SPECIAL EVENT

EXPLORERS OF THE AMERICAN WEST
THURSDAYS, OCTOBER 2, 9, AND 16, 6:00 P.M., MEMBERS’ ROOM

OCTOBER 2: ROBERT MCCrackEN PECK
"To Acquire What Knowledge You Can...":
THE SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS OF LEWIS AND CLARK

The cartographical, political and commercial achievements of Captains Meriwether Lewis and William Clark are well known, but their expedition has never been properly credited for its many important scientific discoveries. Robert Peck, a naturalist and historian at the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences, will fill this gap using slides of many of their specimens and early reports. He is most recently the author of Land of the Eagle: A Natural History of North America.

OCTOBER 9: LATON McCARTNEY
"In the Midst of the Principle Chain":
ROBERT STUART AND THE DISCOVERY OF THE OREGON TRAIL

Lewis and Clark turned America's eyes to the expanse of the west, but it was fur trader Robert Stuart who opened the door to Manifest Destiny with his discovery of the only direct passage through the Rocky Mountains. Laton McCartney, a journalist and author of the upcoming Across the Great Divide, is a descendant of Stuart and draws upon Stuart's journals and personal papers to tell a gripping story of adventure.

OCTOBER 16: TOM CHAFFIN
"All Your Campfires Have Become Cities": JOHN C. FRÉMONT, THE PATHFINDER

Explorer, businessman, army officer, politician, and abolitionist, John C. Frémont was a symbol of the frontier spirit. Tom Chaffin is the author of Pathfinder: John Charles Frémont and the Course of American Empire, which Publishers Weekly calls "a deeply nuanced portrait of a man of many parts." This lecture will look at Frémont's exploration and his writings, which compelled America to re-imagine the west.

This series is $10 per session for members and guests. Contact the Events Office to register for any or all sessions.

CALENDAR

NEW YORK IS BOOK COUNTRY
September 21
12:00-5:00 P.M.

EXPLORERS SERIES
2, 9, and 16
October
6:00 P.M.

WALTER ISAACSON ON BENJAMIN FRANKLIN
October 23
6:30 P.M.

MICHAEL CART ON WALTER R. BROOKS
October 30
6:00 P.M.

BENITA EISLER ON CHOPIN'S FUNERAL
November 11
6:00 P.M.

PATRICIA REILLY GIFF ON HER WORK
November 13
5:30 P.M.

CHRIS HEDGES ON WAR
December 3
6:30 P.M.

WARREN ZIMMERMANN ON FIRST GREAT TRIUMPH
December 9
6:00 P.M.

Registration is required for all events. To register, contact the Events Office at 212-288-6900 x230 or events@nysoclib.org. Any fees listed may be paid at the door.

To receive technology news and articles electronically, send an e-mail to webmaster@nysoclib.org. To receive the monthly Children's Events Calendar, call the Events Office at 212-288-6900 x230.
**LIBRARY LECTURES**

**THE IRREPRESSIBLE PIG: THE RENAISSANCE OF THE FREDDY THE PIG BOOKS**

FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN IN THIRD GRADE AND ABOVE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, 6:00 P.M., MEMBERS’ ROOM

"Well, why wouldn't they say what they mean?" Sniffy asked. "That's the trouble with books: you have to think what they mean all the time."

Forty years ago, Walter R. Brooks's Freddy the Pig books were a staple of American children's literature. In more than twenty-five books, the multi-talented Freddy appeared as cowboy, explorer, politician, publisher, poet, magician, banker, pilot, detective, and anything else the occasion called for. Today, the Freddy books are regaining their place on the shelf with the critical attention of Michael Cart, in The Art of Freddy. The author of What's So Funny? Wit and Humor in American Children's Literature and the young adult novel My Father's Scar, Cart is also a columnist for Booklist magazine, past president of the Friends of Freddy fan club, and former director of the Beverly Hills Public Library.

Walter R. Brooks, a Library member, created not only Freddy the Pig but also the talking horse immortalized on television as Mr. Ed. In this lecture, Cart will talk about Brooks's career and bring a new generation into the fun of Freddy. This lecture is free of charge, but registration is required.
LIBRARY LECTURES

BENITA EISLER

THE MUSIC OF CHOPIN’S LAST DAYS
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 6:00 P.M., MEMBERS’ ROOM

"A young man from the provinces, armed with talent or brilliance, ardent with ambition, arrives in the capital. His mix of cynicism and innocence is irresistible—especially to older women…. From its salons, he conquers Paris: The rich, the titled, the gifted bow to his genius. His distinction of dress and manner is enhanced by the sorrows that have left their mark…. To these will be added other losses: the death of illusions and of love itself."

—Chopin’s Funeral

In Chopin’s Funeral Benita Eisler retells the often-romanticized story of Frédéric Chopin. According to the New York Times, the book shows "poetic insight and admirable brevity, combining analytical skill with that of a novelist.” Publishers Weekly says, “Chopin’s failings...are made clear; but Eisler, deeply sympathetic to the quality of the music, also shows that he never ceased to struggle, despite perpetual illness, to expand his extraordinary gift into areas where no musician had previously ventured.” Eisler is the author of Byron: Child of Passion, Fool of Fame and O’Keefe and Stieglitz: An American Romance. This lecture will be accompanied by excerpts of Chopin’s beautiful music. The event is $10, and registration is required.

WARREN ZIMMERMANN

FIRST GREAT TRIUMPH: HOW FIVE AMERICANS MADE THEIR COUNTRY A WORLD POWER
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 6:00 P.M., MEMBERS’ ROOM

"We were sure that we would win, that we should score the first great triumph in a mighty world-movement."

—Theodore Roosevelt, 1904

Much ink has been spilled about America’s rise to modern empire status, but Warren Zimmermann’s First Great Triumph demonstrates its little-known beginning between 1898 and 1903. Zimmermann details the roles of Theodore Roosevelt, Henry Cabot Lodge, John Hay, Elihu Root, and Admiral Alfred T. Mahan in the U.S. interventions in Puerto Rico, the Philippines, and Guam at the turn of the century. The New York Times calls the book "a good story, full of craggy individualists and events that retain their power to amaze." Zimmermann has served as a diplomat around the world and taught at Columbia and Johns Hopkins universities. He has also written the critically acclaimed Origins of a Catastrophe: Yugoslavia and Its Destroyers. The lecture is $10, and registration is required.
WALTER ISAACSON
AUTHOR OF BENJAMIN FRANKLIN: AN AMERICAN LIFE
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 6:30 P.M.
THE HARMONIE CLUB, 4 EAST 60TH STREET

“Benjamin Franklin is the founding father who winks at us... He speaks to us, through his letters and hoaxes and autobiography, not with orotund rhetoric but with a chattiness and clever irony that is very contemporary, sometimes unnervingly so. We see his reflection in our own time.” —Benjamin Franklin: An American Life

Benjamin Franklin can be described as America's greatest scientist, politician, businessman, writer, and homespun philosopher. His Autobiography and other writings demonstrate that he was fully aware of his invention of himself, and in this biography, Walter Isaacson reveals and enjoys Franklin's multi-faceted character. Historian Joseph J. Ellis calls the book "a thoroughly researched, crisply written, convincingly argued chronicle," which is "a prime candidate for the authoritative Franklin of our time." Isaacson, former chairman of CNN and now president of the Aspen Institute, is also the author of Kissinger and The Wise Men: Six Friends and the World They Made. The lecture is free for members and their guests; registration is required. Please note the change in location.

CHRIS HEDGES
AUTHOR OF WHAT EVERY PERSON SHOULD KNOW ABOUT WAR
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 6:30 P.M.
TEMPLE ISRAEL, 112 EAST 75TH STREET

"If people understood, or individuals or societies understood in a sensory way what war was, they'd never do it."

—An interview with Chris Hedges

Chris Hedges has been a war correspondent for fifteen years, writing for the Dallas Morning News, NPR, and, most recently, the New York Times. His bestselling War Is a Force That Gives Us Meaning fearlessly analyzes the mythology that carries societies into war. His new book emphasizes the soldier's reality, often hidden behind war's exciting façade, by answering questions such as “Will I be afraid?” and “What are the long-term consequences of combat stress?” The New York Times Book Review says, "Neither jingoistic nor pacifist, the book is about the moral authority of information, as it applies to the present and future nature of war." The lecture is free for members and their guests. Registration is required.
CHILDREN’S LIBRARY AND PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

PATRICIA REILLY GIFF

THE THINGS THAT MATTER TO US

FOR SECOND GRADE AND UP * THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 5:30 P.M., MEMBERS’ ROOM

Patricia Reilly Giff writes books with the message that “ordinary people are special.” The author of the Kids of the Polk Street School series, Lily's Crossing, Nory Ryan's Song, and, most recently, Pictures of Hollis Woods, Giff has been honored with two Newbery Medals, as well as awards from the American Library Association and the Boston Globe-Horn Book Awards. Reviewers have called her books "deft," and "compelling.

In this event, Giff will talk about her love for writing and for sharing her favorite books. "Anyone who has problems or worries, anyone who laughs and cries, anyone who feels can write," she says. "It's only talking on paper… talking about the things that matter to us." This event is free for members and guests, but registrants are encouraged to bring a new children’s book for the Project Cicero book drive. To register, call 212-288-6900 x234.

YOUNG WRITERS’ WORKSHOP

The Library is pleased to offer a new workshop for young writers. Each month a guest leader will introduce a different writing genre and help participants find their own voices. Each workshop session is $10, and registration is required. Call 212-288-6900 x234 to register. All sessions take place from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. in the Whitridge Room.

MINI-BOOKS

FOR GRADES 3 TO 5 * TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14

Participants will create mini-books of different shapes and sizes. Then, Children's Librarians Carrie Silberman and Randi Levy will guide young writers to tell stories inspired by the shapes of their books.

KEEPING A JOURNAL AND FINDING YOUR VOICE

FOR GRADES 4 TO 6 * TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Carol Weston, author of Girltalk, The Diary of Melanie Martin, and seven other books, will help participants find ways to tell their own stories in personal journals and other forms.

BOOK DISCUSSIONS

Parents and children are invited to join Children’s Librarian Carrie Silberman for discussions of these award-winning books. Please call 212-288-6900 x234 to register. All sessions will take place in the Whitridge Room.

FOR MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS IN GRADES 3 AND 4

BECAUSE OF WINN-DIXIE BY KATE DICAMILLO * TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7 AT 5:30 P.M.

Great things happen to Opal because of her big, ugly, happy dog, Winn-Dixie.

FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN IN GRADES 3 AND 4

FROM THE MIXED-UP FILES OF MRS. BASIL E. FRANKWEILER BY E.L. KONIGSBERG

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6 AT 5:30 P.M.

Runaways Claudia and Jamie have surprising adventures at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN IN GRADES 5 AND 6

HOLES BY LOUIS SACHAR * THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20 AT 5:30 P.M.

Digging holes at a desert correctional camp, Stanley digs up the truth.
NEW YORK IS BOOK COUNTRY 2003
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 11:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.
ALONG FIFTH AVENUE BETWEEN 48TH AND 57TH STREETS

Authors, publishers and book lovers of all kinds will gather on Fifth Avenue for the 25th New York Is Book Country fair. These member authors will visit the Library’s booth between noon and 5:00 p.m. See The New York Times on September 21 for details on all the booths and activities.

**RAY ROBINSON**
author of
Iron Horse: Lou Gehrig in His Time

**ANN BIRSTEIN**
avuthor of
What I Saw At the Fair

**SUSAN BUCKLEY**
authors of

**MEG WOLITZER**
avuthor of
The Wife

**ELSPETH LEACOCK**
authors of

**RICHARD PANEK**
avuthor of
Seeing and Believing: How the Telescope Opened Our Eyes...

EXHIBITION

An exhibition from two of the Library’s special collections will be on display in the second-floor exhibition space outside the Members’ Room. The exhibition includes theology books from the library of John Sharpe and art and literature volumes donated by Irene Sharaff and Mai-Mai Sze. Reverend Sharpe was a missionary in 18th-century America and an early advocate of libraries. Irene Sharaff, one of the 20th century’s leading costume designers, gave a distinctive look to An American in Paris, The King and I, West Side Story, and dozens of other works for stage and screen. Mai-Mai Sze, the daughter of a Chinese diplomat, was a painter, model, and writer. Among the Sharaff-Sze selections is Praeterita, a memoir by John Ruskin, whose self-portrait is at left.

Please write or telephone the Library with any comments or suggestions. Visit our website at www.nysoclib.org.