



THE
PUBLIC
LIBRARY
of Cincinnati
and
Hamilton County

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2002
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LIBRARY LINKS

A NEWSLETTER OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF CINCINNATI AND HAMILTON COUNTY

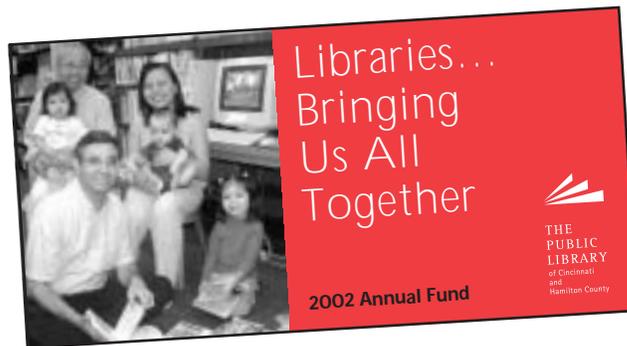
FOCUS ON FUNDING-DEVELOPMENT EFFORT BEGINS

To address major shortfall in funding, the Library has been intensively slashing expenses and examining all of its budget options. While cost-cutting has been the focus, the Library is also working to increase its revenue.

The primary goal of the Library's development effort is to improve the Library's financial base by securing more diversified sources of funding. Fundraising approaches will target individual, corporate and foundation donors. The fundraising strategy is to execute an Annual Fund Appeal to our friends, customers, and staff. The prime objective of the Annual Fund is to enhance the stability of gift revenues so that the Library can draw on a reliable supplement when planning the operating budget. The greatest challenge is to substantially increase the number of donors who contribute to the Library.

A successful and stable Annual Fund is important because it is, in some respects, the financial equivalent of a large endowment. For example, annual fund income of \$200,000 is equivalent to a restricted endowment of \$4,000,000 or more. But because annual fund dollars are spent within the year that they are received, they have an immediate impact. Also, because annual fund dollars are unrestricted, they will provide great flexibility to the Library in meeting existing needs and priorities.

The Library's first Annual Fund will begin in September with a six-week campaign. Appeal letters will be sent to about 5,000 individuals, including previous donors and Friends' members. To broaden the reach of the campaign, an appeal brochure will be distributed to both staff and to customers as books and materials are checked out during this period. Additionally, a new section for the web site designed specifically to inform and electronically solicit funding for the Library will be added. In order to encourage more gifts, credit cards will be accepted for payment.



To provide an immediate response to the budget crisis, the Library will also be approaching the largest companies in Cincinnati. It is hoped that the corporate citizens of our county will be willing to contribute a generous donation to help sustain the Library's remarkable record of excellent service and collections. The Library makes a huge difference in our community and improves the quality of life. It is also hoped that area residents who have so strongly advocated the retention of neighborhood libraries will support the Library with a generous donation.

"SAVE THE LIBRARIES FUND" ESTABLISHED WITH \$10,000 GRANT FROM FIFTH THIRD BANK

Two Cincinnati-based companies recently stepped forward to assist the Library with its funding crisis. On July 29, following the Special Board Meeting held that morning, Fifth Third Bank established a "Save the Libraries Fund" with a grant of \$10,000. This is a depository account designed to collect public funds in support of saving the five branch libraries in Bond Hill, Deer

Park, Elmwood Place, Greenhills, and Mount Healthy. Donations to the "Save the Libraries Fund" may be made at any of Fifth Third's 132 locations in Greater Cincinnati, including its 40 Bank Marts inside local Kroger stores open seven days a week.

In response to an announcement made about the fund, Global Cloud, Ltd. contacted the Library to offer their services, at no charge, to set up a secure web site that will allow people to make donations to the "Save the Libraries Fund" online using a credit card. The donations will be automatically deposited into the Fund at Fifth Third Bank. The web site, www.SavetheLibraries.org, became available in late August. Global Cloud™, located downtown, provides strategic marketing approaches using technology solutions ranging from intranets to iCommerce sites.

AN OPEN BOOK ON LIBRARY FUNDING

On July 16, the Library announced that due to a major drop in state funding, five of 41 branch libraries would be closed—Bond Hill, Deer Park, Elwood Place, Greenhills, and Mt. Healthy. Based on reaction from residents and community leaders, it's clear that Greater Cincinnati highly values its library service and feels that libraries are vital to the well being of its communities. In response to community concern, the Library Board decided to put branch closures on indefinite hold and to postpone action on all budget reduction options pending completion of five public hearings scheduled August 27 through December 3.

While it is gratifying to learn how strongly people feel about keeping the branches open, not everything stated in the media has been accurate nor complete. What follows are frequently asked questions that will help explain what the Library is facing, how it got to this point, and what the options are for the next two years.

How much has the Library's budget been cut in 2002?

The total decrease in the Library's funding for 2002 is \$4.3 million.

Why was the Library's budget cut so much?

The Library typically receives 95% of its funding from a state tax supported fund—the Library and Local Government Support Fund or LLGSF. The reduction in the budget is due to two causes:

- The decision of the state legislature to fund the Ohio Public Library Information Network from the LLGSF caused a drop of nearly \$700,000 in our Library's funding.
- The over 7% drop in the state personal income tax collections, which provide the funding for the LLGSF resulted in the Library losing \$3.1 million in July on top of a drop of over one-half million dollars in February, for a total decrease of \$4.3 million.

When did the Library know that there was going to be this kind of funding reduction?

It was not reported until late June 2002 that the second of the Library's annual LLGSF adjustments would be several times greater than the February 2002 reduction. The July 15 distribution was \$3 million less than anticipated. Other Library income from fines, fees and interest, has fallen short of estimates as well due to poor interest rates.

What about other sources of revenue?

The Library receives no local support either from the City, the County, or local communities. There are no tax levies or bond issues to help the Library. The Library does have some trust funds but these are largely non-expendable and restricted by donor designations for specific purposes.

Why didn't the Library see these budget cuts coming?

Each July 20, the state tax commissioner estimates the total LLGSF entitlement for each county for the coming year. The commissioner then revises this estimate in December before the distribution year begins. In December 2001, the commissioner estimated the Library's distribution at \$52 million, closely matching revenues received in 2001. The earlier reductions at the beginning of the year and in February had already been budgeted for through cutbacks and conservative spending. But, this most recent drop of over \$3 million was much larger than expected and will have a major impact on operations.

Is the budget reduction temporary?

No, the budget problems are not short term. Further decreases in income are expected next year and into 2004.

Why is the Library taking such drastic action in proposing closing five branches?

First, the latest reductions in funding are expected to continue in 2003 and beyond.

Part of the difficulty is receiving such a large reduction in funding at mid-year. The Library needs to generate operating savings of \$2.2 million by December 31. The annual cost of operating these five branches proposed for closure is \$1.5 million. This was a difficult decision but many other cost savings were implemented before making this choice, including a hiring freeze. The Library has tried hard to maintain its high level of service with the reduced staff and stringent cost-savings measures.

Why were these branches selected?

Although the branches selected for closure have been well managed, they are all small facilities (1,596 to 4,400 sq. ft.) that are each located within 1.5 to 2.6 miles of another larger branch library with parking. With the exception of the Bond Hill Branch, all of these facilities are leased. The proximity of these facilities to other branches will enable the Library to continue providing quality service with minimum inconvenience to customers.

Are the five branches proposed for closing the least used or lowest circulating?

No. Among the system's 41 branch libraries, Deer Park Branch ranks 18th in circulation, Mt. Healthy ranks 21st, Greenhills ranks 28th, Bond Hill ranks 36th, and Elmwood Place ranks 37th.

Isn't there some other way to save the money to keep these branches open?

Many possible options were considered and the Library has been proceeding with other cuts to the budget. Some savings have been realized by year-to-date expenditures under budget. Areas being proactively cut are:

- decreasing contracted security services
- reducing other purchased services
- limiting supply purchases to only critical/emergency items
- elimination of meeting attendance and staff training

- generating utility savings through temperature adjustments
- postponing planned expenditures for equipment, furniture, and a vehicle
- cancellation of back-up lines for some computer functions.

Other cost-saving options being investigated include eliminating the binding and reinforcing of materials; reducing the amount of materials printed; and discontinuing customer overdue notices and/or reserve notices.

However, much of the savings is being realized by the hiring freeze initiated in June. There are now 58 vacant positions (5% of total positions), a full-time equivalency of 37.4 (4.2%). While many of these reductions are reasonable on a short-term basis, for a longer term continuing those reductions will have a damaging effect on the quality of library services and the physical condition of library buildings.

Based on state funding projections, the operating budget for 2003 will need to be cut by at least \$3.9 million. Without the closure of branches, choices that are optional for balancing the budget in 2002 become mandatory for 2003.

Why did the Library just build a new Harrison Branch and expand the Westwood Branch and then propose closing five other locations?

Capital projects must be planned far in advance—at least five years for a new branch—in order to generate the funds needed. All funding was secured for the Harrison Branch before construction began in fall 2000. The Westwood project was complete before the extent of budget reductions was known. About one-third of the Westwood expansion was paid for with trust funds and grants restricted specifically for the purpose of expanding services for the

Westwood community. Recent capital projects have been very successful in terms of usage. Circulation this July at Harrison was up 185% and Westwood was up 77% over the same month in 2001.

Why would the Library go forward with building a new facility in St. Bernard while planning to close five others?

While this is a new building, it will allow closure of both the existing St. Bernard and Elmwood Place rental facilities, resulting in little if any increase in staffing or operating costs. Also, completion of this project will fulfill a long-standing commitment to the City of St. Bernard, which donated the property.

Couldn't the money designated for the construction of the new St. Bernard Branch be used to pay for the operating costs of these five branches?

On August 13, Hamilton County Commissioner John Dowlin presented a proposed resolution that calls for the County to work with the Library to finance the construction of the St. Bernard Branch through issuance of notes and/or bonds. This would free the \$3.1 million dollars earmarked for St. Bernard's construction to be returned to operating funds, allowing the five branches to remain open for two years. Details of this proposal would need to be developed and would require the approval of both the Board of County Commissioners and the Library Board. This proposal has been sent to the Library's Finance & Audit Committee for further study and review.

Why doesn't the Library cut back on its programs, rather than close branches?

Library programming is not a general fund expense but is paid for with trust funds designated specifically for that purpose and by support from the Friends of the Public Library.

Is it possible to transfer the Friends funds from program support to operating?

The Friends provide about \$115,000 annually to support programming. This amount would be insignificant in generating the \$2.2 million operating savings needed and would decimate a very successful part of the Library's services.

Why is the Library having to close branches when it receives the largest amount of money from the LLGSF?

While the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County does receive more state funding than any other single library system, other counties have multiple libraries and receive more total state dollars for the county. For example, the nine separate library systems in Cuyahoga County receive a total of \$71 million dollars from the LLGSF or over 36% more than Hamilton County.

In the past the Library has received the highest state funding per capita of any county in Ohio. How is the money used?

First, the Library is among the nation's most cost-efficient large urban libraries. Among the ten top circulating libraries, it ranks third lowest in cost per circulation (\$3.74). In 2001, Cleveland Public Library's cost per circulation was \$9.80.

Second, while the funding is decreasing, operating costs are increasing at the same time that demand for Library services is increasing including circulation, program attendance, interagency and interlibrary loans, and meeting room use.

Third, the nature of the Library system is unique. While Cleveland Public Library operates only 28 branches, Cincinnati's system supports 41 branches plus one of the country's major Main Libraries, that serves as a resource and reference center for the

LIBRARY FUNDING



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Since learning in June 2002 that the Library's expenses had to be cut by \$3 million before the end of 2002 a lot has happened. As a result of this unexpected funding shortfall and in looking forward to the direction of the Library for the future, the Board of Trustees approved the closing of five small neighborhood branch libraries, Bond Hill, Deer Park, Elmwood Place, Greenhills and Mt. Healthy. The recommendation was based on many factors including the proximity of these branches to another, larger branch library and, again, the long-term impact on the Library of operating 41 branch libraries. The Library serves all of Hamilton County including the City of Cincinnati. The total population for the area is slightly over 845,000. By comparison with other libraries serving areas of similar population, the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County has many more branch libraries with most having about 20 branch libraries to serve a similar sized area. The same is true when looking at libraries in Ohio. The four

largest library systems in Ohio include Cincinnati, Columbus, Cleveland and Cuyahoga County. Cleveland is closest in size of system with a main library and 28 branches. However, Cleveland's operating budget for 2001 exceeded Cincinnati's. Cuyahoga County operates no main library and has a system of 28 branch libraries. A 2001 operating budget comparison shows only a slight decrease when compared to Cincinnati. Columbus Metropolitan Library, which has the smallest operating budget of the four, operates a main library and 20 branch libraries. Unlike these systems, Cincinnati has no tax levies or bonds to help fund library services.

While the possibility of losing a branch library is understandably upsetting, it is clear that the costs of operating a Main Library and 41 branch libraries cannot continue to be met without a change in the Library's funding. This change can take the form of cost cutting measures including the closure of library facilities or increased revenue through levies or bonds,

development efforts or other options including the proposal from the Hamilton County

Commission to loan the Library funds to allow construction of the St. Bernard Branch Library to go forward while returning the capital dollars already allocated for the project to the Library's operating budget.

The Library has been a good steward of public funds. It operates efficiently with a cost per circulation of \$3.74 that is third lowest of the top ten circulating libraries in the country. In order to continue that tradition of stewardship, the Library must act to keep its expenditures in balance with its revenue, ensuring that the Library will be here for future generations to use and enjoy.

Kimber L. Fender
Executive Director

entire tri-state. Operating such a large number of branches takes a larger staff because each facility needs a manager, children's librarian, reference librarian, other public service staff, as well as support staff such as a custodian. Expenses are incurred at every facility for maintenance, books and materials, utilities, security, etc.

Finally, the Library is very fiscally responsible. It has consistently received the highest award in government financial reporting for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report since preparation of the first report in 1993.

How can the community offer their support and ideas for saving money?

All Library staff have been charged with generating cost reductions and savings ideas

but public input is welcome. Comments and cost saving ideas can be forwarded to either Library staff or Trustees. This can be done through a letter or the comments portion on CINCH, the Library's catalog, or the email link on the Library's web page. In addition, the community will have an opportunity to express support or ideas in person at five public hearings.

When are the community forums?

The first public hearing was held August 27 at the Mt. Healthy High School. The other hearings will be conducted at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesdays September 24 at Elmwood Place Elementary School, October 22 at Greenhills Middle School, November 12 at Bond Hill Recreational Center, and December 3 at Deer Park High School.

What can I do to help the Library?

The Library's immediate need is for operating funds. On July 29, Fifth Third Bank established a "Save the Libraries Fund" with a grant of \$10,000. Donations to the "Save the Libraries Fund" will provide additional operating monies to replace those lost in the budget reduction. These funds are especially important since the decision to close the branch libraries has been put on hold until all the hearings are completed. Donations to the "Save the Libraries Fund" may be made at any of Fifth Third Bank's 132 full-service locations in Greater Cincinnati, including its 40 Bank Marts inside local Kroger stores.

REMEMBER 9-11

SEPTEMBER 11: IN OUR OWN WORDS

In remembrance of September 11, the Public Library would like to share the work of local artists created in response to the tragic events that occurred on that ill-fated day.

Join Poet Timothy Riordan & Visual Artist Diana Duncan Holmes As They Share *Foreign Correspondence*

Reflecting their thoughts about the aftermath of September 11 in a 3 x 2 ft. oversize artist book, Timothy Riordan and his wife Diana Duncan Holmes spent the months following the tragedy creating *Foreign Correspondence*. The book features Mr. Riordan's literary responses to Ms. Holmes' artwork as well as his poem that was published in *North American Review*.



The presentation of this insightful work by these two members of the Cincinnati Book Arts Society will be part of a reflective program to take place in the Reading Garden Lounge at the Main Library on September 11 at 7:00 p.m. People of all ages are also invited to electronically submit writings from poetry to prose dealing with their own responses to September 11. Selections will be posted on the Library's web page. Those who attend are also welcome to bring their poems or other literary expressions to share with others as we all join together and reflect on the events that occurred on September 11, which have forever changed our lives.

Foreign Correspondence will be on view in the Atrium at the Main Library throughout September. Each day a page will be turned to emphasize its meaningful message. Shown here are the creators of the artist book Diana Duncan Holmes and Timothy Riordan.

REMEMBER 9/11 THROUGH NEWS & ART

The Longest Day: Ohio Journalists at Ground Zero: The Main Library, in cooperation with the Cincinnati Society of Professional Journalists, will display "The Longest Day: Ohio Journalists at Ground Zero," an exhibit examining the on-the-scene coverage of September 11 generated by dozens of the state's reporters, columnists, and photographers. The exhibit includes 100 Ohio front pages, extra editions, and special sections from last September 11-16. It will be on display from September 11-30 in the Main Library Atrium.

Posters 4 Peace: On display at the Main Library in the Atrium during the month of September, *Posters 4 Peace* will feature selections from over 700 posters created at a group site by children, teens, adults, and families to facilitate healing through art. The raw but powerful posters include drawings related to the World Trade Center and Pentagon terrorist attacks as well as the April 2001 riots in Cincinnati. Creation of the posters was used to spur discussion and to document feelings as a way to work through grief, frustration, and other feelings that people have difficulty expressing.



INLAND RIVERS LIBRARY EXHIBIT ON DISPLAY THROUGH NOVEMBER 17

The Inland Rivers Library was established in 1956 when the Public Library received a large gift of river materials from the Sons and Daughters of Pioneer Rivermen and Captain Frederick Way, Jr. Maps from this important river collection are featured in *Navigating the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers: A Selection of Maps from the Inland Rivers Library*, now on view at the Main Library in the Rare Books & Special Collection Department through November 17. The exhibit includes maps used by early Ohio Valley settlers, 19th century steamboat travelers, as well as past and current riverboat pilots.

NEW IN THE FRIENDS' SHOP

FUN STUFF FUN STUFF FUN STUFF

Library Friends' Shop Hours: Monday–Saturday 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m., Sunday 1:00–4:00p.m., (513) 369-6920



COASTERS IN FUN SHAPES

Recycled rubber coasters shaped like Hawaiian shirts or dog and cat faces.



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Relive all of those wonderful bathtub memories from your childhood. It squeaks, it floats, it's fun!



SILVER STONE'S SAND-BLASTED STONE FACES STONES

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Made from solid brass, these thermometers are as handsome as they are useful for getting a read on the temperature.

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- I would like to join the Friends of the Public Library
- I would like to purchase a gift membership
- I would like information on volunteering

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 _____ Daytime Telephone (optional) _____

Gift from _____

Charge by phone at Library Friends' Shop (513) 369-6920

MC or VISA _____ Exp. _____

- Students, Seniors (over 60),
Current and Retired Library Staff \$10
- Individuals, Library Staff
and One Family Member \$15
- Family/Dual \$20
- Non-Profit Organization \$25
- Business \$30
- Sponsor \$50–99
- Patron \$100–249
- Benefactor \$250 and above

Make Checks payable to: Friends of the Public Library
 8456 Vine Street, Cincinnati, OH 45216

Benefits of Friends Membership: *Previews of used book sales. • 10% discount on items in the Library Friends' Shop. • Subscriptions to Library program calendars & newsletter mailed to your home each month. • Invitations to special events sponsored by the Friends. • Interesting volunteer opportunities for Friends' projects. • Good feeling of helping to spread the joy of reading.*

FRIENDS' MEMBERS

Special thanks to our members who renewed or joined in June and July.

RENEWALS

Benefactor

Mr. & Mrs. Keith Stewart

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Thomas P. Atkins

Mr. & Mrs. William W. Bredster

Mr. & Mrs. Jerry L. Cowan
Suzanne F. Dunbar

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Mr. & Mrs. Steve Wulff

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Kristen Stutz

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Patron

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Mr. & Mrs. William Myles

Mark Watkins

Family/Dual

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Mr. & Mrs. Charles Jacques

Mr. & Mrs. Mark Meetin

Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Rubin

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Deborah A. Maloney

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Virginia Thomas

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George J. Austin, III

Pat Babey

Frank Dugan

Cyril Fey

Mary L. Guthrie

Stuart Hodesh

Gene W. Johnston

Marilyn Murphy

TEENS

Teen Read Week is a national initiative that began in 1998 and is celebrated the third week in

October. This year's Teen Read Week theme is "Get

Graphic @ Your Library." The Library has invited comic book artists and a computer animator to present programs for teens at several library branches. Teens can learn about the history of comics, get tips on drawing their own, and find out about the technology behind this art form. The celebration will continue with anime (Japanese animation) film festivals and comic book swaps. Teen readers will also be given a chance to win a pizza by submitting names of their favorite reads at their neighborhood library. One certificate for a large pizza donated by **Papa John's Pizza** will be given away at the Main Library and all 41 branch libraries. Here is a sample of the over 60 totally free and fun programs for teens on tap for October. Visit www.CincinnatiLibrary.org for more information.

GET GRAPHIC @ YOUR LIBRARY

National Teen Read Week, October 13-19



Create Comics

Harrison: Saturday, October 5, 3:00 p.m.
and Saturday, October 12, 12:30 p.m.

Monfort Heights: Saturday, October 12, 2:30 p.m.

Westwood: Tuesday, October 15, 7:00 p.m.

Anderson: Wednesday, October 16, 7:00 p.m.

Maderia: Monday, October 17, 4:00 p.m.

Comics/Computer Animation

Main Library: Thursday, October 17, 12:30 p.m.

Hey, Hey It's Anime Film Festival

Harrison: Every Friday in October 6:00–8:00 p.m.

Price Hill: Monday, October 14, 7:00 p.m.

Northside: Wednesday, October 16, 4:00 p.m.

Madisonville: Thursday, October 17, 2:30 p.m.

Call the Teen Coordinator to register for these programs at (513) 369-6941.

GRAPHIC NOVELS AND COMIC BOOKS

Where Images and Words Merge

novels has extended the life of comic book reading well into the teen years. These popular forms of literature whether fiction or factual combine both art and storytelling in a compelling form that especially appeals to teen readers.

By definition, a graphic novel is a stand-alone story with a humorous to serious message in comics form, published as a book. They are often printed in paperback, from stories that were originally published serially as comic books. Some are excerpts from larger narratives with subplots that are continued in series. Graphic novel readers have learned to understand not only the text, but also to read the symbolic meanings of certain images.

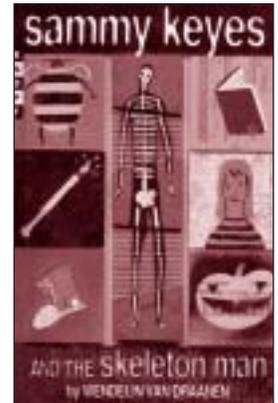
Comic books and graphic novels are just one segment of the Library's ever-expanding collection of teen books that are available in the newly-created teen-friendly areas at various branches. When the newly remodeled Westwood Branch Library reopened in June, its new Teen Scene brought with it a generous collection of graphic novels and comic books, attracting more teens. Since then, circulation of teen materials at that branch has climbed 400 percent over the previous year. Since July of 2002, circulation of teen materials saw a rise of 26 percent throughout the system when compared with last year's figures. Much of this increase is related to the Library's efforts in identifying teens' interests. Appealing to a huge audience of teen readers, graphic novels are a way to encourage reading while developing lifelong reading habits.

TEENS & KIDS

MEET SAMMY KEYES MYSTERY WRITER WENDELIN VAN DRAANEN & SOLVE A MYSTERY!



Enjoy a thrilling Mystery Saturday (for ages 10 & up) from 4:00–7:00 p.m. on September 28 at the Delhi Township Branch Library 5095 Foley Road. At 4:00 p.m. meet Wendelin Van Draanen who is author of the Sammy Keyes mysteries and the winner of the Edgar Allen Poe Award for Best Children’s Mystery Book. She won the award for *Sammy Keyes and the Hotel Thief*. Books have always been a part of her life and one of her greatest rewards is interacting with her readers. A book signing will follow and books will be available for purchase through the Friends of the Public Library.

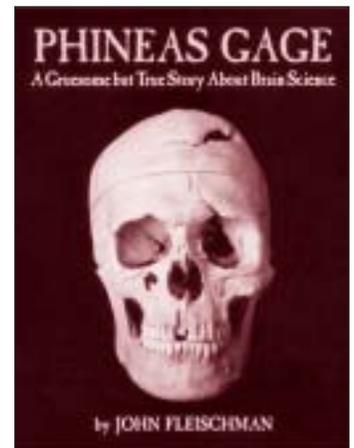


After meeting the author kids can try their luck at solving a mystery, *Who’s a Fraidy Cat?* at the Library from 5:30–7:00 p.m. Earn your Super Sleuth Certificate by decoding a message, playing spy games, and making invisible ink. Pizza and drinks provided. Made possible by the Friends of the Public Library and Random House Publishers. For information, call 369-6019.

AUTHOR JOHN FLEISCHMAN DISCUSSES PHINEAS GAGE: A GRUESOME BUT TRUE STORY ABOUT BRAIN SCIENCE



His book has appeared on the *Today Show*, on *C-SPAN Book TV 2*, in *Library School Journal*, and in *Discover Magazine*. It has also been featured locally in *The Cincinnati Enquirer*. Now it’s available at the Public Library, and so is the author. Award-winning science writer John Fleischman will talk about this incredible true story of a railroad worker who, in 1848, survived the piercing blast of a 13-pound iron rod as it entered his skull and how it relates to brain science. This fascinating program, geared for grades 6 and up, will be available during Teen Read Week (October 13–19) at:



Main Library:	Monday, October 14, 7:00 p.m.
Sharonville Branch Library:	Tuesday, October 15, 12:00 p.m.
College Hill Branch Library:	Friday, October 18, 10:00 p.m.

About the Author

John Fleischman is a science writer for Harvard Medical School and a contributor to numerous national and local publications. A former features editor for *Yankee Magazine* and *Ohio Magazine*, his writings have earned him a Macy Foundation Fellowship in Science Broadcast Journalism and distinction as “Writer of the Year 2000” from the Silver Medal City & Regional Magazine Association. He is also author of the Library’s upcoming 150th Anniversary book.

NATIONAL CHEMISTRY WEEK OCTOBER 20–26

Chemistry can sometimes seem more like magic than science. In celebration of the 15th anniversary of National Chemistry Week (October 20–26), join local chemists at various branch libraries as they entertain and enlighten the curious-minded in a series of 45-minute demonstrations. Through a series of fun, interactive activities learn how “Chemistry Keeps Us Clean.” To find out more about times and locations of programs, made possible by the Cincinnati Chapter of the American Chemical Society, visit www.CincinnatiLibrary.org.

METRO’S FRIGHTFULLY FUN HAUNTED BUS

During October Metro’s Haunted Bus will make its rounds. Transformed from a vehicle of transportation into a vehicle of hair-raising fun, the bus will be decorated to the hilt for Halloween and manned by a ghoulish crew of costumed Metro workers. Climb aboard if you dare at various branch libraries. Call (513) 369-6944 for times and branch locations or visit www.CincinnatiLibrary.org.

THANKS TO...

The Library is grateful to **Fifth Third Foundation** for its generosity and community leadership for establishing a “**Save the Libraries Fund**” with a grant of \$10,000. This special depository account was designed to collect funds in support of saving five branch libraries in Bond Hill, Deer Park, Elmwood Place, Greenhills, and Mount Healthy. Community members can make donations to the “Save the Libraries Fund,” at any of Fifth Third’s 132 locations in Greater Cincinnati, including the 40 Bank Marts inside local Kroger stores or online at www.SaveTheLibraries.org.

GIFTS TO THE LIBRARY

Dorothea Fine for her donation of \$10,000. This generous gift was deposited in the Library Program Trust Fund to support special programs that encourage learning opportunities throughout the Library system.

Global Cloud, Ltd., offered its services at no charge to set up a secure web site so that donations to the “Save the Libraries Fund” can be made online using a credit card. Donations made at www.SaveTheLibraries.org will automatically be deposited into the Fund.

Levin Family Foundation for their donation of \$1,000 to the Rhoda S. Feldman Good Books for Girls Fund.

Vanessa Whiteford Wayne for her donation of \$1,000 for the St. Bernard Branch Library.

Fraternal Order of Eagles Auxiliary #449 for their donation of \$500 for the Norwood Branch Library.

Norwood City School District made its second donation of \$500 to the Norwood Branch Library as part of its three-year “21st Century Grant Program.” Started in 2000, the program was designed to involve the entire community in the education process through participating community agencies such as the Library. The donation will be used to purchase English-as-a-Second-Language materials for the branch.



SCORE Executive Chairman Bob Conner (center) and SCORE member John Mackey presented a check to Government & Business Department Manager Carl Marquette.

Cincinnati SCORE Chapter 34 for their annual gift to the Julius Schild, Jr. SCORE Trust Fund for purchase of materials concerning the establishment and management of small business for the Library’s Government & Business Department.

Phyllis R. Reul for her gift to the Library for the Blind & Physically Handicapped.

The Greater Cincinnati Library Consortium for their scholarship to help fund Bond Hill Branch Manager Nadja Springer’s Library Leadership participation.

Charles A. Cox Estate bequest to the **J. Richard Abell Genealogical Trust Fund**.

Gilliam Music, Inc. for its gift to the Sharonville Branch Library.

GIFTS TO THE FRIENDS

Joyce & Jim Salinger for their gifts in honor of the birthday of **Mrs. Robert Heldman** and in honor of the anniversary of **Mr. & Mrs. Joseph S. Stern, Jr.**

150TH ANNIVERSARY BOOK TO BE PUBLISHED

As production of the Library’s anniversary book continues, more contributors are stepping forward. These generous donations are helping the Library produce a stunning commemorative book for present and future generations to share its meaningful stories. Once the book is released it will become the perfect keepsake for anyone whose life and interests have in some way been influenced by the Library’s services, collections, and resources.

THANKS TO OUR DONORS!

Sponsors (\$1,500)

UNEQ, Inc.

Proforma Park Place Enterprises

Supporters

Library Design Associates, Inc.

Anne Herbert

Viox Services

Johnston Paper

In-kind Gifts

- The **Cincinnati Enquirer** and the **Cincinnati Post** for use of photos.
- **Jack Klumpe**, retired photographer for the **Cincinnati Post**, for use of his photos taken in 1948 of the old Main Library.
- **Virginia Kerley** for a commemorative old Main Library cup and saucer.
- **Evelyn F. Costa** for commemorative plates of the old Main Library.

THANKS TO...

COMMEMORATIVE GIFTS

Betty & Rich Tedesco for their gift in honor of Betty & Walt Herrmann's 50th Wedding Anniversary.

Robert & Doris Paul in memory of Richard G. Schmidlin.

Lorraine A. Dougherty in memory of Irene Laumann.

Pleasant Ridge Discussion Group in memory of Ralph S. Binns.

GIFTS IN-KIND

The History & Genealogy Department recently celebrated the arrival of the 1930 U.S. Census with "Swing Into the '30s." Special thanks to the following persons who helped make the event a huge success:

■ Don Herman of WSAI for hosting the Census Ceremony

■ Brent Vinson for videotaping the event for Media Bridges

■ Members of the Ohio Valley Region Model "A" Ford Club including Jack, Ester, Michelle and John Meyers, Ada Sparks, Carle Garrett, Dick Lewis, and Amber Myers for displaying vintage cars

■ Co-Sponsors Hamilton County Genealogical Society, Cincinnati Recreation Commission, and Cincinnati Fifty Plus

Carlo Alvarez, Cincinnati Reds Strength & Conditioning Coach, for sharing a program about "Why Exercise Is Good for You" at the Price Hill Branch Library.

GIFTS OF MATERIALS

The Cincinnati Reds for 150 copies of *Little League Magazine*.

Ronald C. Buermeier for *Fields of Bamboo*.

Susan Laufer Pfau for *Walter Laufer, World Champion Swimmer in the 1920's*.

Jane Rosenfeld for five wooden puzzles.

Pat Allen for *Cincinnati Reds Magazine 2002*.

Mr. & Mrs. M. Schloss for assorted magazines and newspapers containing important highlights in history.

Dr. Obadiah Williams for copies of his book *A Black Man Speaks*.

Norman Weiser for ten *Haldeman-Julius Ten Cent Pocket Series* titles, two *Haldeman-Julius Little Blue Books* and *The Man Without a Country* by Edward Everett-Hale.

Catherine Sheanshang for *Seabiscuit*.

Lori Wilcox for the February 16, 1817 issue of the *Liberty Hall & Cincinnati Gazette*.

Rick Helmes for *Xavier University Alumni Directory*, *Purcell-Marian High School Alumni Directory* and *Xavier University Musketeer* (Yearbook).

Jane Wagner for *Nast-Trinity United Methodist Church 1835-1985* and *Queen City Heritage: Special Issue on Baseball in Cincinnati*.

Douglas J. Kamien for the donation of two *U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District reports*.

Susan Hansel for *The Photographer's Manual* and *The Playing Rules of Lawn Tennis*.

Michael G. Gunn for *The Steamboat Twilight 1865*.



Joan Klug and Ann Thompson, Chair Persons for the Green Township Democratic Party Library Book Project, are shown along with Chris Holt, Branch Manager, and Marsha Stewart, Children's Librarian for Monfort Heights Branch Library, for a donation to help fill in the branch's Presidential Book Collection in the children's area.

Shirley Easley for *Nothin' But the Truth: Our Diary of Black Life on Predominately White Campuses*.

Sharon R. Singh for *Kenton Cast Iron Toys* in memory of Dr. Mary M. Furnish.

Thomas Maryanovich for *CROATIA: Small Country For a Great Holiday*.

SUMMER READING CLUB CONTRIBUTORS

This year's Summer Reading Club, *Read Around the World*, brought fascinating cultures from around the globe up close to participants at their neighborhood library. The Library would like to thank the following businesses for donating incentives that helped inspire teen readers: **Borders Books and Music**, **Frisch's**, **McDonald's**, **United Dairy Farmers**. SPECIAL THANKS TO **Papa John's Pizza** for its continued support, not only with the Summer Reading Club, but also with this year's upcoming Teen Read Week!



THANKS TO...



Fraternal Order of Eagles Norwood Auxiliary #449 made its annual gift of \$500 to the Norwood Branch Library for the purchase of large print books. Norwood Branch Manager Tina Messerschmidt accepted the gift from Betty Wright (far right), President, and Mary Ellen Lang (center), past President. For over 20 years, Eagle Auxiliaries have raised money for the Orders Memorial Project, which makes grants available to charitable organizations working on programs aiding the aged.

GIFTS OF GENEALOGY MATERIALS

Robert A. Cody

Ethel J. Lawson

Mildred Kilhoffer

Janice Cushing

Dr. William P. Swisher

Nancy M. McAdams

Helen M. Powell

Gwendolyn Cottmann

William S. Bergen

Norris P. Wood

Rogers Bruce Johnson

David Roberts

Clara H. Harsh

Martha Strong Slater

Hamilton County Chapter of the

Ohio Genealogical Society

Family Tree Magazine

A SPECIAL SALUTE

Ruth C. Keefe, who has served on the Board of the Friends of the Public Library in various capacities for the past 22 years, is stepping down but was given Director Emeritus status in recognition for her devoted service. Mrs. Keefe served as President 1988–1992, and as Program Chair from 1982–2001. During her tenure as Program Chair, hundreds of musical and dance performances, film programs, lecture series, and literary and creative writing programs have been offered at the Main Library and branches. A Post-Corbett Award winner in 1995, Mrs. Keefe has increased public awareness of the Friends, and contributed to its overall vitality over the years. We salute her for her many years of dedicated service.



PET MEMORIALS

Oak Crest Animal Hospital in memory of Ray & Donna Gleason's dog Baron, and Mr. & Mrs. Bill Thompson's cat Baby.

Mr. & Mrs. Doerger in memory of Jeff & Kim Evans & family's dog Miller.

Nancy Grimes in memory of Betty Thompson's dog Swansea.

Amy Banister in memory of Janice Kagermeier's cat Sophie.

Cathleen Arnold in memory of Susan Ford's cat Callie.

Doug Edwards in memory of Matt & Marc Edwards' dog Jessie (aka "Jes-man").

Michelle Red Elk & Rob Jefferson in memory of Crow Grando's cat Buster.

Connie Fox Lackemann in memory of Melvin Firestone's dog Sam.

Science & Technology Department Staff in memory of Cindy Hauenstein's cat J.B.

Bruce & Kathy Sherwood in memory of Bill & Trina Pratt's cat Cegee.



LIBRARY PROGRAMS

SENIOR ISSUES SERIES AT MAIN LIBRARY & BLUE ASH BRANCH

Want to learn how safe your pension is? Do you know the Medicaid requirements for nursing home care? Unsure about the new regulations concerning your 401(k)? Are you a caregiver who doesn't know where to turn? Join us for a series of free programs addressing these concerns. Experts from ProSeniors will provide information on each topic and time for questions & answers. ProSeniors is a nonprofit organization that offers free legal and long-term care help to Ohio residents age 60 and older on solving their legal and nursing home, adult care facility, and home health care problems, as well as those under age 60 with Medicaid problems. Each program will be offered at the Main Library and the Blue Ash Branch Library, 4911 Cooper Road. No registration is necessary. For details, contact the Public Documents & Patents Department, (513) 369-6971.

MEDICAID NURSING HOME COVERAGE

Tom Bedall, ProSeniors Managing Attorney
Tuesday, October 1, Blue Ash Branch, 7:00 p.m. Wednesday,
October 9, Main Library, Tower Room, Noon–1:00 p.m.

CHOOSING A NURSING HOME — QUESTIONS TO ASK

Mark O'Keefe, ProSeniors Care Options Hotline Tuesday,
October 15, Blue Ash Branch, 7:00 p.m., Wednesday,
October 23, Main Library, Room 3A, Noon–1:00 p.m.

KNOW YOUR PENSION RIGHTS

Gail Webb & Cindy Turner, ProSeniors Staff Attorneys
Tuesday, October 29th, Blue Ash Branch, 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, November 6th, Main Library, Room 3A

EXPLORE GERMAN HERITAGE IN OCTOBER

A series of programs at the Main Library and three branches during the month of October will help celebrate Cincinnati's German Heritage. The programs are presented in cooperation with the Hamilton County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society. They will include discussions on German history, song, dance, and genealogy. All programs are free and open to the public:



Germania Schuhplattler Trachten Gruppe

(Germania Costume Dance Group)

Saturday, October 5, 3:00 p.m.
All ages, Atrium, Main Library
800 Vine Street, 369-6944

Cincinnati German Churches with Bob Rau

Friday, October 11, 7:00 p.m.
North Central Branch Library
11109 Hamilton Avenue, 369-6068

Locating Your Immigrant Ancestor in Germany with Kenny Burck

Tuesday, October 22, 7:00 p.m.
Wyoming Branch Library
500 Springfield Pike, 369-6014

German Immigration and Settlement in America with Don Heinrich Tolzmann

Tuesday, October 29, 7:00 p.m.
Monfort Heights Branch Library
3825 West Fork Road, 369-4472

FALL JAZZ SERIES AT THE MAIN LIBRARY

As renovation of the Taft Museum continues, its 3rd annual Fall Jazz Series will be held at the Main Library on Sundays at 2:30 p.m. (Atrium, South Building). Sponsored by the Taft Museum of Art

Rags & Dixie

September 8

A program of Ragtime and Dixieland favorites from Bob Poe on banjo, Jim Clark on piano, and Phil Strikeleather on bass.

Gordon Brisker Quintet

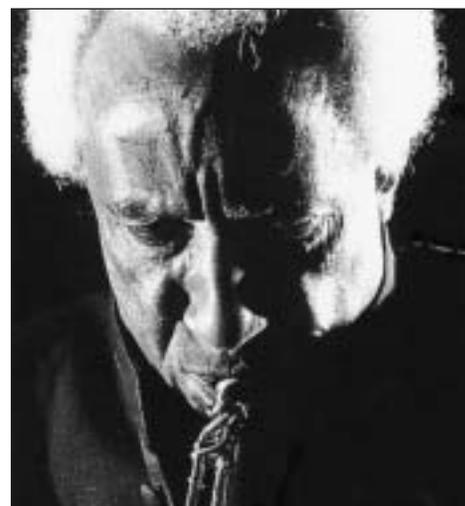
September 15

Jazz standards and original arrangements featuring saxophonist Gordon Brisker and friends.

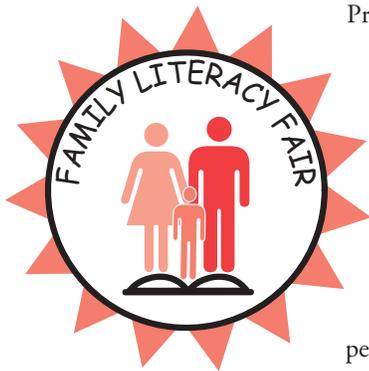
Lee Stolar Trio

October 6

Great jazz piano compositions performed by Lee Stolar, longtime pianist at the Celestial.



BUILDING BRIDGES TO THE FUTURE



Providing quality literacy programs to help children and adults develop essential basic skills to enhance their lives is at the heart of the Library's services. To nurture economic independence and quality of life, the Library believes ALL people should have the right to reading materials and information.

The goal of the Library, together with other community literacy providers, is to establish literacy as a value within families throughout the Tristate.

FAMILY LITERACY FAIR AT THE MAIN LIBRARY - SEPTEMBER 28

The Library's 3rd annual Family Literacy Fair will be held in the Atrium at the Main Library on Saturday, September 28 from 1:30 to 4:00 p.m. Those who attend will have the opportunity to speak to representatives from over 35 local agencies that provide literacy and educational services to youths and adults. The Fair will also provide information on free literacy help in area neighborhoods including volunteering and tutoring opportunities; GED preparation classes and educational opportunities for returning students; screening and classes for children and adults with profound reading difficulties; and English as a Second Language. For more information, call the Library's Literacy Coordinator at (513) 369-4570.

VISIT THE LIBRARY'S BOOTH AT THE HISPANIC FESTIVAL - SEPTEMBER 14 & 15

Reaching out to immigrants who live in Greater Cincinnati is at the forefront of the Library's literacy program development. The Library will promote literacy at the Hispanic Festival by distributing free materials in Spanish including: card applications for children and adults; 3,000 copies of the Department of Education publication, *Consejos practicos de lectura para los padres* (Reading Tips for Parents); as well as surveys to assess the needs of the Hispanic community.

LIBRARY PARTNERING WITH CINCINNATI ART MUSEUM

The Library, along with WCET48, Hamilton County ESC, the University of Cincinnati, and several local public and parochial schools, is partnering with the Cincinnati Art Museum to develop four interactive video lesson sets each focusing on the new museum display, *Discovering the Story: A City and Its Culture*. The project celebrates the Ohio bicentennial and includes video streaming and DVD production. The Art Museum was awarded a \$250,000 Ohio SchoolNet Telecommunity Content Development grant to support this project.

FREE ADULT BASIC EDUCATION/GED PREP CLASSES AT HARRISON BRANCH

The Library offers free GED Practice testing in collaboration with Great Oaks Institute of Technology and Career Development and Cincinnati Public Schools/Adult Education. Since the Library began GED practice testing in March of 2000, over 1,900 persons have taken advantage of this free service at the Main Library and other library branches. Over 880 have passed the GED Practice Test. Due to new state requirements the testing sessions are now monitored. The test is offered four times a month.

A free 10-week session of Adult Basic Education/GED prep classes is being offered at the Harrison Branch Library, 10398 New Haven Road, on Wednesday evenings (September 18–November 20 from 6:30–8:30 p.m.). All sessions provide individual help combined with teacher instructed mini-classes. For more information, call the Library's Literacy Coordinator at (513) 369-4570.

REACHING ALL AGES FROM INFANTS TO ADULTS

Library Babies: Library card applications and Library information are distributed to low income, first-time parents through collaboration with Every Child Succeeds. About 50 of these Library Babies packets are distributed each month at the 8-month home visitation. When parents apply for a library card for their baby they receive a free book. The Library also works with Good Samaritan Hospital Guild and Montgomery Women's Club to distribute Library information and card applications to new parents at Good Samaritan and Bethesda hospitals.

Adult Literacy Tutoring: In collaboration with YWCA LEARN, Library staff participate in adult literacy tutoring at Library locations. The Library gives each trained tutor a session of work release time to work with an adult learner. Since March of 2000, fifty-three staff members have helped sixty-seven adult learners to read, write and compute at levels necessary to function on the job and in society. Library staff have tutored over 2,400 hours of work release time and have contributed over 700 hours of their own time since March of 2000.

BEYOND BESTSELLERS

Fiction

Code Sixty-One

by Donald Harstad

“Code 61” is police lingo for minimum radio traffic during sensitive cases. Iowa Deputy Sheriff Carl Houseman field such a case—not only is the victim his boss’s niece, but her friends think she was killed by a vampire. Exacting police procedure meets the occult.

A Spy’s Life

by Henry Porter

Retired MI5 agent Robert Harland, working now for the UN, probes an airplane explosion which killed an investigator of war atrocities in Bosnia. Was it sabotage? An ex-spy returns to the milieu of Cold War espionage in this intricate and atmospheric thriller.

Leaving

by Richard Dry

A pregnant African-American girl and her brother travel from the South to California in 1959, fleeing family and civil rights abuses. The devastating effects of the displacement on three generations of their family is told with brutal candor in this haunting debut novel.

Everything Is Illuminated

by Jonathan Safran Foer

An American student, accompanied by a young translator, seeks the Ukrainian shtetl where a woman may once have saved his grandfather from the Nazis. As his quest unfolds, his novel-in-progress traces the village’s dark history. A stunning debut mixing tragedy and comedy.

The Dive from Clausen’s Pier

by Ann Packer

Restless and irritated with her young fiancé, Carrie Bell watches him dive from Clausen’s Pier and break his neck. In one unthinkable moment, all of her options are gone—how can she leave him now? A powerfully affecting novel about life’s choices.

Nonfiction

Possessing Genius: The Bizarre Odyssey of Einstein’s Brain

by Carolyn Abraham

616.07 H342Za 2002

Shakedown: Exposing the Real Jesse Jackson

by Kenneth R. Timmerman

973.92092 J584Zt 2002

Soros: The Life and Times of a Messianic Billionaire

by Michael T. Kaufman

332.6092 S714Zk 2002

Faces of Ground Zero: Portraits of the Heroes of September 11

By Joe McNally

974.71044 qM169 2002

Mutiny on the Globe: The Fatal Voyage of Samuel Comstock

by Thomas Farel Heffernan

910.45 C739Zh 2002

Sailors to the End: The Deadly Fire on the USS Forrestal & the Heroes Who Fought It

by Gregory A. Freeman

959.704348 F855 2002

Terrors and Marvels: How Science and Technology Changed the Character and Outcome of World War II

by Tom Shachtman

940.548 S524 2002

Art of the Common-Place: The Agrarian Essays of Wendall Berry

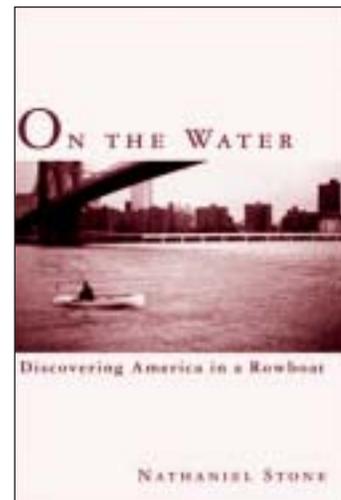
by Wendall Berry

630.973 B534 2002

Head First: 10 Ways to Tap Into Your Natural Genius

by Tony Buzan

153.9 B992 2002



On the Water: Discovering America in a Rowboat

by Nathaniel Stone

917.30493 S879 2002

Killing Monsters: Why Children Need Fantasy, Super Heroes, and Make-Believe Violence

by Gerard Jones

303.6083 J77 2002

Oaxaca Journal

by Oliver W. Sacks

587.097274 S121 2002

Our Posthuman Future: Consequences of the Biotechnology Revolution

by Francis Fukuyama

303.483 F961 2002

Audio Books

Bad Boy Brawly Brown

by Walter Mosley

CDW 1298

May it Please the Court: Courts, Kids and the Constitution

edited by Peter Irons

C 26666

Dave Berry Hits Below the Beltway

by Dave Berry

C 27018

Fighting Terrorism

by Benjamin Netanyahu

C 26910El



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BALLET RUSSE DE MONTE CARLO: THE GOLDEN YEARS 1938-1944

A unique collaboration between the Cincinnati Ballet, the Cincinnati Art Museum, and the Public Library brings the *Golden Years of the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo* back to center stage. Its exceptional talent and lavish costumes and sets helped introduce Americans to ballet in the late 1930s and early 1940s. Yet, if not for the patronage of Cincinnati's Julius Fleischmann, it may have never existed. To celebrate this legendary dance company and its contributions to furthering cultural enrichment, a series of programs and exhibits of interest to dance enthusiasts and critics regionally and beyond have been planned that lead up to the Cincinnati Ballet's special tribute performances.

AT THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo Enchants the Queen City, an archival exhibit at the Main Library, focuses on the historical significance of how this extraordinary ballet company helped build the cultural scene in Cincinnati. Colorful souvenir programs, newspaper articles and dance critiques, photographs of the performers, and books on the Ballet Russe are part of the display on view in the Art & Music Department (3rd floor, south building) from September 3 to November 30.

Behind the Scenes of the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo, a conversation and slide presentation with Cincinnati Ballet Artistic Director Victoria Morgan, dance critic Janet Light, and

Cincinnati Art Museum Curator of Prints, Drawings and Photographs Kristin Spangenberg, will be held at the Main Library on September 13 at 7:00 p.m. The discussion will focus on how the project began, the Ballet Russe's ties to Cincinnati, and the ballet company's effort to revive significant choreography inspired by the Cincinnati Art Museum's exhibition.

Cincinnati Ballet's Venture Dancers will preview the *Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo* with performance vignettes on Saturday, September 21 at 1:00 p.m. at the Main Library and on Thursday, September 26 at 7:00 p.m. at the Green Township Branch Library (6525 Bridgetown Road).

AT THE CINCINNATI ART MUSEUM

The Golden Age of Costume and Set Design for Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo, an exhibit of over 100 original costume and set drawings from 19 ballets performed by this pioneering dance company, will be on display at the Art Museum from October 10–January 12. The designs are drawn from the gift of The Fleischmann Foundation in memory of Julius Fleischmann.

AT THE ARONOFF CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Cincinnati Ballet's *Tribute to the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo* celebrates the 40th anniversary of the Cincinnati Ballet with Frederic Franklin, a former principal dancer and ballet master with Ballet Russe, and his 70th anniversary in the dance world on Friday, October 18 (8:00 p.m.) and Saturday, October 19 (2:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m.) at the Aronoff Center for the Arts.

