

## Revisiting the FOUNDING ERA

The Ridgefield Library is pleased to announce that it has been awarded a *Revisiting the Founding Era* grant to implement public programming and community conversations that explore America's founding and its enduring themes. *Revisiting the Founding Era* is an initiative to encourage understanding and appreciation of the Founding Era through community conversations.

*Revisiting the Founding Era* is a three-year national initiative of the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History presented in partnership with the American Library Association and the National Constitution Center, with generous support from the National Endowment for the Humanities.



Constitutional scholar **Akhil Amar**, author and Sterling Professor of Law and Political Science at Yale University, describes the dynamic nature of the 1787 constitutional convention, provides short profiles of its key players and relationships, and outlines the issues that dominated their arguments. Amar shows us how the preoccupations of the new republic mirror the preoccupations of our own time and how the brilliance of the Founding Fathers led to the creation of one of the greatest and most enduring documents in human history.

**Sunday, February 10, 3 PM @ Ridgefield Library**  
Register at [ridgefieldlibrary.org](http://ridgefieldlibrary.org)

**Meet George Washington Through Art**  
with Michael Norris



**Dr. Michael Norris**, art historian and former museum educator at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, will give an illustrated talk about George Washington through works of art drawn from area museums such as the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Delaware Art Museum, and the New York Historical Society. Norris will emphasize how artists of Washington's own time portrayed him for posterity and how that posterity, through its own crop of artists, commemorated his deeds.

**Sunday, February 24, 2 PM @ Ridgefield Library**  
Register at [ridgefieldlibrary.org](http://ridgefieldlibrary.org)

This is part of our new *First Principles* series presented by Ridgefield Library, Keeler Tavern Museum & History Center, Ridgefield Historical Society, Drum Hill Chapter of the DAR, Books on the Common, Ridgefield League of Women Voters, and Connecticut Project for the Constitution. Stay tuned for more information coming soon!

## ARTalk

**An Artist for All Seasons**  
with Dmitri Wright



Award-winning impressionist and expressionist American landscape painter **Dmitri Wright** seeks to capture the moment when the natural environment of light through colors comes into existence. Applying expressive elements and using a

vibrant, rhythmic palette, Wright's brushwork reveals and transcends the representational foundation he received in his training, which was rooted in the academy's classics.

In this ARTalk, Wright will talk about his career and journeys throughout the United States, Europe, West Indies, Central and South America, and China.

**Sunday, February 17, 2 PM**  
Please register at [ridgefieldlibrary.org](http://ridgefieldlibrary.org)

## Author Talk

**Conscience**  
with Alice Mattison



*Conscience* is **Alice Mattison's** seventh novel. She is the author of *The Kite and the String: How to Write with Spontaneity and Control* and *Live to Tell the Tale*, as well as four books of stories and a collection of poems. Her work has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times*,

and *Ploughshares*, and has been anthologized in *The Pushcart Prize*, *PEN/O. Henry Prize Stories*, and *Best American Short Stories*. She taught at Brooklyn College, Yale University, and, for more than twenty years, in the MFA program at Bennington College.

**Tuesday, February 19, 7 PM**  
Please register at [ridgefieldlibrary.org](http://ridgefieldlibrary.org)

# SKILLSBOX

The Skillsbox: Tools for Business Success series is sponsored by Ridgefield Library, Ridgefield Chamber of Commerce, RECDC, and SCORE with support from Fairfield County Bank with media sponsor 98Q.

## ***All You Need to Know About Podcasting*** with Scott Schulte



Come and learn about podcasting, whether it's for your business or just for fun. Join Scott Schulte to learn everything you need to know to begin a new podcast or supercharge your current one. You will learn about: the equipment needed; understanding your audience; constructing an episode; programming basics; how to conduct an interview; and editing, posting, distributing, and marketing. **Scott Schulte** is a former educator who anchored a popular morning radio show in Iowa for 29 years. He trains and coaches speakers and podcasters.

**Thursday, February 21, 7 PM**

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

## ***Simple Steps for Starting Your Business***



Want to start a business but don't know where to begin? This 6-part workshop, conducted by a team of professionals from SCORE's Norwalk and Western CT Chapters, will give you the boost to get you on your way!

Attendees are expected to attend all sessions, and those who attend at least five classes will be given a certificate of class completion. Check-in is at 5:45 PM; the programs start promptly at 6:00 PM.

**6 Tuesdays Starting February 26, 6 PM**

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

## **Health & Wellness**

### ***A Frank Discussion of Body Image, Eating Disorders, and Healthy Diet***

with Rena Bruckman, MS, RD-N, Debbie Chrabolowski, LPCS, Arianna Pina, and Marcie Schneider, MD

Topics to be covered include understanding eating disorders and body dysmorphia, fostering a healthy relationship with food in your home, identifying a concern and seeking treatment, and paving the road to recovery. This program is made possible by the Girl Scout Gold Award project of Abby Morris. This program is part of the ***Parenting the #Selfie Generation series***, 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.

**Tuesday, February 12, 7 PM**

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

## **Foreign Language & Culture**

### ***Caffe Italiano: Italian Conversation***

Drop in on an Italian conversational group looking to practice the language while meeting new people. All levels welcome, with the goal to speak Italian the whole time. You are welcome to bring a closed cup of coffee/tea to sip while conversing in Italian. First Saturday of the month.

**Saturday, February 2, 12 PM**

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

### ***Italian Film: Life Is Beautiful***

Come join us on the third Wednesday of the month to watch an Italian movie (with English subtitles). A discussion will follow for those looking to stay and practice their Italian (or even just to listen). All levels of Italian conversation welcome!

**Wednesday, February 20, 4 PM**

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

## **Poetry**

### ***Poetry by Heart***

with Andrew Levine



*Poetry By Heart* is an eight-part workshop led by musician, educator, theater producer, and poetry lover, **Andrew Levine**. This program is for anyone who has the desire to know a poem by heart and share it with others in an intimate and non-intimidating setting. "We will form a community of those who love poems spoken aloud and love the inquiry into the very individual and particular poems that have the power to move us, comfort us, challenge us, and more," says Levine.

**Saturdays, February 2 & 16, 10 AM**

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

### ***Ignition: An Evening of Poetry***

with Art in Common

**Art in Common, Inc.** is a community outreach non-profit organization based in Ridgefield, CT whose mission is to promote creativity, increase community awareness around important social issues, and foster connection across diverse populations. Creative connection focusing on what we share facilitates compassion and understanding. Poets of all ages and walks of life will come together to give voice to their dreams and fears through verse. Art in Common believes that the Arts should be accessible to everyone and that creativity fuels life and enriches a community.

**Friday, January 22, 7 PM**

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

# Library Book Groups - New Readers Welcome!

**NONFICTIONEERS**  
**Tuesday, February 5**  
 7:00 PM  
*The Undoing Project*  
 by Michael Lewis

Forty years ago, two Israeli psychologists, Daniel Kahneman and Amos Tversky, wrote a series of breathtakingly original papers that invented the field of behavioral economics. One of the greatest partnerships in the history of science, Kahneman and Tversky's extraordinary friendship incited a revolution in Big Data studies, advanced evidence-based medicine, and led to a new approach to government regulation.

**BOOKS & BREAKFAST**  
**Monday, February 11**  
 10:30 AM



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

**FOUNDERS HALL BOOK DISCUSSION**  
**Thursday, February 14**  
 3:00 PM  
*Away*  
 by Amy Bloom

Open to members of Founders Hall

**POETRY DISCUSSION GROUP**  
**Friday, February 22**  
 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.

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT: A CULINARY BOOK DISCUSSION**

**Monday, February 25**  
 2:00 PM

*Tender at the Bone: Growing Up at the Table*  
 by Ruth Reichl

At an early age, Ruth Reichl discovered that "food could be a way of making sense of the world... If you watched people as they ate, you could find out who they were." Her deliciously crafted memoir is the story of a life determined, enhanced, and defined in equal measure by a passion for food, unforgettable people, and the love of tales well told.

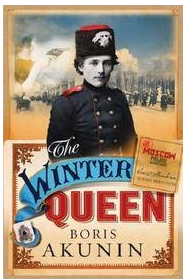
**A.M. BOOK GROUP**  
**Wednesday, February 27**  
 10:00 AM  
*Pudd'nhead Wilson*  
 by Mark Twain



A light-skinned black baby and a white infant are switched at birth by a slave mother.

The black baby grows up thinking he's white and mistreats his slaves. The white baby makes a living stealing, drinking, and committing immoral acts – until their true identities are revealed by lawyer Pudd'nhead Wilson during a murder trial.

**MURDER BY THE BOOK**  
**Thursday, February 7**  
 10:30 AM  
*The Winter Queen*  
 by Boris Akunin



The first book featuring Erast Fandorin, nobleman sleuth of 19th-century Tsarist Russia, often

compared to Sherlock Holmes.

**CRITICS' CIRCLE BOOK GROUP**  
**Tuesday, February 19**  
 7:00 PM  
*Women of the Silk*  
 by Gail Tsukiyama

In rural China in 1926, a group of women forge a sisterhood as they clamor in a vast silk factory from dawn to dusk. Leading the first strike the village has ever seen, the young women use the strength of their ambition, dreams, and friendship to achieve the freedom they could never have hoped for on their own.

## LIVE IN HD @ RIDGEFIELD PLAYHOUSE

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

## Tech Topics

**LinkedIn** with Kate Fitzpatrick  
**Tuesday, February 12 @ 6 PM–7:00 PM - [Register](#)**

**Intro to iPad** with Dawn DeCosta  
 Classes to keep you current and connected. For seniors.  
**Wednesday, February 13 @ 11:00 AM–12:00PM - [Register](#)**

**Help! Downloading the Library's eBooks and eAudiobooks: Bring Your Own Device** Get help downloading eBooks or eAudiobooks to your phone or tablet.  
**Monday, February 18 @ 12:00–1:00 PM - Drop-in**  
**Thursday, February 21 @ 3:00–4:00 PM - Drop-in**

**Adult Maker Group: Hands-on with Arduinos and Sparkfun Thing**  
**Saturday, February 20 @ 6:00 –7:30 PM - [Register](#)**

**A Taste of GIMP for Photo Editing**  
**Tuesday, February 19 @ 6:00 PM–7:30 PM - [Register](#)**

**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, February 23 @ 10:00 AM–11:30 AM - [Register](#)**


**Podcasts with iPhone** with Dawn DeCosta  
 Classes to keep you current and connected. For seniors.  
**Wednesday, February 27 @ 11:00 AM–12:00PM - [Register](#)**

**Convert Your VHS Videos to DVD** - Check [ridgefieldlibrary.org](http://ridgefieldlibrary.org) for details and available timeslots.





# Featured Events Calendar - February 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 <b>Workshop:</b> <i>Poetry by Heart</i> led by Andrew Levine 10 AM <b>Italian Conversation:</b> <i>Caffe' Italiano</i> 12 PM
3	4	5 <b>Nonfiction-neers:</b> <i>The Undoing Project</i> by Michael Lewis 7 PM	6 <b>Health:</b> <i>Chair Yoga</i> 1 PM <b>Ridgefield Parent Circles:</b> 5th Grade (3) 7:30 PM—Town Hall Annex	7 <b>Murder by the Book:</b> <i>The Winter Queen</i> by Boris Akunin 10:30 AM <b>Ridgefield Parent Circles:</b> 5th Grade (4) 7:30 PM—Town Hall Annex	8	9 <b>Field Trip:</b> <i>Shutterbugs Photography Group</i> 9 AM
10 <b>Revisiting the Founding Era</b> <b>Key Note:</b> <i>The Founding and Its Importance Today</i> with Akhil Amar 3 PM	11 <b>Discussion:</b> <i>Books &amp; Breakfast</i> 10:30 AM <b>Health:</b> <i>Mindfulness and Meditation</i> 6:30 PM	12 <b>Tech Topics:</b> <i>How to Build Your Network on LinkedIn</i> 6 PM <b>Parenting the Selfie Generation:</b> <i>A Frank Discussion of Body Image, Eating Disorders, and Healthy Diet</i> 7 PM	13 <b>Tech Tricks:</b> <i>Introduction to iPad</i> with Dawn DeCosta 11 AM	14 <b>Founders Hall Book Discussion:</b> <i>Away</i> by Amy Bloom 3 PM	15	16 <b>Workshop:</b> <i>Poetry by Heart</i> led by Andrew Levine 10 AM <b>Write In:</b> Fairfield County Writers Group 1–4 PM
17 <b>ARTalk:</b> <i>An Artist for All Seasons</i> with Painter Dmitri Wright 2 PM	18 <b>Tech Tricks:</b> <i>Help! Downloading the Library's eBooks and eAudiobooks: Bring Your Own Device</i> 12 PM	19 <b>Tech Topics:</b> <i>A Taste of GIMP for Image Editing</i> 6 PM <b>Author Talk:</b> <i>Conscience</i> with Alice Mattison 7 PM <b>Critics' Circle Book Group:</b> 7 PM	20 <b>Health:</b> <i>Chair Yoga</i> 1 PM <b>Ridgefield Parent Circles:</b> 5th Grade (5) 1 PM <b>Making STEAM:</b> <i>Make a Valentine Card</i> 1 PM <b>Italian Film and Conversation:</b> <i>Life Is Beautiful</i> 4 PM <b>Adult Maker Group:</b> <i>Arduinos</i> 6 PM	21 <b>Tech Tricks:</b> <i>Help! Downloading the Library's eBooks and eAudiobooks: Bring Your Own Device</i> 3 PM <b>Ridgefield Parent Circles:</b> 5th Grade (4) 7:30 PM—Town Hall Annex	22 <b>Poetry Discussion Group:</b> with Dr. Alan Holder 1 PM <b>An Evening of Poetry:</b> <i>Ignition</i> with Art in Common 7 PM	23 <b>Tech Topics:</b> <i>3D Printing Orientation</i> 10 AM
24 <b>Revisiting the Founding Era:</b> <i>Meet George Washington Through Art</i> with Michael Norris 2 PM	25 <b>Food for Thought:</b> 2 PM <b>Health:</b> <i>Mindfulness and Meditation</i> 6:30 PM	26 <b>Skillsbox:</b> <i>Simple Steps for Starting Your Own Business: A Six-Part Series</i> 6 PM	27 <b>A.M. Book Group:</b> 10 AM <b>Tech Tricks:</b> <i>Podcasts with iPhone</i> 11 AM <b>Ridgefield Parent Circles:</b> 5th Grade (5) 1 PM	28 <b>Talk:</b> <i>Create an Inspiration Board</i> with Pamela Miles 7 PM (Rescheduled from Jan. 29) <a href="#">Register</a>	