Construction Update

We have begun façade restoration on the Bedford Street side of the Library. Work to restore the columns and mounding on the front of the building is nearing completion. The project, paid for with capital funds from the city and state, should be finished in early fall.

Registration for children’s storytimes begins Tuesday, September 6 at 10 a.m. at the Main Library and, Wednesday, September 7 at the Harry Bennett Branch. Registration is in person only the first day. Not all storytime programs require registration. Check our calendar or ask at the Youth Services Department.

Focus on Ferguson

From the President’s Desk

What do the U.S. Constitution, Declaration of Independence, the Trail of Tears and I Have a Dream have in common? They are just a few of the cultural references that have been suggested for the pilot project, “What Every American Should Know.”

The Ferguson Library is one of seven libraries nationwide chosen by the Aspen Institute Citizenship & American Identity Program for this project. The program, whateveramericanshouldknow.org, was created to explore how, in an age of increasing diversity and widening inequality, this country can cultivate a sense of shared destiny and common civic purpose.

The Ferguson Library, with the League of Women Voters, is planning a series of events, including a public dialogue on October 26, to bring this national conversation to a local level. It will be a conversation about identity, to expand and diversify the concept of what it means to be a member of the community and to be an American. And finally, to collect these ideas in an aggregated list of “What Every American Should Know.”

Please keep your eyes open for programs in this series. Meanwhile, stop by the website, whateveramericanshouldknow.org, and add your suggestions.

— Alice Knapp, President

Computer Classes Help Recent Immigrant Learn Skills

Justina Okerogun recently moved here from Nigeria, and has been taking every computer class she can. She has learned how to send email, create a document in Microsoft Word and put together a PowerPoint. Justina has even taken a podcasting class, where she and classmates record their life stories.

“The library has become a wonderful resource for me,” she says. “It is like an open door. Anytime I come, they make me feel welcome.”

Library Criticism Online

“From the President’s Desk” will be a monthly column in Focus on Ferguson. The column will look at questions of local, regional and national significance and consider what the Library and our readers might do to contribute to a healthy democracy.

Home Page: Ferguson’s Internet and Online Resources

Friends’ Literary Pub Crawl – October 18

Registration for the Friends’ second annual Literary Pub Crawl opens September 1. We’ll be “crawling” to some great restaurants this year: Hudson Grille, Bar Rosso and Del Frisco’s Grille. Tickets are $15 and include happy hour pricing and entertainment at each location. Sign up early—last year we sold out!

Home Page: Ferguson’s Internet and Online Resources

Do you have a favorite work of literary criticism? The database, Literature Criticism Online, is the largest curated online collection of literary criticism in the world. It includes a range of modern and historical views on authors and their works across regions, eras and genres. In addition to criticism, it also includes biographies and reviews. You can find Literature Criticism Online through the Ferguson Library’s Internet and Online Resources page.
**Children’s Programs**

**Programs for Toddlers and Preschoolers**

**Toddler Time**—Walking babies up to age 18 months with an adult.

**ML, Third Floor Auditorium**

**Ages 3 and up with caregiver.**

Friday, August 4 at 1 p.m. at HBB

**Introduction to Computers**

**ML Main Library, DiMattia Building**

**8:30 to 9:30 a.m.**

**Registration required for all classes. Call 203 351-8242.**

**Back to School Storycraft**

**Thursday, August 25 at 2 p.m.**

**ML, Third Floor Auditorium**

**Read to Skylar**

**Saturday, August 6 at 10:30 a.m.**

**ML, Main Library, DiMattia Building**

**Ages 5 and under with caregiver.**

**Second Saturday Cinema**

**Saturday, August 13 at 2 p.m.**

**ML, Main Library, DiMattia Building**

**Ages 8 to 12.**

**Registration required. Call 203 351-8242.**

**Singing with the Stars**

**Wednesday, August 3 at 7 p.m.**

**ML, Third Floor Auditorium**

**Ages 5 and up (under 8 with a caregiver).**

**Registration is still open at all library locations or online.**

**TED Talks & Conversation**

**Tuesday, August 1 at 4:15 p.m. at HBB**

**ML Main Library and sew a pillow for your BFF!**

**Adolescents’ Book Club**

**Ages 13 to 18.**

**Monday, August 1 at 3 p.m. at HBB**

**Middle School, Grades 7-10. Registration required. Call 203 351-8242.**

**Library Lessons**

**Tuesday, August 2 at 6 p.m.**

**ML, Main Library, DiMattia Building**

**Ages 8 to 12.**

**Registration required. Call 203 351-8242.**

**Library Storytime**

**Wednesday, August 24 at 2 p.m.**

**ML, Main Library, DiMattia Building**

**Ages 5 to 10.**

**Registration required. Call 203 351-8242.**

**Library Talkers**

**Tuesday, August 2 at 4 p.m.**

**ML, Main Library, DiMattia Building**

**Ages 11 to 16.**

**Registration required. Call 203 351-8242.**

**Library Tunes**

**Wednesday, August 3 at 2 p.m.**

**ML, Main Library, DiMattia Building**

**Ages 7 to 12.**

**Registration required. Call 203 351-8242.**

**Library Workshops**

**Wednesday, August 24 at 3 p.m.**

**ML, Main Library, DiMattia Building**

**Ages 11 to 16.**

**Registration required. Call 203 351-8242.**

**Arts and Crafts Lessons**

**Wednesday, August 3 at 2 p.m.**

**ML, Main Library, DiMattia Building**

**Ages 6 to 12.**

**Registration required. Call 203 351-8242.**

**Arts and Crafts Workshops**

**Tuesday, August 2 at 6 p.m.**

**ML, Main Library, DiMattia Building**

**Ages 7 to 12.**

**Registration required. Call 203 351-8242.**

**Arts and Crafts Workshops**

**Wednesday, August 3 at 2 p.m.**

**ML, Main Library, DiMattia Building**

**Ages 6 to 12.**

**Registration required. Call 203 351-8242.**

**Arts and Crafts Workshops**

**Thursday, August 4 at 1 p.m.**

**ML, Main Library, DiMattia Building**

**Ages 7 to 12.**

**Registration required. Call 203 351-8242.**

**Arts and Crafts Workshops**

**Friday, August 5 at 1 p.m.**

**ML, Main Library, DiMattia Building**

**Ages 6 to 12.**

**Registration required. Call 203 351-8242.**

**Arts and Crafts Workshops**

**Saturday, August 6 at 1 p.m.**

**ML, Main Library, DiMattia Building**

**Ages 6 to 12.**

**Registration required. Call 203 351-8242.**

**Arts and Crafts Workshops**

**Sunday, August 7 at 1 p.m.**

**ML, Main Library, DiMattia Building**

**Ages 6 to 12.**

**Registration required. Call 203 351-8242.**

**Arts and Crafts Workshops**

**Monday, August 8 at 1 p.m.**

**ML, Main Library, DiMattia Building**

**Ages 7 to 12.**

**Registration required. Call 203 351-8242.**

**Arts and Crafts Workshops**

**Tuesday, August 9 at 1 p.m.**

**ML, Main Library, DiMattia Building**

**Ages 6 to 12.**

**Registration required. Call 203 351-8242.**

**Arts and Crafts Workshops**

**Wednesday, August 10 at 1 p.m.**

**ML, Main Library, DiMattia Building**

**Ages 6 to 12.**

**Registration required. Call 203 351-8242.**

**Arts and Crafts Workshops**

**Thursday, August 11 at 1 p.m.**

**ML, Main Library, DiMattia Building**

**Ages 6 to 12.**

**Registration required. Call 203 351-8242.**

**Arts and Crafts Workshops**

**Friday, August 12 at 1 p.m.**

**ML, Main Library, DiMattia Building**

**Ages 6 to 12.**

**Registration required. Call 203 351-8242.**

**Arts and Crafts Workshops**

**Saturday, August 13 at 1 p.m.**

**ML, Main Library, DiMattia Building**

**Ages 6 to 12.**

**Registration required. Call 203 351-8242.**

**Arts and Crafts Workshops**

**Sunday, August 14 at 1 p.m.**

**ML, Main Library, DiMattia Building**

**Ages 6 to 12.**

**Registration required. Call 203 351-8242.**

**Arts and Crafts Workshops**

**Monday, August 15 at 1 p.m.**

**ML, Main Library, DiMattia Building**

**Ages 6 to 12.**

**Registration required. Call 203 351-8242.**

**Arts and Crafts Workshops**

**Tuesday, August 16 at 1 p.m.**

**ML, Main Library, DiMattia Building**

**Ages 6 to 12.**

**Registration required. Call 203 351-8242.**

**Arts and Crafts Workshops**

**Wednesday, August 17 at 1 p.m.**

**ML, Main Library, DiMattia Building**

**Ages 6 to 12.**

**Registration required. Call 203 351-8242.**

**Arts and Crafts Workshops**

**Thursday, August 18 at 1 p.m.**

**ML, Main Library, DiMattia Building**

**Ages 6 to 12.**

**Registration required. Call 203 351-8242.**

**Arts and Crafts Workshops**

**Friday, August 19 at 1 p.m.**

**ML, Main Library, DiMattia Building**

**Ages 6 to 12.**

**Registration required. Call 203 351-8242.**