

LSTA GRANT PROGRAMS SCHEDULE:

Program title:	Submission Dates:	Event Date:	Time:	Location:	Age Group:
Generation Stories		November 10 & 17, 2022	3:00 – 5:00 PM	Broadview	Teens & Senior Citizens
Town-wide Read		November, 2022 – April, 2023	On-going		Ages 11 and Up
Social Issues Panels		January 14 – April 15, 2023 Domestic Violence: January 14 Trauma Informed Care: February 11 Mental Health: March 11 Substance Abuse: April 15	11:00 AM – 1:00 PM	Clark YMCA	Teens & Adults
Non-traditional Book Club		January 25, 2023 – On-going	6:00 – 7:00 PM	CAC / Beals	Teens & Adults
Frame x Frame Mural Project	Mar 1 – Apr 15, 2023	May 16, 2023	6:30 PM	Various	Teens
On the Same Page - “Hey Kiddo”		February 23, 2023	6:30 – 7:30 PM	CAC	Teens & Adults
Flash Fiction Contest	Jan 14 – Apr 15, 2023	May 17, 2023	6:30 – 8:00 PM	Beals	Pre-teens/Teens/Adults
Beals Book Club - “Hey Kiddo”		April 13, 2023	3:30 – 4:30 PM	Beals	Adults
Jarrett Krosoczka Author Talk		April 28, 2023	12:30 & 6:30 PM	Murdock HS	Teens & Adults
The Portrait Project (Intergenerational Artmaking)		May 15 & 22, 2023	3:00 – 5:00 PM	Beals	All Generations
My Character/My Counterpart		May 16, 2023	4:30 – 6:00 PM	Beals	Middle School Students
Beals Prize for Young Poets	Feb 1 – Apr 21, 2023	May 24, 2023	6:30 – 8:00 PM	Beals	Teens
Zine Making		June 6, 13, 20, 2023	3:30 – 5:00 PM	Beals	Teens
Wall of Words and Worries		June 1 – September 30, 2023	On-going	Beals	All ages
Guided Meditation thru Yoga		TBA (Summer 2023)	TBA	Beals	Teens & Adults

Past and Present Program Description: (Last Updated 3.21.23)

Generation Stories:

The Library partnered with the Broadview Assisted Living Center and Murdock High School to bring seniors living at the center together with teens from the high school for intergenerational storytelling, sharing, and collecting in an effort to cultivate relationships with the elder population in Winchendon. The two workshops were led by storyteller and educator Norah Dooley.

Participants gained a recognition of and an appreciation for another generation's history, background, culture and more.

In the workshops, participants learned the elements of storytelling, and how to reach back into their memories to tell a brief, but fascinating, story of their own using the techniques taught by the facilitator.

These stories were captured via video. Two of these are attached, one from a teen and one from one of the elders.

Non-Traditional Book Club:

This monthly book club is facilitated by Library Staff person Kayla Charlonne with the goal of bringing together Winchendon residents of various age groups for monthly book sharing and discussion meetings. The group meets on the last Tuesday of each month.

Topics are chosen along EDI themes and social issues, and include themes that touch on age, race, disability, poverty, multigenerational issues, neuro-divergence, mental health, sexuality and gender, etc.

Unlike traditional book clubs, in which a book is selected and read by the whole group, this non-traditional book club allows participants to select their own book that they feel fits each month's theme, creating greater flexibility for participants. Each month, the facilitator researches a large selection of recommended reads for participants who need help in finding a book.

Frame x Frame Mural Project:

This project, took place during the month of March 2023, and was coordinated by our Library Director in collaboration with the Murdock High School Art Department, the H.E.A.L. Winchendon Youth Change-Makers, and the Library's Dungeons and Dragons Club.

The project focused on the creation of a collaborative, large-scale mural, consisting of 72 small 8" x 8" paintings. When put together, the image will be 6' wide and 5' 4" tall. The larger image, which is unknown to the young artists involved because they have only a small portion of the overall piece, reflected the theme

of Journeys: Identity, Culture and Community. The mural was revealed during the Artist's Reception on May 16, 2023 in the library auditorium, where it will be permanently displayed.

Social Issues Community Discussion Series:

This community discussion series centered around issues of vital importance to the town. It began on January 14, 2023 discussing the topic of Domestic Violence and culminated on April 15, 2023 with a conversation on Substance Abuse Disorder. The series is part of a larger initiative that includes the One Book, One Community Town-wide Read, in which we collectively read the graphic novel, Hey Kiddo, by Worcester native and best-selling author and illustrator, Jarrett Krosoczka. The book touches on many of the issues that were addressed in the discussion series. The town-wide read and the discussion series conclude with a speaking engagement by Mr. Krosoczka for area teens in the afternoon, and an evening talk for the entire community on April 28, 2023.

The purpose of these discussions are to shine a light on the difficult topics of mental health, domestic violence, trauma informed care, and substance abuse disorder, and to give voice to the many residents who have not typically been heard, including youth, foster families, and those experiencing trauma or addiction.

Through these conversations, we worked to build an understanding and awareness that these often hidden problems are real and interrelated, affecting many Winchendon families. We also used the series as a template toward addressing difficult issues as a community, forming a stronger culture of empathy, engagement and unity among residents to confront other future challenges together.

The series was spearheaded by Library staff person Patti Stanko with considerable help from program partners, Renee Eldredge from the Handle with Care Initiative and Gardner Middle School Counsellor, Genevieve Kane-Howse. The discussions were led by expert moderators and panelists with expertise in the field or those with in-depth lived experience in the topics being investigated.

The Advisory Board for the town-wide read consists of members of the Library staff, representatives from the School District, the Handle with Care Initiative, Winchendon Community Action, HEAL Winchendon, the Police Department, The Winchendon CFCE (Coordinated Family & Community Engagement), and other involved citizens.

Domestic Violence: January 14, 2023

Moderator: Dr. Mary King, Montague Catholic Social Ministries

Panelist: Bethany Greene, Community-based Services Advocate at the YWCA Central Massachusetts' Domestic Violence Services Program

Panelist: Danielle Drew, North Central MA Community-based Services Supervisor at the YWCA Central Massachusetts' Domestic Violence Services Program

Panelist: Bernice Richard, Gardner Domestic Violence Task Force Coordinator and founder of Voices of Truth

Panelist: Tamara Castro, Domestic Violence Program Supervisor at the Spanish American Center in Fitchburg, MA

Trauma Informed Care: February 11, 2023

Moderator: Genevieve Kane-Howse, School Counselor, Gardner Middle School

Panelist: Renee Eldredge, Handle With Care Initiative, Heywood Community Health Worker

Panelist: Amparo Cruz: Pathways for Change, Worcester

Panelist: Diane Lanni: Foster Parent Trauma Coach

Mental Health: March 11, 2023

Moderator: Jennifer LaRoche,

Panelist: Madison Eldredge, Youth Leadership Intern, Parent Professional Advocacy League (PPAL)

Panelist: Ann Berube: Parent Professional Advocacy League

Panelist: Kelci Schultz: Local area Outpatient Therapist

Substance Abuse Disorder: April 15, 2023

Moderator:

Panelist: Shawn Hayden: GAMMHA, Inc

Panelist: Dan Wolski: Winchendon Police Chief

Panelist: Amy Simmers-Swanson: Parent, Grandparent and Foster Parent.

Flash Fiction Competition

This competition —coordinated with the Library Staff and School District as a means of showcasing the talents of our community’s children, young adults, and adult residents— will take place during the winter of 2023. Participants will submit works of flash fiction, ultra-short written works of between 500-750 words, to be judged at the Library by a panel of local fiction writers during a special reading event.

The Beals Young Adult Prize for Poetry

This competition, coordinated by the Library Director, follows our community theme, Journeys: Identity, Culture, and Community, and will showcase and reward the artistic talents of our community’s young adults. Poems will be judged by a panel of local poets; the top ten finalists will be invited to read their work at a special event held in the spring of 2023 and hosted by the Library.