SoundSwap presents Sheri Miller

On Friday, April 5 at 7:30 p.m. the Library will present an evening with singer/songwriter Sheri Miller as part of its SoundSwap series.

Long Island's Sheri Miller was born into an extremely musical and creative home. She taught herself guitar and piano, and composed dozens of songs by age ten, while also learning pop and jazz classics. Sheri continued to compose while getting a degree in English and Poetry in Philadelphia. She further polished her artistry and performance skills in New York City, playing in theatre bars and hotels sometimes five nights a week.

FOL Book & Author Luncheon

Reserve your place now for the Friends of the Library's Richard D. Whittenmore 44th annual Book & Author Luncheon to be held Friday, May 17 at 11 a.m. at the North Hills Country Club in Manhasset. Reservation brochures are now available in the library and can be printed via the library website at pwpl.org/fol.

The featured authors at the luncheon will be David Nasaw (The Patriarch: The Remarkable Life and Turbulent Times of Joseph P. Kennedy) and Will Schwalbe (The End of Your Life Book Club). Novelist and screenwriter Susan Isaacs returns as program moderator.

"We look forward to welcoming our library's many Friends and supporters to our signature event, and to enjoying a wonderful author program and delicious meal together. Please join us!" said Amy G. Bass, FOL president.

In The Patriarch, celebrated author, biographer and historian David Nasaw (top right) presents the story of Joseph P. Kennedy, one of last century’s wealthiest and most powerful Americans and founder of a political dynasty. He answers questions about Kennedy’s life and legacy that continue to haunt the historical record.

Professor Nasaw tracks Joseph Kennedy’s passage from East Boston outsider to Hollywood studio head, Wall Street operator, New Deal presidential adviser and ambassador to London. Joseph Kennedy fell from grace into ignominy as a result of his antwar position leading up to and following America’s entry into World War II. The tragedies that befall his family marked his final years with unspeakable suffering.

David Nasaw is the author of the award-winning biographies: Andrew Carnegie and The Chief: The Life of William Randolph Hearst. He is the Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr. Professor of History at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. A graduate of Roslyn High School, Dr. Nasaw earned his

Budget News

Library Budget Vote & Trustee Election is Tuesday, April 9 from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. See page 2 for budget and candidate information.

Jobs & Careers Center Workshops

The Library’s Jobs & Careers Information Center sponsors two workshops on Saturday, April 20. Registration for both begins April 2. At 1 p.m., Dolores Garcia, Recruitment Coordinator, US Department of Labor, presents Finding & Applying for Jobs in the Federal Government. At 3 p.m., Ms. Garcia presents an interactive workshop on Effective Interview Techniques.

FOL University

The Friends of the Library half-day university program takes place on Sunday, April 14 at 1:30 p.m. Story inside.

Port author talks about her novel

Join us at Sandwiched In on Friday, April 26 at 12:10 p.m. In 1930s Poland, the economy is crumbling, the government is in chaos, and Jewish groups argue over how best to deal with the worsening situation. This tale of a family dealing with difficult times is told by Susan Lerner in her novel A Suitable Husband. The Port resident will read from and discuss her book. Copies will be available for purchase and signing.

ESOL 20 years

Join us on Sunday, May 19 from 1 to 5 p.m. for the ESOL program’s Twentieth Anniversary Celebration. Current and former ESOL students will share talents in music, dancing and preparing international desserts. Salsa and belly dance lessons spice up the day’s festivities. Student writings will be displayed throughout the month in the Community Gallery. Generous funding provided by the Friends of the Library.

Borrow an E-Reader


FOL Book & Author Luncheon

Reserve your place now for the Friends of the Library’s Richard D. Whittenmore 44th annual Book & Author Luncheon to be held Friday, May 17 at 11 a.m. at the North Hills Country Club in Manhasset. Reservation brochures are now available in the library and can be printed via the library website at pwpl.org/fol.

The cost of the luncheon is $65. You may call the library’s Community Relations Office at 883-4400, Ext. 130 with questions.

The featured authors at the luncheon will be David Nasaw (The Patriarch: The Remarkable Life and Turbulent Times of Joseph P. Kennedy) and Will Schwalbe (The End of Your Life Book Club). Novelist and screenwriter Susan Isaacs returns as program moderator.

"We look forward to welcoming our library’s many Friends and supporters to our signature event, and to enjoying a wonderful author program and delicious meal together. Please join us!" said Amy G. Bass, FOL president.

In The Patriarch, celebrated author, biographer and historian David Nasaw (top right) presents the story of Joseph P. Kennedy, one of last century’s wealthiest and most powerful Americans and founder of a political dynasty. He answers questions about Kennedy’s life and legacy that continue to haunt the historical record.

Professor Nasaw tracks Joseph Kennedy’s passage from East Boston outsider to Hollywood studio head, Wall Street operator, New Deal presidential adviser and ambassador to London. Joseph Kennedy fell from grace into ignominy as a result of his antwar position leading up to and following America’s entry into World War II. The tragedies that befall his family marked his final years with unspeakable suffering.

David Nasaw is the author of the award-winning biographies: Andrew Carnegie and The Chief: The Life of William Randolph Hearst. He is the Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr. Professor of History at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. A graduate of Roslyn High School, Dr. Nasaw earned his

Budget News

Library Budget Vote & Trustee Election is Tuesday, April 9 from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. See page 2 for budget and candidate information.

Jobs & Careers Center Workshops

The Library’s Jobs & Careers Information Center sponsors two workshops on Saturday, April 20. Registration for both begins April 2. At 1 p.m., Dolores Garcia, Recruitment Coordinator, US Department of Labor, presents Finding & Applying for Jobs in the Federal Government. At 3 p.m., Ms. Garcia presents an interactive workshop on Effective Interview Techniques.

FOL University

The Friends of the Library half-day university program takes place on Sunday, April 14 at 1:30 p.m. Story inside.

Port author talks about her novel

Join us at Sandwiched In on Friday, April 26 at 12:10 p.m. In 1930s Poland, the economy is crumbling, the government is in chaos, and Jewish groups argue over how best to deal with the worsening situation. This tale of a family dealing with difficult times is told by Susan Lerner in her novel A Suitable Husband. The Port resident will read from and discuss her book. Copies will be available for purchase and signing.

ESOL 20 years

Join us on Sunday, May 19 from 1 to 5 p.m. for the ESOL program’s Twentieth Anniversary Celebration. Current and former ESOL students will share talents in music, dancing and preparing international desserts. Salsa and belly dance lessons spice up the day’s festivities. Student writings will be displayed throughout the month in the Community Gallery. Generous funding provided by the Friends of the Library.

Borrow an E-Reader

## PROPOSED BUDGET
### FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REVENUES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real Property Taxes</td>
<td>6,837,176</td>
<td>6,706,478</td>
<td>6,576,939</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payments in Lieu of Taxes</td>
<td>77,075</td>
<td>52,000</td>
<td>40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Local Revenue</td>
<td>83,200</td>
<td>84,150</td>
<td>84,150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Sources</td>
<td>6,500</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenues</strong></td>
<td>7,013,451</td>
<td>6,856,628</td>
<td>6,715,089</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appropriated</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Designated for ERS</td>
<td>57,500</td>
<td>25,000</td>
<td>25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undesignated Fund Balance</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenues &amp; App. Fund Balance</strong></td>
<td>7,121,451</td>
<td>6,921,428</td>
<td>6,765,089</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **EXPENDITURES** | | | |
| **SALARIES, TERMINAL LEAVE & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS** | | | |
| Salaries | 3,411,166 | 3,439,677 | 3,368,290 |
| Terminal Leave | | | |
| Employee Benefits — Retirement | 730,018 | 575,203 | 516,683 |
| Employee Benefits — Other | 986,081 | 910,841 | 929,852 |
| MTA Tax | 7,845 | 11,694 | 11,452 |
| **Subtotal — Salaries, Terminal Leave Accruals & Employee Benefits** | 5,135,100 | 4,937,416 | 4,826,277 |

| **LIBRARY MATERIALS** | | | |
| Books — Fiction | 51,000 | 56,000 | 56,000 |
| Books — Non-fiction | 65,000 | 70,000 | 80,000 |
| Books — Reference | 43,000 | 53,000 | 78,000 |
| Books — Children’s & Young Adult | 46,500 | 48,000 | 55,000 |
| Books — Audio & Electronic | 45,000 | 45,000 | 40,000 |
| Software & Online Databases | 63,000 | 61,500 | 61,500 |
| Periodicals | 36,000 | 36,000 | 50,000 |
| Media — DVD/CD | 68,000 | 68,000 | 57,000 |
| **Subtotal — Library Materials** | 417,500 | 439,000 | 477,000 |

| **LIBRARY OPERATIONS** | | | |
| Office & Library Supplies | 53,700 | 53,700 | 52,700 |
| Telephone | 29,000 | 29,000 | 29,000 |
| Postage & Freight | 25,000 | 30,000 | 30,000 |
| Printing | 34,500 | 34,500 | 34,500 |
| Staff Conference & Training | 17,000 | 12,000 | 12,000 |
| ALIS | 99,718 | 90,072 | 70,512 |
| Program Services | 63,000 | 61,500 | 46,500 |
| Memberships | 7,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| Maint. Office Equipment | 32,000 | 32,000 | 29,200 |
| Accounting/Legal | 100,620 | 100,620 | 99,320 |
| Security Service | 30,292 | 30,292 | 26,367 |
| Computer Service | 60,040 | 60,040 | 53,040 |
| General | 5,900 | 5,900 | 5,900 |
| **Subtotal — Library Operations** | 587,970 | 541,284 | 461,038 |

| **BUILDING OPERATIONS** | | | |
| Fuel & Utilities | 194,123 | 201,823 | 195,736 |
| Custodial | 105,700 | 105,700 | 98,200 |
| Insurance | 74,000 | 66,111 | 70,282 |
| **Subtotal — Building Operations** | 374,026 | 372,634 | 364,218 |

| **Subtotal Expenditures** | 6,484,596 | 6,290,873 | 6,158,534 |

| **EQUIPMENT, REPAIRS & TRANSFERS** | | | |
| Equipment | 40,000 | 40,000 | 40,000 |
| Repairs & Alterations | 75,000 | 75,000 | 75,000 |
| Transfers to Capital | - | - | - |
| **Subtotal — Equip., Repairs & Transfers** | 115,000 | 115,000 | 115,000 |

| **DEBT SERVICE** | | | |
| Bonds — Principal & Interest | 521,855 | 525,755 | 516,555 |
| Installment Debt — Principal & Interest | 521,855 | 525,755 | 516,555 |
| **Total Expenditures** | 7,121,451 | 6,931,628 | 6,790,089 |

| **Tax Levy Increase** | 1.95% | 1.97% | 0.96% |
| **Budget Increase** | 2.74% | 2.08% | 0.58% |

**Additional Information:** Detailed financial statements are available through the Director’s Office.

---

### LIBRARY USAGE ANNUALLY

- **Registered Library Users:** 26,355
- **Library Visits:** 438,778
- **Materials Circulated:** 432,279
- **Public Computer Use:** 82,204
- **Program Attendance:** 45,972
- **Community Use of Meeting Rooms:** 2,326
- **Library Website Visits:** 187,511

### MATERIALS IN COLLECTION

**By Type**
- **Adult Fiction:** 39,830
- **Adult Non-fiction and Reference:** 71,177
- **Children’s Fiction:** 22,364
- **Children’s Non-fiction:** 19,178
- **Non-print (DVDs, CDs, Audio Books):** 57,805
- **Magazines and Newspapers:** 453
- **E-Book Downloads:** 3,901

---

### Candidates

**Thomas Donoghue**

- **Education:** B.S. in Journalism from Boston University
- **Current Occupation:** Executive Director of a not for profit organization which develops educational programs for health care professionals.
- **Qualifications:** Communications and marketing professional experienced in the development and execution of complex programs for associations and corporate clients. Work for leading advertising and public relations agencies in New York where he represented corporations and government agencies. Editorial work for trade associations and publishing companies. Involved with the PWPL for almost 20 years.

**Why do you want to run for the board?** We are at the brink of monumental changes in what our library can offer and I want to help guide these changes. The way we communicate and exchange ideas is shifting and the library needs to be at the forefront of those changes. The age of electronic books and data gathering is revolutionizing how communities can utilize public libraries. Our library is already a hub for community events and is ready to take a lead in offering all Port Washington residents a stronger electronic portal to the world of information, education and entertainment.

**Michael Krevor**

- **Education:** B.A. — Brown University, J.D. — Fordham University
- **Current Occupation:** Attorney (retired)
- **Qualifications:** As a former director and president of a cooperative apartment corporation, I have experience dealing with the collegial resolution of financing, budgeting, maintenance, capital spending and employment issues comparable to those encountered by the Library’s Board.

**Why do you want to run for the board?** I wish to contribute to maintaining the Library as a first class institution while maximizing the quality and expanding the breadth of services provided to the community and minimizing the financial strain on the community.

**Susan J. Miller**

- **Education:** B.A. — Washington University in St. Louis [Political Science & Spanish], M.A. — New School for Social Research [Urban Affairs & Policy Analysis], J.D. — Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, Yeshiva University.
- **Current Occupation:** Married mother of 3 sons and a daughter who died from a brain tumor, Caregiver in our home for my 97+ year old blind “live-in” father, community volunteer.

**Qualifications:** 7-year Member, Washington University in St. Louis Libraries’ National Council, 10-year Board Member, Children’s Brain Tumor Foundation Fundraiser for two L.I. hospital-based childhood cancer charities. Washington U.: Past Chair, NYC Alumni Association, Interviewer Collegiate Chorale, NYC. Life Member of Hadassah, RSNS Member.

**Why do you want to run for the board?** My Library Advisory and Fundraising expertise will benefit the PWPL community. Seek input from users, community groups and comparable “5 STAR Libraries” to evaluate and improve services and work with the PWPL foundations to support initiatives. Keep the library vital by serving the needs of today’s digital user. Partner with other institutions to expand resources & services while achieving economies of scale.
Meet the author

In her poignant and mordantly funny memoir The Astor Orphan (Ecco, an Imprint of HarperCollins Publishers; April 2013), Alexandra Aldrich paints an indelible, sometimes shocking portrait of a fractured, penniless family living in the shadow of its former glory and wealth. At its center is Rokeby itself, the grey ghost of Gilded Age splendor that remains one of the last family-owned properties in the Hudson River landmark district.

Alexandra Aldrich will discuss her book and answer questions. Books will be available for purchase and signing. Refreshments will be served. Sponsored by Friends of the Library.

Jean Ritchie Folk Concert

The Music Advisory Council welcomes Dave Sear as this year’s performer in the Jean Ritchie Folk Concert on Sunday, April 7 at 3 p.m. Council concerts are funded by donations to the Port Washington Library Foundation. Dave Sear has been an active member of the folk music scene since the late 1940s and has given concerts all over the United States and in Europe. He has shared stages with folk singers including Woody Guthrie and Pete Seeger, and has recorded for many different labels. He has directed music for and appeared on CBS, NBC, ABC and WPIX television. A veteran of over 40 years in radio, Sear is best known as host/producer of the nationally syndicated “Folk Music Almanac.”

Concert namesake Jean Ritchie, youngest of 14 children born and raised in the Eastern Kentucky Mountains, grew up singing the music brought over by ancestors from Scotland, Ireland and England. Trained at the University of Kentucky as a social worker, she came to New York for her first job at the Henry Street Settlement in Manhattan, in 1947. She was a longtime Port Resident.

Her dulcimer playing and singing of family songs soon took over, and she gave up social work to perform her traditional music at schools, parties, and clubs around the city.
April Library Kids

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.

- **Lapsit Story Time** – Tuesdays at 11 a.m. Songs, fingerplays and simple stories for babies ages birth to 17 months with an adult. *No registration required.* Last day for the season is April 30.
- **Mother Goose Rhyme Time** – Thursdays at 11:30 a.m. For children ages birth to 17 months with an adult. *No registration required.* Last day for the season is April 25.
- **Toddler Story Time** – Fridays at 10:30 a.m. For children ages 2½ to 3½ years with an adult. *No registration required.* Last day for the season is April 26.
- **Preschool Story Time** – Fridays at 1:30 p.m. For children ages 3½ to 5 years without an adult. *No registration required.* Last day for the season is April 26.
- **Story Time with Miss Lucy and Mr. Mike** – Monday, April 8 at 10:30 a.m. For children of all ages with an adult. *No registration required.*
- **Music Story Time** – Three Wednesdays beginning April 17 at 11:30 a.m. Music and stories for children ages 1½ to 2½ years with an adult. *No registration required.*
- **PlayHooray** – Monday, April 22. A preschool music and movement program. Ages birth to 17 months with an adult at 10 a.m. Ages 18 months to 2½ years with an adult at 11 a.m. Ages 18 months to 4 years with an adult at 12 noon. Ages 2½ to 5 years with an adult at 1 p.m. *Registration begins April 15.*
- **Pajama Story Time** – Wednesday, April 24 at 7 p.m. Come in pajamas and listen to bedtime stories. For children of all ages with an adult. *No registration required.*
- **A Time for Kids** – Monday, April 29 at 10:30 a.m., 12 noon or 1:15 p.m. Educational activities combine preschool concepts and fun. For ages 18 months to 5 years with an adult. *Registration begins April 22.*

Great Library Card Adventure

In collaboration with the elementary schools of Port Washington, Children’s Services presents the eleventh annual “Great Library Card Adventure.” From April 1 through 28, children in grades K through 5 are invited to visit the Children’s Room and help win books for their school libraries. Present your library card (or library card application) at the Children’s Services desk and participate in a scavenger hunt that takes approximately 20 minutes. Each child that plays will receive a gift (while supplies last). The grade that has the most participants will be the winner! Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

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.

**Screen Free Week: Be Screen Smart – April 29 to May 5**

Limit your time on computers and the television and enjoy being with friends, playing outside, having fun with board games and visiting the library for special activities. *Registration for the following library programs begins April 19:*

- **Tweens’ Night Out** – Friday, April 26 from 7 to 8 p.m. Students in grades 5 and 6 are invited to our kick-off event for an evening with talented magician and illusionist Evan Kirsh! A student at the Roslyn Middle School, Evan is a 13 year old magician who has been performing feats of mentalism, card tricks, and stage magic for a number of years. He is a two-time award winner at the Long Island Magic Arts Convention junior competition and has been featured on the Fios TV show Push-Pause.

- **Young Birders Club** – Saturday, April 27 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Children ages 6 to 10 are invited to LOOK, LISTEN, and DISCOVER! You’ll observe local birds and their habitats using your senses and recording your impressions. Activities will include short walking field trips from the library, nature exploration, and hands-on learning activities. The leaders are local naturalists and members of the North Shore Audubon Society.

**Drop-In Craft** – Wednesday, May 1 and Thursday, May 2 from 4 to 8 p.m. Visit the Children’s Room and create a fun craft during Screen Free Week! For children ages 4 and up with an adult. *No registration required.*

**Fun with Flowers** – Friday, May 3 from 4 to 4:45 p.m. Children ages 6 to 9 are invited to learn the art of floral arranging with members from the Port Washington Garden Club. You’ll bring home a lovely container filled with fresh flowers!

Book Discussion Groups

- **Page Turners** – Tuesday, April 16 at 7:15 p.m. Monthly book discussion for children in grades 5 and 6. *Call for availability.*

- **Book Bunch** – Thursday, April 18 at 4 p.m. Monthly book discussion for children in grades 3 and 4. *Call for availability.*
Financial Counseling Workshop Series
with financial advisor Samuel J. Schiff

April workshops are full. Limited registration for May workshops is in progress, in-person or by calling the Information Desk at 883-4400, Ext. 136.

TAKING CONTROL – FINANCIAL STRATEGIES FOR WOMEN
MONDAY, MAY 6 at 7 P.M.

WILL YOU HAVE ENOUGH MONEY TO RETIRE?
MONDAY, MAY 13 at 7 P.M.

HELPING YOUR MONEY LAST IN RETIREMENT
MONDAY, MAY 20 at 7 P.M.

End of life choices

On Thursday, April 18 at 7:30 p.m., the Health Advisory Council presents a panel discussion “Ethics and End-of-Life Choices: When Is Enough Enough?”

Participants will include Margaret “Peggy” Battin, M.F.A., PhD., Professor of philosophy and medical ethics at the University of Utah, who is currently working on a book titled The Ethics of Suicide: A Comprehensive Historical Sourcebook, to be published this year by Oxford University Press. She will be joined by medical ethicist Peter Rogatz, vice president and founding board member of Compassion and Choices of New York, who has served as Director of the Long Island Jewish Medical Center, and is a board member of Choice in Dying.

Other panelists include Robert Cassidy, director of bioethics and social policy at Schneider Children’s Hospital and Long Island Jewish Medical Center, who holds a Ph.D. in philosophy of religion from Princeton University. The panel will be completed by Ellen Makofsky, Esq., a founding partner of Raskin and Makofsky, elder law and trust attorneys. Ms. Makofsky was recently selected as one of the top 50 women Super Lawyers in the New York Metro area, and serves as Chair of the Long Island Alzheimer’s Foundation.

The discussion will be moderated by Dr. William Knight of the Health Advisory Council.

SoundSwap: Sheri Miller

continued from front page

She also continued to write lyrics and compose songs on guitar and piano. Sheri released her critically-acclaimed debut EP Mantra, which featured two underground independent radio hits, “Right Here, Right Now” and “All He Has to Do.”

With vocal harmony group The Delilahs, she was signed to Sony Music. She soon began co-writing with legendary songwriters and artists, including J.D. Souther (The Eagles), AlAnderson (NRBQ), Jill Sobule, Shawn Mullins and Tony Scalloz (Fastball). Upon leaving the group, she released her critically-acclaimed EP Winning Hand. Her new song “I Could Love You Still” was produced by Will Lee, and the track features legendary session musician Steve Cropper on electric guitar, Paul Shaffer on B3 organ and Lee on bass. Sheri will soon appear as a featured guest on the PBS show One on One with Steve Adubato.
What’s new in TeenSpace this month for grades 7-12?

Gear into Writing in TeenSpace!

April 1
Tweet Sized Story

TeenSpace is challenging all would-be writers to create an original story in 140 characters. Forms available in TeenSpace. Prizes will be given. Can’t make it? Join the fun online at Twitter (pwpltss) and be sure to use the hashtag #pwpltss.

April 14 through 20
Celebrate Young People’s Poetry Week

Visit TeenSpace during Young People’s Poetry Week (April 14-20) and sample some of the highlights from our poetry collection. While you’re there, check out our “Windows into Words,” an interactive window poetry activity. Also view our “book spine poems” and compose your own! “Book spine poems” are made by using the spines of books so the titles can be read together to create your own verses.

Homework Help
Check out the Literature Resource Center database which provides literary criticism, reviews, and biographical information on 130,000 poets & writers worldwide. Or try the Scribner Writers Series Database which hosts Critical essays for 2,000 significant authors worldwide. Great for research projects and homework assignments!

NEW BOOKS IN TEENSPACE

New books arrive almost every day in TeenSpace, including great novels in verse form. Here are just a few recommended verse novels and a few of our favorite poetry titles that you might enjoy:

- Tilt by Ellen Hopkins. Three teens, connected by their parents’ bad choices, tell in their own voices of their lives and loves as Shane finds his first boyfriend, Mikayla discovers that love can be pushed too far, and Harley loses herself in her quest for new experiences. (YA FIC Hopkins)
- October Mourning: A Song for Matthew Shepard by Lesléa Newman. Relates, from various points of view, events from the night of October 6, 1998, when 21-year-old Matthew Shepard, a gay college student, was lured out of a Wyoming bar, savagely beaten, and left to die. (YA Poetry 811 Myers)
- Walking on Earth and Touching the Sky: Poetry and Prose by Lakota Youth at Red Cloud Indian School. A collection of work by students discussing such topics as the history of oral tradition, the struggles of everyday life, and the personal connections to the natural world. (YA Poetry 810.808 W)

- Inch by Inch: 45 Haiku by Issa Kobayashi. Forty-five haiku by a 19th century Japanese poet known for his sense of equality with the natural world. (YA Poetry 895.613 I)
- Here in Harlem: Poems in Many Voices by Walter Dean Myers. Celebrates the people of Harlem with first-person poems in the voices of the residents who make up the legendary neighborhood. (YA Poetry 811 Myers)
- Time You Let Me In: 25 Poets Under 25 Selected by Naomi Shihab Nye. Young poets express the hopes and concerns of their generation. (YA Poetry 811 T)
- Inch by Inch: 45 Haiku by Issa Kobayashi. Forty-five haiku by a 19th century Japanese poet known for his sense of equality with the natural world. (YA Poetry 895.613 I)
- Here in Harlem: Poems in Many Voices by Walter Dean Myers. Celebrates the people of Harlem with first-person poems in the voices of the residents who make up the legendary neighborhood. (YA Poetry 811 Myers)
- Time You Let Me In: 25 Poets Under 25 Selected by Naomi Shihab Nye. Young poets express the hopes and concerns of their generation. (YA Poetry 811 T)
- Walking on Earth and Touching the Sky: Poetry and Prose by Lakota Youth at Red Cloud Indian School. A collection of work by students discussing such topics as the history of oral tradition, the struggles of everyday life, and the personal connections to the natural world. (YA Poetry 810.808 W)