

The Port Washington Public Library

A monthly guide to your community library,
its programs and services

Issue No. 272, December 2011

MAC welcomes violinist Benjamin Beilman

The Music Advisory Council welcomes violinist Benjamin Beilman and pianist Yekwon Sunwoo on Sunday, December 11 at 3 p.m. Council programs are privately funded by donations to the Port Washington Library Foundation.

Benjamin Beilman's numerous accolades have thrust him onto stages across North America. First Prize Winner of the 2010 Montréal International Musical Competition and winner of the People's Choice Award, he debuted this season with L'Orchestre Métropolitain de Montréal, with L'Orchestre Symphonique de Québec, and with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, and performed the Jennifer Higdon Violin Concerto with the South Dakota and Glens Falls symphonies.

Mr. Beilman's debuts also included recitals as part of the 2011-12 Young Concert Artist Series in New York, sponsored by the Peter Jay Sharp Prize and the Summis Auspiciis Prize, in Washington, D.C. at the Kennedy Center, as well as in Boston at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, all as a result of winning First Prize in the 2010 Young Concert Artists International Auditions.

An avid chamber musician, Mr. Beilman has participated in the Marlboro Music Festival since the age of 17, and toured with "Musicians from Marlboro" last season. He has also appeared at Music from Angel Fire, the Verbier Festival and on Ravinia's "Rising Stars" series. With the Vuilliani String Quartet, Mr. Beilman performed in the New School's Schneider Concert Series in February 2011.

Deemed a "wonderful recording" (La Scena Musicale, QC), Mr. Beilman's debut album of Proko-

fiev's complete sonatas for violin and piano was released on Analekta in 2010. He has been heard on National Public Radio's "Performance Today" and "From the Top," the McGraw-Hill "Young Artists Showcase" on WQXR New York Radio and Chicago WFMT's "Impromptu."

Mr. Beilman works with Ida Kavafian (YCA Alumna) at the Curtis Institute of Music. He worked previously with Almita and Roland Vamos at the Music Institute of Chicago.



December schedule

The library will be closed Saturday and Sunday, December 24 & 25 and December 31 and January 1. Have a happy and safe holiday season.

Garden Club

Many thanks to the Garden Club for the greenery throughout the library this month and for beautifying our space throughout the year.

Exercise Lottery

Enter your name into the lottery box beginning December 6. Complete details in the calendar of events.

Should you be gluten free?

Gluten free eating— new trend or necessary? Jill Eisenberg, Registered Dietitian and Certified Dietitian/Nutritionist, will answer these and other questions on Wednesday, December 7 at 7:30 p.m.

Tales from around the world for ages 4 & up

We are delighted to welcome nationally acclaimed storyteller Heather Forest as the first presenter in the Jackie Spielman Storytelling Festival. Children ages 4 and up with an adult are invited on December 28 at 2:30 p.m. Heather brings her unique style of storytelling, which includes guitar, poetry and the spoken word, and features lively folktales from around the world. See Library Kids page.

World Festival

The library, in conjunction with the Landmark on Main Street, is planning a celebration of cultures in a worldwide festival on April 29, 2012. If you want to contribute to this global festivity, and want your heritage to be represented, please call Peggy O'Hanlon at 883-4400, Ext. 147 or send an e-mail to ohanlonp@pwpl.org.

French Homework Help

Students in grades 6-12 who are studying French and need help with grammar and pronunciation are invited to work with Sylvie Nouel Russo on Thursdays, January 5, 12, 19 & 26 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Complete details on back page.



JEFFERSON SOUNDSWAP: Join us on Thursday, December 15 for a video-illustrated look at an influential yet underrated group of musical pioneers of the late 1960s. Story inside.



The library was recently recognized at a breakfast meeting by the New York State Education Department with a certificate that acknowledged “leadership in workforce development to increase employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities.” Pictured above are job coach Francisco Villagran, employee Jennifer DeYoung and library director Nancy Curtin.

From the Director’s Office

Amazing things are happening here

As 2011 draws to a close, I want to invite you to Save the Year — 2012 is our 120th anniversary year of service to the Port Washington Community. Look for special programs as we celebrate a long and illustrious history and plan for an exciting future.

The library has always been a place to blossom — for every age. And, whether you are an employee or visitor, there is something for you. As an employer, the Port Washington Public Library continues to make a difference in the lives of individuals and the community (see story at left).

There’s no doubt that library visitors enjoy the PWPL experience. Our library is consistently recognized as one of the most highly used public libraries in the United States, and for two years in a row we received the highest des-

ignation as a “5-Star Library” from *Library Journal*.

Closer to home, the library is often referred to as the center of the community. If you look at the number of groups that met at the library this year, it’s clear that no other place in town serves more people or more interests than the library. In fact, more than 330 community meetings took place at the library in 2011. Beyond the typical meetings, the library is an IT spot, an art scene and a music scene, as well as book club central.

IT Spot — Make use of our wi-fi, or ask our staff to assist with downloading free e-books and audiobooks to your tablet computer or smartphone. Look for our mobile app, coming soon.

Art Scene — visit our new Martin Vogel Photography Gallery and view exhibits on all levels of the

building. During our anniversary year, many of the exhibits in the Community Gallery will highlight the library’s 120 year history.

Music Scene — The Music Council hosts 9 highly acclaimed classical concerts each year, and our staff books popular concerts that are often standing room only. Recent programs in our Live@PWPL series included tributes to Neil Young and George Harrison, and the Jen Chapin Trio performed courtesy of SoundSwap.

Book Clubs meet every week including Books for Desert, a unique club for adults with intellectual disabilities. You can also join a number of online book clubs through our website.

We hope that you’ll join us for some or all of our events. See article below left and watch this publication for updates.

PWPL turns 120 in 2012

The Port Washington Public Library board of trustees, administration and staff are pleased to announce our 120th Anniversary in 2012. With each decade that passes, the library becomes more current and more easily accessible. We’ve come a long way since the early years when the library was housed in a local resident’s front parlor. We are now a 50,000 square foot modern facility that functions with green technologies and efficiencies that enable us to accommodate outstanding programs and services. In fact, *Library Journal* named us a “Five-Star Library,” one of just 72 nationwide.

To recognize our first 120 years, we’re planning a year-long

celebration for the entire community. You’re invited to join us for a series of special events, programs, performances and exhibitions developed by the various library departments, volunteer advisory councils, the Friends of the Library and the Library Foundation. It will truly be a community event.

Highlights include an author visit with Lucette Lagnado and André Aciman, sponsored by the Friends of the Library; a spectacular exhibition by eight children’s illustrators and a related panel discussion led by Jane Breskin Zalben; special exhibitions and a new web page by the Local History Center; a World Cultures Festival, co-presented with Landmark on Main Street,

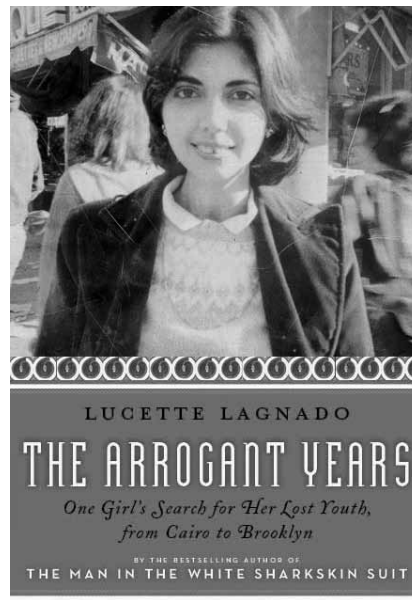
a great birthday party and much more. Check this publication and our website for information and updates.

As a true cultural center with something for everyone, and with the Library’s new strategic plan taking shape, we’ll be looking to an exciting future.

Join us in this milestone year by sponsoring an anniversary event or program, and please contribute to the Friends of the Library and the Library Foundation, both 501(c)3 organizations that make our expanded schedule of programs and services possible. For more information, please contact Library Director Nancy Curtin at 883-4400, Ext 300.



Director Nancy Curtin poses with young library patrons after the Port Washington Public Library was named a “Five Star Library” by *Library Journal*. Author Lucette Lagnado visits in April with Andre Aciman.



Nautical history

With the help of BAI Design, the Local History Center has developed a colorful and informative banner display that is on view in the library’s main Reading Room. Artifact cases filled with memorabilia from Port’s four yacht clubs complement the exhibit.

Text is based on content from the book *Cross Currents: Baymen, Yachtsmen and Long Island Waters* by Elly Shodell, which is available for sale on the library’s website. Photographs are from the archival collections of the Local History Center, and can be viewed on the library’s website. Fabrication of the banners was funded by the Nautical Advisory Council, with private funds from the Port Washington Library Foundation.

Enjoy the show!



Author John Pollack looks at the humble pun

Meet John Pollack, author of *The Pun Also Rises: How the Humble Pun Revolutionized Language, Changed History, and Made Wordplay More Than Some Antics* (Gotham Books, 2011), on Friday, December 2 at 12:10 p.m.

A love letter to language, laughter and the power of imagination, *The Pun Also Rises* is the definitive account of the humble pun, its history, and why punning still matters.

John Pollack is a former presidential speechwriter for

Bill Clinton and winner of the O. Henry World Pun Championship. He leads readers on a remarkable journey through time, culture and language.

Rich with anecdotes, history, pop culture, neuroscience, literature, anthropology and humor, this book will inspire every reader to reconsider what they think they know about puns.

Books will be available for purchase and signing. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

ReInvention Workshop with Ann Fry

As presenter Ann Fry will tell you, "When you want things to be different, you need to ReEnergize, RePurpose and ReInvent as you connect with your passions and dreams."

The ReInvention Hotshot will lead a workshop on December 3 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Registration is required. Call 883-4400, Ext. 136 for availability.

Jefferson Airplane SoundSwap December 15

Join us on Thursday, December 15 at 7:30 p.m. for Jefferson SoundSwap, a video-illustrated look at an influential yet underrated group of musical pioneers of the late 1960s.

The diverse music of Jefferson Airplane reaches far beyond the impression left on most casual listeners by the group's biggest hits "White Rabbit" and "Somebody to Love."

Guitarist Jorma Kaukonen and bassist Jack Casady brought a vast knowledge of blues music and a love of instrumental experimentation into the band's musical structure. Guitarist Paul Kantner provided strange and fantastic lyrical visions. Grace Slick challenged the band's audience with her literary references and unusual vocal stylings. And founding member Marty Balin lent his wide-ranging voice to poignant emotional songs, and took his fellow band members' creations to new heights. Drummer Spencer Dryden, present for Jefferson Airplane's best-known recordings, gave them the flexibility to rhythmically stretch beyond the reaches of other groups of the period.

These musicians, and the others who came along during Airplane's seven-year voyage, left behind a catalogue of music worth examining over 35 years later. They also laid the foundation for the band's offshoots, which include Jefferson Starship and Hot Tuna, two groups that continue to perform live and record new music.



ARTIST PETER HEAD will display his stringed instruments in the Main Gallery throughout December, courtesy of the Art Advisory Council. His whimsical creations will brighten the library during the holiday season. Art Advisory Council exhibitions are privately funded by donations to the Port Washington Library Foundation. See story on page 7.

Jazz legend Marian McPartland visits



Jazz legend and Port Washington resident Marian McPartland is a pianist, a composer and host of National Public Radio's *Marian McPartland's Piano Jazz*. A native of England, Ms. McPartland arrived in America in 1948 with her husband Jimmy McPartland and established herself as a leading musician in the male-dominated jazz world.

In *In Good Time: The Piano Jazz of Marian McPartland* (2011-90 min.), McPartland, now 93, tells her own story through interviews filmed over four years. The film features McPartland's own harmonically rich compositions and piano improvisations. She is seen performing and regaling audiences with her wit and stories in clubs and concerts, and at *Piano Jazz* record-

ing sessions with Dr. Billy Taylor, Elvis Costello, Dave Brubeck, Diana Krall, Bill Frisell, Nnenna Freelon, Renee Rosnes and Dick Hyman, among others.

In Good Time was directed by a filmmaker known only as Huey, who for thirty years has been making documentaries on artists, education, the environment and Maine. His films have been shown at festivals throughout the US, on PBS and on television in Europe.

The film will be shown on Saturday, December 10 at 2 p.m., and Ms. McPartland and Huey will be present for a discussion after the screening.

This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

December Library Kids

Welcome to the page for Children's Services. Be sure to look here for upcoming exhibits, programs and articles relating to Children's Services and the Parenting Information Center. *Parents: Please comply with the age guidelines for these programs and be prepared to show proof of local residency.*

Early Childhood

To register or inquire about the following programs, please call Children's Services at 883-4400, Ext. 150.

Mother Goose Rhyme Time – Thursdays, December 1, 8, 15 & 22 at 11:30 a.m. For children ages birth to 17 months with an adult – siblings welcome. *No registration required.*

Preschool Story Time – Fridays, December 2, 9 & 16 at 10:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. For children ages 3½ to 5 without an adult. *No registration required.*

Story Time with Miss Lucy and Mr. Mike – Mondays, December 5 & 19 at 10:30 a.m. – For children ages 2½ to 5 with an adult. *No registration required.*

Toddler Story Time – Tuesdays, December 6 & 13 at 10:30 a.m. For children ages 2½ to 3½ with an adult. *No registration required.*

Hands On Music – Monday, December 12. Music, stories and songs. Birth to 17 months with an adult at 11 a.m. Ages 18 months to 5 years with an adult at 12 noon or 1 p.m. *Registration begins December 5.*

Pajama Story Time – Wednesday, December 14 at 7 p.m. Come in pajamas and listen to bedtime stories. For children ages 2 to 5 with an adult. Family members welcome. *No registration required.*

Parent Child Workshop – January 4, 11, 18, 25 & February 1 from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. For children ages 18 to 29 months with an adult – siblings welcome. *Registration begins December 22 – families must be Port Washington residents; priority given to first time registrants.*

Kindergarten Through Sixth Grade

To register or inquire about the following programs, please call Children's Services at 883-4400, Ext.150.

After School Story Time – Wednesdays, December 7 & 14 at 4 p.m. For children in kindergarten through second grade without an adult. *No registration required.*

Book Bunch – Thursday, December 15 at 4 p.m. Monthly book discussion for children in grades 3 and 4. *Call for availability.*

Tweens' Night Out – Friday, December 16 from 7 to 8:45 p.m. Just in time for the holidays! Students in grades 5 and 6 are invited for an evening get-together at the library. The night's activity includes a workshop with Children's Advisory Council member Elise Tepper, who will show participants fun and innovative ways to wrap gifts. *Registration begins December 5.* Please bring a gift to wrap or an empty box to practice with.

Page Turners – Tuesday, December 27 at 7:15 p.m. Monthly book discussion for children in grades 5 and 6. *Call for availability.*



Tweens' Night Out

Holiday Shows

Tickets are required for the following programs and will be available beginning December 16.

Masked Marvels & Wondertales

Tuesday, December 27 at 2:30 p.m. Join visual artist and virtuoso mime Michael Cooper in this one-man extravaganza featuring his beautifully handcrafted masks, original stories of courage and wonder and outlandish stilt dancing. For children in grades K and up with an adult. *Co-sponsored by the Children's Advisory Council, which is privately funded by donations to the Port Washington Library Foundation.*



Songspinner: A Musical Tapestry of World Tales

Wednesday, December 28 at 2:30 p.m.

Nationally acclaimed storyteller Heather Forest brings her unique style of storytelling, which includes original music, folk guitar, poetry, prose and the spoken word. Featuring lively folktales from around the world, her concert is filled with plenty of audience participation, song, comical characters and engaging adventures. Heather has toured her repertoire of world folktales for the past thirty years to theatres, major storytelling festivals, and conferences throughout the United States and abroad. For children ages 4 and up with an adult. *Sponsored by the Jackie Spielman Fund, which is privately funded by donations to the Port Washington Library Foundation.*

The Gizmo Guys

Thursday, December 29 at 2:30 p.m.

Everyone will find something to love about this gifted juggling duo. Barret Felker, a veteran of the Big Apple Circus, and Allan Jacobs, international juggling champion, will amuse as well as amaze you with their dazzling techniques and infectious humor. For children ages 4 and up with an adult. *Co-sponsored by the Children's Advisory Council, which is privately funded by donations to the Port Washington Library Foundation.*

Monster Jam Winter Reading Club

December 12 to January 13

Children in preschool to 6th grade are invited to join the "Reading with Monsters" program! Participate by having books read to you or reading books on your own. You'll receive Monster Jam prizes and the opportunity to register to win VIP tickets to a Monster Jam show at Nassau Coliseum in January. If our library has the most participants we'll receive a visit from a real Monster Truck. To participate, please visit the Children's Room on December 12 to join and pick up your reading club materials. *Co-sponsored by the Nassau Library System in partnership with Feld Entertainment.*



Friday, December 16 at 7:30 p.m.

LIVE @ PWPL: Happy Ending

Carl Bishop and Michael Goodenow collaborate on songs that soothe the soul and spark the spirit.

Artie Argyle's Swingin' Sock Hop

Join us on Monday, December 5 at 7:30 p.m. for Artie Argyle's Swingin' Sock Hop.

In the 1950s, sock hops were informal dances held in the gyms and cafeterias of American high schools. The term "sock hop" came about because dancers were often required to remove their shoes to protect varnished gym floors.

Artie Argyle (a.k.a. Kevin Novinski) served as host of the '50s music show *The Grooveyard* on WCWP radio. Our event will feature music that was recorded on Long Island, including some that originated in the Port Washington area. Much of the music played during Kevin's events is taken from original 45s, so be prepared to hear some nostalgic crackles and pops.

Kevin Novinski is a New York-based underground filmmaker and writer with a deep love of doo wop and rockabilly music. In his Artie Argyle persona, Kevin has enjoyed bringing this music to people who may, like himself, have been too young to have caught it when it was being played on the radio. So, make the scene at the library for a musical trip down memory lane!

You won't be required to take off your your shoes — but you may not be able to resist!



AAC shows Peter Head's Stringed Instruments

Peter Head's stringed instruments are in our Main Gallery this month, courtesy of the Art Advisory Council.

The artist writes, "Inspired by instruments and sounds from around the world as well as by American Roots and Appalachian music, I have been making guitars, banjos, violins, cellos and basses since 1995. I create my work from discarded materials I have recycled or salvaged.

"Tuners and pickups are

store-bought to ensure maximum playability, but my instruments are born primarily from items usually overlooked or long forgotten. I work from the tradition of wooden cigar box guitar making, but prefer to use metal instead of wood for my guitar bodies.

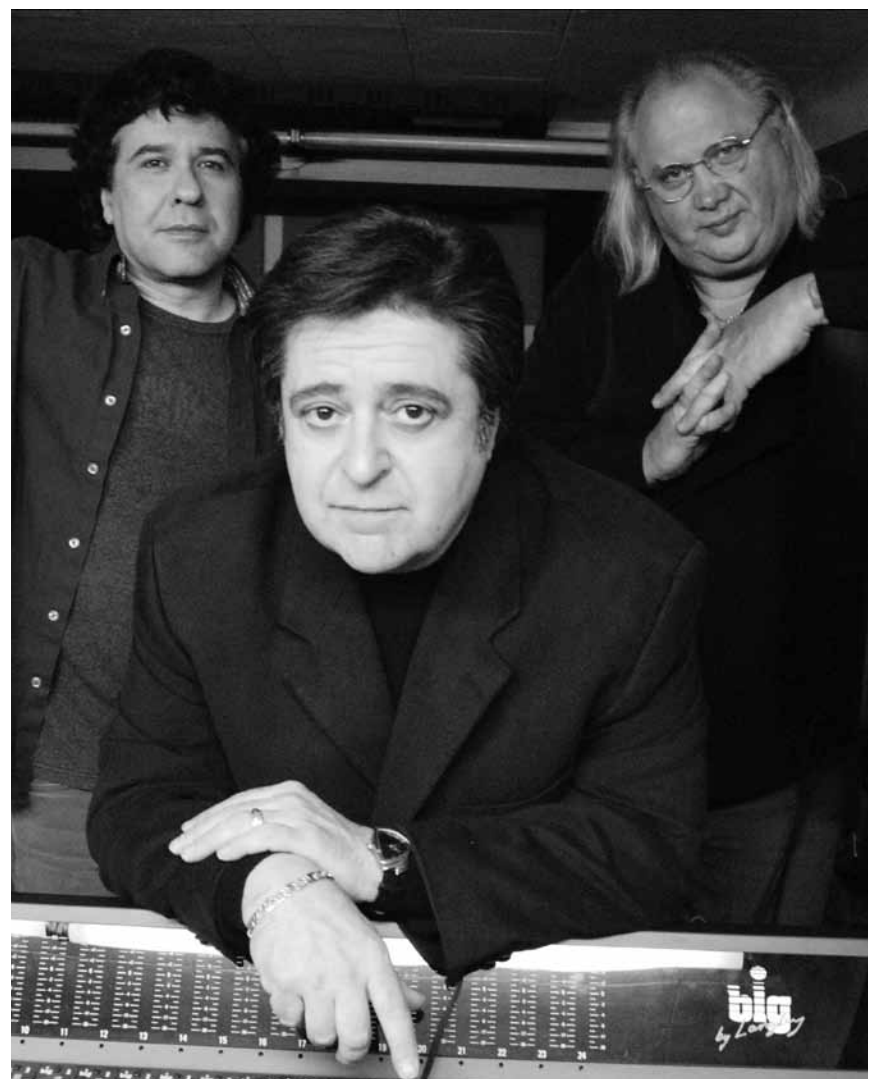
"Lunchboxes, cookie tins, oil cans and toolboxes transform into stringed music-makers in my shop. These things play as good as they look, and the resulting sounds are as varied as life itself."



Sight and Sound

Join us on Friday, December 16 at 12:10 p.m. as pianist Evelyn Ulex presents a colorful mixed-media program.

Artist Ada Frey's series of bright, kaleidoscopic paintings, originally inspired by Ulex's playing, are projected on-screen during the pianist's performance of Musorgsky's 1874 work *Pictures at an Exhibition*, providing a dramatic backdrop to the music.



Friday, December 9 at 7:30 p.m.

LIVE@PWPL: The Bob Leto Trio

The trio performs favorite jazz standards

What's new in TeenSpace for grades 7 through 12?

Check out our NEW SPACE

Visit Teenspace and check out our new window seat! Built with funding provided by the Bernard Fendrich Memorial Youth Fund and a library construction grant from New York State, it almost doubles the seating capacity of the room (from 10 to 18). Plug your phone or laptop into one of the outlets conveniently located behind the seat cushions, or find a game in one of the storage drawers under the seat.

American Red Cross CPR Certification Course for Teens December 3, 12 to 4 p.m.

Learn how to reduce the risk of injury to infants and children, respond to emergency situations, care for an infant or child who stops breathing, and perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation on infants and children. Presented by Ildiko Catuogno, a certified Red Cross CPR/AED/First Aid instructor. In-person registration in progress in Teen-Space. Workshop fee is \$5. Co-sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

SAT Prep Course Series

The series will take place on Sat-

urdays, January, 7, 14, 21 & 28 and February 4, 11 & 18 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and is offered by SCOPE Education Services, a Long Island education services provider with over 35 years of training. In-person registration begins December 1. A non-refundable fee of \$195 per student for 7 sessions required at registration, by check. Checks should be made payable to *Scope Education*

Services. Each session is divided equally between verbal and math. The SAT textbook from the College Board will be provided. Students are expected to attend all sessions.

French Homework Help

Thursdays, January 5, 12, 19 & 26

Students in grades 6-12, who are studying French and need help with grammar and pronunciation,

are invited to work with Sylvie Nouel Russo on Thursdays from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. No registration is required, but students must bring their own textbooks. Ms. Russo, a native of France, has tutored students in French and is active in arranging French book fairs in international schools.



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