Message from the Director

Celebrating Women’s History Month

Did you know that East Cleveland made history in June 1916 when the City became the first community east of the Mississippi to allow women to vote in city elections? That’s the kind of detail that makes history come alive, as will a special appearance by Ida B. Wells-Barnett in a living history performance delivered by Sherrie Tolliver March 30 at 4:45 pm. We also welcome you to learn more about the dynamic efforts women have made through our programs and special displays highlighting women's accomplishments this month. Local history buffs can join our ECPL Library Cruise Tuesdays March 6 and March 20 at 4:00 pm to learn more about our Library collections and history.

History is also happening right now, as ECPL’s book discussion of Pushout: the Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools by Monique Morris continues March 29 at 5:45 pm. I extend a personal invitation to join me and local scholar and writer Dr. Mary Weems as we address the revolutionary new book, the first of its kind. Finally, I invite parents and families to join us for Black History Saturdays, the new monthly program in partnership with ASALH (Association for the Study of African American Life and History). On Saturday, March 31 at 1:00 pm the program will commemorate Women's History Month, featuring activities to explore the lives of African American Women Poets. I hope you will join us this March (and every month on the last Saturday) for innovative family programs about legends in African American History!

SMB

Yes She Did: Visit ECPL for Women’s History Month

Women have been a founding part of every major social advancement in the United States, but are often less celebrated and sometimes erased from historical records. Founded in 1980, the National Women’s History Project (NWHP) was established to broadcast women’s historical achievements and led the coalition that successfully lobbied Congress to designate March as National Women’s History Month. One of the NHWP’s honorees this year is Susan Burton, author of the inspiring memoir Becoming Ms. Burton: From Prison to Recovery to Leading the Fight for Incarcerated Women, which is available at ECPL.

We also hope you will visit ECPL during March to check out the many books and resources on women in history. Whether you are looking for a historical overview like Words of Fire: an Anthology of African American Feminist Thought edited by Beverly Guy-Sheftall or When and Where I Enter by Paula Giddings, old and new classics like Sister Outsider by Audre Lorde or Angela Y. Davis’ Freedom is a Constant Struggle, or essay collections like We Should All Be Feminists by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, odds are East Cleveland Public Library has a book on women’s history to inspire you.
Ongoing Programs

CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS

• Kids’ Café, Monday–Friday, 3:30 PM. Enjoy an afternoon snack.
• Storytime, Monday & Wednesday, 11:00 AM
• Pee Wee Reading Roundtable and Just Dance, Alternating Thursdays, 4:30 PM
• Lego Lab, Second Tuesdays, 4:00 PM
• After School Tutoring, Tuesdays & Thursdays. No appointment needed. Check with Children’s Department for details.

CHILDREN’S & YOUTH PROGRAMS

• Kids’ Café, Monday–Friday, 3:30 PM. Enjoy an afternoon snack.
• Chess Club, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays 3:30–5:30 PM, Learn and Play with Chess Mentor, Donald McClendon
• Teen Zone, Wednesdays & Thursdays, 4:30–5:30 PM Join the Teen Zone for special activities every week, from gaming, crafts, speakers, movies, more!
• After School Tutoring, Tuesdays & Thursdays. No appointment needed. Check with Children’s Department for details.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Computer Classes, Mondays & Wednesdays, 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM Beginner and advanced classes. Register during library hours.

Tech Toys Mondays, 4:00–5:00 PM Learn about the latest cool devices available, from tablets, remote control drones, and Bluetooth blood pressure cuffs, and more.

Wired Wednesdays, 3:00–3:30 PM Bring your kindle, laptop, or portable device for simple tech support.

Fear Not Thursdays, 4:00–5:00 PM You’ve got questions, ECPL has answers! Bring in your mobile devices for troubleshooting and tech support.

Get Real: Nonfiction Writing Lab, 4:30-5:30 PM WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21 (3rd Wednesdays) Drop-in for monthly sessions with your memoir chapters, school essays, grant proposals, blogs, cover letters, or other projects and get real. Bring in a copy of your project for feedback. Review fact-checking standards, source citation, editing tips, and more.

Creative Writing Workshop, 5:45-6:45 PM WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21 (3rd Wednesdays) Open Workshop: Bring in a creative piece for feedback and publication tips.

Staff Picks: What We’re Reading Now

Reflections of a Resolute Radical
by Don Freeman

How to Recognize a Demon Has Become Your Friend
by Linda Addison

Present Over Perfect
by Shauna Niequist

Just Do Your Dream!
by Montrie Rucker Adams (local author!)

THE FRIENDS OF EAST CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY welcome Don Freeman, author of Reflections of a Resolute Radical, for a book signing at ECPL on MARCH 17 from 2:00-3:30 pm in the Icabod Flewellen Room.

ECPL Staff: Fun Facts!

One staff member has been skydiving and another had a home decor business!

Can you guess who?

HINT: One is a familiar face and the other works in administration.
Children's Literacy Corner: Welcome, Spring!

After our long cold winter it is a pleasure to welcome the spring season. Here are books and websites on the subject of spring for parents and caregivers to share with preschool children. All books can be found or ordered in the East Cleveland Library's Children's Room.

- **Spring Is Here** by Taro Gomi. Picture book.
  
  A board book for the very young child detailing many of the springtime events. Gentle, simple colorful illustrations make this a classic book on spring for babies and toddlers.

  
  A young girl longs to take her sister's role in the spring dance recital. When her sister becomes ill will the young girl have a chance to become a dancing butterfly?

  
  On the first day of spring Jazmin is excited to twirl her baton in the big parade. When a thunderstorm threatens the event, will Jazmin let the rain ruin her chance to perform?

- **and then it's spring** by Julie Fogliano. Illustrated by Erin E. Stead. Picture book.
  
  A young boy waits faithfully for the earth to turn green with the seeds he has planted. Muted colors and pencil drawings capture the feeling of the spring season gracefully unfolding.

- **Why is it Spring?** by Sara L. Latta. J508.2L364W1.
  
  This nonfiction book answers questions about the spring season- when does spring start and why does the weather get warmer. Beginning readers will enjoy this fact-filled book.

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**Spring Activities**

- **St. Patrick's Day Shenanigans**
  
  MARCH 16, 4:30 PM
  
  Children's Department

- **Welcome Spring Craft**
  
  MARCH 20, 4:30 PM
  
  Children's Department

- **Check out these Web sites with crafts and recipes for Spring:**
  
  - [www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/spring](http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/spring)
  - [www.holidays.kaboose.com/spring](http://www.holidays.kaboose.com/spring)

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**The Women of Brewster Place Book Review**

First published in 1980, *The Women of Brewster Place* by Gloria Naylor, is a fictional account of seven women who live in a rundown apartment building in an urban setting. The novel is broken into short vignettes about each woman, as we follow her journey through relationships and personal journeys. The characters are well-developed, and I found myself easily drawn into their worlds. There was a TV series based on the novel in 1989 starring Oprah Winfrey.

The National Book Club award-winning novel is the first by Naylor, and is written with vivid description: “A pigeon swept across her window, and she marveled at its liquid movements in the air waves. She placed her dreams on the back of the bird and fantasized that it would glide forever in transparent silver circles until it ascended to the center of the universe and was swallowed up.”

*The Women of Brewster Place* was followed with a novel showing the other side of the socio-economic equation: *Linden Hills*. Both are available at ECPL. **Patrons:** Write your own book review and submit for inclusion in a future newsletter! Forms are available at circulation.

– Jennifer Dial
## Children’s Activities
**Ages 4–12, 4:30 PM**

- **National Pig Day** MARCH 1 / Celebrate with an origami pig!
- **Dr. Suess Day** MARCH 2 / Celebrate the birthday of this iconic children’s author with stories, crafts, and fun!
- **Harriet Tubman Storytime** MARCH 7 / Enjoy a special storytime in the Children’s Department.
- **Easter Egg Coloring Contest** MARCH 26-30
  Enter to win a special prize basket!
- **Women’s History Month**
  All month, enjoy women’s history word searches, fact sheets, and displays and get to know the women who made (and are making) history!

## Teen Activities
**Ages 13-19, 4:30 PM**

- **ECPL Steam Team** MARCH 1
  **Blow a Balloon:** Chemistry enthusiasts and curious alike will want to see how to inflate balloons with common household ingredients.
- **March 7** **Exploding Bags:**
  There’s nothing like chemistry to make something go pop!
- **March 8** **Homemade Lava Lamp:**
  Make a colorful fun lamp of your own.
- **Blackout Poetry** MARCH 21
  Create original poetry and artwork with recycled materials.
- **Open Mic** MARCH 22
  Come express yourself!
- **Writing Lab** MARCH 28
  Discuss published pieces and try some creative writing.
- **Freestyle Hip Hop** MARCH 29
  A battle of improvised lyrics.

## Adult Activities

- **ECPL Book Club** MARCH 27, 5:30 PM
  Read **Present Over Perfect** by Shauna Niequist.
- **Pushout Book Discussion** MARCH 29, 5:45 PM
  Join Dr. Mary Weems and Sheba Marcus-Bey, Executive Director of ECPL to discuss this groundbreaking book. Open to students, parents, teachers, and administrators invested in addressing the impact of criminalizing Black girls in schools.
- **ECPL Library Cruise** MARCH 6, 20, 4:00 PM
  Join a tour of the Library while learning important facts about its history. Emphasis will be placed on specialty areas, such as the Local History Room.

## Friends of ECPL Book Sale
MARCH 29-31, 11:00 AM-5:00 PM
Stop by the book sale for great prices on gently used encyclopedias, books, DVDs, audio CDs, and more! There are materials for adults, youth, and teens at this one of a kind book sale!

## Black History Saturdays
**All Ages**
MARCH 31, 1:00–3:00 PM
In partnership with ASALH, ECPL is delighted to host **Black History Saturdays**, a new monthly program on the last Saturday of every month. In honor of Women’s History Month, Saturday, March 31 will feature activities exploring the lives of African American Women Poets.