

Message from the CEO



Several years ago, we started on a path to increase community engagement. We held conversations and worked on community facing programs like public art projects. This journey started when some of us attended a workshop at the Harwood Institute for Public Innovation, an organization whose goal is to equip people, organizations and communities with the tools to bridge divides, build capacity, and tackle shared problems.

All of this work is culminating here at the library on May 23 with a very special event.

The Ferguson Library is partnering with the City of Stamford to bring Richard Harwood's Healing and Hope Tour to Stamford, where he will speak about his latest report, *Civic Virus: Why Polarization is a Misdiagnosis*. This report found that despite the common perception that our country is polarized, Americans feel isolated, rather than divided.

Join us on May 23 at 4 p.m. in the Main Library Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium to hear from Richard Harwood on how we can move forward to build a more connected community.

—Alice Knapp, CEO

A Novel Affair Raises \$261,000 for the Library



Thanks to everyone who helped make *A Novel Affair 2022* a success! We raised \$261,000 to support library services and collections, and we couldn't have done it without all of you.

Thank you to our generous sponsors, ticket buyers, auction donors and everyone who came out to support the library. It was wonderful to be back together in person this year.



The library will be closed Sunday, May 29 and Monday, May 30 for Memorial Day. We remember those who gave their lives in service of our country.

In-Person Storytimes are Back



Bring the kiddos to the library! In-person storytimes are back for our youngest visitors. With the warm weather, we are also holding many storytimes outside. Masks are required at indoor children's programs for participants age two and older. Check our calendar for information on dates and locations.

Save the Date: Joe R. Sexton Lecture June 9

We're delighted to welcome author Marc Wortman as the featured speaker for our annual Joe R. Sexton Lecture at the Main Library, DiMattia Building at 6 p.m. His latest book is *Admiral Hyman Rickover: Engineer of Power*, published by Yale University Press for the Jewish Lives series.

Marc Wortman is an award-winning popular historian and journalist, author of several books and countless articles. His narrative histories include *1941: Fighting the Shadow War: A Divided America in a World at War*; *The Millionaires' Unit: The Aristocratic Flyboys Who Fought the Great War and Invented American Air Power* and *The Bonfire: The Siege and Burning of Atlanta*. He has written for *Vanity Fair*, *Smithsonian*, *Air&Space* and *Time*, and is a frequent contributor to *The Daily Beast* on American military and political history and other subjects.

The Joe R. Sexton Lecture Series is presented in memory of Joseph (Joe) R. Sexton. Generously sponsored by Mel Klugman and the Friends of the Ferguson Library.

Next up in Civility in America



Mark your calendars for these upcoming lectures in the Civility in America Series. On June 2 at 6 p.m., John Bolton, former National Security Advisor and U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, will speak about *Keeping the Dialogue Civil*.

On June 6, former Commissioner of Major League Baseball, Fay Vincent, will deliver his presentation, *When Nothing Matters, What Do We Tell Our Kids?*

Register for both events at fergusonlibrary.org/events.



DIGITAL LIBRARY: PRESS READER

Library users now have access to the Ferguson Library's subscription to PressReader, a resource that gives you free use of thousands of newspapers and magazines from around the world. You can dig into the Featured Section for the latest headlines, or search by category—from Food & Drink and Travel & Culture to Family and the Outdoors, you name it—to learn more about what is currently piquing your curiosity. Best of all, there are no limits to the number of issues you can download, making it easy to read anytime, anywhere, and on any device. You can find this resource under Research & Learn/A to Z Resources on our website. Once you enter the site, select Library or Group to sign in using your library card number and PIN.

ML Main Library, DiMattia Building, 203 351-8231
HB Harry Bennett, 203 351-8292
SE South End, 203 351-8280
WMH Weed Memorial & Hollander, 203 351-8286

RR Registration Required

at fergusonlibrary.org/events

For virtual programs, Zoom login details will be included in registration confirmations.

For Zoom programs that don't require registration, visit our online calendar for login details.



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Our programs are generously supported by the Friends of the Ferguson Library

Face masks are optional in library buildings but are required at children's indoor programs for participants ages 2 and older.

We reserve the right to request that you wear a mask if you are working closely with staff.

Book Discussions

If the discussion is presented via Zoom, login details are on our online calendar. Registration is not required. Book discussions are open to all.

Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch
Monday, May 2 at 11:30 a.m.
via Zoom

Nothing to See Here by Kevin Wilson

Harry Bennett Branch
Monday, May 9 from 7 to 8 p.m.
via Zoom

Lavinia by Ursula Le Guin

Spanish Book Discussion
Thursday, May 12 from 5 to 6:30 p.m..
ML, Third Floor Ann Sexton Board Room
La suma de los días por Isabel Allende

South End Branch African & African American Authors Book Discussion
Monday, May 23 from 7 to 9 p.m. at SE
The Street by Ann Petry

2022 READING CHALLENGE

Grab a copy of our challenge list and join us in exploring new book genres, subjects and themes to be entered into a drawing for a literary prize. The challenge ends mid-December. For the challenge list, visit fergusonlibrary.readsquared.com.



An Evening with Catie Marron, Author of *Becoming A Gardener: What Reading and Digging Taught Me About Living*

Wednesday, May 11 at 6 p.m. at HB
Becoming a Gardener brings together Catie Marron's experience of making her first garden with her study of great garden literature to better understand how being and becoming a gardener can enrich one's life. Book sale and signing. **RR** to attend in person; also available via Zoom.

Understanding Stress with Dr. Samoon Ahmad, Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, NYU Grossman School of Medicine

Tuesday, May 17 from 6:30 to 8 p.m.
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium
In this timely talk, Dr. Samoon Ahmad will provide an overview of the biology of stress. He will also review tools to eliminate bad habits that may have become worse during the pandemic and interventions that can help make positive change. Also available via Zoom.

Haitian Heritage Month Screening: *Jean-Jacques Dessalines, The Man Who Defeated Napoleon, a Documentary* by Arnold Antonin Saturday, May 21 at 3 p.m.

SE, Second Floor
The complex story of Dessalines, a leader of the Haitian Revolution and first ruler of independent Haiti. 2022; 97 minutes; presented in Haitian Creole and French with English subtitles.

Friends Author Series Presents An Evening with John Searles in Conversation with Kate White Wednesday, May 25 at 6:30 p.m.

ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium
Join us for an evening with two *New York Times* bestselling authors: John Searles, author of *Her Last Affair*, in conversation with Kate White, author of *The Fiancée* and *The Secrets of You*, among other thrillers. Proceeds benefit the library. Book sale and signing. **RR** to attend in person; also available via Zoom.

English Language Learners

Let's Talk: Conversation Groups for English Language Learners Spring Sessions via Zoom

Registration not required. New students welcome. For meeting information, visit fergusonlibrary.org/lets-talk-events.

Tuesdays, May 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31

New students: noon

Basic: 12:30 p.m.

Low intermediate: 3 p.m.

Advanced: 5:30 p.m.

Wednesdays, May 4, 11, 18 & 25

High intermediate: 10 a.m.

Beginner: 3 p.m.

U.S. Citizenship Course

Mondays and Thursdays, May 2, 5, 9, 12, 16, 19, 23 & 26 at 10 a.m.

ML, Third Floor Technology Center
Face masks required.

Conclusion of six-week study course for the U.S. Naturalization test. Students must read, write and comprehend basic English. Applicants who are 50 and older with 20 years of legal permanent residency, or 55 and older with 15 years of legal permanent residency, could be excused from the English literacy requirement.) **RR**. Registration closes May 2.

SPECIAL EVENT

Healing and Hope Tour: A Discussion with Richard Harwood, Author of *Civic Virus*

Monday, May 23 from 4 to 5 p.m.
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium
Richard Harwood, of the Harwood Institute, leads a discussion about how we can find innovative new ways to re-imagine and recreate our communities in the wake of his report, *Civic Virus*, which concludes that people are deeply frustrated by the rise of partisanship but do not feel antagonistic toward their fellow citizens. **RR** to attend in person; also available via Zoom.

A partnership between the Ferguson Library and the City of Stamford.

Technology

Main Library, DiMattia Building Third Floor Technology Center

RR for all classes.

Face masks required.

▲ **Familiarity with Windows and use of a mouse and keyboard necessary**

■ **Basic experience with MS PowerPoint necessary**

● **Basic experience with MS Word necessary**

Microsoft PowerPoint Basic PowerPoint ▲

Thursday, May 5 from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

Learn how to create and save presentations, design slide shows, and insert images and text. No experience with PowerPoint necessary.

Intermediate PowerPoint ▲ ■

Thursday, May 12 from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

Learn how transitions and animations make your presentations pop and how to use the Presenter View to your best advantage.

Introduction to Web Building: HTML & CSS ▲

Saturday, May 7 from 2 to 4 p.m.

Learn how to build a website using HTML to add text, images, and links, and CSS to modify the format and design of the website. No experience with HTML or CSS necessary.

Microsoft Word

Basic Microsoft Word ▲

Saturday, May 14 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Learn how to navigate MS Word, create and save your document, and format your text. No experience with MS Word necessary.

Intermediate Microsoft Word ▲ ●

Saturday, May 21 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Learn how to add images and tables to documents, use Styles to format a document, and edit the header and footer.

Tech Tuesdays: Smartphone Tips for Older Adults

**Tuesdays, May 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31
from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.**

SE, Second Floor Program Room

Free weekly classes with our experienced bilingual (English and Spanish) team. No registration required.

Business & Career

Stamford 1 Million Cups

**Wednesday, May 4 from 8 to 9 a.m.
via Zoom**

Presenters: Luke Skarzynski, founder of Just In Case Estates; and Tom Herman, CEO of Meta Carbon. **RR.**

Exploring Career Planning

Saturday, May 14 from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

ML, Third Floor Technology Center

Learn how to research career options, perform a self-evaluation to test your career suitability, and find ways to get on a career track that suits your interests and goals. **RR.**

Perfecting Time Management

Saturday, May 28 from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

ML, Third Floor Technology Center

Learn how to organize your tasks to become more productive and efficient in and out of the workplace.

Person-to-Person Mobile Food Pantry

**Tuesdays, May 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31
from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at SE**

For more information, call 203 724-9111.

Community Mindfulness Project: Meditation

**Tuesdays, May 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 at noon
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium**

A brief discussion about meditation practice, a guided meditation, and a chance to share and reflect. Appropriate for all levels of practice.

Notary Services

**Wednesdays, May 4, 11, 18 & 25
from 2 to 4 p.m. at HB**

Our notary public will be available to notarize your official documents for free. By appointment only. Call 203 351-8292.

Family Program: Celebrate Eid

**Friday, May 6 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.
at SE**

Join a fun-filled Eid celebration with your Muslim neighbors. Celebrate Islamic culture with story time, arts & crafts, snacks and gifts. All ages. Co-Sponsored by Islamic Family Services.

Death Cafe Stamford

Thursdays, May 12 & 26 from 2 to 3 p.m. via Zoom

A discussion about the increasing awareness of death to help people

make the most of their finite lives. With Sahara Farrugio, a licensed funeral director specializing in advanced planning. Note: Death Cafe is not grief support or counseling.

Conversations About Art: Self Portraits; Female Artists Paint Themselves, 16th to 19th Centuries

Wednesday May 18 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at HB

Helene E. March Rheingold, docent at the Neuberger Museum of Art, instructor at Learning in Retirement, and an arts enrichment facilitator at the Stamford Public Schools, will lead the discussion. **RR.**

Stamford Pollinator Pathways

Saturday, May 21 from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. at HB

Audubon CT-NY's Jillian Bell will talk about bird-friendly plants for your home landscape. With the right plants, any space, from a small container on your patio to an acre of your backyard, can become more bird friendly. Free packet of seeds to all attendees. Also available via Zoom.

Lawyers in Libraries: Looking for Legal Advice

**Thursday, May 26 from 6 to 8 p.m.
ML, Second Floor Study Room**

Meet with a volunteer attorney for 20 minutes regarding your case. Please bring relevant materials and documents. Appointment and face masks required; to book a time, call 203 351-8221.

Supported by the Connecticut Bar Association.

Registration is Open: CrimeCONN Mystery Lovers' Conference

**Saturday, June 4 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium**

The Friends of the Ferguson Library and the Mystery Writers of America/ NY chapter present CrimeCONN 2022, a one-day writers' and mystery lovers' conference. This year, authors and crime experts take stock of the literary life in the midst of COVID, current cultural upheavals and Russia's war on Ukraine. How do we keep creating and finding beauty amid the turmoil? Tickets: before May 6, \$40 per person; after May 6, \$50 per person. \$45 per person for MWA and Friends members, seniors and students. Light breakfast and lunch included. Also available via Zoom at \$25 per person.

FRIENDS OF THE FERGUSON LIBRARY



Book Shop News

The Book Shop's Dollar Sale continues. Look for these special discounted books for just one buck at the Harry Bennett and Main Library shops. It's a great way to explore a new subject or author.

All proceeds support the library.

2022 Literary Competition Awards May 1

Winners of the 2022 Stamford Literary Competition will be honored Sunday, May 1 at 1:30 p.m. at the Main Library, DiMattia Building. Congratulations to all the talented student writers who entered this year's contest. Visit our website, fergusonlibrary.org/friends/events, to see a list of the winners.

Tiny Art Show at the Weed Branch

Tiny can be terrific! Stop by the Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch to take a peek at their Tiny Art Show on display this month. All the pictures are four by four inches, created by artists of all ages. You are invited to meet the artists at the opening reception Tuesday, May 3 at 4:30 p.m. The exhibit runs through May 31.



Ferguson Library's Communication Department Wins CT Press Club Award

Can we toot our own horn? Our Development & Communication Department won a first place CT Press Club award for our video, *Why I Love the Library*. It now goes on to compete at the national level in the National Federation of Press Women contest. Check it out on our YouTube channel!

Missed one of our programs? Not to worry – catch up whenever you have a chance. We are recording most of our virtual programs. You can find them on our YouTube channel.



THE HEART OF THE COMMUNITY

Linda Avellar, *Editor*
Barbara Aronica-Buck, *Designer*
Barbara Thomas, *Communication Specialist*
Camilla Herrera, *Marketing Specialist*

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Alice Knapp, *Chief Executive Officer*

Main Library, DiMattia Building
One Public Library Plaza,
Stamford, CT 06904
203 964-1000
Monday through Thursday 10 to 8
Friday 10 to 6
Saturday 10 to 5
Sunday 1 to 5

Harry Bennett Branch
115 Vine Road 06905
203 351-8291
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
10 to 6
Wednesday 10 to 7
Saturday 10 to 5

South End Branch
34 Woodland Avenue 06902
203 351-8280
Monday through Thursday 10 to 5:30
Saturday 10 to 2

Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch
1143 Hope Street 06907
203 351-8285
Monday & Thursday 10 to 6
Tuesday 12 to 7
Saturday 10 to 5

Bookmobile

Check our online calendar at <https://www.fergusonlibrary.org/locations-hours/bookmobile>

The Friends Book Shops at the Ferguson Library

Main Library
Monday through Thursday 11 to 6
Friday & Saturday 11 to 5
Sunday 1 to 5
Harry Bennett Branch
Monday through Saturday 10 to 5

Connect to the Ferguson

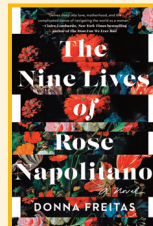


STAFF RECOMMENDS:

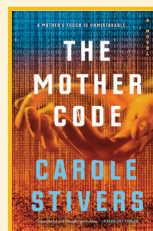
Stories of Motherhood



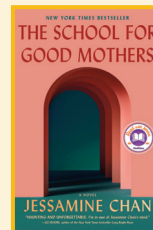
Carolina Built
by Kianna Alexander



The Nine Lives of Rose Napolitano
by Donna Freitas



The Mother Code
by Carole Stivers



The School for Good Mothers
by Jessamine Chan



Look How Happy I'm Making You
by Polly Rosenwaik



Holly Banks Full of Angst
by Julie Valerie

Passport Services
Appointments take precedence and are recommended. For more information or to make an appointment, call 203 351-8298.

Main Library Passport Office
Monday through Thursday 10 to 7
Friday & Saturday 10 to 4
Sunday 1 to 4

Harry Bennett Passport Office
Wednesday 10 to 6 (walk-in only)
Saturday 10 to 4 (walk-in only)

p 203 964-1000

f 203 357-9098

w fergusonlibrary.org

e comments@fergusonlibrary.org

MAY 2022

Support the library with a monthly gift. Donate at fergusonlibrary.org.



FERGUSON LIBRARY

YOUTH SERVICES

MAY 2022


How to Contact and Follow Us




Main Library Borrowers Services: 203 351-8261
Main Library Adult Services/Reference Desk:
203 351-8231
Youth Services:
Main Library: 203 351-8242
Harry Bennett Branch: 203 351-8294
South End Branch: 203 351-8280
Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch: 203 351-8287

F Check out our **Youth Services page** at fergusonlibrary.org/services/kids for information for kids, teens, parents and educators. You'll find information about our digital books, movies and music, Linked Libraries, digital resources, Wi-Fi service for students in need, and more.

F Visit our **online calendar** at fergusonlibrary.org/events for updates and pop-up programs and subscribe to our newsletter/weekly emails at fergusonlibrary.org/newsletters.

 **Instagram** @ferglibrary, @ferglibraryyouth, @harrybennettbranchys and southendbranch_lib

 **Facebook** facebook.com/TheFergusonLibrary

 **YouTube** youtube.com/c/TheFergusonLibrary

The library will be closed Monday, May 30, in observance of Memorial Day.



Stamford students can use their student ID to access our many digital materials, even if they don't have a Ferguson

Library card. For access, enter 2111800+student ID number (no spaces). If you encounter any issues accessing our e-materials or databases, fill out the form at fergusonlibrary.org/linked-libraries-contact-us-form

Curbside pickup is still available by appointment.

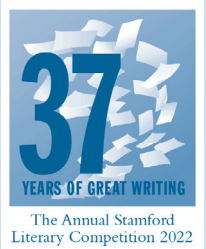
Face masks are optional in library buildings but are required at children's indoor programs for participants ages 2 and older.

We reserve the right to request that you wear a mask if you are working closely with staff.

Friends of the Ferguson Library Literary Competition Awards Ceremony

Sunday, May 1 from 12:30 to 3 p.m.
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium

Join us to celebrate the winning authors of the annual Friends of the Ferguson Library Literary Competition. Selections from their work will be read and prizes will be awarded.



Spring Things Scavenger Hunt

May 2 to May 31 at SE (during library hours)



Find the birds, bees, flowers and other spring things hidden in the shelves of the South End Branch to win a gift to give to a special person. Pick up a checklist at the branch to participate. All ages.

Tiny Art Show Opening Reception

Tuesday, May 3 at 4:30 p.m. at WMH

Enjoy this display of 4x4 paintings created by children and adults in the community. The exhibit will be on view through May 31.



Family Program: Celebrate Eid

Friday, May 6 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at SE

Join a fun-filled Eid celebration with your Muslim neighbors. Celebrate Islamic culture with a story time, arts & crafts, snacks and gifts. All ages.

Co-Sponsored by Islamic Family Services.



Our programs are generously supported by the Friends of the Ferguson Library.

FERGUSON LIBRARY YOUTH SERVICES MAY 2022

ML Main Library, DiMattia Building • HB Harry Bennett • SE South End • WMH Weed Memorial & Hollander
RR-REGISTRATION REQUIRED at fergusonlibrary.org/events • For virtual programs, Zoom login details will be included in registration confirmations. For Zoom programs that don't require registration, visit our online calendar for login details.

Children's Storytimes



Follow us on Instagram @ferglibraryyouth for story times, songs, fingerplays and more.

Sing & Stomp

Mondays, May 2, 9, 16 & 23

from 10:15 to 10:45 a.m. via Zoom

A song and dance party. For 8 months to 4 years old with adult. **RR.**

Budding Bookworms

Tuesdays, May 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31

at 10:30 a.m.

via South End Branch Instagram

Storytime for ages 18 months to 4 years. New content every week.

Family Storytime

Wednesdays, May 4, 11, 18 & 25 from 10:30 to 11 a.m.

ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium

A participatory storytime for the whole family that includes songs, fingerplays, stories and movement activities. For families with children ages 18 months to 4 years. No walk-ins. **RR.**

Outdoor Family Storytimes

Thursdays, May 5, 12, 19 & 26

from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. at WMH

Fridays, May 6, 13, 20 & 27 at 10:30 a.m.

at HB (*Rain location: HB Auditorium)

Tuesdays, May 10, 17, 24 & 31

from 10:30 to 11 a.m. at Latham Park

Bring a blanket and/or lawn chair to these drop-in programs. Up to age 4, with a caregiver, weather permitting.*

Babytime

Fridays, May, 6, 13, 20 & 27

from 10:30 to 11 a.m.

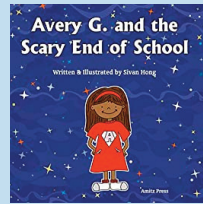
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium

This program features traditional verses, bouncing rhymes, board books and more. For babies up to 18 months with an accompanying adult. No walk-ins. **RR.**



Author Sivan Hong, Author of Super Fun Days Books Series

Saturday, May 7 from 11 a.m. to noon
ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium



Connecticut author Sivan Hong will discuss her book, *Avery G. and the Scary End of School*, the latest in her Super Fun Days

Books series. This collection of social stories is perfect for neuro-diverse (autism, ADHD, dyslexia) and neurotypical kids who struggle with change. Books available for purchase. For kids in pre-K and older, and their families. **RR.**

Children's Programs

Kids Book Discussion

Tuesday, May 17 from 7 to 7:45 p.m.

ML, Third Floor Ann Sexton Board Room

From the Desk of Zoe Washington by Janae Marks. Zoe dreams of becoming a baking star, but her dreams take second place when she receives a letter from her imprisoned father, a man she has never met. The letter sets in motion her quest to prove her father's innocence while trying to create an original cupcake recipe. Grades 4 to 6. **RR.**

Crafternoons @ Home

Wednesday, May 18 from 4 to 4:45 p.m.

via Zoom

A picture book story circle and art project. Bring coloring supplies and have your imagination ready. Art supply bags are available for pick-up at all library locations. One bag per registered child. Bags are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Families and caregivers welcome. Grades K to 5. **RR.**

Book Bunch Club Discussion and Activity

Wednesday, May 25 from 4 to 5 p.m.

via Zoom

Read *The Man Who Walked Between the Towers* by Mordicai Gerstein, then join us for a fun discussion and activity. Please have blank paper, a writing utensil, crayons or markers, and scissors handy. Grades 2 to 3. **RR.**

Teen Programs

Creative Writing Club

Wednesday, May 4 from 5 to 6 p.m.
via Zoom

Bring your imagination, paper and writing tools. We'll work on different writing prompts, then share our work. Grades 5 to 9. **RR.**

Chocolate Chip Cookie Taste-Off

Friday, May 6 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

ML, Dudley N. Williams, Jr. Auditorium

May 6 is International No Diet Day. Celebrate with us by sampling chocolate chip cookies from Stamford bakeries and delis and vote for your favorite. Grades 6 to 12. **RR.**

T-MAD Meeting

Thursday, May 19 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

via Zoom

Library's teen advisory program, where you can learn about upcoming events, share reading suggestions, and make a difference in the community. We will also discuss summer volunteering opportunities at the library. Participation in T-MAD counts as volunteer work. **RR.**

Earn Volunteer Hours by Reviewing Books



The Ferguson Library is offering volunteer hours to teens in grades 6 to 12 to write book reviews. Reviews will be featured on the library's Youth Instagram page and displayed with reviewed books at the library. Teens may submit up to two book reviews per week at tinyurl.com/m523vnb7.

For each review approved by a librarian, teens will receive one hour of volunteer credit. Reviews may be edited for clarity and will list the reviewer's first name, last name initial, and grade, unless the reviewer is anonymous. For information, call 203-351-8242 or email ferglibraryyouth@gmail.com.