

President's Message



Your Friends' Board thinks creatively with programs and events — to not let COVID be an excuse. Are you familiar with Tim Gunn's (Project

Runway) phrase: "Make it work"? He uses it when designers are faced with difficult challenges. Simple words that encourage and refocus one's attention towards success.

This Oracle features programs by the library, museum and Friends to connect with the community as we "make it work." Opportunities to inform, train and encourage you and your family; pique your curiosity; or reconnect with history by strolling the farms. Also, learn about a pesky squirrel who "made-do" in our 1860s cabin.

We certainly appreciate Al Stutson's remake of our traditional Easter Egg Hunt with two fun activities: an Easter Pet Photography Contest and a Jelly Bean Counting Contest (see the back page).

And back for its 54th year, the Creative Writing Contest is off to a strong start with students' entries already arriving.

The President's Blog: [Desperation Pies](#), features how our 1860s pioneer forebears "made do" to create tasty pies. The museum's historic interpreters prove they are up to the challenge of "making do" with what is found in a mid-winter pantry or root cellar.

Whether we're "making it work" or "making-do" it's a great time to do it together as Friends!

Sincerely,
Lisa A. Hendry
Board President

NEW AT BEMIS LIBRARY: BINGE BOX!!!

If March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb as expected, we may need to ride out a snowstorm or two. To get ready, check out a Binge Box for two weeks. Each box contains four to six DVDs based on a theme or genre such as Don't Commute with Liam Neeson, Pedal to the Metal, Best Picture Winners and more. Simply search "bingebox" at bemismarmot.org.



Imagination = Intelligence Having Fun!

54th Annual Creative Writing Contest

Enter Now!

**Open to students in grades 1 - 12
who live within the Littleton Public Schools District**

Prizes awarded for 1st - 3rd place in each category, for each grade division

Poetry	Fiction	Nonfiction	Collabs
100 lines or less	2,500 words or less	2,500 words or less	Group work, same categories

How to Enter

Entry forms and rules available at friendslittleton.org

Submission Deadline

Midnight on Saturday, March 27, 2021

Judging criteria and creative writing tips available at: friendslittleton.org
Judging by Arapahoe Community College English Department



BEMIS PUBLIC LIBRARY

MODIFIED HOURS

Bemis is open to the public with the following modified hours:

- Monday–Friday, 11 a.m.–6 p.m.
- Saturday, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.
- Sundays & Holidays, Closed

For updates on library access, call 303-795-3961 or visit <https://bemis.libguides.com/coronavirus>.

LIBRARY SERVICES

- Online Chat Reference service is available Monday–Friday, 9 a.m.–noon.
- The Littleton Immigrant Resource Center is available by appointment only. Call 303-795-3968.
- Curbside service will continue on an as-needed basis during hours of operation.
- In person classes, programs, story times and technology appointments are not be available.
- All meeting, study rooms and computer lab remain closed.

SAFETY MEASURES

- Building capacity is limited to 35 people. Once capacity has been reached, a one-out-one-in policy will be implemented.
- Please plan brief visits and prepare to wait outside the library if capacity has been reached.
- Be prepared for wait times to enter Bemis. If the building is at capacity, visitors will not be allowed to wait in the lobby. Visitors will need to wait outside the building or in their cars. Dress for the weather in case you cannot immediately enter the library.
- Computer sessions will be limited to one hour per person per day.
- Patrons must wear a mask or face covering while at the library.

REGISTRATION FOR LIBRARY PROGRAMS

To participate in any of these programs call the library at 303-795-3961 or go to the Virtual Events Calendar at bemis.marmot.org.

VIRTUAL BOOK CLUBS

Find links to the books and discussion sessions in the Virtual Events Calendar at bemis.marmot.org.

March 3: Senior Book Club. *Washington Black* by Esi Edugyan. 1 p.m.

March 5: Virtual Fiction Book Club. *In West Mills* by De'Shawn Charles Winslow. 1 p.m.

March 17: Virtual Nonfiction Book Club. *How the Irish Saved Civilization* by Thomas Cahill. 1 p.m.

GENERAL PROGRAMS

Senior Social Club: Thursdays in March. Stay connected with Thursday conference call chats. Join the call from a [computer](#) or phone (301-715-8592, Meeting ID 987 926 117). 9:30–11:30 a.m.

March 4: Virtual Art Workshop with the Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art. Join BMOCA Educator Melinda Laz for a video presentation and interactive online workshop discussing BMOCA's new exhibition, *From This Day Forward*. Afterward, create a piece of art inspired by the show. Registration is required; call 303-795-3961. 2 p.m.

March 4 & 18: Board Games @ Home. Join in anytime as we play virtual board games together. Drop in for just a bit or play the whole night. No registration required. This family-friendly event is open to all ages. 5:30–8 p.m.

March 15: Hong Kong with Active Minds. Recently, Hong Kong has erupted into violent conflict between the Chinese government and protesters objecting to increased government controls. Hear the story of Hong Kong, past, present and future. 2 p.m.

March 23: Virtual Travel Training 102. In this training from DRMAC (Denver Regional Mobility and Access Council), learn tricks to maximize the RTD experience such as using the RTD app to plan routes, buy tickets, find discounts and more. 2 p.m.

March 25: Poetry Workshop with Think 360 Arts. Poet and storyteller SETH will emphasize the fun and liberating feeling to be had by playing creatively

with language. At this workshop, the first of three, learn how to enjoy putting pencil to paper. 2 p.m.

March 30: The Early Days of Radio. Learn about the long, strange history of radio. From the early days of radio plays and pure entertainment to its adoption as a news source, radio has reflected the changing landscape of the American mindset throughout the 20th century. 2 p.m.

CHILDREN'S EVENTS

Take & Make Kits for Children in Preschool–5th Grade. Beginning March 1, stop by the library to pick up a kit to start growing a plant from seed indoors. Just add water. One kit per child, while supplies last.

Zoom Story Times—Weekday Mornings. Join Bemis Children's librarians from the safety of your own home for these favorite story times. Access the Zoom Story Times by clicking on the Children's Room link from the Bemis home page at bemis.marmot.org.

- **All Ages Story Time.** Mondays, 10 a.m.
- **Baby & Toddler Story Time.** Wednesdays, 10 a.m.
- **Preschool Story Time.** Fridays, 10 a.m.

Dial-A-Story. Call 303-795-3960 ANYTIME to hear a picture book read by a Bemis Children's librarian. Stories change weekly.

TEEN EVENTS

Teen Talk Tuesday. Hang out in our weekly Zoom meetings to get updates on what's going on at the library, play games and stay connected. No registration required. Join through the link on the Virtual Events Calendar at bemis.marmot.org. 4–5:30 p.m.

March 2, 16 & 30: Dungeons & Dragons

March 9 & 23: Jack Box/Digital Board Games

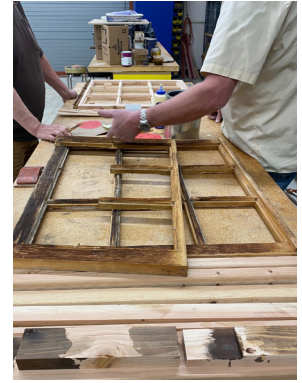
March 11 & 25: Among Us. Try to finish your tasks and sus out the imposters among us. Download the game Among Us and register through the link on the Virtual Events Calendar at bemis.marmot.org.

LITTLETON MUSEUM

• Accredited by the American Association of Museums • Smithsonian Institution Affiliate
• Littleton Museum, 6028 S. Gallup St., Littleton, CO 80120 • 303-795-3950

Squirrel vs. Window

During the long closure of the museum due to the pandemic, staff kept the historic buildings closed. Over this period, a squirrel got into the Isaac McBroom cabin on the 1860s farm. In a panic to find its way out, the squirrel gnawed up the wooden windowpanes, damaging the windows beyond repair. Eventually, the rodent escaped, and staff noticed the damage to the two ground floor windows. (The current windows are not original; they were installed after a 1991 break-in.)



Longtime volunteer and master carpenter John Marchetti, under the supervision of Museum Facilities Technician Keith Wynkoop, undertook the project in stages, working on one section of window at a time in an isolated work area. First, the original window was removed, and was temporarily replaced with a large piece of acrylic. Then, the window was carefully measured and examined to see how it was originally built. The third step had John cutting and assembling new pieces of soft pine wood (either spruce or fir) in the same

manner, all to match the window's historic look.

The final step was to stain the new wood to blend in and mimic the historic look of weathered logs on the cabin. John and Keith investigated a variety of wood staining processes. The first attempt involved a "tea" of vinegar and steel wool, which corrodes and creates a dark brown stain, depending upon how long the steel wool is immersed in the vinegar. John tested the darkness of the stain on scrap wood, but the overall look was too gray.

After consultation with curatorial staff, they decided to apply a light coating of store-bought stain, and then use a wire brush to lightly rough up the surface to simulate weathering. Finally, a coating of boiled linseed oil would be brushed over all exposed areas of wood, before in-

stalling the panes of glass and remounting the window into the cabin.

While the historic buildings on the site are not protected with a historic building designation, as part of the Littleton Museum complex, the buildings are maintained using internationally recognized professional standards and best practices, and are considered part of the museum's collection.

Museum Access: To see the McBroom cabin, the museum is open Tuesday–Saturday, 9 a.m.–3 p.m. (closed Sundays, Mondays, and major holidays). Reservations and masks are required for entry into the museum. Call 303-795-3950 to make reservations. For more information about Isaac McBroom, search "McBroom Family" at littletongov.org.

Friends Board of Directors

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The Oracle © is a monthly newsletter produced by the Friends of the Littleton Library and Museum.

Contact Information

Littleton Museum

6028 S. Gallup St., Littleton, CO 80120, 303-795-3950
littletongov.org/museum
Tuesday–Saturday: 9 a.m.–3 p.m. by reservation
Sunday–Monday and holidays: closed

Bemis Public Library

6014 S. Datura St., Littleton, CO 80120, 303-795-3961
bemismarmot.org (Register for a Library Card at left)
bemisteen.blogspot.com
www.littletongov.org/bemis
See littletongov.org/bemis for current hours

Website: friendslittleton.org

Blog: <https://friendslittleton.org/friends-blog>

Email: friendslibrarymuseum@gmail.com

The Friends of the Library and Museum is not letting the pandemic stifle its creativity when it comes to celebrating Easter in Littleton! This year, the Friends have creative ways to celebrate:



Easter Pet Costume Contest

Snap a photo of your pet wearing an Easter costume and fill out the entry form on the Friends' website at <https://friendslittleton.org/easter-egg-hunt>. Photos can be submitted from March 15-31. Only one pet photo per family.

Jellybean & Easter Egg Estimate

From March 15-31, patrons and Friends will get to guess how many jelly beans are in each of two jars—one will be in the children's room at the library and the other will be at the reception desk at the museum. Winners will receive gift certificates to local businesses.

For more details, contact the Friends at friendslibrarymuseum@gmail.com or go to <https://friendslittleton.org/easter-egg-hunt>

YOUR REGULAR GROCERY SHOPPING CAN BENEFIT THE FRIENDS!

King Soopers Community Awards Program



Friends of the
Littleton Library
and Museum

Here's an easy way to support the Friends at **no cost** to you: designate the Friends on your King Soopers **SooperCard** and the Friends receive a quarterly donation from King Soopers.

Five Simple Steps



1. Go to www.kingsoopers.com
2. Login using your individual login credentials, in upper right-hand corner: "**Sign In**" then "**My Account**". Or create your account, if you don't have one yet.
3. Left side of the screen select "**Community Rewards**".
4. Choose "**Friends of the Littleton Library and Museum, Inc.**" (Organization #: XL433.)
5. Continue to use your **SooperCard** or Valued Customer information as normal.

Each time you shop at King Soopers, your purchases are automatically added to the quarterly donation for the Friends. Check the bottom of your receipt for verification: "*King Soopers Community Rewards-at your request, we are donating to the Friends of the Littleton Library and Museum*".

If you don't have a **SooperCard**, they are available at the King Soopers service desk or online.