

OFF THE SHELF

A LOOK INSIDE
BROOKLYN PUBLIC
LIBRARY



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Libraries serve as vital connectors within our communities, bridging gaps between people, resources and knowledge. At Brooklyn Public Library (BPL), we provide programming for patrons of all ages, inclusive spaces to meet neighbors, and millions of educational tools—from books and databases to tech tools and training.

Much of our work is built upon partnerships. Our library staff form deep connections with their local communities, tailoring our programs and collections to each neighborhood's needs. We build pop-up museums, host adult literacy classes in multiple languages and empower teens to become young leaders. We also receive support from hundreds of volunteers, and many of our programs thrive thanks to community members and partnerships with outside organizations: from Apple Bank to Hearst Corporation and local nonprofits that provide space for our interim library services when we close a branch for renovations. By building stronger relationships across the borough, we are able to connect patrons to an even broader range of resources.

As you explore our fall programming, I hope you are reminded that, no matter where you come from, Brooklyn Public Library has something for everyone.



Linda E. Johnson
President & CEO

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All photos, unless indicated, by Gregg Richards.

Cover: BPL's Bookmobile helps to bring the Library's collections out to the community.

Inside front cover: Midwood Library's Culture Fest event bubbles up some joy.



Celebrating Excellence with BPL's 2025 Staff Award Recipients

BPL is proud to celebrate the two recipients of our 2025 staff awards: Nicole Davis, Branch Manager at Macon Library, and Jamar Vailes, Operations Manager for BPL Presents.

Nicole Davis, who was honored with the Dr. Lucille Cole Thomas Award for Excellence in Librarianship, began her BPL career in 2015 as a children's librarian at New Lots Library. She quickly rose through the ranks, becoming assistant branch manager at East Flatbush Library in 2017 before taking on the branch manager role at Macon Library, where she has flourished for over five years.

Brynna Tucker, Director of Innovation Learning, highlighted Davis's professional excellence and "unshakeable belief in people and in libraries as places of transformation, dignity and community." Regional Director LaMeane Isaac praised Davis's care and empathy, citing a time that she helped a grieving family honor their child through a special book collection and support groups.

Davis expressed her gratitude, saying, "I could not do any of the work I do without the love and support of the Macon team. They all continue to stand with me and



Nicole Davis and Jamar Vailes accepting their staff awards with BPL President & CEO Linda Johnson.

guide me through the amazing things that we do. Thank you for trusting me to lead you. Macon, this is for us—we did it!"

Meanwhile, Jamar Vailes received the Feder Leonard Family Award for Excellence in Service to the Library's Public. Vailes began his journey with BPL in 2016 as a special officer in the Department of Public Safety. Thanks to his dedication and a series of promotions—from junior library custodian to assistant custodian, then team leader—Vailes landed his current role as Operations Manager for BPL Presents, where he supports arts and culture programming including author talks, live performances and exhibitions.

Jakab Orsos, Vice President of Arts & Culture, praised Vailes for taking on a "demanding position that addresses multiple issues simultaneously." Christine Schonhart, Central Library's Senior Director, added, "Jamar shows up every day with a warm smile, a collaborative spirit and a 'how can I help?' attitude." Upon receiving his award, Vailes remained humble. "I couldn't do this without everyone around me guiding me, leading me and keeping me on my toes," he said. "I appreciate this recognition."



A storytime at the Red Hook interim library captivates its attendees.

LIBRARY INTERIM SPACES KEEP BROOKLYN NEIGHBORHOODS CONNECTED

What happens when your neighborhood library closes for essential renovations? BPL ensures uninterrupted access to core services through pop-up branches, off-site programs, community partnerships and Bookmobile visits. These interim solutions are central towards maintaining service continuity across the borough.

Take for example Red Hook Interim Library, which opened in July 2024. Located near the Red Hook Houses, the space was made possible through support from Amazon, IKEA Brooklyn and local leaders including Council Member Alexa Avilés, State Senator Andrew Gounardes and Assemblymember Marcela Mitaynes, who all helped select the site. The full renovation of Red Hook Library is expected to be completed by 2026.



Carroll Gardens welcomed a pop-up library in July 2025, offering access to collections and library card services while its branch undergoes major renovations. The space was provided by Community Board 2 and funded by Council Member Shahana Hanif, Assembly Member Jo Anne Simon and Senator Gounardes, with furnishings from IKEA. BPL staff also host programs at nearby St. Paul's Episcopal Church.



BPL's fleet of three Bookmobiles complements these interim spaces, delivering books, technology and programming to schools, shelters, parks and other community hubs. Smaller but equally impactful are the Book Wagons—hand-built carts constructed by librarians—that roll into neighborhoods, parks and local businesses, inviting residents to explore new stories.



Looking ahead, Brownsville Library has partnered with the Gregory Jackson Center to begin offering services ahead of its renovation, and will expand hours and programs as construction begins. BPL is also working with community leaders in East New York, Borough Park and Crown Heights to identify future pop-up sites.

Thanks to our partners and dedicated staff, BPL continues to connect Brooklynites to the resources they rely on—year-round and borough-wide.

From top to bottom:
The welcoming exterior of Red Hook Interim Library.
IKEA employees pose outside Carroll Gardens Pop-up Library after delivering donated furniture.
A Bookmobile staff member offers BPL books and services streetside.

APPLE BANK AND BPL: A PARTNERSHIP THAT SPEAKS EVERY LANGUAGE

Apple Bank has steadfastly supported BPL for over a decade, allowing our institution to expand inclusive and accessible multilingual services and cultural programming across our 62 locations.

Thanks to Apple Bank's generous support, BPL became the first New York City library system to offer Language Line, a free telephone interpretation service available in over 170 languages. Since 2015, Language Line has enabled our staff to communicate effectively with patrons, ensuring that non-English-speaking residents can fully access library resources and services.

Apple Bank has also served as the annual sponsor of BPL's World Language Family Festival, a series of multilingual family cultural programs that celebrate storytelling, music and art activities designed to engage families from all backgrounds and foster cross-cultural understanding.

Furthermore, Apple Bank supports BPL's Creative Aging workshops, which foster community for elders through journaling, watercolor painting, poetry and collage programs, and its Older American Celebration Fair, which honors the diverse contributions of older adults through music, dance and art workshops. These initiatives reflect Apple Bank's commitment to community enrichment and its deep roots in Brooklyn, where it has served residents for over 25 years.

"Apple Bank has been proud to support Brooklyn Public Library in its commitment to providing an environment where everyone in the communities it serves can feel welcome and appreciated for their cultural diversity and varied heritage. We look forward to continuing our collaboration for many years to come," noted James Matera, Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Retail Banking Officer.

The enduring partnership exemplifies how local institutions can work together to bridge cultures, promote literacy and empower communities. In our ever-evolving borough, Apple Bank and BPL remain united in their mission to ensure that residents across backgrounds and languages feel welcome, heard and supported.



Bay Ridge Library's Culture Fest event had local families on their feet.



CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF TEEN TECHIES

A teen looks into the future with a VR headset at Canarsie Library.

This year, BPL marks the 20th anniversary of Today's Teens, Tomorrow's Techies, a paid internship program that has helped more than 2,000 teens build digital literacy, leadership and career-readiness skills. Over the 20-year history of the program, affectionately known as "Teen Techies," participants have contributed hundreds of thousands of hours of service, offering tech support at branches across the borough, and assisting over 320,000 patrons with everything from setting up email accounts and formatting resumes to coding, 3D printing, robotics and graphic design.

"Teen Techies is a shining example of what happens when we invest in the potential of young people," said Linda E. Johnson, BPL President and CEO. Graduates of the program have gone on to successful careers in tech, landing roles with companies like Google, Apple and Meta.

Alumni are now working as data analysts, UX designers, math educators and engineers.

Omar Cobas, a Teen Techie alum, spoke at BPL's annual gala in June 2025. A first-generation Cuban American from the South Bronx, Cobas credited Teen Techies with fueling his passion for technology and service. Now a software engineer at Google, he looked back on his Teen Techies experience: "I loved it. Not just the tech, but the teaching, the problem-solving, the sense of giving back." It's no wonder that with nearly 400 applicants for just 115 program slots this year, Teen Techies continues to be one of BPL's most in-demand opportunities for youth.

➔ For more information, visit bklynlib.org/teen-techies

Teen Techies is made possible through the generous support of Citi, Google.org, The Hearst Foundation, National Grid Foundation, Macy's, Optimum and gifts in memory of Charles Graves.



A closeup of the Memories Matter installation at Euclid Avenue Subway Station.

HISTORY ON THE GO:

A POP-UP MUSEUM IN EAST NEW YORK

AN UNEXPECTED SIGHT GREETSS COMMUTERS AT THE EUCLID AVENUE SUBWAY STATION IN EAST NEW YORK: A FORMER NEWSSTAND THAT HAS BEEN TRANSFORMED INTO A MUSEUM EXHIBIT.

Titled *Memories Matter*, the installation is the result of a collaborative effort led by BPL's Center for Brooklyn History (CBH), in partnership with East New York Community Land Trust (ENYCLT), a local organization dedicated to preserving housing affordability throughout the neighborhood.

The project began in 2023 through BPL's BKLYN Incubator program, which supports innovative partnerships between library staff and community organizations. CBH staff and ENYCLT members co-hosted workshops wherein East New York

residents could explore CBH's archive, and contribute their own stories and artwork.

These pieces—including collaged maps and floral designs—are now featured in *Memories Matter*, offering an empowering, grassroots portrait of a neighborhood too often misrepresented in mainstream media narratives.

The exhibit also features historical photographs, oral histories and clippings from community newspapers *The East New Yorker* and *The Link*.

The installation is part of the MTA's Vacant Unit Activation Program, a citywide effort to breathe new life into disused newsstands by turning them into public art and cultural spaces. In this case, a small retail kiosk has become a platform for community memory and historical reflection—bringing CBH's mission to democratize access to history into a bustling East New York transit hub.

To complement the installation, CBH has launched an online portal where community members can continue contributing photos, reflections and local knowledge.

Additional programs tied to the exhibit—on themes like environmental justice and housing—are also taking place in partnership with local organizations, including East New York Farms. The exhibit will be installed until at least the end of 2025.

➔ For more information, visit bklynlibrary.org/memories-matter

Memories Matter is generously supported by the Science Museum of Minnesota's Museums Advancing Racial Justice mini-grant program. Support for BKLYN Incubator is provided by the Charles H. Revson Foundation.

WHITMAN | CIRCLE

Take Your Support to the Next Level

The Whitman Circle is a community of Brooklyn Public Library (BPL) champions who provide vital funding for core library services, transformational programs and outreach initiatives.

In thanks for their generous support, Whitman Circle members enjoy special access to private tours, behind-the-scenes opportunities, reserved seating at BPL's literary and cultural events and invitations to our signature **Cocktails & Conversation and Breakfast with the Whitman Circle Author Series.**



Make an annual contribution of \$1,500, \$2,500, \$5,000 or more to join today and support BPL!

Learn more and join the Whitman Circle at bklynlibrary.org/whitman-circle or contact Juliette Bobrow, Manager of Patron Programs, at jbobrow@bklynlibrary.org or 718.230.2014.





Opening Doors for Brooklyn's Adult Learners

An educator helps unlock the power of knowledge during a lesson at Central Library's Adult Learning Center.

For over 40 years, BPL's Adult Learning department has been offering Brooklynites the skills, confidence and credentials to reach their personal and professional goals. Serving approximately 1,000 learners annually, our five Adult Learning Centers (ALCs) are welcoming spaces where education is free, accessible and tailored to the diverse needs of our borough and its residents.

Our dedicated team of 65 staff and more than 100 trained volunteers lead small group classes and one-on-one sessions to address literacy, math skills, digital training and high school equivalency diploma (HSE) preparation, readying participants for success in today's job market.

There are also English classes geared toward a range of skill levels for the many immigrants who call Brooklyn home.

Many adult students go on to take the GED exam, get industry-recognized certifications or take the next step toward college. To reduce barriers to entry, Adult Learning staff also connect students

with childcare, housing assistance, legal services and additional workforce training programs.

"Our diverse students and communities work hard on a daily basis to not only make strides in their education journey but to transform their lives and position themselves for success down the road," enthused Kerwin Pilgrim, Senior Director of Literacy & Adult Learning.

Beyond the classroom, initiatives like the Judith Fell Literacy through the Arts Program integrate museum visits, theater performances and writing workshops into the learning journey, inspiring creativity and strengthening social bonds. Whether through a poetry workshop, a resume clinic or a technology class, our Adult Learning programs meet students where they are and help them envision what is to come.



Learn more at
bklynlibrary.org/adult-learning

Adult Learning programs at BPL are generously supported by the New York State Education Department, the New York City Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs, the Carnegie Corporation of New York, Zeldin Family Foundation, Judith Fell Memorial Fund and an anonymous individual donor.

BUILDING A HEALTHIER BROOKLYN

WITH BPL'S HEALTHY COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE

BPL's Healthy Communities Initiative aims to advance health equity and improve community wellness through public health education, strategic partnerships and engaging virtual programs that are accessible to all.

The Initiative's programs are designed to meet the diverse needs of Brooklyn residents, with a focus on mental health, natal health, healthcare access, nutrition and positive aging. Events at library branches include free yoga classes, summer meal distribution, maternal health awareness workshops and street safety outreach. Programs offer tools for resilience and emotional wellbeing on topics such as mental health and coping skills, managing stress and preventing burnout, and cultivating self-compassion.

BPL's social work team plays a vital role in connecting patrons to essential services, with high-quality referrals for housing, employment, food insecurity and mental health counseling.

Through Brooklyn Supports, a monthly outreach program, the team also hosts Coffee and Connections events that create safe spaces for community engagement.

In the words of BPL's Community Services Manager Lisa Shankweiler, LCSW, "BPL's social work program helps to bridge the gap for community members who may not qualify for traditional services. Embedding social work services in this setting acts as a protective factor for our patrons by supporting them in meeting their basic needs."

Financial wellness is also a priority. BPL's Business & Career Center offers financial literacy programs and one-on-one coaching through the Financial Coaching Corps of the Community Service Society. These confidential services help individuals reduce debt, manage medical expenses and build financial stability, with specialized support for immigrant entrepreneurs.

Through these comprehensive and intersecting efforts, BPL continues to be a trusted partner in building a healthier, more resilient Brooklyn.

 Learn more at bklynlib.org/health

BPL's Community Health Initiative is generously supported by the NewYork-Presbyterian Brooklyn Methodist Hospital and the Novack Family Foundation.





Teen Writing Prize winners during their visit to Hearst Tower.



Hearst Corporation volunteers assembling activity kits for teen patrons.

Teens Thrive at BPL, Thanks to Hearst Corporation Support

Thanks to generous support from Hearst Corporation’s Office of the General Counsel, BPL continues to champion teen voices and ensure libraries remain vibrant spaces for learning, creativity and civic action.

A standout initiative is BPL’s Teen Writing Contest, open to NYC students in Grades 6–12. This annual event showcases teen talent in poetry and prose. Winners receive the prestigious Ned Vizzini Teen Writing Prize, honoring the late author who began his career at 15. Winning entries are published in BPL’s Teen Writing Journal, distributed throughout the library system. Hearst funds this inspiring program and provides hands-on support; this spring, over 60 legal team employees assembled 2,000 writing kits to help teens participate.

Hearst also hosted contest winners at a panel at Hearst Tower featuring publishing luminaries including Lucy Kaylin, Editorial Director of Hearst Magazines; Willa Bennett, Editor-in-Chief of

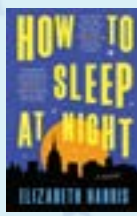
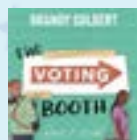
Cosmopolitan and *Seventeen*; Richard Dorment, Editor-in-Chief of *Men’s Health*; and Barbara Maushard, SVP and Chief Content Officer for News, Hearst Television.

Another impactful Hearst-funded program is the Freedom to Read Teen Ambassadors initiative, which empowers teens to oppose censorship and advocate for intellectual freedom in their schools, libraries and communities. Ambassadors engage in dialogue with authors, librarians and peers, and contribute feedback on BPL’s Books Unbanned programming. These experiences equip teens to be thoughtful advocates for free expression and lifelong library patrons.

“It is more important than ever to listen to what teens have to say. We are honored to support BPL’s efforts to recognize and uplift teen writers across the city.”

Jon Donnellan
Hearst Co-General Counsel

BKLYN BOOKMATCH VOTING AND ELECTIONS



BookMatch is a readers' advisory service that uses what readers like (and dislike) to create customized reading recommendations based on the interests or needs of patrons. This issue's selection focuses on voting rights and the importance of elections. Maria McGrath, School Outreach Librarian, created this BookMatch with reading suggestions for all ages. You can request your own BookMatch here: bklynlibrary.org/bookmatch

Your Voice, Your Vote

Leah Henderson

A little girl accompanies her mother and grandmother on Election Day and, as they wind through their community and wait in a long line, hears their reflections on why voting is important even when it's not easy.

We Shall Not Be Denied: A Timeline of Voting Rights and Suppression in America

Cayla Bellanger DeGroat and Cicely Lewis

This in-depth presentation of how voting rights have evolved is fresh off the press. Ideal for upper elementary or for those who would like to grasp this complicated topic with clarity.

The Voting Booth

Brandy Colbert (YA)

Two teens have until the end of the day to cast their first vote in a national election, but obstacles, from bitter exes to lost pets, threaten to derail their plans in this adorable romance with a feel-good civic twist.

Represent: The Unfinished Fight for the Vote

Michael Eric Dyson & Marc Favreau (YA)

This acclaimed nonfiction title traces the history of voting rights from the nation's birth to the present day, with accompanying biographical sketches of civil rights luminaries.

Fight: Inside the Wildest Battle for the White House

Jonathan Allen and Amie Parnes

Veteran political reporters mine interviews with insiders from both parties to expose the twists and turns of the 2024 presidential election campaign, sparing no one.

One Person, One Vote: A Surprising History of Gerrymandering in America

Nick Seabrook

An illuminating and in-depth look at how gerrymandering has been used to gain power, and how Americans can combat it.

How to Sleep at Night

Elizabeth Harris

The personal and political clash in this novel featuring two Jersey siblings: a political reporter sister and her high school teacher brother, who is shocked when his husband announces a run for congress.

Let's Not Do That Again

Grant Ginder

Former intern and speechwriter turned novelist Ginder spins a tale of a rising progressive congresswoman whose election bid is sent sideways as her adult daughter causes a scandal.

RUTH GORING— A BROOKLYN TRAILBLAZER IN HEALTH AND POLITICS



Goring (center of the first row) at the installation of a set of historic markers on Eastern Parkway, October 19, 1979.

By Alice Griffin, Archivist

The following was excerpted from an article on Brooklynology, the Center for Brooklyn History's blog.

Ruth Goring (1919–2006) was a pioneering figure in Brooklyn's Crown Heights community, best known for her work in public health and progressive politics. CBH's archives include an interview with Goring conducted on April 28, 1988 by Jeffrey Gerson, a PhD student at the time, and now a professor in the Department of Political Science at University of Massachusetts – Lowell.

The recorded interview spans two cassette tapes and is accompanied by a typewritten transcript.

Born in Manhattan to Barbadian parents and raised in Harlem, Goring moved to Crown Heights in 1947. She worked as a public health nurse for the Visiting Nurse Association and lived near the Brooklyn Children's Museum, actively participating in community efforts to improve local services like libraries and school safety.



A street protest on January 17, 1963, organized by the Unity Democratic Club, co-founded by Goring, along with members of the Brooklyn Congress of Racial Equality.

Goring's political journey began through family ties to New York State Assemblymember Bertram Baker's Bedford-Stuyvesant Political League. In the late 1950s, she co-founded and became the first president of the Unity Democratic Club (UDC), an interracial, progressive club aimed to empower Black political leadership in Brooklyn. In 1962, Goring and Assemblymember and NY Supreme Court Justice Thomas Russell Jones were elected to district leadership roles. The club included notable members such as Shirley Chisholm, activist Andrew Cooper and social realist artist Ernest Crichlow.

Goring was a fierce advocate for educational equity, organizing parents to create a neighborhood school when local institutions failed the community. She also challenged workplace discrimination, confronting the Visiting Nurse Association over unequal treatment and scholarship access. Her persistence earned her a role as aide to Brooklyn Borough President Abe Stark in 1964.

Internal tensions and ideological splits led to UDC's decline by 1964. Jones accepted a judgeship, and Chisholm's political choices—such as backing then-New York State Speaker of the Assembly Anthony Travia—caused rifts. Goring criticized Chisholm's decisions and accused her of red-baiting fellow members during the Cold War era.

Despite UDC's fragmentation, Goring remained politically active. By 1971, she was Brooklyn's Community Health Planner and later chaired Community Board 8. In 1988, she was part of an interracial, interdenominational council in Crown Heights.

Though less widely known than Chisholm, Ruth Goring left a lasting legacy in Brooklyn through her unwavering commitment to justice, equity, and community empowerment. As she once said: "Power concedes nothing. You have to reach for it and get a grasp on it... that shows them the time has come."

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/bpl-presents

THIS FALL, LITFILM RETURNED TO CELEBRATE THE WRITTEN WORD

BPL's beloved LitFilm Festival was back this fall, offering a cinematic celebration of literature and the lives behind it. Held annually at the Dr. S. Stevan Dweck Cultural Center in BPL's Central Library, LitFilm invites audiences to explore the private worlds and creative processes of some of the greatest literary minds through film.

This year's festival ran from Monday, November 10 through Sunday, November 16, and featured approximately 15 full-length documentaries alongside a selection of short films. The lineup included a compelling mix of new releases and archival gems, each shedding light on iconic writers and literary institutions. Many screenings were followed by talkbacks featuring filmmakers and authors, offering deeper insight into the subjects and stories on screen.

Previous LitFilm festivals have honored literary giants such as James Baldwin (a centenary tribute), Willa Cather, Ralph Ellison, Norman Mailer, Marcel Proust, John Keats, Patricia Highsmith, Dylan Thomas, Salman Rushdie,



photo by Fritzi Bodenheimer

A documentary about Pulitzer Prize winning graphic novelist Art Spiegelman was featured during the 2025 LitFilm Festival.

Joyce Carol Oates, Elizabeth Bishop and Ludwig Wittgenstein. The Fall 2025 roster featured films on Hannah Arendt, poets W.S. Merwin and Anne Waldman, Art Spiegelman and Peruvian Nobel prize winner Mario Vargas Llosa, among others.

With annual attendance topping 1,500, LitFilm continues to be a cornerstone of BPL's cultural programming—where literature meets film, and stories come to life.

LitFilm is made possible with support from BPL's Fund for the Humanities. BPL Presents programs are made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.

AUTHOR TALKS FLOURISH ACROSS BPL BRANCHES

BPL's Author Talks series brings vibrant culture across the borough with events hosted at 20 locations, including Brighton Beach, Brooklyn Heights, Brownsville, Bushwick, Clinton Hill, DeKalb, Dyker Heights, Eastern Parkway, Flatbush, Fort Hamilton, Gerritsen Beach, Greenpoint, Kensington, Midwood, New Lots, Paerdegat, Park Slope, Red Hook and Sunset Park Libraries.

The series spans formats, including readings, panel discussions, poetry showcases and writing workshops.

Some events creatively blend literature with hands-on activities, such as a Chinese Poetry Workshop led by Wang Jiaxin, or a Haitian Cooking Class with author and chef Nadege Fleurimond.

Recent featured authors have included Patricia Lockwood (*Will There Ever Be Another You*), Emmelie Prophète (*Cécé*), Sachiko Kashiwaba (*The Village Beyond the Mist*), Susan Bittenwieser (*Junction of Earth and Sky*), Trung Le Nguyen (*Angelica and the Bear Prince*), Sandy Hudson (*Defund: Black Lives, Policing, and Safety for All*), Miguel Ángel Hernández (*Anoxia*) and Nora Dahlia (*Pick-Up*). Other notable recent guests have included Emma Straub, Jia Tolentino, Manoush Zomorodi and Kimberly McCreight.

In partnership with the Brooklyn Institute for Social Research, BPL also presents Sips & Scholars, a free lecture series set in bars and restaurants across Brooklyn. This unique program brings thought-provoking discussions into relaxed, social settings.



National Book Award winner Jacqueline Woodson was featured at an author talk held at Brownsville Library.



AUTHOR TALK

**GEORGE PACKER
DISCUSSES
THE EMERGENCY WITH
JENNIFER SENIOR**

**Thursday, November 13
7 pm**

Brooklyn Heights Library

BPL Presents welcomes
George Packer to discuss

The Emergency, his powerful debut novel that explores societal collapse and generational divides through a gripping fictional lens. Known for his award-winning nonfiction, Packer now crafts a visionary tale of an empire unraveling, where youth-led rebellions challenge old values and a disgraced surgeon embarks on a perilous journey with his daughter.



CLASSICAL INTERLUDES

THE PEDRO GIRAUDO TANGO QUARTET

Sunday, December 7 / 4 pm

Central Library

Take a dynamic journey through the rich history of tango music, from the passionate works of its Golden Age masters to the groundbreaking innovations of Astor Piazzolla and the contemporary vision of Pedro Giraud. The ensemble's performances celebrate tango as a living, evolving art form and offer insight into tango's journey from intimate dance halls to premier concert stages, with a repertoire framed by anecdotes about the genre's key innovators and its essential rhythms—the milonga, waltz and tango.

YOUTH & FAMILY PROGRAMS

SCHOOLHOUSE ROCK LIVE!

**Saturday, November 22
1 pm**

Schoolhouse Rock Live! follows Tom, a school teacher who is nervous about his first day of teaching. He tries to relax by watching TV, when various characters representing facets of his personality emerge from the set and show him how to win his students over with imagination and music, through such songs as "Just

a Bill," "Lolly, Lolly, Lolly" and "Conjunction Junction."

RUDOLPH THE RED NOSED REINDEER

**Saturday, December 13
1 pm**

Because of his shiny nose, Rudolph doesn't feel like he belongs in Christmastown and sets off to find a place that accepts him. Along his journey, he encounters fellow misfits, only to realize that home is where

he has belonged the whole time. When a storm threatens to keep Santa's sleigh from taking flight, what makes Rudolph different turns out to be what helps him save Christmas!



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, Mapleton Endowment, New York State Council on the Arts, Sandra and Peter Schubert Endowment Fund, The Morris and Alma Schapiro Fund and the Estate of Pearl S. Reuillard in memory of her parents, Yetta and Louis Schwartz.

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.



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Call **718.230.2469** or visit bklynlibrary.org/support to learn about the many ways you can support Brooklyn Public Library.

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