



RIDGEFIELD INDEPENDENT FILM FESTIVAL

Ridgefield's Independent Film Festival (RIFF), the brainchild of local playwright and director Joanne Hudson, will be held Friday, May 20, Saturday, May 21 and Sunday, May 22, 2016 at various venues around town. RIFF's mission is: "to make the world a more compassionate place through the sharing of stories from around the globe through cinema and to give comfort and aid to the hardworking filmmaker who shares this vision."

The list of venues includes the Ridgefield Library, The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum, the Ridgefield Playhouse, the Prospector Theater and Keeler Tavern Museum. Also, don't miss a free concert featuring selections of music from famous film scores performed by the Western Connecticut Youth Orchestra followed by a screening of *A Hard Day's Night* in Ballard Park on Friday, May 20 at 7:30 PM, as well as live music at RIFF Rocks the Park all day on Saturday in Ballard Park.

In addition to showcasing both national and international films, the festival will include panel discussions with accomplished filmmakers, master classes and workshops on film history and different aspects of filmmaking.

By far, the best way to "RIFF" is to purchase a pass. Currently, there are two: ALL FESTIVAL (\$53.49) which gives access to all films, master classes and special programming and ALL ACCESS (\$79.74) which, in addition to the afore-mentioned, provides access to our three parties, the welcome filmmakers/student film awards party, *Manhattan Night* special screening and after party (Ridgefield Playhouse, Saturday, May 21 at 7 PM) and the RIFF Awards (Keeler Tavern, Sunday, May 22 at 2 PM), as well as the filmmakers' lounge. Individual tickets to all events are also available. Please visit www.riff.website for links to all events and to purchase tickets.

THE FUN BEGINS FRIDAY MORNING, MAY 20TH AND CONCLUDES SUNDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 22ND!

RIFF PROGRAMS TAKING PLACE AT THE LIBRARY

Saturday, May 21, 2016:

Masterclass: "What Is 'IT'?" Case Studies in Cults, Culture & Celebrity
with Dr. Shawn Marie Garrett & Dr. Katherine Howard
10:00 AM - Main Program Room



Join us for a deep dive into the history of charisma, celebrity, and iconography from saint worship to the celebrity selfie. Before Bjork, before Brando, audiences thrilled to Sarah Bernhardt, the Barrymores, and The "It" Girl Clara Bow; before Cher came Callas and Chopin; before Billy Graham and Martin Luther King, Jr., Jonathan Edwards and George Whitefield set Americans' souls aflame. This 90-minute Master Class will interweave lecture, discussion, and clips in search of possible answers to the age-old question, "What Is 'It'"?



Saturday, May 21, 2016:

Web Series Screenings: *Self Story*, *Livin' the Dream* and *Beat & After Beat* (These short films run all day)
10:00 AM to 4:00 PM - Donofrio Technology Center - Free

Film Screenings: *White Collar* and *Generation Right*
11:30 AM (Program B) - Main Program Room (49 mins.)

Film Screening: *Until 20*
12:30 PM (Program C) - Main Program Room (84 mins.)

Film Screenings: *E-Social* and *And the Rest Is History*
2:00 PM - (Program D) - Main Program Room (105 mins.)

Screenings & Talk Back: *Livin' the Dream* -
The Spurlock Sisters, Mai & Kim
4:00 PM - Main Program Room (52 mins.)

Sunday, May 22, 2016:

Screening and Director/Cast Q & A: *Mothers of Bedford*
11:00 AM - (Program G) - Main Program Room (120 mins.)

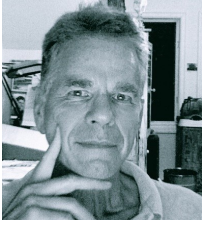
Tickets for individual programs are \$11.49 each, which includes the online booking fee.

For a full listing of all of the programs and events taking place throughout Ridgefield this weekend and to purchase tickets visit www.riff.website

AUTHOR TALKS

The Capitalist

with Peter Steiner

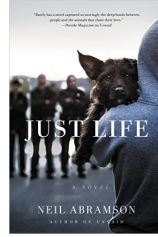


Join us for an Author Talk with **Peter Steiner**, who will read from and discuss his new thriller *The Capitalist*. Steiner served two years in the Army in Germany. He earned an MA and a PhD in German Literature from the University of Pittsburgh and taught German language and literature at

Dickinson College. Steiner left teaching to become an artist, drawing cartoons and painting landscapes and still-lives. For the next twenty-five years he made his living as a cartoonist for *The New Yorker*, *The Weekly Standard* and *The Washington Times*, among others.

Thursday, May 5, 7 PM

Register at ridgefieldlibrary.org



Just Life

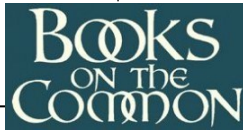
with Neil Abramson

Neil Abramson, author of the acclaimed novel *Unsaid*, will read from and discuss his latest novel, *Just Life*. In *Just Life* Abramson delves into the connection between people and animals and raises some difficult questions.

Neil Abramson is a partner in a Manhattan law firm. He is an award recipient from the ASPCA for his legal work on behalf of animals, and a founding member of the New York City Bar Association Committee on Legal Issues Relating to Animals. This program is co-sponsored by the Library, ROAR and Books on the Common.

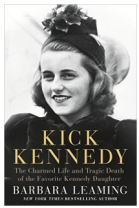
Wednesday, May 18, 7 PM

Register at ridgefieldlibrary.org



Kick Kennedy: The Charmed Life and Tragic Death of the Favorite Kennedy Daughter

with Barbara Leaming



Barbara Leaming is the author of three *New York Times* bestsellers, including *Jacqueline Bowvier Kennedy Onassis*. Leaming's previous book, *Churchill Defiant*, received The Emery

Reves Award, and her biography *Jack Kennedy: The Education of a Statesman* was the first to detail the lifelong influence of British history and culture, especially of Winston Churchill, on JFK.

Tuesday, May 24, 7 PM

Register at ridgefieldlibrary.org

Coming in June! *The Sun & the Moon & The Rolling Stones*

with Rich Cohen



Ridgefielder **Rich Cohen** will discuss his latest book about The Rolling Stones. Cohen is co-creator, with Martin Scorsese, Mick Jagger and Terence Winter, of the HBO series *Vinyl* and is a contributing editor at *Vanity Fair* and *Rolling Stone*. He has written for *The New Yorker*, *The Atlantic*, and many more publications.

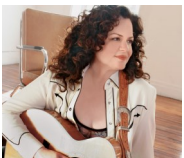
Thursday, June 2, 7:30 PM

Register at ridgefieldlibrary.org

LIVE MUSIC

Ridgefield Folk

with Caroline Doctorow



Caroline Doctorow is a chart-topping Americana folk singer songwriter, with a stirring voice that recalls Judy Collins and Sandy Denny. Her style echoes the great '60s folk songwriters. Ms. Doctorow

tours with her folk band *The Steamrollers*. (fiddle and upright bass). She is the daughter of world-renowned author, the late E.L. Doctorow.

Ridgefield Folk is made possible thanks to the Friends of the Ridgefield Library.



Sunday, May 1, 2 PM

Free tickets given out at the door starting at 1 PM

LYME DISEASE PREVENTION

Suffering the Silence: Photography Exhibit and Book Talk

with Dr. Daniel Cameron and Allie Cashel

Daniel Cameron, MD, MPH, PC, treating physician, researcher, and past president of the International Lyme and Associated Diseases Society (ILADS), will offer a physician's insights into the unique and complex experience Lyme patients often face. The patient perspective will be represented by author **Allie Cashel**. Ms. Cashel's book, *Suffering the Silence*, explores the value of telling and sharing the patient story in recovering from diseases such as Lyme that are misunderstood and invisible to the outside world. A gallery presentation of local patients' self-portraits will be on display in the Ridgefield Library's lower level Gallery from May 25 through June 30.

Wednesday, May 25, 7 PM

Register at ridgefieldlibrary.org

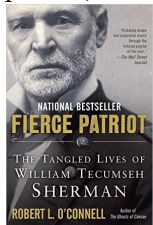
LIBRARY BOOK GROUPS - NEW READERS WELCOME!

NONFICTIONEERS

Tuesday, May 3
7:00 PM

Fierce Patriot: The Tangled Lives of William Tecumseh Sherman by Robert L. O'Connell

America's first "celebrity" general, William Tecumseh Sherman was a man of many faces. Some were exalted in the public eye, others known only to his intimates. In this bold, revisionist portrait, Robert O'Connell captures the man in full for the first time. From his early exploits in Florida, through his brilliant but tempestuous generalship during the Civil War, to his postwar career as a key player in the building of the transcontinental railroad, Sherman was, as O'Connell puts it, the "human



embodiment of Manifest Destiny." (*Amazon Book Description*)

MURDER BY THE BOOK

Thursday, May 5
10:30 AM

The Blackhouse by Peter May

Edinburgh cop Fin McLeod delves into a grisly current crime and his own troubled past in this first of a dark and lyrical trilogy set on the Isle of Lewis in the remote Scottish Hebrides.

CRITICS' CIRCLE BOOK GROUP

Tuesday, May 17
7:00 PM

Did You Ever Have a Family? by Bill Clegg

The events surrounding a tragic explosion in a small Connecticut town are told from the perspective of multiple characters effected by this event. Longlisted for both the Man Booker Prize and the National Book Award, this debut novel is one of the most moving books you're likely to read.

FOUNDERS HALL BOOK GROUP

Thursday, May 5
3:00 PM

Our Souls at Night by Kent Haruf

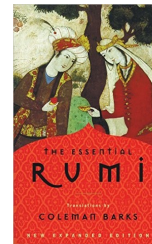
Join us for a monthly book discussion at Founders Hall facilitated by Mary Rindfleisch, the Library's Assistant Director. Open to members of Founders Hall.

POETRY DISCUSSION GROUP

Friday, May 20
1:00 PM

The Essential Rumi by Jalal al-Din Rumi - Translated by Coleman Barks

The Poetry Discussion Group, led by retired English professor Dr. Alan Holder, is made possible thanks to The Friends of the Library.

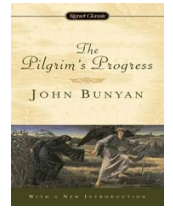


A.M. BOOK GROUP

Wednesday, May 25
10:00 AM

Pilgrim's Progress: From This World to That Which Is to Come by John Bunyan

It's a foundational text of English literature and Christian allegory, but who has actually read it? Follow the trials and tribulations of Christian Pilgrim as he journeys from the City of Destruction to the Celestial City.



BOOKS & BREAKFAST

Monday, May 9
10:30 AM



Join us for an informal book chat led by Dorothy Pawlowski. Breakfast is served!

TECH TOPICS AND MAKING STEAM PROGRAMS

Adult Maker Group: Exploring Arduinos - Come join us in our new Adult Maker Group. In this hands-on session we will continue our exploration of Arduinos and work on projects using these powerful microprocessors.

This group is for those 18 and over.

- Wednesday, May 4, 6:30 - 8:00 PM - [Register](#)

- Wednesday, May 18, 6:30 - 8:00 PM - [Register](#)

5 Foolproof Ways to Promote Your Business on Twitter with Kate Fitzpatrick

- Monday, May 9, 12:00 - 1:00 PM - [Register](#)

Hashtags 101 with Kate Fitzpatrick - Have you ever wondered what on earth a hashtag is and what is the point of using one? Learn the background behind this social media phenomenon.

- Monday, May 16, 3:00 - 4:00 PM - [Register](#)

Getting Started with the Library's Digital Resources - Drop in for hands-on assistance from our staff.

- Tuesday, May 17, 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM - Drop-in

iPad Tips and Tricks - Discover how to be more productive and have more fun with your iPad.

- Tuesday, May 24, 12:30 - 2:00 PM - [Register](#)

Convert Your VHS Tapes to DVD - Convert your home videos to DVDs. Please note that it takes the entire playback time of the video for the conversion to DVD and only one person can use the machine at a time. Available to Ridgefield Library cardholders 13 and above. Please reserve one of these two-hour time blocks.

- Thursday, May 19, 1:00 - 3:00 PM - [Register](#)

- Wednesday, May 25, 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM - [Register](#)

- Thursday, May 26, 1:00 AM - 3:00 PM - [Register](#)





Making STEAM - Make Stuffed Animals and Dolls from Felted Sweaters Workshop

Join us in creating stuffed animals and dolls from recycled wool sweaters. This program is for adults and is taught by Pat Corrigan

- Wednesday, May 18, 2:00 - 4:30 PM - [Register](#)



FEATURED EVENTS CALENDAR - MAY 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 Live Music: <i>Ridgefield Folk</i> with Caroline Doctorow 2 PM</p>	2	<p>3 Nonfiction- neers: <i>Fierce Patriot: The Tangled Lives of William Tecumseh Sherman</i> by Robert O'Connell 7 PM</p>	<p>4 Making STEAM: <i>Maker Group for Adults</i> 6:30 PM</p>	<p>5 Murder by the Book: <i>The Blackhouse</i> by Peter May 10:30 AM Founders Hall Discussion: <i>Our Souls at Night</i> by Kent Haruf 3 PM Author Talk: <i>The Capitalist</i> with Peter Steiner 7 PM</p>	<p>6 Book Sale: <i>Friends of the Library Children's Book Sale</i> 10 AM - 8 PM 10-noon \$10 Early Bird entry (free for Friends mem- bers)</p>	<p>7 Book Sale: <i>Friends of the Library Children's Book Sale</i> 9 AM - 5 PM Meeting: <i>Memoir Writing Group</i> 1 PM</p>
<p>8 Race: <i>Run Like a Mother</i> 8 AM @ Ballard Park Book Sale: <i>Children's Book Sale</i> 11 AM - 5 PM (Half Price) Community Sing-Along: <i>Let's Sing!</i> 3 PM</p>	<p>9 Discussion: <i>Books & Break- fast</i> 10:30 AM Tech Topics: 5 <i>Foolproof Ways to Promote your Business on Twitter</i> 12 PM</p>	10	11	12	<p>13 Book Sale: <i>Friends of the Library Spring Sale</i> 10 AM - 8 PM 10-noon \$10 Early Bird entry (free for Friends members)</p>	<p>14 Field Trip: <i>Shutterbugs</i> 9 AM Book Sale: <i>Friends of the Library Spring Sale</i> 9 AM - 5 PM</p>
<p>15 Book Sale: <i>Friends of the Library Spring Sale</i> 11 AM - 5 PM (Half Price)</p>	<p>16 Book Sale: <i>Friends of the Library Spring Sale</i> 10 AM - 5 PM (bag of books \$5) Tech Topics: <i>Hashtags 101</i> with Kate Fitzpatrick 3 PM</p>	<p>17 Tech Topics: <i>Getting Started with the Li- brary's Digital Resources</i> 12 PM Critics' Circle: <i>Did You Ever Have a Family?</i> by Bill Clegg 7 PM</p>	<p>18 Making STEAM: <i>Maker Group for Adults</i> 6:30 PM Author Talk: <i>Just Life</i> with Neil Abramson 7 PM</p>	<p>19 10th Annual Lyme Conference: <i>Shining a Light on the Path Forward @ Western Connecticut State University</i> 5 PM - 9:30 PM</p>	<p>20 Ridgefield Independent Film Festival (RIFF): 11 AM - 11 PM @ Around Town Poetry Discussion Group: The Essential Rumi translated by Coleman Barks 1 PM</p>	<p>21 Ridgefield Independent Film Festival (RIFF): 9:30 AM - 11 PM @ Around Town RIFF: What is It? <i>Case Studies in Celebrity</i> 10 AM - 11:30 AM RIFF: Film Screenings at the Library 10 AM - 5 PM</p>
<p>22 Ridgefield Independent Film Festival (RIFF): 10 AM - 3 PM @ Around Town RIFF: Screen- ing and Director Talkback: <i>Moth- ers of Bedford</i> 11 AM @ The Library</p>	23	<p>24 Tech Topics: <i>iPad Tips and Tricks</i> 12:30 PM Author Talk: <i>Kick Kennedy</i> with Barbara Leaming 7 PM</p>	<p>25 A.M. Book Group: <i>Pil- grim's Progress</i> by John Bunyan 10 AM Lyme Talk: <i>Understanding the Lyme Expe- rience</i> 7 PM Library Board Meeting 7:30 PM</p>	<p>Exhibitions - The Gallery (on the Lower Level)</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="margin-left: 10px;"> <p><i>RIFF Film Festival Posters</i> On view from May 18 through May 25 Film Festival Runs from May 20 - 22</p> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center; margin-top: 10px;">  <div style="margin-left: 10px;"> <p>Photography exhibit: <i>Suffering the Silence: The Power of Photo Portraiture</i> May 25 through June 30 Reception & Talk: Wednesday May 25, 7 PM</p> </div> </div>		
<p>29 Memorial Day: Closed</p>	<p>30 Memorial Day: Closed</p>	31				