



FRIENDS  
OF THE  
AVON  
LIBRARY

# Beyond the Bookends



Newsletter of the Friends of the Library & the Board of Trustees

Winter 2019

## Someone Must Wash the Dishes: An Anti-Suffrage Satire

Performance & discussion by Michele LaRue

Wednesday, March 27, 2019 @ 2:00 pm

Many women fought *against* getting the vote in the early 1900s, but none with more charm, prettier clothes - and less logic - than the fictional speaker in this satiric monologue written by pro-suffragist Marie Jenney Howe, back in 1912. "Woman suffrage is the reform against nature," declares Howe's unlikely, but irresistibly likeable heroine.

Reviewers have called this production "wicked" in its wit, and have labeled Michele LaRue's performance "side-splitting." An Illinois native now based in New York, LaRue is a professional actress who tours nationally with a repertoire of shows by turn-of-the-previous-century American writers.

**This program is free & open to the public - no registration is required.**



## Letter from the President of the Friends of Avon Public Library

December 2018

Hello, Friends!

Thanks to the stellar work and commitment of a small but mighty army of Friends, we are celebrating another fall fundraising victory. A special thank you goes to our Author Luncheon volunteers and committee members for a flawless and inspirational event. Congratulations to our book sale committee and volunteers for collecting, culling, organizing, displaying, and selling more than \$11,000 worth of used books. This event continues to be a successful fundraiser because of a humble yet dedicated troupe of volunteers who work tirelessly throughout the year.

**And now, a Library Quiz, because who doesn't love a quiz?**

- 1. Name four well-known movies in which famous scenes take place in public libraries.** *Ghostbusters, Philadelphia, Breakfast at Tiffany's, and Citizen Kane.*
- 2. What book holds the record as the most frequently stolen library book?** *The Guinness Book of World Records.*
- 3. What are the names of the two lions that lounge outside the beautiful New York Public Library's main building?** *Patience and Fortitude.*
- 4. Who established America's first lending library?** *Benjamin Franklin's first lending library opened in 1731, in Philadelphia, but it was not free. It was a paid subscription-based service.*
- 5. Name at least three famous librarians throughout history.** *Jacob Grimm, Mao Zedong, Golda Meir, Laura Bush, Marcel Proust, Melvil Dewey, and Lewis Carroll.*
- 6. Name ten ways the Friends support The Avon Public Library.** *Summer programs for children and adults, Computer classes, new technology for the Computer Lab, Book Clubs for teens and children, Sunday Music Programs, Museum Passes, One Book Special Engagement: The Return of the Lost Boys of Sudan, AvonCon, Outstanding Film Series, Travel Series Programs, and so much more.*

Consider yourself a winner, if you were able to answer between 0 and 6 of these quiz questions. All winners may check out as many books, DVDs, and CDs as you'd like at The Avon Public Library. And unlike the first library in Philadelphia, our library is FREE and all you need is a library card.

Now back to my book (*The Mars Room*, by Rachel Kushner). Happy reading everyone!

Lynn Katz, President, Friends of the Avon Library

# MAGICIAN DEBBIE O'CARROLL

- Amazing stage magic, zany comedy
- Fun audience participation to intrigue and delight
- Explore our fascinating planets!
- Innovative theatre



**Saturday  
January 5, 2019  
2:00 pm**

**Drop In – All are welcome!**

*Sponsored by the Friends of the Avon Library*

## Spring Film Series @ the Avon Library



Plan now to attend our **Spring Film Series!**  
After each film, a discussion will be led  
by **Professor Bob Kagan**, Department  
of Communication, CCSU and  
the University of Hartford.

**Films begin @ 6:30 pm**

Thursday, March 14 - **Winter in Wartime**  
(2008, Dutch with English subtitles)

Thursday, April 18 - **Intouchables**  
(2004, French with English subtitles)

Thursday, May 16 - **Whiplash** (2014)

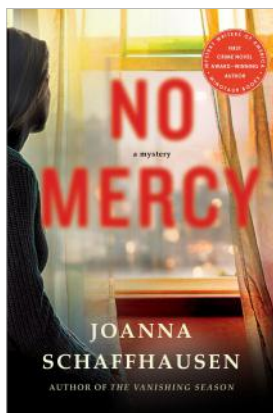
Thursday, June 13 - **Paper Clips**  
(2004, documentary feature)

**Free program—no registration required**

*Sponsored by the Friends of the Avon Library*

## An Afternoon with Author Joanna Schaffhausen

**Saturday, February 2, 2019  
2:00 pm**



Meet award-winning author **Joanna Schaffhausen** at this special author talk and book signing, presented by the Avon Free Public Library and Minotaur Books. Both of Joanna's novels, *The Vanishing Season* and *No Mercy*, are heart-pounding mysteries featuring dogged police officer Ellery Hathaway and FBI profiler Reed Markham. Learn more about this fascinating

author, her background in neuroscience, and her writing at this afternoon session!

Copies of both of Joanna's books will be available at the event for purchase and signing.

*No registration is required,  
all are welcome to attend!*



The University of Hartford  
HARTT Community Division  
Dance Department

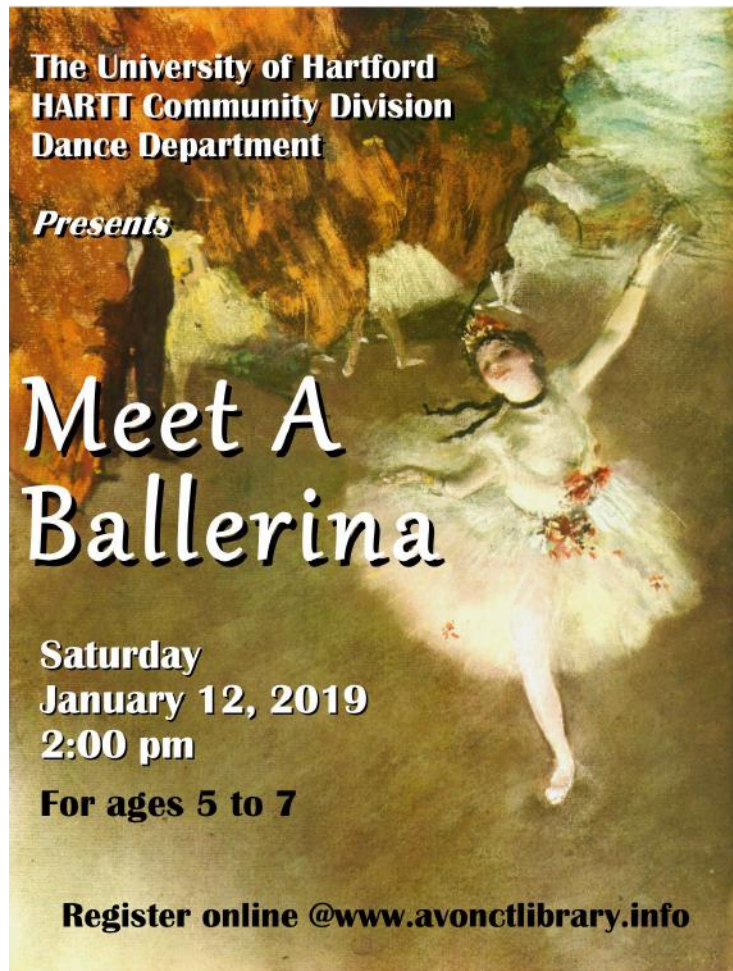
*Presents*

## Meet A Ballerina

**Saturday  
January 12, 2019  
2:00 pm**

**For ages 5 to 7**

**Register online @[www.avonctlibrary.info](http://www.avonctlibrary.info)**





## 2019 Winter Music Series

### Sundays at Three



#### January 13 \* Classical & South American Music

THE ALTURAS DUO opens the season. SCOTT HILL and CARLOS BOLTES started in 2001. Their performance of classical guitar, viola and charango will delight you. Their music is warm and wonderful. They have performed in Spain, Latin America and the US with acclaim for their virtuosity.

#### January 27 \* Jazz with Nat King Cole

JOHN BRIGHENTI is a native of CT and is well known to many of us. John is a graduate of the Hartt School where he studied jazz. He has won several awards. Joining John is bass player MIKE ASETTA who has been immersed in jazz from an early age. He also has a graduate certificate for performance in classical music from the Yale School of Music. The singing of Nat King Cole is performed by ORICE JENKINS, a native of Hartford who studied at the Hartt School. He has released several albums. His arrangements and melodies bring a unique style to his performance. He will bring Nat King Cole alive for this event. This is nostalgia at its best!



#### February 10 \* Classical Piano

WENTING SHI is this year's first prize winner of the "Young Artists in CT Piano Competition." She started studying at the age of four in Shanghai. She has a Master's degree from Juilliard and is currently studying at the Yale School of Music. Her artistry and command of the keyboard will "dazzle" everyone.

#### March 3 \* Hot Cat Jazz Band

Try to sit still for this exciting Swing and Dixieland Jazz group. Their traditional jazz standards coupled with original arrangements include the likes of Louis Armstrong, Nat King Cole and Duke Ellington, among others. ROSS TUCKER, the leader of this group, is a classically trained trumpeter. People have been known to dance in the aisles for this event.



#### March 10 \* Tenor with Friends

MAURIZIO CASA has sung all over the USA and Europe. One of his roles was Rudolph in *La Boheme*. He has awards and scholarships from the Mannes School of Music in NY and has won several international competitions. ANNA TONNA, mezzo soprano, will join Maurizio. She has appeared at Lincoln Center and many festivals throughout the world. Her warm, charming and magnetic voice, blended with Maurizio's tenor voice will delight everyone in the audience.

#### March 24 \* Celtic & Irish Music

RINGROSE AND FREEMAN end our series with a celebration of everything Irish! DAN RINGROSE plays the guitar and sings. JEANNE FREEMAN is the fiddler extraordinaire and both bring to us light, airy and traditional Irish music. Their combined voices have been described as "a perfect showcase" with stunning singing. "They belong together!"



These free programs, made possible by the Friends of the Avon Library, take place in the library's Community Room. Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. Free tickets are available at the door starting at 2:15 pm. Doors open at 2:30 pm. Concerts are from 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm.

## Winter Storytimes Coming Soon!

Registration for Winter storytimes will begin on **January 4<sup>th</sup>** for Avon residents. Sign up online @ [www.avonctlibrary.info](http://www.avonctlibrary.info).

## CHESS CLUB

AVON LIBRARY  
FOR KIDS IN GRADES K-5

THURSDAYS  
4:30-5:30  
FLOOR OF THE CHILDREN'S ROOM  
DROP IN

JAN 3, 10, 17, 24, 31  
FEB 7, 14, 21, 28  
MAR 7, 14, 21, 28



The Holidays are coming! Don't forget that the **Booktique** has high-quality books at Book Sale prices and is restocked weekly! You can pay for your purchases at the Circulation Desk.



### TEEN Cupcake Demonstration from Cakes by Wild Flour



Thursday, January 17<sup>th</sup>  
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm



Come learn different piping techniques and get hands-on practice piping your own dog themed cupcake. The only question is, will you eat your cupcake at the library or at home?

Open to teens in grades 7-12.

Please sign up & reserve your seat, space is limited!

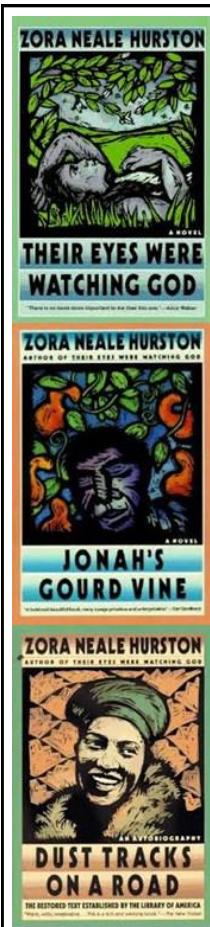
Sponsored by the Friends of the Avon Library

Support us when you shop this holiday with the **Amazon Smile** program! If you plan on making any holiday purchases through Amazon.com, you can designate the Avon Free Public Library as your charity of choice, and 0.5% of the purchase price will be donated to us! Simply go to <http://smile.amazon.com/> and select AFPL before you add items to your shopping cart. We appreciate your support!



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## AN AFTERNOON WITH ZORA NEALE HURSTON

A dramatic performance  
 by Gwendolyn Quezaire-Presutti

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2019  
 @ 2:00 PM**

Celebrate Black History Month!  
**Zora Neale Hurston** “was a novelist, folklorist, and anthropologist whose fictional and factual accounts of black heritage remain unparalleled.” Her folktales weave a vibrant tapestry that celebrates African American life in the rural South and represents a major part of her literary legacy. She celebrated the African American culture of the rural South, because she believed that black people had wonderful stories that the world needed to hear, and she told them proudly. **Gwendolyn Quezaire-Presutti** will present a dramatic performance as Ms. Zora Neale Hurston, reminiscing about slices of her life and the Folktales.

*No registration is required for this free program.*

We've got your weekends covered!  
 Our **Sunday hours** are now in effect! We will be open on Sunday afternoons from **December through April**. Come and visit us from **1:00 pm - 5:00 pm!**



### HOLIDAY HOURS & CLOSINGS

- December 24 — **Open 10-1**
- December 25 — **CLOSED**
- December 31 — **Open 10-1**
- January 1 — **CLOSED**
- January 21 — **CLOSED**
- February 18 — **CLOSED**



**KEEP CALM  
 AND  
 RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP**



Our Friends membership year began in September - have you renewed yours yet? Your donations as a member of the Friends, along with the revenue from the Annual Book Sale, are the Friends' only sources of income. Please take a moment to renew your membership today - we need your support!