

October 2025

The Library Lookout

Official newsletter of the Skowhegan Free Public Library

October is my absolute favorite month. I always think of the quote from Anne of Green Gables, "I'm so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers!" Not only is it absolutely stunning to watch the leaves change, and the temperatures are absolute bliss, but our library has come to equate October with the Fall Book Drive. This is the month where our library does not purchase books out of our budget, but instead looks to our community to do the book buying! Our goal this year is 300 brand new books. We beat that goal last year, and I hope our community, family, and friends can rally again this year and stock our shelves with the books our readers really want!

This is our 7th year doing it, but in case you are new to the book drive, here is how it works: All year long the library staff has created a wishlist of books we want. We share that list with you via Amazon online and we have a tree in the library that we hang little tags on. You can order online and have them shipped directly to us or you can come into the library and pick a tag or you can simply donate money and we will purchase books. You can also go to Amazon to access the list and purchase it elsewhere online or in person. (We always advocate for buying local or from small businesses!) If you do this, PLEASE just let us know so we can remove the book from the list so as we don't get duplicate copies.

The other fun thing is that these books all get a special name plate put in the front cover. You can donate them in your name or someone else's. You can also honor someone by donating them in memory of or in honor of a loved one. Some people prefer to remain anonymous and that's okay too.

To access our list of books you can use this link: <https://a.co/gNQfuYD>
Or scan this QR code with your phone's camera:



SCAN ME

We can not thank our community enough for loving the library and helping us reach our Fall Book Drive Goal! Happy shopping!



Upcoming Events

Recurring

Every Wednesday- Storytime @ 10:30AM

Every Friday- Sit & Knit @ 1 - 3PM

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10/01 - BooOooks in the Basement @ 6:15PM

10/16 - Guest Bartending at Unwined @ 4PM

10/23- Books and Brews at Joe's Flat Iron Cafe @ 6:30PM

10/24 - Horror, Haunts, and Hexes Trivia at Joe's Flat Iron Cafe @ 6:30PM

10/30 - LEGO Club @ 3:30PM

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Closures

10/13- Indigenous People's Day

10/16 - Closing @ 3:30 for trivia at Joe's

Library Updates

Emily Ecker, Children's Librarian

September brought some fun stuff to the Children's Tower! We got our first batch of VOX Books, which are read-along audio picture books. Author Marialyce Tuscan Boudreau visited us with her debut picture book, *The Sleigh Ride*, a copy of which she generously donated to our collection. Our friends at Holland's Variety Drug stopped by to be guest readers at one of our storytimes. And patrons really embraced the first Doodle Day drawing prompt; the wall looks so colorful with all of your "lovely leaves" artwork!



In October, we'll see a new Doodle Day theme, a Halloween-themed storytime on the 29th (costumes HIGHLY encouraged), and the return of LEGO Club on the 30th from 3:30-4:30pm.



News from Adult Services

October means the official start of spooky season, a favorite at the library! That means spooky-themed books and programs!

We'll start with guest bartending at Unwined on Thursday, October 16th at 4 PM with a special horror-themed cocktail, 'The Turn of the Screw-driver'. A portion of the proceeds from sales of our drink special will go towards our Fall Book Drive!

Then, our Books and Brews book club is featuring a horror novel this month to go with the theme. We'll be reading 'Head Full of Ghosts' by Paul Tremblay.

Finally, trivia's back and it's a scary good time! Join us at Joe's Flat Iron Cafe on Friday, October 24th, for Horror, Hexes, and Haunts Trivia @ 6:30 PM!

News from Nikki Hathaway, Tech Services Librarian

It was so good to be back discussing BooOOooks in the Basement after the summer off! We Used to Live Here was a lively discussion indeed. We start October off strong with a meeting on the first of the month to talk about 'While Idaho Slept'. Our book for November's meeting is 'Victorian Psycho', and will be held on 11/05 at 6:15PM!

Fundraising Updates

In the month of October, we've got a few things happening on the fundraising front. As mentioned earlier in the newsletter, we have our annual Fall Book Drive to help us stretch our book-buying budget for the year and get the best titles for all of you!

Additionally, we have begun selling our annual Christmas Basket Raffle tickets! The tickets are \$5 each and will be available for sale at the library! We'll be raffling off three baskets in all, each filled with locally made items and gift certificates that make them well worth the price of a ticket. Don't miss out on your chance to win!

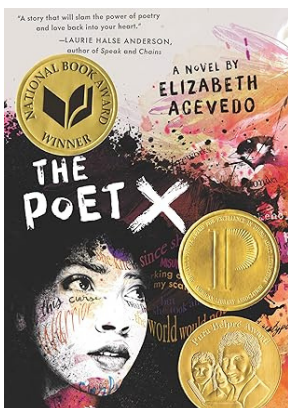
I know we already mentioned our themed drink at our guest bartending event at Unwined, but we're also partnering with another local business for a seasonal drink in October to benefit the library. Joe's Flat Iron Cafe will feature 'Salem's Latte', which will be featured in the coffee AND cocktail menus. A portion of the proceeds of either version will benefit the library! Be sure to follow Joe's on Facebook or stop in to get more details!

In addition to these, as always, we have our passive fundraisers always going. Our partnership with Skowhegan Redemption is going strong! Keep them in mind as you're doing yard cleanup for Fall!

Our Bonfire store is still up and active. October is a great time to start bundling up with a cozy sweatshirt or ¾ zip to keep toasty as the weather cools down.

We so appreciate all of our patrons and community support. It allows us to continue to serve you and offer high-quality programming as well as an updated collection of materials to choose from.

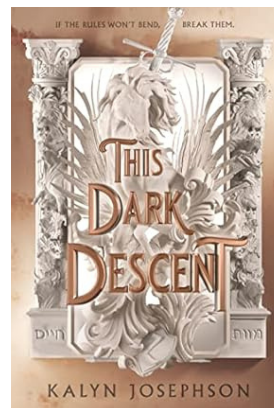
Staff Book Picks for October



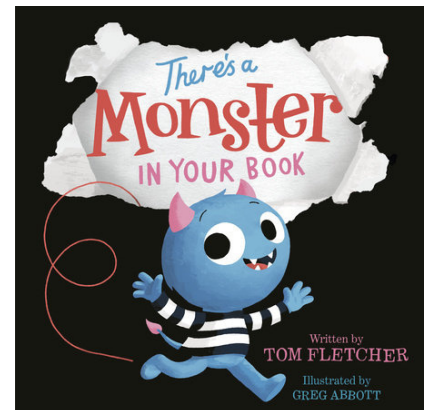
Nikki -
The Poet X
by Elizabeth Acevedo



Angie -
Let Them Stare
by Jonathan Van Ness
& Julie Murphy



Emily -
The Dark Descent
by Kalyn Josephson



Bree -
There's a Monster in your
Book
by Tom Fletcher

LIBRARY STAFF

Director: Angie Herrick
Adult Circ: Breanna Bussell-Fitzgerald
Youth Services: Emily Ecker
Technology Librarian: Nikki Hathaway

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Our Mission

At the Skowhegan Free Public Library, our mission is to foster a community where the freedom to read and access information is paramount. We are dedicated to providing a well-rounded and diverse collection of resources that cater to the educational, recreational, and cultural needs of all our patrons. Our library serves as a welcoming space for every community member, promoting inclusivity and accessibility. We are committed to sustainable practices, ensuring that our operations and services contribute positively to the environment and the well-being of future generations. Together, we empower minds, inspire lifelong learning, and build a brighter, more informed world.



Supporting the library year-round is essential to maintaining the programs, resources, and services our community relies on. Please consider making a donation today to help ensure we can continue offering these valuable resources all year long.

Names _____

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No Thank You

Checks should be made payable to the Skowhegan Free Public Library

Send completed form to: The Skowhegan Free Public Library

9 Elm Street, Skowhegan, ME 04976

Gift is tax deductible as allowed by law.

You can also donate online using Paypal by scanning the QR code
with your phone's camera.

(You will be directed to the TRUSTEES OF BLOOMFIELD
ACADEMY

– this is correct and gifts will go to the Skowhegan Public Library.)

