

MORE HAPPENINGS at BPL

BOO Ball

The Band of Others (BOO) is a group of artists and friends who share an almost irrational love of Halloween. Every year, this group hosts a Halloween party in the Southeast called the BOO Ball to bring unique people together against a backdrop of innovative décor, gourmet food and drink, and local music--all while raising funds for good causes. The Birmingham Public Library has been chosen as this year's recipient of the proceeds from the BOO Ball.

This event will be held on October 30 from 8:00 p.m. until 12:30 a.m. at the downtown Birmingham Public Library (2100 Park Place). The theme for the party is Mad Halloween: A Mid-Century Masquerade. Tickets to the BOO Ball cost \$45 per person and include two drink vouchers and appetizers.

To purchase tickets, visit <http://www.booballbhm.com/>.

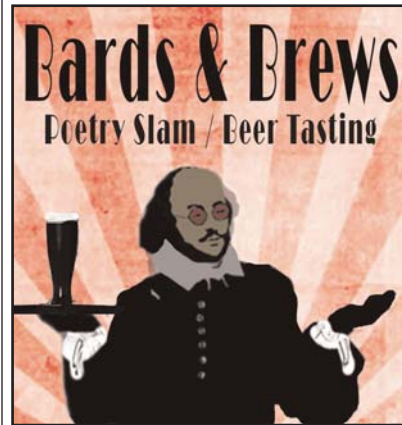
MADHALLOWEEN

BPL needs your input!!

BPL is currently involved in a strategic planning process for the next five-year period, and your input is invaluable as the library looks to the future! There will be three opportunities to meet with library staff for a guided discussion. Please share your thoughts with BPL on any of the following dates:

Tuesday, October 12 (11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.)
Tuesday, October 12 (5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.)
Thursday, October 14 (11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.)

Please let us know which session you would like to attend by responding to Sandi Lee at (205) 226-3742 or slee@bham.lib.al.us. We hope to hear from you soon!



What: Poetry slam and free beer sampling

When: First Friday of every month starting in October, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Where: Central Library (2100 Park Place)

FREE ADMISSION

Visit www.bplonline.org for more details.

Friends Officers: Dora Sims, President; David J. Langum, Immediate Past President; Pat Rumore, Vice President; Barbara Sirmans, Treasurer; Pat Thomas, Secretary; Regina Ammon, Member-at-Large

Contact Friends of BPL at (205) 226-3610, friends@bham.lib.al.us, or 2100 Park Place, Birmingham, AL 35203.

Friends of the Birmingham Public Library
2100 Park Place
Birmingham, AL 35203



2010 Fall Newsletter

**You're invited ~
Friends of BPL
Annual Meeting
Sunday, Oct. 17,
3:00 p.m.**



Dora Sims, President

Friends' Overview 2010

On behalf of the Friends of the Birmingham Public Library, I bring you "Greetings." It has been a remarkable year.

With the close of 2009, the Friends made a tremendous impact during our first year participating in National Friends of Libraries Week. We received a Proclamation from the City of Birmingham for our support of library programs, and the

Friends gained 100 new, first-time members grossing over \$3,000 during our membership campaign. For these efforts, our Friends organization was recognized nationally by the Association of Library Trustees, Advocates, Friends, and Foundations (ALTAFF), a division of the American Library Association.

Along with the Birmingham Public Library Board of Directors, the Friends sponsored and hosted the first Patron Appreciation Day at all 20 Birmingham Public Library locations. Patrons expressed their gratitude for this special day by sharing rave reviews and comments with library staff. The Friends concluded 2009 by participating in Birmingham's Christmas Parade for the first time and sponsoring the annual Local Authors' Expo, which had a record high participation of 168 authors.

In 2010, the Friends began publishing a quarterly newsletter to announce programs and activities hosted by the library and the Friends. This publication is shared with all members through postal and electronic mail.

During Volunteer Appreciation Week in April, the Friends honored all library volunteers with a Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon. In August, the Friends proudly sponsored a welcoming reception at the Birmingham Public

Library for more than 5,000 librarians attending the National Conference of African American Librarians in Birmingham.

Although the library has faced budget cuts from the City of Birmingham, the Friends organization has continued to support the library. In the spring, the Friends participated in the Regions Birdies for Charity program for the first time. With the help of our members, we raised over \$600 for library programs and services. Currently, the Friends organization is selling 2011 Book Lover's Calendars to raise more funds for library support.

Before the end of the year, the Friends will announce a recipient of the Beyond the Budget Award. This monetary award is given to a library branch or department successfully demonstrating a need for funding for a new program, equipment, or materials not included in the library's operating budget. In October, the Friends will help to sponsor Staff Day for all Birmingham Public Library employees. On December 4, the Friends will once again sponsor the Local Authors' Expo, a venue for self-published authors to display and sell their books.

This year we will kick off National Friends of Libraries Week with our annual meeting on Sunday, October 17 at 3:00 p.m. Our guest speaker will be Ms. Katherine Tucker Windham.

Lastly, as my tenure as president draws to a close, I am thrilled to share that my pledge to increase membership, thereby raising library awareness, is a reality. I am humble to have been given the opportunity to serve. The Friends and library have many new projects on the horizon. Please join us as we move ahead in 2011!

The Friends of the Birmingham Public Library is a nonprofit advocacy group whose mission is to support the library. I invite you to become a Friend. You may join or renew your membership at the annual meeting on October 17 or online at <http://friends.bplonline.org>. For more information about the Friends, please call (205) 226-3600.

Friends of BPL Annual Meeting

The annual meeting for the Friends will take place on **Sunday, October 17 at 3:00 p.m.** in Central's Arrington Auditorium (2100 Park Place). The Friends are excited to announce that **Kathryn Tucker Windham** will be the guest speaker at the meeting.

Kathryn Tucker Windham is one of America's best-loved storytellers. Among other stories, Windham plans to talk to the Friends about her recently reprinted children's book *Earnest's Gift*. This heartwarming book is based on a local, true story of a man whose lifelong love of books and reading helped him to overcome childhood hurt.



New members who join the Friends at this meeting will be given a special introductory rate of \$10 for their first year's dues. So please bring a prospective Friend with you.

Seating for this event is limited. To reserve a spot, please RSVP at friends@bham.lib.al.us or by calling Sarah Hughes at (205) 226-3757.

October 17-23 is
National Friends of Libraries Week

The Friends of BPL have planned the following events to commemorate this special week.

Friends of BPL Annual Meeting

Sunday, October 17, 3:00 p.m., Central's Arrington Auditorium (2100 Park Place)

Please join the Friends for light refreshments and entertainment by Kathryn Tucker Windham. If you would like to help with this event, please send an email to friends@bham.lib.al.us.

Patron Appreciation Day

Wednesday, October 20, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., All BPL Locations

The Friends Board of Directors and the BPL Board of Directors want to express their gratitude to library patrons for their support of the Birmingham Public Library. Please drop by any of the 19 BPL locations for cake and hospitality.

BPL Staff Day

Thursday, October 21

The Friends of BPL are helping to sponsor a morning of professional development for all Birmingham Public Library employees. Following this program, all BPL locations will open at 2:00 p.m.



BPL@Night Program hosted by the Friends of BPL

Thursday, October 21, 6:30 p.m., Central's Atrium (2100 Park Place)

In celebration of the 200th anniversary of composer Robert Schumann's birth, "Scenes From Childhood" will be performed by local pianist Barry Vaughn. Mr. Vaughn, a 1974 graduate from the Alabama School of Fine Arts, holds a B.A. Degree from Harvard University, a Masters of Divinity from Yale University, and a Ph.D. from University of St. Andrews, Scotland. Light refreshments will be served by the Friends.

Thank you to the Friends who have recently joined or renewed their memberships:

Bonner Wagnon and James Donald, Jerrie A. Foster, Anita Jones, Maya Jones, Laura and Terry Kellogg, Patricia Mason, Helen Rivas, Dora and Ira Sims, Sandy and Gregory Vitalis, Charlie Walker, Mary S. Warden, Gwendolyn and Arthur Welch

You can join or renew your membership online at <http://friends.bplonline.org>.

BPL@ NIGHT presents

Barry Vaughn

October 21, 6:30 p.m.

Central's Atrium (2100 Park Place)

Robert Schumann's "Scenes From Childhood" will be performed by local pianist Barry Vaughn. Mr. Vaughn, a 1974 graduate from the Alabama School of Fine Arts, holds a B.A. from Harvard University, a Masters of Divinity from Yale University, and a Ph.D. from University of St. Andrews, Scotland. He has studied piano with Dr. Betty Sue Shepherd of Samford University, Israeli concert pianist Ophra Yerushalmi, and Madeline Bruser of New York City.

360 Degrees of Music

November 4, 6:30 p.m.

Central's Arrington Auditorium (2100 Park Place)

Join us for this concert with many goals in mind 1) to present a multi-genre and multi-lingual musical experience; 2) to demonstrate the unifying and universal power of music; and 3) to preserve, protect, and promote some of the world's greatest lyrical music, both past and present. J.D. Jackson will be singing accompanied by Sam Robinson.

An Evening of Jazz

November 23, 6:30 p.m.

Powderly Library (3301 Jefferson Avenue SW)

In addition to touring with Ruben Studdard 2003 - 2006, Keith Williams has opened for artists Kirk Whalum, Ramsey Lewis, Boney James, and many more! Join us for an entertaining evening with jazz guitarist, Keith Williams.

A Christmas Memory featuring Dolores Hydock

December 9, 6:30 p.m.

Central's Arrington Auditorium (2100 Park Place)

Join us for our annual tradition with Birmingham storyteller and actress Dolores Hydock as she presents "A Christmas Memory." Truman Capote's poignant reminiscence of his boyhood in rural Alabama is brought to vivid life in this wonderful holiday performance.



Brown Bag Lunch Programs

Wednesdays at Noon in Central's Arrington Auditorium (2100 Park Place)

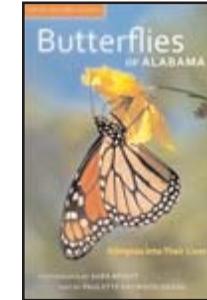
Making Music with the Alabama School of Fine Arts

October 6

Join us as the Music Department from the Alabama School of Fine Arts showcases the great talent of their fine musicians. We will be treated to selections that include jazz, classical, and a few surprises!

Butterflies of Alabama: Glimpses into Their Lives

October 13



Butterflies of Alabama is a full-color, richly illustrated guide to the 84 known species of "true" butterflies (Papilionoidea) found within the state's borders. For more than 14 years, authors Sara Bright and Paulette Haywood Ogard have made a close study of these showy winged stars of the insect world, pursuing them in a great variety of habitats, rearing them, and photographing their remarkable life cycle. Join us as the authors take a fascinating look at the natural world that is in our own backyards!

Lead Poisoning - Know the facts!

October 20

Lead is still used in the manufacturing of many products and affects over 300,000 children in the United States. Jefferson County has the highest numbers of patients affected by lead poisoning in Alabama. Join Lonnie Pressley, from the Jefferson County Health Department, for a look at lead in our environment. She will discuss what lead poisoning is, how it affects children, the environmental sources of lead, the symptoms of lead poisoning, and how to protect children from coming in contact with it.

The Cherokee: Our Past, Our Present, and Our Future

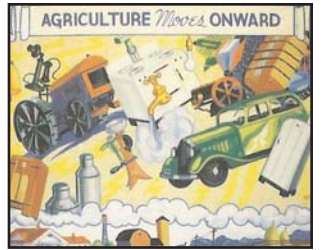
October 27

Join us as Stan Long, Principal Chief of the Cherokee Tribe of Northeast Alabama, discusses the history of the Cherokee Tribe in Alabama. Alabama is rich in Cherokee history---some of the first-written Cherokee laws were enacted in Alabama, and several of the earliest Cherokee delegations to Washington D.C. included Alabama Cherokees.

Artists on Relief

November 3, 2010

Birmingham is full of interesting murals. Join Graham Bortcher, Curator of American Art at the Birmingham Museum of Art, as he talks about the men and women behind Birmingham's murals.



Discovery and Saving of Birmingham Murals

November 10, 2010

Discover Birmingham's beautiful murals and how they are being preserved with Conservator John Bertalan and Historian Bruse Dupree.

Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People

November 17

Jackie Matte will discuss the Indigenous People of Alabama. Matte is an independent scholar, who in 1991 received a Teacher-Scholar Award from the National Endowment for the Humanities for one year of independent study. Her research on Southeastern Indians was published in the professional journal of the National Council for Social Studies. Matte has also written *They Say the Wind is Red: The Alabama Choctaw Lost in their Own Land*.

Birmingham Bound presents Tim Hollis

December 1

In his latest book, *Pittz: The History of a Birmingham Institution*, Hollis recalls the days before strip malls and big-box stores when everyone shopped downtown. Focusing on one of Birmingham's best known local department stores, Hollis will discuss the rise and decline of downtown retail in the Magic City.

A Christmas Memory

December 8

Join us for our annual tradition with Birmingham storyteller and actress Dolores Hydock as she presents "A Christmas Memory." Truman Capote's poignant reminiscence of his boyhood in rural Alabama is brought to vivid life in this wonderful holiday performance.



2011 Book Lover's Calendars

Christmas will be here before you know it! Start your shopping early at BPL. To raise money to support BPL programs and services, the Friends are selling 2011 Book Lover's Calendars at the Central Library's circulation desk. These calendars can be purchased for \$10, and they make great stocking stuffers.

Local Authors' Expo

Are you a writer? Have you published a book? Come be a part of BPL's Local Authors' Expo. This event will be held at the Central Library (2100 Park Place) on Saturday, December 4 from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. To register, email Irene@bham.lib.al.us or call (205) 226-3726. There is no registration fee. This event is sponsored by the Friends of BPL.