April at the Great Falls Public Library

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April @ the GFPL

Great Falls, Montana – The Great Falls Public Library announces the following events for April.

Art @ the Library

In April the library welcomes back Big Sky Scribes. Along with work from the local chapter, the exhibit will also include pieces from statewide members. Work will feature calligraphy, lettering art, papermaking, typography, graphic design, paper decorations, scrapbooking, rubberstamping, greeting cards, and handmade books, along with other eclectic works. For more information on this exhibit call 453-0349.

Foreign & Independent Film Series

The Great Falls Public Library continues its Foreign & Independent Film Series on Wednesday, April 7:00 PM and Saturday, April 7, 2:00 PM, with the award-winning Mexican film Alamar. This is a meditative film about the relationship between Jorge, a Mayan fisherman, and his five-year-old son Natan, who is soon to live with his mother in Rome. They travel to the pristine Chinchorro reef, where the bonds between father and son grow and Natan learns to live in harmony with life above and below the sea's surface. This film is appropriate for all audiences.

The selected short is No Corras Tanto.

Films will be shown each month on the first Wednesday and the following Saturday. The series, which runs September through May, is free and open to the public. Be forewarned, some films may contain strong language or adult situations. They are not rated by MPAA but in our brochures we have tried to indicate content. Brochures are available at the library.

OpenBooks

The OpenBooks Discussion Series, which runs October – May, continues on Thursday, April 5 at 7:00 pm, in the Montana Room of the library. These discussions, sponsored by Humanities Montana and the Great Falls Public Library Foundation, are free and open to the public. You may attend any and all of the discussions. Books are available at the library three weeks prior to each meeting. Discussions are facilitated by Penny Hughes-Briant, a teacher at UGF. For more information on this series call 453-0349.

April's selection is The Kite Runner by Khaled Hoseini. In his debut novel Hosseini accomplishes what very few contemporary novelists are able to do. He manages to provide an educational and eye-opening account of a country's political turmoil--in this case, Afghanistan--while also developing characters whose heartbreaking struggles and emotional triumphs resonate with readers long after the last page has been turned over. And he does this on his first try.

The Kite Runner follows the story of Amir, the privileged son of a wealthy businessman in Kabul, and Hassan, the son of Amir's father's servant. As children in the relatively stable Afghanistan of the early 1970s, the boys are inseparable. They spend idyllic days running kites and telling stories of mystical places and powerful warriors until an unspeakable event changes the nature of their relationship forever, and eventually cements their bond in ways neither boy could have ever predicted. Even after Amir and his father flee to America, Amir remains haunted by his cowardly actions and disloyalty. In part, it is these demons and the sometimes impossible quest for forgiveness that bring him back to his war-torn native land after it comes under Taliban rule.

Hosseini has created characters that seem so real that one almost forgets that The Kite Runner is a novel and not a memoir. He offers an honest, sometimes tragic, sometimes funny, but always heartfelt view of a fascinating land. Khaled Hosseini was born in Kabul, Afghanistan, and moved to the United States in 1980. His first novel, The Kite Runner, was an international bestseller, published in thirty-eight countries. In 2006 he was named a goodwill envoy to UNHCR, the United Nations Refugee Agency. He lives in northern California.

Gardening 101

The Great Falls Public Library is hosting a four-part gardening series on Thursday evenings in April. These programs are free and open to the public. They are suitable for the novice to the experienced gardener.

April 5, 7:00 pm
Gardening Questions Answered with Master Gardener Marcia Bundi
Owner of Bundi gardens, perennial favorite Marci will hold an open forum, addressing any and all of your gardening questions.

April 12, 7:00 pm
Gardening Prep and Soil
Level 3 Master Gardeners Pat Parker and Mark Davis, from Ace's, will take us through the process of how to prepare our soil, the most important step in any garden, and other preliminary preparations for a summer garden.

April 19, 7:00 pm
The Garden Jeannie
Level 3 Master Gardener Jeannie Bennett will focus her presentation on spring starters. She will cover when to plant seeds, when to transplant seedlings and other spring planting topics.

April 26, 7:00 pm
Community Gardens: One of Our Finest Assets
Amy Grisak of River City Harvest will talk about the various community gardens her group has helped get started. She will also talk about how to get involved and the rewards of community gardens.

Hunger Games @ the Library

Great Falls Public Library Youth Services Librarian Nola Huey announces a special Hunger Games @ the Library

on Friday, April 13, 4:00 pm. This event will coincide with the release of the major motion picture Hunger Games on March 23, as a companion activity for young people between 12 and 18 who love the Hunger Games experience (book and/or movie). It will provide an opportunity to have fun with like-minded young adults.

At this event, participants will compete in a variety of competitions that include both physical and mental challenges that mirror the thread of the story/movie. At the end of the evening, one of the participants will be crowned the victor.

This program is also designed as a kickoff for future Young Adult activities at the library, with the intention to eventually host such activities monthly. It will also serve as the start-up for the library's Young Adult Advisory Council (YAAC). Students who join YAAC will help determine future young adult events and activities, books to showcase (including other popular books that have a corresponding movie version) and other library young adult events that will engage those members of the community.

For more information on this event, call 453-0349 or check online at www.greatfallslibrary.org.

Kids' Place Happenings

What: Busy Fingers (walk-in craft time, no stories)
Dates: 4 & 5
Who: 2-5 year olds with accompanying adult
Theme: Hats
Time: 10:30 to noon
Location: Kids' Place

What: Books & Babies
Dates: 6, 13, 20, 27
Who: Birth - 2 year olds with accompanying adult
Time: 10:15 to 11:00 & 11:15 to noon
Location: Basement

What: Wii Gaming
Dates: 6, 7, 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29
Who: Children under 12 with adult supervision
Time: 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.
Location: Kids' Place

What: Story Time
Dates: 11 & 12
Who: 2-5 year olds with accompanying adult
Theme: Windy Days
Time: 10:30 to11:00 & 11:30 to 12:00
Location: Kids' Place

What: Story Time
Dates: 18 & 19
Who: 2-5 year olds with accompanying adult
Theme: CONCEPT WEEK: Numbers
Time: 10:30 to11:00 & 11:30 to 12:00
Location: Kids' Place

What: Story Time
Dates: 25 & 26
Who: 2-5 year olds with accompanying adult
Theme: Mother Goose
Time: 10:30 to11:00 & 11:30 to 12:00
Location: Kids' Place

Donations Days for Friends Book Sale

Great Falls, Montana – The Friends of the Great Falls Public Library announced that they will be holding special book donation days in preparation for their annual used book sale held in May. If you have items you'd like to donate for this sale, mark your calendar for Saturday, April 14 and Saturday, April 28, from 10 am – 2 pm.

Bring your items to the library's garage, in the alley behind the building. Volunteers will be available to assist. You can bring your donations into the library anytime during operating hours, but assistance cannot be guaranteed except on scheduled donation days.

All donations are appreciated, but the Friends will not accept the following:

• Items in poor condition
• Magazines
• Encyclopedias
• Condensed Reader's Digests

Proceeds from the book sale are used to sponsor special library programs and projects that the library's budget cannot cover.

Anyone interested in more details, volunteering for the book sale or donating books can contact Jude Smith at 453-0349 or jusmith [at] greatfallslibrary [dot] org.

Supporting Documents

Press Release - April at the Great Falls Library (323 KB) (PDF)

Web Links

Great Falls Public Library

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http://www.greatfallsmt.net/community/april-great-falls-public-library