



ROC the Day 2025
Tuesday, December 2, 2025
 #GivingTuesday #ROCtheDay

Please help support the Library during this 24-hour online fundraising event! Make a secure donation to FFRPL at www.ROCtheDay.org

Author Talks

RPL Online Author Talks

Presented by the Rochester Public Library, FFRPL and the Library Speakers Consortium.

Free online talks from bestselling authors and thought leaders.

Learn more and register:

libraryc.org/roccitylibrary



Friends & Foundation of the
 Rochester Public Library

Would you like to help the Library thrive in the future?

Please consider a **planned gift** through FFRPL. Planned giving is any deferred gift intended to benefit the future of the Rochester Public Library. Bequests, life insurance, IRAs, trusts and annuities all make a lasting difference, and giving through FFRPL is the best way to ensure that your gift will **support the Library now and into the future.**



Please contact Executive Director Donna Borgus for more information:
donna.borgus@libraryweb.org



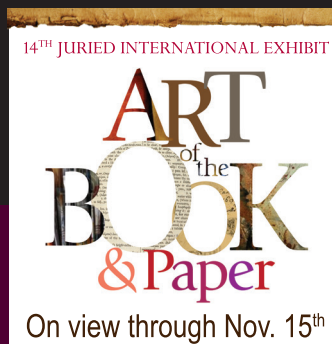
Meet RPL Go!
 The new mobile library will be at
Central Library
Saturday, September 13th
12pm-4:30pm

FFRPL helped support this outreach project.

Scan the QR code to learn more about RPL Go!



FREE Reception Wednesday, September 17th
5:00-7:00pm at Central Library
Awards presentation at 6:00pm



RocCityLibrary.org/artofthebook
 Anthony Mascioli Gallery

FFRPL has supported Central Library's *Art of the Book* exhibit since the first show in 2011, which was held in honor of the 100th anniversary of the Rochester Public Library. The exhibit has grown to include work from all over the world.

Presented by



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BOOKS SANDWICHED IN Fall 2025



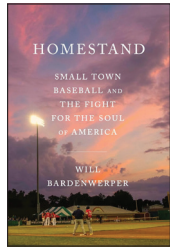
Livestream/archived reviews available on the Library's YouTube channel: 'Rochester Public Library NY'

CENTRAL LIBRARY OF ROCHESTER & MONROE COUNTY

115 SOUTH AVENUE • ROCHESTER, NY

585.428.8350

www.ffrpl.org

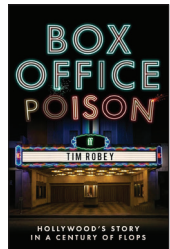


September 9

Homestand: Small Town Baseball and the Fight for the Soul of America
by Will Bardenwerper

Batavia, NY hosted its first professional baseball game in 1897. Despite decades of deindustrialization and evaporating middle-class jobs, the Batavia Muckdogs endured. When Major League Baseball shut them down in 2020, the town fought back, reviving the Muckdogs as a summer league team comprised of college players. *Homestand* captures the essence of small town life and the values of modern America.

Presenter: **Dan Mason**, General Manager of the Rochester Red Wings. The 2025 season marks Dan's 36th with the Red Wings.

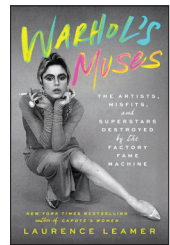


September 16

Box Office Poison: Hollywood's Story in a Century of Flops
by Tim Robey

Robey offers an entertaining alternative history of Hollywood through a century of its most notable flops. "Fusing Hollywood history, industry analysis and passionate, deeply informed film criticism, Robey draws sharp distinctions between maligned masterpieces and outright catastrophes, yet embraces them all with the same generosity of spirit and knowledge." — Justin Chang, film critic, *The New Yorker*.

Presenter: **Scott Pukos**, Director of Communications for the Little Theatre. Scott also hosts Movies and a Microphone: The Little's podcast, where he talks indie films and popcorn.



September 23

Warhol's Muses: the Artists, Misfits, and Superstars Destroyed by the Factory Fame Machine
by Laurence Leamer

Leamer explores the lives of ten complex, unconventional women Warhol dubbed his "Superstars," who inspired and starred in his legendary underground films. Set in Manhattan during the turbulent, transformative 1960's, the biography examines Warhol's obsession with celebrity and uncovers intimate details about the life and work of one of the most legendary artists of all time.

Presenter: **Don Hyatt** is a Librarian Assistant in Central's Arts Division, with a background in art. He is a freelance photographer and teaches photography classes for all ages.

Advanced registration requested for Fall BSI reviews. Register at ffrpl.org

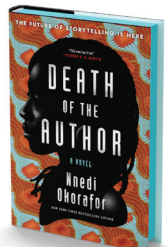


September 30

Abundance
by Ezra Klein and Derek Thompson

Imagining the year 2050, Klein and Thompson write "The world has changed. Not just the virtual world ... The physical world, too: its houses, its energy, its infrastructure, its medicines, its hard tech. How different this era is from the opening decades of the twenty-first century, which unspooled a string of braided crises ... For years, we constrained our ability to solve the most important problems. Why?"

Presenter: As Foodlink's Chief Impact Officer, **Mitch Gruber** leads many innovative, nationally-renowned programs like the Curbside Market and Career Fellowship. Mitch also serves as a City Councilmember.



October 7

Death of the Author
by Nnedi Okorafor

In this unique book-within-a-book, Zelu – a disabled Nigerian American woman – writes a wildly successful Sci-Fi novel set in Chicago, Lagos, and space, where androids and AI wage war in the aftermath of human civilization. Unlike anything you've read before, *Death of the Author* is a surprisingly cutting, heartfelt drama about art, love, identity, connection, and humanity.

Presenter: **Edward Ashton** is the author of seven novels, including *MICKEY7* (the basis for Bong Joon-ho's *Mickey 17*) and *AFTER THE FALL*, forthcoming from St. Martin's Press (February 2026).



October 14

Everyone Who is Gone is Here: The United States, Central America, and the Making of a Crisis
by Jonathan Blitzer

Fleeing persecution, crime, or hunger, hundreds of thousands of people arrive every year at the US-Mexico border: a high percentage come from El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras. Using unprecedented forensic reporting, Blitzer braids personal stories of Central Americans attempting to navigate U.S. immigration policies with those trying to regulate them and those advocating for changing them.

Presenters: **Rachel Saper** and **Paige Hauser**, Attorneys at The Legal Aid Society of Rochester, NY.

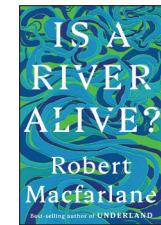


October 21

Bibliophobia: A Memoir
by Sarah Chihaya

Utilizing titles such as *Anne of Green Gables*, *Possession*, *A Tale for the Time Being*, and *The Last Samurai* as her own personal manuals, Chihaya explores her childhood, racial and cultural identity, experiences with "harmful practices of survival" and depression, as well as the myriad ways books can influence readers who become obsessed with them.

Presenter: **Tyler Barton** is a writer, teacher, literary advocate, and author of *Eternal Night at the Nature Museum* (Sarabande Books) and *The Quiet Part Loud* (Split/Lip Press).



October 28

Is a River Alive?
by Robert Macfarlane

Focusing on three landscapes in Ecuador, south-east India, and Canada, Macfarlane explores the ancient idea that rivers should be recognized as living beings in imagination and law. "This book is a journey into an idea that changes the world – the idea that a river is alive. What does such a recognition mean for perception, law and politics?"

Presenter: Semi-retired journalist **Steven Orr** was a reporter at the *Democrat and Chronicle*, specializing in the environment and conservation. He is a board member of Genesee RiverWatch, a non-profit that works to improve water quality and public access to the Genesee River.

BOOKS SANDWICHED IN

Can't be here? You can watch any review in real time by livestreaming on the Library's YouTube channel: 'Rochester Public Library NY'

Prior programs are archived and also available for viewing at any time.

To receive our e-mail newsletter, visit ffrpl.org and click 'Join Our Mailing List.'

The Central Library is accessible to people with disabilities. To request specific accommodations, call 585-428-8304 ten days prior to the program.