

From the Director, Winter 2019

Happy New Year! At your library a happy, busy year stretches ahead.

As always, a key focus at WCDPL is developing your child's early literacy skills. One of the most important ways we can insure the continued strength of our community is to make sure that all of our children learn the skills necessary to become successful readers. Instilling a love of reading, exploring, and learning in your child will help them in so many ways as they grow. Our Children's Place staff, lead by Maria Simon, is here to help parents locate and use the resources needed to help your child be "ready to read."

The Children's Place has numerous fun, exciting, and—shhhh! don't tell the kids—educational programs in store for 2019. In January, the Children's Place welcomes author/illustrator Lindsay Moore to the library with a celebration of her book, *Sea Bear*, and retired Children's Librarian, Kathy East returns with the popular Mock Caldecott Election. In February, Youth Community Reads' award-winning author Tony DiTerlizzi visits Bowling Green and Walbridge. March comes in like a lion with story times, STEM activities, and theatre and improv workshops led by the BGHS Drama Club. In April, join Children's Place staff in looking forward to the always fun and exciting Literacy in the Park at BGSU's Perry Field House. This year's guest of honor is author/illustrator, Lindsay Ward.

Adults will find plenty to do at the library, too. Come in during January for help with the new tablet or eBook reader you found under the Christmas tree. Or fire up your home computer and sign in with your library card to Lynda.com through the library website (www.wcdpl.org/lyndacom) to develop new skills or sharpen old ones. Pop culture buffs, come test your knowledge of books or movies and TV with trivia nights in January and February. Connoisseurs of Ohio history, flex your research muscles at our annual "I Love Ohio" scavenger hunt. Do you love crime fiction and solving mysteries along with your favorite detective? Join us for Crime Solvers' Weekend in March, and:

- tour the crime lab at BGSU;
- meet Arci, BYPD's crime-solving K9 Officer;
- hear stories behind Wood County's most infamous crimes;
- enjoy an exclusive, after-hours event at WCDPL with guest of honor, NY *Times* best-selling author and Emmy-winning reporter for Boston's WHDH-TV, Hank Phillippi Ryan.

The library's exciting new Foundation Series kicks off April 1 with a visit from Beth Macy, the best-selling author of *Dopesick*, *Truevine* and *Factory Man*.

And of course, readers of every age and taste will find a book group at the library to help them discover their next great read.

These are just a few of the many opportunities for you to explore and grow using the library and its resources. As a resource for instilling and supporting a life-long love of learning and exploration, the library remains one of today's best values.

See you at the library—where you'll always find something to discover, to learn, to share, and to read!

Michael Penrod, Director