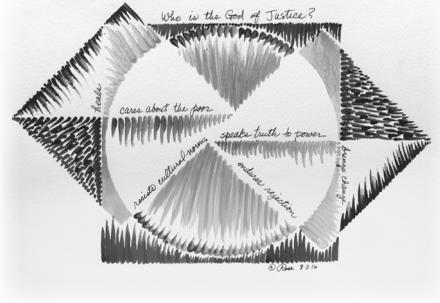


For thousands of years, women were responsible for child care. Since such tasks as spinning and weaving and basketry were repetitive tasks that could be accomplished while caring for children, they were almost always done by women. One hundred years ago, women who worked outside the home were the exception. Women's work has changed with the times. Our events and exhibits this month celebrate many of the various works that women have done and still do.



EXHIBITS

Sacred Circles: Mandalas for the Soul

by Rose Amodeo Petronella

Mandalas are circle designs found in spiritual traditions around the world. They represent health and wholeness of body, mind and spirit. The mandalas in this exhibit began as a spiritual healing exercise during a difficult time of life and evolved into a form of prayer, which continues years later.

- throughout March

Never Done: A Collection of Domestic Handicrafts

There's an old proverb that goes:
- *Man may work from sun to sun,
but woman's work is never done.*

Samples of domestic handicrafts traditionally produced by women will be on exhibit in the lobby display case, throughout March. From embroidery to crochet, needlepoint to knitting, basketry and quilting, such work was undervalued in western culture until the feminist movement of the 1970's. Gleaned from the staff of the Russell Library, these pieces were created by female relatives (mothers, grandmothers, sisters, aunts), and several artistic female staff members.

PROGRAMS:

International Women's Day with the AAUW

Sunday, March 5, 1:30pm, Hubbard Rm

A panel of women of different nationalities will speak on the conditions and concerns that affect women in their countries. Open to all.

Drop-in, no registration. Sponsored by the American Association of University Women.

International Women's Day 2017

Wednesday, March 8, 1 – 8pm

Come into the library and enjoy the art by women!

Poet's Corner: Women Poets Resist

Friday, March 17, 1pm, Hubbard Rm

Susan Allison, Middletown's Poet Laureate will be sharing resistance poetry by women poets. Participants are invited to bring their favorite resistance poems by women, or their own work to read. All ages welcome. Drop-in.



How to Manipulate a Marionette

– dedicated to the memory of Margo Rose

Tuesday, March 21, 4:30pm – 6pm
Hubbard Room

In celebration of World Puppetry Day and National Day of Puppetry, adults and children are invited to come and learn the basics of manipulating a "string puppet", also known as a marionette. This lesson is dedicated to the memory of Margo Rose, a puppeteer inducted into the CT Women's Hall of Fame in 1997. Margo was a founding member of the Puppeteers of America, she designed and built many of the puppets on the *Howdy Doody* television program, and was a mentor to many contemporary puppeteers. All ages are welcome. Drop-in.

Cultural Connections

Wednesday, March 22, 5:30pm
Hubbard Room

Women of all nationalities are invited to help one another adapt to American culture. Children are welcome. Fluency in English is not necessary. Drop-in.



Free concert:

The Atwater-Donnelly Trio

Sunday, March 26, 2pm
Hubbard Room

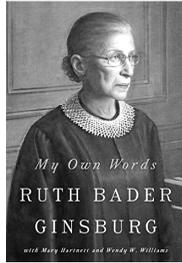
The highly acclaimed trio comprised of Aubrey Atwater on banjo and guitar, Elwood Donnelly on mountain dulcimer and Cathy Clasper-Torch on fiddle and cello, will present a program called: *Images of Women in Folk Music*, which also includes mandolin, tin whistle, harmonica, vocals, Appalachian clog dancing and French Canadian footwork.

Sponsored by *The Friends of the Russell Library*.

Classic Mystery Book Discussion

Tuesday, March 28, 12 – 1pm
Hubbard Room

Join us for a discussion of *The Mysterious Affair at Styles*, the first of the Hercule Poirot mysteries, by Agatha Christie. The discussion will be casual, and those who have not read the books or seen the movie are still encouraged to attend. Drop-in, no registration.



My Own Words

by Ruth Bader Ginsburg

Book Discussion:

Wednesday, March 29, 6:30 – 7:45pm
Hubbard Room

'The first book from Ruth Bader Ginsburg since becoming a Supreme Court Justice in 1993—a witty, engaging, serious, and playful collection of writings and speeches from the woman who has had a powerful and enduring influence on law, women's rights, and popular culture.'

Copies of the book will be available at the Circulation Desk. It is also available as an e-book on Overdrive. Please contact the Information Access & Adult Learning Department at Russell Library; infodept@russelllibrary.org; 860-347-2520 for more details.

Drop-in, no registration.

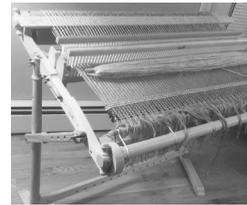
Drawing Mandalas For Insight Into Life Issues

Friday, March 31, 10:30am - 12:30pm
Hubbard Room

A mandala is a type of circular design that is used as a spiritual and ritual symbol. Participants will create a mandala, being guided by their own spirit, intuition and feelings of the moment, in a supportive, non-judgmental atmosphere. All materials will be provided.

No artistic ability or experience required. Registration is suggested, please call (860) 347-2520; drop-ins accepted, if there's room.

Rose Amodeo Petronella is a spiritual director, retreat leader and retired minister in the United Church of Christ. She recently published *Honoring the Soul: Mandalas for Inspiration and Insight*. She lives in Middletown.



Rigid Heddle Loom Weaving Demonstration

Friday, March 31, 2 – 4pm
Hubbard Room

Linda Rusczek will be giving a hands-on demonstration of rigid heddle loom weaving. Rigid-heddle looms are easy to store, quick to set up, and, most importantly, fun to weave on. They're great looms for beginning weavers and seasoned veterans alike. All ages. Drop-in.

Front cover - *Our History is Our Strength*,
courtesy of National Women's History Project
www.nwhp.org

*Wayfinding Women:
contributions in art,
politics and literature.*

Russell Library celebrates
Women's History Month



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