

Gustavus Library Newsletter

Small Town Librarians in the Big City

Your librarians took a trip to Anchorage this month for the annual AKLA (Alaska Library Association) conference, where we networked and attended sessions with librarians from around the state. This year's conference theme was "Bridging the Gaps" and sessions were centered around helping to reach and better serve underrepresented members of the community.

Jen met with other librarians to talk about innovative youth programming, and learned about how other communities are implementing programs such as community gardens and break-out boxes (where kids have to solve a series of clues to unlock a box) to get young people engaged and more involved in the library.

Bre loves to annually ignite the passion for the very important role that libraries play in *(Continued page 2)*



Above: Bre and Jen on their way to the conference in Anchorage.



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Library Hours

M– 1:30-4:30 and 7-9pm
T– 1:30-4:30
W– 1:30-4:30 and 7-9pm
Th– 10-noon and 1:30-4:30
F– 1:30-4:30
S– 11-3:00
Library is closed Sundays.



PO Box 279
Gustavus, AK 99826

AKLA CONFERENCE 2018

(continued from page 1)

ensuring everyone has the right to access all information.

Overall, your librarians agree that this conference was an invaluable opportunity to connect with library employees of all levels from across the state of Alaska. We were inspired by how other communities are structuring their libraries, and we returned to Gustavus grateful for the fantastic and unique facility we have in our own town.



Above: Bre acquires a stack of new Young Adult novels to bring back to the library.

Left: Bre and Jen learn how to repair books in a conference seminar.

Below: Keynote speaker Jervette Ward talks to conference attendees about the work and worth of words.



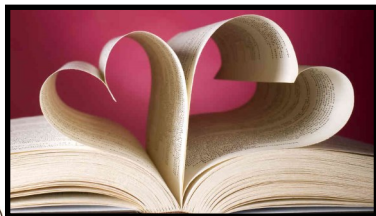
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT THE LIBRARY!

The library is looking for volunteer desk-sitters. Right now we are in need of:

- **A weekly desk-sitter on Saturdays from 11am-1pm.**
- **A substitute desk-sitter who can be available to fill in throughout the week.**

If you are interested in volunteering as a desk-sitter at the library, please email Jen at jen.gardner@gustavus.lib.ak.us or stop by the library to fill out a volunteer application.

We are dependent on volunteers to keep the library open 6 days a week! Thank you for considering being part of the volunteer team.



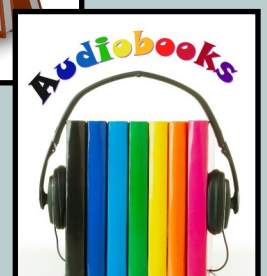
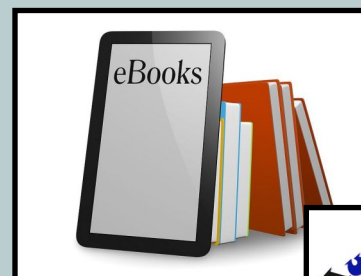
Check out eBooks and audiobooks for free!

Alaska Digital Library
for Gustavus



Established in Memory
of Rachel Lee Howell

Did you know that you can borrow eBooks and audiobooks from the library free of charge? Thanks to generous donors in our community, this service is available to all Gustavus library members in honor of Rachel Lee Howell. Ask your librarians for assistance setting up an account or accessing these resources.



NEW BOOKS!

NEW IN NEW IN JUVENILE FICTION:

The Problem Children by Natalie Lloyd

When the Problem children's ramshackle bungalow in the Swampy Woods goes kaboom, the seven siblings and their pet pig have no choice but to move into their Grandpa's abandoned old mansion in Lost Cove. No problem! For the Problem children, every problem is a gift.

Hidden Figures by Margot Lee Shetterly

Before John Glenn orbited the earth, or Neil Armstrong walked on the moon, a group of dedicated female mathematicians know as "human computers" used pencils, slide rules, and adding machines to calculate the numbers that would launch rockets, and astronauts, into space.

Toby and the Secrets of the Tree by Timothee de Fombelle

Toby's world is under greater threat than ever before. A giant crater has been dug right into the centre of the Tree, moss and lichen invade the branches, and one tyrant controls it all. Leo Blue, once Toby's best friend, now his worst enemy, is holding Elisha prisoner, hunting the Grass People with merciless force.

The Mine-O-Saur by Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen

A group of dinosaurs is playing in the school yard when the Mine-o-saur arrives. He snatches all the toys, grabs all the snacks, and hoards the blocks. Soon enough, no one wants to play with him. What will it take for the Mine-o-saur to realize that what he really wants are friends?



NEW IN YOUNG ADULT:

The Eternity Key (Into The Dark #2) by Bree Despain

Fan-favorite author Bree Despain continues her modern-day romance trilogy inspired by the Greek myth of Persephone and Hades with this second book in her Into the Dark series.

House of Furies by Madeleine Roux

After escaping a harsh school where punishment was the lesson of the day, seventeen-year-old Louisa Ditton is thrilled to find employment as a maid at a boarding house. But soon after her arrival at Coldthistle House, Louisa begins to realize that the house's mysterious owner, Mr. Morningside, is providing much more than lodging for his guests. Far from a place of rest, the house is a place of judgment, and Mr. Morningside and his unusual staff are meant to execute their own justice on those who are past being saved.

Akata Warrior (Akata Witch #2) by Nnedi Okorafor

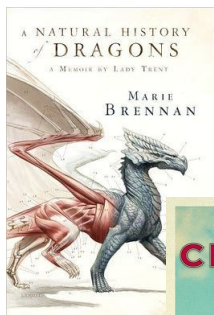
Witch and Wizard by James Patterson

Love, Hate, and Other Filters by Samira Ahmed

A coming-of-age debut in which an Indian-American Muslim teen confronts Islamophobia and a reality she can neither explain nor escape.

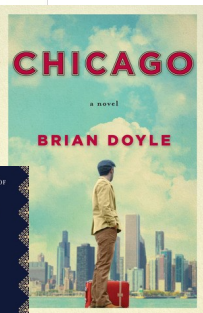


NEW IN ADULT FICTION:



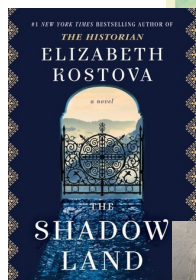
A Natural History of Dragons by Marie Brennan

Marie Brennan begins a thrilling new fantasy series in A Natural History of Dragons, combining adventure with the inquisitive spirit of the Victorian Age.



Chicago by Brian Doyle

On the last day of summer, some years ago, a young college graduate moves to Chicago and rents a small apartment on the north side of the city, by the vast and muscular lake. This is the story of the five seasons he lives there, during which he meets gangsters, gamblers, policemen, a brave and garrulous bus driver, a cricket player, a librettist, his first girlfriend, a shy apartment manager, and many other riveting souls, not to mention a wise and personable dog of indeterminate breed.



The Shadow Land by Elizabeth Kostova

From the #1 bestselling author of The Historian comes an engrossing novel that spans the past and the present and unearths the dark secrets of Bulgaria, a beautiful and haunted country.



The Name of the Wind by Patrick Rothfuss

A masterful epic fantasy saga that has inspired readers worldwide.

Britt-Marie Was Here by Fredrik Backman

Britt-Marie can't stand mess. A disorganized cutlery drawer ranks high on her list of unforgivable sins. She is not one to judge others—no matter how ill-mannered, unkempt, or morally suspect they might be. It's just that sometimes people interpret her helpful suggestions as criticisms, which is certainly not her intention. But hidden inside the socially awkward, fussy busybody is a woman who has more imagination, bigger dreams, and a warmer heart that anyone around her realizes.

When Britt-Marie walks out on her cheating husband and has to fend for herself in the miserable backwater town of Borg—of which the kindest thing one can say is that it has a road going through it—she finds work as the caretaker of a soon-to-be demolished recreation center. The fastidious Britt-Marie soon finds herself being drawn into the daily doings of her fellow citizens, an odd assortment of miscreants, drunkards, layabouts. Most alarming of all, she's given the impossible task of leading the supremely untalented children's soccer team to victory. In this small town of misfits, can Britt-Marie find a place where she truly belongs?

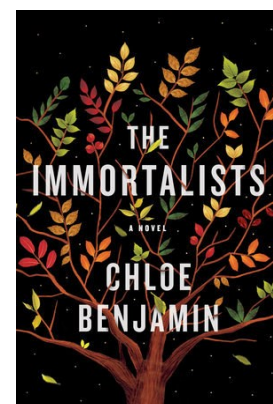


The Immortalists by Chloe Benjamin

If you were told the date of your death, how would it shape your present?

It's 1969 in New York City's Lower East Side, and word has spread of the arrival of a mystical woman, a traveling psychic who claims to be able to tell anyone the day they will die. The Gold children—four adolescents on the cusp of self-awareness—sneak out to hear their fortunes.

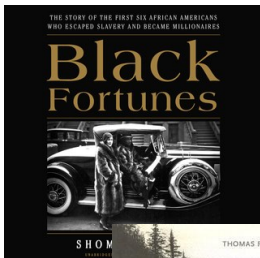
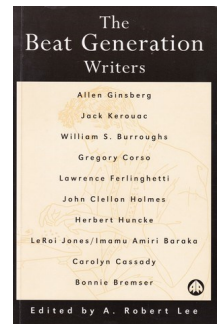
Their prophecies inform their next five decades. Golden-boy Simon escapes to the West Coast, searching for love in '80s San Francisco; dreamy Klara becomes a Las Vegas magician, obsessed with blurring reality and fantasy; eldest son Daniel seeks security as an army doctor post-9/11, hoping to control fate; and bookish Varya throws herself into longevity research, where she tests the boundary between science and immortality.



NEW IN ADULT NON-FICTION:

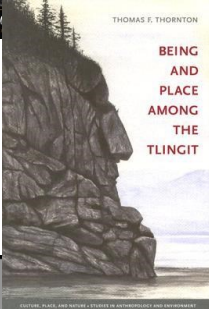
The Beat Generation Writers by Robert A. Lee

This collection focuses on icons of the Beat generation as well as lesser known figures, including Allen Ginsberg, Jack Kerouac, William S. Burroughs, Gregory Corso, Lawrence Ferlinghetti, John Clellon Holmes, Herbert Huncke, LeRoi Jones (Imamu Amiri Baraka), Ted Joans and Bob Kaufman. It also includes an exploration of the role of women and gender through the work of writers such as Carolyn Cassady and Bonnie Bremser. Beat Generation Writers uncovers the key influences on the movement, such as Indian and Buddhist philosophy, the 1960s counterculture, the poetry of Emerson and Whitman, European trends, and the Modernist tradition.



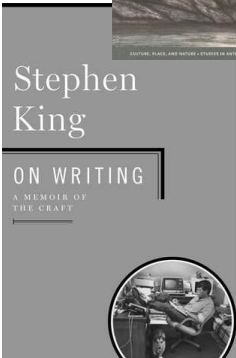
Black Fortunes by Shomari Wills

The astonishing untold history of America's first black millionaires—former slaves who endured incredible challenges to amass and maintain their wealth for a century, from the Jacksonian period to the Roaring Twenties—self-made entrepreneurs whose unknown success mirrored that of American business heroes such as Henry Ford, John D. Rockefeller, and Thomas Edison.



Being and Place Among the Tlingit by Thomas F. Thornton

In Being and Place among the Tlingit, anthropologist Thomas F. Thornton examines the concept of place in the language, social structure, economy, and ritual of southeast Alaska's Tlingit Indians. Place signifies not only a specific geographical location but also reveals the ways in which individuals and social groups define themselves.

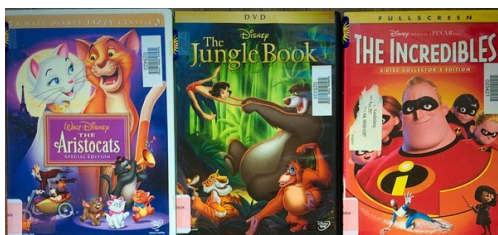
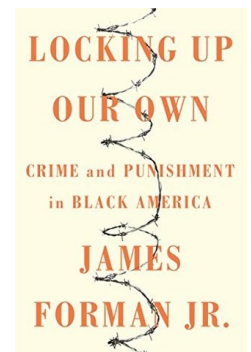


On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft by Stephen King

Immensely helpful and illuminating to any aspiring writer, Stephen King's critically lauded, classic bestseller shares the experiences, habits, and convictions that have shaped him and his work.

Locking Up Our Own: Crime and Punishment in Black America by James Forman

In recent years, America's criminal justice system has become the subject of an increasingly urgent debate. Critics have assailed the rise of mass incarceration, emphasizing its disproportionate impact on people of color. As James Forman, Jr., points out, however, the war on crime that began in the 1970s was supported by many African American leaders in the nation's urban centers. In Locking Up Our Own, he seeks to understand why.



NEW DVDS

Lilo and Stitch

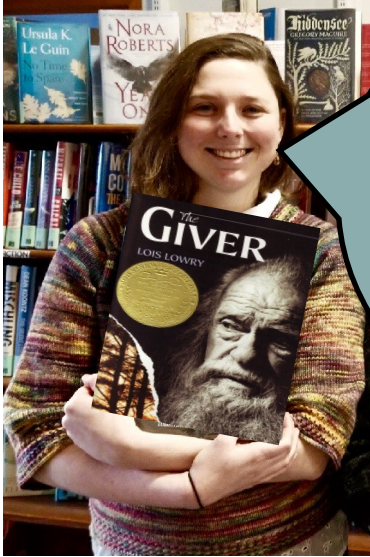
The Aristocats

Big Eyes

Angels in the Outfield



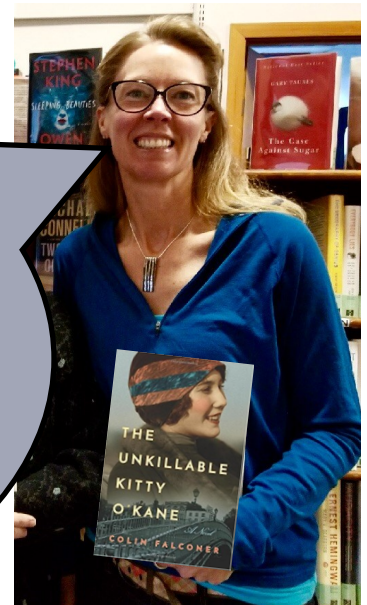
WHAT YOUR LIBRARIANS ARE READING



This month, I revisited the Giver series by Lois Lowry. I have loved the book *The Giver* since I was a kid, and thought I would give the companion books a try. The second book, *Gathering Blue*, fell a little short for me as it did not seem to correlate with the first book at all. However, I persevered through books 3 and 4 (*Messenger* and *Son*) and felt that they tied the series together nicely, though *The Giver* remains far and away my favorite of the four.

I also read a book called *An Unkindness of Magicians*, by Kat Howard, which was an interesting twist on modern magicians living in Manhattan. It was heavy on dialogue and at times a little confusing, but overall I enjoyed the read.

One of the books that I've read this month reminded me of Forrest Gump, *The Unkillable Kitty O'Kane* by Colin Falconer. Ms. Kitty O'Kane happens to participate in some of the major events of the twentieth century, beginning in the early 1900's in Ireland. Born to extreme poverty and an abusive father, Kitty manages to escape Dublin, leaving it all behind. She hops from job to job, each leading to a new adventure... or tragedy. Her story lightly touches on historical events: she's a maid on the Titanic, a suffragette, a journalist travelling the world. Throughout, this is a story of perseverance and having a brazen mouth, something I can relate to... If you like historical fiction, adventure, and sassy women – give this book a try. If you do, be sure to switch into your internal Irish brogue – it makes the dialogue oh-so-entertaining!



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AND DONORS.



THE LIBRARY DEPENDS
ON YOU!

Upcoming Special Events!

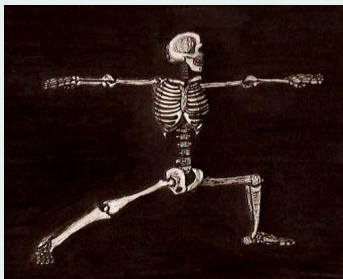
iPhone Photography Class

Taught by Emily Mount
Sunday March 25th from 2-3:30pm



Yoga for Bone Health

Sunday March 25th 5:30-7pm
and
Sunday April 1st 5:30-7pm



WEEKLY EVENTS

Story Time with Jen

For children and caregivers
(ages infant-preschool)
Mondays at 10am



Friends of Bill W.

Tuesdays at 5:30pm

Intermediate Yoga with yoga App

(not for beginners)
Wednesdays at 5:30pm



Knitting/Craft Group

Wednesdays at 7pm
Check in with Bre if you are new

Best Beginnings (baby and toddler group)

Thursdays at 2:30pm



Everybody's Welcome Band

Thursdays at 5:30pm

French Club

Thursdays at 7pm



All levels Yoga with Jess

Saturdays at 9:30 am

Library Statistics February



Library visitors	810
Books Checked out	424
Movies Checked out	400
Total items checked out	848

