



Summer 2017
TALKING TIMES

That All May Read

**RHODE ISLAND REGIONAL LIBRARY
FOR THE BLIND & PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED**

Talking Books Plus

Office of Library and Information Services

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2017 OLIS Summer Reading Program

Summertime is a great time to read and for families to connect! The Office of Library and Information Services (OLIS) Summer Reading Program is getting underway at public libraries across the state, where children and teens can read for fun throughout the summer. Children and teens who read over the summer are less likely to lose skills learned during the school year. And there's no better way to enjoy summer reading than at Rhode Island public libraries! Children and teens who meet their summer reading goals can earn prizes and coupons to visit local attractions. But why let kids and teens have all the fun? There is a summer reading program for adults, too. Many libraries have raffles and game cards for adults looking to liven up their reading.

The 2017 Summer Reading theme is "Build a Better World" and public libraries have many exciting events planned to help "build" a better summer. From hands-on building programs, such as Lego and Minecraft clubs, to arts-centered activities such as crafting and book discussions,

there's something for all ages at libraries this summer. Libraries also have a stellar roster of performers lined up for children and teens, so be sure to check your library's calendar for artists, musicians, dancers, animals and adult programs! Looking to get out and explore your world? Use your library card to borrow a pass to your favorite museum. Public libraries have an excellent selection of museum passes that provide either free or reduced admission to area museums.

Summer is a great time for kids in grades 4 through 6 to check out the 2017 Kids Reading Across RI book *Save Me a Seat* (DB84498) by Sarah Weeks and Gita Varadarajan. Throughout the summer, public libraries will be hosting discussions centered on this book, which tells the story of Joe, who is missing his best friends who moved away, and Ravi, a new student whose family just moved to New Jersey from India. After a series of misunderstandings, Joe and Ravi are sure they're nothing alike. However, the biggest bully in their class soon shows Joe and Ravi that they have more in common than they thought.

The Summer Reading Program runs from June through August and is free, though registration may be required at some libraries. Call or visit your local public library for more information and to register. The statewide Summer Reading Program is supported by OLIS, with funding from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services. Suggestions for summer reading for young patrons of TBP are available on the TBP website at <http://bit.ly/2sPfA8B>.

Enjoy Some Adult Summertime Reading Recommendations

Now how does that song go??? There's a time in each year that we always hold dear, good old summertime. With the birds and the trees and sweet

scented breezes, good old summertime. Below are titles with stories that all take place in the summer. The genre is listed at the end of each description. Whether you are interested in a mystery or historical romance fiction, there is something for everyone.

All Summer Long by Dorothea Benton Frank (DB85000)

A Southern gentleman and his talented New York wife return to his home in the lush Carolina low country, where they endure a summer of transitions while observing the impact of seasonal choices on the lives of neighbors and visitors. (Romance)

Joyland by Stephen King (DB76799)

Set in a small-town North Carolina amusement park in 1973, *Joyland* tells the story of the summer in which college student Devin Jones comes to work as a carny and confronts the legacy of a vicious murder, the fate of a dying child, and the ways both will change his life forever. (Mystery)

Someone in the House by Barbara Michaels (DB62615)

English teacher Anne spends the summer with her colleague Kevin at Grayhaven Manor, a century-old English Gothic mansion brought stone by stone to the isolated Pennsylvania hills. They plan to write a book, but their work is soon interrupted by a growing attraction and an eerie unexplained presence. (Thrillers and Suspense)

Lake Wobegon Summer 1956 by Garrison Keillor (DB53040)

During the summer of 1956, fourteen-year-old geek Gary struggles with the hormonal pains and obsessions of puberty as he experiences a passionate devotion to his rebellious cousin Kate and pursues his dream of becoming a writer, but when Kate gets into trouble with the local basketball star, Gary is forced to deal with the first pangs of a broken heart. (Humorous Fiction)

Sonoran Desert Summer by John Alcock (DB32572)

A university professor's description of his research, and that of other scientists, into the plants and animals that survive in the hostile environment of the southern Arizona desert. Divided into five sections, May through September, chapters discuss empress butterflies, ground squirrels, carpenter bees, the culinary preferences and sexual practices of big-jawed beetles, and the lifestyles of various other denizens of the desert. (Nature, Life Sciences, Biology)

The Summer Guest by Alison Anderson (DB85713)

In 1888, Anton Chekhov and his family retreat to a country estate where he meets fellow doctor Zinaida Lintvaryova. Recently blinded, Zina trades a journal with Anton. In the present day, this journal reveals a hidden dimension of the Russian literary giant, and the search for a missing novel begins. (Historical Fiction)

Summer Rental by Mary Kay Andrews (DB74258)

Unemployed banker Ellis, model Julia, and teacher Dorie--once childhood friends in Savannah, Georgia--rent a beach house in Nags Head, North Carolina, for a month. The women, now in their thirties, share hopes and disappointments and shelter a stranger on the run from her husband. (Southern Fiction, Women's Lives and Relationships)

Summer of Love by Lisa Mason (DB41871)

A time traveler from the twenty-fifth century is sent to track down an individual crucial to the preservation of the time stream. His mission takes him to the San Francisco Haight-Ashbury district during the 1967 "summer of love" where he meets Susan Stein, a fourteen-year-old runaway who has come to San Francisco to sample the flower-child experience. Strong language, violence, and explicit descriptions of sex. (Romance)

BARD Express: An Easy Way to Download

In an ongoing effort to improve the BARD downloading experience, the National Library Service (NLS) has recently released BARD Express. The software was developed by Kirk Saathoff who donated it to the Library of Congress and NLS. BARD Express is a free, Windows-based application that simplifies the process of searching for, downloading, and transferring books from BARD to a flash drive for use in the digital talking book player.

With the new BARD Express software, there is no searching for downloaded books in random folders on your computer, no more unzipping files, and no more copying and pasting books onto your flash drives; BARD Express manages all of these tasks for you.

For additional details about BARD Express, including a user guide and a link to download the program, log in to the BARD main page with your user id and password and select "BARD Express" under the "Additional Links" heading. Note, BARD Express will work on Windows-based PCs, and it will also work with a variety of screen readers, including Window-Eyes, NVDA, and JAWS, but it does not work on Apple (Mac) computers.

BARD Express is available to any Talking Books Plus patron who has an active BARD account. Patrons can apply for a free BARD account online by going to <https://nlsbard.loc.gov/> and selecting "BARD Application Instructions". Also, if patrons are unsure of their log in information for a current BARD account they can contact TBP by email at olis.tbplus@olis.ri.gov or by phone at 401-574-9310

In addition to BARD Express, patrons can continue to utilize BARD Mobile apps for listening to books on the go. BARD Mobile is available for use on iOS devices (iPhones, iPads, iPods), Android devices, and select Kindle

devices. Additional information on BARD Mobile can be found on the BARD website after you log in, under the "Additional Links" heading.

Permission to print this article given by the Indiana Talking Book and Braille Library.

Audio-Described DVD Collection

The audio described DVD Collection provides members with access to more than 1,400 described DVDs that can be played on your own DVD player and television. The audio description track provides additional narration and description for low vision or blind individuals. Members may borrow up to 2 titles for 14 days at a time. There are no fees for borrowing DVDs. Like talking books, they are mailed to you as "Free Matter for the Blind" in a special container with a turnaround mailing label for return to the library. New titles are added to the collection on a regular basis.

You can find a list of available DVDs in the TBP online catalog at <http://bit.ly/tbp-dvds>. Or you can search for specific titles in the catalog. After running the initial search, use "Refine your Search" on the left side of the screen and select "Descriptive DVD" under "Medium" to limit the search to available DVD titles . You may also call TBP at 401-574-9310 to request a title or two. Check out Robert Redford, Cate Blanchett, Dennis Quaid and Stacy Keach in "Truth" a 2015 American political docudrama is based on a riveting true story detailing the 2004 CBS 60 Minutes report investigating then-President George W. Bush's military service, and the ensuing firestorm of criticism that cost anchor Dan Rather and producer Mary Mapes their careers. This dramatic thriller goes behind the scenes to expose the intricacies of journalistic integrity and what it takes to reveal the truth.

New TBP Staff Member

Alicia Waters has joined the ranks of the staff here in the Talking Books Plus library. Alicia had previously worked in the Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped from 1987 – 1994 as a Library Technician, answering phone lines and helping to enter cassette books into the new automated system. She also duplicated titles and fixed broken cassettes to keep books ready for circulation. Alicia worked with the Pioneers, a group of retired volunteers in Pawtucket, RI to repair broken cassette players. She joined the Network Services division in 1994, and has worked for the Office of Library and Information Services for 30 years. In addition to working in TBP part-time, Alicia coordinates the statewide library delivery system. We welcome Alicia back to the Talking Books Plus library!

Rhode Island Special Needs Emergency Registry

Be prepared for any emergency that may come your way by registering with the Rhode Island Special Needs Emergency Registry. The registry was developed by the Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) and the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency (RIEMA) as a service to Rhode Islanders with chronic conditions, disabilities, and other special healthcare needs. It is a system for the identification of Rhode Islanders who may require assistance during statewide emergencies such as a hurricane or a winter blizzard. The easy enrollment process allows you to complete the form online or it can be submitted by mail. Online visit www.health.ri.gov/emregistry and click on "Enroll now" or print the form and mail it. You can also call 401-222-5960 / RI Relay 711 to request that one be mailed to you. Be sure to update your registry information on a regular basis if you have any changes.

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***Free
Matter
for the
Blind***

TBP Closings and Holidays

July 4, 2017 –Independence Day

August 14, 2017 - Victory Day

September 4, 2017 –Labor Day



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