

Osprey Library Newsletter – September, 2018

September is Library Card Sign Up Month! Do you know someone who (gasp) has yet to get a library card? Do they read books, watch movies, or peruse the newspaper? Do they download music, reading material, or audio books? Seek technology assistance, need a place to cool down and flip through magazines, enjoy conversation, want help researching, fact-checking, or assessing information? Would they like those things, and more, to all be free? You know where to bring them!

“We all require and want respect, man or woman, black or white. It's our basic human right.” -Aretha Franklin

“Being the Queen is not all about singing, and being a diva is not all about singing. It has much to do with your service to people. And your social contributions to your community and your civic contributions as well.” -Aretha Franklin

MUSIC

This month's theme is music! I am happy to announce that the Osprey Library now has a music section. So, you can rock steady with Aretha, dance on a pony keg with June Carter and Johnny Cash, fight the power with Public Enemy, put on your tux and sing along with the three tenors, get folksy with the Boss' Seeger Sessions, be a coooool cat with Thelonius Monk, get wise and sassy with Dolly Parton, go to church with Leon Bridges, build a ship to wreck with Florence + The Machine, be fully alive with Flyleaf, and dust off your salsa shoes with Tito Puente. Or, if you march to the beat of yet another drum, ask the librarian to order what your ears would prefer!

Have you moved past CDs (after moving past records, 8-tracks and tapes, oh my) but also aren't keen on paying to download music? With the power of your library card, you can use

Freegal to download music. It's a slow and steady process, because you are limited to 5 songs per week—but each week you can add 5 without losing what you have added previously, so week by week you can build a nice collection of music on your device. Want to know more about how to do this? Come in on Saturday between 10 and noon to ask Will, our excellent teenage volunteer who is here to help you with all manner of technology questions.

“Without music, life would be a mistake.” -Friedrich Nietzsche

“There's a hunger in me that always wants to be creating and orating, telling people something and giving them information and getting feedback. There are so many questions that I'm trying to ask, and I'm still so far from being done saying what I gotta say.” -Chance The Rapper

MUSIC TO READ BY

Come in and peruse September's display of book and music pairings...with a few movies thrown in as well.

Read James Lee Burke's latest novel about his New Orleans detective, Robicheaux—enhance the story with the music of Dr. John.

Compliment James Baldwin's still powerful *The Fire Next Time* with the potent music of Nina Simone. Follow up with Jesmyn Ward's contemporary *The Fire This Time*, paired with the music of Janelle Monáe.

Check out *Van Gogh and Music* by Natascha Veldhorst, and compliment your contemplation with Duke Ellington. Follow up by watching *Immortal Beloved*, featuring Gary Oldman as Beethoven.

Dive into *Necessary Trouble: Americans in Revolt* by Sarah Jaffe, and expand your understanding of protest with the music of Rage Against The Machine.

Explore *My Southern Journey* by Rick Bragg while cranking up Florida Georgia Line's *Dig Your Roots*.

Indulge in Danielle Steele's new novel *Accidental Hero*, while embracing the drama with Luciano Pavarotti.

“One good thing about music, when it hits you, you feel no pain.” -Bob Marley

“My personal hobbies are reading, listening to music, and silence.” -Edith Sitwell

LIVE MUSIC TO READ BY

Saturday, September 22nd from 11 a.m. – Noon

Enjoy live music on the porch, generously provided by musician, mathematician, and avid reader, Owen Hodge.

“Music is a higher revelation than all wisdom and philosophy.”

-Ludwig van Beethoven

“This world is full of conflicts and full of things that cannot be reconciled. But there are moments when we can...reconcile and embrace the whole mess, and that's what I mean by 'Hallelujah.'” -Leonard Cohen

MUSIC TO LIVE BY

As a child, Ray Charles was my invisible friend. (Truth be told, he still is.) Despite being a little girl growing up in counterculture Oregon, of all places, his voice spoke more clearly and meaningfully to me than any other. What is great about music is also what is great about libraries—both create intersections.

Music is an intersection where people with experiences as divergent as a child in Oregon, a dirt farmer in Georgia, a chess grandmaster in New York, an activist in Chicago, an aspiring musician in Ireland, a prisoner in South Africa connect, transcendently, in the depth of power and grace that Ray Charles drew from piano keys and the innate genius of his voice.

Or take the banjo. The banjo, a derivative of West African instruments, was devised in the Caribbean in the 1600s by enslaved people. Four centuries later, the banjo is a fundamentally American instrument that forms a musical intersection where blues, bluegrass, jazz, and country rock frequently meet; but also where punk poet Patti Smith's brilliant cover of Just Like Teen Spirit, British alternative rock (in the form of Mumford and Sons), the stand-up comedy of Steve Martin, and the Cohen Brothers satirical version of The Odyssey (O Brother Where Art Thou) find common ground.

I'm no Ray Charles of Librarianship, and I'm truly sad to report that I cannot play the banjo, but I am proud of the way that the Osprey library, as with all good libraries, is a place where people from a breadth of backgrounds and experiences intersect. I am encouraged that there are public places—anchored by books, by ideas, by information—where the entire breadth of the population is welcome, where people who might have no other opportunity to meaningfully cross paths might connect, whether in person or in the realm of ideas, stories, words, and resources.

I hope that, even if you don't find David's secret chord—and Ray Charles doesn't take up residence as a voice in your head—you will find joy, solace, inspiration, humor, and raucousness in the library, on the music shelf or otherwise!

“I'm doing everything that I can, working with experts, really studying the statistics to figure out a way we can make it cool or normal to be kind and loving.” -Lady Gaga

“I'm so happy to be a song-writer - I'm even surprised when I get to record anything. I consider it a considerable privilege and a blessing to have a medium of expression that has a place in the world.” -Buffy Sainte-Marie

(Quotes are included as food for thought, and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of your librarian, the library system, or Sarasota County.)