

Beyond The Stacks The Stacks The Stacks The Stacks

Winter 2016

The Holyoke Public Library
www.holyokelibrary.org



Mini-Golf in the Library!

SAVE these dates!

Friday April 8, 2016 6 pm-9 pm

Pre-Party

Saturday April 9, 2016 9:30 am-4 pm

Last Tee-off: 3:30 pm

Adults \$5; Ages 5-12 \$3; Under 5, free

Swing into Spring with the Friends!

Come play miniature golf inside the Holyoke Public Library and support the Friends of the Library. Start at the top level (Reference Room), follow the course down to Level 3 by historic photos of the old Mt. Tom Golf Club, then into the Children's Room, Level 2, and down the stairs to the Fiction Stacks on Level 1. The 17th hole will be in the Teen Room. The 18th hole will lead to the Community Room for refreshments and raffle. Don't miss this unique event!

* * *

Adults are invited to a Pre-PARTY Friday April 8, 6 pm-9 pm, to see the 18-hole golf course, practice putting skills, and enjoy food and drink.



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Library Park Dedicated

Holyoke Mayor Alex Morse talks with third graders who came from the Lawrence Campus of the Peck-Lawrence Full Service Community School to watch the dedication ceremony.



Bring a child to walk the reading walk. Follow the winding sidewalk and read a storybook posted along the path. Bring a lunch with you and read another book while picnicking on the grass.



Have a seat on our new benches. Play checkers, chess, or dominoes on one of the tables in the park. Bring your own game or take out any of the other numerous board games available at the Library.



Marc Berger To Perform Song Cycle

Thursday, March 10th at 7:00 PM

A performance of Marc's American western song cycle, *RIDE*, will be presented in the Holyoke Public Library's Community Room. The program will include stories of Marc's experiences in the West, along with the ways those experiences influenced the creation of the songs.

Clouds that forever stampede the endless sky, shadows gliding over canyon walls - the West is a vast expanse of magic and mystery. American artists from John Ford to Frederick Remington to A.B. Guthrie have used film, canvas and the printed page to convey the essence of its unique landscape and mythology. Inspired by Marc's lifelong love affair with the American West, *RIDE*, his current release, presents ten cinematic recordings capturing the vastness and romance of the West's wide open spaces. Marc has performed at Austin's SXSW Music Festival, the Kerrville Folk Festival, and has opened shows for Bob Dylan, and other national acts. His song "The Last One", a staple of Richie Havens' concerts for over twenty-five years, has been quoted in the NY Times and featured on The CBS Evening News.



Inspired by Marc's lifelong love affair with the American West and produced by Marc and Mike Ricciardi, *RIDE* now presents ten cinematic recordings capturing the vastness and romance of the West while exploring its deep roots in the American psyche. From the haunting message and beat of "Twister" and the soul-shaking challenge of taming a wild horse in "Take it on the Chin", to the sexy, mind-blowing, middle-of-nowhere encounter of "Time Waits For No Man" and on through seven more scenic stops, *RIDE* takes you on a dusty tour of the Great American West.

"Marc Berger may strike some as an artistic and cultural anomaly--at least at first. He's an Eastern born artist who's thoroughly steeped in the musical lore of the American West, genuinely so. There are no false notes--musically OR textually--on his CD release *RIDE*. In smaller live venues such as ours, he may do a more stripped down version of the songs from that release, and while those familiar with the fuller arrangements of the recorded versions might miss the rich textures of same, they'll soon find themselves fully captivated by the more intimate, leaner versions of these remarkable songs. Indeed, the starker arrangements throw his sharp, evocative lyrics into vivid relief." Gregory Callahan, Director, Hyde Park Free Library (Hyde Park, NY)

To register or for more information, please visit the Holyoke Public Library or call 413-420-8101.

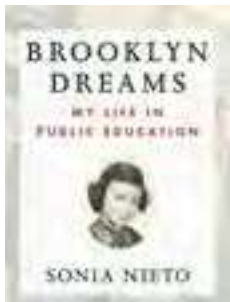
This program is supported in part by a grant from the Holyoke Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency; and the Holyoke Public Library. All library programs are open to the public free of charge thanks to our generous donors and supporters like you. Reservations are recommended and can be made by calling Holyoke Public Library or by registering in person at the library's front desk.

Conversations with Authors Series:

Dr. Sonia Nieto



Join us on Saturday, March 19 at 4:00 p.m. when we continue our Conversations with Authors Series. Dr. Sonia Nieto will talk about her experience in public education and present her book *Brooklyn Dreams: My Life in Public Education*.



Professor Emerita of Language, Literacy, and Culture, School of Education, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Sonia Nieto was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York and educated in the New York City Public Schools. She attended St. John's University, Brooklyn campus,

where she received a B.S. in Elementary Education in 1965. Upon graduation, she attended New York University's Graduate Program in Madrid, Spain, and received her MA in Spanish and Hispanic Literature in 1966. She began her teaching career as a junior high school teacher of English, Spanish, and ESL in Brooklyn. Moving to Massachusetts with her family in 1975, she completed her doctoral studies in 1979 with specializations in curriculum studies, bilingual education, and multicultural education.

Retiring from the University of Massachusetts in 2006, Dr. Nieto continues to speak and write on multicultural education, teacher preparation, the education of Latinos, and other culturally and linguistically diverse student populations. Her book *Affirming Diversity: The Sociopolitical Context of Multicultural Education*, is widely used in teacher preparation and in-service courses around the country. Other books include *The Light in Their Eyes: Creating Multicultural Learning Communities* (1999, 2010), *Language, Culture, and Teaching* (2002, 2010), *What Keeps Teachers Going?* (2003), *Finding Joy in Teaching Students of Diverse Backgrounds* (2013), and four edited volumes, *Puerto Rican Students in U.S. Schools* (2000), *Why We Teach* (2005), *Dear Paulo: Letters From Those Who Dare Teach* (2008), and

Why We Teach Now (2015). She has written widely in such journals as *The Harvard Education Review*, *Educational Leadership*, *Journal of Educational Change*, and many others. In addition, she has authored or co-authored many book chapters, book reviews, commissioned, papers, and others.

Besides serving as an advisory member on many boards and editorial boards, she has also been a trustee of Mass Humanities (Massachusetts affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities), the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts, and the Center for Applied Linguistics. She has received many awards for her scholarship, advocacy and activism, including the 1997 Multicultural Educator of the Year Award from the National Association for Multicultural Education, an Annenberg Institute Senior Fellowship (1998-2000), the Outstanding Language Arts Educator of the Year from the National Council of Teachers of English (2005), and the 2008 Social Justice in Education Award from the American Educational Research Association. In 2011 she was named a Fellow of the American Educational Research Association and a Laureate of Kappa Delta Pi, an education honor society.

The event is free and open to the public. It is sponsored by Holyoke Public Library, The Puerto Rican Cultural Project in partnership with the Center for Puerto Rican Studies (CENTRO) at Hunter College, City University of New York, El Grito de Lares, The Puerto Rican Cultural Center and the Center for Latin American, Caribbean and Latino Studies (CLACLS) - University of Massachusetts Amherst.

These events are relaxed conversations between our members and an outstanding member of our author community.

After our discussion, Dr. Nieto will sign books. The Odyssey Bookshop will have books available for purchase or bring your own.



And Now a Word From...



Terry Plum
President, Board of Directors

The New England weather may be unpredictable, and certainly has been unusual recently, but you can rely upon your Library to steadfastly carry on. Here are a few of the recent notable events at the Library.

On October 20th, 2015, Dr. Stephen Zrike, Jr., Receiver of the Holyoke Public Schools, shared his vision of education with the Library Board and guests in the Community Room of the Library. He outlined the turnaround plan for the schools (<http://www.hps.holyoke.ma.us/pdf/receiver/turnaroundplan.pdf>), and there was a lively discussion about how the Library can help. It was a great session, and the Board looks forward to working with Dr. Zrike and the teachers and students of the Holyoke Public Schools, particularly on issues of literacy and summer reading. To support summer reading the Library will again be open on Saturdays in the summer, as it was last year. Many thanks to the staff for adjusting their schedules.

The Library partnered with the Puerto Rican Cultural Project (<https://www.facebook.com/prculturalproject/>) to produce the *Puerto Rico Canta on Main Street*, a musical event held on January 2, 2016, that had music ranging from a performance by the classically trained tenor, Charlie Berrios, who is a Holyoke resident, to the percussion of plena and bomba, performed by Los Gigantes De La Plena. The voice of Mr. Berrios and the drums of Los Gigantes brought over 500 adults and children to the War Memorial for an evening that had everything, including three kings. Thanks to Maria Pagan and to Manuel Frau-Ramos for helping to organize a terrific event.

Together with the UMass Fine Arts Center, the Library helped to bring Miguel Zenón, alto saxophone player, to the Pioneer Valley. On February 10, he held a community conversation at the Library, and then performed on February 11, at the Fine Arts Center. We again thank Manuel Frau-Ramos for helping to make this partnership a reality, and we look forward to further collaboration.

This winter there were many other events at the Library worth noting – Maureen Taylor (the photo detective), home movie day, the six-part film series on Latino Americans, and the reading from *Love Letters to a Paper City* by Melinda Thomas. We feel these presentations are important to the community, but the Library Board is also focused on how the Library can better help the adults and children of Holyoke in many other ways as well. To that end, the Board has agreed on a set of goals to plan for the coming year. Here they are, and your comments are welcomed.

Collaboration

The Library will establish regular communication between the Library and other local groups, including developing partnerships for fund raising and grant writing.

Customer Service

The Library will remain a welcoming and helpful place for its patrons. Staff will be trained to provide even better personalized services including helping visitors with special needs.

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Education, Services and Programs

The Library will continue to offer a variety of quality programming, and will increase circulation and other output measures through marketing.

Planning

The Library will develop a long-range strategic plan.

Personnel and library staff

There will be performance evaluations and goal setting for all library staff, including the Director. Library staff will increase their knowledge of technology and emerging trends, focusing on the integrated library system and web developments. A Teen/Outreach librarian will be hired. The salary structure will be made fairer.

Finances

Endowment funds shall be conserved where possible, and deliver a reasonable return. All distributed funds will be spent.

City funds shall be conserved where possible.

Fund raising will be a priority.

Governance and communication

The Library will update its organization chart, use its staff leadership team, and communicate to staff through various means, including staff meetings. Staff and public policies will be updated.

Each of these goals has performance objectives so that success can be evaluated. While some of these goals are aspirational and may not be within the control of the Board or the Library, at the end of the year I will report back on how we did in meeting these goals.

Maria Pagan
Library Director

We have highlighted a few of the exciting events scheduled for the Holyoke Public Library in the next few months in this newsletter, but we do not have room to highlight them all. The following is a listing of other events. **Programs are open to the public free of charge. Reservations are recommended and can be made by calling 413-420-8101 or by visiting the Holyoke Public Library at 250 Chestnut Street, Holyoke.**

March

Each year around the world, International Women's Day (IWD) is celebrated on March 8. Hundreds of events occur, not just on this day but throughout March to mark the economic, political and social achievements of women.

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In 1975, during International Women's Year, the United Nations began celebrating International Women's Day on March 8. As part of Women's Month celebration, from March 1-31, 2016, the Library will have a poster exhibit with selections from a collection of more than 5,300 posters owned by Stephen Lewis.

March 19, 2016 – The public is invited to a community conversation with author and Holyoke's 2016 Ambassador Award Winner Dr. Mary C. Kelly on Saturday, March 19 at 10 a.m. at the Holyoke Public Library. Professor Mary C. Kelly is a historian of the Irish-American immigrant experience and its transatlantic foundations. She graduated from National University of Ireland, Galway, with a Modern Irish History M.A., and from Syracuse University with a Ph.D. in Modern American History. She is now Professor of History at Franklin Pierce University, New Hampshire, where she has taught for almost two decades. Her courses in immigrant, gender, cultural and intellectual history also include select European offerings and a class on Modern Ireland. Much of Dr. Kelly's research and writing explores the nexus of faith and politics in the transatlantic narrative, and she is currently researching connections between Irish-American intellectual culture and 1916.

March 19 at 1 p.m. Get out of the cold while you wait to see the St. Patrick's Road Race- bring your children to the library for a fun hour of Irish Magic as Magician Debbie O'Carroll's, amazing magic tea pot is the centerpiece of an enchanting participatory magic show with the Irish Fairy Grandmother. Full of fun, zany humor and delightful Irish-themed magic. The Irish Fairy Grandmother Magic Show is ideal for ages 3 to 8. Ms. O'Carroll blends enchanting stage magic with lively physical comedy.

March 31, 2016 at 6:30, Conversation with Local Author, Tzivia Grover who offers an inspiring treasury of small, creative ways to shift your perspective and uncover surprising bits of joy over the course of your day. Whether you're making dinner, commuting, exercising, working at the computer, or brushing your teeth, every moment of your life offers an opportunity to discover happiness. She will share her experiences and her new book, *Joy in Every Moment: Mindful Exercises for Waking to the Wonders of Ordinary Life*. Short essays accompanied by practical exercises to try and exquisite illustrations by artist Olaf Hajek.

April

April 16, 2016 – At 10am, join the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians for a lecture, music and exhibit celebrating the 100th years anniversary of and the Men and Women active in the Irish Easter Rising in 1916.

At 4pm, Conversation with Author Dr. Charles Venator-Santiago, who will provide a brief history of the extension of U.S. Citizenship to Puerto Rico, 1898-present. This event is sponsored by Holyoke Public Library, The Puerto Rican Cultural Project in partnership with the Center for Puerto Rican Studies (CENTRO) at Hunter College, City University of New York, El Grito de Lares, The Puerto Rican Cultural Center and the Center for Latin American, Caribbean and Latino Studies (CLACLS) - University of Massachusetts Amherst.



[Click to Like the Holyoke Public Library on Facebook](#)



What's New With the Friends?

Under new leadership elected at the Friends Membership meeting in August, several projects are underway:

1. A small on-going book sale in the Library lobby earning \$30-50/week selling used books
2. Plans for larger book sale at the Library Community Room May 20-21
3. A major new fundraiser April 8-9 with an emphasis on FUN: Mini Golf in the Library! See page 1 for details. For a list of all donors, see <http://friendsoftheholyokeypubliclibrary.blogspot.com/2016/02/sponsors-for-mini-golf-in-library.html>.
4. Improved procedures for handling incoming mail, messages and money; addition of a Friends' safe at the Circulation Desk for secure deposit of cash receipts.
5. Revamping the way we keep membership records, changing to a calendar year renewal cycle beginning in 2016.

In December 2015 the Friends gave \$3,179 to the Library to sponsor subscriptions to these important resources: Ancestry.com, Heritage Quest Online, and a special early literacy program called "Miss Humblebee's Academy" now accessible (with library card) at home as well as at the Library. In February the Friends gave \$6,273 to the Capital Campaign, thus completing payment of the \$100,000 pledge made in 2009.

Friends Officers for 2015-2016
President: Sandy Ward
Vice President: Kate Kruckemeyer
Secretary: Elizabeth Veillette
Corresponding Secretary: Dottie Blain-Hamel
Treasurer: Barbara Raines
Assistant Treasurer: Pattie Lumbra

In 2016 the Friends will meet at 5:30pm on the 4th Monday of each month.
Board meetings are open to all.



[Click to Like the Friends on Facebook](#)



FRIENDS' CORNER


HISTORY ROOM HAPPENINGS



Mondays in March: Genealogy with Dave Robison

Genealogy Presentations and Research Clinics

Genealogist Dave Robison (Old Bones Genealogy of New England) will be offering presentation/workshops and genealogy clinics at the Holyoke Public Library every Monday afternoon in March. See the full schedule below. Free and open to the public (pre-registration encouraged for March 21 and 28 sessions).



Getting Started with Genealogical Research

**Monday, March 7, 4:00-6:00 PM,
Community Room**

Dave Robison (Old Bones Genealogy) leads a two-hour session aimed at those just getting started with family history research. Topics will include:

- Using Ancestry Library Edition and FamilySearch.org to search for ancestors
- Using other online sources, such as Mocavo/FindMyPast
- Finding out (and finding) what's not online!
- Using Facebook genealogy pages

There will be ample time for questions. If you are able, bring a laptop or tablet to follow along and get started with your own research. Ancestry Library Edition can be accessed for free anywhere inside the library, including from your own device.

***"If you want to
understand today,
you have to search
yesterday."***

Pearl S. Buck

**Genealogical Research: Digging Deeper
Monday, March 14, 4:00-6:00 PM, Community
Room**

Dave Robison's second presentation is aimed at those with some experience researching family history. Those who participated in the March 7 session are welcome to attend. Topics will include:

- Brick walls and strategies for getting around them (no guarantees!)
- Common research pitfalls
- Local archives and historical collections and what to look for in these
- Gleaning information from census and immigration records



There will be ample time for questions. If you are able, bring a laptop or tablet to follow along and get started with your own research. Ancestry Library Edition can be accessed for free anywhere inside the library, including from your own device.

Mondays, March 21 and 28, 4:00-6:00 pm: Genealogy Research Clinics in the Computer Classroom

Dave Robison continues the series above with two-hour open sessions in the **Computer Classroom**. Get guided experience if you are just getting started or use the time to explore new resources and share your own strategies. Bring your library card. *Free, but seats (12) and workstations (11) are limited. Please call to pre-register: 413-420-8107.*



[Click to Like the History Room on Facebook](#)



The Holyoke Public Library Receives Common Heritage Grant to Collect Latino Family History

The Holyoke History Room and Archives of the Holyoke Public Library has received a \$12,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to fund “Nuestros Senderos: Las Historias de Nuestras Vidas en Holyoke / Our Paths: Stories of Life in Holyoke.” The project is aimed at celebrating Holyoke’s Latino history and strengthening its place in the History Room’s local history collection. It will include an extensive outreach program and three public events between July 2016 and June 2017. The grant is one of only three Common Heritage grants awarded in Massachusetts and thirty-eight nationwide. The program was created to preserve and make available “historical records and artifacts currently hidden in family attics and basements” and “to celebrate and expand knowledge of [each] community’s past and the diverse histories of its members.”

The core of the project will be two public “digitization days” or “scanning days,” that will take place at neighborhood locations in Holyoke. At these events, members of the public will be able to bring a selection of their own family history materials--photographs, letters, mementos, photo album pages, etc.—to be digitally scanned at no cost. Participants are free to keep their originals and will receive a digital copy, while another digital copy will go into the History Room’s collections for research use by the public. The History Room is also reaching out to community organizations who may want to have key historical materials in their possession scanned.

After these scanning events, the Library will host a public event highlighting some of the family histories gathered in the previous year. Participants in the digitization days will have a chance to tell their own stories by collaborating on a display of their family’s history. Scholars of Latino and Puerto Rican culture will place those stories in broader historical context. Director of the project, Holyoke Public Library Archivist Eileen Crosby, notes that much of city’s history over the last 30-50 years can be told through the experiences of families and individuals. “But in the case of Holyoke’s Hispanic residents, little of this experience has been collected or preserved. Future generations will know their own family stories, but if these are not collected, much of the larger story will be lost.” The Center for Puerto Rican Studies at Hunter College (CENTRO), with whom the Library has an ongoing collaborative relationship, will offer expertise, advice, and scholarly support for the project. Manuel Frau-Ramos, publisher and editor of *El Sol Latino*, founder of the Puerto Rican Cultural Project, and Library Board member, foresees the project as “an outstanding example of what can be accomplished through the partnership between CENTRO and the Holyoke Public Library.”

Individuals and organizations with an interest in the project or questions are encouraged to contact Holyoke History Room Archivist Eileen Crosby at (413) 420-8107.





*The most important asset of
our library goes home at night:*

The Holyoke Public Library Staff

Library Director:	Maria G. Pagán
Assistant Directors:	Carla Wessels Jason Lefebvre
Reference Librarians:	Michael Baron Cheryl Livengood
Computer Coordinators:	Jose Figueroa Gretcher Rivera
Children's Librarian:	Nathan Hayes
History Room Archivist:	Eileen Crosby
Financial Manager:	R. Andrew Parker
Finance Office Assistant:	Florence Stefancik
Development Associate:	Nancy Kocsmiersky
Technical Services/Acquisitions:	Linda Kurowski
Technical Services/ Collection Development:	Meg Haley
Technical Services/Cataloger:	Martha Olver
Library Assistants/ILL:	Lucy Diaz, Anne Gorman (ILL) Cristabell Ibarra Mayra Rivera
Custodians:	Mark Gadoury Tom Keeler

Library Hours of Operation

School Year Hours

September—May
Monday thru Thursday

8:30 am—8:30 pm

Friday and Saturday
8:30 am—4:00 pm

Closed Sundays and Holidays
Library is Closed When the Holyoke
Public Schools are Closed Due
To Inclement Weather

Summer Hours

June—August
Monday thru Wednesday

8:30 am—6:00 pm

Thursday and Friday
8:30 am—5:00 pm

Saturday
8:30 am—4:00 pm
Closed Sundays and Holidays

Holyoke Public Library
250 Chestnut Street
Holyoke, MA 01040
(413) 420-8101