

NORTHBROOK PUBLIC LIBRARY

September & October 2020



Accessibility For All

Page 10

Looking Back Over 20 Years
of Service

Page 3

Special hours: September 6 & 7 (Library closed all day for the Labor Day holiday.)

Notes from the Director



The library is a place that welcomes all in the community. According to a national survey by Cornell University, 11.1% of people in Illinois have a disability. Our job is to serve people of all abilities.

We seek to make the library accessible to all with our materials, programs, and services. If you need closed captioning on a movie, we can do that. If you need large type books, we have those. If you need to get around in the Collaboratory; we have designed it to be accessible. If you ask, we will provide you with an accommodation.

But we know the best way we can serve the community is to put things in place so you don't have to ask for an accommodation. We continually look for ways we can make that happen and appreciate your patience as we work to make the library equally accessible for every member of our community.

Please reach out if you have suggestions for ways we can be more accessible. We are here for you.

Kate Hall
Executive Director


Library Information

1201 Cedar Lane, Northbrook, IL 60062
847-272-6224 | www.northbrook.info
feedback@northbrook.info

Please visit www.northbrook.info or call 847-272-6224 for our current open hours, including our hours for vulnerable patrons.

Special hours: 9/6 & 9/7 (Library closed for the Labor Day Holiday)

The Northbrook Public Library provides access to information so that patrons can make informed decisions for themselves. The library does not endorse, recommend, or make representations with respect to the information presented in our programming.

 **Photo Policy:** The Northbrook Public Library may photograph patrons participating in library programs and events. These images may appear in future library publications or publicity. Participation signifies consent to our photo policy. Library patrons may not take photographs of other patrons or staff without the permission of the Executive Director. For full policy details, visit www.northbrook.info.

NEWS & UPDATES



OUR REOPENING PLAN

We're continuing to respond to the changing COVID-19 information provided to us by the state. No matter where we are in September, we were excited to open our doors and welcome you back in the library on July 20. Please visit www.northbrook.info/reopening for the most up-to-date information regarding our services.

STUDY & MEETING ROOMS

At the time of publication, there are 13 study rooms available to reserve for up to one hour (one person per room). Visit www.northbrook.info for the most up-to-date information regarding our policies for reserving study and meeting rooms. You can also reserve a study room online with a Northbrook library card at visit.northbrook.info/reserve.

PROGRAMS WILL REMAIN VIRTUAL THROUGH THE END OF THE YEAR

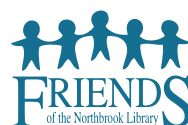
To ensure patron and staff safety, we are planning for all of our programs to remain virtual through the end of the year. This allows us to remain nimble and to continue to provide programs without a break in programming. As soon as we receive guidance that it is safe to do so, we will be able to quickly resume offering some programs in the building.

BACK TO SCHOOL HELP

Although the beginning of the school year may look different this year, we want to remind you that we have great online homework help resources for all ages, including Brainfuse HelpNow, which offers expert student help with certified tutors and Brainfuse LearnNow, for guided help with test prep and practice tests for ACT/SAT, AP, and many more. Visit www.northbrook.info/homework-help to get started.

THANK YOU TO OUR TWO "READ TO FEED" SPONSORS

Thanks to the generosity of the Friends of the Northbrook Public Library and the First Bank of Highland Park, we were able to provide a donation to the Northfield Township Food Pantry for every Summer Reading participant who completed the program.



Looking Back Over 20 Years of Service

The Northbrook Public Library became a second home to Carlos Früm not long after he moved to the village about 40 years ago with his wife Sandy and their two small children.

Long before joining the Library Board and eventually becoming a three-term Board President, Carlos remembers spending weekends at the library studying for his MBA as a young dad.

"We came here looking for a place outside of the city," he said. "I got involved with the library while I was pursuing an MBA program at DePaul. It took me three years of studying at night. By then, we had a third child."

Over the years, he and his family would become more active with the community on development and environmental preservation matters, and get involved with the Civic Foundation, YMCA, the school board, Rotary, and more.

By the time he joined the Library Board, he was a seasoned community leader.

His appreciation for public libraries goes back to his youth in Argentina. At a young age, his mother taught him how to walk the 10 blocks to the library. When he received his first library card at 9, it was a defining moment that shaped his advocacy for libraries.



Library Board President, Carlos Früm

Looking Back

Carlos will be stepping down this year after serving on the Library Board for 20 years.

During his tenure, the library has seen tremendous growth, including the first juried art show in 2002, the achievement of its first 5-star rating in 2012, the first floor renovation in 2015, and, of course, the construction of the Collaboratory in 2018.

In addition, he championed strong community partnerships with local groups and organizations, including the Northbrook Historical Society and the Northfield Township Food Pantry.

Carlos says a couple of recent items immediately stick out in his memory over the last 20 years: the hiring of Executive Director Kate Hall and the opening of the Collaboratory.

Serving the Public

Trustees are powerful advocates for libraries, and each trustee brings something important to mix.

As someone who ran a technology-based business, Carlos was passionate about pushing the library forward with "cutting edge, not bleeding-edge technologies," such as updating the library's wireless network and installing the information monitor in the lobby.

"An important role of the Board is to balance the interests of the community with the available funds, asking 'Do we really need it? Will it benefit the people?'"

Even as he neared the end of his tenure on the Board, Carlos never stopped planning for the library's future. One of his last projects was a re-cabling project that will allow the library to upgrade older systems like the phone, cameras, and security system.



Carlos Früm and a young patron in the Collaboratory, 2018

As he looks back on his years on the Board, Carlos says he is "very, very proud" of the people he served with.

"They are very good board members. The fact that we discuss everything and can come to an agreement practically 100 percent of the time is because we care about the library and we work out the details."

"One of the things people in the community have told me many times over the years is:

'Whenever I have visitors from out of town, the first place I show them when I give them a tour is the library.'

It shows that people are proud they are of this impressive building and what we get out of it," he said.

Make a Difference: Consider Becoming a Board Member

As Carlos prepares to step down from the Board in the fall, we are looking for other strong community leaders to help the library serve the community today and in the future.

Once elected, trustees meet monthly on a volunteer basis to set the strategic direction, reflect the wants and needs of the community, and set the library up for success now and in the future.

If you are interested in serving on the Library Board, we encourage you to contact the Northbrook Caucus at northbrookcaucus@gmail.com.

ADULT VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

 All programs are virtual

RS Advance registration is required for all programs. After you register, we will email you information on accessing the program. If you have questions, please call 847-272-6224 or email feedback@northbrook.info.

FEATURED EVENTS

Appreciating Classical Music **RS**

Learn about classical music with librarian Madison Carroll. Each month features a different topic.

Tuesdays, September 8 & October 6
7:00-8:30pm

Bestsellers & Beyond **RS**

Join Lori Siegel to learn about books that you might want to add to your reading list or share with your book group.

Thursday, September 10, 2:00-3:00pm

Turn Your Garden Into a B&B for Birds **RS**

Attract migrating songbirds to your yard this fall and winter with enticing birdscaping elements.

Monday, September 14, 7:00-8:00pm

The Timey-Wimey History and Future of Doctor Who **RS**

Join DePaul University professor Paul Booth to learn what has made Doctor Who such a global phenomenon.

Tuesday, September 15, 7:00-8:00pm

Dynamic Duos: Comedic Partnerships **RS**

Explore top comedy duos like Abbott & Costello, Burns & Allen, and more, with film historian Dr. Annette Bochenek.

Thursday, September 17, 2:00-3:00pm

Podcast Brunch Club **RS**

We'll focus on a different podcast topic each month and provide you with a curated list of episodes for you to enjoy.

Thursdays, September 24 & October 22, 2:00-3:00pm

Chicago's Bygone Department Stores **RS**

Historian and author Leslie Goddard explores the rise and fall of some of the country's grandest department stores.

Tuesday, September 29, 7:00-8:30pm

Protecting Your Immunity with Food **RS**

A licensed dietitian presents nine ways to protect your immunity and demonstrates simple techniques and creative ideas for healthy fast meals and snacks.

Tuesday, October 6, 7:00-8:00pm

Lyric Opera Lecture: Tosca **RS**

Presented by former lecturers from the Lyric Opera Lecture Corps of Chicago.

Tuesday, October 20, 7:00-8:30pm

HEALTH & FINANCE

Private Session with a Financial Planner **RS**

Schedule a 50-minute online session with a certified Financial Planner who will answer your questions about investment and/or financial planning.

Thursdays, September 10 & October 8
Four time slots available.

Medicare and your Options **RS**

Learn what's covered through different Medicare options and how to decide what coverage is best for you.

Tuesday, September 15, 2:00-3:30pm

Choose Your Medigap Insurance Wisely **RS**

Learn which expenses are *not* covered by Medicare and how to choose the best supplemental insurance policy.

Thursday, October 8, 10:00-11:30am

Strategies for Older Investors **RS**

Gain ideas on how to invest while avoiding fraud and how to prepare for uncertain times.

Tuesday, October 13, 10:00-11:30am

JOB SKILLS SERIES

Resume Writing **RS**

Learn to create or update your resume to land your next interview.

Wednesday, September 2, 4:00-5:00pm



No-Stress Skype & Phone Interviews **RS**

Make a positive lasting impression on phone or video interviews.

Wednesday, September 16, 4:00-5:00pm

Ace Your In-Person Interview **RS**

Learn what to do before, during, and after an interview to get more job offers.

Thursday, October 8, 4:00-5:00pm



COMPUTERS & COFFEE

Incognito Mode **RS**

Learn ways to protect your privacy online with browser extensions, alternative browsers, privacy settings, and more.

Monday, September 14, 10:00-11:00am

TECH TUESDAYS

Get help using eBooks, eAudiobooks, digital magazines, and HOOPLA. Please have your portable device and any user IDs and passwords (Apple ID/password or Amazon account) handy.

Tuesdays, 3:00-5:00pm **RS**

ADULT VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

 All programs are virtual

CONCERTS

Blues: Studebaker John **RS**

Enjoy the blistering slide guitar and electrifying harp sounds of Studebaker John, a legendary fixture of the Chicago blues scene.

Thursday, September 17, 7:00-8:00pm,

Classical: Duo Soleo **RS**

Minna Han and Jiyun Lee will perform a recital for violin and piano.

Sunday, October 4, 3:00-4:30pm

Brazilian Guitar: Neal Alger **RS**

Explore the wide tapestry of Brazil's musical styles with Chicago-based guitarist, Neal Alger.

Sunday, October 18, 3:00-4:30pm

Classical: Alexa Muhly **RS**

Enjoy Beethoven, Gershwin, and more performed by cellist Alexa Muhly and an ensemble that includes cello, piano, violin, viola, and clarinet.

Sunday, October 25, 3:00-4:30pm

NORTHBROOK WRITES

How to Be A Better Writer with Patricia Skalka **RS**

Award-winning author Patricia Skalka will help you learn how to challenge yourself to view your work with a more critical eye to improve your writing.

Thursday, September 10, 7:00-8:00pm

Methods of World-Building with Mary Robinette Kowal **RS**

Hugo Award-winning writer, Mary Robinette Kowal offers suggestions to help you construct a compelling fictional world.

Thursday, September 24, 7:00-8:00pm

Beginnings & Endings with Juan Martinez **RS**

Writer and assistant professor at Northwestern University, Juan Martinez will explain how to craft the beginning and end of a story as mirror images of one another.

Saturday, October 17, 1:00-2:00pm

Developing Character with Emily Gray Tedrowe **RS**

Author Emily Gray Tedrowe will present the keys to help you develop convincing, memorable characters that readers will be invested in.

Monday, October 19, 7:00-8:00pm

Genre as Metaphor with Julia Fine **RS**

Learn to look at the elements of genre fiction (crime, fantasy, romance, science fiction, etc., with a focus on how writers use genre as metaphor to subvert expectations and lead us to larger truths.

Saturday, October 24, 1:00-2:00pm



BOOK GROUPS & DISCUSSIONS

Ben Goluboff Book Discussion **RS**

There There by Tommy Orange.

Wednesday, September 9, 10:00-11:30am



Short Works **RS**

Short stories with deep meanings. Join us to discuss "Spider the Artist" by Nnedi Okorafor.

Wednesday, September 23, 7:00-8:00pm

Books Untapped **RS**

Dominicana by Angie Cruz

Wednesday, September 30, 7:00-8:30pm

Evening Book Discussion with Lori Siegel **RS**

Inheritance: A Memoir of Genealogy, Paternity and Love by Dani Shapiro.

Tuesday, October 13, 7:00-8:00pm

Nancy Buehler Book Discussion **RS**

The Body in Question by Jill Ciment

Tuesday, October 20, 10:00-11:30am



Books to Get Your Book Club Talking **RS**

Join librarians Lori & Mike for a discussion of the latest titles and under-the-radar releases with Alli, owner of the Book Bin bookstore.

Thursday, October 22, 7:00-8:30pm

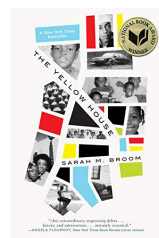
Stranger than Fiction

Book Discussion **RS**

Join us to discuss the winner of the 2019 National Book Award, *The Yellow House* by Sarah M. Broom.

Thursday, October 29,

2:00-3:00pm



Get fresh reading recommendations at www.northbrook.info/5-fresh-reads

ONGOING

Current Events **RS**

Thursdays, September 3 & 17; October 1 & 15, 10:00-11:30am



Chair Yoga **RS**

Fridays, September 4-October 30, 10:00-11:00am



Israeli Discussion Group **RS**

Thursdays, September 10 & 24; October 8 & 22, 10:00-11:30am



Captions are available for all library programs. To request captions, please call us at 847-272-6224 at least 72 hours before the event.

KEY: **RS** Reserve a Spot **SN** Special Needs Program **CR** NPL Card Required **RSIC** Caregiver Registration Required

MOVIES VIRTUAL SCREENINGS

 All programs are virtual

RS Advance registration is required for all programs. After you register, we will email you information on accessing the program. If you have questions, please call 847-272-6224 or email feedback@northbrook.info.

September Silent Film Series **RS**

2:00pm & 7:00pm  FRIENDS
of the Northbrook Library

When you register, we will send you a link to watch the film and a link to watch a video introduction to the film by Dave Drazin, jazz and silent film pianist.



September 2
The Marriage Circle
1924
Available on Kanopy

A ring of infidelities creates mayhem in this comedy of marital missteps and misunderstandings.



September 9
The Manxman
1929
Available on Kanopy

Two boyhood friends take different paths in adulthood in this drama directed by Alfred Hitchcock.



September 16
Little Annie Rooney
1925
Available on Kanopy

Mary Pickford faces a crisis of the heart when the boy she loves is accused of shooting her father.



September 23
Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde
1920
Available on Hoopla

Dr. Henry Jekyll's experiments release a murderer within himself in this film starring John Barrymore.



September 30
Battling Butler
1926
Available on Kanopy

Buster Keaton plays a lovestruck weakling who impersonates a boxer to win respect in this action-comedy.

October Film Discussions

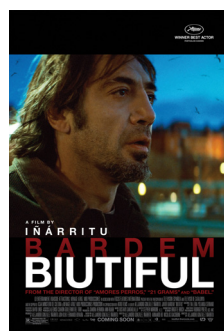
Film Discussion: *Biutiful* **RS**

Join Aaron Ashmann from Fiction & Media for a virtual discussion of the Academy Award nominated film *Biutiful*.

This film stars Javier Bardem as Uxbal, a man living in this world, but able to see his death, which guides his every move.

Prior to the discussion, you can use your library card to watch the film at home on Kanopy.

Wednesday, October 7,
2:00-3:00pm



Biutiful
2010
Rated R
(Spanish with English subtitles)

Film and TV Roundtable **RS**

Join librarians and staff from the Fiction & Media department to talk about films and television series they have been watching, and share some of your favorites with us!

Tuesday, October 20, 2:00-3:00pm

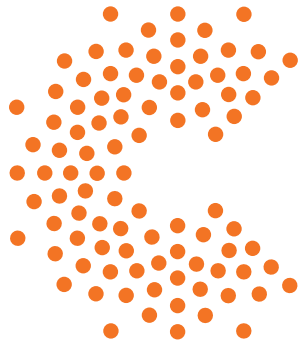
Captions are available for all library programs. To request captions, please call us at 847-272-6224 at least 72 hours before the event.

MAKER VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

 All programs are virtual

Advance registration is required for all programs. After you register, we will email you information on accessing the program. If you have questions, please call 847-272-6224 or email us at feedback@northbrook.info.

RS



For your safety and the safety of our staff, we have created new guidelines for using the Collaboratory. To learn more, visit www.northbrook.info/collaboratory or call 847-272-2098.

TEEN/ADULT MAKER (AGES 13-ADULT)

Spinner Cards **RS**

Make spinner cards using simple materials from your home
Tuesday, September 8, 6:00-7:00pm

Fiber Arts Meetup **RS**

Do you knit, crochet, sew, embroider, quilt, spin, or weave? Join us for a chat about what you're working on, or what you're interested in.
Wednesdays, September 9 & October 14, 1:30-2:30pm

Digitizing Photos, Negatives, and More **RS**

Watch a demonstration on how to use library equipment to digitize your photos, negatives, and more.
Wednesday, September 9, 5:30-6:30pm

Using a Dremel **RS**

Watch a demonstration on how to properly use a Dremel rotary tool and its accessories.
Wednesday, September 23, 3:00-4:00 pm

Raspberry Pi Add-ons **RS**

Expand your Raspberry Pi micro-computer with peripherals, "HATs," and other components.
Thursday, September 24, 3:00-4:00pm

Designing Merch with Online Apps **RS**

Learn how to use Gravit and Cricut apps to design merch, party favors, and more. Requires intermediate computer skills.
Wednesday, October 14, 5:30-6:30pm

Upcycled: DIY T-Shirt Chunky Necklace **RS**

Turn your old T-shirt into a show-stopping statement necklace.
Wednesday, October 21, 5:00-6:00 pm

Raspberry Pi Pumpkin **RS**

Liven up your Halloween pumpkin with lights, sound, and Raspberry Pi.
Friday, October 23, 2:00-3:00 pm

Epoxy Jewelry **RS**

Watch a demonstration on mixing and pouring epoxy into silicone jewelry molds to create custom pieces.
Wednesday, October 28, 2:00-3:00 pm

TAKE & MAKE

Materials will be available for registered attendees to pick up at the library to take home for these new "Take & Make" programs.

Upcycled: Grab-and-Go Dog Bowl **RS**

Taking your dog on an outdoor adventure? Make a collapsible food and water bowl.
Wednesday, September 16, 5:00-6:00pm

Paint and Sip **RS**

Create a watercolor painting while enjoying your favorite beverage in this casual virtual session.
Thursday, September 17, 4:00-5:00pm

Macrame Coasters **RS**

Create coasters using macrame cording and embroidery floss.
Tuesday, October 6, 4:00-5:00 pm

Fall Cross Stitch **RS**

Learn cross stitch basics as we create a fall decor piece using a wooden blank and yarn.
Tuesday, October 27, 6:00-7:00 pm

TEEN VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

 All programs are virtual

RS Advance registration is required for all programs. After you register, we will email you a link to access the program. If you have questions, please call 847-272-6224 or email feedback@northbrook.info.

Teen Advisory Board (Grades 6–12) **RS**

Help us plan library programs and complete service projects to earn service hours.

Tuesdays, September 8 & October 13,
5:00-6:00pm

Jackbox Games (Grades 4–12) **RS**

Join us online to hang out and play some Jackbox Games with us.

Mondays, September 21 & October 19,
4:00-5:30pm

Books & Bytes (Grades 6–12) **RS**

Join us for a book discussion of books you can read online with Hoopla Digital using your Northbrook Library card.

Fridays, 5:00-6:00pm

September 25:
Far From the Tree
by Robin Benway
(Recommended for
Grades 8 & up.)



October 30: *Seven Deadly Shadows* by Courtney Alameda & Valynne E. Maetani
(Recommended for
Grades 7 & up.)



YOUTH VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

SPECIAL EVENTS

1000 BOOKS 1000 Books is Getting an Online Makeover!
Before Kindergarten

Starting September 1, our early literacy program, *1000 Books Before Kindergarten*, will be available entirely online! And for every 100 books logged, you'll receive a special celebration in your email—a children's song performed by a professional musician from the Chicago area! Learn more or sign up at www.northbrook.info/1000-books.

We also invite you to our *1000 Books Virtual Concert with Jim Gill* (page 9).

My First Yoga **RS**

Preschoolers will learn basic poses in a fun, easy-to-follow class.

Fridays, September 11 & October 23,
10:00-10:30am

Wiggleworms **RS**

Join an instructor from the Old Town School of Folk Music for a half-hour of virtual music, movement, and fun!

Wednesdays, September 23 & October 28
11:00-11:30am

SCHOOL AGE

Create Club (Grades 4–8) **RS**

Unleash your creativity with our monthly craft project.

Thursdays, 4:00-5:00pm

September 3: Book Hedgehog

Learn how to make a paper hedgehog out of an old book.

October 1: Wreck This Journal

Complete a series of creative and destructive prompts to customize and wreck a once pristine notebook.

Mindfulness for Kids

(Grades K–5) **RS**

Miss Lani from Banner Day Camp will teach kids powerful fun and engaging mindfulness techniques.

Wednesdays, September 9 &
October 21, 4:00-4:30pm

Dungeons & Dragons

(Grades 4–12) **RS**

Embark on a tabletop adventure led by daring Northbrook Public Library Dungeon Masters.

Thursdays, September 10 & October 15
4:00-5:30pm

Y-Art **RS**

From the NSYMCA Art Academy. Check our online registration page for the supplies needed for each month's craft.
Saturday, September 12 & October 10,
10:00-11:00am

Create & Build Challenge (Grades 1–5) **RS**

We'll post a new challenge on Monday and then invite you back on Friday to share your results at our live online meeting.

September 14–18 & October 12–16

Andertoons Drawing Workshop (Grades K–6) **RS**

Have fun drawing in these workshops led by cartoonist Mark Anderson.

Tuesdays, 4:00-5:00pm

September 29: Cartoon Crash-Up

Investigate and choose your characters, and learn how to draw them with step-by-step instructions.

October 27: Myth, Magic & Monsters

Learn to draw all sorts of mythological, fantasy, and fairy tale characters, and then draw in your own stories!

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YOUTH VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

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RS



1,000 Books Celebration with Jim Gill in Concert **RS**

We've invited popular children's musician Jim Gill to pick up his banjo and create a special video concert to celebrate 1000 Books Before Kindergarten! Jim promises a concert filled with opportunities for everyone to sing, play and read along.



Everyone's invited!
Thursday, October 15,
10:00am

STORYTIMES & EARLY CHILDHOOD

Korean Language Storytime **RS**

Enjoy stories and activities in Korean presented by local volunteers. For Korean-speaking families and those interested in the language.
Fridays, September 11 & October 9, 4:30-5:00pm

Spanish Storytime **RS**

Explore the Spanish language with songs, stories, rhymes, and movement. Bilingual storytime is designed to provide English speakers with a brain-building dose of Spanish.
Mondays, September 14 & October 5, 10:00-10:30am

Pajama Stories (Families) **RS**

Join us for stories, songs, and a bedtime mindful exercise.
Thursdays, September 29 & October 27, 6:30-7:00pm

Early Literacy Tip

Did you know brain connections form through the five senses?



The more activities your child experiences from caregivers, the more connections form in your child's brain. When we combine senses, like touch, with words, both of these areas of the brain "light up" at the same time and neurological pathways between them are forged. It's no accident so many favorite childhood rhymes have this spoken word and touch combination.

We hope you enjoy introducing this well-loved touch rhyme to your child!

WEEKLY STORYTIMES

TUES, WED & THURS

10:00-10:15AM

Register by 9:30am on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday for the link to the week's program.

Storytime (All Ages)

Stories and songs for all ages.

Toddler time

Nursery rhymes, movement activities, and a book.

Wee Play is currently undergoing a renovation and will return soon with a new format that will allow more flexible access at home. Watch our website and emails for details!

Grey Squirrel

*Grey squirrel, grey squirrel,
swish your bushy tail.*

Bounce your child on your lap

*Grey squirrel, grey squirrel,
swish your bushy tail.*

Wrinkle up your little nose

Touch child's nose

Put a nut between your toes

Tickle toes

*Grey squirrel, grey squirrel,
swish your bushy tail!*

Bounce your child on your lap again

ACCESSIBILITY FOR ALL

October is National Employee Disability Awareness Month, which pays tribute to the accomplishments of the many people with disabilities whose work keeps the nation's economy strong.

A few years ago, Library Executive Director Kate Hall made the decision to move from merely supporting accessibility to taking a more proactive approach, which she believed would strengthen the entire organization.

To help make accessibility a priority, the library hired School and Special Services Librarian Sarah Rustman in 2016. The original intent was to focus on strengthening the approach to accessibility for patrons, but Kate realized that the library also needed to focus on another important demographic, its staff.

So Sarah, a certified ADA Coordinator, provided accessibility training with the goal of helping staff “understand what access really means and how to envision ways in which accessibility could enhance their day-to-day interactions” she said.

As a result, some library employees felt comfortable enough for the first time to discuss accessibility challenges they have had at work.

The experience also highlighted the need to support people with visible, as well as invisible disabilities—those that may not be apparent unless someone chooses to disclose them.

And it convinced Kate of the importance of trying to anticipate needs. “It’s less about making changes on an individual basis and more about learning how to support an individual and then applying that help to others,” she explains.

One example of anticipating needs is requiring easy-to-follow written job procedures for employees. This benefits someone with auditory processing challenges but also benefits all employees. Another example is that all of the library’s workstations are now designed to address mobility issues by default.



Bryan Gutmann, Northbrook Public Library Technical Services Clerk

“We want to give staff the tools they need to be successful,” she says, “rather than expecting someone with an accessibility concern to educate us.”

“As an institution of lifelong learning, part of the learning journey is making sure we are creating an environment in which staff can thrive.”

Kate Hall, Northbrook Public Library Executive Director

The next step was to look for ways to hire employees with diverse backgrounds and abilities.

To do this, Sarah Rustman reached out to TotalLink2Community, a nonprofit based in Northbrook that provides career and vocational services to individuals living with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

TotalLink’s mission is to give its clients the same opportunities that neurotypical people would have.

“One way to do that is by working in your own community,” said Alisa Martorano, Director of Development at TotalLink.

The library’s partnership with TotalLink culminated in the filling of an open library position for one of their clients, Northbrook resident Bryan Gutmann.

Bryan joined the library’s Technical Services department in February as a discarding clerk. He assists with data entry as well as the physical transport of thousands of discarded materials.

According to the latest numbers from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, only 20.8 percent of people with disabilities were employed or looking for work compared to 68.7 percent of people without disabilities.

Emily Raming, TotalLink’s Executive Director, says providing job opportunities “often helps people relieve their need to depend on state government funding. And that has a very big impact on the larger community.”

TotalLink provided the guidance that the library needed to make the interview a success. For example, rather than a traditional interview, they recommended giving Bryan a tour of the department and a demonstration of the job role.

The position was a great fit, and Bryan says he finds the work fulfilling and is thankful for the support of his family and friends.

“I like the people I work with and I like that it’s close to home and I like what I’m doing,” he said.

“We feel lucky to have Bryan,” Kate says. “In the past, the library has had a handful of discarding clerks, but Bryan is far and away the most efficient.”

To learn more about how TotalLink2 Community can help you or your organization, visit www.totalink2.org.

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FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

From the Board President

These days it is almost impossible to read any printed material and not find myriad references to the current pandemic. Whether it be news, business, sports, travel, entertainment, or even advertising, the distress calls, statistics and prognostications abound. Of course, this letter follows suit. I imagine that frequent patrons of the library are in a state of biblio-mourning due to the initial closing and subsequent gradual re-opening of the facility.

As to the Friends' Bookshop, the re-opening will be even slower. This area is definitely high-risk, having a "cozy" operating space and a volunteer staff, most of whom are in the prime target range for the virus. Currently, the plan is to reopen the Shop when the library is fully functional, and there are no restrictions for the patrons. Book donations are obviously suspended until that time.

Coping strategies are important in these so-called uncertain times. Has the TV-binge gone stale? Has home improvement found its limit? Has purely electronic communication lost its charm? Rediscover the wonders of your intellect and imagination by ... reading a book! Choose a work with no mention of viruses or governmental dysfunction, and visit a foreign culture and/or a previous (or future) time period. This escape can be very beneficial.

From the Friends of the Northbrook Public Library to its members and library patrons: Stay well. Stay safe.

Sincerely,
Bill Schildgen

New & Returning Members *as of Saturday, July 11, 2020*

BENEFACTOR (\$1000) Sarah Lankton

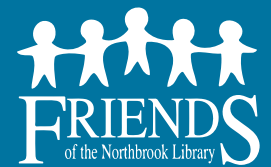
SPONSOR (\$100) The St. John Family

DONOR (\$50) Virginia Badger, Jewell Gregory, Merrill Medansky, Elizabeth Stein & David Shmikler, Joan Stephenson, Bob Wright

CONTRIBUTOR (\$25) Raymond Baum, Sue and Jerry Goldberg

FAMILY (\$20) Sharon Moyer, Priscilla Shade, Bryan Smith

INDIVIDUAL (\$10) Sally Brickman, Daniela Herman, Muriel Levie, Caryl Loevy



Friends' Used Bookshop Hours:

The Bookshop is currently closed.

www.northbrook.info/friends

Friends Board Members

Connie Gallart, Sandra Kaminsky, Kathy Kather, Colleen Keaveny, Joan MacVay Merrill Medansky, Jane Nickow, Debby Rohde, Larry Schaffel, William Schildgen, John Schuman

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In appreciation of the Ginardi Family from Annie Thomas Gilmore, Alaina Mazewski, Lynna Gripentrog, Shannon Brunner, Caitlin Harrington, Julia Bowen, Laura Happ Szyrwelski, Megan Nierman Derouin

With Love to our Children from Dr. Amanda Fortier & Dr. Micah Sussman

Library Donations

In honor of Anita Olsen from her grandchildren Elizabeth Abrams
The Edelson Family
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To learn how to give a commemorative gift or donation through the library, visit www.northbrook.info/support or call 847-272-6224.



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