

SPRING 2023

# OFF THE SHELF

A LOOK INSIDE  
BROOKLYN PUBLIC  
LIBRARY



**Bklyn**  
Public Library



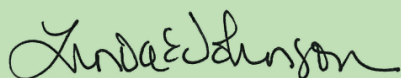
## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happily, patrons are stepping back into BPL branches. The Library is more committed than ever to being inclusive—from increased multilingual resources to new ADA accessible renovations. Everyone is welcome to walk into our branches free of charge, and this spring, we're pushing back against proposed budget cuts so that we can continue to provide meaningful services and programs for all Brooklynites.

Last fall, we opened a Teen Tech Center in Crown Heights (with support from Google) and relaunched our Teen Takeovers, where young adults get a night all to themselves at their local branch. We will soon open the new Brower Park Library, which is in the Brooklyn Children's Museum and features a playful youth area. Throughout new construction, we're ensuring that our branches (and our planet) endure by incorporating energy-efficient design. In the coming decade, we will reduce our Greenhouse Gas emissions by nearly half.

This winter, we launched Shine on Me, a group for unhoused adults seeking emotional support and social service resources. We furthered programming for Culture Pass, which gives library cardholders free access to over 80 cultural institutions in the city. And of course, we continued to support young adults and defend the freedom to read through Books Unbanned.

I hope our branches continue to serve as welcoming, communal spaces for all Brooklynites.



**Linda E. Johnson**  
President & CEO

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All photos, unless indicated, by Gregg Richards.  
Cover: A teen participating in the Teen Takeover at Canarsie Library.

Inside front cover: Kaufman Music Center student Ana Isabella Espana performing at a Culture Pass event at Central Library's Dr. S. Stevan Dweck Cultural Center in February.



Brooklyn Public Library has been a beacon in the community for over 125 years, welcoming everyone through our doors with outstanding collections and free resources.

Our librarians are helping patrons with renewed urgency as we face unrelenting challenges. BPL staff is committed to bridging the digital divide for those who still lack reliable home internet access, providing resources and information to thousands of asylees arriving in our city every week, protecting intellectual freedom and access to books while creating safe spaces for teens in our branches, and helping our patrons and our city recover equitably from the pandemic.

BPL is at a pivotal moment, when we should be investing more in the civic institutions that are “the beating hearts of our communities” as *The New York Times* recently referred to us. **Instead, we are defending ourselves as New York City’s preliminary budget proposes to cut millions of dollars from the Library’s operating funds. All told, libraries citywide are potentially facing over \$36 million in cuts.**

A reduction of that magnitude will undoubtedly impact library services—we’d have to contemplate shortened hours or reduced days of service, eliminate unfilled staff positions, and reduce programs and spending on collections.



The good news is budget season has only just begun. We still have time to push our representatives to reverse this proposal. We’d love your help letting city leaders know how essential the library is for all of us.

➔ Visit [bklynlibrary.org/standup/get-involved](https://bklynlibrary.org/standup/get-involved) and sign up to be an advocate for the Library today.

Your advocacy will allow Brooklyn Public Library to continue providing free and open access to a universe of knowledge, expression and beauty every day. We couldn’t be more grateful.

# MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD: LIBRARIES MATTER





# Celebrating 2022 BPL Staff Awards

June 2022 Staff Awards ceremony (left to right) Chief Librarian Nick Higgins, Rakisha Kearns-White, Matthew Irizarry, BPL President & CEO Linda E. Johnson, Leslie M. Feder and Garrick Leonard

**What makes Brooklyn Public Library's world-class collections, richly diverse programs and expansive patron services possible? Its extraordinary staff!**

Every year, thanks to funding provided by the Feder Leonard Family Fund, BPL honors staff with two awards: the Dr. Lucille C. Thomas Award for Excellence in Librarianship, presented to a librarian, and the Feder Leonard Award for Excellence in Service to the Library's Public, presented to a non-librarian member of public service staff. The winners, who are nominated by their colleagues and selected by a committee that includes Chief Librarian Nick Higgins, are announced at a systemwide staff meeting and feted at an event in the office of BPL's President & CEO Linda E. Johnson, surrounded by their family, friends and colleagues. This year's awards were presented in June 2022.

**Matthew Irizarry**, circulation manager at East Flatbush Library, received the Feder Leonard Award for Excellence in Service to the Library's Public. Irizarry's nominators celebrated his dynamism and resourcefulness throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. In 2021, he partnered with the Prospect Park Alliance to lead BPL's first outdoor event in over a year for the Flatbush region. The event, which featured origami, storytimes and drummers, established a safe, healthy standard of best practices for future outdoor events.

Irizarry's BPL career began as a part-time staffer at Brower Park Library—but his BPL journey began at age 16. Living in a group home at the time, "the library saved me," Irizarry said in his award acceptance speech. He began frequenting Flatlands Library, where he was "full of energy and potential," according to Negla Ross Parris, supervising librarian at Flatlands. Later, working for ESOL and HSE programs took him to nearly every branch in the system,

allowing him to impact diverse populations across the borough—and eventually leading him to his current role.

**Rakisha Kearns-White**, children's librarian in the Youth Wing at Central, received the Dr. Lucille C. Thomas Award for Excellence in Librarianship. Kearns-White was described by her nominators as "a fighter for justice, a challenger of social norms and an amazing librarian who brings her whole self to her profession, providing inspiration to others at BPL to champion their own passions and beliefs." She has been a tireless advocate for teens, giving young people encouragement and opportunities to advocate for themselves. She spearheaded a project to provide free access to menstrual supplies; through her efforts, all

BPL locations now offer pads and tampons in staff and public restrooms at no cost.

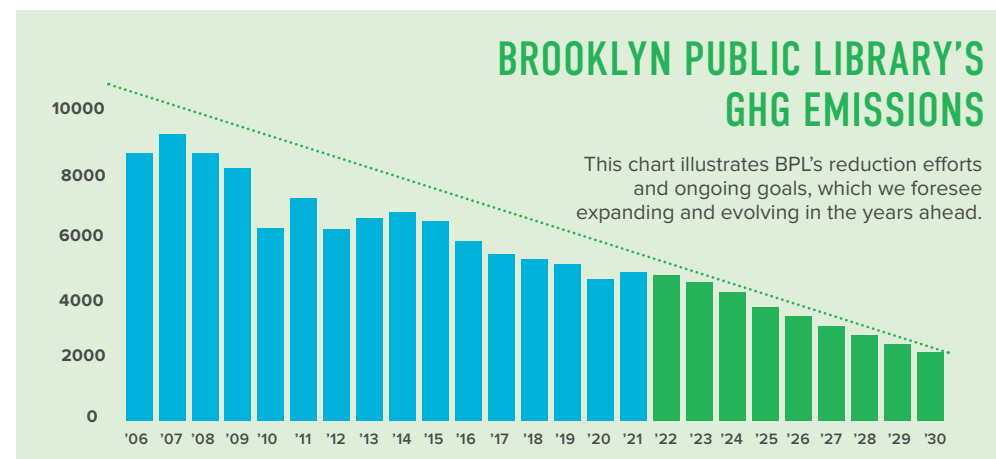
Kearns-White has also become a prominent voice for staff wellness and was invited to participate in a study on urban library trauma. She consistently seeks to improve access to essential information and services. In her acceptance remarks, Kearns-White noted that "trailblazers like Lucille Thomas have made it easier for me to succeed in the field of librarianship as a Black woman. It is truly an honor to receive this award." She offered her gratitude to all BPL staff—especially to everyone at the Youth Wing for, in her words, "always allowing me room to explore my off-the-wall ideas and programs."

## REDUCING GREENHOUSE GASES

**BPL buildings have among the top energy-efficient design standards across NYC. Over the past decade, BPL has made significant strides in reducing its Greenhouse Gas emissions; in the decade to come, we project slashing emissions by nearly half.**

Systemwide emission-reducing efforts to date include:

**80%** of branches have LED lighting systems, with the remaining branches to be upgraded in 2023. **82%** of branches use building management systems that monitor mechanical systems remotely—typically reducing a building's energy usage by **20-40%**. We'll increase to **100%** of branches by 2025. Solar power is in use at one BPL branch, and four additional branches will soon go online.



# A NEW PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN TWO BROOKLYN INSTITUTIONS

Artist rendering of main reading room

## BROWER PARK LIBRARY IS LEVELING UP!

Brooklyn Public Library has partnered with Brooklyn Children's Museum to introduce a new, revamped branch to Crown Heights. Opened in 1963, the original Brower Park branch was the smallest public library in Brooklyn and one of the Library's few branches that were leased rather than owned by the City. In a few months, the library will relocate to a beautiful new space inside Brooklyn Children's Museum's iconic yellow building on Brooklyn Avenue.

The Library's partnership with Brooklyn Children's Museum relieves BPL of over \$8 million in unnecessary investments. In its place will be a similarly sized, more modern and comfortable branch (approximately 6,000 square feet interior, plus 5,000 square feet of public space).

The library has its own separate entry vestibule featuring an outdoor reading terrace. The main reading room is home to the book collection, seating for adults and a dedicated space for teens. Features include soaring 14-foot ceilings, new furniture throughout, a tech locker for patrons to reserve laptops and an expanse of windows providing a neighborhood view.

Through a vibrantly colorful threshold, patrons will also find a dynamic children's room featuring multiple ceiling heights, lowered book stacks, nooks for reading and researching, group tables and a theater proscenium for impromptu storytelling and play.

The backdrop of the theater proscenium is a 12-foot window overlooking the museum's exhibit space. This ambitious transformation was supported by a generous grant from the Blumberg Family in memory of Rhoda Blumberg.

"Our partnership with the Brooklyn Children's Museum will leverage the considerable resources of both institutions to provide children and families with a cultural and educational resource unlike any other in New York City," said BPL President and CEO Linda E. Johnson. "In this new, one-of-a-kind library, literature and the arts will come alive alongside history and science, as we put our collections into the hands of children, families and educators from Crown Heights and beyond."



From top to bottom: reading terrace, children's room and main reading room

Thanks to this innovative partnership with Brooklyn Children's Museum, the new Brower Park Library ensures Central Brooklyn's access to stellar library services for generations to come.

➔ Stay informed of the progress on the Brower Park Library's impending opening this summer at [bklynlibrary.org/locations/brower-park/reconstruct](https://bklynlibrary.org/locations/brower-park/reconstruct)



# TEENS TAKEOVER BPL!

What happens when libraries close at the end of the day? Teens take over!

While BPL always seeks to serve teens and young adults, BPL's recently released strategic plan includes increasing access to teens as a key priority. In addition to our youth collections, **Books Unbanned** (see p. 8) and **Teen Tech Centers**, the Library's ongoing roster of programs and internships offers enriching opportunities for teens to take on responsibilities, gain valuable skills and create activities for themselves.

The newest initiative is the **Teens Takeover Branch Council**, an internship program funded by the Mayor in which high schoolers plan, organize, promote and host after-hours public programs for other teens at their local branch. Taking place monthly often on Friday nights from 6–8 pm, activities include art-making,

movie nights, open mics, live performances, poetry slams and gaming. Food and music are always on offer. Through their participation, teen council members:

- earn community service hours,
- build academic, college and career-readiness skills,
- share their voice in Library decision-making and event-planning,
- receive a stipend and
- meet teens from across the borough.

The program launched this past December at Crown Heights Library in their new Teen Tech Center with over 40 teens in attendance. (Funding for the Crown Heights Teen Tech Center was provided by Google.org, along with funding from ARPA and the Charles H. Revson Foundation.) Subsequent Teen Takeovers have taken place at Midwood, Canarsie and Brooklyn Heights, with more planned for the future.

➔ If you know a teen who might be interested in participating in the Council, they can learn more at [bklynlibrary.org/support/volunteer/branch-council](https://bklynlibrary.org/support/volunteer/branch-council) or fill out an online application at [bklynlibrary.org/branch-council/apply](https://bklynlibrary.org/branch-council/apply)

Teen Takeover at Canarsie Library



# SHINE ON ME

**Thousands of New Yorkers experience houselessness due to a lack of affordable housing. For many, this is compounded by health concerns, job layoffs and domestic violence. Black and Hispanic/Latinx people are unduly affected due to systemic disenfranchisement, including lack of access to resources, education and healthcare. Many adults who are unhoused also experience mental illness, addiction disorders and other health concerns. BPL is committed to serving patrons experiencing housing instability, providing inclusive spaces and promoting access to resources for all Brooklynites.**

To help address the issue of houselessness, BPL librarian Donald Peebles, himself unhoused at one point, developed **Shine on Me** at East Flatbush Library to provide unhoused adults with life coaches and resource advice. Each session offers a safe space for participants to express themselves, support one another, learn about housing and employment resources and take part in confidence and goal-building activities. In 2017–2018, BPL's Incubator program, which pilots innovative librarian-designed programs, initially provided funding, and Outreach Services Supervisor Brenda Benth-Peters provided guidance. While BPL continued to conduct outreach, replicating Shine on Me required additional funding.



A photo of Dominique from her college days.

In 2022, the program received a boost thanks to a fundraising effort initiated by BPL patron Josh Sirefman in honor of a friend's memory. In 2021, Sirefman sadly learned that his college friend, Dominique Jones, had passed away. Jones, an intellectually curious lifelong reader, was known as a positive spirit in their friend group, always staying in touch, remembering birthdays, sharing articles and staying up to date on everyone's families. Unbeknownst to her friends, she had become unhoused and struggled with mental health challenges for years.

Jones's friends learned that BPL's Pacific Library functioned as a sanctuary for her during this time. It was a safe, comfortable space where she accessed books, Wi-Fi and technology. As Jones's friend Annie Smith observed, "we understood her relationship to the library; the way she valued access to knowledge." "The library was her place," added her brother Dmitri, "she was always close to it and it helped her stay connected."

Sirefman reached out to BPL's Development department about organizing a fundraising drive to honor Jones. Through their outreach, \$35,000 was raised and used to restart Shine on Me at Central Library. Jones's mother, Linda, noted that the Shine on Me program is aptly named to honor her memory. "Throughout her life, books and the library helped Dominique to shine."



# BOOKS UNBANNED LAUNCHES NATIONWIDE



**Barack Obama** @BarackObama 9.23.22

This Banned Books Week, I hope you'll take a moment to appreciate the stories that need to be told. And I hope you'll join me in reminding anyone who will listen—and even those who won't—that the free, robust exchange of ideas has always been at the heart of American democracy. We also owe a debt of gratitude to the team at the Brooklyn Library, and everyone who is helping make sure that readers across the country have access to great books.

Open access to information and literature is a central value of BPL and essential for expanding minds. We are proud to fight for the rights of teens nationwide to read and learn on their own terms. Inspired by the American Library Association's Freedom to Read Statement, BPL's **Books Unbanned** initiative is a response to an increasingly coordinated effort to remove books for youth from library shelves—particularly those that address race, queerness and other marginalized identities.

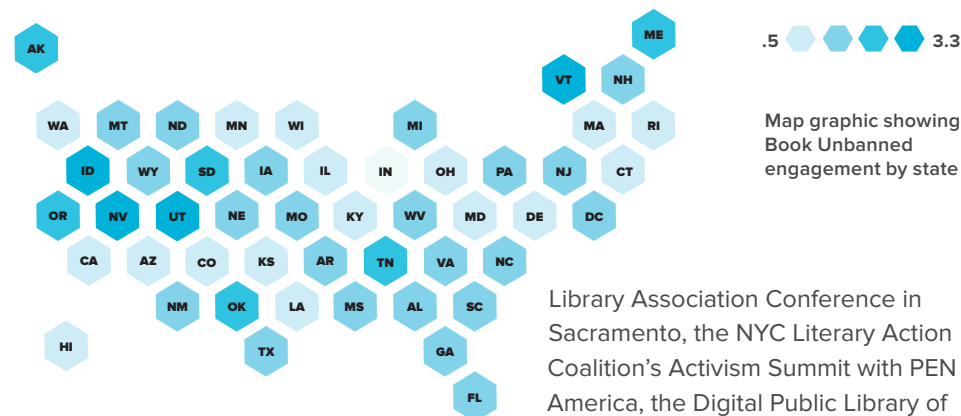
National Library Week in April 2022 marked the launch of Books Unbanned, offering teens across the country free access to BPL's literature and materials. Its ripple effects have been nothing short of formidable, drawing recognition from national organizations and press. January 2023 kicked off with the fantastic news that the BPL staff working on Books Unbanned—Nick Higgins, Amy Mikel, Karen Keys, Leigh Hurwitz and Jackson Gomes—were selected as *Library Journal's* Librarians of the Year. The award was reported in *The New York Times*, among numerous other periodicals, and by prominent social media influencers.

To date, over 6,000 BPL eCards have been issued to teens from every state in the nation as well as the District of Columbia. The program generates around 8,900 checkouts a month and receives about 50 new requests a week. To engage these new cardholders and encourage



(l-r) Jackson Gomes, Karen Keys, Amy Mikel, Nick Higgins and Leigh Hurwitz

## Books Unbanned Launches Nationwide



their advocacy, BPL has established an online teen group known as the Intellectual Freedom Teen Council. Teens are invited to meet regularly to discuss book challenges, share favorite banned books and brainstorm how to help youth across the country protect their right to read. BPL is also working with PEN America to co-host the first ever Freedom to Read Advocacy Institute, preparing the next generation of free expression advocates.

This past fall, an Oklahoma teacher made national news when she was suspended for sharing Books Unbanned with her 10th grade students. We are delighted to share that Summer Boismier—that very teacher—joined BPL in December as Project Manager of Teen Initiatives. She now oversees BPL's College Connect program, is helping expand BKLYN BookMatch Teen and has joined the Books Unbanned staff.

Books Unbanned continues to receive invitations to speak and present on a regular basis. Recent appearances have included the Library Marketing Conference in Indianapolis, the California

Library Association Conference in Sacramento, the NYC Literary Action Coalition's Activism Summit with PEN America, the Digital Public Library of America's virtual forum and the Pennsylvania Library Association's Teaching, Learning & Technology Roundtable.

In an op-ed in *VICE*, Leigh Hurwitz, Coordinator of School Outreach Services, noted “when a Black student can’t read about their own history or the social movements currently in progress, or when a trans student can’t experience the affirmation brought on by seeing themselves authentically, or even joyfully, portrayed in a book, it is a fracture that has a long-term impact on their well-being and their understanding of the world around them.” **Books Unbanned exists to provide a lifeline to these teens, bridging them to information and stories of the past, present and future.**

➔ Learn more about Books Unbanned [bklynlib.org/books-unbanned](https://bklynlib.org/books-unbanned)

Support for Books Unbanned is provided in part by Long Ridge Foundation, Donald A. Pels Charitable Trust, Sills Family Foundation, Harold and Colene Brown Family Foundation, Coleman Family Foundation, Elizabeth Foundation, Judith and Alan Fishman, the Janey Fund Charitable Trust, Alan and Linda Kahn Foundation, Robin K. and Jay L. Lewis, Writers House, Andrea Zaldivar and Michael Festa along with hundreds of individuals who have stood up for the right to read.



# CULTURE FOR ALL NEW YORKERS

New York City is rightly known as one of the world's cultural capitals. To ensure that all New Yorkers can access the city's vibrant institutions—including museums, music venues, theatres and parks—BPL has partnered with New York Public Library and Queens Public Library to offer Culture Pass, which offers free admission to cultural institutions across all five boroughs. Culture Pass is available to all Library card-holding patrons ages 13 and up.

The mission of Culture Pass is to achieve cultural equity for all NYC residents regardless of their background, income, race, ethnicity or immigration status.

Since launching in 2018, more than 200,000 Culture Passes have been reserved, enabling thousands of New Yorkers to visit numerous historical societies, heritage centers and gardens free of charge. Partner institutions in the borough include Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn Children's Museum, the Bushwick Starr and Kings Theatre.

To encourage further participation, BPL branches host free public programs in partnership with Culture Pass partner institutions to introduce patrons to culture in their own neighborhoods. Past events include photographic storytelling with



the Alice Austen House Museum at Fort Hamilton Library, a jazz concert with the New York Youth Symphony at Greenpoint Library, a Posters on Coasters craft activity presented by Poster House at Borough Park Library and Meet the Instruments with Brooklyn Music School at Flatbush Library.

Sign up for Culture Pass today and enjoy free access to some of the best culture that New York City has to offer!

➔ For further information, and to reserve your pass today, visit Culture Pass's homepage [culturepass.nyc](https://culturepass.nyc)

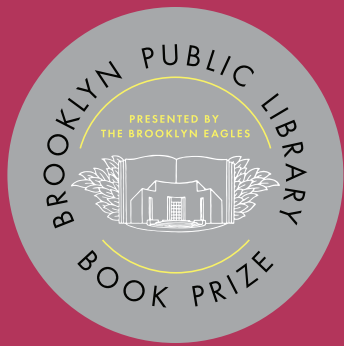
## B I N G O


*Sarah C. Butler*

**BPL has begun a new year's reading challenge with BPL Book Bingo: 23 Books for 2023. It seems like each time a new year rolls around, the age-old resolution to "read more books" does too.**

This year, BPL challenges you to not only read more books but to read 23 books for 2023. And, we've developed a handy BINGO card to guide your reading and encourage you to step outside your comfort zone!





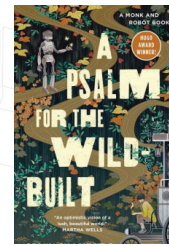
# BOOKMATCH HONORS THE BPL BOOK PRIZE 2022 FINALISTS AND WINNERS

**BookMatch is a readers' advisory service that creates custom reading recommendations based on patrons' likes, interests or needs.**

This issue's BookMatch celebrates the Brooklyn Public Library Book Prize's 2022 finalists. Established in 2015, the Prize recognizes fiction and nonfiction writing that captures the spirit of the borough, which is among the most socially and culturally diverse communities in the country. The winners receive a \$5,000 prize during an awards ceremony hosted by the Brooklyn Eagles.

BPL's institutional mission is to foster ideas, creative work and rigorous critical thinking for Brooklynites across the borough. The 2022 finalists—which include fiction, poetry and nonfiction works—subvert literary forms, push against the status quo, introduce new or challenging ideas, spark honest conversations about urgent topics and reflect the diverse, unique and often overlooked voices of our borough. Browse the finalists and winners below—and pick up copies at your local branch.

Support for the Brooklyn Public Library Book Prize is provided by the Peck Stacpoole Foundation



## FICTION

### *A Psalm for the Wild-Built*

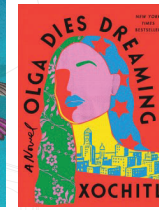
by Becky Chambers

This novel is the continuation of Chambers' Hugo Award-winning futuristic series Monk & Robot. It's been centuries since the robots of Earth gained self-awareness and laid down their tools, wandered into the wilderness and faded into myth and urban legend. One day, the life of a tea monk is upended by the arrival of a robot, there to honor the age-old promise of answering the question "what do people need?" This addition to Chambers' series asks: in a world where people have what they want, does having more matter?

### *What Storm, What Thunder*

by Myriam J. A. Chancy

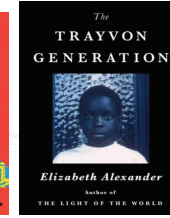
This riveting story charts the inner lives of an assortment of individuals affected by an earthquake that shakes the capital of Haiti, Port-au-Prince. Characters include a wealthy executive and his secret daughter, a small-time drug trafficker in love with a call girl, two young entrepreneurs who believe they are being stalked by the spirit of death, a taxi driver in Boston, a family with missing children and a market woman who connects them all. Artfully weaving together these lives, witness is given to the desolation wreaked by nature and by man, the heartbreaking trauma of disaster and a testimony to the tenacity of the human spirit.



### *Olga Dies Dreaming*

2022 Winner, Fiction  
Xochitl Gonzalez

Gonzalez's debut novel chronicles the story of a status-driven wedding planner grappling with her absent mother, her glittering career amongst New York's elite, her congressman brother and her Puerto Rican roots in the wake of Hurricane Maria. Olga's life is disrupted by a new romantic interest and the return of her radicalized mother. Set against the backdrop of 2017 New York City in the months surrounding the most devastating hurricane in Puerto Rico's history, *Olga Dies Dreaming* is a story that examines political corruption, familial strife and the very notion of the American Dream.

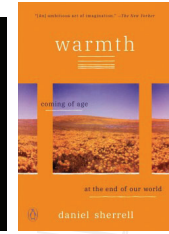


## NONFICTION

### *The Trayvon Generation*

by Elizabeth Alexander

A powerful meditation on the trauma of race-based violence and the potential of the rising generation of young adults. The work expounds on Alexander's viral *New Yorker* essay of the same name, which spoke to 2020's Black Lives Matter movement, looking both to our past and our future with profound insight and heart, and interwoven with groundbreaking art by extraordinary Black artists.



### *Warmth: Coming of Age at the End of Our World*

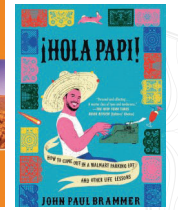
by Daniel Sherrell

Gripping and alarming, *Warmth* is an exploration of how young people live in the shadow of catastrophe. This new approach to exploring climate change is not about what it is or how we solve it, but how it feels to imagine a future—and a family—under its weight. In a fiercely personal account written from inside the climate movement, Sherrell lays bare how the crisis is transforming our relationships to time, to hope and to each other.

### *jHOLA Papi!: How to Come Out in a Walmart Parking Lot and Other Life Lessons*

2022 Winner, Non-Fiction  
John Paul Brammer

Popular LGBTQ advice columnist and writer John Paul Brammer presents a hilarious, heartwarming memoir-in-essays chronicling the author's journey growing up as a queer, mixed-race kid in America's heartland to becoming the "Chicano Carrie Bradshaw" of his generation. With wit and wisdom in equal measure, it is for anyone—gay, straight and everything in between—who has ever taken stock of their unique place in the world.



➔ Get your own BookMatch list at [bklynlibrary.org/bookmatch](https://bklynlibrary.org/bookmatch)



# BPL PRESENTS

Unless otherwise noted, all events take place at Central Library. All programs are free and reservations are required for most adult programs. For complete listings visit: [bklynlibrary.org/bplpresents](https://bklynlibrary.org/bplpresents)



©Elizabeth Leitzell

## NIGHT IN THE LIBRARY: THE PHILOSOPHY OF HIP-HOP

2023 marks the 50th anniversary of the birth of hip-hop and the beginning of a sonic, cultural and socio-political revolution that changed the US and the world.

To commemorate the anniversary, BPL will present **Night in the Library: The Philosophy of Hip-Hop** from 7 pm until dawn at Central Library on Saturday, June 17. The event will take over the entire Central Library, with keynote addresses, live music and performances, and discussions.

Taking as its model BPL's immensely successful Night of Philosophy and Ideas, Night in the Library: The Philosophy of Hip-Hop will invite attendees to engage in thoughtful philosophical debates, explore historical and contemporary contributions by musicians, artists and scholars, and create a celebration of community.



For more information and to reserve your place at Night in the Library: The Philosophy of Hip-Hop, visit the event page at [nightinthelibrary.com](https://nightinthelibrary.com)



## BUNDITH PHUNSOMBATLERT: MAPPING FRAGMENTS, SHARING STORIES

March 20 – May 14

Central Library, Grand Lobby, front cases and second floor balcony cases



Bundith Phunsombatlert's exhibition in the Grand Lobby of Central Library, *Mapping Fragments*, features two bodies of artwork that represent rich cultural dialogues and celebrate the memories and lived experiences of migration.

"Sunny Garden in Blue: Stories from the Caribbean to Brooklyn" takes inspiration from the history of photography and Anna Atkins's first photographic book of cyanotypes, adding the dimension of the immigrant experience absent from Atkins's original work and often invisible to non-immigrants.

His second body of work, "Mapping Fragments: History of Blue and White Porcelain" creates a new style of ceramic that weaves together a media art technique of blue and white porcelain with the historical context of immigration, tracing their unseen paths and stories. Braiding media, materials and oral history together, these artworks serve as a map of global diaspora.



# EVENTS FOR YOUTH & FAMILIES

**Saturdays / 1 pm**  
**Dweck Center**

## The Wizard of Oz

Join Dorothy, the Scarecrow, the Tinman and the Cowardly Lion as they come to life in an adaptation featuring the music of the MGM movie. The performance is followed by a meet and greet with the cast. Presented by Plaza Theatrical.

**May 13**



## Layer the Walls Part II

Explores stories of a tenement apartment in New York City that was once home to hundreds of new immigrants and migrants. Shadow and Rod puppetry, along with masks, bring to life the experiences of Jewish families between the years of 1948–1970. These compelling stories have shaped the America we know today.

**May 20**



## STOMP, CLAP & SING

**Tuesdays / 10:30 am**  
**Dweck Center**

**May 2**

### STOMP, CLAP AND SING WITH COREY

We will freeze dance, we'll play the guessing game and we'll even do some magic!

**May 16**

### LUCY KALANTARI

Multi-award winning children's artist, Lucy Kalantari, brings delightful jazz age inspired music everyone can enjoy!

**May 30**

### HOPALONG ANDREW

Hopalong Andrew is an American Western and folk music singer and humorist who re-envision classic cowboy and folk songs.

**June 13**

### Central Library, Plaza

### SUNNY SONGSTERS

Come sing and dance with the Sunny Songsters! We take children on an exciting 45-minute musical journey filled with instruments, scarves, bubbles and much more.



For complete listings:  
[bklynlibrary.org/  
event-series/events-for-  
youth-and-family](https://bklynlibrary.org/event-series/events-for-youth-and-family)



## ISABEL ROXAS

**Youth Wing, Teen Area**  
**June 5 – September 4**

Isabel Roxas, who is creating original artwork for BPL's Summer Reading campaign in 2023, activates the Youth Wing with an exhibition celebrating the City, the Borough of Brooklyn and its people.

## BPL PRESENTS DONORS

Brooklyn Public Library gratefully acknowledges the many donors who have provided generous support for BPL Presents programs, including: Cheryl and George Haywood Endowment for Cultural Diversity, Dr. Beverly S. Jacobs, The Kahn Endowment for Humanities Programs, The Miriam Katowitz and Arthur Radin Fund, Los Blancos, Mapleton Endowment, NYU 370 Jay, National Endowment for the Arts, New York State Council on the Arts, Sandra and Peter Schubert Endowment Fund, The Morris & Alma Schapiro Fund, the Estate of Pearl S. Reuillard in memory of her parents Yetta and Louis Schwartz, and the Brooklyn Eagles—a group of young and engaged supporters of Brooklyn Public Library and many other generous supporters.

Programs are also supported by Brooklyn Public Library's Fund for the Humanities which was established through the generous support of the National Endowment for the Humanities, The Hearst Foundation, Inc., Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation, The Starr Foundation, the Leon and Muriel Gilbert Charitable Trust, Henry and Lucy Moses Fund, Inc. and a gift in memory of Samuel and Pauline Wine.



**Council on the Arts**

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[EMorrel@bklynlibrary.org](mailto:EMorrel@bklynlibrary.org)

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**Lauren Arana**

718.230.2009

[LArana@bklynlibrary.org](mailto:LArana@bklynlibrary.org)

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**Samantha Dodds**

718.230.2718

[SDodds@bklynlibrary.org](mailto:SDodds@bklynlibrary.org)

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718.230.2087

[NScott@bklynlibrary.org](mailto:NScott@bklynlibrary.org)

### General Inquiries

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