

# Rochester Public Library News and Events

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[www.rochesterpubliclibrary.org/info/newsletter/index.html](http://www.rochesterpubliclibrary.org/info/newsletter/index.html)

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## Libraries Change Lives

### GOATs love the library too!



**Grace Zhu**


"When I was young, I grew up in one of the largest cities in the world: Shanghai, China. This was, and still is the city filled with huge crowds, and mile-high buildings. Growing up there was like a movie, every day is different. The only place I have not been to was probably the public library. The library was not a big part of our daily lives, but books were. We began studying hard from the first day of elementary school. Buying books was more common so we often did that. I never thought a wonderful place like the library actually existed in this world until I came to the United States, where I discovered this hidden treasure.

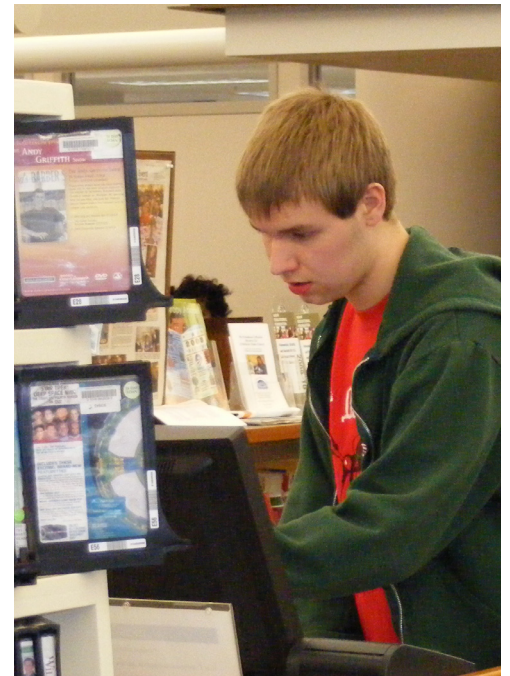
Rochester is a rather small town, and there's really not anything fun to do sometimes. When I first arrived here, I was only an amateur at English; I hardly knew what everyone

was saying. I had to start in an ESOL class, and that was the time when I discovered a library, the Rochester Public Library. Our class would often take a visit there, like a little class field trip. Our teachers signed us up for our own library cards, and I was so unexpectedly happy. Because of the library, my English improved, I do well in school, and I am grateful.


My first impression of the library was: this is all public? In China, the only book place I'd often visit would be the book store, which the only way you want to read a book, was to buy it. I hardly believe that all this service is provided, and we could check books out, free of charge! And even though it's free, the books are just piled everywhere on the endless shelves. It was more than enough for me to choose. There are also books for every age group, and every interest. There are really no excuses for not finding something you like.

But ever since I was a little girl, I have never been a "book" person. I don't really like to read in my free time, I'd rather be on the computer or something like that. In the Rochester Public Library, who knew? There are also computers for people to use! That is not only incredible, but genius. A lot of people, I bet, were really pleased. I remember I used to play the games on the computer in the children's section. I would play for hours until my time limit was up. When I was a little older I would sometimes do research on the computer in the Young Adults area. The library could solve everyone's problems. So it doesn't matter if you

love to read or not, the library is a very helpful resource for people of all ages. I am very pleased with what the library is doing for the community, and I am more than happy to help out whenever I can." 



**Seth Boyum**

"I love reading and have enjoyed going to the library for as long as I can remember. I'm also glad to be a part of the Group of Advising Teens. I was invited by Mrs. Perry, who organizes the group, to join in the fall of 2008. I suspect that my name was obtained from the summer reading program. I accepted and since then have helped plan various library programs, such as the 2009 summer reading program. As I've found the library useful for writing school papers and finding material for leisure reading, I'm glad to be able to offer support through the GOATs." 

# September 2009

**All events at Rochester Public Library are free and open to the public**

## Tuesday, September 8

### Writing Group

**Meeting Room A 6:30 pm**

Stuck on your first draft? Not sure about your plot? Let's get together and help each other out.

## Wednesday, September 9

### iFilms: International and Independent Films

**Auditorium 6:00 pm**

*The Drummer* - Sid, the rebellious son of Kwan, a controlling and savage triad boss in Hong Kong, flees to Taiwan upon enraging his father's adversary, a powerful tycoon and underground business leader. Hiding out in the mountains, Sid encounters a group of Zen drummers whose mesmerizing art, rigorous physical training, and austere way of life pique his interest and he requests to join the group. Immersed in the world of the Zen drummers, he eventually develops into a firm and focused young man. A twist of fate forces him to choose between loyalty to his family and his new-found faith in himself.

*Love and War (Short Film)* Bunny meets the handsome fighter pilot Bear. When he is about to propose, they are suddenly interrupted by an international conflict. Probably the world's first animated opera.

*The iFilm series is intended for mature adults. Please provide guidance to your children.*

## Thursday, September 10

### Ancestry and Heritage Quest Genealogy Databases

**Auditorium 5:30 pm**

An exploration of the genealogical value of two databases offered at the Rochester Public Library. Dig through census records, read family histories, or find immigration records online using these popular tools. Register online, at the second-floor reference desk or by calling 328-2309.

## Saturday, September 12

### Remarkable Reptiles!

**Auditorium 10:30 am**

Jim Gerholdt visits the library with some of his remarkable reptile friends. Join us for a fun, educational, and interactive presentation. *Sponsored by Friends of the Library and Rochester Commercial Banks*

## Sunday, September 13

### Author Program: Barbara Sommer Auditorium 2:00 pm

Barbara Sommer, a Minnesota native and an oral historian for thirty years, has spent her career in the field of public history. She has served as historical organization director and director or co-director for numerous oral history projects, has led oral history workshops, and has presented at state, regional, national, and international conferences. She is the author of *Hard Work and a Good Deal: The Civilian Conservation Corps in Minnesota*, released by the Minnesota Historical Society Press in January 2008. The Visiting Author Series is sponsored by the Friends of the Rochester Public Library, and this particular event is supported by the Minnesota Book Awards through a grant from the Minnesota Department of Education – State Library Services and the Minnesota Library Foundation. The Minnesota Book Awards is a project of The Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library, in partnership with the Saint Paul Public Library and the Office of the Saint Paul Mayor. For more information on the Minnesota Book Awards, visit [www.thefriends.org](http://www.thefriends.org).

## Saturday, September 19

### Films: *Miss Nelson is Missing* and *Miss Nelson has a Field Day*

**Auditorium 10:30 am**

Good-natured Miss Nelson teaches the worst-behaved class in the entire school! The rowdy students take advantage of her kindness until one day Miss Nelson disappears and a cranky substitute teacher named Miss Viola Swamp takes her place.

## Monday, September 21

### Library Searching 101

**Meeting Room B 1:00 pm**

Have you used the library's online catalog lately? Did you know you can view library material due dates and reserve library items online? In this class you will be taught to do these things as well as how to search for your favorite titles, authors and subjects. Register online, at the second-floor reference desk or by calling 328-2309.

### GOAT Meeting - Group Of Advising Teens

**Meeting Room A 4:00 pm**

Join other Rochester Area youth (age 12-18) and take a leadership role to discuss ideas and make plans for youth library programs, teen Web page, and other ideas. Any questions, contact Lynette @ 328-2305.

## Wednesday, September 23

### Senior Techies - E-mail

**Meeting Room B 10:00 am**

We will set up free e-mail accounts in this beginner computer class. Participants should have attended the Computer Basics class (offered the previous week) or have the skills necessary to set up a free e-mail account. Register online, at the second-floor reference desk or by calling 328-2309.

## Library Hours

The Library will be closed on Monday, September 7 in observance of Labor Day.

We will be returning to our Winter hours after Labor Day.

Monday - Thursday  
9:30 am - 9:00 pm

Friday - Saturday  
9:30 am - 5:30 pm

Sunday  
1:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Closed Holidays



**Saturday, September 26**

**Family Film Program: Silly Tales by Mo Willems**

**Auditorium 10:30 am**

There are giggles galore in three films based on the popular picture books by Mo Willems: *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!*, *Knuffle Bunny*, and *Knuffle Bunny Too*.

**Tuesday, September 29**

**Bedtime Stories**

**Auditorium 6:30 pm**

Puppets, stories, and films to give you sweet dreams.

**Young Adult Writer's Group**

**Meeting Room A 7:00 pm**

Do you like to write? Would you like to meet other tweens/teens who like to write? Would you like to share your work, and get advice on how to improve? If the answer is yes, then come join our meetings. We meet the last Tuesday of the month in Meeting Room A at 7 pm.

**Wednesday, September 30**

**Senior Techies - Digital Cameras**

**Meeting Room B 10:00 am**

Participants will be able to use a digital camera to shoot photos and view them on a computer. Register online, at the second-floor reference desk or by calling 328-2309.

## Threads of our Community

### Quilt Project

This Quilt will be a community art project that shows there is a place for all in the fabric of society.

Rochester Public Library would like to create a collaborative art work. This piece will recognize our diversity, celebrate the needlework and fiber art skills that reflect our different cultures and backgrounds, and promote harmony and awareness. Once completed, the quilt will hang in our library as a commemoration of the skills, talent and heritage found here in our very own community.

To participate, pick up an instruction packet from the Library Administration office (2nd floor) during office hours (Mon. - Fri. 8-5).

For any questions contact:

Gail Harris  
507-328-2341

gharris@rochester.lib.mn.us

Purna Gurung  
507-328-2320


pgurung@rochester.lib.mn.us

Completed quilt blocks and application form must be returned to the library by December 1 for consideration. A panel of judges will select representative samples.


*Sponsored by: Rochester Quilters' Sew-ciety and Rochester Community Education.* 

## Registration open for 3-5 year-old story time


This fun and active six-week program is designed for children who will be at least three years old by September 30, and are ready for a story time experience without a parent/guardian. Story time includes a variety of books, flannel board stories, rhymes, songs, and puppets. Each program concludes with a short film which parents/guardians are welcome to watch with the children.

This session is on Wednesdays at 10:00 am and again at 1:00 pm, starting on September 30 and ending on November 4. Register online, at the Children's desk or by calling 328-2303. 

## Kids Day America

The library will have a table at the Kids' Day America festivities on Saturday, September 12, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm located at the RCTC fieldhouse. Children will be able to use markers, colored pencils, stickers and stamps to decorate bookmarks or bracelets at the library table. 

## That Writing Contest

Young Adult writing contest is underway! Anyone aged 12 - 18 may participate by submitting a short story or poem (or both). Deadline to submit is Sunday, September 13, 2009. For more information, visit: [www.rochesterpubliclibrary.org/teens/index.html](http://www.rochesterpubliclibrary.org/teens/index.html), stop by the Fiction, Movies & Music desk or call 328-2305. 


## Summer Reading Programs

August 17th marked the end of this year's young adult summer reading program with 171 youth logging over 8,554 hours of reading time. That's up from last year (153 readers and 7,256 hours).

USB Flash drives, including a hand-beaded keychain made by the GOATS and youth volunteers, were given to 129 readers. Each of the top 20 readers received a \$30 gift card to Target, Best Buy, Applebees or Cinemagic Theater.

The Children's summer reading program ran through August with just over 1,100 reading logs turned in representing over 13,200 reading hours. Readers received prizes including a paint sheet, stickers, a bookmark, a pencil, a note pad, a certificate for a free bowl of noodles at Noodles & Company, and a certificate for a free mini pizza from Papa Murphy's.

Over 3,300 people came to our Summer Family FunFest programs that took place on Wednesdays. They included magicians, musicians, zoo animals, clowns, jugglers, and Rochester Honkers baseball players, storytellers and family films.

The Hooray for Saturday! programs begins on September 12 at 10:30 a.m., with a Remarkable Reptiles program. For more program information visit our online events calendar: [www.rochesterpubliclibrary.org/events](http://www.rochesterpubliclibrary.org/events). 

### Library Newsletter

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# What's @ the Library?

## Group Of Advising Teens (GOATs)

For the most part, GOAT behavior can be summed up as: very sociable, lively, inquisitive, independent, quite intelligent and usually tending to travel in herds. I'm not talking about the furry farmyard creatures that eat anything in sight, I'm talking about our Group Of Advising Teens (GOATs). Wait a minute, there always seems to be food at the GOAT meetings. ...

The GOATs meet on the 3rd Monday of every month at 4:00 p.m. Anyone between the ages of 12 and 18 can become a member of this elite group. The GOAT's mission is to discuss, make plans for and participate in programs, contests and projects that the teens of our community can



GOAT meeting in progress.  
Ekram, Hannah and Lynette Perry.

participate in. With the direction of Lynette Perry, the library's Young Adult Services Coordinator, the group has come up with a wide variety of program ideas. The members are a great sounding board for Lynette as she takes their suggestions and brings them to life. Over the years, the library has provided a variety of programs and activities: writing, film and art contests; movie showings; teen magicians; hair & makeup for prom; world culture programs; acting, cooking, jewelry and art making classes; and game nights. The GOATs often suggest classes and programs where teens can learn about something a little out of the ordinary or where they can participate in a hobby or recreational activity. For example, the library held a fencing program, where each participant was suited up in a mask and croissard and given a foil. They learned about and practiced the artful techniques of fencing with a partner.

The group hasn't always been called GOATs. When the group first started in 1999, they were the Youth Advisory Board (YAB). Since then, one member of the group has always been on the Rochester Public Library Board as our youth representative.

Kathryn Ramage is our current representative. Besides being a member of GOATs, she also participates in many other activities at school, church and other community groups.

All GOAT members have a great love of the library, but that's where the similarities end. GOAT members have always come to the group from differing schools, cultural backgrounds, personal interests, and life experiences. As with our Friends of the Library, GOAT members are volunteers who are very interested in helping the library to provide services to its patrons. Over the years the members have given lots of input on how the young adult area is decorated and the materials that are in the Young Adult collection. They help spread the word to their friends, family and schools about what the library can be for teens in our community and what the library has for them to use and learn about.

The GOATs have a Facebook page that they hope will become a popular place for fellow members and other teens to network. To find the Facebook page, search for "RPL Teen Space." cu on fb (For those who don't know texting jargon, that's "See you on Facebook"). 📖



# Homework?

[www.rochesterpubliclibrary.org/tutor](http://www.rochesterpubliclibrary.org/tutor)



# Help!

## Online homework help

Just like last year, only different

Due to a change of vendors, the online homework help will look a little different this year, but basically it works the same. Log on from any computer. Enter your grade level and the subject you need help in. Receive online homework help from a real tutor. It makes doing your homework almost fun. 📖