenix Public Library card! This includes local content such as The Arizona Republic, national content such as USA Today and international content available in more than 60 languages.

Learn more about getting started with PressReader or access Press Reader now with your Phoenix Public Library card.

Attend Grantwriting 101
Grant Writing 101 is a series of modules designed to teach the basics of writing a grant proposal for a nonprofit organization. Join us at Burton Barr Central Library’s hive @ central space for these special programs. Learn more and register at the links below.

Module 1: Introduction to Grant Writing
Friday, February 7 from noon to 2 p.m.
Focuses on the different styles of grants that participants may encounter.

Module 2: Examine Writing Techniques
Friday, February 14 from noon to 2 p.m.
Introduces some of the writing styles and techniques that can be utilized in grant writing.

Module 3: Practice Writing Techniques
Friday, February 21 from noon to 2 p.m.
Continues with the analysis of grant writing, helping participants recognize key words for grant foundation’s search, as well as identify their organization’s qualifiers for grants.

Module 4: Identify Grant Writing Standards
Friday, February 28 from noon to 2 p.m.
Takes participants through the overall grant writing process. Participants will identify elements in their organization that will appeal to granting organizations.

View the full schedule HERE!
FundPHX Lets You Learn About the Dollars and Sense in Phoenix’s Budget

Are you interested in diving into the dollars and sense behind what makes the city of Phoenix run? Now you can learn more about all the programs and services the city provides, and what it costs to bring them to you every day.

That’s possible through a new tool, called FundPHX, that takes the city’s $1.4 billion General Fund operating budget and brings it directly to your device – computer, smartphone or tablet. All the city’s programs are there, with costs and descriptions, so you can learn about what it takes to provide everything from youth recreation activities to reading programs and senior services in your neighborhood.

With FundPHX you can provide comments directly on the budget, and let the city know what you think is important. You can add funding to programs you’d like to see grow, and reallocate funding from programs that you feel could be used elsewhere. Once you’ve made your choices, save your work, and share it with the city.

Looking to learn more? Visit phoenix.gov/fundphx, or watch this short video.

Collection Development: L O V E

Collection Development Department of the Phoenix Public Library is thinking about L O V E in February. Whether it’s gifts of love, things we love, or books about teenage love, we’ve got you covered.

I love working in libraries and being exposed to so many fabulous books. Since I first started shelving library materials in 1969, one of my favorite diversions has been to savor art books. This includes the art of jewels and jewelry. Every once in a while, I wander into the 739.27 section of the Burton Barr collection to see what lovely item I can browse. Here are three that I recently discovered:
Christie’s: The Jewellery Archives Revealed by Vincent Meylan which illustrates some of the most fabulous pieces of the jewelers’ art to pass through that famous auction house.

Van Cleef & Arpels: Treasures and Legends by Vincent Meylan focuses on the history of the people, and the jewels created for them, by this famous Parisian jeweler over the past 100 years.

For an overview of the jewelers' art, I enjoyed Caroline Childers’ The History of Jewelry which discusses major pieces from all over the world and time periods including ancient Egypt, the Renaissance, and the 20th century.

Did you know that there is a national jewelry collection housed in the Natural History Museum of the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C.? You can view some of the lovely pieces in that collection here.

-Recommended by Kathleen Sullivan

Ah, young love - that heart-stopping, drive-you-to-distraction feeling that you get when you’re 16, majorly crushing and everything feels so. very. dramatic. In honor of St. Valentine, here are some books featuring my all-time favorite teen couples in young adult literature.

Chime by Franny Billingsley
Franny Billingsley has not written enough books in my opinion. I have read Chime three times – the atmosphere alone is worth the read. Start this one for its otherworldly ambiance and then keep reading for swoony Briony and Eldric. Available in multiple formats.

Carry On by Rainbow Rowell
The swoon factor in Carry On is off the charts. If you like Harry Potter but wish Harry ended up with Draco Malfoy, drop everything and read this now. The enemies-to-lovers trope is STRONG with this one. Available in multiple formats.

Anne of the Island by Lucy Maude Montgomery
Is there anyone more swoon-worthy than Gilbert Blythe? The answer is no. Proceed.

Sloppy Firsts & Second Helpings by Meghan McCafferty
To get the fool swoon effect, you really need to read the first two books in this series. There are more, but honestly, if you stop after the first two, you’re doing yourself a favor. Jessica Darling and Marcus Flutie 4-eva.

Alex, Approximately by Jen Bennett
I am a huge fan of epistolary love stories, so this more contemporary take on anonymous love notes is perfect to curl up with and I guarantee that little cartoon
hearts will start bursting from your eyes once you settle in with this title.

*Simon Vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda* by Becky Albertalli  
Another anonymous epistolary love story – but with chats and emails. The adorable Simon and his mystery boy are high-level swoon. The story keeps you on your toes and the supporting characters are just as loveable. (This one is also a movie and soon-to-be a Disney+ show, too!)

Honorable Mention: *To All the Boys I’ve Loved Before* by Jenny Han (only because I’ve featured this trilogy before… and the *second book is set to be a Netflix movie this month!*)

*Recommended by Jacqui Higgins-Dailey*

I’m a librarian, so it might not surprise you that I love cats. I also love children's picture books featuring cats. I don't have a child, but I do have a cat. I don't read these books to my cat, that would be too quirky, but I do enjoy reading them myself. Picture books are for everyone, right?

Here are a few of my recent favorites:

*Stretchy McHandsome* by Judy Schachner  
Stretchy Mchandsome is the most purrfect cat name and this book charms. The protagonist is a free spirited cat who meets a free spirited girl and the rest is history. This book is heartwarming and fun to read aloud.

*Princess Puffybottom...and Darryl* by Susin Nielsin  
This one wins the prize for best title of the year in my opinion. Princess Puffybottom has the perfect life, she is waited on by her loyal subjects. Life is good, until a boisterous puppy named Darryl shows up. This cute book shows how sometimes it can be hard to adjust to new situations and/or additions to a family. In the end, the princess can't help but accept Darryl's love.

*My Cat Looks Like My Dad* by Thao Lam  
The cover of this book is hilarious and made me want to read it the instant I saw it. Both the cat and the dad in this story are ginger haired and blued eyed. The both love naps and boxes. There is a nice twist at the end and a great message about family being what you make it.

*They All Saw a Cat* by Brendan Wenzel  
This Caldecott winner shows how a cat looks to all the other creatures it encounters. The illustrations are wonderful and there is a thoughtful message that we all see things a little differently.

*Recommended by Danielle Stanley*
When it comes to the food world, there is one flavor or ingredient which I love more than any other. Chocolate. When I was a child any type of chocolate would do, but now I don’t usually bother with milk chocolate or white chocolate. For my ice cream or cupcakes or little bites the darker the better. Entering “chocolate” in the catalog search field on the Phoenix Public Library website, results in over 3700 entries. One which looks especially delicious is *Chocolate: A Healthy Passion*. A mix of informative text and mouthwatering recipes, I’m sure the title by Shara Aaron will give me one more reason to love chocolate.

*Recommended by Linda Kiecker*

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**Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming Library Closures**

All Phoenix Public Library locations will be closed the following date:

- **Monday, February 17** in observance of Presidents’ Day

In addition, **Cholla Library** will be closed for renovations from **Sunday, February 16** and is scheduled to reopen **Sunday, February 23**.

[View the website](#) for all upcoming library closures.

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Phoenix Public Library is a system of 16 branch libraries and Burton Barr Central Library.

Keep up with all the news. Follow us on Twitter at [twitter.com/phxlibrary](https://twitter.com/phxlibrary), follow us on Instagram at [instagram.com/phoenixpubliclibrary](https://instagram.com/phoenixpubliclibrary) and “like us” on Facebook at [facebook.com/phoenixpubliclibrary](https://facebook.com/phoenixpubliclibrary).