

# Libraries Change Lives

## Rochester Public Library News and Events

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October 2011

### Murals in the library

by Heidi Preslicka



Artist Greg Preslicka working on a mural.

It was almost two years ago that we received a phone call from a library requesting to have a mural for their children's section. This would be our first library job, and we were thrilled. After creating murals in several day cares, dentist offices, activity centers, and homes, Greg was ready for the creativity and challenge that a library mural would offer.

My name is Heidi Preslicka; my husband is Greg Preslicka, a Minnesota artist. He creates large-scale wall murals that grace almost 50 rooms throughout Minnesota. We work together to run our small business. Greg creates the artwork, and I do the bookkeeping, marketing, and project management. For twenty years we have worked together in our graphic design studio in our home. However, three years ago, when the economy

started to affect our business, we needed more work. We decided Greg should try painting wall murals in our children's rooms. He has been doing art all his life, so this work wasn't far off from his experience. The murals' large-scale offered a new challenge for Greg. The murals turned out great and so, "The Big Picture" was born. Greg created a logo, a website, and I got to work marketing our business. Now, Greg enjoys the balance of working at his computer doing graphic design AND getting out of the office to do what he truly loves - painting. Now, over one third of our work is murals.

Murals can transform a space - whether it is an office, library, daycare, school, fitness studio, a bedroom, or a child's play room. Murals bring a little bit more fun to a place that is already

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### Banned Books Week

#### Sept. 24 - Oct. 1

Rochester Public Library staff celebrated Banned Books Week by posting with the top 10 most challenged books of 2010.

**And Tango Makes Three** by Peter Parnell and Justin Richardson.

**The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian** by Sherman Alexie.

**Brave New World** by Aldous Huxley.

**Crank** by Ellen Hopkins.

**The Hunger Games** (series) by Suzanne Collins.

**Lush** by Natasha Friend.

**What My Mother Doesn't Know** by Sonya Sones.

**Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting by in America** by Barbara Ehrenreich.

**Revolutionary Voices** edited by Amy Sonnie.

**Twilight** (series) by Stephanie Meyer.

**Banned Books Week**  
September 24 - October 1, 2011

**Top 10 challenged books for 2010**

<b>And Tango Makes Three</b> by Peter Parnell and Justin Richardson Reasons: homosexuality, religious viewpoint, unsuited to age group	<b>Lush</b> by Natasha Friend Reasons: drugs, sexually explicit, offensive language, unsuited to age group
<b>The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian</b> by Sherman Alexie Reasons: offensive language, racism, religious viewpoint, sex education, sexually explicit, violence, unsuited to age group	<b>What My Mother Doesn't Know</b> by Sonya Sones Reasons: sexism, sexually explicit, unsuited to age group
<b>Brave New World</b> by Aldous Huxley Reasons: innuendo, offensive language, racism, sexually explicit	<b>Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting by in America</b> by Barbara Ehrenreich Reasons: drugs, inaccurate, offensive language, political viewpoint, religious viewpoint
<b>Crank</b> by Ellen Hopkins Reasons: drugs, offensive language, racism, sexually explicit	<b>Revolutionary Voices</b> edited by Amy Sonnie Reasons: homosexuality, sexually explicit
<b>The Hunger Games</b> (series) by Suzanne Collins Reasons: sexually explicit, violence, unsuited to age group	<b>Twilight</b> (series) by Stephanie Meyer Reasons: sexually explicit, religious viewpoint, violence, unsuited to age group

**Celebrate the freedom to read @ your library!**

# October 2011

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

## Saturday, October 1

**Family Film: Rip Van Winkle**  
**Auditorium 10:30 am**

Rip Van Winkle prefers telling stories to plowing the land in this classic and magical tale written by Washington Irving.

## Monday, October 3

**Sit .. Stay .. Read!**  
**Auditorium 6:30 pm**

Read aloud to a friendly therapy dog. Reading times are 6:30 pm, 6:50 pm and 7:10 pm. You may register for a specific dog and time on a first-come, first-served basis beginning at 6:00 pm the evening of the event. Space is limited. Only the registered child and accompanying parent/adult should attend.

## Tuesday, October 4

**Bedtime Stories**  
**Auditorium 6:30 pm**

Stories, puppets and films to give you sweet dreams.

## Join us online!

Facebook  
Rochester Public Library  
PRL Teen Space  
Friends of the Rochester Public Library

Twitter  
RochPubLibrary

Blog  
RochPubLibrary.wordpress

Flickr  
RochPubLibrary

YouTube  
RPLMNinfo  
RochPubLibrary

## Wednesday, October 5

**After Lunch Bunch Parent-Child Story Time!**  
**Auditorium 1:00 pm**

**Event Type: Storytime**  
Stories, rhymes, puppets, and films for children 3 to 5 years of age and their parents or care providers.

## Thursday, October 6

**Stories for Toddlers and Twos**  
**Auditorium 10:00 am**

Stories, puppets, and films for children 18-36 months of age and their parents or care providers.

## Saturday, October 8

**Family Film Program: *Dot the Fire Dog and Officer Buckle and Gloria***  
**Auditorium 10:30 am**

Kick off Fire Prevention Week with tales about two safety dogs! These family films are based on popular children's picture books and are filled with important safety information for children of all ages.

## Sunday, October 9

**Visiting Author Series: Bonnie J. Rough**  
**Auditorium 2:00 pm**

As Bonnie J. Rough and her husband consider becoming parents, their biological legacy haunts every decision. A carrier of the genetic condition hypohidrotic ectodermal dysplasia (HED), she begins a journey to uncover the complicated details of her family's past. This journey was chronicled in her 2010 title *Carrier: Untangling the Danger in My DNA*.

Bonnie holds an MFA from the Non-fiction Writing Program at the University of Iowa, and has taught at The Loft Literary Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota. *Carrier* is her first book.

## Monday, October 10

**Sit .. Stay .. Read!**  
**Auditorium 6:30 pm**

See description from October 3.

## Tuesday, October 11

**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.

**Bedtime Stories**  
**Auditorium 6:30 pm**

Stories, puppets and films to give you sweet dreams.

## Wednesday, October 12

**After Lunch Bunch Parent-Child Story Time!**  
**Auditorium 1:00 pm**

**Event Type: Storytime**

See description from October 5.

**iFilms: *Little Sparrows***  
**Auditorium 6:00 pm**

Directed by Yu-Hsiu Camille Chen

Australia | 2010 | Drama | in English

In the middle of an Australian summer, we meet three sisters. When their mother Susan's breast cancer returns, the family is faced with the reality of their last Christmas together. As each daughter confronts personal change and growth, Susan guides them by revealing a secret of her own.

**Short Film: *A Lost and Found Box of Human Sensation***

When his father dies unexpectedly, a young man seeking to cope with his grief goes on a powerful emotional journey through time and space.

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

**Thursday, October 13**

**Stories for Toddlers and Twos**  
**Auditorium 10:00 am**  
 See description from October 6.

**Saturday, October 15**

**Friends of the Library Book Sale**  
**Auditorium 9:30 pm**  
 The Friends' Autumn book sale will open to the public at 9:30 am. If you are a Friends' member you may enter at 9:00 am.

**Sunday, October 16**

**Friends of the Library Book Sale**  
**Auditorium 1:30 pm**  
 The second day of the Friends' Autumn book sale still offers lots of great bargains!

**Monday, October 17**

**Computer Basics Workshop**  
**Meeting Room B 1:00 pm**  
 Learn about computers, how to use email, the library website and the Internet.

**Sit .. Stay .. Read!**  
**Auditorium 6:30 pm**  
 See description from October 3.

**Tuesday, October 18**

**Bedtime Stories**  
**Auditorium 6:30 pm**  
 Stories, puppets and films to give you sweet dreams.

**Wednesday, October 19**

**After Lunch Bunch Parent-Child Story Time!**  
**Auditorium 1:00 pm**  
 See description from October 5.

**Thursday, October 20**

**Stories for Toddlers and Twos**  
**Auditorium 10:00 am**  
 See description from October 6.

**Picture It! - Craft Program**  
**Auditorium 1:00 pm**  
 Youth age 10-18 are encouraged to join us for this fun afternoon of photo related crafts projects to make and take home.

**eBooks and Downloadable Audiobooks**  
**Meeting Room B 4:30 pm**  
 Find out how to check out free eBooks for your eBook Readers (such as the Nook and Sony Reader) and downloadable audiobooks from the library's collection. Register online, at the first-floor Fiction, Movies and Music desk or by calling 507-328-2305.

**Friday, October 21**

**Ancestry and Heritage Quest Genealogy Databases**  
**Auditorium 10:00 am**  
 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 507-328-2309.

**Saturday, October 22**

**Special Program: Musical Fun with Miss Kristin!**  
**Auditorium 10:30 pm**  
 Join us for some Saturday morning musical fun! Clap your hands and sing along to the music of Miss Kristin and her guitar.

**Tuesday, October 25**

**Bedtime Stories**  
**Auditorium 6:30 pm**  
 Stories, puppets and films to give you sweet dreams.

**Wednesday, October 26**

**After Lunch Bunch Parent-Child Story Time!**  
**Auditorium 1:00 pm**  
 See description from October 5.

**Thursday, October 27**

**Stories for Toddlers and Twos**  
**Auditorium 10:00 am**  
 See description from October 6.

**Saturday, October 29**

**Family Film: Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel**  
**Auditorium 10:30 am**  
 In this animated musical adaptation of the classic children's book, Mike Mulligan and his loyal steam shovel attempt to dig a cellar for the new Town Hall in just one day!

**Good news for Kindle owners!**

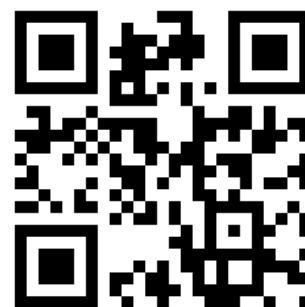
The wait is over! Kindle owners now have the option to download ebooks from the library's digital collection.

Visit our website: <http://digital.rochesterpubliclibrary.org/>



[rochesterpubliclibrary.org/](http://rochesterpubliclibrary.org/) to browse our collection, download books, and to view tutorials on how it all works.

Scan this code with your smart phone and it will take you directly to our digital collection!



## Library Newsletter

Director	Audrey Betcher
Editor	John Hunziker
Layout/Design	Ginny Erbe

**Murals** - continued from Page 1

fun. Recently, Greg completed a large mural in the skyway connecting the Rochester Public Library and the parking ramp. Greg enjoys painting murals in libraries. Not only is he a huge fan of reading, but his job also requires him to keep his imagination flowing and reading helps this process. Greg enjoys children's books, and he has even written and illustrated several books for our children. His favorite books are non-fiction, but he has recently been enjoying some fiction as well and has also been enjoying the library's new audio book system.

Since our first library job two years ago, Greg has brought his talent to many Minnesota libraries. A library is the perfect place for a mural; a place where you can enjoy a vast variety of information, learn a new hobby, and read stories. It is a place where your imagination can flow, a place to escape and enjoy. Libraries offer a chance to learn about almost anything in the world - all in one place. The decor in a library should reflect what a library has to offer, this being: history, culture, imagination, relaxation, beauty or a combination of these. Libraries have a similar look with the rows of shelving, but murals are a way to break up the monotony and provide a unique

look, making it a more exciting place to venture into. Children love libraries; and adding murals makes it even more special for children and adults. Greg's murals give you a sense of being in another place. Libraries can take you away to another world with all they have to offer through reading. Greg's murals do the same and add to this wonderment, whether the mural is of outer space, a tropical island, underwater world, a serene forest, or in the case of the Rochester Skyway mural - a view of the vast diversity within the town of Rochester.

Murals are awe-inspiring and have generated a huge response within every town that Greg has worked. Greg feels honored to create a new work of art each time and he enjoys the process every step of the way. The process begins with meeting our client and discussing their vision. Sometimes our clients do not have a vision, but Greg walks them through these early steps and guides them into a direction they would like to go. After the first meeting Greg creates computer-generated layouts and with his computer, he super-imposes these images into photos of the space. With these images, the layouts appear as if the mural has already been created, giv-

ing our clients a chance to make the best choice for their space. Occasionally, our clients wish to see more and Greg will go back to the sketch-pad and computer. He wants our clients to love their mural and he'll make changes to layouts until they are happy. Sometimes Greg works with a larger group of people. When working with a library board or a committee at a business there are many opinions and ideas that float around. Greg is able to work with a group and bring the discussion back to the goals of the mural and how those goals are going to be best achieved. He helps to guide the group to develop a design that is enjoyed by everyone.

We have received many testimonials about the impact that the murals have had on the businesses we have worked with. It has been an overwhelming response. Those testimonials make this job even more fun. We hope you've been able to see the mural both in the skyway and in the children's section of the Rochester Public Library. Thank you Rochester Public Library for supporting our business and for giving Greg the opportunity to contribute to the beautification of Rochester.

*Heidi Preslicka*



Visit the library blog for more stories about library news, services, and events.  
<http://rochpublibrary.wordpress.com>