

Live Music:



"Saxophonist Daniel Bennett makes hay with an airy approach that's buoyant enough to conjure notions of East African guitar riffs and Steve Reich's pastoral repetition."
- The Village Voice

Ridgefield Folk is free thanks to the Friends of the Ridgefield Library. Tickets are given out starting at 1 PM on the day of the show. Doors open at 1:30 PM.

(This program was rescheduled due to the October snow storm.)

**DANIEL
BENNETT GROUP**
Jan. 29, 2 PM

Free tickets at the door from 1 PM

Sunday, January 29, 2 PM

Author Talk:

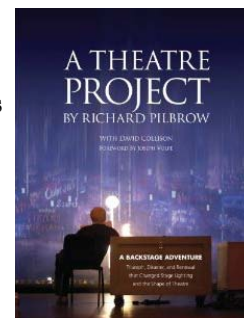


Richard Pilbrow will share fascinating stories from his just released autobiographical book ***A Theatre Project: A Backstage Adventure***.

Richard Pilbrow founded *Theatre Projects* over 50 years ago. He is a lighting designer, theatre, film, and TV producer, theatre designer and author. He was a pioneer of stage lighting in Britain and theatre consultant to the National Theatre of Great Britain, working for such greats as Sir Laurence Olivier.

Richard Pilbrow lives in Ridgefield.

NOTE: Snow date, Monday, January 30, 7 PM



No registration

Wednesday, January 25, 7 PM

Dramatic Performance:

***Someone Must Wash the Dishes -
An Anti-Suffrage Satire***
with actress Michele LaRue



The League of Women Voters and the Library present the one-woman play *Someone Must Wash the Dishes*. This anti-suffrage satire was written by Marie Jenney Howe and is performed as directed by Warren Kliever for The East Lynne Company.

Michele LaRue tours nationally with a repertoire of one-woman performances. She belongs to the Actors' Equity Association, Screen Actors Guild and AFTRA.

Please register at www.ridgefieldlibrary.org

Sunday, January 22, 2 PM

Coming in February:

What the Dickens! - A Victorian Tea
at the Garden House at
Keeler Tavern Museum



Charles Dickens would have been 200 years old on February 7, 2012. In celebration of the bicentennial of his birth the Library and the Keeler Tavern Museum will present a Victorian tea with period entertainment in front of a roaring fire in the beautiful Cass Gilbert Garden House at Keeler Tavern Museum, 132 Main Street, Ridgefield.

Tickets are \$30 and can be purchased at the Library website at www.ridgefieldlibrary.org or by calling the Library before 1/31/2012. (Snow date Saturday, February 11.)

Call 203-438-2282 ext. 1022 for tickets

Saturday, January 4, 3 to 5 PM

Writing Workshops:

Three-part Children's Book Writing with Suzanne Nelson



This course introduces methods for writing children's books. It focuses on picture book and novel writing for children. Children's books are used for class discussions about characterization, plot and kid-friendly writing styles. Students revise unedited texts to gain a better

feel for successful children's book writing techniques. They also practice writing their own texts. Students' writing samples are critiqued by their classmates and the instructor during the course.

Suzanne Nelson has written eight books for children, including the young adult novels *The Sound of Munich* and *Heart and Salsa*, published by Penguin Group USA. She was a children's book editor for over eight years, working for Holiday House, Penguin and Scholastic. She continues editing and writing from her home in Ridgefield.

Assignment: Write a 5-10 page sample (either picture book or novel excerpt) and bring it to the first class.

Please register at www.ridgefieldlibrary.org

Thursday, Jan. 19, 26 and Feb 2, 7 PM

How to Write a Screenplay with GiGi New



Screenwriter **GiGi New** is convinced that everyone has at least one good story to tell, one that deserves to be put on the page. But how to do it? How do you write about that idea that will spring to life in script form and be performed on screen?

Topics include: format, story, character development, script, and marketplace.

GiGi New is a film and television writer who has written over a dozen scripts and has been staffed on numerous sitcoms.

"I've been consulting with GiGi New on a screenplay which was stalled for years and now is moving. She's a positive critic who identifies strengths in a piece and helps overcome the corrosive self-doubt that writers struggle with. Writing will always be a solitary line of work but GiGi makes it less so. And she laughs a lot, which is good." – Garrison Keillor ~ A Prairie Home Companion

Please register at www.ridgefieldlibrary.org

Tuesday, January 31, 7 PM

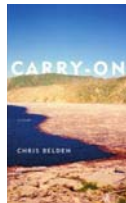
Author Talk:

with Chris Belden



Chris Belden will read from and discuss his recently released novel *Carry On*. Nalini Jones, author of *What You Call Winter*, calls it "a powerful novel that tightens like a net around an unsuspecting reader; you will not put it down."

Chris Belden is a graduate of the Fairfield University MFA program. He has taught at Fairfield University and currently teaches at the Ridgefield Continuing Education Program and the Garner Correctional Institution. He lives with his family in Ridgefield.



Co-sponsored by Books on the Common.

No registration

Wednesday, January 11, 7 PM

Panel Discussion:

Affordable Degree Completion and Continuing Education Opportunities for Adult Students

with The Higher Ed. Consortium of CT

An increasing number of adults are out of work and many are returning to school as a way of transitioning their careers.

Representatives from several colleges will be on hand to discuss affordable degree options for adults as well as shortcuts to degree completion. The presenters for this program will be Amy Amaru, Post University; John DeBenedictis, Sacred Heart University; Jamie Caruso, University of Connecticut, Waterbury Campus; Mary Jane Dubner, University of Bridgeport; and Edyta Kotowski, University of New Haven.

Please register at www.ridgefieldlibrary.org

Wednesday, January 18, 7 PM

BOOK GROUPS

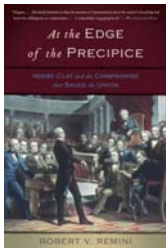
NONFICTIONEERS

Tuesday, January 3

American Notes for General Circulation
by Charles Dickens

Next Month's Selection
At the Edge of the Precipice
by Robert V. Remini

At the Edge of the Precipice is historian Robert V. Remini's fascinating recounting of the Compromise of 1850, a titanic act of political will that only a skillful statesman like Henry Clay could broker. Although the Compromise would collapse ten years later, plunging the nation into civil war, Clay's victory in 1850 ultimately saved the Union by giving the North an extra decade to industrialize and prepare.



MURDER BY THE BOOK

Thursday, January 5
1 PM
Still Life
By Louise Penny

The debut entry in a quirky series featuring Chief Inspector Armand Gamache of the Sûreté du Québec, who is often called upon to investigate crimes in the tiny village of Three Pines, just north of the US border. The set of secondary characters in Three Pines adds to the appeal of Gamache himself, with his integrity, intelligence and love of eating.

Books & Breakfast

Monday, January 9
10:30 AM



CRITICS' CIRCLE BOOK GROUP

Tuesday, January 17
10 AM & 7 PM
Oliver Twist
by Charles Dickens

Abandoned at an early age, Oliver Twist is forced to live in a dark and dismal London workhouse. Desperate but determined, Oliver makes his escape, only to find life outside the workhouse is much more dangerous.

A *What the Dickens!* Program

Poetry Discussion Group

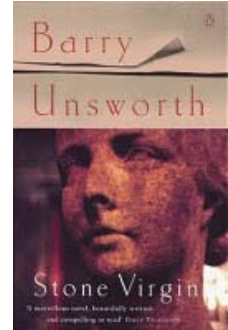
Friday, January 20
1 PM

Selected Poems
by Rainer Maria Rilke

Sponsored by The Friends

A.M. BOOK GROUP

Wednesday, January 25
10 AM
Stone Virgin
by Barry Unsworth



Art restorer Simon Raikes becomes involved with mysteries, past and present, while working on a 500-year-old stone Madonna atop a Venice church.

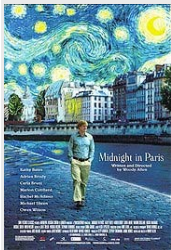
Copies of these books may be purchased at Books on the Common at a 15% discount or inquire about Inter-Library Loan availability.

New members always welcome!

Hollister Films

Midnight in Paris

2011, PG13, 94 Minutes



Midnight in Paris is a romantic comedy-fantasy film written and directed by Woody Allen. The plot centers on a small group of Americans visiting Paris. The main character, a screenwriter, played by Owen Wilson, is forced to confront the shortcomings of his relationship with his fiancée and their divergent goals due to his magical experiences in the city that begin each night at midnight.

Tuesday, January 10

1:30 & 7 PM

Moneyball

2011, Rated PG13, 134 Minutes



Oakland A's general manager Billy Beane, played by Brad Pitt, challenges the system and defies conventional wisdom when he is forced to rebuild his small-market team on a limited budget. Despite opposition from the old guard, the media, fans and their own field manager, Beane, with the help of a young, number-crunching economist, develops a roster of misfits and along the way, forever changes the way the game is played.

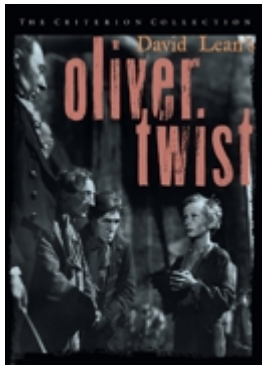
Tuesday, January 24

1:30 & 7 PM

What the Dickens! January Programs:

Film Screening and Discussion of Oliver Twist

with Mark Edwards



Expressionistic noir photography suffuses David Lean's *Oliver Twist* with a nightmarish quality, fitting its bleak, industrial setting. In Dickens' classic tale, an orphan wends his way from cruel apprenticeship to den of thieves in search of a true home. Here Alec Guinness is the quintessential Fagin, his controversial performance fully restored in Criterion's new digital transfer.

(116 minutes, Not Rated, 1948.)

Mark Edwards teaches in the Media Studies Department of Sacred Heart University.

No registration

Saturday, January 7, 10 AM

Book Discussions:

American Notes for General Circulation by Charles Dickens

led by Nancy Boersma

When Charles Dickens set out for America in 1842 he was the most famous man of his day to travel there. His frank and often humorous descriptions cover everything from his comically wretched sea voyage to his sheer astonishment at the magnificence of the Niagara Falls.

Tuesday, January 3, 7 PM

Oliver Twist

led by Dorothy Pawlowski

Dickens' classic morality tale of a starving orphan caught between opposing forces of good and evil is a powerful indictment of Victorian England's Poor Laws. Filled with dark humor and an unforgettable cast of characters, Dickens's second novel is a compelling social satire that has remained popular since it was first serialized in 1837-39.

Tuesday, January 17, 10 AM & 7 PM

No registration

Lecture: From Oliver to David to Pip - A Survey of Dickens' Development as a Novelist

with Mark Schenker



Join us for the first lecture in a three-part series presented by Dr. Mark Schenker. This month's lecture will focus on *Oliver Twist*, Dickens' second novel, which he serialized between 1837 and 1839.

Dr. Mark J. Schenker has been at Yale College since 1990. He is currently a senior associate dean of the College and dean of academic affairs. Born and raised in New York City, he received his Ph.D. in English Literature from Columbia University and has taught at Columbia, New York University, and Trinity College (Hartford). He was the recipient of the 2001 Wilbur Cross Award for Outstanding Humanities Scholar, presented by the Connecticut Humanities Council.

Please register at www.ridgefieldlibrary.org

Thursday, January 12, 7 PM

Bus Trip:

To the Morgan Library & Museum Dickens at 200 Exhibit

The Morgan Library & Museum's collection of Dickens manuscripts and letters is the largest in the United States and is one of the two greatest collections in the world, along with the holdings of Britain's Victoria and Albert Museum. *Charles Dickens at 200* celebrates the bicentennial of the great writer's birth in 1812 with manuscripts of his novels and stories, letters, books, photographs, original illustrations and caricatures.

Charles Dickens at 200 is organized by Declan Kiely, the Robert H. Taylor Curator and Department Head of Literary and Historical Manuscripts at The Morgan Library & Museum.

The bus will leave the Library at 8:30 AM on Friday, Jan. 20. Tickets are \$40 (\$35 for seniors 65 and older). The trip will include a curator-led tour of the Dickens exhibit and a docent-led tour of the Library. There will also be plenty of time to enjoy lunch in the City.

Friday, January 20, 8:30 AM

**Tickets at 203-438-2282 ext. 1022 or online at
www.ridgefieldlibrary.org**

Visit our website at www.ridgefieldlibrary.org for a full listing of *What the Dickens!* programs.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Library Closed: <i>Happy New Year!</i>	2	3 The Nonfictioners:- <i>American Notes for General Circulation</i> by Charles Dickens 7 PM		5	6	7 Memoir Group: <i>Monthly Meeting</i> 10 AM Film & Discussion: <i>Oliver Twist</i> with Mark Edwards 10 AM
8 ARTalk: <i>Interior Design - Table Tops</i> with Donna von Holdt 2 PM Canceled	9 Discussion: <i>Books & Breakfast</i> 10:30 AM	10 Hollister Film Series: <i>Midnight in Paris</i> 1:30 and 7 PM	11 Author Talk: with Chris Belden 7:00 PM	12 Lecture: <i>Oliver Twist</i> with Dr. Mark Schenker 7 PM Register	13	14 Shutterbugs: <i>Monthly Meeting</i> 9:30 AM Reception: <i>Cross River Reservoir - Photographs</i> by Richard Rodamar 2 - 4 PM
15	16	17 Book Discussion: <i>Oliver Twist</i> by Charles Dickens 10 AM & 7 PM Meeting: <i>Writers Guild of Ridgefield</i> 7 PM	18 Panel Discussion: <i>Affordable Degree Completion & Continuing Education Opportunities for Adult Students</i> with the Higher Education Consortium of Connecticut 7 PM Register	19 Workshop: <i>Writing Children's Books</i> with Suzanne Nelson Part 1 of 3 7 PM Register	20 Bus Trip: <i>Dickens at 200</i> at The Morgan Library and Museum 8:30 AM to 5:30 PM (\$40/\$35) register Poetry Discussion Group: <i>Selected Poems</i> by Rainer Maria Rilke led by Dr. Alan Holder 1 PM	21
22 Dramatic Performance: <i>Someone Must Wash the Dishes: An Anti-Suffrage Satire</i> with actress Michele LaRue 2 PM Register	23 Meeting: <i>Library Board</i> 7:30 PM	24 Hollister Film Series: <i>Moneyball</i> 1:30 and 7 PM	25 A.M. Book Group: <i>Stone Virgin</i> by Barry Unsworth 10 AM Author Talk: <i>A Theater Project</i> with Richard Pilbrow 7 PM	26 Workshop: <i>Writing Children's Books</i> with Suzanne Nelson Part 2 of 3 7 PM Register	27	28
29 Live Music: <i>Ridgefield Folk</i> with the Daniel Bennett Group 2 PM	30	31 Workshop: <i>Writing a Screenplay</i> with GiGi New 7 PM Register	Exhibit: <i>Cross River Reservoir - Photographs</i> by Richard Rodamar January 4 to 30 Reception, Saturday, January 14, 2 - 4 PM			