

Library Lines

by Janet Crystal

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Final week of art show

The library's 64th annual Summer Art Show comes to a close on Friday, Aug. 29. The diverse works of more than 70 artists are still able to be viewed during library hours, Monday through Thursday 10-8, Friday 10-6 and Saturday 10-5 until next Friday. "We have been very pleased with this show," said Kathy Leeds, executive director of the library. "Not only has it been one of the largest summer shows, but it's also been one of the most successful for the library in terms of sales. It's so nice to see Wilton supporting its residents so wholeheartedly." A portion of the proceeds benefits the library's art fund for the collection. For information: 762-3950.

Languages on parade

With so many countries of the world coming together for the Olympics, it seems only fitting that the library introduces its new World Language Collection area, fresh with new fiction and non-fiction books, newspapers and magazines. Located near the fireplace in the reference area, the World Language Collection now houses materials in Spanish, French, Italian, German, Russian, Korean, Mandarin and Hindi. Japanese and Portuguese will be coming this fall. This collection includes books, audiobooks and DVDs on how to speak in foreign languages, in addition to ESL material. New comfortable chairs and tables have been added. Patrons should watch this area as the collection continues to grow over the coming months. For more information, ask for a reference librarian at 762-3950.

Poetry in motion

Teens entering grades 7-12 can end their summer or begin the school year with a bang, writing for this season's Poetry in Motion, the library's annual poetry performance event. "Life's Challenges-Tell Me About It!" is the third program in as many years, with this year's theme centered on the trials and tribulations faced by teens today. The students' original poetry selected by a student board and advisors will be part of a two-evening performance event in March, 2009 in the Brubeck Room of the library. For more information, teens may contact Teen Librarian Susan Lauricella by phone at 762-3950 ext. 243 or by e-mail at teenpoetry@wiltonlibrary.org. All submissions must be in by October 31. The program is sponsored by the library with private funding from a generous donor.

Art appreciation

Two events in the beginning of September embrace the art world. The importance of J.M.W. Turner's 1838 masterwork, "The Fighting Temeraire," will be discussed by Judson Scruton in a program on Thursday, September 4, from 10:30 - noon. Mr. Scruton has taught English literature, journalism and creative writing at Kent School and Goucher College, having been recognized with honors and awards. He is a strong advocate of interdisciplinary approaches to the study of literature, art and culture. There is no charge for the program. Registration is recommended. To register: www.wiltonlibrary.org/events or call 762-3950. The library's September art exhibition features abstract artist Roger Mudre, with an opening reception on Sunday, September 7, from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. The exhibit runs through Monday, September 29. The majority of the more than twenty works will be available for purchase with a portion of the proceeds benefiting the library's art fund.

Take away Playaways

One of the newer ways of "reading" a book is through the new technology of Playaways. This new type of audiobook is like a personal MP3 player, pre-loaded with one book, and with easy navigation buttons to play, fast forward and rewind. Playaways even remember the place in the book, like a "bookmark" when it is turned off. Adding to its ease of use, the user simply has to plug in his or her own earphones, or an adapter for the car stereo which is available for loan from the circulation desk. Whether in the garden, vacation or business traveling, walking, or commuting to and from Wilton, Playaways are an easy listening solution. The list of titles that the library carries is continuously growing with new fiction and non-fiction being added daily. Fiction includes popular books and classics and the non-fiction titles include history titles, walking tours of cities, and Pimsleur Language titles. Consult the library's catalog on the Web site at www.wiltonlibrary.org and use the General Keyword "playaway" for a list of all the available items or call 762-3950 and ask for a reference librarian.

Reminder: The library will be closed on Monday, Sept. 1 for Labor Day.