



NEW HAMPSHIRE
humanities

CONNECTING PEOPLE AND IDEAS • FALL 2023

Engage!

2023 ANNUAL CELEBRATION
OF THE HUMANITIES



KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

**Jodi
Picoult**

*Jodi Picoult &
The Writing Life:
More Than
A Good Story*

In conversation with
ALEXANDRIA PEARY,
NH Poet Laureate, Nov. 8
at the Palace Theatre

New York Times bestselling author Jodi Picoult

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Fall 2023 • A letter from our Executive Director

I suspect many of you, like me, are compulsive readers. In the 1990s, long before the Kindle, the Libby App from the public library, or Audible subscriptions made it easy to bring our books with us, I was committed to finding a way to make sure I was never caught without a book when I had a few spare moments to read. Thanks to the twin technological wonders of a 1997 Palm Pilot with a tiny monochrome screen and sometimes glitchy downloads from the Project Gutenberg digital library, I was able to access out-of-copyright classics by Thomas Hardy, Charlotte Brontë, and Charles Dickens. On a 160x160 pixel screen, I read at bus stops, on crowded DC subway cars, and in line at the grocery store.

Dickens was a revelation for me. Overcoming the impression I had of his work from high school, I devoured *Bleak House*, *Great Expectations*, and *Oliver Twist*. Only after immersing myself in Dickens' novels did I come to understand the role his writing played in illustrating the social ills of his time – poverty, child labor, and the harsh consequences of the industrial revolution.

Literature has long served as a gateway to complex experiences and situations that the general public might otherwise miss. *The Atlantic's* Clint Smith recently reassessed the role of Harriet Beecher Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin* as an important catalyst for dialogue in the Abolitionist movement. Last year, in her book *Demon Copperhead*, Barbara Kingsolver invoked the techniques of Dickens to connect readers with the impact of the opioid epidemic on an entire generation in her native Appalachia.

I am excited that New Hampshire Humanities' fall programs use literature to discuss the challenges we collectively face. Our NH Big Read has introduced the themes of Andrew Krivak's *The Bear* – our relationship to nature, each other, and the legacy we leave behind – to thousands of New Hampshire residents across the state. Our Annual Celebration speaker, Jodi Picoult, has stepped up again and again to write about the difficult issues of our time. Picoult argues that fiction provides a vital entry point into these topics for a broad audience, as she said in a 2012 interview:

If you read a book that's fiction and you get caught in the characters and the plot, and swept away, really, by the fiction of it – by the nonreality – you sometimes wind up changing your reality as well [...] Often, when the last page is turned, it will haunt you. It's a much gentler approach, sometimes, into a controversial subject than nonfiction is. (NPR 2012)

Perhaps this power of fiction to change our reality is what feeds the current debate about what can and can't be read in schools and public libraries. The strength of the humanities is that it calls us to examine ideas in literature that we might find new or challenging and encourages the dialogue that great fiction creates. I hope you will all join me this fall as we read, think, and debate together.

Sincerely,



Michael Haley Goldman, Executive Director
mhaleygoldman@nhhumanities.org



Michael Haley Goldman



"We never tire of the friendships we form with books."

- Charles Dickens

2023 Annual Celebration of the Humanities
AND THE KICKOFF TO OUR 50TH YEAR

**Jodi Picoult & The Writing Life:
More Than a Good Story**

Wednesday, November 8 • 5:00 pm Reception / 6:15 Program
The Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover Street, Manchester

Join us for a lively on-stage conversation between *New York Times* bestselling author **Jodi Picoult** and **New Hampshire Poet Laureate Alexandria Peary** as they discuss Picoult's long career as a virtuoso of the human story.

Often set in rural New Hampshire, Jodi Picoult's novels are an expanding archive of the controversies and dreams of 21st-century America. **Glance into the remarkable work habits of a prolific writer** of 30 novels, hear about Picoult's writing and research process, her collaborations with other writers, what brings her joy, and what it's like to see the disparate reactions to her books, **which have been both banned and adapted** into popular films and an off-Broadway musical.

Your purchase of tickets to the Annual Celebration of the Humanities, our signature event, **directly supports hundreds of free public programs** that bring residents together to explore what makes us human. Come celebrate with us, hear New Hampshire's own novelist of the world, connect with Granite Staters who share your passion for the humanities, and **invest in your community** by supporting the critical work of New Hampshire Humanities!



"For me it's more important that I outline all the facets of a controversial issue and let the reader make up his or her mind. I don't care if readers change their minds, but I would like readers to ask themselves why their opinion is what it is."

– Jodi Picoult

Have you read these books by Jodi Picoult?

Songs of the Humpback Whale (1992)
Harvesting the Heart (1993)
Picture Perfect (1995)
Mercy (1996)
The Pact (1998)
Keeping Faith (1999)
Plain Truth (2000)
Salem Falls (2001)
Perfect Match (2002)
Second Glance (2003)
My Sister's Keeper (2004)
Vanishing Acts (2005)
The Tenth Circle (2006)
Nineteen Minutes (2007)
Change of Heart (2008)
Handle with Care (2009)
House Rules (2010)
Sing You Home (2011)
Lone Wolf (2012)
Between the Lines (2012)
The Storyteller (2013)
Leaving Time (2014)
Off the Page (2015)
Small Great Things (2016)
A Spark of Light (2018)
The Book of Two Ways (2020)
Wish You Were Here (2021)
*Mad Honey** (2022)

PUBLIC RECEPTION, PROGRAM & BOOK SIGNING

Tickets:

Orchestra: \$50 / Box: \$45 / Balcony: \$35

www.nhhumanities.org/celebrate

Reserve your seats today! Ticket purchasers will have the opportunity to submit a question for a possible live response from Jodi.



Thank you to the following Annual Celebration sponsors, as of the time of printing:

2023 Lead Sponsor:

CAMBRIDGE TRUST
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For tickets, please visit www.nhhumanities.org/celebrate today!

2023 NH Big Read

Featuring Andrew Krivak's *The Bear*

Bringing communities together through literature and free public programs through November 2023

New Hampshire's Big Read invites us to explore how we share stories, understand our world, and envision a better future for New Hampshire. Through free local book discussions, lectures, poetry, and programs that blend the humanities, arts, and science, generations of Granite Staters are gathering to read, think, and understand our shared story of New Hampshire.

The Big Read is underway and expected to bring together more than 5,000 Granite Staters across multiple generations and in all of New Hampshire's ten counties. Through November, 50 public libraries are working with community partners to host book discussions and community events around themes from *The Bear*, including nature walks, wilderness survival classes, community painting, and indigenous tool demonstrations, among many others!

www.nhhumanities.org/BigRead



At the Big Read Kickoff in September, libraries, community partners, and the public came together to celebrate the launch of the NH Big Read. Photos by Geoff Forester

Thank you to our Big Read Partners!

BELKNAP COUNTY

Laconia Public Library
Sanbornton Public Library
Gilford Public Library
Meredith Public Library

CARROLL COUNTY

Cook Memorial Library
Bartlett Public Library
Jackson Public Library
Moultonborough Public Library
Conway Public Library
Freedom Public Library
Samuel H. Wentworth Library

CHESHIRE COUNTY

Ingalls Memorial Library
Walpole Town Library
Jaffrey Public Library
Richmond Public Library
Gilsum Public Library

COOS COUNTY

Weeks Memorial Library
Colebrook Public Library

GRAFTON COUNTY

Lincoln Public Library
Bethlehem Public Library

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

George H. Bixby Memorial Library
Peterborough Town Library
Mansfield Public Library
Manchester City Library
Wilton Public and Gregg Free Library
Bedford Public Library
New England College Library (Manchester)
Aaron Cutler Memorial Library
Whipple Free Library
George H. and Ella M. Rodgers Memorial Library
Mason Public Library

MERRIMACK COUNTY

Hall Memorial Library
Tracy Memorial Library
New England College Library (Henniker)
Hooksett Library
Concord Hospital Medical Library

ROCKINGHAM COUNTY

Leach Library
Plaistow Public Library
Colby Memorial Library
Chesley Memorial Library
The Derry Public Library
Philbrick-James Library
Gale Library
Hampstead Public Library

STRAFFORD COUNTY

Barrington Public Library
Dover Public Library

SULLIVAN COUNTY

Plainfield Libraries-Meriden and Philip Read Memorial

OTHER PARTNERS

Center for the Book at the NH State Library
NH State Council for the Arts
Gibson's Bookstore
McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center
Family Connections Center of the NH Department of Corrections
NH Public Radio

NH BIG READ EVENTS • OCT-NOV 2023

10/20 | PLAISTOW | 1:00 PM

Friday Flicks

Plaistow Public Library, 85 Main Street
Contact: Jennifer O'Connor, 603-382-6011

10/20 | HUDSON | 1:00 PM

Art Project for "The Bear"

Rodgers Memorial Library, 194 Derry Rd.
Contact: Linda Pilla, 603-886-6030

10/21 | BARRINGTON | 9:30 AM

Trail Hike: Survival Skills from "The Bear"

The Barrington Trail, Barrington Youth Assoc.
Ballfields Parking, Smoke Street
Contact: Amy Inglis, 603-664-9715

10/21 | BEDFORD | 11:00 AM

New Hampshire Wildlife, by NH Audubon

Bedford Public Library, 3 Meetinghouse Road
Contact: Emily Weiss, 603-472-2300

10/21 | BEDFORD | 12:30 PM

New Hampshire Wildlife, by NH Audubon

Bedford Public Library, 3 Meetinghouse Road
Contact: Emily Weiss, 603-472-2300

10/24 | PETERBOROUGH | 11 AM (VIRTUAL)

NH Big Read: The Bear

Peterborough Town Library, 2 Concord Street
Contact: Corinne Chronopoulos, 603-831-8444

10/24 | TAMWORTH | 6:30 PM (VIRTUAL)

NH Big Read: The Bear

Cook Memorial Library, 93 Main Street
Contact: Mary Cronin, 603-323-8510

10/24 | HOOKSETT | 6:30 PM (VIRTUAL)

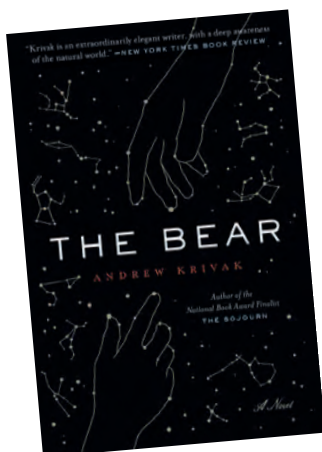
NH Big Read: The Bear

Hooksett Public Library,
31 Mount Saint Mary's Way
Contact: Heather Rainier, 603-485-6092

10/24 | TAMWORTH | 6:30 PM (VIRTUAL)

NH Big Read: The Bear

Cook Memorial Library, 93 Main Street
Contact: Mary@tamworthlibrary.org



McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery and New Hampshire Humanities hosted "A Year Under the Stars," featuring a planetarium show depicting the stars, moon phases, and seasonal constellations described in *The Bear*.

10/24 | TAMWORTH | 6:30 PM (VIRTUAL)

NH Big Read: The Bear

Samual H. Wentworth Library, 96 Main Street
Contact: Nancy Frederickson, 603-284-6665

10/24 | MADISON | 7:00 PM (VIRTUAL)

NH Big Read: The Bear

Madison Public Library, 1895 Village Road
Contact: Madison Library, 603-367-8545

10/25 | NEWTON | 6:30 PM (VIRTUAL)

NH Big Read: The Bear

Gale Library, 16 South Main Street
Contact: Michelle Baker, 603-382-4691

10/25 | LITCHFIELD | 6:30 PM (HYBRID)

Black Bear Happenings in NH

Aaron Cutler Memorial Library,
269 Charles Bancroft Highway
Contact: 603-424-4044

10/26 | DEERFIELD | 6:00 PM

NH Big Read: The Bear

Philbrick-James Library, 15 Church Street
Contact: Anne Meyers, 603-463-7187

10/26 | MANCHESTER | 6:30 PM (VIRTUAL)

NH Big Read: The Bear

Manchester City Library, 405 Pine Street
Contact: Steve Viggiano, 603-624-6550

10/26 | CONWAY | 6:30 PM

Experiencing the Wild

Conway Public Library, 15 Greenwood Ave.
Contact: David Smolen, 603-447-5552

10/26 | BEDFORD | 6:45 PM

NH Big Read: The Bear

Bedford Public Library, 3 Meetinghouse Road
Contact: Emily Weiss, 603-472-2300

10/26 | CONCORD | 7:00 PM

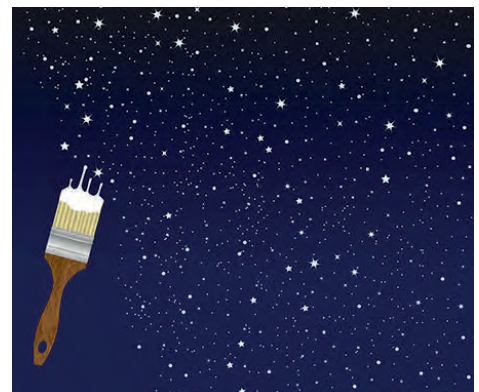
NH Big Read: The Bear

Concord Hospital Medical Library,
250 Pleasant Street
Contact: Maureen Dunn, 603-227-7070

10/27 | PETERBOROUGH | 6 PM (VIRTUAL)

NH Big Read: The Bear

Peterborough Town Library, 2 Concord Street
Contact: Corinne Chronopoulos, 603-831-8444



10/27 | NEW BOSTON | 6:00 PM

Craft Night: Watercolor Class

Whipple Free Library, 67 Mont Vernon Road
Contact: Sue Pellerin, 603-487-3391

(continued)



Humanities@Home: *Finding Your Way: The Night Sky*

FRIDAY, NOV. 3 AT 5 PM ON ZOOM

From the 12th century BCE to the present, poets have turned to the night sky for metaphors to express uncertainty and loneliness but also adventurousness and the awe that people feel when starting out on something new. Connecting *The Bear* to these literary traditions, poet Midge Goldberg will lead us in discussion about select passages about the night sky in *The Bear*, exploring how the story grapples with the journeying into the unknown, and share poems from her anthology *Outer Space: 100 Poems*. Together we'll examine how writers and poets, here in New England and all around the world, create stories from the night sky.

RSVP at www.nhhumanities.org/BigRead.



11/1 | LITCHFIELD | 6:30 PM (VIRTUAL)

NH Big Read: *The Bear*

Aaron Cutler Memorial Library,
269 Charles Bancroft Highway
Contact: Ben Stinson, 603-424-4044

11/1 | NORTHWOOD | 7:00 PM

NH Big Read: *The Bear*

Chesley Memorial Library, 8 Mountain Ave.
Contact: Donna Bunker, 603-942-5472

11/2 | NEW BOSTON | 6:30 PM

The Social Behavior of Black Bears

Whipple Free Library, 67 Mont Vernon Road
Contact: Sue Pellerin, 603-487-3391

11/2 | CONWAY | 7:00 PM (HYBRID)

One Book One Valley:

An Evening with Andrew Krivak

The Magestic Theatre, 36 Main Street
Contact: Mary Cronin, 603-323-8510

11/3 | STATEWIDE | 5:00 PM (VIRTUAL)

Humanities@Home:

Finding Your Way, The Night Sky

Presented by poet Midge Goldberg
Contact: programs@nhhumanities.org

11/2 | DANVILLE | 7:00 PM

NH Big Read: *The Bear*

Colby Memorial Library, 7 Colby Road
Contact: Ann Massoth, 603-382-6733



11/6 | BEDFORD | 7:00 PM

Sky Watch

Benedictine Park, 333 Wallace Road
Contact: Emily Weiss, 603-472-2300

11/9 | DEERFIELD | 6:00 PM

Night Sky Walk

Town of Deerfield Gazebo & Field, 4 Church St.
Contact: Philbrick-James Library, 603-463-7187

11/10 | FRANCESTOWN | 6:30 PM

***Landscape Impacts in New Hampshire
from the Last Glaciation to the Present***

Francestown Town Hall, 2 New Boston Rd.
Contact: Laura Abrahamsen, 603-547-2730

11/14 | NEW LONDON | 10:00 AM

NH Big Read: *The Bear*

Tracy Memorial Library, 304 Main Street
Contact: Crystal Schimpf, 603-526-4656, ext. 4

11/18 | DANVILLE | 10:00 AM

A Walk in the Woods

Tucker Town Road Trail, across from
470 Main Street (Route 111A)
Contact: Ann Massoth, 603-382-6733



11/27 | DANVILLE | 5:00 PM

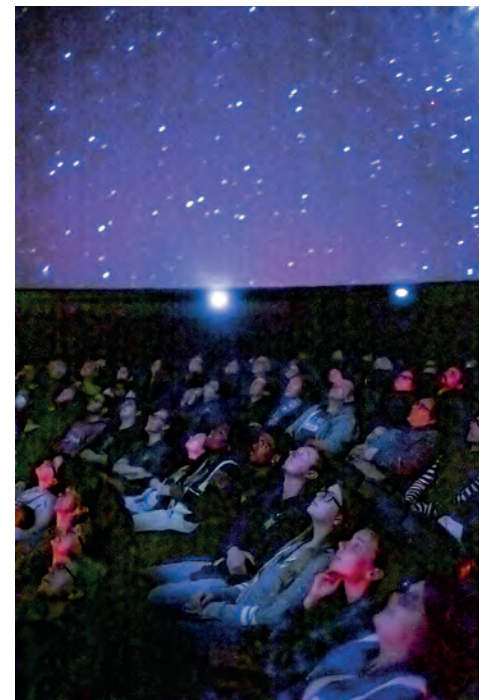
Full Moon Gathering

Goldthwaite Recreation Park, Ball Bark Dr.
Contact: Ann Massoth, 603-382-6733

11/28 | GILSUM | 7:00 PM

NH Big Read: *The Bear*

Gilsum Public Library, 650 Route 10
Contact: Lenoir Law, 603-352-4826



Photos above from "A Year Under the Stars" a planetarium show depicting the stars, moon phases, and seasonal constellations described in *The Bear*, hosted by the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center and NHH as part of the NH Big Read.



Calendar

PROGRAMS FUNDED BY NEW HAMPSHIRE HUMANITIES
LATE FALL 2023



10/20 | STODDARD | 7:00 PM **new**
Late In Arriving, How Electricity Changed Rural New Hampshire Life
Presented by Steve Taylor
Stoddard Town Hall, 1450 Route 123 North
Contact: Joyce Healy, 917-617-1064

10/21 | KEENE | 10:30 AM
The Mindful Storyteller in You
Presented by Alexandria Peary
Historical Society of Cheshire County,
246 Main Street
Contact: programs@nhhumanities.org

10/23 | RANDOLPH | 10:00 AM (VIRTUAL)
Perspectives Book Group: The Coffin Ship: Life and Death at Sea During the Great Irish Famine
Led by Mary C. Kelly
Randolph Public Library
Contact: info@randolphnhpubliclibrary.org

10/23 | CONCORD | 2:00 PM
From Guns to Gramophones: Civil War and the Technology that Shaped America
Presented by Carrie Brown
Havenwood Heritage Heights, 33 Christian Ave.
Contact: Havenwood HH, 603-229-1185

Program types/titles are color coded:
Humanities to Go
Big Read Special Programs
Grant-funded programs
Perspectives Book Groups
Becoming New Hampshire

10/23 | EPSOM | 6:30 PM
New Hampshire Cemeteries and Gravestones
Presented by Glenn A. Knoblock
Epsom Public Library, 1606 Dover Road
Contact: Epsom Public Library, 603-736-9920

10/23 | ORFORD | 7:00 PM
Perspectives Book Group: Benificence
Led by Alice Fogel
Orford Social Library, 573 NH Route 10
Contact: orfordsoclib@gmail.com

10/24 | JAFFREY | 6:00 PM **new**
Corbin's Animal Garden
Presented by Mary Kronenwetter
Jaffrey Public Library, 38 Main Street
Contact: Jaffrey Public Library, 603-532-7301

10/24 | CANDIA | 6:30 PM **new**
Granite State Stories: Concord Coach, Revolutionary Flags
Presented by NH Historical Society Staff
Smyth Public Library, 55 High Street
Contact: Heidi Deacon, 603-483-8245

10/24 | MANCHESTER | 1:00 PM **new**
The Salem Witchcraft Trials and 'Moldy Bread': A Case Study in Fake News
Presented by Margo Burns
Manchester Community College, 1066 Front St.
Contact: Kristen Lindsay, 603-206-8154

10/25 | CONCORD | 2:00 PM
The Founding Fathers: What Were They Thinking?
Presented by Richard A. Hesse
The Pierce Manse, 14 Horseshoe Pond Lane
Contact: Joan Davis, 603-224-2939

10/25 | SANDOWN | 6:00 PM
Perspectives Book Group: The Women With Silver Wings
Led by Carrie Brown
Sandown Public Library, 305 Main Street
Contact: Sandown Public Library, 603-887-3428

10/25 | KENSINGTON | 7:00 PM **new**
History and Mystery: A Genealogy Starter Guide
Presented by Erin Moulton
Kensington Public Library, 126 Amesbury Rd.
Contact: Kensington Library, 603-772-5022

10/25 | CHESTERFIELD | 6:00 PM
Flight of Remembrance: World War II from the Losing Side and the Dream that Led to Aerospace Engineering
Presented by Marina Dutzmann Kirsch
Chesterfield Town Hall, 518A Route 63
Contact: Chesterfield Library, 603-363-4621



10/25 | NOTTINGHAM | 6:00 PM **new**
Maple, New Hampshire's Medicine of Connection
Presented by Damian Costello
Blaisdell Memorial Library, 129 Stage Road
Contact: Blaisdell Mem. Library, 603-679-8484

10/25 | DUNBARTON | 7:00 PM
New Hampshire's Long Love-Hate Relationship with its Agricultural Fairs
Presented by Steve Taylor
St. John's Episcopal Church Hall,
270 Stark Highway North
Contact: Alison Valleries, 603-774-3681

10/26 | NEW IPSWICH | 7:00 PM
The Capital Crime of Witchcraft: What the Primary Sources Tell Us
Presented by Margo Burns
New Ipswich Library, 6 Main Street
Contact: New Ipswich Library, 603-878-4644

10/26 | DUNBARTON | 6:30 PM
A Taste of the Old Country in the New: Franco-Americans of Manchester
 Presented by Robert B. Perreault
 Dunbarton Public Library, 1004 School Street
 Contact: Dunbarton Library, 603-774-3546

10/27 | PEMBROKE | 7:00 PM **new**
Walking in the Woods with Robert Frost: Seeing Nature through the Words of America's Loved Poet
 Presented by Jeffrey Zygmunt
 Pembroke Town Library, 313 Pembroke Street
 Contact: Sally Hyland, 603-566-1031

10/29 | NEW IPSWICH | 2:00 PM **new**
The Salem Witchcraft Trials and 'Moldy Bread': A Case Study in Fake News
 Presented by Margo Burns
 New Ipswich Library, 6 Main Street
 Contact: Margaret Lee, 603-878-1187

10/29 | PLAINFIELD | 2:00 PM **new**
Corbin's Animal Garden
 Presented by Mary Kronenwetter
 Plainfield Town Hall, 1079 Route 12A
 Contact: J. Stephenson, 603-298-8834

10/30 | PLYMOUTH | 6:00 PM
Perspectives Book Group: Black Elk Speaks
 Led by Damian Costello
 Pease Public Library, 1 Russell Street
 Contact: Pease Public Library, 603-536-2616

10/30 | NEWBURY | 7:00 PM
Case Closed on the 1873 Smuttynose Ax Murders
 Presented by J. Dennis Robinson
 Center Meeting House, 945 H Route 103
 Contact: Joy Nowell, 603-938-6054

10/30 | HAMPTON | 6:00 PM
The Capital Crime of Witchcraft: What the Primary Sources Tell Us
 Presented by Margo Burns
 Lane Memorial Library, 2 Academy Avenue
 Contact: Lane Memorial Library, 603-926-3368



10/31 | WARNER | 10:00 AM
Nebuzin: Water is Life Exhibit
 Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum,
 18 Highlawn Road
 Contact: Mt. Kearsarge Museum 603-456-2600

11/1 | MANCHESTER | 1:00 PM (VIRTUAL)
Gluskabe - The Magical, Powerful Culture Hero Central to Wabanaki Storytelling
 Presented by Anne Jennison
 Manchester Community College Library
 1066 Front Street
 Contact: Kristen Lindsay, 603-206-8154

11/2 | CONWAY | 7:00 PM (HYBRID)
One Book One Valley: An Evening with Andrew Krivak
 The Magestic Theatre, 36 Main Street
 Contact: Mary Cronin, 603-323-8510



11/3 | STATEWIDE | 5:00 PM (VIRTUAL)
Humanities@Home: Finding Your Way, The Night Sky
 Presented by poet Midge Goldberg
 as part of the NH Big Read
 Contact: programs@nhhumanities.org

11/9 | CHESTER | 6:00 PM **new**
The Old Man: His Life and Legacy
 Presented by Inez McDermott
 Chester Public Library, 3 Chester Street
 Contact: Chester Public Library, 603-887-3404

11/9 | CANTERBURY | 6:00 PM
New Hampshire on Skis
 Presented by E. John B. Allen
 Town Hall, 9 Center Road
 Contact: Elkins Public Library, 603-783-4386

11/10 | PETERBOROUGH | 6:30 PM
Granite State Gallery: New Hampshire Art and Artists through the Years
 Presented by Jane Oneail
 Divine Mercy Church, 12 Church Street
 Contact: Jan Hicks, 603-546-3365

11/12 | MANCHESTER | 2:00 PM (VIRTUAL)
Expanding the Canon 4: A Play Reading Circle
 Presented by theatre KAPOW
 Contact: Carey Cahoon, ccahoon@tkapow.com

11/14 | GILFORD | 6:00 PM **new**
The Hidden History of Lake Winnepesaukee
 Presented by Glenn A. Knoblock
 Gilford Public Library, 31 Potter Hill Road
 Contact: Patty Myers, 603-524-6042



11/14 | JAFFREY | 6:30 PM
Humanities Scholar-in-Residence Book Discussion: Unlikely Animals
 Led by Carrie Brown
 Jaffrey Public Library, 38 Main Street
 Contact: Julie Perrin, 603-532-7301

11/14 | NEW HAMPTON | 7:00 PM
The Connecticut: New England's Great River
 Presented by Adair D. Mulligan
 Gordon-Nash Library, 69 Main Street
 Contact: Daniel Moore, 603-968-2309

11/15 | PLYMOUTH | 5:30 PM **new**
Walking in the Woods with Robert Frost: Seeing Nature through the Words of America's Loved Poet
 Presented by Jeffrey Zygmunt
 Old Webster Courthouse Museum, Court Street
 Contact: Marcia Schimdt Blaine, 603-455-9847

11/15 | CONWAY | 6:00 PM
Jennie Powers: The Woman Who Dares
 Presented by Jennifer Carroll
 Conway Public Library, 15 Greenwood Avenue
 Contact: Conway Public Library, 603-447-5552

11/15 | HAMPTON FALLS | 6:30 PM
Imperial Russian Fabergé Eggs
 Presented by Marina Forbes
 Hampton Falls Free Library, 7 Drinkwater Road
 Contact: Hampton Falls Library, 603-926-3682

11/15 | DUNBARTON | 7:00 PM **new**
Who Was John Stark?
 Presented by George R. Morrison
 St. John's Episcopal Church Hall,
 270 Stark Highway North
 Contact: Alison Valleries, 603-774-3681

11/16 | GREENFIELD | 6:30 PM
Caesar: The Man from Venus
 Presented by Sebastian Lockwood
 Greenfield Meetinghouse, 776 Forest Road
 Contact: Jesseca Timmons, 603-547-3442

11/21 | MERRIMACK | 6:00 PM
Discovering New England Stone Walls
 Presented by Kevin Gardner
 Merrimack Historical Society, 10 Depot Street
 Contact: Merrimack Hist. Society, 603-424-5207

11/30 | PORTSMOUTH | 5:30 PM **new**
1623: The Untold Story of New Hampshire's Founding Family
 Presented by J. Dennis Robinson
 Portsmouth Antheneum, 6 Market Square
 Contact: Portsmouth Antheneum, 603-431-2538

Celebrating 50 with brand new **new** Humanities to Go programs!

As we celebrate the launch of our 50th year, New Hampshire Humanities announces the addition of **seven new speakers** and **dozens of new programs** in our beloved *Humanities to Go* speakers bureau, listed below and available for host locations to book in October. For more information about these and all HTG presentations, visit www.nhhumanities.org/htg or email htg@nhhumanities.org.

Now Who Shall Judge the Indians?: How 500 Years of Colonization Has Impacted the Abenaki Peoples of NH and the Northeast (Anne Jennison)

1623: The Untold Story of New Hampshire's Founding Family (J. Dennis Robinson)

Banishing Audience Demons and Reader Ghosts Through Mindful Writing (Alexandra Peary)

Beginner's Mind for Writing: How to Start Anything through Mindful Writing (Alexandra Peary)

Burnt into Memory: How Brownfield Faced the Fire (Jo Radner)

Corbin's Animal Garden (Mary Kronenwetter)

Covered Bridges of New Hampshire - Past and Present (Kim Varney Chandler)

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Knitting & Democracy?

New grant initiative uses knitting and literature to combat hate and build community

In collaboration with the White House's *United We Stand Summit* in September 2022, the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) launched a new initiative called "United We Stand: Connecting Through Culture" that leverages the arts and humanities to combat hate-motivated violence.

New Hampshire Humanities was awarded a \$50,000 grant through the NEH's *United We Stand* initiative and will use the funds to expand our *Connections* and *Perspectives* programs and bring an innovative series, *Knit Democracy Together*, to respond to rising threats of domestic political extremism.

Connections will create a "United We Stand" reading list that will feature books that reflect a variety of genres and reading levels to generate conversations about how communities have responded to incidents of prejudice, bias, and hate. More importantly, these books will show how these instances affect our everyday lives, and how learning about the choices people made during past episodes of injustice can help guide our choices today. Featured books will include *The Suitcase* by Chris Naylor-Ballesteros, *Together We Grow* by Susan Vaught, *I'm An American* by Darshana Khiani, and *Emmanuel's Dream* by Laurie Ann Thompson.

Grant funds will support three *Connections* book discussion series. Each series will bring together students from predominantly underserved groups with individuals from the broader community for discussion around a book from the UWS reading list. Through their discussion, participants will explore their commonalities and differences, what it means to belong to a community, and the common values we share as Americans.

Perspectives, our public book discussion program, will support the *United We Stand* initiative through literature and discussions that will explore our state and national history, the experiences of historically marginalized people,

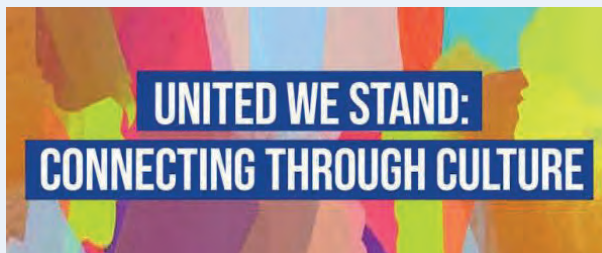
as well as issues around prejudice or hate-based violence. Featured books will include *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer; *There There* by Tommy Orange; *Black Elk Speaks* by Nicholas Black Elk and John G. Neihardt; *Citizen* and *Just Us* by Claudia Rankine; and *Stony the Road: Reconstruction, White Supremacy, and the Rise of Jim Crow* by Henry Louis Gates. Through these discussions, we intend to foster empathy and understanding and create a sense of community between participants.

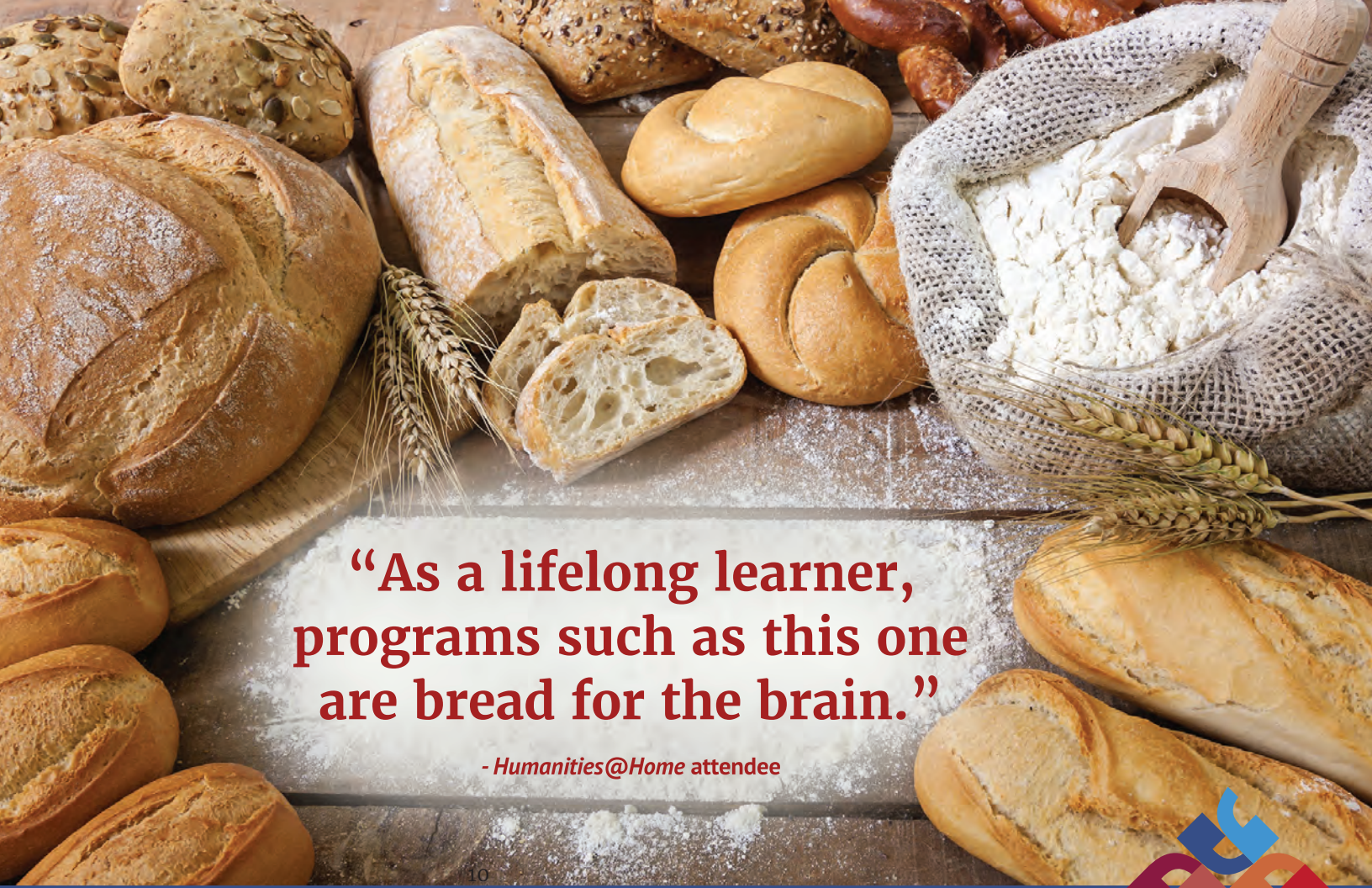
To counter rising political extremism and violence, NHH will partner with former election lawyer and *Knit Democracy Together* founder Eve Jacobs-Carnahan to promote information literacy about the nation's electoral systems. Jacobs-Carnahan will lead workshops

in six towns and schools across New Hampshire between February and May 2024. During the day, students in middle or high school will learn more about the election process, and for those whose school serves as a polling station during elections, the role their school plays in it. In the evening, Jacobs will deliver a presentation on the voting process and local voting laws for adults.

Throughout each workshop, participants will create individual knitted squares (no prior experience required to participate!) and will be invited to share stories about their own experiences participating in the electoral process. At the series' end, participants' individual squares will be knitted together into a model replica of the NH State House. The model, alongside an exhibit from the Gilder Lehrman Center on the history of voting in America and participants' own stories, will be unveiled and displayed at the New Hampshire State Library in the summer of 2024, offering Granite Staters the chance to reflect on their fellow citizens' experiences of our democratic process.

Stay tuned for more information about workshop workshop and book discussion events in 2024!





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gravitated toward issues
that I don't know the
answers to, because that's
what's more interesting
for me to write.

~ Jodi Picoult



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