



the ORLA
newsletter.

OCTOBER 2022

DIVERSITY Before UNIVERSITY



A New Reading
Challenge for Teens



PLUS! INTRODUCING LIBRARY LOTTO



WHEN WOMEN WERE DRAGONS

KELLY BARNHILL

"In this novel written by Kelly Barnhill, we get to experience a rewritten past with a touch more magic than our own. Set in the 1950s and 60s, Kelly has her characters explore what a world would look like if women were driven a step further than rage when experiencing inequality. She turns these women's oppression into an uncontrollable urge to be bigger than oneself - into being a dragon. However, a portion of society doesn't see these women's abilities to change forms as a glorious transformation. Instead, it gets categorized with the other unpleasanties that just aren't spoken of. One is not even allowed to openly acknowledge dragoning without their careers and livelihoods being jeopardized. Those that have dragoned are then known as simply missing, or having not even existed in the first place. Barnhill's book gives us a front-row seat to our main protagonist, Alex's tumultuous journey with learning the difference between respectability, responsibility, and ingenuity - and how love can sometimes come before all three." -- *Daidre Green, Oil City & Franklin Libraries*

WHAT WE'RE READING

YOUNG ADULT

THE KINDRED

ALECHIA DOW



"Alechia Dow pulled out all the stops when she created her latest novel, *Kindred*. She touches on significant topics such as race, body shaming, economic inequality, and sexual orientation with such eloquence. I honestly cannot quit swooning over this book. Joy and Felix come from two different worlds... both metaphorically and physically. Felix is a socialite duke on the mother planet Maru, while Joy is an impoverished bookkeeper from the outcast planet Hali. Most people think their pairing was a mistake that should have been eliminated shortly after it was formed, but to Felix and Joy, there wouldn't be one of them without the other. When they crash land on the planet Earth while fleeing persecution for a crime they did not commit, their bond will be put to the test. Can they save all those they love without having to sacrifice their newfound freedom in the process?" -- *Daidre Green, Oil City & Franklin Libraries*

JUVENILE



BUNNICULA: THE GRAPHIC NOVEL

JAMES HOWE & ANDREW DONKIN

ILLUSTRATED BY STEPHEN GILPIN

"*Bunnica: the Graphic Novel* brings back one of my favorite childhood reads about an adorable, fluffy little vampire (allegedly). Originally written by husband and wife team Deborah and James Howe, *Bunnica* tells the story of the Monroe household and their pets. When a suspicious and unusual bunny makes its way into their lives, Chester (the cat) and Harold (the dog) embark on a mission to prove the bunny is indeed a vampire and poses a threat to the livelihood of the entire household! The story, told from the point of view of Harold (the dog), is full of hilarious comments, sarcastic phrases and expressive illustrations. This particular book is a testament to how great graphic novels are for learning new words. Words like 'reverie', 'revulsion' and 'variegated' fill the pages of this story. *Bunnica: the Graphic Novel* is a great story re-imagined for both kids and adults alike." -- *Natalie Cubbon, Oil Region Library Association*



WANNA SUBMIT YOUR OWN BOOK REVIEW?

Email a review of a book you read recently (good or bad!) to promotions@oilregionlibraries.org to be featured in a future issue of the ORLA Newsletter!

New Staff at Oil City Library

Last month, the Oil City Library welcomed Emily, a new Library Assistant. Emily has been a frequent library patron for years. She is doing amazingly & we're so happy to have her on staff! If you see Emily around, please make sure to give her a warm welcome!

Poetry Reading This Month

A local organization, Poets Against Racism, will be doing a poetry reading later this month at the Oil City Library. Poets Against Racism is a collective group of performers who challenge, discuss & confront racism through their own unique forms of art. They encourage people from all over the world to fight racism, bigotry & Islamophobia expressively through the powerful art form that is poetry. They wish to spread love, peace & positivity among everyone regardless of race, color, creed, gender or sexual orientation through the enjoyment of live performance. We hope you can join us for this unique & powerful event on **Monday, October 24th at 6:30PM at the Oil City Library.**



ACP Tablet Program to Visit Oil City Library

Allied One Solutions LLC will have a representative at the Oil City Library on **October 11th & 12th from 10AM - 2PM.** They will provide Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) Tablets with 25GB of data to individuals qualifying for this program. You may be eligible if you meet any of the following qualifications:

- Medicaid
- WIC
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8)
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Veterans and Survivors Pension Benefits
- Federal Pell Grant in the Current Award Year
- Income at or Below 200% Federal Poverty Level

NOTE:

- You may need to show proof of eligibility. This may be an award letter or official documents that you participate in a qualifying program when applying for the Emergency Broadband Benefit.
- You must have a valid state or federal ID.
- There is a limit of one discount per household (internet/phone/tablet).

To learn more about ACP, visit <https://www.affordableconnectivity.gov/>



10AM - 11AM
AT THE OIL
CITY LIBRARY

MINDFULNESS & MEDITATION mornings

This time consists of two 25 minute periods of meditation with a 5 minute break between. The first meditation may begin with a short guided experience to help focus the mind. The remainder of the time will be silent.

Questions? Contact Mary Ann by calling (814) 493-5417 or email mabdance@aol.com.

CHAIRS WILL BE PROVIDED,
BUT YOU ARE WELCOME TO
BRING YOUR OWN MAT!

2ND & 4TH
WEDNESDAYS
OF EVERY
MONTH

FREE | NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED | ALL AGES WELCOME

WiFi HotSpot Charge Increase

Effective October 1st, 2022, the rental cost for WiFi HotSpots will increase to **\$2 per day or \$10 per week** at all ORLA locations. This increase is due to the rising costs of mobile data & will ensure that we are able to continue providing them to our patrons. We apologize for any inconvenience and appreciate your understanding.

These mobile devices function by working off of T-Mobile cellular networks to broadcast a WiFi signal. Each unit will connect up to 10 devices at any given time. Call your library to reserve your device!



DIVERSITY

Before

UNIVERSITY



a reading challenge for grades 7-12

Diversity Before University presents 7th - 12th grade students with an opportunity to read books written by authors representing a wide range of diverse and important topics. This challenge was designed to help students gain a wider perspective about individuals that may differ from themselves before finding their place in society as an adult.

why read diverse books?

According to We Need Diverse Books (a non-profit organization dedicated to advocating for diverse literature), "Books that represent a variety of cultures and people help us understand those who are different than us by opening a window into that experience. If we only see characters and experiences that reflect our own, we're more likely to believe that our own experience is more important or valid than those that are unfamiliar".

Included in the reading list are titles that explore topics such as disability, gender, sexuality, racism, world cultures, activism, discrimination & more.

how to participate

The reading list of eligible books can be found on the next page, or on our website at <https://oilregionlibraries.org/youth/teens>.

Once a participant has completed 5 books and filled out our form with their summaries, an entry with their name and contact information will be added to our raffle for a chance to win a \$50 Amazon gift card. Submission forms are available at any ORLA location, or online at oilregionlibraries.org.

Teens may participate in this challenge each school year until the reading list is complete. You do not have to finish the entire reading list to participate. The more you read from the list, the more entries you will gain for our \$50 Amazon gift card. A winner will be selected at the end of every school year.

**WIN A \$50
AMAZON
GIFT CARD!**



MEET THE CREATOR

Daidre (DAY-dree)

ORLA Teen Services Coordinator

Daidre, the Teen Services Coordinator at Oil City & Franklin Libraries, created the *Diversity Before University* reading challenge in order to encourage young adults to read more diverse books before they graduate high school.

Daidre has been with ORLA since 2019 and has been working in Teen Services since 2020.

She consistently highlights themes of diversity & inclusivity through library programs and books in the library's collections.

Reading List

- The Wild Ones - Nafiza Azad
- The Hate U Give - Angie Thomas
- Puddin' - Julie Murphy
- Survive the Dome - Kosoko Jackson
- Children of Blood and Bone - Tomi Adeyemi
- Like Other Girls - Britta Lundin
- No Way They Were Gay - Lee Wind
- Surrender Your Sons - Adam Sass
- Apple : Skin to the Core - Eric Gansworth
- Long Way Down - Jason Reynolds
- Six Crimson Cranes - Elizabeth Lim
- Darius the Great is Not Okay - Adib Khorram
- Everything You Wanted to Know About Indians But Were Afraid to Ask - Anton Treuer
- From a Whisper to a Rallying Cry - Paula Yoo
- We Are Not Free - Traci Chee
- The Kindred - Alechia Dow
- Burn Down Rise Up - Vincent Tirado
- The Keeper of Night - Kylie Lee Baker
- Kings Queens and In-Betweens - Tanya Boteju
- Firekeeper's Daughter - Angeline Boulley
- You Should See Me in a Crown - Leah Johnson
- Cemetery Boys - Aiden Thomas
- Wings of Ebony - J. Elle
- Hollow Fires - Samira Ahmed
- Ordinary Hazards - Nikki Grimes
- The Poet X - Elizabeth Acevedo
- Grown - Tiffany Jackson
- How Moon Fuentes Fell in Love With the Universe - Raquel Vasquez Gilliland
- American Sign Language For Beginners - Rochelle Barlow
- Fish in a Tree - Lynda Mullaly Hunt
- Iranian Love Stories - Jane Deuxard
- How to They/Them - Stuart Getty
- The Asperkid's Secret Book of Social Rules - Jennifer O'Toole
- Anything But Typical - Nora Baskin
- How We Roll - Natasha Friend
- Rosie Loves Jack - Mel Darbon
- Demystifying Disability - Emily Ladau
- The 57 Bus - Dashka Slater
- Dear Justyce - Nic Stone
- I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter - Erika Sanchez
- Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe - Benjamin Saenz
- Brown Boy Nowhere - S. Briones Lim
- Between Bitter and Sweet - Laeken Kemp
- The Girl Beneath the Fire - Axie Oh
- Blood Scion - Deborah Falaye
- A Snake Falls to Earth - Darcie Little Badger
- The Witch King - H.E. Edgmon
- Once Upon a K-Prom - Kat Cho
- Skin of the Sea - Natasha Bowen
- Rise: A Pop History of Asian America From the 90's to Now - Jeff Yang
- Last Night at the Telegraph Club - Malindo Lo
- I Wish You All the Best - Mason Deaver
- The Meaning of Birds - Jaye Robin Brown
- Juliet Takes a Breath - Gabby Rivera
- Punching the Air - Ibi Anu Zobo
- Hell Followed With Us - Andrew Joseph White
- Run - John Lewis
- Stamped : Racism, Antiracism, and You - Jason Reynolds
- Asking For It - Louise O'Neill
- The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time by Mark Haddon

All books listed are available through your library. We fit as many books on this list as possible, but of course there are more! If you feel a book should be added, make your case, and we will consider adding it!



Franklin Friends to Hold Annual Applefest® Book Sale

The Friends of the Franklin Public Library will be holding their Annual Applefest® Book Sale at the Franklin Public Library on the following dates:

- Friday, October 7th.....12:00PM - 5:00PM
- Saturday, October 8th.....10:00AM - 5:00PM (EXTENDED HOURS!)

Come show your support for the library and get your hands on some great books while enjoying Franklin's popular Applefest® vendors and activities!



Community Conversations Return

The Franklin Public Library will continue hosting a series of Community Conversations covering a vast array of topics by fellow community members. The following Community Conversations are scheduled for Tuesdays from 6PM - 7PM:

- Oct. 18th - **Drake's Well: Now & Then** with Sarah Goodman
- Oct. 25th - **Oil & Gas Fracking: Step 1 in the World Pollution Problem** with Peter Fitzpatrick
- Nov. 15th - **Quilts of Valor** with Sue Luxeburger



Franklin Hosts NPRC Open Office Hours

Northern Pennsylvania Regional College's Community Engagement Specialist, Rose Clarke, will be holding open office hours at the Franklin Public Library **every second Tuesday of the month from 3:00PM - 6:00PM**. She's available to meet with you and answer any questions you may have. Learn more about cost, financial aid, dual enrollment for high school juniors and seniors, associate degree programs, and the local classrooms in the Galena Building on the corner of Liberty and South Park Street. No matter where you start or what you hope to achieve, NPRC empowers you to change your life and brighten your future.

Upcoming Workshops



COMPUTER BASICS WORKSHOP
OIL CITY LIBRARY
10AM - 11AM
FREE

Join us at the Oil City Library on Monday, October 11th at 10AM for a Computer Basics Workshop, courtesy of Pennsylvania CareerLink! Almost all workplaces require some computer skills. Learn to confidently navigate your way through basic systems, including the desktop environment, internet searching, emailing, and Microsoft word. This workshop is free & open to anyone. Register at the Oil City Library or by calling (814) 678-3072. Walk-ins are okay too!



COMPUTER BASICS WORKSHOP
FRANKLIN PUBLIC LIBRARY
11AM - 1PM OR 3PM - 5PM
FREE

Join us at the Franklin Public Library on Tuesday, October 18th at 11AM or 3PM for a Computer Basics Workshop, courtesy of Pennsylvania CareerLink! Almost all workplaces require some computer skills. Learn to confidently navigate your way through basic systems, including the desktop environment, internet searching, emailing, and Microsoft word. This workshop is free & open to anyone. Register at the Franklin Public Library or by calling (814) 432-5062. Walk-ins are okay too!

2023 ANNUAL
OIL REGION LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

LIBRARY LOTT

WIN BIG!

A total of 36 winners will be determined by the **Pennsylvania Daily Pick 3** evening drawing at 7:00PM on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd days of each month in 2023. One additional winner will win \$500 determined by the Pennsylvania Daily Pick 3 evening drawing on July 25th, 2023!

SGOC #1573
EACH TICKET
\$20
ONLY 1000 SOLD

\$75

WIN \$75

Winning ticket number determined by the Pennsylvania Daily Pick 3 evening drawing at 7:00PM on the **3rd of each month.**

12 WINNERS

\$100

WIN \$100

Winning ticket number determined by the Pennsylvania Daily Pick 3 evening drawing at 7:00PM on the **2nd of each month.**

12 WINNERS

\$200

WIN \$200

Winning ticket number determined by the Pennsylvania Daily Pick 3 evening drawing at 7:00PM on the **1st of each month.**

12 WINNERS

\$500

WIN \$500

Winning ticket number determined by the Pennsylvania Daily Pick 3 evening drawing at 7:00PM on **July 25th, 2023.**

1 WINNER

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

Available at Any ORLA Location

For More Information

Call us at (814) 678-3072

Email us at info@oilregionlibraries.org



