

# the Book Worms

FALL 2020



Friends of the North Miami Public Library

## LIBRARY CLOSED TO PUBLIC STILL PROVIDES SERVICES

March 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2020 the library shut its doors! It would remain closed for many months – all summer. All due to the coronavirus pandemic sweeping the globe.

Library Director Lucia Gonzalez outlined in a zoom conference call with the City of North Miami Library Board and the officers of The Friends of the North Miami Public Library on July 24<sup>TH</sup>, 2020 the stages planned for re-opening, as city officials and medical advisors allow.

**Stage 1** (Where we are now) the library staff has returned to the building, but the library remains closed to the public. Staff provides research information by phone, and assistance checking out ebooks and audio books via phone, tablet or computer. Staff will assist callers in selecting reading and viewing materials from the library's collection, and checking them out. The books, movies, etc. can be picked up at the library where a staff person will bring them to the patron's car curbside. Internet WIFI service is available in the parking lot.

**Stage 2** will see the library opening partially. Only the entrance lobby, circulation desk and computers will be accessible. The computers and furniture will be spaced social-distanced apart and computer time will be limited, depending on demand. The book stacks will remain closed as will the meeting rooms and other library services.

**Stage 3** will allow access to the reading area. Stage 4 will expand to the entire building, but at only 50% capacity. Stage 5 will be fully open under a new normal.

*Call the library for further stage status changes.*

## Summer READING PROGRAMS CONVERT TO VIRTUAL!

Just eleven weeks before the **Summer Reading Program** launched the pandemic caused the library to close. The program had to be restructured fast! Staff partnered with **READsquared** and **Page Turner Adventures** to transition to a virtual, online event. Most programs are accessible through the Library's Facebook page.

The summer virtual programs included comedy shows, crafts, guest performers, contests and games. With a grant from the Children's Trust, two of our popular teen programs (cooking and arts) were combined into a virtual program, "Messy Apron." Thirty registered participants enjoyed **Kids Can Cook** and **MOCA at the Library**, which included participants picking up curbside materials for the programs (recipes and ingredients for cooking and art supplies for the art portion). The cooking segment included ServSafe education which included a test that awarded a certificate at the end of five weeks which would allow them to work in any place handling food from grocery stores to fine dining.

"About 100 kids total registered for our Summer Programs," said Georgette Spratling.

Only two categories in Summer Reading were offered this year. All winners received Amazon cash gift cards sponsored by the Friends of the North Miami Public Library. The winners are:

### Pre-Readers - Elementary

Isaiah Regulus, \$150

Xavior Flores, \$100

Jenny Alexis, \$75



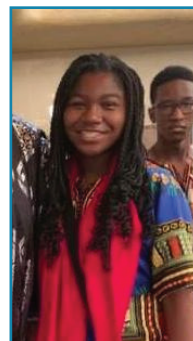
Isaiah Regulus, 1st Place Winner in the Elementary School Age Category. Received a \$150 Amazon e-gift card!

### Tweens & Teens

Violet Young, \$150

Carly Sharmat, \$100

Ydore Lowenski, \$75



Violet Young won \$150 in the Tweens & Teens category.

## BOOK SALE

TO BE RESCHEDULED. ON HOLD DURING COVID-19.

The long-anticipated annual Book Sale, usually held the first weekend in December, may not be held this year due to the coronavirus pandemic. Check with the library for updates as news of the pandemic lessens and the City re-opens.

"When we can safely resume our Annual Book Sale, we will," said co-chair Barbara Stewart. Meanwhile, The Friends are accepting gently used book donations for the next sale. Call the library for delivery

instructions as the library is closed to the public.

The Friends of the North Miami Public Library uses proceeds from the Annual Book Sale for supplementing free programs for patrons of the North Miami Public Library, purchasing additional reading materials, equipment, supplies, field trips, professional services and enhancing intergenerational literacy, above and beyond what is available under the City budget. *See Wish List on Page 2.*



**North Miami Public Library**  
**835 N.E. 132 Street**  
**North Miami, FL, 33161**

**Tel.: 305-891-5535**  
**Email: [library@northmiamifl.gov](mailto:library@northmiamifl.gov)**  
**Website: [www.northmiamifl.gov/departments/library](http://www.northmiamifl.gov/departments/library)**

#### HOURS

Monday-Thursday: 9:30 am to 8 pm  
**(COMPUTERS CLOSE AT 7:45 PM)**

Friday-Saturday: 9:30 am to 5 pm  
**(COMPUTERS CLOSE AT 7:45 PM)**

**Sunday: Closed**

The library offers free Wifi to the public.  
 Public access computers are available  
 on a first-come, first-served basis for all  
 library card holders.



**2019 AWARD  
 WINNER**

**Editor**  
**Susan Neuman**  
**[miamipr@bellsouth.net](mailto:miamipr@bellsouth.net)**

#### LIBRARY CARDS

Library cards are free to North Miami residents and City employees regardless of residency. Reciprocal borrowing privileges are available for residents of Hialeah, North Miami Beach and the Miami-Dade Public Library System Taxing District at no charge. There is a charge for residents of Bal Harbour, Miami Shores, Surfside and out-of-the-area residents who wish to apply for a library card.

All applicants must be present when application is completed. Anyone under 18 years of age must have parental authorization to obtain a card.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The 'Best Laid Plans' of 2020 have gone awry!! All of us have had to **reimagine** our lives. 2020 has turned us all into Bookworms. **Quarantining** during the **pandemic** has allowed plenty of time for reading. No matter what format or source, reading has been a great way to fight boredom, relieve stress and entertain. Even our vocabularies have been expanded (see words in **bold**).

The Friends were eager to support the planned programs of the library. The **coronavirus (COVID-19)** wreaked havoc on the calendar of events. Everything was canceled and the doors of the library were locked. For a while not even staff were allowed inside the building. But the creative minds of the director and staff were in high gear and a **virtual** library was invented. Virtual offerings include: Summer Reading, Live Story Time, Cool Short Stories, Book Club, Meet the Author, Workshops, Arts and Crafts, Teen Cooking and Art program and many more. With schools, camps, recreation, sports programs, movie theaters, colleges and pretty much everything in the city closed, the virtual library was the main source of learning, fun and entertainment.

Finally, staff was allowed to return to the building. They started providing curbside services. Patrons can call in for books or materials and pick it up outside the library. Reference service is also available via telephone. Free Wi-Fi can be accessed outside the building. If you are tired of reading use the Wi-Fi to access Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, **Tik Tok**, YouTube and Podcasts. If you miss the company of friends and family, you can see them using **Zoom** or **Skype** no **mask** required.

In addition to all the above, you are encouraged to participate in the democratic process of the upcoming local and national elections. Make Your Vote Count!

Stay Safe. Stay Strong. Stay Active. Stay Engaged.

**SENDING GOOD VIBES,**

*Becky Jones*



For more information, please e-mail me:  
**[MSBECKYJONES@YAHOO.COM](mailto:MSBECKYJONES@YAHOO.COM)**

# wish list

Our Wish List is for items not covered by the City budget, made possible only by generous donors and fundraising by the Friends of the Library.

- SMART BOARD | \$8,500
- LOBBY TELEVISION | \$700
- PORTABLE SOUND SYSTEM | \$800

- INFORMATIONAL KIOSK CAROUSEL | \$900
- PROFESSIONAL DIGITAL STILL AND VIDEO CAMERA | \$850

# LIBRARY SWITCHES ALL PROGRAMS TO VIRTUAL

All Library Programs are going virtual for the Fall of 2020!

An assortment of programs will be featured live on the Library's Facebook Page and YouTube channel, in addition to recorded programs posted on the Library's webpage at: <http://www.northmiamifl.gov/NoMiLibrary>

Here is a sampling of the programs planned for this fall quarter until the end of the year:

## FOR CHILDREN:

*Virtual Story Time Adventures!*

Join the library staff and celebrity guest readers  
WEDNESDAYS AT 4 PM

## FOR TEENS AND TWEENS:

*Virtual Art and Cooking Demonstrations*

With guest chef Dario and guest artists in residence  
TUESDAYS AT 4 PM

## FOR ADULT ENGLISH LEARNERS:

*Virtual English Café:*

Practice English with the North Miami Public Library, guided by a qualified volunteer instructor, this class will give language learners a chance to enhance and refine conversational English skills. The class will meet via ZOOM.

*Registration is required. To register, or for information, call the library Monday-Friday 9AM-5PM at (305) 891-5535.*

Additional programs and special performances will be featured in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, Halloween, Native American Month, and the holidays. *Please see the calendar on page 4 and contact the Library for information on new programs.*

## CELEBRATE!

Here are some commemorative subjects in coming months to celebrate. To learn more about a subject of interest to you, call the library for reference information or for recommendation of a book on the subject that you can check-out with curbside pickup or receive electronically as an e-book or an audio book direct to your phone, tablet or computer.

### SEPTEMBER

National  
Library Card  
Sign-Up Month

Hispanic  
Heritage Month  
(September 15<sup>TH</sup> to  
October 15<sup>TH</sup>)

### OCTOBER

National Book Month

LGBTQ History Month

Czech Heritage Month

Italian American Heritage & Culture Month

Polish American Heritage Month

### NOVEMBER

Native American  
Heritage Month

### DECEMBER

National Special  
Education Month

## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

FEATURING

*Lucia Gonzalez*

From the time of its founding, and throughout the past 68 years, the North Miami Public Library has played a pivotal role in fostering literacy, community engagement, cultural enrichment, and independent learning opportunities for all ages and for everyone in the community. On March 13<sup>TH</sup>, for the first time ever in its history, the Library closed its doors. Yet, now more than ever, families are looking to the library for information on how to discuss sensitive issues that have a profound impact on youth, how to explain aspects of the COVID-19 pandemic, how to support the remote learning needs of students, how to access accurate information, services and resources, and so much more. Please know, that even though the physical building remains closed, the library has gone beyond its walls to continue connecting with the community. The Library staff have not stopped working diligently to provide

services and access to books, resources, information, and programs. These services are provided in person via curbside delivery and phone, or online by accessing a wealth of ebooks, a diversity of digital media, and virtual programming. Thanks to the generous support from the Friends of the North Miami Library and to a grant from the Children's Trust we were able to conduct a successful Summer Reading/Learning Program. The filming equipment acquired with grant funds in support of the Messy Apron Teen Summer series is now owned by the Library and will be employed in the creation of quality virtual programming for all ages. Life will be back to normal, the pandemic will pass, and the library will continue to serve the community inside the building and everywhere else.

*Lucia,*



# BOOK CLUB



FRIENDS BOOK CLUB OFFERS CONTEMPORARY & HISTORIC INTELLECTUAL STIMULATION

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, our Book Club voted to suspend activities for the rest of 2020. We hope to be in touch in early 2021, or sooner, with new titles and meeting dates for discussions. Stay safe everyone!

- Barbara Stewart  
BOOK CLUB CHAIR

## NEWS & NOTES

COUNCILWOMAN  
**CAROL KEYS, ESQ.**  
A FRIEND OF THE NORTH MIAMI PUBLIC LIBRARY



The **North Miami Public Library** is in District 2, the district of **Councilwoman Carol Keys, Esq.**, the heart of the business and arts activities in North Miami. Councilwoman Keys is a real estate attorney and owner of Keys Title Company. She is a lifelong resident, still residing in the home in which she grew up in Keystone Point.

Ms. Keys is an active user of the North Miami Public Library and supporter of its activities. **She has volunteered as a story reader and participated in several library programs.** Councilwoman Keys is a faithful attendee of the Friends of the North Miami Public Library's Annual Book Sale, always finding gems to purchase.

She has committed herself to improving the quality of life for North Miami residents, especially the children and elderly. Her advocacy for library services and programs is part of that commitment.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**DUE TO THE PANDEMIC ALL PROGRAMMING WILL BE IN VIRTUAL FORMAT**

Call the library for instructions on how to access the program of your choice.

### SEPTEMBER

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup>, 2020 | 4 PM

#### HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRITY STORYTIME:

**North Miami Police Department Assistant Chief Angel Rivera** will read favorite stories from Puerto Rico and share about his career and achievements.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup>, 2020 | 4 PM

#### DELICIOSO! TEENS CAN COOK

Chef Dario will show how to make delicious tacos.

*Zoom Interactive program. Registration required.*

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23<sup>RD</sup>, 2020 | 4 PM

#### VAMOS A MEXICO! LET'S VISIT MEXICO!

*The Day it Rained Tortillas!* Storyteller **Carrie Sue Ayvar** will perform this Mexican folktale followed with a "hands-on" cooking demonstration with storyteller, author, and librarian **Lucia Gonzalez**. Together they will demonstrate easy instructions of how to make hot chocolate and homemade tortillas!

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup>, 2020 | 4 PM

#### OJO DE DIOS:

Participants will learn the history of **Ojo De Dios (God's Eye)** which originated in Mexico. Participants will use brightly colored yarn to make their own Ojo De Dios (Large).

*Zoom Interactive program. Registration required.*

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup>, 2020 | 4 PM

#### WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Join us in reading the story of *Alma and How She Got Her Name*, by Peruvian author and illustrator **Juana Martinez-Neal (Candlewick Press)**. We will learn about the importance of knowing one's ancestry.

### OCTOBER

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2020 | 4 PM

#### WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Creating the Family Tree!

*Zoom Interactive program. Registration required.*

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7<sup>TH</sup>, 2020 | 4 PM

#### CREATE A LOTERIA CARD COLLAGE

**Participants will get to create their own Loteria board** using a combination of drawing and collage. Participants will need print outs, magazine, pens/sharpeners, and cardstock. Loteria is a traditional game of chance from Mexico, similar to bingo, but using images on a deck of cards. Every image has a name and every board is created with a different assortment of images. We will make 2-3 cards by using a name that already exists in Loteria, or by making up new ones.

**Follow-up Zoom event: October 15<sup>TH</sup> at 4:30 PM**

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2020 | 4 PM

#### LET'S PLAY LOTERIA!

Participatory Zoom event using the Loteria Card Collage boards.

*Zoom Interactive program. Registration required.*

## CALLING ALL DONORS

Help our organization uplift the North Miami community by sending us a donation to further expand our mission.

#### MISSION STATEMENT:

Advocate for the North Miami Public Library patrons, staff, volunteers, and citizens by raising funds to purchase reading materials, equipment, supplies, refreshments, field trips, professional services, and free to the public programs that enhance intergenerational literacy.

This 35 year old organization has a 501(c)(3) status with the Internal Revenue Service. Donations are tax deductible and an official letter of receipt will be sent to each donor.



#### SEND DONATIONS TO:

Sharon Sbrissa, Treasurer,  
Friends of the  
North Miami Public Library,  
835 NE 132 Street,  
North Miami, FL, 33161