

# Silas Bronson Library BOOKS AND HAPPENINGS

The Newsletter of Waterbury's Public Library

WINTER 2021 - 2022

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### VISITING THE LIBRARY

Due to the ongoing pandemic and concerns about the new variant, we require that you wear a mask inside the library to ensure everyone's safety. We are happy to provide you with a free mask; children's masks are also available. Visit the Information Booth in the front lobby to get a mask.

You do not need an appointment to visit the library — stop by any time we are open!

### WINTER WEATHER CLOSINGS

The library is usually open even when the schools are closed. Weather-related closures will be announced on our social media and website; closing alerts will also be sent to area news stations.



### WINTER EXHIBITS

Our regular schedule of monthly exhibits returns this winter! Each month we will feature different local artists in our first floor exhibit spaces. Exhibits are open whenever the library is open.

In December, we will feature "Vacationing at Home: Collages from the Plague Year" by Alan Bisbort.

In January, we will feature "Reflections of Me" mixed media art and altered book art by Danna Gizzie.

In February, we will feature paintings by members of the Waterbury Senior Center celebrating Black History Month and paintings by Edith Reynolds.

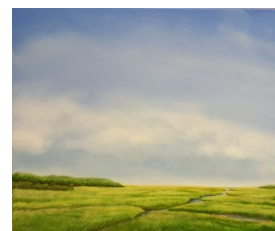
Exhibits for children can be found on the second floor in the hallway display case and in the Children's Room.



Alan Bisbort



Danna Gizzie



Edith Reynolds



[bronsonlibrary@waterburyct.org](mailto:bronsonlibrary@waterburyct.org)

203-574-8200

[bronsonlibrary.org](http://bronsonlibrary.org)

# NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

## Update from the Friends

We hope that you and your loved ones are doing well during these difficult times. We have been working on finding new ways to support the library as the pandemic and safety restrictions continue. The Friends will be sharing many of the newest reading challenges to keep you busy during the cold winter months. Please feel free to reach out to us and let us know how your challenge is stacking up!

The book store at the library has been open since the summer and we have launched an online book sale last fall, at the same great prices as always. Visit our page on Facebook ([facebook.com/SBLfriends](https://facebook.com/SBLfriends)) or email us at [silasbronsonfriends@gmail.com](mailto:silasbronsonfriends@gmail.com) for the latest information.



*Friends of the Library booth at the City's Holiday Marketplace, November 2020*

## Join the Friends of the Library

Members of the Friends receive this newsletter in the mail. Membership rates start at \$15/year for students and seniors; \$25/year for individuals; \$50/year for patrons; and \$100/year for corporate memberships. To join, please send a check payable to the Friends of the Silas Bronson Library, P.O. Box 2853, Waterbury, CT 06723 and indicate that it is for a new membership. Membership brochures are available at the library with additional information.

## Monthly Meeting of the Friends

Second Tuesday of the month, 6 p.m.

December 14, January 11, February 8

Auditorium

Open to all members of the Friends. Please RSVP to 203-574-8222. Meetings will be held in the library. Masks must be worn while inside the building. Please do not attend if you aren't feeling well or if you have been in contact with someone who has COVID-19.



## Gifts & Bequests

The Friends of the Silas Bronson Library is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting the mission and programs of the Silas Bronson Library. Donations and bequests may be made to the Friends to support the library's programs or to assist with building improvements. Donations to the Friends may be sent to us at P.O. Box 2853, Waterbury, CT 06723.

## Book Donations

Please note that we are not accepting any donations of books or other items at this time.

# COMPUTERS, WIFI, PRINTING, & COPYING

## PUBLIC COMPUTERS

Our public computers are available for anyone to use. You can log on with a library card from any public library in the Bibliomation consortium. Not sure if your library is in the consortium? Ask at the Reference Desk for a list of Bibliomation libraries. If you don't have a library card, guest passes are available.

## WI-FI

Access the internet with your own laptop, tablet, or phone using our free wifi. No password required, just select **SBL-WiFi-hotspot** on your device.



Free Wi-Fi is available outside the library courtesy of the Connecticut Education Network (CEN). Select **CTPublicWiFi** on your device, wait for the welcome page to load, then click on Agree.

## WI-FI HOTSPOTS AT HOME

Our Wi-Fi Hotspots let you borrow the internet for free! These small devices let you connect your phone, tablet, computer, or smart television to the internet. Hotspots can be borrowed for one week at a time.

## CHROME BOOKS AND TABLETS

New! You can now borrow Chrome Books and tablets from the library for one week at a time.

Whether you need a computer for an emergency or for a special event, or if you just want to see how they work, you can borrow them from the library.



## PRINTING & COPYING

Black-and-white printing and copying is available at 15 cents per page. Color printing is available at 50 cents per page; please ask for assistance at the East Wing Reference Desk if you wish to print in color.

In order to print, you will need to pre-load money on-to your library card or guest pass at the Circulation Desk.

## ONE-ON-ONE COMPUTER HELP

*By Appointment*

Have a tablet, but don't know how to use it?

Need to figure out how to set up an email account?

Wondering how to use the library's Wi-Fi?

Want to learn how to use our online resources? What about resume or job search assistance? Our skilled and friendly staff are available to help you!

Schedule your appointment by calling 203-574-8225, visit the Reference Desk at the library or visit the Book a Librarian page on our website.

## B.R.A.S.S. COMPUTER CLASSES

Fridays, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Waterbury Senior Center

Call Debra at 203-574-6746

to reserve a space



Learn how to use a tablet, smartphone, or computer. You will be assisted in using the internet, Wi-Fi, eBooks, and more! For seniors ages 60 and over. Free parking. For more information, call us at 203-574-8225.

# ONLINE RESOURCES

Staying home to stay safe? Beat the winter chill with more than a blanket and cocoa! Use your library card to unlock the library at your home.



Need help? Have questions? Call us at 203-574-8225 or email us at [bronsonlibrary@waterburyct.org](mailto:bronsonlibrary@waterburyct.org) and we'll find the answers for you.

## ACORN APP

Access the library catalog from your smartphone or tablet, renew items, see how much money you owe, request an item to be placed on hold or update your account information, all that from the web or your phone. Log in to your account at [silas.biblio.org](http://silas.biblio.org) or download the Acorn Catalog.



## EBOOKS & AUDIOBOOKS

We have increased our collection of online books, both ebooks and downloadable audiobooks. You can access them for free with the barcode number on your library card.

You can adjust an ebook's font size, book layout, and lighting. As you read, you can also add bookmarks, create notes and highlights, and define words.

For audiobooks, you can skip backward or forward, increase playback speed up to 3x, and set a sleep timer until the end of the chapter or for 5, 10, 30 minutes, or more.

To find out more, go to [bronsonlibrary.org/ebooks](http://bronsonlibrary.org/ebooks).

## OVERDRIVE

Access ebooks and audiobooks using the web browser on your computer.



## LIBBY

The Libby app connects you to our OverDrive collection of ebooks and audiobooks on your smartphone or tablet. New! You can now borrow magazines using the Libby app.



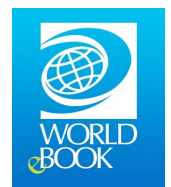
## SIMPLYE

The SimplyE app includes our OverDrive collection, plus titles from the CT State Library and other collections. Download the app to your smartphone or tablet.



## WORLD BOOK EBOOKS

Educational books for kids and teens. Includes classics of fiction and literature, as well as new books on science, social studies, mythology, health, biography, and more. Also includes Read Aloud books.



# ONLINE RESOURCES

## DATABASES

Use the barcode number on your library card to access our free databases at [bronsonlibrary.org/research](http://bronsonlibrary.org/research).

### ANCESTRY LIBRARY EDITION

Gain free access to billions of historical documents, including census records and immigration records, to help you find out more about your family history.



### NEWSBANK

Use NewsBank to search for articles from more than 10,000 news sources, or browse more than 30 popular magazines.



### AUTO REPAIR SOURCE

Accurate, authoritative and up-to-date service and repair information for thousands of domestic and imported vehicles. All content comes from the Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM) and includes step-by-step repair information, diagrams, maintenance schedules, parts and labor estimates, service bulletins and recalls.



### REPUBLICAN-AMERICAN

Search for articles published in the Republican-American from 2004 to the present.



### WORLD BOOK

The World Book is more than just an encyclopedia! Discover activities, ebooks, theater, science, social studies, and more. Research, discover and find answers to your questions.



### SMALL ENGINE REPAIR REFERENCE SOURCE

The Small Engine Repair Reference Center provides detailed yet user-friendly repair guides for all types of small engines, from lawn mowers to motorcycles.



### UNIVERSAL CLASS

Brush up your skills with hundreds of free online courses to help you learn business skills, brush up on your education, or prepare for specific tests. CEUs and other certificates of completion are available.



Learn Something NEW

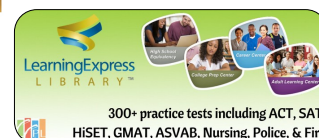
### MANGO

Learning a new language is a great new hobby that you can start right at home! Mango makes it easy to learn what you need, with dozens of languages to choose from.



## STATE LIBRARY DATABASES

ResearchIT provides you help to get started on history and legal research. The **LearningExpress Job & Career Accelerator** will help you find and apply to jobs. The **LearningExpress Library** includes academic skill-building, standardized test prep, career certification test prep and more.



# PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

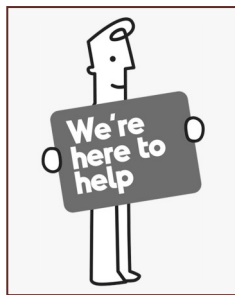


## HOME DELIVERY SERVICE

If you are a Waterbury resident who is homebound or otherwise unable to visit the library in person, we can bring the library to your home. We now have a free home delivery service! You must be a Waterbury resident and have a current, active library card to apply.

Applications can be filled out on our website at [bronsonlibrary.org/homedelivery](http://bronsonlibrary.org/homedelivery).

You can also request to have an application form mailed to you — call us at 203-574-8225 or email [bronsonlibrary@waterburycct.org](mailto:bronsonlibrary@waterburycct.org).



## BOOK A LIBRARIAN

Whether you need help with a resume, or if you want some help looking up information, or if you want to learn how to use some of the library's resources, you can now "book a librarian" to help you one-on-one for up to one hour.

Schedule your appointment by calling 203-574-8225 or visit our website at [bronsonlibrary.org/bookalibrarian](http://bronsonlibrary.org/bookalibrarian).

## MUSEUM PASS PROGRAM

Our museum pass system is now on TixKeeper. The new online platform lets you view museum pass availability, reserve physical passes, and print passes at home or at the library. Museum passes give you free or reduced price admission to more than a dozen museums, zoos, and science centers. Visit [bronsonlibrary.org/museums](http://bronsonlibrary.org/museums) to get started.



## FREE TAX PREPARATION

January 29 - April 16, 2022

By appointment only — call 211 to schedule

The VITA Tax Prep program will be held at the library on Saturdays by appointment only. IRS-trained volunteers will be available to prepare tax returns for individuals who made \$57,000 or less, persons with disabilities, and limited English speaking taxpayers who need assistance in preparing their tax returns.

Free tax prep assistance is also available for individuals who are self-employed and have business expenses less than \$25,000. IRS-trained volunteers are certified to prepare simple tax returns and screen customers for special tax credits and savings plans.

*VITA is made possible through a partnership with the United Way of Greater Waterbury, the Connecticut Association for Human Services, and the Internal Revenue Service.*



# PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

## SISTERS TO SISTERS BOOK CLUB

First Thursday of the month, 6 p.m.

Call 203-574-8225 to register

New members welcome.



December 2: *When No One Is Watching*

by Alyssa Cole

January 6: *His Only Wife*

by Peace Adzo Medie

February 1: *When Justice Sleeps*

by Stacey Abrams



## SEAT OF THE PANTS COOKING

Second Thursday of the month, 7 p.m.

December 9, January 13, February 10

Zoom

Join Chef Bill in his kitchen for a delicious recipe each month! Get your holiday recipes ready! Learn food prep tips, tricks and hints. Ideal for cooks of all skill levels!



Advance registration required. Sign up at [bronsonlibrary.org/programs](http://bronsonlibrary.org/programs) or call us at 203-574-8225.

## BRASS BOOK CLUB

Fourth Thursday of the month, 12:30 p.m.

Zoom

For seniors age 60+.

December 23: *The Art of Racing in the Rain*

by Garth Stein

January 27: *The Book Woman of Troublesome*

Creek by Kim Michele Richardson

February 24: *The Henna Artist* by Alka Joshi



Advance registration required. Sign up at [bronsonlibrary.org/programs](http://bronsonlibrary.org/programs) or call us at 203-574-8225.

## UNDERSTANDING YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS

Thursday, January 20, 6:30 p.m.

Zoom

Understanding your legal rights



and responsibilities can be a scary process and very overwhelming for families - especially during an eviction process. Attorney Mary Conklin from Connecticut Legal Services will answer your questions regarding housing-related legal issues.

Advance registration required. Sign up at [bronsonlibrary.org/programs](http://bronsonlibrary.org/programs) or call 203-574-8225.

## GENEALOGY TIPS

Tuesday, January 25, 6:30 p.m.



Zoom

Are you stuck in your genealogy research? Join library director and local historian Raechel Guest to learn expert tips and tricks for finding more about your family tree.

Advance registration required. Sign up at [bronsonlibrary.org/programs](http://bronsonlibrary.org/programs) or call us at 203-574-8225.

## CONNECTICUT WOMEN'S BUSINESS COUNCIL

Wednesday, January 26, 7 p.m.

Zoom

Take charge of your finances and learn to create a successful business plan with this program offered by the Connecticut Women's Business Council, which helps men and women reach their entrepreneur dreams.

Advance registration required. Sign up at [bronsonlibrary.org/programs](http://bronsonlibrary.org/programs) or call us at 203-574-8225.

# SILAS BRONSON GEEKDOM

## SB GEEKDOM



### CHESS MEETUP

Alternating Wednesdays, 4:30 p.m.

December 1, 15 & 29; January 12, 26; February 9

Zoom and Chess.com

For all skill levels. Play against our chess instructor, play in groups or pairs. Learn new techniques, strategy and tactics or just come to have fun.



Advance registration required. Sign up at [bronsonlibrary.org/geekdom](https://bronsonlibrary.org/geekdom)

### ANIME CLUB

Alternating Wednesdays, 6 p.m.

December 1 & 15; January 5 & 19;

February 2 & 16

Zoom

Watch the latest YA Anime coming out of Japan and talk about it in the chat option.



Advance registration required. Sign up at [bronsonlibrary.org/geekdom](https://bronsonlibrary.org/geekdom)

### ANIME MOVIE NIGHT

Wednesday, December 29, 6 p.m.

Zoom

Join us online for the uplifting movie, *A Whisker Away*.

Advance registration required. Sign up at [bronsonlibrary.org/geekdom](https://bronsonlibrary.org/geekdom)



### WORLD OF GAMING

Alternating Tuesdays, 6 p.m.

December 14 & 28; January 11 & 25; February 8

[Twitch.tv/sbgeekdom](https://Twitch.tv/sbgeekdom)

Explore new and classic games with us on Twitch, such as, Final Fantasy 7, and Devil May Cry.

Advance registration preferred.

Sign up at [bronsonlibrary.org/geekdom](https://bronsonlibrary.org/geekdom)





# TEEN / YOUNG ADULT PROGRAMS

## TEEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Second Thursday of the month, 4 p.m.  
December 9, January 13, February 10  
Zoom

Discuss your ideas for new and exciting programs, books, games and activities for our library! Earn community service hours for school!

For ages 11+

*Advance registration required.*

*Sign up at [bronsonlibrary.org/teenprograms](http://bronsonlibrary.org/teenprograms) or call us at 203-574-8213.*



## TEEN CANDY HUNT

Saturday, February 12, 12 p.m.  
Meet in front of the library

Fill your Valentine with candy! To find the candy, you'll have to join us on a hunt, find and solve the clue to find the candy. Hunt for candy with your friends!



*Advance registration preferred, but not required.*

*Sign up at [bronsonlibrary.org/teenprograms](http://bronsonlibrary.org/teenprograms) or call us at 203-574-8213.*

## FINANCIAL AID NIGHT

Tuesday, January 4, 6 p.m.  
Zoom

College entry can be a complex and daunting process. Join us on Zoom to learn all that you can about the financial aid process, including how to apply for scholarships, important deadlines and the best-kept financial aid secrets. Get the answers you need to help you apply and receive financial aid for college.

Sponsored by American Savings Foundation.

*Advance registration required.*

*Sign up at [bronsonlibrary.org/teenprograms](http://bronsonlibrary.org/teenprograms) or call us at 203-574-8213.*



## WINTER CRAFTS

### BUILD A SNOWMAN

Friday, December 10, All Day  
Circulation Desk

Do you want to build a (craft) snowman? Do you still need one last stocking stuffer or gift? Grab a snowman kit today!

### WINTER TERRARIUM

Tuesday, January 18, All Day  
Circulation Desk

Start a new year with a new craft! Create your very own winter terrariums with us - all the supplies are provided.

Visit [bronsonlibrary.org/teenprograms](http://bronsonlibrary.org/teenprograms) or call us at 203-574-8213 to reserve your kit.



# CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

## SNOWBALL READERS

December 1 - January 31

Children's Room

Join our Winter Reading Program to learn and earn while you read this winter! For all children from birth through 8th grade. Complete a scorecard to be entered into a raffle for a prize! Visit the Children's Room for more information.



## WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY STORIES

Wednesdays, 11 a.m.

Zoom

Join us each week for new stories to help you through the week! For ages 2-6.



Advance registration required. Sign up at [bronsonlibrary.org/kidprograms](https://bronsonlibrary.org/kidprograms) or call 203-574-8213.



American Red Cross

## MRS. CLAUS PREPARES WITH PEDRO

Thursday, December 16, 5 p.m.

Zoom

BE PREPARED. TAKE ACTION. Prepare with Pedro! We'll hear a story from Mrs. Clause featuring a penguin named Pedro and learn coping skills and how to always "be ready". For Grades K-2.

Advanced registration required. Sign up at [bronsonlibrary.org/kidprograms](https://bronsonlibrary.org/kidprograms) or call 203-574-8213.

## MRS. CLAUS' HOLIDAY READINESS KITS (THE PILLOWCASE PROJECT)

Thursday, December 16, 6 p.m.

Zoom

Coping with trauma can be difficult. Mrs. Claus is helping us get holiday and emergency ready! Learn safety tips, coping skills, and create your own emergency supply kits, and more. For Grades 3-5.

Advanced registration required. Sign up at [bronsonlibrary.org/kidprograms](https://bronsonlibrary.org/kidprograms) or call 203-574-8213.

## PROJECT CS GIRLS

Tuesday, December 28, 2 p.m.

Zoom

Join us for a special technology workshop for middle school girls. Girls. Can. Code. Learn from high-school and college students from around the country.

Advance registration required. Sign up at [bronsonlibrary.org/kidprograms](https://bronsonlibrary.org/kidprograms) or call 203-574-8213.



## WINTER CRAFTS

### WINTER WONDERLAND

December 18-22

Circulation Desk

Do you want to build a snowman? How about a reindeer? Create your own winter scenes with a few easy items.

### THREE KINGS DAY (EL DIA DE LOS REYES)

Thursday, January 6

Circulation Desk

Celebrate the myth and legend of the Three Kings with a fabric craft kit and retell the story!

Reserve your kits at [bronsonlibrary.org/programs](https://bronsonlibrary.org/programs) or call us at 203-574-8213.



# CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

## A CHILD OF THE AMISTAD: SARAH MARGU

Thursday, February 3, 5:30 p.m.

Zoom

A story of triumph, destiny and gaining freedom. Storyteller and actor Tammy Denease will present a virtual reenactment - telling the story of Sarah Margu, one of four children held captive on the *Amistad*. After gaining freedom, Margu went on to become the first African to graduate from college in the U.S. Sponsored by CT Humanities.



Advance registration required. Sign up at [bronsonlibrary.org/kidprograms](http://bronsonlibrary.org/kidprograms) or call 203-574-8213.

## SECOND ANNUAL AUTHOR SPOTLIGHT: LOCAL AFRICAN-AMERICAN AUTHORS

Thursday, February 24, 5:30 p.m.

Zoom

Be inspired this Black History Month! Join us for our second annual celebration of local African-American authors! We'll be showcasing and recognizing the work of local African-American and people of color. We'll be joined by local authors including Chase Taylor and Shelby Davis. We'll enjoy excerpts from their books and a lively discussion after.

Advance registration required. Sign up at [bronsonlibrary.org/kidprograms](http://bronsonlibrary.org/kidprograms) or call 203-574-8213.

## FAMILY TRIVIA NIGHT: BLACK HISTORY

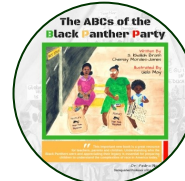
Wednesday, February 17, 6 p.m.

Zoom

How much do you know about the accomplishments of African-Americans? Join us for a family trivia night filled with questions, stories and answers honoring African-American contributions!

Advance registration required. Sign up at [bronsonlibrary.org/kidprograms](http://bronsonlibrary.org/kidprograms) or call 203-574-8213.

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH



## LOCAL AUTHOR SPOTLIGHT

### SAVE THE DATE ~ 47TH ANNUAL POETRY CONTEST



Submissions Open: January 24, 2022

Submissions Close: March 25, 2022

The Silas Bronson Library Children's Poetry Contest is open to all Waterbury-area students who are in Kindergarten through Eighth Grade.

Complete rules and entry forms will be online at [bronsonlibrary.org/kidprograms](http://bronsonlibrary.org/kidprograms).

#### Topics for 2022

##### Grades K-3

1. Animals
2. My Favorite Thing
3. Make a Haiku

##### Grades 4-6

1. Spooky, Scary Things
2. Make a Haiku
3. What's Your Ideal World?

##### Grades 7-8

1. Make a Haiku
2. Social Media - Hero or Zero?
3. What Empowers You to be Fierce?

Please contact us for at 203-574-8213 or by email at [bronsonkids@waterburyct.org](mailto:bronsonkids@waterburyct.org) for more information.

SILAS BRONSON LIBRARY  
267 GRAND STREET  
WATERBURY, CT 06702  
**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**



## SILAS BRONSON LIBRARY

*Something for Everyone*

### LIBRARY HOURS

#### Main Library

Monday 9 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.  
Tues- Thurs. 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.  
Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Saturday 9 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.

#### Bunker Hill Branch

Tuesday 12 p.m. - 8 p.m.  
Thursday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Saturday 9 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.

#### SPECIAL NOTES:

For weather closings, please check our social media or website.

### LOCATIONS

#### Main Library

267 Grand Street  
Waterbury, CT 06702

#### Bunker Hill Branch

192 Bunker Hill Avenue  
Waterbury, CT 06708

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Main Number: 203-574-8200  
Bunker Hill Branch: 203-574-8240  
Circulation Desk: 203-574-8206  
Children's Division: 203-574-8213  
Director's Office: 203-574-8222  
Reference Desk: 203-574-8225  
TTY/TDD: 203-574-8226

### LIBRARY CLOSINGS

Christmas, December 24 & 25  
New Year's, December 31 & January 1  
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, January 17  
Presidents' Day, February 21 & 22

### PARKING INFORMATION

#### Main Library

Kiosk parking is available on Grand Street and in the parking lot between the Library and City Hall. Spaces are available in the parking lot. Parking rates apply.

*Parking rates: \$1 per hour; free after 6:30 p.m.*

#### Bunker Hill Branch

Free parking is available in our lot on Aurora Street.



[bronsonlibrary@waterburyct.org](mailto:bronsonlibrary@waterburyct.org)

203-574-8200

[bronsonlibrary.org](http://bronsonlibrary.org)