

FALL 2021



among Friends

PUBLISHED BY FRIENDS OF WEST SLOPE COMMUNITY LIBRARY



Impressive Improvements On Display As WSL Reopens

Recently, West Slope Library had a great "Day of Reopening" after our extensive remodel, allowing patrons to see the library's new layout and improvements. The library staff counted 69 patrons who came in throughout WSL's first four open hours.

Some of my favorite things that happened throughout the day were moments like the one with a new reader telling us that her grandma reads *Elephant and Piggie* books to her, but the book that she'd just checked out was the first one that she was going to get to read to her grandma.

An older patron told me he didn't need to check anything out but that he was in the library on the last day we were open and he had to make sure he was back on our first day opening back up. Finally, a tween declared that she was so happy she could cry. I even overheard her ask about volunteering. All in all, it was a wonderful day!

-Kristen Thorp, West Slope Library Director



Friends of West Slope Library have generously donated the funds for the library's new service desk. The library thanks the Friends for their generosity, as this central desk will help serve patrons better with all of their library needs.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

I hope that you're doing well and have learned interesting ways to navigate and thrive in our "new normal" world of constant change. I'm thrilled the library has reopened on a limited basis after its remodel and its COVID adjustments and hope that you've had a chance to see its beautiful new look!



In case you didn't know, the 2021 Summer Reading Program continued at WSL during the remodel with online guidance from the staff and by providing clever "Take and Make" art projects which were a hit. (See the next page for another "Take and Make" project everyone can enjoy). Even though WSL has now reopened, it continues to provide online resources to patrons including a Zoom Adult Book Club, and Children's Storytime. WSL staff thanks you for your patience as the library operates in this hybrid model with limited in-person hours and online services.

Meanwhile, the Friends of WSL has tried to continue to fundraise throughout the year to help the library with new materials and programs. It's been difficult, as several of our biggest fundraisers like the Used Book Sale and Tulip Sale were postponed over the last 18 months. Please be sure to pick up a couple of blue BottleDrop bags next time you're in the library and help us continue to raise funds. See the story on the bottom of this page for more information about how the BottleDrop donation program works. It's really easy! We'll be back soon with our other fundraisers as quickly as it is safely possible.

Thank you for being a Friend and have a great fall season!

Dorothy Gerlach

Library Welcomes Newest Staff Members

Brian, hired during the remodel, is one of WSL's newest team members. His first in-person library experience was unpacking books. Brian loves public libraries because they provide resources to everyone in the community and he is really proud that WSL works hard to be inclusive. Brian is currently working on a Masters in Library Science and likes to cook, play board games, and is a Corgi dog enthusiast!



BRIAN

game Animal Crossing, and eating out at various Portland restaurants.

Maisey is an Oregon transplant from Colorado who is working on her Masters in Library Science. Maisey has been working in libraries since 2014 but West Slope is her first public library and she has really enjoyed getting to know this community.



MAISEY

When not working she can be found at another WCCLS Library working on school, playing video games, reading fantasy or sci-fi, or hanging out with her partner and two cats.

Sarah is excited to connect people with information and bring together the community! Sarah is a history fan, and likes to be creative with her embroidery. She also enjoys cooking new meals. Sarah is currently working on creating the perfect taco!



SARAH



CHRISTINE

Christine started at WSL in May, 2020. She loves working at the library because she loves people, books and media, answering questions, and helping patrons with their unique needs. She's grateful to be working in this wonderful community!

When she isn't at the library, Christine enjoys hiking, running, the video

The Oregon BottleDrop proceeds that are designated by library patrons for Friends of WSL have become a growing source of funds over the last few years. The Friends started asking patrons to donate their bottle returns in 2018 – and we received \$408 that first year. The funds donated through this program grew in 2019 to almost \$700, and then in 2020 grew again to \$1000. We are on pace to match the \$1000 in 2021!

The secret is in the special BottleDrop label with a barcode designated just for Friends of WSL. The label is on blue bags that are available now at the library



service desk. They can be filled with all of your bottles and cans and then taken to a BottleDrop center and dropped off. That's all it takes. The funds from the items in these bags are then deposited per the barcode into the Friends account. In addition, you can also donate some or all of the balance in your personal BottleDrop account

to the Friends. Go to the Bottledrop website at www.bottledropcenters.com and sign into your personal account. Under "For Individuals" in the drop down menu, select "For Nonprofit Donations," then search for "Friends of West Slope Community Library" and follow the rest of the instructions. It's easy and straightforward.

For the foreseeable future, the blue bags will be available at the library to pick up. Again, thank you to all the Friends who are already utilizing the BottleDrop fundraising program to recycle beverage containers, and donate funds to library programs and materials.

FALL 2021 ONLINE PROGRAMS

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

BOOK CLUB

Adults meet monthly to discuss a featured title at this member-led book group. Go to www.westslopelibrary.org and then click on the **Programs & Events** tab to register. Adult Services Librarian, Thea Hart, will email you a Zoom link to the book group meeting after registration has closed. All are welcome to participate! Call the library at 503-846-6416 for any questions.

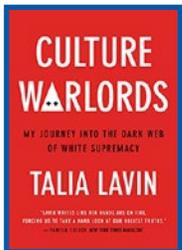
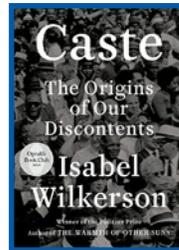


WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2-3:30 P.M.
ELEANOR, BY DAVID MICHAELIS

Award-winning bestselling author David Michaelis presents a breakthrough portrait of Eleanor Roosevelt, America's longest-serving First Lady, an avatar of democracy whose ever-expanding agency as diplomat, activist, and humanitarian made her one of the world's most widely admired and influential women.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2-3:30 P.M.
CASTE: THE ORIGINS OF OUR DISCONTENTS, BY ISABEL WILKERSON

A masterful portrait of an unseen phenomenon in America. Isabel Wilkerson explores, through an immersive, deeply researched narrative and stories about real people, how America today and throughout its history has been shaped by a hidden caste system, a rigid hierarchy of human rankings.



WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2-3:30 P.M.
CULTURE WARLORDS: MY JOURNEY INTO THE DARK WEB OF WHITE SUPREMACY, BY TALIA LAVIN

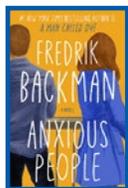
Culture Warlords is the story of how Lavin, a frequent target of extremist trolls, dove into a Byzantine online culture of hate and learned the intricacies of how white supremacy proliferates online. Shocking, humorous, and merciless in equal measure, Culture Warlords explores some of the vilest subcultures on the internet-and shows us how we can fight back.

Friends Recommend: Autumn Reading Selections

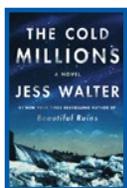
The Midnight Library by Matt Haig, Reviewed by Carol Hellebuyck

The Midnight Library by Matt Haig was recommended to me by a friend and the premise of the book is so interesting. In it, a young woman, Nora Seed, gets to experience alternate life paths which she had left behind for other choices. Faced with the possibility of a new life, she must discover what makes life worth living in the first place. While the first few chapters were difficult to get through, the story ended up being quite a pageturner. Haig's prose is fast-paced and easy to read. The story is quite believable and deeply philosophical. There is just so much to learn from this book.

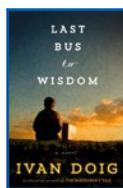
Perfect Library Audio Books For Fall, Suggested by Julie Corpron



If you like a humorous and wise look at life...
Anxious People by Fredrik Backman



If you like history...
The Cold Millions by Jess Walter



If you like a roadtrip story...
The Last Bus to Wisdom by Ivan Doig



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Address correction requested

Help us save on paper and printing costs by signing up for future issues via email. Contact us at friendsofswsl@gmail.com. Thanks for your support!

PROGRAMS FOR KIDS



WEDNESDAYS AT 11 AM, ZOOM STORYTIME WITH MISS TERISA
Miss Terisa's Zoom Storytime is on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. Please register in advance at www.westslopelibrary.org.

TAKE AND MAKE KITS

Take and Make Kits for all ages will be available at the library to pick up. Get creative with a Fall Fantasy theme. Please sign up to reserve a kit at www.westslopelibrary.org. Our first Take and Make Kit will be a cute little felted gnome.



YouTube BOOK TALKS

Check out WSL Book Talks on our YouTube channel and find your next great read! Click the YouTube icon near the "Log In/Search" button at www.westslopelibrary.org, and then click on our Book Talks playlist. Here are a few to check out:

Adult fiction:

This Mournable Body, the novel by Tsitsi Dangarembga (shortlisted for the 2020 Booker Prize).

Adult nonfiction:

Ain't I a Woman? Black Women and Feminism, the seminal book of feminist theory by bell hooks.

Children's Books:

We Are Water Protectors by Carol Lindstrom, a picture book inspired by the many Indigenous-led movements across North America.