Friends of the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Library

Crossing Cultures Community Events
(Wilma Jozwiak)

and

Two Towns-One Book Community Read
(Sheila Morroni)
Crossing Cultures

• Our community is becoming more diverse.
• New residents come from many countries.
• Our Library sponsors English as Another Language classes.
• EAL students find it hard to connect with other community residents to practice English and learn more about their new community.
• One tutor had a brainstorm: Food connects people, so let’s do food!
An event was born . . .

Crossing Cultures

Potluck Lunch

Wednesday, May 4
11:45 - 2:00

Enjoy wonderful food, meet folks from very different parts of the world and help them learn about our little part of the world

Bring a dish your family loves if you wish

Come Early for Ice-Breaker Games
to Forge New Friendships!
See You Then...
Crossing Cultures Tea

• We had our first two events in 2013.
• EAL students and other community residents were invited to bring a dish reminiscent of their culture or home country; the tables virtually groaned with great food!
• EAL students and tutors brought decorations from home countries or places they had been.
• We didn’t know what to expect, so we planned activities.
Within minutes, a buzz of conversation . . .
What we learned

• People connect across similarities very easily.
• Events need to be during the school year and school day so moms can be free to attend.
• We changed the name to Crossing Cultures Potluck Luncheon to more accurately represent the offerings.
• We needed a way to keep people moving and ensure that students and other community members mingled; we’ve tried several things and keep adjusting.
Two Towns-One Book
We Read Together!

The Friends initiated Two Towns-One Book with the goal of bringing people in our community together through the shared reading and discussion of a common book.

This intention is extended to the children of our community through Kids Read, Too!
Bringing two towns together in a common activity

Library can only be physically located in one town.

Library and Friends welcome efforts, events, and ideas to build connections with both towns.
Year-long Program

- Book nominations: January-May
- Select contenders: June-August
- Vote for final selection: September-October
- Announce THE BOOK: November
- Community activities: January-May
Here’s what we’ve read!
2011-12

Book of the Year

The Book Thief
Markus Zusak
The Extraordinary New York Times #1 Bestseller

The Butterfly
Patricia Polacco

Wolf!
Becky Bloom
Illustrated by Pascal Biet

Number the Stars
Lois Lowry

Kids Read Too! Books
Book of the Year

2013-14

Kids Read Too! Books
2014 -15

**Book of the Year**

*The Art of Hearing Heartbeats*
Jan-Philipp Sendker

**Kids Read Too! Books**

*Seeing Things My Way*
Aldan R. Cases

*She Touched the World*
Linda S. Thomas

*El Deafino*
Cecilia Aldana
2015-16 Book of the Year

THE MARTIAN
Andy Weir

The Tree Lady

Frank Cottrell Boyce

COSMIC

Kids Read Too! Books

Marcie Reed Stoic
Summer Reading Groups
Selected Final 5 Contenders

Which Book for 2017?

- HIDDEN AMERICA
- MITCH ALBOM: the magic strings of Frankie Presto
- GLORY OVER EVERYTHING
- ROSEMARY: THE HIDDEN KENNEDY DAUGHTER
- NOON AT TIFFANY'S
Which Book for Next Year?

Winner Announced Next Week
Here’s some of what we’ve enjoyed doing!
Two Towns-One Book sponsors many events!

Saturday, March 21
BOOKS & LUNCH
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM, THE VISTA, 924 Main Street, Jonesville
Join area book groups and lovers of books for a delicious lunch and a panel discussion on Disrupting the Myths about Blindness, drawn from the themes of The Art of Hearing Heartbeats by Jan-Philipp Sendker, the community’s 2015 Book of the Year. Music by Dr. Tim Oishi, Basket Raffle and more!

Panelists: Brian Daniels, NYS Office for Children and Family Services and other vision professionals, Maureen Strange, Kenny Jones, Barrie Randelman, and Andres Harnoccker.

Menu Choices: 1) Grilled Salmon Bourre Blanc, 2) Egg Battered Chicken Picatta or 3) Sliced Sashimi Au Joe, including Water Garden Salad and Dessert, tea or coffee. Cost: $25.00. Make check payable to the Friends of the Library. Your check is your reservation. **Please note your e-mail address or phone number AND luncheon choice on a memo line of your check.

MAIL CHECK TO: FOL, 475 Moe Road, Clifton Park, NY 12065.
For more about TTOB, visit our website: www.twotownsonebook.org
WALK AND WIN
A KINDLE FIRE!

Literary Trivia Walk!
Sunday, September 29
Start Anytime 9:30-11:15
Most of the Walk is Inside!
Shatekon thru Arongen to CPHL

Enjoy a Fun-Filled Walk
Win Prizes for All Ages!

MAP! CLUES!
Find Answers About
Favorite Stories
Along The Walk
$10 for 3 Entries
$5 for 1 Entry
Register at Walk or
the TTOB Website

Two Towns-One Book:

Jan-Philipp Sendker is Coming!
Thursday, April 16
7 PM
Gowana Middle School
Auditorum
Shenendehowa Campus
Author of
The Art of Hearing
Heartbeats
2015 Book of the Year!
Visit
www.twotownersonebook.org
for ongoing updates

Museum of Natural History
Hayden Planetarium
NYC BUS TRIP

Saturday, May 7, 2016
7:30 AM – depart CPH Library
6 PM – depart NYC (TBA)
Contact Rhona Koretzky at
busplus1@gmail.com or 505-1303.

Trip includes bus ticket, admission to the Museum of
Natural History, the Hayden Planetarium show, an
iMax movie, and the Butterfly Garden.
Cost for FOL Members: Adults – $75;
Seniors/students through college – $70.
For non-FOL Members: Add $5.
For all children under 12: $65.
Families are encouraged to participate.

By Special Arrangement

THE BOOK THIEF
MOVIE

YOU Chose
the 2012 Book of the Year
Now Enjoy the Movie!

Sponsored by the Library and the Friends Two Towns-One Book Program

Sunday, May 4 2 - 4:30
What we learned

- Widely and wildly successful
- Uniting Communities - Council persons from both towns on committee, school district, YMCA, senior groups in both towns, local family service organization
- Local business gives grant award each year; others more episodic and event specific
More of what we learned

- Limit events that require sponsors due to donation fatigue
- Extend book nomination period
- Less can be more and as effective
- Emphasize proven activities (books and lunch, bus trip, author related event)
- Keep kids events separate from others
Even More ........

- Check conflict with other community events
- Purchase fewer books for circulation
- Rethink schedule due to space availability
- Maintain momentum or change timeline
Our Websites

Friendsofcphlibrary.org
Twotownsononebook.org