

## Live Music

### *Holiday Music* with Doug Munro and La Pompe Attack

Veteran New York guitarist **Doug Munro** will perform holiday music with a gypsy jazz twist with his band **La Pompe Attack** as part of the Library's Ridgfield Folk series. The band will perform Christmas and Hanukkah songs in the swinging style of Django Reinhardt and Stephane Grappelli.

Munro has received two Grammy nominations and two NAIRD awards. This program is part of the Library's Ridgfield Folk series that is made possible thanks to the Friends of the Library.

**Sunday, December 2, 2 PM**

[Free tickets given out at the door from 1 PM](#)

## ARTalk

### *Painted Books from the Age of Exploration to the Digital Age*



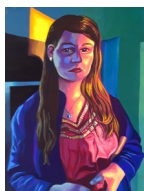
James Lancel McElhinney, journal-artist, author, Yale alumnus, and Pollock-Krasner Grant recipient, will unfold the epic story of painted books, from the Age of Exploration to the Digital Era. He will discuss how beautifully painted manuscripts largely disappeared with the invention of the printing press and how watercolor painting, which had been an expeditionary medium for mapmakers and naturalists, was embraced by studio artists such as Winslow Homer and John Singer Sargent.

**Sunday, December 9, 2 PM**

Please register at [ridgfieldlibrary.org](http://ridgfieldlibrary.org)

## Exhibit & Reception

### *Threshold* *Group Exhibit by WCSU Students and Faculty*



There will be an opening artists' reception on Thursday, Dec. 6 from 6 to 8 pm for a group show titled *Thresholds* with artworks selected from Sabrina Marques' Painting IV Class.

Sabrina Marques, Assistant Professor of Studio Art and MFA Critic at Western Connecticut State University, received her BA in Visual Arts from Columbia University and her MFA in Painting from Yale School of Art.

**Show runs through January 11, 2019**

**Reception: Thursday, December 6, 6–8 PM**

[No registration](#)

## Environmental

### *Saving Animals from Extinction: Tales of Species Recovery in Connecticut and Beyond* with Jim Knox

Join zoologist and Beardsley Zoo's Curator of Education, **Jim Knox** as he profiles his work with Species Survival Plans. Learn how 21st Century science is extending the reach and achievements of field conservationists, and how Fairfield County citizens can become involved in recovery efforts to protect our planet's most imperiled and majestic creatures. As the Writer and Host for PBS television's *WildZooFari*, Jim Knox has shared his knowledge of, and passion for wildlife with millions of viewers throughout the world on *Animal Planet*. Jim has served as an on-camera Wildlife Expert for *The Today Show*, *The CBS Early Show*, and *Fox News*.

**Thursday, December 13, 7 PM**

Please register at [ridgfieldlibrary.org](http://ridgfieldlibrary.org)

## *We Got Games!*

A Tabletop Gaming Meet-Up for Adults and



*We Got Games* is a tabletop gaming meet-up for adults and teens that will meet on the second Tuesday of each month from 6:00 to 7:45 PM. This program takes place in the Kellen Family Children's Program Room.

**Tuesday, December 11, 6–8 PM**

[No registration](#)

## *Community Sing-Along* with Cantor Deborah Katchko Gray

Community Sing-Along returns this winter! In the spirit of Pete Seeger and the singer songwriters of folk, Broadway, and the American Songbook, join Cantor Deborah Katchko Gray in a community singalong! Bring your voices, tuned guitars, drums, friends, and family of all ages! All are welcome!

**Sunday, December 16, 3:30–5 PM**

Please register at [ridgfieldlibrary.org](http://ridgfieldlibrary.org)

# Author Talk

Join these three Connecticut authors and Fairfield MFA program graduates as they share their recent work. Followed by a brief Q & A and book signing.



**Chris Belden** is the author of the novels *Shriver* and *Carry-on*, and the story collection *The Floating Lady of Lake Tawaba*. A graduate of the Fairfield University MFA program, Chris co-founded the Ridgefield Writers Conference and currently teaches writing at both the Westport Writing Workshop and Garner Correctional Institution, a maximum-security prison. He lives in Ridgefield with his wife and daughter.



**James M Chesbro** is the author of *A Lion in the Snow: Essays on a Father's Journey Home*. His work has appeared in *The Writer's Chronicle*, *America*, *The Washington Post*, *Brain*, *Child Magazine*, *Essay Daily*, and *The Huffington Post*. A graduate of the Fairfield University MFA program, Jamie lives in Fairfield with his wife and two children and teaches at Fairfield Prep.



**Ioanna Opidee** is the author of the novel *Waking Slow*, and her work has appeared in several literary journals and magazines. An English teacher at Weston High School and a graduate of Fairfield University's MFA in Creative Writing program, Ioanna lives in Newtown with her husband and two daughters.

**Tuesday, December 11, 7 PM**

Register at [ridgefieldlibrary.org](http://ridgefieldlibrary.org)

## Children's Books Merit Grown-Up Conversation—A Two-Part Series

This program presents an introduction to the picture book as visual literacy, art, and cultural fare. Often these seemingly simple stories have layers of depth, theme, artistic ingenuity, and historical significance. Part one of this series covers a brief history of the picture book. The second session builds upon the first, and introduces analysis and evaluation of picture books.

**Tuesday, November 27 and Dec. 4, 7 PM**

Please register at [ridgefieldlibrary.org](http://ridgefieldlibrary.org)

## Fairfield County Write-In!

Join the Fairfield County Writers Group ([fairfieldcountywriters.org](http://fairfieldcountywriters.org)) for their monthly write-in, a three-hour productive working session where we can gather together and feed off each other's focused energies to work on our individual projects (and escape the responsibilities and chaos of our home lives for a few hours each month to get writing done).

**Saturday, December 15, 1 PM–4 PM**

Please register at [ridgefieldlibrary.org](http://ridgefieldlibrary.org)

## Health & Wellness

### Chair Yoga

with Valerie Rich



Ever wanted to try a Yoga class but have some restrictions or injuries? In this introductory Chair Yoga session, you will be guided through a relaxing and recharging Yoga class that is suitable for everyone and all abilities.

Chair Yoga sessions take place on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month.

**Wednesday, December 5 & 19, 1 PM**

Please register at [ridgefieldlibrary.org](http://ridgefieldlibrary.org)

### Mindfulness & Meditation

with the Community Mindfulness Project

Join us for a series of one-hour meditation classes led by CMP, a local, secular meditation group.

**Monday, December 10, 6:30 PM**

Please register at [ridgefieldlibrary.org](http://ridgefieldlibrary.org)

### Dancing with Fear: Helping Young People Create a Life Beyond Worry & Anxiety

with Dr. Paul Foxman



The Worried Child  
Reclaiming Anxiety in Children and Helping Them Thrive

**Paul Foxman, Ph.D.**, seasoned psychologist and author of the acclaimed books *The Worried Child* and *Dancing with Fear*, offers a recovery approach to helping children and adolescents reclaim their lives by replacing anxiety, worry, and panic with peace, optimism, and joy.

This program is part of *Parenting the #Selfie Generation*, a community-wide collaboration with Ridgefield Public Schools, Ridgefield Council of PTAs, Ridgefield Library, Project Resilience, Ridgefield Youth Commission, Books on the Common, Town Vibe, and Silver Hill Hospital. Books will be available for sale and signing at the event thanks to Books on the Common.

**Wednesday, December 5, 7 PM**

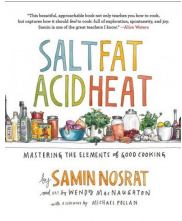
Please register at [ridgefieldlibrary.org](http://ridgefieldlibrary.org)

# Library Book Groups - New Readers Welcome!

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT: A CULINARY BOOK DISCUSSION

Monday, December 3  
2:00 PM

***Salt, Fat, Acid, Heat:  
Mastering the Elements of  
Good Cooking***  
by Samin Nosrat



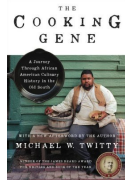
In the tradition of *The Joy of Cooking* and *How to Cook Everything*,

an ambitious

new approach to cooking by a major new culinary voice. Master the use of just four elements—Salt, which enhances flavor; Fat, which delivers flavor and generates texture; Acid, which balances flavor; and Heat, which ultimately determines the texture of food—and anything you cook will be delicious.

Next Month's Selection  
Monday, January 28  
2:00 PM

***The Cooking Gene***  
by Michael Twitty



## POETRY DISCUSSION GROUP

Friday, December 28  
1:00 PM

Dr. Alan Holder, retired English professor, will lead a discussion about Jacobean and Elizabethan English poets. Copies of the poems are available at the Circulation Desk.

This program is made possible thanks to the Friends of the Library.

**The following book groups do not meet in December. Be sure to get reading for the January discussions!**

## MURDER BY THE BOOK

Thursday, January 3  
10:30 AM

***Magpie Murders*** by  
Anthony Horowitz



A classic old-fashioned British village murder mystery is wrapped inside a complex

contemporary “meta-mystery” involving a popular writer who dies mysteriously, leaving the final chapter of his latest work unfinished—and his editor suspicious.

## FOUNDERS HALL BOOK DISCUSSION

Thursday, January 10  
3:00 PM

***Signature of All Things***  
by Elizabeth George

Open to members of  
Founders Hall

**BOOKS &  
BREAKFAST**  
Monday, January 14  
10:30 AM



Join us for an informal book chat led by Dorothy Pawlowski.

## CRITICS' CIRCLE BOOK GROUP

Tuesday, January 15  
7:00 PM

***Beneath a Scarlet Sky***  
by Mark Sullivan

Based on the true story of a forgotten hero, this novel is the triumphant, epic tale of one young man's incredible courage and resilience during one of history's darkest hours. When his family home in Milan is destroyed by Allied bombs, Italian teenager Pino Lella joins an underground

railroad helping Jews escape over the Alps and falls for Anna, a beautiful widow who is six years his senior.

**A.M. BOOK GROUP**  
Wednesday, January 23

10:00 AM

***Amerika***

by Franz Kafka

Kafka's first novel (published posthumously), *Amerika* tells the story of the young immigrant who, after an embarrassing sexual misadventure, finds himself “packed off to America” by his parents. Expected to redeem himself in this magical land of opportunity, young Karl is swept up instead in a whirlwind of dizzying reversals and strange escapades.

## LIVE IN HD @ RIDGEFIELD PLAYHOUSE

Metropolitan Opera, National Theatre of London, and the Bolshoi Ballet on the big screen! Ridgefield Library card holders now receive the Playhouse membership rate of \$20 for these events. For a full listing, visit [ridgefieldplayhouse.org](http://ridgefieldplayhouse.org).

## Tech Topics

**Help! Downloading the Library's eBooks and eAudiobooks: Bring Your Own Device:** Get help downloading eBooks or eAudiobooks to your phone or tablet.  
Tuesday, December 11 @ 12:30–1:30 PM - Drop-in  
Thursday, December 27 @ 1:00–2:30 PM - Drop-in

**3D Printing Orientation:** We are now offering use of our 3D printer to Ridgefield Library cardholders. Those who are under age 18 must come with an adult.

Saturday, December 15 @ 10:00 AM–11:30 AM - [Register](#)

Friday, December 28 @ 10:30 AM–12:00 PM - [Register](#)

**Convert Your VHS Videos to DVD:** Sign up for one of these two-hour timeslots!

Wednesday, December 5 @ 11 AM–1PM - [Register](#)

Thursday, December 6 @ 2–4 PM - [Register](#)

Friday, December 7 @ 2–4 PM - [Register](#)

Tuesday, December 11 @ 2–4 PM - [Register](#)

Friday, December 28 @ 1–3 PM - [Register](#)

MAKING  
  
STEAM  
@ ridgefield library

**Make a Holiday Card with Cricut:** Come use the Library's smart cutting machine.

Wednesday, December 12 @ 1:00–2:30 PM - [Register](#)

# Featured Events Calendar - December 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
<p>2 <b>Ridgefield Folk:</b> <i>Holiday Favorites With a Gypsy Swing</i> Twist with Doug Munro and La Pompe Attack 2 PM</p>	<p>3 <b>Food for Thought:</b> <i>Salt, Fat, Acid, Heat: Mastering the Elements of Good</i> Cooking by Samin Nosrat 2 PM</p>	<p>4 <b>Workshops:</b> <i>Medicare Counseling</i> 10 AM <b>Presentation:</b> <i>Children's Books Merit Grown-Up Conversation</i> Part 2/2 7 PM <b>Nonfictioners:</b> <i>Eleanor of Aquitaine: A Life</i> by Alison Weir 7 PM</p>	<p>5 <b>Health:</b> <i>Chair Yoga</i> 1 PM <b>Parenting the Selfie Generatin:</b> <i>Helping Young People Create a Life Beyond Worry and Anxiety</i> with Dr. Paul Foxman 7 PM</p>	<p>6 <b>Artists' Reception:</b> <i>Threshold: A Group Show with WCSU Students and Faculty</i> 6–8 PM</p>	<p>7 <b>Workshops:</b> <i>Medicare Counseling</i> 10 AM</p>	<p>8 <b>Field Trip:</b> <i>Shutterbugs Photography Group</i> 9 AM</p>
<p>9 <b>ARTalk:</b> <i>Painted Books from the Age of Exploration to the Digital Age</i> with James Lancel McElhinney 2 PM</p>	<p>10 <b>Health:</b> <i>Mindfulness and Meditation</i> 6:30 PM</p>	<p>11 <b>Tech Topics:</b> <i>Help! Downloading Library's eBooks and eAudiobooks</i> 12:30 PM <b>Table-Top Gaming:</b> <i>We Got Games</i> 6 PM <b>Author Talk:</b> <i>An Evening with Three Connecticut Authors</i> 7 PM</p>	<p>12 <b>Making STEAM:</b> <i>Make a Holiday Card with Cricut</i> 1 PM</p>	<p>13 <b>Presentation:</b> <i>Saving Animals From Extinction: Tales of Species Recovery in Connecticut and Beyond</i> with Jim Knox 7 PM</p>	14	<p>15 <b>Tech Topics:</b> <i>3D Printing Orientation</i> 10 AM <b>Write-In:</b> <i>Fairfield County Writers Group</i> 1–4 PM</p>
<p>16 <b>Music:</b> <i>Community Sing-Along</i> 3:30 PM</p>	17	18	<p>19 <b>Health:</b> <i>Chair Yoga</i> 1 PM</p>	20	21	22
23	<p>24 <b>Library Closed:</b> <i>Christmas Eve Day</i></p>	<p>25 <b>Library Closed:</b> <i>Christmas Day</i></p>	26	<p>27 <b>Tech Topics:</b> <i>Help! Downloading Library's eBooks and eAudiobooks</i> 1 PM</p>	<p>28 <b>Tech Topics:</b> <i>3D Printing Orientation</i> 10:30 AM <b>Poetry Discussion Group:</b> <i>Elizabethan and Jacobean Poets</i> with Dr. Alan Holder 1 PM</p>	29
30	<p>31 <b>Early Closing:</b> <i>New Year's Eve</i> 3 PM</p>	1	2	3	4	5