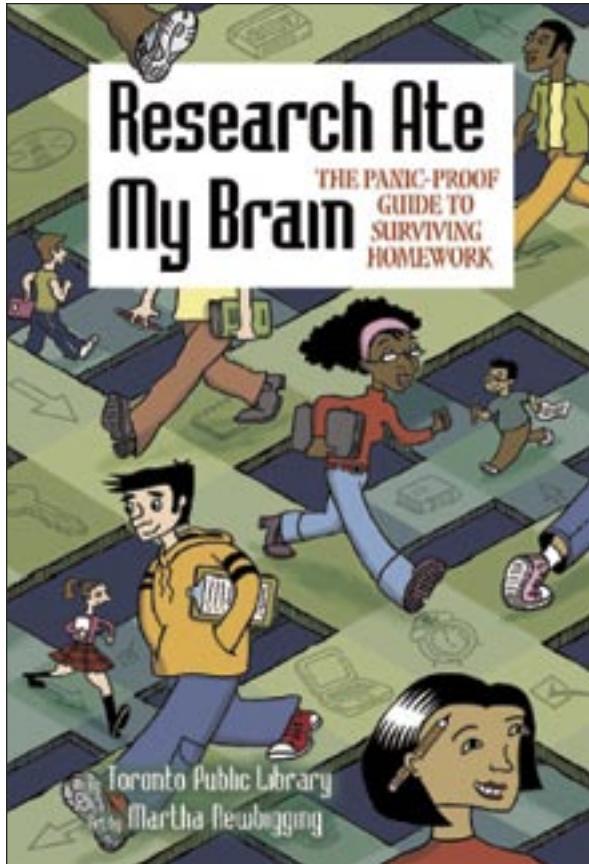


Shelf life

TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS AND VIEWS

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Research Ate My Brain, published by Toronto Public Library and Annick Press.

Library just fine for teens

Toronto Public Library fills fall full of fab teen stuff

THE TORONTO PUBLIC Library Board approved a new program that will give teens a break on their overdue fines this fall. A pilot coupon program, to be launched during Ontario Public Library Week (Oct. 17 – 23), valid to the end of January 2006, will allow teens to have their outstanding library fines

forgiven to a limit of \$20. “Once they’ve come back to the Library with their coupon, we intend to keep them coming back,” says Library Children and Youth Advocate Ken Setterington. “The library has a depth of services, programs and resources available that many teens are not aware of. The coupon is a way of enticing them back to the library so we can show off what we’ve got.”

Part of a multi-pronged effort to get teens back to the library this fall – and keep them for a lifetime – the fine forgiveness program is being complemented by a newly-created fine rate for teens aged 13-17 years that sees them paying less than the adult rate.

“Fines are intended to ensure materials are returned on time so that they will be available to others,” explains Setterington. “An intermediate fine, lower than the adult rate but higher than that paid by children, recognizes the transitional period when teens are still learning and assuming greater, but not full adult, responsibilities.”

Another great opportunity provided by TPL for teens involves the chance to get original writing and artwork published. *Young Voices* magazine of teen writing and artwork, produced annually by the Library, is in its 40th year of publication this year. The publication will be available in time

Please see Library just fine, page 3...

Guess the Giller at Toronto Public Library

Contest expanded to all 99 branches; on-line book reviews now featured

PROMOTING READING and raising the public’s awareness of Canadian books has always been part of the Library’s mandate and this year’s promotion of the Giller Prize is no exception. This year, like the two previous, the Library will be hosting a Guess the Giller contest, giving us the opportunity to highlight Canadian literature and also to promote our book clubs, Best Bets and other books in our collection. This is the first year that Guess the Giller will be offered at all 99 branches.

Library patrons will be able to vote on the title they think most likely to win the Giller Prize at any of our 99 branches or from the virtual ballot box on the library website www.torontopubliclibrary.ca. Also for the first time this year, we



are offering on the website five mini-booktalks, featuring library staff. Each staff member will champion one of the five short-listed titles, and website visitors can then vote. Our five booktalkers will also be visiting selected book club and tea and books meetings

Please see Guess the Giller, back page...



Helen Humphreys, North York Central Library Writer-in-Residence.

Library welcomes Writer-in-Residence Helen Humphreys

Novels, poetry draw critical praise

NORTH YORK CENTRAL Library is pleased to welcome Helen Humphreys as our latest Writer-in-Residence. Helen Humphreys is an award-winning writer who has distinguished herself as both a poet and a novelist. Her four poetry collections include *Gods and Other Mortals*; *Nuns Looking Anxious, Listening to Radio*; *The Perils of Geography*; and *Anthem*. Her novels include *Leaving Earth* and *Afterimage*, both of which were *New York Times* Notable Books; *The Lost Garden*, which was a 2003 Canada Reads selection; and *Wild Dogs*, which was published to critical praise in 2004. Helen Humphreys has taught creative writing across Canada, including at the Maritime Writer's Workshop, the University of Toronto, George Brown College and at the Banff Centre for the Arts.

Humphreys will be in residence from September 6 to November 18. She will host two programs for the public: The Craft of Poetry on September 28 and The Art of the Novel on October 26, both at 7 p.m. in Room 1 of the North York Central Library. Aspiring writers may submit their literary fiction or poetry manuscripts in person or by mail to:

Writer-in-Residence

North York Central Library
Language, Literature and
Fine Arts Department
Information Desk, 2nd Floor
5120 Yonge St.
Toronto, Ontario M2N 5N9 •

Introducing... The Book Lover's Ball

Gala event kicks off Keep Toronto Reading

THE TORONTO PUBLIC Library Foundation announces its first gala fundraiser, The Book Lover's Ball. Planning is well underway and the anticipation building for this inaugural event taking place at the historic Liberty Grand in Toronto on February 16, 2006. Over 500 guests will experience a unique evening full of excitement and merriment as they rub shoulders with their favourite celebrity authors... Margaret Atwood, John Behrendt, Kathy Reichs, Kim Cattrall and numerous others have already marked their calendars for the event.

This extraordinary event will assist in raising the much-needed funds to expand Toronto Public Library's book collections,



enhance its programs and services, upgrade its technology and revitalize library branches to respond to the changing needs of the people of Toronto.

Toronto Public Library spends almost three times as much each year on print materials compared to other Canadian libraries – over \$11 million annually. Toronto is very much a city that reads and that uses its libraries – 62 percent of our residents are library cardholders – and Toronto Public Library and its Foundation are working hard to ensure that even more people have the opportunity to read even more books. Proceeds from The Book Lover's Ball will afford the Library the opportunity to buy more books every year to meet the growing demand.

Guests are encouraged to dress black tie or in costume, inspired by their favourite book title or character, and will be privy to a fabulous cocktail reception in an old-fashioned mystical Library where they can mix and mingle with the celebrity authors. A divine dinner will follow, prepared by celebrity chef authors led by the eminent Susur Lee. A novel-inspired

designer fashion show will follow where the pages will come to life in this spectacle of fashion, music and entertainment.

Watch this space for more on The Book Lover's Ball, so that you can support one of the world's greatest public library systems. •

Library wins Stan Heath Achievement in Literacy Award

Award recognizes strategic outreach initiatives in adult literacy

THE TORONTO PUBLIC Library has won the Stan Heath Achievement in Literacy Award for 2005. The Library won for developing three strategic outreach initiatives in the area of adult literacy:

1. The Toronto Public Library's *Guide to Getting Good Information: A Step-by-Step Manual For Literacy Instructors*
A guide to help adult literacy instructors teach basic library skills.
2. The Golden Oak Award Adult Literacy Book Club
A unique book club for new readers in adult literacy programs focusing on books chosen specifically for them. This was developed in partnership with the Ontario Library Association.
3. Learners' Learning Together Conference – 2004
A conference dedicated to the needs and interests of adult literacy learners developed in partnership with Metro Toronto Movement for Literacy.

Josephine Bryant, City Librarian and Brenda Livingston, Literacy Services Specialist, received the award in June during the Canadian Library Association's 60th Annual Conference. This Award is the Canadian Library Trustee Association's (CLTA) annual recognition of the development of public libraries in Canada. The CLTA/Stan Heath Achievement in Literacy Award is named in honour of ABC CANADA founding board member, the late Stan Heath – a lifelong champion of literacy. The award is sponsored by ABC CANADA, and is presented to a public library board that has initiated an innovative program that advances literacy in its community. •

Groundwood Books archives donated to library

*Collection “of enormous
value to researchers”*

GROUNDWOOD OWNER Patsy Aldana has presented the archives of her publishing house prior to its acquisition by Anansi to Toronto Public Library's Osborne Collection of Early Children's Books.

This Toronto-based house publishes notable Canadian children's books and boasts a distinguished author list. The archive contains correspondence with some of Canada's foremost writers of children's books, and will be of enormous value to researchers and book historians. "We are grateful to Patsy for this splendid gift. Groundwood is an important imprint, and our research holdings have been greatly enriched by the addition of Groundwood archives," notes Leslie McGrath, Collection Head. •

Library just fine for teens

Continued from page 1...

for this year's *Young Voices* writer's conference, which will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, October 22 at North York Central Library.

The conference gives teens a chance to whip their writing into shape as they take part in workshops with published writers and get feedback on their work so they can submit to next year's *Young Voices*.

This year, the conference will feature writing workshops led by Marc Ngu, Anne Laurel Carter, Angela Rawlings, Stuart Ross, Judith Thompson and Edo van Belkom; and performances by Adwoa Badoe and Dwayne Morgan.

Teens unable to attend the workshop can still get feedback on their work by sending a poem or other short piece of writing to the Library's electronic writer-in-residence, Stuart Ross, between September 19 and November 18. To reach Stuart, log onto torontopubliclibrary.ca and



Cast bronze owl feature of new Beaches Branch

A ONE-TON CAST BRONZE owl installed this past summer at the Beaches Branch was the final architectural feature of a \$1.3 million branch overhaul.

Depicted returning to her nest of chicks, the owl is six feet high with a wingspan of five feet. The bird represents the branch's connection to the park, as well as the pursuit of knowledge and wisdom. Architect Phillip Carter worked with artisan Ludzer Vandermolen to create the feature, which is on the right side of the front entrance.

Carter and Vandermolen also created the large mythical characters called gryphons flanking the entrance of Lillian H. Smith Branch.

The Beaches Branch officially reopened in January, its restoration emulating the original 1916 Arts and Crafts style. •

click on *ramp*. In addition to receiving electronic submissions and providing feedback to teen writers, Stuart will also monitor *ramp*'s Writer's Corner discussion group and post messages to encourage discussion. He will create an online anthology, on *ramp*, using submissions and take part in a series of online writer's workshops – dates and times to be announced.

Find out if Save-it-till-the-last-second Sam makes it out alive...

Recognizing that research isn't always an appealing task for teens, Toronto Public Library teamed up with Annick Press on the book *Research Ate My Brain*, a fun and practical guide to completing research projects. It was released to bookstores across

North America in September.

"Teens and their parents can find tips about how to use a library's print and electronic resources as well as the Internet to find reliable information," says Setterington. "We want students to develop important research skills and at the same time have some fun."

Research Ate My Brain also features graphic novel stories that run throughout the book. Readers can find out if Save-it-till-the-last-second Sam makes it out of the library maze alive and if Team Jenny finds "the right stuff."

The Library offers many other opportunities for youth, including homework help, study centres, author visits, areas set aside for teens to work and meet with their friends and a whole lot more. •

Library Board Highlights

September 2005

2005 Ontario Public Library Week and Toronto Public Library Youth Campaign

Toronto Public Library Board received for information a report on this year's Ontario Public Library Week (Oct. 17-23). This year, Toronto Public Library's focus is on library services for youth.

Guess the Giller

Continued from page 1...

around the city, championing their titles.

As *Shelf Life* goes to press, The Giller Prize announced its newly forged association with Scotiabank. The Scotiabank Giller will now award \$40,000 annually to the author of the best Canadian novel or short story collection published in English during the past year and \$2,500 to each of the four short-listed titles. Toronto entrepreneur Jack Rabinovitch established the original award in 1994 in honour of his late wife, literary journalist Doris Giller. This year's shortlist of five titles was announced September 28; the winner will be announced November 8. •

This year's Giller Prize nominees are:

Joan Barfoot
for *Luck* (Knopf Canada)

David Bergen
for *The Time In Between*
(McClelland & Stewart)

Camilla Gibb
for *Sweetness in the Belly*
(Doubleday Canada)

Lisa Moore
for *Alligator* (House of Anansi Press)

Edeet Ravel
for *A Wall of Light*
(Random House Canada).

2004 Annual Performance Measures and 2005 Semi-Annual Strategic Plan Update

The Board received for information an overview of the 2004 annual performance measures as well as a semi-annual update for the 2005 Strategic Plan work plan. The Library demonstrated solid performance in both traditional and non-traditional services in 2004.

2006-2010 Capital Budget Submission

The Board approved the 2006-2010 Capital

Budget submission, which has been provided to the City for consideration.

Youth Incentive Program – Teen Forgiveness Fines and Fee Waiver Pilot Project

The Board approved a teen forgiveness fines and fees waiver pilot project beginning in October 2005 in an effort to encourage teens to use the Library (for more information, see "Library just fine for teens" on page 1 of this issue).

Calendar of Events

Fall 2005

TD Gallery Exhibit – Ten Days to Show the World, a celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF)

On to Oct. 23

TD Gallery, Toronto Reference Library,
789 Yonge St.

Using film posters and material from the library's performing arts collection, the exhibition highlights:

- TIFF's directors and programmers and a selection of films that they have chosen
- Censorship and the Festival
- Canada's and the Festival's film preservation efforts.

Fall Author Series 2005

Showcasing established and emerging writers of fiction and non-fiction.



Catherine Gildiner

Catherine Gildiner

Wednesday, Oct. 19,
7 p.m.

Catherine Gildiner, author of the award-winning memoir, *Too Close to the Falls*, reads from her latest novel, *Seduction*, a fast-paced mystery centred on the Freud Archives. Question and answer period to follow. To register call 416-395-5639.

North York Central Library,
5120 Yonge St., Room 1

Canada and Missile Defence

Thursday, Oct. 20, 7 p.m.

Mel Hurtig will read and discuss his writings about poverty; distribution of income



Mel Hurtig

and wealth in Canada; violence in American society; the murder of three prominent Americans (John F. Kennedy, Robert Kennedy and Martin Luther King); foreign ownership and foreign control in Canada; and the need for political reform in Canada. Question and answer period to follow.

Toronto Reference Library, 789 Yonge St., Beeton Auditorium

Young Voices Writer's Conference

Saturday Oct. 22, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

North York Central Library

For more information or to register, phone 416-395-5784 or register online at torontopubliclibrary.ca; click on *ramp*

Cercle Littéraire

Saturday, Oct. 29, 2 p.m.

Jean M. Fahmy, Claudette Gravel and Aristote Kavungu, French-speaking authors living in Ontario, share their views on fiction writing. Program is conducted in French.

Toronto Reference Library, 789 Yonge St., Beeton Auditorium

The HarperCollins Lecture – Let's Give Wings to Kids

Presented by Roch Carrier

Wednesday, Nov. 2, 7 p.m.

Roch Carrier, author and former National Librarian of Canada, will speak about the importance of reading for children. This event is co-sponsored by HarperCollins and Canadian Children's Book Centre.

Toronto Reference Library, 789 Yonge St.

For a complete listing of activities, check *What's On*, available in all branches; visit www.torontopubliclibrary.ca; or call Answerline 416-393-7131.

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Marketing & Communications Office:
416-393-7117.

Next Board Meeting:
Monday, October 24, 2005.

The Toronto Public Library Board meets monthly at 6 p.m., September through June, in the Elizabeth Beeton Auditorium, Toronto Reference Library, 789 Yonge Street, Toronto.

Meetings are open to the public.
Board Contact: Nancy Marshall
416-393-7215.

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