

What's in....

The Stacks

A Message from Jack Martin

Welcome to *What's in The Stacks*, our new quarterly newsletter exclusive to members of PPL's Conservator Society. I am truly grateful to each of you – our Library's most dedicated and passionate supporters – for joining us this year, and am thrilled to announce that The Conservator Society is back in a big way in 2018! Our goal is to engage, inspire, and connect you with all that PPL has to offer – from “can't miss” events, to unique, behind-the-scenes opportunities, to personalized communications. This will be a transformational year for the Library – one made possible by your generosity – and you will have a front-row seat for all that is in store!

I hope you will join us for our 2018 Conservator kick-off event on March 1 – an evening with Pulitzer Prize-winning historian, Gordon Wood. It will be a chance to celebrate and reconnect with friends of our Library, both old and new.

Thank you, again, for all that you do to make PPL's mission a reality. I am excited for all that we will accomplish together in the year ahead!

Also, if you have not had a chance to check out our recently launched new website...please take a few minutes to visit us at provlib.org.



**Conservator
Society**



Did You Know...

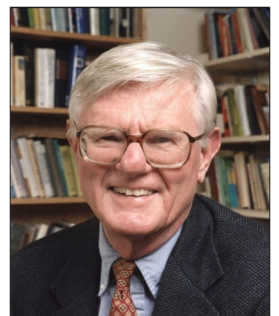
PPL has a tattoo collection? Our Special Collections recently acquired an extensive collection of materials created by Eddie Pofertl, one of America's leading tattoo artists in the early years of the machine tattoo era.

Upcoming Events...

A Conversation with Pulitzer Prize-winning Author Gordon S. Wood

Thursday, March 1 | 6 - 8 pm
at the home of James Kase
and Helene Miller
179 Hope Street, Providence

Please join us as we welcome Gordon Wood to our first Conservator event of 2018. He will be speaking about his new book, *Friends Divided*, a majestic dual biography of two of America's most enduringly fascinating figures: John Adams and Thomas Jefferson.



Gordon S. Wood is Alva O. Way University Professor and Professor of History Emeritus at Brown University, and the recipient of the 1993 Pulitzer Prize for History for The Radicalism of the American Revolution.

Look for your invitation in the mail soon and invite a friend to come along! RSVP to Nancy at nponte@provlib.org or call 455-8003.

Wine Gala...April 27

We are thrilled to announce the date of our third annual *Savor The Story* Wine Gala. This event just keeps getting better, so please mark your calendar, round up your friends, and plan to join us on Friday, April 27 for an unmatched evening featuring fine wine and incredible cuisine.

**This year we
are extremely
excited to be
presenting the
wines of Maison
Louis Latour!**

Look for your
invitation coming
in the mail soon.

SAVOR the
Story

PPL Alum Spotlight

We are excited to debut our new PPL Alum feature! Thanks in no small part to your generosity as a Conservator, individuals from all walks of life have experiences at PPL that exemplify the difference the Library makes in our community. We are thrilled to share these stories of success and achievement here and to demonstrate the incredible impact you are making as a member of the Conservator Society. You have made these alum stories possible!

On the Rhode...with Christian Mignacca

When the right opportunity presents itself, you just know it. This is how it was for Providence resident Christian Mignacca one day when he saw a Facebook post about PPL Rhode Coders Clubs.



“Coding was always something of interest to me; I just wasn’t sure if it would be a fit. Turns out it was. I grew up loving video games, but didn’t know if working in the world of computers and coding would mean I’d come to hate what I love doing in my free time,” says Christian. But he found the path he was destined to travel and hasn’t looked back. “I finally found what my brain was designed to do!”

He credits PPL Rhode Coders creator and instructor Don Gregory for inspiring him to keep striving and

getting better. “I wish every teacher was like him...he sucks you in with his passion and interest.”

After excelling in and completing the 10-week Rhode Coders “exploratory adventure,” Christian suc-

cessfully enrolled in the flagship class* of the highly competitive 13-week General Assembly Web Development Immersive training. Designed in partnership with TechHire RI, the Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training and other innovative companies in the state, it aims to prepare 25 Rhode Islanders with in-demand tech skills to compete for full-time, well-paying tech jobs upon graduation.

Looking ahead, Christian is confident he will land a great tech job. “I would love to stay in Rhode Island and also to have the chance someday to teach a class like the ones I’ve been fortunate to take.”

* Seven other former PPL Rhode Coders were in the General Assembly program with Christian

Meet our new Development Director

We are pleased to introduce PPL’s new Development Director **Erica Busillo Adams**. Erica brings a wealth of fundraising experience, most recently having served as the Head of Development for The Autism Project. Prior to that, Erica worked at Save The Bay. She brings great passion and enthusiasm for PPL’s mission, along with some great Rhode Island connections.



Erica was selected as *Providence Business News*’ 2017 Woman to Watch in Social Services, is on the Board of Directors of Fusionworks Dance Company and FountainHead RI, and has performed in the Fringe PVD festival (she is a dancer herself)! Though she hails from Princeton, NJ, she now lives with her husband and their two children in Providence. Erica is currently in the process of reaching out to all of our Conservators, so if you have not heard from her yet, you will be sure to in the very near future!

Fundraising News...



You may have gotten wind of our latest renovation plans and the *Think Again* Capital Campaign to transform our

historic facility into a state-of-the-art 21st-century library. Currently in the early stages, the campaign is off to a great start, including our first seven-figure leadership gift! Stay tuned for some exciting announcements.

New Conservator Committee

We want to send a huge *Thank You!* to our new Conservator Committee for hitting the ground running in support of our goal of reaching 100 Conservator Society members by June 30. Our Committee includes: Maria Goncalves, Lizzy Greene, Mary Olenn, Dawn Robertson, Catherine Taylor and Cheryl Teverow.

Welcome New Conservators!

We’d like to welcome and welcome back these new and renewing Conservators: Christina Bevilacqua, Johathan Fain, Maria Goncalves, Brian MacCracken, Gil MacLean and Michelle Collie.



Do you have an email address to share with us?

This newsletter is just one way that we hope to keep you abreast of everything that's going on at PPL. Exciting programs and events happen weekly at the Library. We want to make sure you are fully in the know and are receiving our regular Program & Events e-newsletter, as well as other special announcements and news sent regularly through email.

If you have not been getting any "e-news" from us, we probably don't have a current email address for you! **Would you please take a moment to send Nancy Ponte your email address at nponte@provlib.org or call her at 455-8003 so she can add you to our e-lists.**

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