



Incorporated in 1810

Fall 2014 Newsletter

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Letter from the President

Dear Members and Friends:

I hope you had an opportunity to join us for the popular Salon Series this summer, for Hannah Tinti's talk during Salem's city-wide book read of *The Good Thief*, or for the performance of *Grass* at the end of August. We also

hope that you enjoyed the Athenæum as a place of respite -- in the garden or the library with our new air conditioner.

Now we invite you to join us for our fall programs. We hope you will bring your friends to share in this vibrant community of ideas and people.

Professor Jay Winter of Yale University will be our 11th annual Adams lecturer, speaking on *The First World War in Transnational Perspective*, on November 12, 7:30 p.m. An expert on World War I, Dr. Winter edited the recently published three-volume *Cambridge History of the First World War*.

Our new writers initiative is launching under the leadership of author and Trustee Brunonia Barry and Salem State Professor J.D. Scrimgeour. They have gathered an exciting team of talented writers and poets to create a new suite of programs. This Fall we are piloting workshops with Boston-based Grub Street, one of the largest writing groups in the nation, to offer a venue for "Grub Street North." In addition, new writing programs of interest to members and writers in the region also begin this fall. The Athenæum will serve as the center for the Salem Lit Fest November 7-9.

Other things to watch for: Our new website will debut in the next few months. The work is led by Ken Harris, Trustee and Principal of Great Island Design. A number of building and grounds projects led by David Hart and Dick and Pam Jendrysik are completed or underway--including refurbishing the furnace, work on the Rare Book Room, improved security and continuing maintenance of building and grounds. Judy Kearney, who was in charge of the Summer Salon series, will lead member programs this fall and winter.

We have several Trustee changes to report. With regret we announce that Sandy Heaphy stepped down as Trustee and Vice President this summer. Our deep thanks to Sandy for her leadership for over 6 years. Ann Fisher Cook had to step down as Clerk. In accordance with the By-Laws, the Trustees are pleased to report the following elections: Ken Harris, Vice President, and Stephanie Buck, Trustee and Clerk.

We thank so many of you for your generous donations to the Garden Party and at the Conservation Night. With your help, our Fund-a-Need and Adopt-a-Book programs have been very successful.

We look forward to seeing you soon at the Athenæum.

Meg Twohey
President, Board of Trustees
The Salem Athenæum



We are grateful to our 2013-2014 Program Sponsors





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Edward Augustus Holyoke Award Presented to Sue Schopf

The Trustees are pleased to present the Edward Augustus Holyoke Award to Sue Schopf for her extraordinary leadership of the Athenæum's education programs.

Sue served as Trustee and Chair of the Education Program Committee from 2004-2010, and has co-chaired the education program committee since then. She has provided superb leadership for dozens of truly excellent Athenæum programs, drawing on her own extensive academic connections and remaining sensitive to the interests of her audiences. The Athenæum has become well known now for its excellent programs and we owe a great deal to Sue for this



Meg Twohey presents the Holyoke Award to Sue Schopf.

achievement. She has also lectured often and taught terrific and very popular courses herself at the Athenæum for more than ten years.

The Edward Augustus Holyoke Award was established in 2006 under Fran Mayo's presidency to recognize extraordinary service to the Athenæum. Sue is the third recipient. Previous winners are Win Wilkens and Elaine von Bruns.

Please join us in thanking Sue for her extraordinary service to the Athenæum!

New Trustee: Stephanie Buck



In light of recent vacancies on the Board of Trustees, the nomination of Stephanie Buck to the Athenæum Board was approved.

Stephanie began volunteering at the Athenæum right after finishing her MLIS at Simmons. She was working as a corporate librarian and missed the smell and feeling of books and thought the Athenæum would be an excellent place to get her

fix. She also worked at a small public library before working as a contract cataloging librarian for a few years, which included major cataloging projects for PEM's Phillips Library and the State Library of Massachusetts. While at the Phillips, she also stepped in as Acting Librarian at the Athenæum when Jean Marie was on maternity leave. She now works as a Content Management Specialist in the eBooks department at EBSCO.

Stephanie grew up in south eastern Connecticut and took a brief detour to Las Vegas before settling in Salem, MA, where she received her B.A. in English from Salem State University, and never left town. She and her boyfriend have settled into a house in Salem with their three cats and dog. We are pleased to welcome Stephanie, who will serve as Clerk, replacing the Anne Fisher Cook as Clerk.

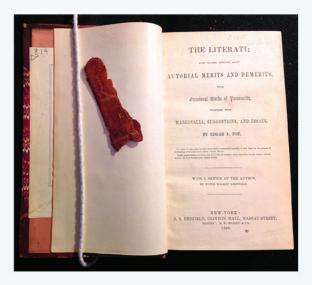
Adopt-a-Book Update

On June 4, we hosted our third Conservation Night and were touched by the philanthropic spirit of the those who opened their hearts and wallets to preserve some special books in the Athenaeum's collection. Thank you for your generosity!

Some of the books that were fully funded are with their conservators already and their work is under way. We have one book that was partially sponsored--Edgar Allen Poe's *The Literati* (1850)--that we would like to send to the conservator. We need to raise an additional \$200 to do so.

If you are interested in contributing to the preservation of this volume, please <u>contact Jean Marie</u>.

Contributions in any amount will gratefully be accepted. All donations are tax deductible.



Athenæum Authors Abound!

We know the Athenæum serves a devoted community of readers. At the moment, we also host a formidable community of writers! Several Athenæum members have released books recently. You may wish to add one or all to your Fall reading list. If you have a new book out, let us know!

Jim DeFilippi Jesus Burned: A Novel Katherine B. Howe Conversion Matthew Phillion The Indestructibles Octavia Randolph Hall of Tyr Richard Scott Mission in Time Donna Thorland Rebel Pirate













Athenæum Member Honored as Finalist in International Short Story Competition

This past winter, Price Grisham entered the 2014 Jane Austen Short Story competition sponsored by Chawton House and patiently awaited the results. During the summer, he received the news: his story was selected to be in an anthology with the 19 other finalists, scheduled for publication in 2015. He is the only male contributor in the collection!



Chawton, famous for being where Jane Austen did almost all of her mature writing, is a village and civil parish in the East Hampshire district of Hampshire, England. Chawton House Library promotes study and research on works written by women in English during the period 1600 to 1830.

Learn more about the Jane Austen Short Story Award.

1st Bi-annual Dickens North American Conference

Pickwickian Endeavors: A weekend of scholarly, serendipitous & witty Dickens...with local Characters

September 26, 27, 28

Dickens scholars from around the world, along with local and international performers, historians, and artists will present for this premiere North American bi-annual conference weekend.

Morning sessions will be held at the Athenæum each day--afternoon and evening sessions will be at various venues in Salem and the Boston area.

Join us for the drama, the history, the music, connections to the North Shore, and meet Dickens' unforgettable characters.

Discount rates available for Athenæum Members. Contact Deb Benvie for more information.

Coordinated by Dickens Fellowship--North of Boston Branch, SSU Faculty and Drama students, the Salem Athenæum, Hawthorne Hotel, House of Seven Gables.

Writing Fiction Workshop with Kevin Carey

2nd and 4th Mondays, September 29 - December 8 6 sessions

Kevin Carey, Writing Professor in Salem State University, will facilitate a writing group about writing fiction. Sessions will include critiques of peer manuscripts and discussion of the fiction-writing process. All levels and styles welcome.

Winner of Best of the Net 2011 and finalist for The Million Writers Award 2012, Kevin Carey has a new chapbook of fiction, The Beach People, from Red Bird Chapbooks and a 2012 book of poetry The One Fifteen to Penn Station, from Cavankerry Press, NJ. Learn more about him at www.kevincareywriter.com

Members, free; non-members, \$120. Reserve Now

Salem Writers' Group Open Mic

Tuesday, September 30, 7:30 p.m.

For over a decade, the Salem Writers' Group has nurtured writers on the North Shore. The group, which is open to everyone, meets every other week and welcomes all levels and all genres.

This event will feature two Writers' Group members who have recently published books, Kevin Carey and Jennifer Jean. An open mic period for other members of the Writers' Group will be included as part of the evening. Copies of the new chapbook, *Salem Writers' Group: A Literary Anthology*, will be available for sale.

Kevin Carey's most recent book, *Beach People*, is a collection of lyric prose about life in a tawdry beach town. Carey is also the author of the poetry collection, *The One Fifteen to Penn Station* and a filmmaker who recently released *All That Lies Between Us*, a documentary about the poet Maria Mazziotti Gillan.



Learn more at www.kevincareywriter.com



Jennifer Jean's debut poetry collection, *The Fool*, was released by Big Table Publishing in 2013. Her chapbooks include *The Archivist* and *In the War*, as well as the multi-media chapbook *Fishwife*. She's also released, with composer Sarah Eide, a collaborative CD called *Fishwife Tales*, which is comprised of art songs, accompanied recitations, and rock ballads.

Learn more at www.fishwifetales.com

Reserve Now

Fall Writing Courses



The Salem Athenæum and GrubStreet, a non-profit literary arts center based in Boston, have joined forces to expand the offerings of creative writing classes on the North Shore!

"Grub Street North" features GrubStreet writing instructors offering courses at the Salem Athenæum. The first courses, outlined below, begin in this Fall and registration is open now. For additional information and to register, please visit <u>grubstreet.org</u>.

Fiction I

8 Tuesdays starting September 30 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

In this introductory course in the craft of writing fiction, Salem native K.L. Pereira will teach writers the tried-and-true elements of fiction--character, plot, dialogue, setting, point of view, and revision--with an emphasis on the short story form.

Only 2 more students are needed to run the course. Sign up today!

\$375 members \$400 for non-members

Writing From Real Life

6 Thursdays starting October 2 6:00-9:00 p.m.

This course is full!

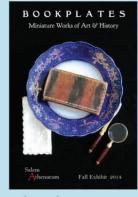
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Fall Exhibition

Bookplates: Miniature Works of Art & History

Opens October 1.

People like to put their mark on things. One example of this quirk is the bookplate. Now considered a quaint artifact, these were once important identifiers of prized possessions. Also called "ex libris," they have been used since the 15th century. They reflect their era



and reveal how the book owners chose to express themselves.

As portals into history, some bookplates tell about people who were stars in their own day but are now forgotten, such as William Brown, the Salem-born Governor of Bermuda, Susan Burley, the lovely patron of Hawthorne and the Athenæum, and Rev. George Innes, the 50-year headmaster of an English boys' school that was founded in 914 and still exists today.

Curator Elaine von Bruns has assembled an impressive array of historic bookplates from the Athenæum's collection and other sources, including a *supralibros* and some remarkable examples of the bookplate art from the height of the form in the 18th and 19th centuries. Modern examples worthy of note are featured as well.

Opening reception will be on October 16, in conjunction with Member Orientation Night.

Fall Prune-up

Saturday, October 4, 9:00 a.m. to Noon.

Help us prepare the building and grounds for the coming winter! Our focus will be invasive vine removal and tree and shrub pruning.

Please bring gloves and clippers. We have lots of tools!

Member Orientation

Thursday, October 16, 7:00 p.m.

Get to know your Athenæum! Come and see what's hidden away in our library while exploring it top-to-bottom. Learn the stories and fascinating facts about our collections and 100-year-old building.

Familiarize yourself with the collection and meet your fellow members while enjoying wine and cheese.

All members--new or not--are encouraged to attend these semi-annual orientation nights. Our next one will be in 2015.

Questions? Contact Jean Marie.

Reserve Now

Incessant Pipe Poetry Salon

4th Tuesdays starting October 28, 7:00 p.m.

"The Pipe" is a space to read poetry, yours or others, and discuss everything from the price of tea in China to quantum particles (as long as it relates back to poetry). All styles of poetry are welcome.

Sessions hosted by Clay Venture, MP Carver, and Scott Jacobs.

CSEM

Chamber Music by Candlelight series Saturday, November 1, 8pm - 10pm.



Les Bostonades



The period-instrument ensemble *Les Bostonades* has been sharing chamber music with Boston area audiences since its founding in 2005. The ensemble features Baroque music specialists who have studied and performed all over the world, and actively collaborate in Boston's vibrant early music scene. Under the direction of Akiko Sato, an acclaimed harpsichordist and continuo player, the ensemble presents spirited and polished performances to their listeners.

This evening they will perform sonatas of J. S. Bach and Concertos of G.P. Telemann in an interconnected presentation.

For tickets and information, call 617-489-2062 or visit www.csem.org.

Members and seniors, \$25; non-members, \$30. Free for students 17 and under.

salem literary festival

November 6 - 9

After a brief hiatus, the Salem Literary Festival is back! Writers and readers will gather in Salem once more for a weekend of literal fun. SLF has joined forces with Readers and Writers. Inc. this year to host its slate of events at historic venues in and around Salem.

Events geared to both readers and writers are planned, in addition to some fun events, of course (a cocktail party and a live storytelling event at PEM).

Register for Literary Festival events.

Festival Kick-Off Party at the Salem Athenæum

Friday Nov. 7, 6 - 8 p.m.

This year's kick-off party gets things rolling with a wine and cheese reception at the historic Salem Athenæum. Admission includes a special signature cocktail or glass of wine from the cash bar. In addition to great conversations, you'll be entertained by The Theater of Words and Music, an interdisciplinary performance of words, music, and the visual arts hosted by Shari Caplan and Casey Roland.



Adams Lecture: The First World War in Transnational Perspective featuring Jay Winter

Wednesday, November 12, 7:30 pm.

Professor Jay Winter of Yale University will be our 2014 Adams Lecture speaker. An expert on World War I and its impact on the 20th century, Dr. Winter edited the recently published

three-volume Cambridge History of the First World War.

Winter has authored or co-authored over a dozen books, including: The Experience of World War I, Sites of Memory, Sites of Mourning: The Great War in European Cultural History, 1914-1918: The Great War and the Shaping of the 20th Century, Remembering War: The Great War between History and Memory in the 20th Century, and Dreams of Peace and Freedom: Utopian Moments in the 20th Century. He also has contributed more than 40 chapters to edited volumes.

The PBS series, "The Great War and the Shaping of the 20th Century," which Winter co-produced, co-wrote and served on as chief historian, won an Emmy Award, a Peabody Award, and a Producers Guild of America Award for best television documentary in 1997.

Please join us for this exciting lecture! The event will be followed by a book signing and a wine and dessert reception.

Members, \$25; non-members, \$30. Students with ID, \$5.

Reserve Now

Writers Masterclass

When Witches Fly, Which Way Should They Hold the Broom?: Experiments with Genre Convention in YA and Adult Fiction

Saturday, November 15, 10:00 a.m. - Noon

As fiction writers, we spend much of our time building worlds that differ from the one in which we live. How do we decide which rules of reality to break? How many is too many? What's the difference between world-building in literary fiction and genre fiction? This discussion-based class will think through strategies for making (and breaking) the rules of reality in your fiction process. Perfect for novelists and short-story writers across the spectrum, from sci-fi to magical realism and everything in between.



A member of the Salem Athenæum, **Katherine Howe** is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Physick Book of Deliverance Dane* and *The House of Velvet and Glass* and most recently, *Conversion*. She has hosted "Salem: Unmasking
the Devil" for the National Geographic Channel, and
her fiction has been translated into over 25
languages. A native Texan, she lives in Marblehead
and upstate New York, where she teaches at
Cornell and is at work on her next novel.

\$75 Tuition

Reserve Now

Spinning Yarns for the Holidays

Friday, December 12, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Join Colleen Michaels, host of the Improbable Places Poetry Tour, for an evening of storytelling. Take the chill off of December and warm up to some of the North Shore's area writers who will take the stage with no notes, nothing but the truth...and the challenge to tell their best holiday story. Put this on your wish list!

Free and open to the public.

Reserve Now

Welcome Winter! Members Party

Saturday, December 13, 2:00-4:00 p.m

Join the membership of the Athenæum to enjoy the fellowship of the season together.

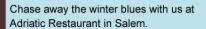
Refreshments, seasonal music, children's craft activity and plenty of good cheer included!

Free.

Reserve Now

Winter Gathering at the Adriatic

Tuesday, January 20, 6:00-8:00 p.m.





Enjoy an evening of friends and complimentary hors d'oeuvres courtesy of the Adriatic. As you soak in the warmth and comfort of one of Salem's premier eating and drinking establishments, we're hoping to raise essential operating funds to help support our programs for 2015.

All proceeds support the Athenæum. Cash bar. \$25

Reserve Now

Mementos:

Jewelry of Life and Love from Historic New England

Thursday January 29, 2015, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Join Associate Curator Laura Johnson for a lecture illustrating some of Historic New England's extensive jewelry collection with a special focus on Salem. This illustrated talk will focus on jeweled gifts such as watches, rings, bracelets, and cuff links that marked major life transitions and helped men and women tell stories about themselves and their families. Through these heirlooms this talk explores how New Englanders mark their important moments and memories of love and life. A reception with light refreshments precedes the lecture.

\$15, \$10 for members of Historic New England, Historic Salem, Inc. and the Salem Athenaeum,

Free for students with ID.

Reserve Now

Co-presented by Salem Athenæum, Historic New England and Historic Salem, Inc.

Recent Events

The following highlights recent noteworthy events at the Athenæum.

Summer Salons and more!

You may think summer is a time to relax, but not at the Athenæum! In addition to some excellent programs, including Donna Seger's *Salem Fire of 1914* lecture, and the debut of the new play, *Grass* (see masthead for photo), we continued our summer tradition of Friday Salons. This summer's record attendance (approximately 355) and impeccable weather made for a memorable season. Thank you to Judy Kearney for organizing, and to our fantastic slate of speakers: Trip Mason, Hale Bradt, Hannah Diozzi, Peter Alachi, Charlie Allen, Lynn Murray, Hannah Tinti and Bruce Machart.







Groups at the Athenæum

The following groups meet regularly at the Salem Athenæum. If you are interested in participating in any of them, please follow the links provided in their listings (or <u>contact Jean Marie</u> if no link is included).

Athenæum Book Group

Second Saturdays at 10:00 a.m.

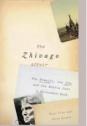
Next meetings: October 11, November 8, December 13, January 10

The Athenæum book group meets monthly. Group members take turns selecting a book for discussion. Whoever chooses the book also serves as discussion leader and provides background materials (if needed). Join us for this opportunity to discuss, debate, and grow together as book lovers!



October
The Thin Man
by Dashiell Hammett

November
The Zhivago Affair: The Kremlin,
The CIA and the Battle Over
a Forbidden Book
by Peter Finn and Petra Couvee





December

Holidays on Ice
by David Sedaris



January
The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks

by Rebecca Skloot

February

Sherlock Holmes story TBD by Arthur Conan Doyle

March

The Remedy: Robert Koch, Arthur Conan Doyle and the Quest to Cure Tuberculosis by Thomas Goetz

April

The Stories of Jane Gardam by Jane Gardam

Contact Jean Marie if you are interested in joining or leading a discussion!

Dickens Fellowship

Literary discussion meetings on Saturdays at 11:00 a.m. Please note our new meeting time!

Nov. 1 Bleak House, Ch. 29-45

Dec. 6 Bleak House, Ch. 46 - 60

Jan. 3 Old Curiosity Shop, Ch. 1-12

For details on all events, visit Dickens North of Boston

Salem Writers' Group

First and Third Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.

Writers' Open Studio Hours

Tuesdays from 8:45-11:30 a.m.

For details visit https://www.facebook.com/groups/salemwriters/

La Tertulia Spanish Language Discussion Group

Second and Fourth Tuesdays, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Incessant Pipe Poetry Salon

Fourth Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.

If you are interested in participating in or starting a French language discussion group, contact Jean Marie.

Mandarin Chinese for Children

Every Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. and Saturday at 10:00 a.m. Contact Judy Wang Bedell for more information or visit http://www.pandalandchinese.com/

Welcome!

We would like to extend a warm welcome to the following new members:

Susanna Baird and Richard Thornett

Edward Boyle Kevin Carey Jescie Cerise

Fran Clifford

Diane Curren

Nannette deMaine

Lee and Carrie Dichter Steven and Ellen Gallagher

Peter Gordon and Karen Hayes

Scott Guthery

Matthew and Valerie Heider

Bill Henning and Thomas MacDonald

Gail Hough

Colleen Michaels

Janet Nussman and Robert Cary

Joan Press

Carol Rice and Gerald Bras

Michael Selbst and Bradley Williams

Shawn Smith Clay Ventre

Dr. Kristen Wagner



Salem Athenæum

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Contact Info

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For comments or suggestions about the newsletter, please contact the editor:

Carolyn McGuire

Contact me!