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Welcome!



Letter from the Co-Presidents

Dear Members and Friends:

The brilliant blooms have come and gone, but our Athenæum garden continually renews itself -- just as we do as we plan, grow, welcome new leaders and members, and move forward together.

We saw many of you at our annual meeting in early May, where we were pleased to welcome new trustee Si Fisk, offer special thanks to departing trustee Abby Burns for her many contributions over six years, and honor Pam Jendrysik for her transformative labors in our beautiful gardens.

The annual meeting is always a time for us to reflect on the importance of the many who enrich the life of the library and who make it an extraordinary place. Along with Jean Marie Procious (whose title is now officially Executive Director) and able assistant Carolyn McGuire, the library is blessed with a host of volunteers, without whom we could not do all that we do. It goes without saying that our strong working board is the Athenæum's backbone. And finally, and far from least, the support that you, our members, provide simply makes possible all of what we do, offer, and enjoy. Thank you!

Among the evening's other highlights: We noted, with gratitude, a special grant from the Essex County Community Foundation (ECCF) that enabled us to complete the work on governance begun the prior year with consultant Gayle Gifford. The Proprietors approved changes that now align our bylaws with current legal requirements and standard board practice.

The board will continue focus on the future of the Athenæum as a membership library with an historic building and a beautiful garden, an extraordinary collection, and a broad range of programs for members and the wider community. Our work now is to define essential building improvements and maintenance needs, as well as program and staffing needs, based on a vision of the Athenæum's future over the next twenty years. Among our immediate priorities will be to renew the Athenæum's windows, both to secure the collections and increase the comfort of our visitors. We hope you will consider supporting this effort.

Many of you took part in our member survey last year, and your responses are the tools we will use to inform our long-range planning. The findings were fascinating, and we want to share them with you: Please join us at the library for a review of the survey findings on June 22, 7 p.m. We will continue to seek your guidance as we move forward.



We are grateful to our 2016 Program Sponsors

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Summer and fall at the Athenæum will be full of wonderful events and programs. We'll send you notices of them throughout the season, and we'll hope to see you at the library often. And by all means, do spend some time in the garden. It's a great place to relax, read, or simply enjoy the air.

Warmly,
Meg Twohey and Dave Williams, Co-Presidents

New Trustees

At the Annual Meeting on May 4, Salem Athenæum Proprietors approved the appointment of Josiah Fisk as a new member of the Board of Trustees. We also offer a heartfelt thank you to our departing trustee, Abby Burns.

Josiah Fisk is the founder and president of More Carrot LLC, a consulting company that changes the way companies and governments interact with individuals by rebuilding their service communications with the user's concerns in mind. Based in Salem with a branch office in Europe, More Carrot has served major financial services companies for the past 20 years.

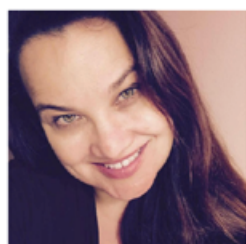


Born and raised on the North Shore, Josiah has loved New England history and architecture since childhood. Inevitably he landed in Salem, where he has lived since 2012. He studied trumpet and French horn, performing with Cape Ann Symphony, Oregon Symphony and other orchestras and ensembles.

After receiving an AB in music from Harvard, Josiah worked as a pipe organ builder in Oregon and later at his father's workshop in Gloucester. From 1985 - 1995 he reviewed classical music for the *Boston Herald* and was an essayist for *Hudson Review*. He compiled and edited *Composers on Music: Eight Centuries of Writings*, published by Northeastern University Press, which has become the standard anthology of composers' writings.

A strong believer in land conservation, Josiah has led efforts in Rockport and in the North Quabbin region that resulted in the permanent protection of over 150 acres of open land. Josiah's previous board experience includes the Washington, DC-based Center for Plain Language, The Westfield Center for Early Keyboard Studies, and the 1794 Meetinghouse, a performing arts presenter in New Salem, Massachusetts.

Meet Our Development Consultant



In May, Kirsten Alexander joined the Salem Athenæum in the new part-time position of Development Consultant. She brings extensive experience in development offices at major Eastern Massachusetts non-profits. Most recently, Kirsten was the Director of Development & Marketing at Boston Cares. Previously she worked in development roles at the Boston Athenæum, the Boston Book Festival, Historic New

England, and the Boston Home. Kirsten has been an adjunct faculty member of Marlboro College, Emerson College, and Champlain College. She has served on numerous boards, including the Junior League of Boston, civic associations, arts, and historic groups and is a member of and volunteer with the Vincent Club. Kirsten studied Art History and Creative Writing as an undergraduate at NYU and at the American University in Paris. She completed an MFA in Creative Writing at American University. Originally from Jamaica Plain and Brookline, she moved last year from Hamilton to Wenham.

Pamela Jendrysik Receives Edward Augustus Holyoke Award

At the Annual Meeting in May, the Trustees were pleased to present the Edward Augustus Holyoke Award to Pam Jendrysik for her years of exemplary service in transforming the grounds of the Salem Athenaeum.



For more than a decade, Pam has worked tirelessly to implement a landscape plan and maintain the Athenaeum's outdoor spaces. Under her supervision, the back garden has become one of our most treasured reading rooms.

The Edward Augustus Holyoke Award was established in 2006 to recognize extraordinary service to the Athenaeum. Pam is the fourth recipient. Previous winners include Win Wilkens, Elaine von Bruns and Sue Weaver Schopf.

The Windows Restoration Project

Help us protect the Athenaeum's collections. Sponsor the tune up, renovation, and full restoration of the Athenaeum's windows to secure the building envelope.



We will engage experts to do a thorough restoration of each of our historic windows, including:

- Chip and remove loose, flaking glazing putty
- Replace broken panes and sash cords
- Repair any rot, weak joints, and surface damage
- Remove paint, repaint, clean, wax, and re-install
- Fabricate storm windows

Per window restoration costs range from \$650 to \$4,500. As funding is raised, the work on each window will take between a day and three weeks, depending on condition. The total cost of the project is \$70,000.

To support the windows project, please visit salemathenaeum.net/windows or contact: info@salemathenaeum.net.



Summer Exhibit **Celia's Salon: America's First Artists' and Writers' Colony**

Celia Thaxter (1835-1893) was the most popular American woman poet of her time and the hostess of a summer salon on the Isles of Shoals, off the coast of NH. Her salon attracted America's finest writers and artists, such as Nathaniel Hawthorne, Henry David Thoreau, John Greenleaf Whittier, Sarah Orne Jewett, William Morris Hunt and Childe Hassam.

Our Summer Exhibit curated by Elaine von Bruns, *Celia's Salon*, offers a variety of treasures: early published work by Celia Thaxter and Childe Hassam from the children's magazines *Wide Awake* and *St. Nicholas*; a bowl painted by Celia Thaxter, on special loan from the Portsmouth Athenaeum; rare works by authors who were in Celia's salon and more!

Salem Athenaeum celebrates *Celia's Salon*, and our common mission to encourage creativity, and share literature, music and art. In the summers, like Celia, we enjoy a lovely garden and our Friday Salons. Come experience an ambiance of art and literature "in the key of sea."

Be sure to join us on August 19 for a special Summer Salon with Isles of Shoals historian Ann Beattie.

Student Award

Congratulations to Esther Hamidou, winner of the 2016 Salem Athenæum Literary Award!

Salem
Athenæum

This award is given each year to a student graduating from Salem High School who is most distinguished by his or her abiding curiosity, intellectual engagement, and passion for literature.



Esther Hamidou (center) and her family at the Garden Party on June 5.

Membership Survey Results



Wednesday, June 22 at 7:00 p.m.

Co-President Dave Williams will present the results of the Athenæum Membership survey that was conducted over the winter. The survey gauged performance and satisfaction of the Athenæum's offerings. In addition, members were asked questions regarding the institution's priorities in coming years--both for programming and the physical building.

Dave is president and founder of Williams and Associates, a company that has consulted with both corporate and political clients around the globe in opinion research. He began his career in this field at Cambridge Survey Research in 1979, leaving as a senior vice president at Cambridge Reports Incorporated in 1989.

An initial summary of the Athenæum Membership survey results was shared in the [2015-2016 Annual Report](#). Please see page 9 in the link included.

We encourage all members to attend this presentation for a more complete picture of the survey results.



In recognition of this watershed year in American politics, the Salem Athenæum 2016 Program Series explores many of the profound influences on the political process and democracy in America -- past, present and future. Below are several upcoming events in the series.

From Margins to Mainstream: Conservatism in 20th Century America

Wednesday, June 29 at 7:00 p.m.

Drew Darien, Professor of History at Salem State University, will outline the intellectual roots of American Conservatism, as well as the multiple strands that have evolved during the course of the 20th century.



\$10, \$15 Non-members
Free to students with ID.
[Reserve Now](#)



Town Hall Discussion with R.D. Sahl

Wednesday, July 13 at 7:00 p.m.

Talk with R.D. Sahl on politics and the media. His career in broadcast journalism spans more than 40 years, and his assignments have taken him to stories down the block and around the world to Japan, Cuba, the Soviet Union.

\$10, \$15 Non-members

Free to students with ID.

[Reserve Now](#)



Save the Date!

Election Sermons--Political Marionettes

Monday, October 10 at 3:00 p.m

On Columbus Day we will present a family program exploring the traditions of Election Day in America from the Colonial Era to the Early Republic with marionettes and Election Day cake. More details to come!

Night Owls

Friday, July 1, 7:30 p.m.

On occasional First Fridays, the Night Owls convene. We invite you to bring games to share, topics to discuss, or to just show up and join the fun.

It'll be a hoot! Whooo knows what will happen...

[Reserve](#)

Summer Salon Series

8 Fridays 5:30-7:00 p.m.

July 8 - August 26

The garden awaits! Our informal and informational gatherings on Friday evenings in July and August feature a discussion or presentation by members and friends of the Athenaeum. Conversations will be diverse--current topics include science, military history, birding, environmental issues, and art and literature. Keep cultural discourse alive and well in the 21st century!

All events will begin at 5:30 p.m. and meet in the back garden, weather permitting (inside in the event of rain).

Jul. 8: Hale Bradt, *Gravitational Waves Explained*

Jul. 15: Dave Prentiss of UMass Dartmouth, *Hawthorne's Marble Faun*

Jul. 22: Bonnie Hurd Smith, *Salem Serves: Sites and Stories from the Military and Patriotic History of Salem, Massachusetts*

Jul. 29: Crocker Snow, *Muskeget: Raw, Restless, Relentless Land*

Aug. 5: Joe McGuire, *Birding Tips: Shorebirds and Raptors*

Aug. 12: The Salon to Share

Aug. 19: Ann Beattie, *Artistry of the Isles of Shoals: Celia Thaxter's Salon*

Aug. 26: Pamela Hartford, *Winter Island and Fort Pickering, Newly Revealed*

For details on a particular salon, visit SalemAthenaeum.net



Rebel Shakespeare

Much Ado About Nothing

Tuesday, August 23 at 5:00 p.m

For over a quarter century, The Rebel Shakespeare Company has been a fixture on Boston's North Shore, bringing together the timeless works of William Shakespeare and the creative genius of children. Enjoy their 90-minute adaptation in the Athenaeum garden.



Free. No reservations required.

Annual Book Sale

Member's Preview: Friday, September 9, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Book Sale: Saturday, September 10, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 11, 12:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Mark your calendars for the best book sale of the Fall!

Members, plus one guest, have the opportunity to attend the Member's Preview Book Sale on Friday night, before it opens to the public on Saturday morning.

Proceeds benefit the Athenaeum collections and educational programs. Donations to the book sale may be delivered to the Athenaeum during normal open hours now through September 8.

Fall Course Preview

The (Screen)Play's The Thing!

Shari Frost, instructor
5 Thursdays starting September 15
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.



You can see it. On screens big and small. The story only you can tell. The story the Academy has been waiting for (they just don't know it). You've even rehearsed your Oscar's acceptance speech.

Now you just need to write the screenplay. But where to begin? Right here at the Salem Athenaeum. From brainstorming to beat sheets, and protagonists to opening pages, this five-week workshop will take you through the whole process of turning your screenplay idea into an extra-large-popcorn-please feature-length screenplay. We're not going to 'fade in', we're going to 'dive in'!



Shari D. Frost is a screenwriter and playwright on Boston's North Shore. Her screenplays include *Low and Outside*, *Having Words*, *#HallMonitors*, and a short, *The Lesson Plan*, which she wrote and co-produced. *Low and Outside* advanced to the quarterfinals of the 2015 Academy Nicholl Screenwriting Fellowships, the 2015 Final Draft Big Break Screenwriting Competition, and the second round of the 2015 Austin Film Festival Screenwriting Competition. Shari also spent a year as a reader/story analyst for New Horizons Pictures.

Shari is a proud member of Proscenium Playwrights, a Boston-based playwright collective. She is also the creator and producer of the TNT! -- Totally New Theater Playwrights' Collective and Festival. Shari received her MFA in Creative Writing with a concentration in Writing for Stage & Screen, from Lesley University in Cambridge, MA, where she is now adjunct faculty.

Registration details to come.

Conservation Night

Tuesday, September 27, 7:00 p.m.

Our fifth annual Conservation Night will be held in September. We will unveil the recently conserved volumes -- books sponsored by generous participants of the 2015 Conservation Night -- and present the carefully chosen candidates for conservation in 2016.



Stay tuned for details about this year's conservation candidates.



Fall Course Preview

The Plays of Arthur Miller: America's Shakespeare

Sue Weaver Schopf, instructor
6 Thursdays starting October 13
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

The centennial of Arthur Miller's birth was celebrated in 2015 and continues through 2016, as revivals of his plays are performed from New York to London and Boston to Beijing. Often dubbed "America's Shakespeare" and "the conscience of the American theater," Miller plumbs the depths of the American psyche as no other playwright has. His works present unforgettable portraits of the common man, his hopes and desires, and the struggle to maintain dignity. Many theater historians consider *Death of a Salesman* to be the finest American play ever written. Of particular interest to Salem residents is *The Crucible*, set during the witchcraft trials of 1692 but constituting a not-so-subtle critique of McCarthyism. Personally committed to the issues of free speech and social justice, Miller had a complicated private life, which came into view with his short-lived marriage to Marilyn Monroe, a subject of the controversial play, *After the Fall*. We will examine these plays, along with *All My Sons*, *A View from the Bridge*, and *Broken Glass*, and form our own assessments of why these works continue to resonate with audiences.

Sue Weaver Schopf, Ph.D. recently retired from her position as Associate Dean of the Master of Liberal Arts Program and Research Advisor in the Humanities at Harvard Extension School. Dr. Schopf continues to teach, lecture, write, and lead literary walking tours. Her expertise ranges from the literature of 19th- and early 20th-century to popular culture topics such as "The Vampire in Literature and Film." She has appeared in *The Times* of London and the *Boston Globe* and has been a guest on national radio programs. Her courses have been featured in articles in various publications including *The Huffington Post* and *MTV.com*.



\$155 Members
\$175 Non-members

Recent Events

The following highlights recent noteworthy events at the Athenæum.

The Painter in the Trees

On June 9-12 Peter Sampieri premiered his newest play, *The Painter in the Trees* in the Athenæum garden. Inspired by Italo Calvino's whimsical 1957 novella of the same name, Sampieri's one-act play explored the pull of family, the beauty of nature, and the power of imagination.



Annual Members' Garden Party

Despite the weather, over 90 members gathered to celebrate the beginning of summer at our Garden Party on Sunday, June 5. Spirits were bright despite the rain. Peter Endicott from [The Cheese Shop of Salem](#) provided an exquisite array of cheeses and wine to distract us from the gray weather. View photos below and more at the link.

[More party photos.](#)



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 [contact Jean Marie Prociuous](#) if no link is included).

Monday Evening Conversations

Second Mondays at 7:00 p.m.

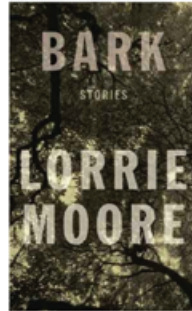
Topics for discussion are wide open, but must be amenable to good conversation.

Athenæum Book Group

Second Saturdays at 10:00 a.m.

Meetings: July 9, August 13, September 10, October 8

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!



July

Bark by Lorrie Moore



August

The Lady in Gold
by Anne-Marie O'Connor

September

The Sixth Extinction by Elizabeth Kolbert

October

Just Kids by Patti Smith

[Contact Jean Marie Prociuous](#) if you are interested in joining or leading a discussion!

Dickens Fellowship

Dickens Fellowship is taking a break for the Summer. We hope you will rejoin us in the Fall for more literary discussions!

For details about the group, visit [Dickens North of Boston](#).

Salem Writers' Group

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

Writers' Open Studio Hours

Wednesdays 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

Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m.

[Contact Judy Wang Bedell](#) for more information or visit
<http://www.pandalandchinese.com/>

Board of Trustees

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David Hart
Steve Immerman
Richard Jendrysik
Owen Mathieu
Pat Padden, *Treasurer*
Meg Twohey, *Co-President*
Angela Williams
David Williams, *Co-President*

Welcome!

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

Constance Arlander
David and Shumei Askey
Megan Donoghue
Lois Ferraresso
Shari Frost
Michael Giauque
Esther Hamidou
Lori Sue Hart and Steven Zippili
Dustin Hoppe and Marcela Mayorga
Pamela Kentley and Ray Swartz
William Luster and Kemith LeBlanc
Julie and Jim McLean
Brenda Marean
Nicole Martins and Derrick Goppold
Alyssa and Dennis Rosemartin
Shelley Sackett
Patrick and Patricia Scanlan
Geoffrey and Angela Schutt
Sarah Wetherbee



Celia Thaxter

New Shareholder

Robert Job

Salem Athenæum

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Contact Info

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