

Gustavus Library Newsletter

Library News

Kids' programming is off and running! This month, library time has restarted for the little ones. Preschool and elementary school students have been attending weekly library sessions on topics ranging from literacy to song-writing.

Additionally, children ranging from infant to preschool are welcome to attend weekly Story Time with an adult on Mondays at 10am. During this time, children are encouraged to participate in structured music and read-aloud time, followed by free time to explore library materials and socialize with other kiddos in the library.

Middle and high school students recently had the opportunity to work with Artist in Residence Moses Wassilie on still life drawing, using the library's orca skeleton as a model (more on this on page 4).

Looking ahead, the library hopes to develop some new programming for older children and teens, and we are always happy to hear from you about programming ideas! The Summer Reading Program will be here before you know it, and this year's theme will be "Libraries Rock!" More information to come as we get closer to summer.

Announcements:

The Library will be closed for Presidents' Day on Monday February 19th.

There will be no Story Time Feb 19th (President's Day) or March 12th (Jen will be out of town)



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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

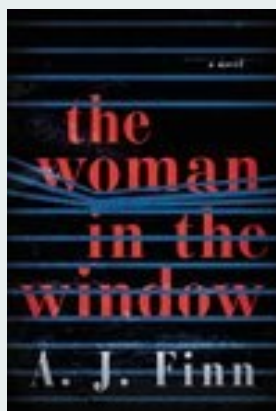
BRE'S BOOK REVIEW

The Woman in the Window

by A.J. Finn

Holy Hitchcockian Awesomeness, Batman!

If you are looking for a crazy, chilling page-turner, look no further. A former New York child psychologist has become agoraphobic and cannot step out of her home. As a result, the neighborhood has become her favorite movie, besides the film noir that she adores so much. Naturally, she witnesses something she should not have and who is to be believed? The wholesome, perfect family next door or the reclusive who swallows her daily medications with glasses of Merlot? Get ready to be entertained.



NEW BOOKS!

NEW IN NEW IN JUVENILE FICTION:

Orphan Island by Laurel Snyder

The Whiz Mob and the Grenadine Kid by Colin Meloy and Carson Ellis

The Lumberjanes (graphic novel series)
by Noelle Stevenson, Grace Ellis, Brooke A. Allen



Serafina and the Splintered Heart (Serafina #3) by Robert Beatty

A mysterious threat moves towards Biltmore, a force without a name, bringing with it violent storms and flooding that stands to uproot everything in its path. Serafina must uncover the truth about what has happened to her and find a way to harness her strange new powers before it's too late.

NEW IN YOUNG ADULT:

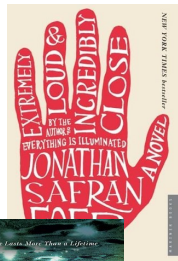
Ready Player One by Ernest Cline

In the year 2045, reality is an ugly place. The only time teenage Wade Watts really feels alive is when he's jacked into the virtual utopia known as the OASIS. Wade's devoted his life to studying the puzzles hidden within this world's digital confines, puzzles that are based on their creator's obsession with the pop culture of decades past and that promise massive power and fortune to whoever can unlock them. When Wade stumbles upon the first clue, he finds himself beset by players willing to kill to take this ultimate prize. The race is on, and if Wade's going to survive, he'll have to win—and confront the real world he's always been so desperate to escape.



Images and blurbs from goodreads.com

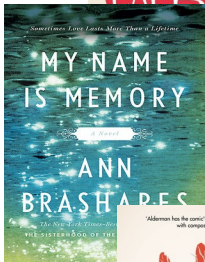
NEW IN ADULT FICTION:



Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close by Jonathan Safran Foer

A nine-year-old sets out on an adventure to find closure about his father, presumed dead in the 9-11 attacks on the World Trade Center.

(The library has the movie adaptation of this book as well.)



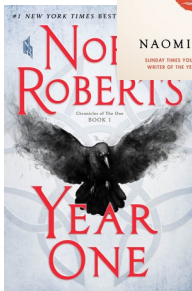
My Name is Memory by Ann Brashares

Daniel has spent centuries falling in love with the same girl... For all the times that he and Sophia have been drawn together throughout history, they have also been torn painfully, fatally, apart. A love always too short.



The Power by Naomi Alderman

In The Power the world is a recognizable place: there's a rich Nigerian kid who lounges around the family pool; a foster girl whose religious parents hide their true nature; a local American politician; a tough London girl from a tricky family. But something vital has changed, causing their lives to converge with devastating effect. Teenage girls now have immense physical power - they can cause agonising pain and even death. And, with this small twist of nature, the world changes utterly.



Year One by Nora Roberts

The Girl in the Tower by Katherine Arden (book 2 of the Winternight Trilogy)

The House on Foster Hill by Jaime Jo Wright

A Gentleman In Moscow by Amor Towles

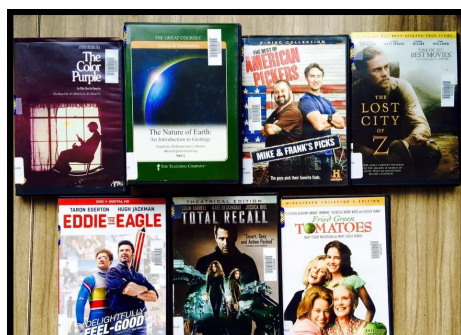
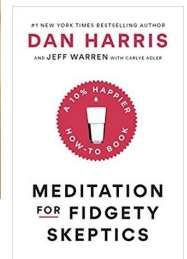
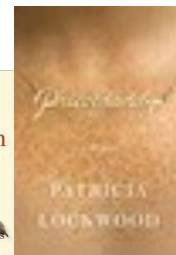
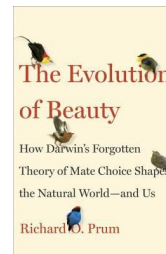
NEW IN ADULT NON-FICTION:

The Evolution of Beauty by Richard O. Prum

Priestdaddy: a memoir by Patricia Lockwood

Fire and Fury: Inside the Trump Whitehouse by Michael Wolff

Meditation for Fidgety Skeptics by Dan Harris



NEW DVDS

American Pickers Vol. 1-4

Donnie Darko

The Color Purple

Total Recall

The Lost City of Z

Fried Green Tomatoes

...and more!



Images and blurbs from goodreads.com

ARTIST MOSES WASSILIE VISITS THE LIBRARY

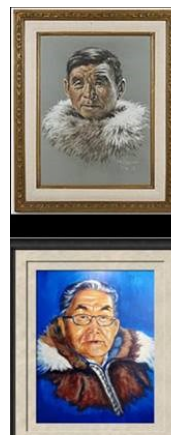
On January 21st, the library welcomed Gustavus School Artist In Residence Moses Wassilie, who gave a presentation about his artwork, shared stories from his life, and passed around samples of some of his latest pieces. Mr. Wassilie works with a variety of mediums, including paints, beads, driftwood, and bone. He shared examples of his portrait and landscape paintings, as well as some of his more traditional masks and jewelry. (Right: photos from Mr. Wassilie's presentation).

Throughout the following week, Mr. Wassilie (or "Mr. Mo" as he called himself at the school) worked with K-12 students, introducing them to Native art, music, dance, and culture. Some of the middle and high school students had the opportunity to work with Mr. Mo on drawing techniques. One class visited the library to work on still life drawing, using the skeleton of the orca hanging from the ceiling as a model. Mr. Wassilie coached the students in different drawing techniques, and incorporated culture and language into the art lesson as well.

Below: students work on still life drawing with Mr. Wassilie in the library.

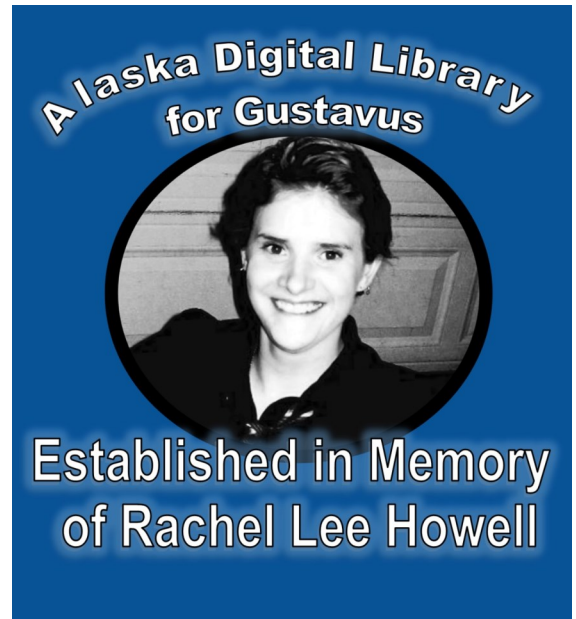
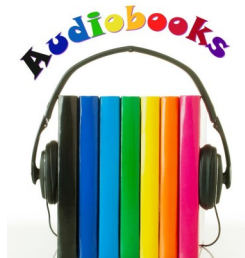
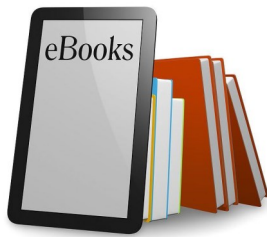


Below right and center: examples of Mr. Wassilie's artwork.



Check out eBooks and audiobooks for free!

Did you know that you can borrow eBooks and audiobooks through the library free of charge? Thanks to generous donors in our community, this service is available to library members in honor of Rachel Lee Howell.



Steam Laundry by Nicole Stellon O'Donnell will be available for unlimited eBook access the entire month of February!

Based on the true story of Sarah Ellen Gibson, the sixth woman to arrive in Fairbanks, Alaska, in the gold rush of 1903, this novel in poems incorporates a wide variety of styles—persona, narrative, and lyric poems, as well as historical photographs and documents—to tell Gibson's story. Through these poems, the reader is offered the chance to try on the dusty, mining-town overcoat of Gibson's life.

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Author Nicole
Stellon O'Donnell



STEAM LAUNDRY

RED HEN PRESS 2012

Nicole Stellon O'Donnell's first collection, *Steam Laundry*, won the 2013 WILLA Literary Award for Poetry. Her next book, *You Are No Longer in Trouble*, a memoir-in-flash about being a teacher, a student, and a principal's daughter is forthcoming in March 2019 from the Marie Alexander Series. *Everything Never Comes Your Way*, a collection of poems, will be published by Boreal Books in 2020.


[Read More](#)

BRIDGING VAST DISTANCES THROUGH A SHARED STORY...
#AlaskaReads




A SONG FROM OUR PRESCHOOLERS

Written during preschool music time at the library on
Valentine's Day!




*The butterfly it flies
Making colors in the skies
The butterfly flies in my heart*

*The earth, the earth spins round
And it holds us to the ground
The earth spins in my heart*

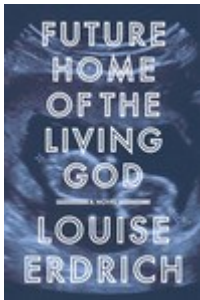


*The sky, the sky it blooms
Into rainbow clouds of doom
The sky blooms in my heart*



*The plant, the plant it grows
And it grows right through my toes
The plant grows in my heart*

JEN'S FEBRUARY READS



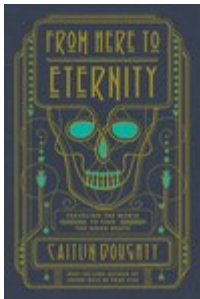
Future Home of the Living God by Louise Erdrich

This book is a unique blend of self-discovery (a young Ojibwe woman adopted by liberal white parents in the Midwest meets her birth family for the first time) and post-apocalyptic (something is causing evolution to move backwards and women are giving birth to primitive babies). The pacing of this book feels a little strange, moving slowly at first and then picking up quickly and becoming much more suspenseful in the second half. Overall, I enjoyed this unique take on the unraveling of society, and appreciated the story's unconventional protagonist.



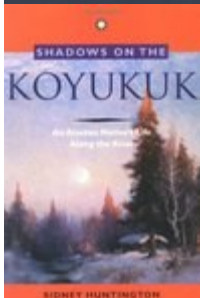
The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas

This book is a YA novel and was recommended to me by a teenager, but I would highly recommend it to adults as well. The subject matter is tough. The story is told by a teenage girl caught between worlds. She lives in a predominantly black inner-city neighborhood and attends an almost exclusively white private school. She witnessed the murder of one childhood friend by gang members, and the murder of another by a policeman who happens to work on the same police force as her uncle. The book explores race, community, and violence in a very accessible and engaging way. Prepare for strong feelings if you read this one.



From Here to Eternity by Caitlyn Doughty

I chose this book to get me out of my non-fiction rut, and I'm glad I did. In this book, mortician Caitlyn Doughty travels the world to discover how different cultures vary in their approach to dealing with death, on a physical, emotional, and even social level. Each chapter is about a different place she visits and what she witnesses regarding their death rituals. The book is a good one for fiction-lovers, as it is engaging throughout and reads like a story. She uses a healthy blend of humor and respect in her story telling. Be warned though: Doughty writes about death in sometimes graphic detail, which may make some readers uncomfortable.



Shadows on the Koyukuk: An Alaskan Native's Life Along the River by Sidney Huntington

I read this as an ebook through the library's Overdrive program, and enjoyed reading about Huntington's own account of his hardships and successes growing up on the Koyukuk River in 1915. The writing at times seemed a little rambling and detail-heavy, but the stories of survival, the cultural and historical knowledge I gained, and the pride that is evident in Huntington's writing made it well worth the read.



The Girl in the Tower by Katherine Arden

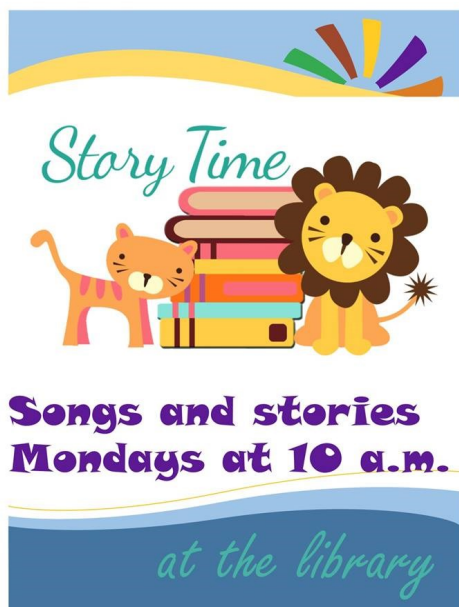
I loved this book. It is the second in the Winternight trilogy (the first being *The Bear and the Nightingale* the third set to come out this summer). The story combines fantasy with historical fiction and folklore from medieval Russia. The protagonist is a strong female misfit posing as a boy and riding through the woods of Russia in winter to save villagers from raiders. There's a slight bit of mystical romance, but nothing overblown.



Akata Witch by Nnedi Okorafor

Another great YA novel with a strong female heroine! This is the story of Sunny, a Nigerian-American teen born in Chicago whose family moves back to Nigeria. Add on top of that that she is albino, and has just found out that she is part of a secret magical society called the Leopard People. Sunny must work with other magically-abled teens to help keep Nigerian children safe from a kidnapper known as the Black Hat. This book immerses you in both magic and Nigerian culture.

THANK YOU TO OUR
FABULOUS VOLUNTEERS
AND DONORS.
THE LIBRARY DEPENDS
ON YOU!



UPCOMING EVENTS

Story Time with Jen
for kids and parents (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

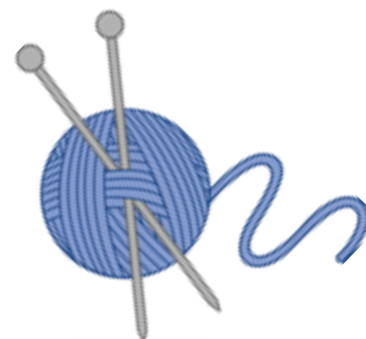
Best Beginnings (baby and toddler group)
Thursdays at 2:30pm

Everybody's Welcome Band:
Thursdays at 5:30pm

Knitting/Craft Group
Thursdays at 7pm
Check in with Bre if you are new

French Club
Thursdays at 7pm

All levels Yoga with Jess
Saturdays at 9:30 am



Library Statistics January 2018



Library visitors	751
Books Checked out	462
Movies Checked out	540
Total items checked out	1027

