



The Nesmith NEWS

December 2024

Volume 30

Number 4

From the Director's Desk: A Year in Review

*Sylvie Brikiatis,
Nesmith Library Director*

Here is a look at our year in review for 2024, and what a year it has been!

This year has brought a few changes to our staff. We said good-bye to Barbara Nagle. After 25 years at our front desk, she is taking a well-deserved retirement, though you might still see her occasionally as a pinch-hit librarian. Kristina Young left our children's room. She made a positive impact in the short time she was here. In April, Joan Carbone joined our Children's staff and Edmund Lowe joined us as our head cataloguer. Lastly, in November we welcomed Coda Letourneau to fill Barbara's very large shoes.

There were a few changes around the building. Matt Rittenhouse planted a beautiful Hawthorne tree near the library entrance in memory of his mom, former librarian Elaine Rittenhouse. We held a lovely commemoration ceremony in September to install a plaque.

In October, our Social Media and Digital Literacy Librarian Stephanie Rinehart-Joseph was named Librarian of the Month by Bywater Solutions. Bywater provides the software for our updated catalog and Stephanie is one of the reasons that transition was so seamless.

You may have noticed our new book drop, which replaced our old leaky one. Thanks to the Friends of the Library of Windham (FLOW) and many individual donors for making that possible. Also, big thanks to the Town of Windham's General Services Department for taking the time to install it for us.

We are in the middle of a restoration, renovation, and update to our Carl Heidenblad History Room. This multi-year project will be funded with grant money and the first of those grants was awarded this year by the State of New Hampshire's Moose Plate program. We also received a small grant from Bywater Solutions and



another from the Windham Lions Club. With these grants, we were able to replace the chairs in the meeting room, and now have funds to begin the preservation of some of our unique holdings.

In October, our GMILCS consortium grew with the addition of Londonderry's Leach Library. I think it is fair to say that we are excited that they are now part of our consortium.

Lastly, we added a new collection to our library: Tonieboxes. They provide a fun, creative, and interactive way for kids to discover more about their favorite characters or topics.

It has been a very busy year. Our circulation numbers remain steady, but traffic to the building and program attendance are on track to be up by more than 10%. This is an indication of how central to our community the library is. As my sixth year as library director draws to a close, I continue to be so grateful for the support that this community shows our library.

It is a pleasure working with this great staff, Nesmith Library Board of Trustees, Friends of the Library volunteers, and the countless other volunteers that give of their time to make the library a wonderful community asset.

We all look forward to serving our entire community in 2025!

Contents:

December Adult Programming	2
Teen Happenings	3
Storytimes	3
Monthly Children's Programs	4
Special Events for Children	5
FLOW Book Fair	5
FLOW Take Home Build-a-Buddy	5
FLOW Gingerbread House Decorating Party	6
FLOW Holiday Craft Extravaganza	6
Dates to Remember	6

December Adult Programming

Maria Schroeter,
Adult Collection Development and
Adult Programming Librarian

Happy Holidays! Another year is almost over, and I am grateful for all who visited the library and attended our programs. Thank you for being library supporters! I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday season, and healthy and happy New Year!

New Book Releases

December brings us a little bit of everything in the world of publishing. On December 10, Darby Kane is back with another thriller, *What the Wife Knew*. Also releasing on December 10 are two historical fiction titles, *The French Winemaker's Daughter* by Loretta Ellsworth and *The Champagne Letters* by Kate Macintosh. And finally, a heartening romance with *Eddie Winston is Looking for Love* by Marianne Cronin. "The author of the beloved international hit *The One Hundred Years of Lenni and Margot* returns with a funny, uplifting story about the power of friendship and finding love in unexpected places." All these books are listed in our catalog and are ready for you to put on hold. If you need help putting an item on hold, just give us a call and we can walk you through it or do it for you.

Nesmith Library Book Group

The Nesmith Library Book Group will meet on Wednesday, December 11 at 6:00 p.m. Currently, the book group is not accepting new members, and the waitlist is full. However, if you are willing to travel down the road a bit to the Rodgers Memorial Library in Hudson, they have six different book groups and a crime podcast club that are open to all, and they welcome Nesmith patrons! Find out more at www.rodgerslibrary.org/book-groups.

Virtual More Holiday Romance Book Recommendations

We had such a great time chatting with John Charles, romance book aficionado, last year that we just had to do it again! Join us virtually via Zoom on Monday, December 2 at 7:00 p.m. for More Holiday Book Recommendations,



where we will take some time to relax and find some good holiday romance reads. John Charles will give us his "best of" 2024 list that will have your to-be-read pile tipping over and your holidays spent cozying up to a good book. A list of titles will be emailed after the session. Hope you can join us! This program is presented with Ashland (Mass.) Public Library.

First Congregational Church of Pelham English Handbell Choir



Join us on Monday, December 9 at 7:00 p.m. when the First Congregational Church of Pelham English Handbell Choir rings in the Christmas season with a concert of holiday music. This popular annual event has become a tradition at the library, and we hope you can make it a part of your holiday season too! No registration is required, and all are welcome!

Virtual Armchair Travel: A Live Walk Highlighting Christmas in Paris

On Tuesday, December 17 at 11:30 a.m., French tour guide, Patrick Herpe, will be giving us a live virtual tour of Paris at Christmastime! He will be walking while ZOOMing to show us Paris decorated for Christmas. He will take us to the Galeries Lafayette Department Store, so we can see their famous animated window displays! If weather permits, Patrick will take us up on their roof terrace to see Paris from above, where we will get a view of the dome of the galleries and the

city's big Christmas tree. Grab a hot chocolate and some Christmas cookies to snack on while we enjoy the beauty and wonder of Paris at Christmas from our own homes! This program is presented with Tewksbury (Mass.) Public Library.



Armchair Travel: Christmas in Paris

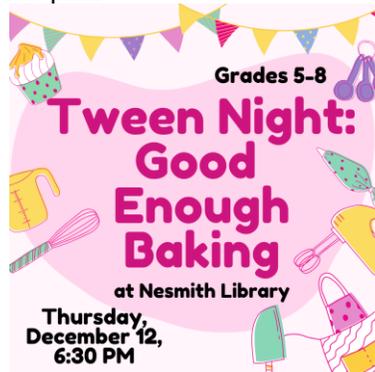
Join us in person on Friday, December 20 at 2:30 p.m. when French tour guide, Patrick Herpe, will be giving us a tour of Paris at Christmastime! He will be walking while ZOOMing to show us video of Paris decorated for Christmas. He will take us to the Galeries Lafayette Department Store, so we can see their famous animated window displays! If weather permits, Patrick will take us up on their roof terrace to see Paris from above, where we will get a view of the dome of the galleries and the city's big Christmas tree. We will sip hot chocolate and eat Christmas cookies while we enjoy the beauty and wonder of Paris at Christmas on the library's big screen!

Adult programs are for ages 18 and up (unless otherwise noted) and registration is required. To register, please visit our Events Calendar at <https://nesmithlibrary.org/calendar>. For more information on any of these programs, or if you have any questions, please contact Maria at mschroter@nesmithlibrary.org or call the library at 603-432-7154.

Teen Happenings

Molly Pevna,
Teen Services Librarian

It's officially the holiday season and that means food! We are starting the month right with the Tween Good Enough Baking Night. Why is it that you always want dessert right after someone finishes the last of the ice cream? Well, we have a solution with this month's Tween Night, figure out what it is on Thursday, December 12 at 6:30 p.m.

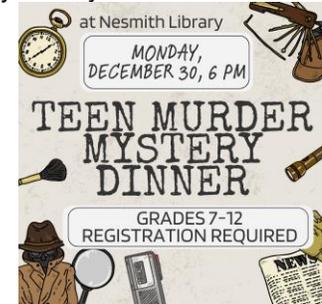


Don't you worry, just because it's the holidays doesn't mean that TAG is slowing down. We will be having our monthly meeting on Tuesday, December 10 at 6:30 p.m. to talk about upcoming programs and ideas for spring!



But before we get to spring, it would not be the holidays without a little bit of drama! So why not have the most drama with a classic Teen Holiday Murder Mystery Dinner. It may be cold outside but that does not mean

the case is. So, if you've ever wanted to solve a murder (over dinner no less), make sure to register to get out of the cold and come by the Nesmith Library on Monday, December 30 at 6:00 p.m. for a hot investigation. Email Molly by Thursday, December 26 with any dietary restrictions.



Questions about these or any other teen happenings? Call the library at 603-432-7154 or email Molly at mpevna@nesmithlibrary.org.

Storytimes

Azra Palo,
Head of Youth Services

Toddler Storytime

Monday, December 2, 9, and 16
Tuesday, December 10 and 17
10:30 a.m.

Ages 18 months to 3 years. Registration required.

Caregivers with children ages 18 months to 3 years are invited to sing, dance, and follow along to stories and songs, Mondays or Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. at the Nesmith Library. We ask that patrons choose only one day of the week to attend. Siblings are also welcome. Please note there is no storytime Tuesday, December 3 due to the FLOW Winter Book Fair. Patrons can register with their Nesmith Library card. Registration is week to week and opens up two weeks before the storytime date. Questions? Email Joan at jcarbone@nesmithlibrary.org.

Baby Storytime

Wednesday, December 11 and 18
10:30 a.m.

Ages 0-18 months. Registration not required.

All babies and their caregivers are invited to join us Wednesday mornings at the Nesmith Library for Baby Storytime! Please note we will not have storytime Wednesday, December 4 due to the FLOW Winter Book Fair. Baby Storytime is a great opportunity to meet other families and enjoy baby's first storytime! We will have stories, songs, dancing, and more for ages 0 to 18 months. Siblings are always welcome and no registration is required. Questions? Email Courtney at cwason@nesmithlibrary.org.



Preschool Storytime

Thursday, December 12 and 19
10:30 a.m.

Ages 3-5. Registration required.

We are inviting our young friends and their families to join us for two special Preschool Storytime at the Nesmith Library. Thursday, December 12, Courtney will lead us in a fun *The Mitten* themed storytime for ages 3-5. The following Thursday, December 19, we will have a winter solstice related storytime with music, books, and more. Caregivers will stay for the entire session and siblings are welcome. This storytime requires registration with your Nesmith Library card. Registration opens up two weeks before each storytime. For more information about our Preschool Storytime, email Courtney cwason@nesmithlibrary.org.

Special Preschool Storytimes

Thursday December 12
'The Mitten' Storytime



Thursday December 19
'Winter Solstice Fun'

Monthly Children's Programs

Azra Palo

Story Snackers

Monday, December 9

4:00 p.m.

Ages 4-8. Registration required.

Children ages 4-8 and their caregivers are invited to join us one Monday per month for a no-bake/no-cook DIY snack afternoon! We'll gather for a story, then work together creating yummy snacks that are inspired by the book. Parents and caregivers, we'll need your help, as this is a hands-on activity. Wear something you don't mind getting a little messy! Join us for December's treat on Monday, December 9 promptly at 4:00 p.m. Registration is required with your Nesmith Library card and began November 25. This month's treat: Snack Mix buffet! Ingredients: Corn Chex, original Cheerios, Snyder's Pretzel Snaps, Nestle allergen-free semi-sweet morsels, Smartfood popcorn, original Goldfish crackers, Ocean Spray dried cranberries. Questions? Email Courtney at cwason@nesmithlibrary.org.

Drop-in Salty Snowflakes Craft

Wednesday, December 11

3:30 p.m.

All ages. No registration.



Our monthly children's craft is salty winter themed for the month of December. Ages 0-12 are welcome to join us on Wednesday, December 11, between 3:30 and 4:30 p.m. No registration is required. This month we will be celebrating all things snow! Specifically, all things snowflakes. Come to the Nesmith Library and create your own work of art with salt, glue, and paper. While we will have an example craft, but there is no one way to do this. You bring the creativity, and we provide the supplies. This craft is perfect to give to a loved one or keep for yourself! Questions? Email Azra at apalo@nesmithlibrary.org.

December STEAM Takeaway: Melting Snowman

Monday, December 16

Pick-up starts at 9:00 a.m.

Ages 8-11. Registration required.

How do you build a snowman with shaving cream? We will answer this question and more during our monthly STEAM program. Young scientists ages 8-11 are invited to register for our December STEAM Takeaway from the Nesmith Library! Pick up your registered kit anytime on Monday, December 16. During our monthly STEAM program, children learn about the world that we live in through science and art exploration. This month we will be learning about the ingredients needed to make a melting snowman! Hint: it requires some baking soda. Our STEAM scientists will also use their creative spark to set a scene with the ingredients as well. The kit will include supplies, list of other basic items you will need on hand, instructions, prompts, and more! This event requires registration with your Nesmith Library card and registration opens Monday, December 2. Questions? Email Azra apalo@nesmithlibrary.org.

Kids' Comic Club Jr.

Monday, December 16

4:00-4:45 p.m.

Ages 4-6. Registration required.

We know that kids of ALL ages love comics! This program, specially designed for children ages 4-6, will focus less on author interviews and favorite character illustrations, and more on telling stories, drawing pictures, and reading comics together! Join us on Monday, December 16 at 4:00 p.m. for a newer edition of Kids' Comic Club...Junior! Each session will begin with a short read-aloud of an age-appropriate comic book or graphic novel, followed by story-making activities and drawing prompts. The event will run approximately 45 minutes. Parents are welcome to attend. Registration opens Monday, December 2. Questions? Email Courtney cwason@nesmithlibrary.org.

Kids' Comic Club

Monday, December 16

6:00 p.m.

Ages 7-11. Registration required.

Calling all young comic book lovers ages 7-11! Join us on Monday, December 16 at 6:00 p.m. for some comic fun, inspired by the Cat Kid Comic Club series! Each meeting has us drawing a character, watching author/illustrator interviews, following step-by-step instructions, and listening as everyone who wants to share gets a chance to show us what they have been working on. Each month we'll share what comics or graphic novels we've been reading, what we like (or don't) about them, and we'll work on creating our own awesome comics! Come ready to chat, draw, share, and collaborate. Registration opens Monday, December 2. Questions? Email Courtney cwason@nesmithlibrary.org.

Crafty Creations

Saturday, December 21

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Ages 4-10. No registration.

Stop by the Children's Room and explore new ways to create art with unexpected materials! For December we will be making decorated "candles!" Kids ages 4-10 are invited to join us on Saturday, December 21, starting at 10:00 a.m. No registration required. Questions? Email Joan jcarbone@nesmithlibrary.org.

Free Art Friday

Friday, December 27

10:30 – 11:00 a.m.

Ages 2-5. Registration required.

Watercolors or bingo markers or stamps – oh my! Join us for a free exploration with art on Friday, December 27 at 10:30 a.m. This program will not aim to produce a specific project, but will allow children to experiment freely with whatever medium is offered. Children should wear clothes they can get messy in. This event requires registration with your Nesmith Library card, and registration opens on Friday, December 13. Questions? Email Joan at jcarbone@nesmithlibrary.org.

Special Events for Children

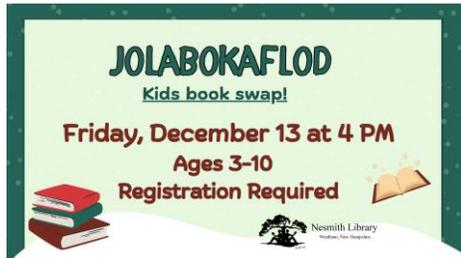
Azra Palo

Jolabokafloð (Book Swap)

Friday, December 13

4:00-4:30 p.m.

Ages 3-10. Registration required.



In Iceland, “Jolabokafloð” is the tradition of giving and receiving books to read together over the holidays. Join us for this fun holiday tradition at the library on Friday, December 13 starting promptly at 4:00 p.m. This event is geared towards our young patrons ages 3-10. Please bring a wrapped book (gently used or new), and enjoy a story, some hot cocoa, and a fun book swap! This event requires registration with your Nesmith Library card and registration opens on Friday, November 29. Questions? Email Joan jcarbone@nesmithlibrary.org.

Decorate a Gingerbread Person

Thursday, December 19

6:00 p.m.

Ages 4-11. Registration required.



Young patrons ages 4-11 and their adults are invited to sign up for making their own gingerbread person on Thursday, December 19, at 6:00 p.m. We will provide the cookies, frosting, candy, and more. Winter music will be playing, and hot cocoa will be provided. Adults are welcome to make a gingerbread person as well! This event requires active caregiver participation.

We ask that participants arrive promptly at 6:00 p.m. to have the full experience. Patrons are only required to bring their creativity for this fun winter holiday event. Food will be part of the program, so please email Azra if you have any allergy concerns. This event requires registration with your Nesmith Library card. Registration opens Thursday, December 5. Questions? Email Azra apalo@nesmithlibrary.org.

Trolltastic Winter Party

Monday, December 30

1:00 p.m.

Ages 4-11. Registration required.

Let your hair down (or in this case, UP!) and join us for a fun afternoon celebrating all things Troll-ish! This party will be happening on Monday, December 30 starting promptly at 1:00 p.m. for ages 4-11. Registration is required. We’ll make a headband hair craft, have scrapbooking materials available (you know how Poppy loves to scrapbook!), and sing to some favorite songs. Registration opens Monday, December 16. Questions? Email Courtney cwason@nesmithlibrary.org.

FLOW Friends of the Library of Windham

BOOK Fair

2024

Your paragraph text

Wednesday 12/4/24 – 2:00pm – 7:30pm
(Preview Day: Seniors, Teachers, and FLOW Members only)

Thursday 12/5/24 – 11:00am – 7:30pm

Friday 12/6/24 – 11:00am – 4:30pm

Saturday 12/7/24 – 11:00am – 3:30pm

Nesmith Library, Multipurpose Room

VISIT FLOW'S BOOK FAIR AND PICK UP A

TAKE HOME BUILD-A-BUDDY!

ADORABLE 15" STUFFED ANIMALS!

SATURDAY DECEMBER 7, 2024
11AM-1PM
NESMITH LIBRARY

PRE- PURCHASE YOUR BUDDY NOW!

www.flowwindham.org/shop

TAKE HOME KIT INCLUDES PLUSH ANIMAL OF YOUR CHOOSING, STUFFING, HEART INSERT AND A BIRTH CERTIFICATE FOR ONLY \$15!



Dates to Remember

- | | | | |
|-------|---|--|--|
| 12/2 | Toddler Storytime, 10:30 a.m.; FLOW Meeting, 6:30–9:00 p.m.; Virtual More Holiday Romance Book Recommendations, 7:00 p.m. | 6:30–8:00 p.m.; Teen Advisory Group, 6:30 p.m. | Live Walk Highlighting Christmas in Paris, 11:30 a.m. |
| 12/4 | FLOW Winter Book Fair, 2:00–7:30 p.m. | 12/11 | 12/18 |
| 12/5 | FLOW Winter Book Fair, 11:00 a.m.–7:30 p.m. | Baby Storytime, 10:30 a.m.; Drop-in Salty Snowflakes Craft, 3:30 p.m.; Library Book Group, 6:00–7:30 p.m. | Baby Storytime, 10:30 a.m. |
| 12/6 | FLOW Winter Book Fair, 11:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m. | 12/12 | 12/19 |
| 12/7 | FLOW Winter Book Fair, 11:00 a.m.–3:30 p.m.; Build-a-Buddy Take Home Kit Pick-Up, 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. | Preschool Storytime, 10:30 a.m.; December Tween Night, 6:30 p.m. | Preschool Storytime, 10:30 a.m.; Nesmith Knitters, 12:30–2:30 p.m.; Gingerbread People Decorating, 6:00 p.m. |
| 12/9 | Toddler Storytime, 10:30 a.m.; Story Snackers, 4:00 p.m.; First Congregational Church of Pelham English Handbell Choir, 7:00 p.m. | 12/13 | 12/20 |
| 12/10 | Toddler Storytime, 10:30 a.m.; Library Board of Trustees, | Jolabokafloð (Book Swap), 4:00–4:30 p.m. | Armchair Travel: Christmas in Paris, 2:30 p.m. |
| | | 12/14 | 12/21 |
| | | FLOW Gingerbread House Decorating Party, 1:30–3:00 p.m. | Crafty Creations, 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. |
| | | 12/16 | 12/23 |
| | | STEAM Takeaway: Melted Snowman, All Day; Toddler Storytime, 10:30 a.m.; Kids Comic Club, Jr., 4:00–4:45 a.m.; Kids Comic Club, 6:00 p.m. | FLOW Holiday Craft Extravaganza, 10:00–11:30 a.m. |
| | | 12/17 | 12/24 |
| | | Toddler Storytime, 10:30 a.m.; Virtual Armchair Travel: A | Library Closed |
| | | | 12/25 |
| | | | Library Closed |
| | | | 12/27 |
| | | | Free Art Friday, 10:30–11:00 a.m. |
| | | | 12/30 |
| | | | Trolltastic Winter Party, 1:00 p.m.; Teen Holiday Murder Mystery Dinner, 6:00–7:30 p.m. |
| | | | 12/31 |
| | | | Library Closes Early |
| | | | 1/1 |
| | | | Library Closed |

Nesmith Library

8 Fellows Road
Windham, NH 03087

Phone:
603-432-7154

Website:
www.nesmithlibrary.org

Facebook: nesmithlibrary
Instagram: nesmith.library
X: NesmithLibrary

Library Director:
Sylvie Brikiatis

Service Hours

Monday – Thursday
9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Friday
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Saturday
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Sunday
1:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Library Closings

Tuesday, December 24
Wednesday, December 25
Wednesday, January 1

