

# Beyond the Bookends

*Newsletter of the Friends of the Library & the Board of Trustees*

*Winter 2024*

## *With This Season of Gratitude*

Letter from the President of the Friends of Avon Public Library

**Hello Friends!**

**With this season of giving thanks and gratitude, it is my honor to acknowledge the dedicated Friends volunteers and generous Friends donors. Our annual Used Booksales in October raised over \$11,850.97 or 27% over the previous year's results!** We appreciate all who came to support BOTH the Adult sale as well as our Children's and Teens sale! Our book sales would not be possible without the dedicated efforts of our volunteers! Thank you to all the book sorters and sale volunteers! Reminder: donations of gently used books, CDs, DVDs, are welcome any day the library is open!

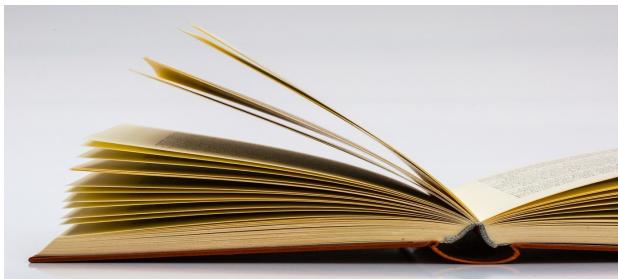
**January 2024 will mark** the return our winter concerts, *Sundays at Three* which has been well attended and enjoyed by all. (see next page for details). We appreciate the committee of volunteers as they are working behind the scenes to prepare!

**In addition, I want to thank those Friends who have renewed or joined the Friends in 2023!** Your support is essential as we work to provide the Avon Free Public Library, the staff and the community at large with programs that engage all ages!

**I would like to thank the Friends Executive Board for guiding our passions and steering the enthusiasm for the Avon Free Public Library! Finally, I am thankful for Glenn Grube, our Director , all the librarians and staff.** Working with this cooperative and caring team creates an environment that benefits the entire Avon community! Thank you for being a Friend - see you in 2024!

*Lisa Berman,*

*President, Friends of the Avon Free Public Library.*



## **BOOK-TIQUE**

## **The Holidays are coming!**

Don't forget that the Book-tique has high-quality books at Book Sale prices! You can shop at the Book-tique anytime that the Library is open; you will find it near the circulation desk! All proceeds go to the Friends of the Avon Library to support the Library.

# Winter 2024 Music Concerts

## Sundays at Three

**Sponsored by the Friends of Avon Free Public Library**

These free programs, made possible by the Friends of the Avon Library, take place in the library's Community Room. Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. Free tickets are available at the door starting at 2:15 pm. Doors open at 2:30 pm. Concerts are from 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm.

**Peter Greenfogel Jazz Group      January 14th**

Tenor saxophonist, Peter Greenfogel, is from the Greater Hartford area and performs locally throughout the State of Connecticut as well as in New York, New Jersey, Vermont and the Northeast. Peter leads his own group as well as performing with Simply Swing and String of Pearls Big Band. Also he has played in pit orchestras in the past for shows. Mr. Greenfogel teaches in the area for private students and also teaches at the Hartt School and Artists Collective. He is a graduate of the Hartt School, Jackie McLean Institute of Jazz and has studied with Jackie McLean along with Nate Reeves.



**Narragansett Bay Chorus      January 28**

The Narragansett Bay Chorus performs popular music in the 4-part a cappella style known as "Barbershop." It is based in Providence, Rhode Island, and while it performs primarily in the New England area, the chorus has appeared in such far-flung places as Canada and the United Kingdom. NBC shows include a wide variety of styles including ballads, gospel, up-tunes, specialty songs, and comedy. The chorus is well known for entertaining performance packages. NBC includes men of all ages from southern New England who are committed to high-quality singing. The chorus has had 15 District Chorus Championships over its 70+ year history.



**Love Is In The Air      February 11th**

To celebrate Valentine's Day, this concert presents four professional singers performing favorite arias, duets, and ensembles focused on the theme of Love, singing the works of Puccini (*La Bohème*), Verdi (*Rigoletto*), Bizet (*Carmen*), and others. Internationally recognized pianist Eric Trudel accompanies while Artistic Director Alan Mann will serve as MC and Chief Raconteur to enhance audience appreciation. Opera Theater of Connecticut, the state's oldest opera company, celebrates its 39th year in 2024.



## **Dayblazer with Sean McDaniel and Instrumentalists February 25th**

Dayblazer is a New England-based cover band that specializes in performing the smooth radio hits of the 1970s and 1980s. The three-piece band consists of vocalist Kim Robbins, keyboardist Brian Peltier, and guitarist Sean McDaniel. Their repertoire includes songs by iconic artists like Fleetwood Mac, Steely Dan, Sade, Michael Jackson, Blondie, and many others. Dayblazer performs throughout Connecticut and Massachusetts, bringing the energy and enthusiasm of their youth to classics they loved growing up.



## **Scoil Rince Luimni Irish Dance Academy      March 10th**

Scoil Rince Luimni was opened in July of 2014 by Courtney Jay TCRG, an Irish dancer since age 6 and two-time World medalist, with the objective of passing on the artistic sport and important piece of cultural heritage to the next generation. As we celebrate our ten-year anniversary, SRL has not only taught hundreds of children and adults a little piece of Ireland but also created a community of families who value learning something challenging, perseverance, and dancing through life. SRL introduces Irish dancing to children as young as two years old all the way through adults. Students learn through a structured curriculum of soft shoe, hard shoe, and ceili dances with exposure to competition, performance, and grade exams to be recognized for their work.



## **Mariachi Mexico Antiguo      March 24th**

Mariachi Mexico Antiguo symbolizes extraordinary musicianship and a renewed focus on the tradition of Mariachi. Established in 2010, Mariachi Mexico Antiguo is comprised of dedicated and talented musicians. As ambassadors of the mariachi genre, Mariachi Mexico Antiguo has performed by invitation throughout the Western United States as well as throughout the New England area. Mexico Antiguo has been called "a group that captivates audiences with its distinct interpretation of mariachi music."



*These concerts are sponsored by the Friends of the Avon Free Public Library.*

*Free tickets at the doors of Avon Library starting at 2:15pm, with the hour-long concert starting at 3:00pm.*

**SAVE THE DATE!**

# *A Classical Concert*

## *In Honor of Anil Mody*

### *Saturday, February 3rd, 2024 at 3pm*

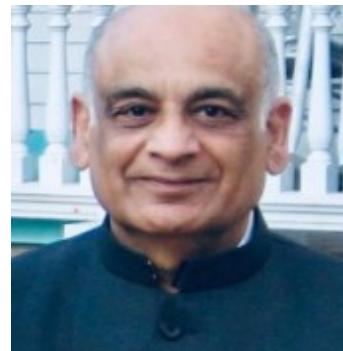
*At the Avon Free Public Library, 281 Country Club Road, Avon, CT*

*Free tickets at the doors of Avon Library starting at 2:15pm.*

*Doors open at 2:30pm, with the hour-long concert starting at 3:00pm.*

#### **Anil Mody**

Anil A. Mody graduated from Tufts and MIT universities with degrees in mechanical and nuclear engineering. Anil worked as a nuclear engineer at Combustion Engineering, ABB and finally Westinghouse Electric. Anil had a lifelong love of classical music, reading, and playing bridge. He also loved tennis and spending time with friends at the Farmington and Avon senior centers. Anil was a devoted fan of Avon Free Library and always attended music programs there! Anil's wife, Amee Mody, Avon Library Board's VP, designed this event in his memory.



*Anil A. Mody*

**Concert Program:** The classical concert will feature piano compositions from classical composers such as Beethoven, Bach, Chopin and Mozart, selections to be determined.



*Corbin Beisner*

**Corbin Beisner, concert pianist,** will be presenting a piano classical concert concentrating on piano works by favorite classical composers. Corbin Beisner has been active as a classical pianist throughout the United States and Europe since his solo recital debut in 2005. He is a graduate of the Hartt School of Music in CT (BMus) and the Franz Liszt Academy of Music in Budapest, Hungary (M.M.)

#### **RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP**

Our Friends membership year began in September - have you renewed yours yet? Your donations as a member of the Friends, along with the revenue from the Annual Book Sale, are the Friends' only sources of income with which we fund many programs of the Avon Free Public Library. Please take a moment to renew your membership today - we need your support!

**Click link below to Join!**

<https://www.avonctlibrary.info/friends/join-the-friends/>

