BOOKLISTS

FICTION

Caleb's Crossing by Geraldine Brooks (2011)

In 1660 on Martha's Vineyard in the settlement of Great Harbor, fifteen year old Bethia Mayfield lives with her pastor father, her brother, and her sister. Bethia risks the hefty fine that is expected of her, a Puritan girl of that time. She isn't allowed to study. She studies in secret. Her love of learning is her secret sin. The author is a Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist.

The Size of a Mustard Seed by Umm Jwawayriah (2009)

Jameelah, a 27-year-old Muslim woman is a member of one of the inner city's strongest blended American Muslim families. She has a successful career as a hair stylist and seems to have a good life: a good family, a nice car, her own apartment, a good education. However, Jameelah's life is slowly slipping out of her control. When a prominent Imam proposes marriage, she believes that the proposal and a new life will be the key to regaining control of her life. The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood (1986)

Olffed, a Handmaid, describes life in what was once the United States, now the Republic of Gilead, a shockingly repressive and intolerant monothecocracy. In Gilead, women are strictly controlled, unable to have jobs or money and assigned to various classes. The author has been published in over 35 countries and has written over 40 books of fiction, poetry, and critical essays. The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins (2008)

First book in this series. In a future North America, where the rulers of Panem maintain control through an annual televised survival competition pitting young people against one another, sixteen-year-old Katniss’s skills are put to the test when she voluntarily takes her younger sister's place.

My Name is Mary Sutter by Robin Oliveira (2010)

Traveling to Civil War-era Washington, D.C., to tend wounded soldiers and pursue her dream of becoming a surgeon, headstrong midwife Mary receives guidance from two sitten doctors and resists her mother’s pleas for her to return home. This book focuses on the role of women during the Civil War.

The Red Tent by Anita Diamant (1997)

The story of Dinah, a tragic character from the bible whose great love, a prince, is killed by her brother, leaving her alone and pregnant. The novel traces her life from childhood to death, in the process examining sexual and religious practices of the day, and what it meant to be a woman. A classic women's read.

Snow Flower and the Secret Fan by Amy Tan (2005)

A story of friendship set in nineteenth-century China follows an elderly woman and her companion as they communicate their hopes, dreams, joys, and tragedies through a unique secret language. One of the author's best novels.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony: a Friendship that Changed the World by Penny Colman 2011 (BIO STANTON)

A dual biography of the lives of Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony, and the friendship that they formed.

The Feminist Promise: 1792 to the Present by Christine Stansell 2010 (305.4209 STANSELL)

A history of women and women's rights from the abolition of slavery, the Civil War, to modern times and global feminism.

A Few Good Women: America's Military Women from World War I to the Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan by Evelyn Monahan 2010 (355.0082 MONAHAN)

Using interviews, correspondence, and diaries, as well as archival material, the author tells the remarkable story of America’s “few good women” who today make up more than 15 percent of the U.S. armed forces and who serve alongside men in almost every capacity.

From Eve to Dawn: a History of Women by Marilyn French 2008 (305.4209 FRENCH)

This multiple volume set looks at women’s history on an international level.

Game, Set, Match: Billie Jean King and the Revolution in Women’s Sports by Susan Ware 2011 (NEW BIO KING)

When Billie Jean King trounced Bobby Riggs in tennis’s “Battle of the sexes” in 1973, she placed sports squarely at the center of a national debate about gender equity.

Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide by Nicholas Kristof 2009 (362.8309172 KRISTOF)

Two Pulitzer Prize winners issue a call to arms against our era's most pervasive human rights violation: the oppression of women in the developing world.

Incredible Women Inventors by Sandra Braun 2006 (604.82 BRAUN)

The latest addition to the acclaimed Woman's Hall of Fame Series profiles incredible women inventors.

Ladies of Liberty: the Women Who Shaped Our Nation by Christine Stansell 2010 (305.4209 STANSELL)

This book tells the stories of women who have a fierce love of their religion, but also a powerful calling to end its sexism.

My Name is Mary Sutter by Robin Oliveira (2010)

Traveling to Civil War-era Washington, D.C., to tend wounded soldiers and pursue her dream of becoming a surgeon, headstrong midwife Mary receives guidance from two sitten doctors and resists her mother’s pleas for her to return home. This book focuses on the role of women during the Civil War.

Paradise Beneath Her Feet: How Women are Transforming the Middle East by Isobel Coleman 2010 (355.48 COLEMAN)

This book shows how Muslim women and men are fighting back with progressive interpretations of Islam to support women’s rights in a growing movement of Islamic feminism.

Taking Back God by Leora Tanenbaum 2009 (200.82 TA- NENBAUM)

This book tells the stories of women who have a fierce love of their religion, but also a powerful calling to end its sexism.

NON-FICTION

WOMEN & MUSIC: RESOURCES AT THE CENTRAL LIBRARY

BOOKS:

Directory of American Women Composers. (1970) 780.1 D628 (Stack Reference)

Mozart’s Women: His Family, His Friends, His Music, by Jane Glover. (1980) 780.88 AMMER


MUSIC ON CD:


Donne Barocche: Women Composers from the Baroque Period. Classical music. A CLASSIC COLL Donne


This multiple volume set looks at women's history on an international level.

Snow Flower and the Secret Fan by Amy Tan (2005)

A story of friendship set in nineteenth-century China follows an elderly woman and her companion as they communicate their hopes, dreams, joys, and tragedies through a unique secret language. One of the author's best novels.

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WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH

OTHER FORMATS:

Online Resources: American Women's History Online, by Facts on File. Please see a librarian for free access.

VHS:

Wheels of Change: the Story of Women in the 20th Century: A Song for Women

TIP:

Many scores and song recordings by female artists can be found in our collection by doing a search in the OPAC for any of the following women composers: Amy Beach, Lili Boulenger, Fanny Mendelssohn, Meredith Monk, Clara Schumann, Hildegard von Bingam, Ellen Taaffe Zwilich. Similarly an author search for your favorite women performers such as Judy Garland, Beyonce, Julie Andrews, Kathleen Battle, or whoever in the OPAC will list recordings by those famous female performers too.

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America Ferrera (Ugly Betty)
Wednesday, March 7, 11 a.m.
Scibelli Hall Theater
Springfield Technical Community College
Emmy award-winning actress America Georgina Ferrera, best known as Ugly Betty from her hit TV show of the same name, is devoted to humanitarian causes impacting children and education. In 2010 she was awarded the Hispanic Heritage Foundation’s Inspiration Award for her work as a role model, activist, and actress.

AMERICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST LECTURE SERIES
American Women Now and Then
Saturday, March 17, 1-2 p.m.
Sixteen Acres Branch Library
Although women have been leaders in reform they have faced barriers to full equality. Dr. Donald Murphy will present an hour long talk and discussion highlighting some of the women who did so much to help others, and also explore the challenges women have faced. Topics will include suffrage, feminism, economic discrimination, and the limited involvement played by women in our national government.

HEALTH:
Finding Reliable Health & Medical Help Online:
Focus on Women’s Health
Saturday, March 10, 10-11:30 a.m.
Central Library Computer Lab
Join us for this free computer workshop taught by Margot Malachowski, Outreach Librarian at Baystate Health. For additional information or to sign up please call (413) 263-6828, x213. or sign up online at www.springfieldlibrary.org.

MEET THE AUTHOR:
Tzivia Gover
Learning in Mrs. Towne’s House
Wednesday, March 21, 6 p.m.
Pine Point Branch Library, 263-6855.
The author will read a selection from her book, discuss her work at The Care Center (a Holyoke school for teen mothers) plus have copies of her book to sell and sign.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUPS:
Clara & Mr. Tiffany, by Susan Vreeland
Tuesday, March 13, 12 - 1 p.m.
Central Library Community Room
“Hoping to honor his father and the family business with innovative glass designs, Louis Comfort Tiffany launches the iconic Tiffany lamp as designed by women’s division head Clara Driscoll, who struggles with the mass production of her creations.”
The Noon Hour Book Discussion Group meets the second Tuesday of each month. For more information contact Chris Kasputis at (413) 263-6828 ext. 442.

Girl in Translation, by Jean Kwok
Wednesday, March 28, 6 - 7 p.m.
East Forest Park Branch Library
“Emigrating with her mother from Hong Kong to Brooklyn, Kimberly Chang begins a secret double life as an exceptional schoolgirl during the day and sweat shop worker at night, an existence also marked by her first crush and the pressure to save her family from poverty.”
The East Forest Park Wednesday Evening Book Group meets on the last Wednesday of each month. For more information contact Maeleah at (413) 263-6836.

IN THEIR HONOR, IMAGES OF WOMEN’S HISTORY:
An Exhibit of Collages by Springfield Artist Mischa Epstein on display now at our new Art Gallery at the Pine Point Branch Library, (413) 263-6855.
Artist reception: Wednesday, March 14, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
This artwork is on display from February 17-April 2.

THE ART OF GEORGIA O’KEEFFE:
How To Pastel Paint Flowers
Saturday, March 24, 12 p.m. at the Sixteen Acres Branch Library, (413) 263-6858. Become inspired to create beautiful pastel paintings by exploring America’s foremost modernist pastel painter of flowers! Led by Greg Maichack. All materials will be provided. Sign up at www.springfieldlibrary.org.

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