Meet David Hajdu, author of *Heroes and Villains: Essays on Music, Movies, Comics and Culture*, on Friday, February 12 at 7:30 p.m.

These reviews say it all: “In this rollicking collection of essays, Hajdu (The Ten-Cent Plague; Lush Life) combines the cutting candor of Lester Bangs and the measured and judicious cultural learning of Lionel Trilling as he takes aim at subjects ranging widely from jazz, rock and country music and cartoon characters like Elmer Fudd. Hajdu writes affectionately about the old Warner Brothers cartoons, recalling the respite they provided from the tumult of the 1960s. In another essay, he uses the release of Joni Mitchell’s album, *Shine*, as an entrée into a moving portrait of a brilliant musician whose star might have risen even higher had he been born in a different era. Hajdu’s essays never fail to amuse, please and provoke.” — *Publisher’s Weekly*

“I’m ready to give [jazz] a second chance, thanks to the wondrously lustrous and effortlessly instructive essays in David Hajdu’s sparkling new collection…Hajdu traces the familiar history of jazz, but with a poet’s passionate yearning, not a scholar’s bored yawn. He makes you want to rush out and get hold of the music about which he writes, no matter what you may have thought about it in the past.” — *Chicago Tribune*

Pianist Ken Kresek’s nimble fingers provide the accompaniment to some of these essays.

Celebrating Black History Month

Napoleon Revels-Bey and the Nu Mo Swing Ensemble perform selections from the Great Jazz and Blues Songbook, in a concert dedicated to Bessie Smith, Billie Holiday, Ella Fitzgerald, Sara Vaughan and Betty Carter on Friday, February 19 at 7:30 p.m.

*Our Neighborhoods of New York* series visits Harlem on Friday, February 26 at 3 p.m. Join Ronald J. Brown for a look at the transformation of Harlem into an African-American Mecca. In the late 19th century, well-to-do black Knickerbockers moved to 138th Street. Then came black immigrants from throughout the Caribbean, followed by migrants from throughout the country. The outbreak of World War I drew hundreds of thousands from the rural South, and beginning in 1965, tens of thousands of African immigrants added still another layer to the complex mix. Witness this phenomenal history marked by the Harlem Renaissance, the great Depression, the Civil Rights Movement, religious ferment, and today’s gentrification. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

January holidays

The library will be open from 1 to 5 p.m. on February 15 in observance of Presidents Day.

AARP Tax Help

Volunteers from the AARP/IRS-sponsored tax assistance program will assist low income Port residents with simple tax returns. Limited openings; call Ext. 136 for availability.

Comeback Moms . . .

. . . or Dads: Returning to Work. Registration is in progress. Please join us on Wednesday, February 3, from 11 to 1 for part II of this workshop. Call Ext. 136 for more information.

Friends’ news

The Friends of the Library welcomes John McWhorter as its Bogen Lecture series speaker on Sunday, March 7 at 2 p.m. (see story on page 2).

Susan Isaacs will moderate the Friends’ Book & Author Luncheon on Friday, May 14. She will introduce speakers Linda Fairstein, whose new book *Hell Gate* will be out in March, and Thomas Fleming, author of *The Intimate Lives of the Founding Fathers*.

FOL say thanks

The Friends’ annual fundraising appeal has already resulted in contributions from long-time supporters and first-time donors. “We are so grateful for our community’s loyalty and support,” says Friends president Amy Bass. “The more donations we receive, the more programs and activities the Friends can fund in our wonderful library.”

Learn a Language

Port Washington Library cardholders can now access Mango’s Online Language Learning System from the library website (click on the Mango icon). Mango Basic is designed to teach users simple conversation skills in 22 foreign languages and includes 14 English as a Second Language courses. Mango Complete provides advanced language skills for 9 foreign languages and includes 3 English as a Second Language courses. If you need help getting started call us at 883-4400, Ext. 111 or send an e-mail to reference@pwpl.org.
From the Library Director’s Office

We Earned Five Stars

The Port Washington Public Library was named a 5 star library after a national poll was conducted measuring per capita use of the 7,258 U.S. public libraries in the areas of library visits, circulation, Internet use, and program attendance. We are proud to say that we are one of only 85 libraries nationally to received 5 stars.

Your Green Library

The Library continues in its efforts to GO GREEN with its latest installation of variable speed drive motors which reduce the amount of air volume fed into the various spaces of the building once a set building temperature is reached. The slower our fans run, the less energy we consume. It is expected that this improvement, partially funded by a grant from New York State Library Construction Aid, will save the Library approximately $2,000 per month in electrical costs.

The Library has also made a concerted effort to reduce electrical consumption by installing light sensors in back office areas and hallways throughout the building. The Library Board of Trustees is planning for the installation of solar technology as part of a roof replacement which will be partially funded through a LIPA rebate, the Port Washington Library Foundation, and a state capital grant awarded to the Library by Senator Craig Johnson.

John McWhorter is speaker for Bogen Memorial Lecture

The Friends of the Library welcomes John McWhorter as its Bogen Lecture series speaker on Sunday, March 7 at 2 p.m. Mr. McWhorter's topic is “The Story of English: When It Wasn’t English, How It Became English, and What English Is About To Be.” “English is genuinely weird — miscegenated, abbreviated and interesting,” says bestselling author, linguist and Manhattan Institute Senior Fellow John McWhorter.

A contributing editor to The New Republic, he has taught linguistics at the University of California at Berkeley and has been widely profiled in the media.

Sci-Fi favorites from 1957

This month we screen The Incredible Shrinking Man, a classic from the year 1957. Here are other sci-fi favorites from that banner year, all available in our circulating DVD and VHS collections:

Beginning of the End. Reporter Peggie Castle and scientist Peter Graves battle huge locusts. Producer/director Bert I. Gordon also photographed the low-tech special effects.

The Cosmic Monsters. Cosmic rays transform insects into giants in Gilbert Gunn’s production.

The Deadly Mantis. Released from a million-year deep freeze, a gigantic praying mantis heads for the U.S. Directed by Nathan Juran.


The Giant Claw. Jeff Morrow and Mara Corday match wits with a giant buzzard from a “godfor-saken anti-matter universe.” A Fred F. Sears production.

Invasion of the Saucer Men. Teenagers encounter extraterrestrial aliens (designed by Paul Blaisdell) with deadly needle-claws. Edward L. Cahn directed.

The Invisible Boy. Young Richard Kyer plays with Forbidden Planet’s Robby the Robot in Herman Hoffman’s delightful fantasy.

Kronos by Kurt Neumann. A spaceship sends a giant robot to devour the Earth’s energy sources.

The Land Unknown. A helicopter crew descends into a foggy Antarctic chasm and discovers a world ruled by dinosaurs. A Virgil Vogel picture.

The Monolith Monsters. Geologist Grant Williams finds fragments of a meteor that grow gigantic, topple and reproduce. Directed by John Sherwood.


The Mysterians by Ishiro Honda. Aliens from the planet Mysteroid have come in peace — all they ask is to mate with Earth women!

Not of This Earth. Paul Birch plays an alien who needs constant blood transfusions. Charles B. Griffith and Mark Hanna scripted for producer/director Roger Corman.

Quatermass 2 (a.k.a. Enemy from Space) by Val Guest. Professor Quatermass (Brian Donlevy) suspects that a high-security factory is the site of an alien invasion.

20 Million Miles to Earth. Nathan Juran’s movie about an ever-growing reptile from Venus features fabulous special effects by Ray Harryhausen.

The 27th Day. An alien from a dying planet gives each of five earthlings a device that can destroy mankind, and twenty-seven days in which not to do so! William Asher directed.

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MAC plans for spring!

Sunday, March 21 at 3 p.m.
**Pianist Jennifer Tao**
*Selections from Schumann and Chopin*

Sunday, April 11 at 3 p.m.
**Dave Sear with Peter Pickow**
*Jean Ritchie Folk Concert*

Sunday, May 2 at 3 p.m.
**Pianist Daria Rabotkina**
*Selections from Schumann and Beethoven*

Music Advisory Council concerts are privately funded by donations to the Library Foundation

Carlos Page exhibits sculpture in Main Gallery

Sculptor Carlos Page will exhibit his work in the Main Gallery this month. The Art Advisory Council will host a reception for the artist on Saturday, February 6 from 2 to 4 p.m.

Page was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina. In 1989 he moved to San Francisco to work as an apprentice to Argentine artist Pepe Ozan. It was there that Carlos had his first experiences working with steel, concrete and other materials.

After a brief return to Buenos Aires, Carlos moved to New York City to reside and study. He began attending Hunter College in 1996 and graduated Phi Beta Kappa in January of 2001 with a bachelor’s degree from Hunter’s Honors program. Within that program, Carlos focused on the study of art. He began to create his first sculptures at Hunter, drawing his inspiration from the energy of the people and places that he encountered during his extensive travels.

In February 2001 Carlos opened a sculpture and furniture studio in Hoboken, New Jersey, where he continues his work today. Over the years Carlos has participated in many nationally juried arts festivals and design shows.

In the Photography Gallery — Marty Schmidt:
*An Eclectic Look at Long Island Aviation*, through February 28

Pulitzer Prize-Winning New Yorkers

The library has been awarded a Reading & Discussion grant from the New York Council for the Humanities for an original concept series by program coordinator Jessica Ley: “Pulitzer Prize-Winning New Yorkers.”

In the latter years of the 19th century, Joseph Pulitzer stood out as the very embodiment of American journalism. The lasting influence of the Pulitzer Prizes on journalism, literature, music and drama is attributed to his visionary acumen.

Our choice of four authors who came from other places to live and work in New York, references Joseph Pulitzer’s life here, as well as the immigrant experience.

The first title in the series, Junot Diaz’s *The Brief, Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*, will be discussed on Saturday, March 20 at 11 a.m. Others in the series: *Interpreter of Maladies* by Jhumpa Lahiri on April 17, *Vera, Mrs.Vladimir Nabokov* by Stacy Schiff on May 15 and *Eden’s Outcasts* by John Matteson on June 19. The series will be moderated by Peter West, professor of English at Adelphi University.

online . . . all the time
visit us at www.pwpl.org
Welcome to the page for Children's Services. Be sure to look here for upcoming exhibits, programs and articles relating to Children's Services and the Parenting Information Center. Parents: Please comply with the age guidelines for these programs and be prepared to show proof of local residency.

Early Childhood

To register and/or inquire about availability for the following programs, please call Children’s Services at 883-4400, Ext. 150.

Mother Goose Rhyme Time
Ages birth to 17 months with an adult – siblings welcome. Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. Story times have begun - call for availability.

Toddler Story Time
Ages 2½ to 3½ with an adult. Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. Story times have begun - call for availability.

Preschool Story Time
Ages 3½ to 5 without an adult. Fridays at 10:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. Story times have begun - call for availability.

Valentine’s Day Craft
Monday, February 8 at 12 noon or 1 p.m. A seasonal craft, stories and songs. Ages 2½ to 5 with an adult. Registration begins February 1.

Pajama Story Time in English and Spanish
Tuesday, February 9 at 7 p.m. Come in pajamas for stories, songs and fun activities. Ages 2½ to 5 with an adult. Family members welcome. Registration not required.

Pajama Story Time
Tuesday, February 16 at 7 p.m. Come in pajamas and listen to bedtime stories. Ages 2½ to 5 with an adult. Family members welcome. Registration not required.

Play Hooray
Monday, February 22
A music and movement program. Ages birth to 17 months with an adult at 10 or 10:15 a.m. Ages 18 months to 2½ years with an adult at 11:15 a.m. Ages 2½ to 5 with an adult at 12:30 p.m. Registration begins February 12.

Parent Child Workshop
Wednesdays, February 24 and March 3, 10, 17, 24 from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Spend time with your child and meet new people in an educational and creative environment. Each week a different resource professional is on hand to discuss speech and hearing, physical fitness, nutrition and behavior. For children ages 18 to 29 months with an adult – siblings welcome. In-person registration begins February 5. Birth certificates are required as proof of age; families must be Port Washington residents; priority given to first time registrants. Co-sponsored by the Port Washington Public Library Family Place and funded with private donations to the Port Washington Library Foundation, the Judith C. White Foundation and United Way.

Hands On Music
Monday, March 1 at 12 noon or 1 p.m. Music, stories and songs. For ages 18 months to 5 years with an adult – younger siblings welcome. Registration begins February 22.

Vacation Week Programs

“Dream Big!” with Roger Day – Tuesday, February 16 at 2:30 p.m. Funny lyrics and catchy beats have made the name Roger Day synonymous with zany infectious fun for kids. For children in grades K and up with an adult. Tickets required and will be available in the Children’s Room beginning February 8. Co-sponsored by the Children’s Advisory Council, which is privately funded by donations to the Port Washington Library Foundation.

Family Film: “Up” – Wednesday, February 17 at 2:30 p.m. The fun begins when a widowed balloon salesman ties thousands of balloons to his house and flies away on a magical adventure with an 8-year-old stowaway. No tickets required. Parents: Please be aware that the rating for this film is PG. Parental guidance is suggested – you may consider some material not suitable for your children.

Erik’s Reptile Edventures – Friday, February 19 at 2:30 p.m. Join Erik Callender for a live animal show. Meet Godzilla, a green iguana, Fendi, a blood python and Blueie, a blue tegu. For children in grades K and up with an adult. Tickets required and will be available in the Children’s Room beginning February 8. Co-sponsored by the Children’s Advisory Council, which is privately funded by donations to the Port Washington Library Foundation.

Kindergarten through Sixth Grade

To register and/or inquire about availability for the following programs, please call Children’s Services at 883-4400, Ext. 150.

After School Story Time
For children in grades K to 2 without an adult. Wednesdays at 4 p.m. Story times have begun - call for availability.

Book Bunch
Thursday, February 18 at 4 p.m. Book discussion for children in grades 3 and 4. Call for availability.

Tweens’ Night Out
Friday, February 19 from 8 to 9:30 p.m. Students in grades 5 and 6 are invited for “What’s a Mutti-gree?” Join Lauraine Merlini from the North Shore Animal League and learn more about dog breeds and what jobs they were designed to do. Participants will design and create their own mutts. Registration begins February 12.

Page Turners
Tuesday, February 23 at 7:15 p.m. Book discussion for children in grades 5 and 6. Call for availability.

Kiwi the Cat Learns About Food
Fridays, March 5, 12 and 19 at 4 p.m. Join Robyn Littman R.D., C.D.N. for an interactive and educational 3-session nutrition workshop. Children in grades K to 2 (without an adult) will learn about carbohydrates, proteins and fats and their role in our diets. There will be take home materials, food demonstrations and tastings. Limited registration begins February 26. Parents: Please alert the children’s librarians and Robyn about any food allergies.
MAC welcomes Apollo Trio and Misha Amory

Violinist Curtis Macomber, cellist Michael Kannen, and pianist Marija Stroke play together as the Apollo Trio. The Music Advisory Council welcomes the Apollo Trio and violinist Misha Amory to our stage on Sunday, February 21 at 3 p.m.

Formed in 1997 after playing together in the Soirées des Junies Music Festival in the south of France, the Apollo Trio has performed to critical acclaim in the United States and in Europe. In addition to frequent appearances at American music festivals — from the Mostly Mozart Festival in New York to Chamber Music Northwest in Portland, Oregon, and on various chamber music series — the trio has also performed at prominent New York venues, including Caramoor, Bargemusic, Avery Fisher Hall, Weill Hall at Carnegie, and the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. The Apollo Trio had its debut at the Kennedy Center in May, 2009.

Starting in the summer of 2010 at Chamber Music Northwest, the Apollo Trio will be premiering and performing Boroscht Belt Memories, a new piece being written by David Schiff in the jazz, klezmer, and classical styles for the trio, clarinetist David Krakauer, and bass trombonist David Taylor.

Since winning the 1991 Naumburg Viola Award, Misha Amory has been acclaimed as one of the leading American violists of his generation. He has performed with orchestras in the United States and Europe, and has been presented in recital at New York’s Tully Hall, Los Angeles’ Ambassador series, Philadelphia’s Mozart on the Square festival, Boston’s Gardner Museum, Houston’s DaCamera series and Washington’s Phillips Collection.

Mr. Amory is a founding member of the Brentano String Quartet, which enjoys a distinguished concert career in the United States and abroad. The Quartet has been in residence at Princeton University since 1999.

Mr. Amory holds degrees from Yale University and the Juilliard School. His principal teachers were Heidi Castleman, Caroline Levine and Samuel Rhodes. Himself a dedicated teacher, Mr. Amory serves on the faculties of the Juilliard School in New York City and the Curtis Institute in Philadelphia.

At right: Misha Amory

Think spring! Bus trip!

“It’d take a guy a lifetime to know Brooklyn ’tween an ‘roo. An’ even den, yuh wouldn’t know it all.” So says a character in Thomas Wolfe’s Only the Dead Know Brooklyn. We, the living, will be Brooklyn Bound on Wednesday, May 19 to visit a couple of sections of the most populated (2.5 million) and second largest (70.61 square miles) borough in New York City.

Our first stop is the Brooklyn Historical Society in Brooklyn Heights for a guided tour of its museum and It Happened in Brooklyn, an exhibition which charts a diverse range of residents: Brooklyn’s earliest Native American settlements, the men and women who fought in the Revolutionary War on Brooklyn’s shores, the Brooklynites who worked to abolish slavery, and the women who kept America going by working in the Brooklyn Navy Yard during WWII. After a walk on the Promenade to view the amazing skyline of lower Manhattan, we’ll turn down Orange Street for a tour of the Plymouth Church of the Pilgrims, once a stop on the underground railroad and where Abraham Lincoln worshipped twice during his presidency. Then back on our bus to drive through Prospect Park, then we’ll stop for lunch at Magnolia in Park Slope. Our final visit will be historic Green-Wood Cemetery, for a guided trolley tour. Moderate walking is involved; wear your most comfortable shoes!

Payment of $80, all inclusive, is due at registration, which begins Tuesday, March 16. Participation is limited to 25.

Library co-sponsors scholar visit at C.W. Post

Holzer on Lincoln and Obama

Much has been made of the similarities between presidents Abraham Lincoln and Barack Obama — their humble upbringings, their backgrounds in law and starts in Illinois state politics, to say nothing of their incomparable public speaking skills. But the two men also have very stark differences.

One spent less than a year in formal education while the other studied at some of America’s finest institutions of higher education. One was a Republican, the other a Democrat.

Noted historian and Lincoln scholar Dr. Harold Holzer, co-chairman of the U. S. Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, will explore both the likenesses and the disparities between these two historic presidents and their presidencies and the lessons that Americans can learn from them in his presentation, Lincoln and Obama: Lessons from the Past, Informed for the Future of our Politics, on Wednesday, January 3, 2010 at the C.W. Post Campus of Long Island University.

The talk, to be held at 12:30 p.m. in the Interfaith Center, will consider these two men, their relevance and resonance for the 21st century, and is co-sponsored by the Port Washington Public Library.

Folk duo Buskin & Batteau performs on February 24

SoundSwap welcomes folk duo Buskin and Batteau on Wednesday, February 24 at 8 p.m.

These classically trained singer-songwriters have been making music together for a generation. They’ve been featured in the New York Times and Time magazine. They’ve appeared on the Today Show and played everywhere, including Carnegie Hall. They’ve jammed with Bruce Springsteen and Yo-Yo Ma, and have had their songs covered by (among others) Aretha Franklin, Judy Collins, Tom Rush, Peter, Paul & Mary, Johnny Mathis, Pat Benatar and Roberta Flack. And their work has been honored by Clios, an Emmy and a Grammy.

As professional jingle writers, Buskin and Batteau’s voices and tunes have been heard in almost every American household. They’ve had us listening “to the heartbeat of America,” living “in a Burger King Town” and climbing “all aboard Amtrak.”

After a 13-year hiatus Buskin & Batteau are back on the road again. Singer-songwriter-solosists David Buskin and Robin Batteau have put the finishing touches on their long-anticipated new CD, Red Shoes and Golden Hearts, recently released by Nouveau Retro Media.

This performance is sponsored by an anonymous donor who wishes to dedicate it to the Clergy Association of Port Washington.
What’s new in TeenSpace for grades 7 - 12?

Saturday, February 13 at 2 p.m.
Fondue: It’s Hip to Dip
Jo-Ann Tiranno instructs this hands-on workshop that will have teens cooking up a communal pot of pizza fondue and classic chocolate fondue for dessert. Teens will also learn proper fondue etiquette and fun fondue folklore. In-person registration begins on February 1, in TeenSpace. Workshop fee: $5.

Love is in the Air:
Romantic Novels for Teens
Check out some of these books that celebrate love, with stories of crushes, lost loves, misguided infatuations and, of course, romance!

Fairy Tale by Cyn Balog. Morgan and her boyfriend Cam have been best friends since they were children, but just before their shared 16th birthday Cam confesses that he is a fairy who was switched at birth with a human child, and now the fairies want to switch them back.

After the Moment by Garret Freymann-Weyr. When 17-year-old Leigh changes high schools his senior year to help his stepsister, he finds himself falling in love with her emotionally disturbed friend, although he is still attached to a girl back home.

Kisses and Lies by Lauren Henderson. Orphaned British teenager Scarlett Wakefield postpones her romance with the handsome son of the school groundskeeper in order to travel to Scotland with her American sidekick, in search of clues to the murder of a boy who dropped dead after kissing Scarlett.

Muchacho by LouAnne Johnson. Living in a neighborhood of drug dealers and gangs in New Mexico, high school junior Eddie Corazon, a juvenile delinquent-in-training, falls in love with a girl who inspires him to rethink his life and his choices.

Ash by Malinda Lo. In this variation on the Cinderella story, Ash grows up believing in the fairy realm that the king and his philosophers have sought to suppress, until one day she must choose between a handsome fairy cursed to love her and the king’s huntress whom she loves.

Shiver by Maggie Stiefvater. When 17-year-old Dice tries to exorcise a 17th-century man who is possessing her cousin Fen, she inadvertently makes him corporeal — and irresistible.

One Lonely Degree by C.K. Kelly Martin. When 15-year-old Finn’s world falls apart after a violent sexual encounter, the only person she can talk to is her best friend, Audrey, until beautiful boy Jersy moves back to town and both girls develop feelings for him that threaten to destroy their friendship.

Heartsinger by Karlijn Stoffels. In this meditation on various kinds of love, Mee travels across the country to the court of the Princess Esperanza, singing the life stories of some of the people he meets.