

# Louisiana Hotlines



A Newsletter of the State Library of Louisiana  
Talking Books and Braille Library  
Office of Lt. Governor, Department of Culture, Recreation & Tourism

Vol. 19 No. 4

Fall 2019

## Holiday Closings

November 11      Veterans Day  
November 28 - 29      Thanksgiving

## The 2019 TBBL Adult Summer Reading Program Is Now Complete

Thank you to all the TBBL readers who made our Adult Summer Reading Program a success! 104 TBBL patrons completed the program by reading 20 or more books. From these, 25 names were drawn to win a digital talking alarm watch. These prizes are being mailed to the home addresses of the winners. Also, special thanks to the Jones Foundation who generously paid for the Adult Summer Reading program prizes.

## New Title for BookTalks Discussion Group

We have selected a new title for BookTalks: DB78978 *The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry* by Gabrielle Zevin.

When his most prized possession, a rare volume of poetry by Edgar Allan Poe, is stolen, bookstore owner A.J. Fikry begins isolating himself from his friends, family, and associates. Then he

receives a mysterious package that compels him to remake his life.

## How to Join BookTalks

We hold our book discussions via an email discussion list. Members comment on the book by sending an email to the discussion list. All members then see the comments and have the ability to respond by email to the group. If you want to join our discussion group, go to: <http://pelican.state.lib.la.us/mailman/listinfo/tbblbooktalks> and create an account by entering your name (make sure to put your name so we can verify you), email address, and make up a password or, as always, you can call your reader adviser.

Hope to hear from you soon!

## A Reminder to Return Players

Some readers received a letter recently asking for the return of one or more digital players. When a new player was issued, the old player was not returned. You are allowed to have only one player. Please return the broken player for repair. Also, if you decide you no longer want the service, return the player and any book on loan to you.

---

## 2019 Louisiana Book Festival

Mark your calendars! The 16th annual Louisiana Book Festival will be held on Saturday, November 2, 2019, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free to all. There will be hundreds of authors and exhibitors as well as food, music, lectures and activities for kids and teens. The Louisiana Book Festival will be held in Capitol Park, the State Library, the State Museum and the State Capitol. The Book Festival schedule will be available in Braille and large print. For more information, visit [www.louisiana-bookfestival.org](http://www.louisiana-bookfestival.org).

### Spooky Mystery/Thriller Recommendations for the Fall

**DB92117** *The Death of Mrs. Westaway* by Ruth Ware. On a day that begins like any other, Hal receives a mysterious letter bequeathing her a substantial inheritance. She realizes very quickly that the letter was sent to the wrong person, but that the cold-reading skills she's honed as a tarot card reader might help her claim the money. Soon, Hal finds herself at the funeral of the deceased, where it dawns on her that there is something very wrong about this strange situation and the inheritance at the center of it.

**DB74810** *Curiosity Thrilled the Cat* by Sofie Kelly. After she rescues two stray cats, small-town librarian Kathleen Paulson discovers there may be more to felines Owen and Hercules than normal kitty behavior. When a murder disrupts a music festival and Kathleen becomes the prime suspect, Owen and Hercules help her to solve the crime.

### **DB93996** *The Silent Patient*

by Alex Michaelides. Alicia Berenson, a famous painter married to a fashion photographer, lives in a grand house in one of London's most desirable areas. One evening after her husband returns home late from a fashion shoot, Alicia shoots him five times in the face, and then never speaks another word. What really happened that night? Theo Faber, Alicia's psychotherapist, is determined to get her to speak.

**DB75439** *The Diviners* by Libba Bray. Evie O'Neill has been exiled from her boring hometown and shipped off to the bustling streets of New York City, and she is ecstatic! It's 1926, and New York is filled with speakeasies, Ziegfeld girls, and rakish pickpockets. The only catch is that she has to live with her uncle Will and his unhealthy obsession with the occult. Evie worries he'll discover her darkest secret: a supernatural power that has only brought her trouble so far. But when the police find a murdered girl branded with a cryptic symbol and Will is called to the scene, Evie realizes her gift could help catch a serial killer.

### Veterans Day Bibliography

**DB84620** *Red Platoon: A True Story of American Valor* by Clinton Romesha. Medal of Honor recipient describes the October 2009 attack on American Combat Outpost Keating in Afghanistan. Describes the architecture of the fort, which made it a vulnerable target; the troops and locals with whom he served; the battle; and courageous acts performed during it. Commercial audiobook. 2016.

---

**DB92138** *The Operator Firing the Shots that Killed Osama bin Laden and My Years as a SEAL Team Warrior* by Robert O'Neill. The author, SEAL Team Operator, recalls his four hundred-mission career (including attempted rescues of Afghan ambush survivor Marcus Luttrell and Somali pirate hostage Captain Richard Phillips), which culminated in the shooting of terrorist Osama bin Laden. Unrated. Commercial audiobook. 2017.

**DB87007** *All the Gallant Men: An American Sailor's Firsthand Account of Pearl Harbor* by Donald Stratton. One of five living survivors from aboard the USS Arizona during the Pearl Harbor surprise attack in 1941, Donald Stratton recounts his harrowing escape from the burning ship amid enemy fire, his ultimate recovery, and his determination to return to the fight. Violence. 2016.

**DB74166** *American Sniper: The Autobiography of the Most Lethal Sniper in U.S. Military History* by Chris Kyle. Texas ranch hand-turned-Navy SEAL recalls his career as the sniper with the most kills in U.S. military history. Describes his training, his four tours of duty in Iraq, and the strains of deployment on his family life. Violence and strong language. Bestseller. 2012.

**DB92021** *Vets and Pets: Wounded Warriors and the Animals that Help Them Heal* by Dava Guerin. A collection of essays about the bonds that develop between wounded veterans and the animals that help them heal. Includes stories of traditional service dogs as well as vets who bond with horses, birds of prey, and even pigs. 2017.

**DB87919** *In the Footsteps of the Band of Brothers: A Return to Easy Company's Battlefields with Sergeant Forrest Guth* by Larry Alexander. The author explores the World War II battlefields that made Easy Company a legend, accompanied by Easy veteran Sergeant Forrest Guth. They follow the path taken by the famed Band of Brothers, revisiting the living history of the places where they went into action. Commercial audiobook. 2010.

**DB85247** *We Gotta Get Out of This Place: The Soundtrack of the Vietnam War* by Doug Bradley. A Vietnam veteran and a college professor present a history of the music of the Vietnam War, arranged chronologically. The authors share interviews with soldiers of diverse races and experiences, discuss the various ways soldiers acquired new music, and illustrate the importance of music to those serving. Some strong language. 2015.

**DB71795** *Heart of a Patriot: How I Found the Courage to Survive Vietnam, Walter Reed, and Karl Rove* by Max Cleland. Memoir by a triple-amputee veteran of the Vietnam War who was also a U.S. senator from Georgia. Cleland describes his tour of duty, rehabilitation at Walter Reed hospital, and entrance into state and national politics. Highlights his continuing battle with depression and post-traumatic stress disorder. Some strong language. 2009.

**DB68700** *The American Patriot's Almanac* by William J. Bennett. Bennett, author of *The Book of Virtues*

*continued on next page*

---

(DB37818) and America: The Last Best Hope (DB63365 and DB65535), and Cribb present a year of daily entries celebrating U.S. history. January features "Twelve Reasons to Love a Great Country." Includes presidential addresses, flag etiquette, documents, and songs. 2008.

### **Access NFB-Newslines Content with Alexa**

NFB-NEWSLINE subscribers can access NFB-NEWSLINE hands-free on any Amazon Alexa product, including Echo and Echo Dot. Below are some sample commands for accessing and using the skill.

#### **Enable the NFB-NEWSLINE Skill**

- Say, "Alexa open National Federation."
- To hear instructions about the skill say, "Alexa ask National Federation to give me instructions."

#### **Log in to NFB-NEWSLINE**

You will need to log in the first time you open the skill.

- Say, "Alexa open National Federation."
- Then say, "Alexa ask National Federation to log in."
- State clearly, "Log in."
- Provide your subscriber identification number and security code.

#### **Select Content and Navigate Sections and Articles**

Alexa can help you select and move through publications easily with a

variety of commands. Here are a few to get you started:

- "Alexa ask National Federation to read The New York Times."
- "Alexa ask National Federation to read The Wall Street Journal."
- "Alexa ask National Federation to read next section."
- "Alexa ask National Federation to go to previous section."
- Move from article to article by simply saying "Next" or "Previous." (Please note: all other commands need to begin with "Alexa ask National Federation.")
- Alter Reader Voice and Speed
- "Alexa ask National Federation to change voice."
- "Alexa ask National Federation to read a little faster."
- "Alexa ask National Federation to read a little slower."
- "Alexa ask National Federation to read much faster."
- "Alexa ask National Federation to read much slower."

#### **Save an Article**

- "Alexa ask National Federation to email me this article."

#### **General Help Command**

- "Alexa ask National Federation to give me instructions."

Learn more about the Amazon Alexa family of devices and enable the NFB-NEWSLINE Alexa skill today. For more assistance, please call 866.504.7300.

---

## **Books and Beyond: A Section for Children and Teens**

### **White Cane Safety Day, October 15th**

The Louisiana School for the Visually Impaired will be celebrating the 55<sup>th</sup> annual White Cane Safety Day on Tuesday, October 15, 2019. Events will be held in the downtown Baton Rouge area. A variety of activities will include a picnic, route travel, awareness education, and a scavenger hunt. For further information, contact LSVI Outreach Coordinator Blanche Faulk at 225.757.3489.

### **Summer Reading 2019**

The Summer Reading theme for 2019 was “**Space**,” celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Apollo Moon Landing with the slogan, “**A Universe of Stories**.” Congratulations to our 88 readers who read over 632 books this year. Those who completed the program received a t-shirt, various space themed prizes, and a certificate of achievement. Thanks to the Jones Foundation for making this an excellent Summer!

### **Young Readers Pavilion, Louisiana Book Festival, November 2, 2019**

The 16<sup>TH</sup> annual Louisiana Book Festival will be held Saturday, November 2, 2019. Programs for young readers will take place throughout the day in the State Library Teen HQ and in the Young Readers Pavilion. The Pavilion includes tents offering activities, crafts, storytelling, writing enrichment, and face painting. The author of the 2020-2021 LYRC nominee *Love Like Sky*,

Leslie C. Youngblood, will be attending this year.

### **Check Out Teen HQ**

Teens can participate in presentations, lively discussions with their favorite authors, and pick up a few writing tips. Alton Carter will be accepting the award crystal for winning the 2018-2019 LTRC award for *Aging Out*.

Scott Reintgen is on the 2019-2020 LTRC list for *Nyxia* and will be here presenting his new YA book *Nyxia Uprising* and his new middle grade book *Saving Fable*.

### **Need Homework Help? Check out HomeworkLA**

If you need homework help, the State Library of Louisiana offers an online resource available at [www.homeworkla.org](http://www.homeworkla.org). Homework Louisiana provides live tutoring for grades K-12, college and adult education, test preparation, and job search assistance to all Louisiana residents. Academic tutoring is now available from 2 p.m. to midnight seven days a week. Self-study tools for AP, ACT/SAT, and GED are also available 24/7. In addition, there is a “connect with voice” option for the visually impaired. Students may now access this service from any internet-connected computer or mobile device during these hours, even from a school campus after 2:00 pm.

Homework Louisiana is funded in part with a Library Services and Technology Act grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the State Library of Louisiana and your local public library.

*continued on next page*

---

## 2019-2020 Louisiana Young Readers' Choice Nominees

The 2019-2020 Louisiana Young Readers' Choice program is a reading enrichment program of the Louisiana Center for the Book in the State Library of Louisiana. There are three categories: grades 3-5, grades 6-8, and Teen Readers' Choice for grades 9-12. Students read from the nominated titles during 2019 and vote on their favorite by March 1, 2020. To qualify, students must be from Louisiana and have read three of the titles in the appropriate grade category for grades 3 through 8. Teens must read two titles from the LTRC nominated list. You can help decide who will win! To cast your vote, call 1.800.543.4702.

TBBL has these LYRC and LTRC titles.

### Grades 3-5

**DB88663** *A Boy Called Bat*  
by Elana K. Arnold

**BR22031, DB90685** *Crown: An Ode to the Fresh* by Derrick D. Barnes

**DB87431** *Jake the Fake Keeps It Real*  
by Craig Robinson

**DB87948** *Lemons* by Melissa Savage

**D088575** *The Door in the Alley: The Explorers* by Adrienne Kress

**DB94847** *Wedgie & Gizmo*  
by Suzanne Selfors

**DB89315** *Wishtree*  
by Katherine Applegate

### Grades 5-8

**DB94963** *All's Faire in Middle School*  
by Victoria Jamieson

**DB88054** *Beyond the Bright Sea*  
by Lauren Wolk

**DB88128, LP25965** *Clayton Byrd Goes Underground* by Rita Williams-Garcia

**DB88908** *Forget Me Not* by Ellie Terry

**DB91203, DBC12771** *Frogkisser!*  
by Garth Nix

**DB89519** *Greetings from Witness Protection!* by Jake Burt

**BR22120, DB89430** *Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus* by Dusti Bowling

**DB88711** *Refugee* by Alan Gratz

**BR22132, DB89272** *Slider* by Pete Hautman

**DB85595** *The Red Bandanna*  
by Tom Rinaldi

### Young Adult

**BR22221, DB89757** *The 57 Bus*  
by Daska Slater

**DB90417** *An Enchantment of Ravens*  
by Margaret Rogerson

**DB87420** *Goodbye Days*  
by Jeff Zentner

**BR21874, DB87441, D87967**  
(Spanish) *The Hate U Give*  
by Angie Thomas

**DB89688** *Long Way Down*  
by Jason Reynolds

**BR22279, DB89665** *Nyxia*  
by Scott Reintgen

**DB88357** *One of Us is Lying*  
by Karen M. McManus

**DB89192** *Warcross* by Marie Lu

**DB89350** *You Bring the Distant Near*  
by Mitali Perkins

---

## **Support Our TBBL Friends Organization**

The Jones Foundation acknowledges the following donor for his generous contribution:

George Hill

Since 1981, the Mrs. W. Carruth Jones Foundation has acted as a friends group for the Talking Books and Braille Library in the State Library of Louisiana.

It provides a mechanism for accepting donations to enhance and support services to the blind and physically handicapped community statewide.

It directly supplements the programs and initiatives of TBBL within the State Library. It is a primary sponsor of the State Library's large print collection, TBBL's summer reading program, staff enrichment, and early literacy program.

To contribute, make checks payable to the Foundation and mail to the following address:

Mrs. W. Carruth Jones Foundation  
1131 N. River Road  
Port Allen, LA 70767

All donations are tax deductible. Anyone who makes a donation receives a one-year membership to the Foundation. For meeting information, call Shelia Coleman at 225.342.4942.

### **Library address**

Talking Books & Braille Library  
701 N. Fourth St.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

### **Phone numbers**

Baton Rouge: 225.342.0035  
Statewide: 1.800.543.4702  
Fax: 225.342.6817

### **Special services**

Music section: 800.424.8567  
Braille service: 800.453.4293

### **Email**

tbbl@state.lib.la.us  
tbblkids@state.lib.la.us

### **Walk-in hours**

Monday – Thursday  
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

### **Phone and email hours**

Monday – Friday  
8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

### **Library services**

Audio books and magazines  
Braille books and magazines  
Large print books and big books  
Descriptive videos  
Online catalog  
BARD download service  
BARD mobile apps  
Newspaper reading service

### **Eligibility**

Any Louisiana resident who is unable to read or use standard print materials as a result of a temporary or permanent visual or physical limitation is eligible to receive free library services.

State Library of Louisiana  
Talking Books and Braille Library  
701 N. Fourth Street  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

**FREE MATTER FOR THE  
BLIND OR HANDICAPPED**

Special format library materials are loaned  
to qualified patrons by

Talking Books and Braille Library

State Library of Louisiana

Office of the Lieutenant Governor

Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism

Supported in part by funding from the  
Institute of Museum and Library Services

