

The Ferguson Library

Main Library, DiMattia Building

1 Public Library Plaza, 06904
203 964-1000
Monday to Thursday 10 to 8
Friday 10 to 6
Saturday 10 to 5
Sunday 1 to 5

Harry Bennett Branch

115 Vine Road, 06905
203 351-8291
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10 to 6
Wednesday 10 to 7
Saturday 10 to 5

South End Branch

34 Woodland Avenue, 06902
Front entrance at 37 Henry Street
Located in the Lathon Wider Community Center
203 351-8280
Monday to Thursday 10 to 5:30
Saturday 10 to 2

Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch

1143 Hope Street, 06907
203 351-8285
Monday and Thursday 10 to 6
Tuesday 12 to 7
Saturday 10 to 5

Bookmobile

Check our online calendar at
<https://www.fergusonlibrary.org/locations-hours/bookmobile>

The Friends Book Shops at the Ferguson Library

Main Library Book Shop

Monday through Thursday 11 to 6
Friday and Saturday 11 to 5
Sunday 1 to 5

Harry Bennett Branch Book Shop

Monday through Saturday 10 –4

Passport Services

Appointments take precedence and are recommended.
For more information or to make an appointment, call 203 351-8298.

Main Library Passport Office

Monday through Thursday 10 to 7
Friday 10 to 5
Saturday 10 to 4
Sunday 1 to 4

Harry Bennett Passport Office

Saturday 10 to 4 (WALK-IN ONLY)

FERGUSON LIBRARY

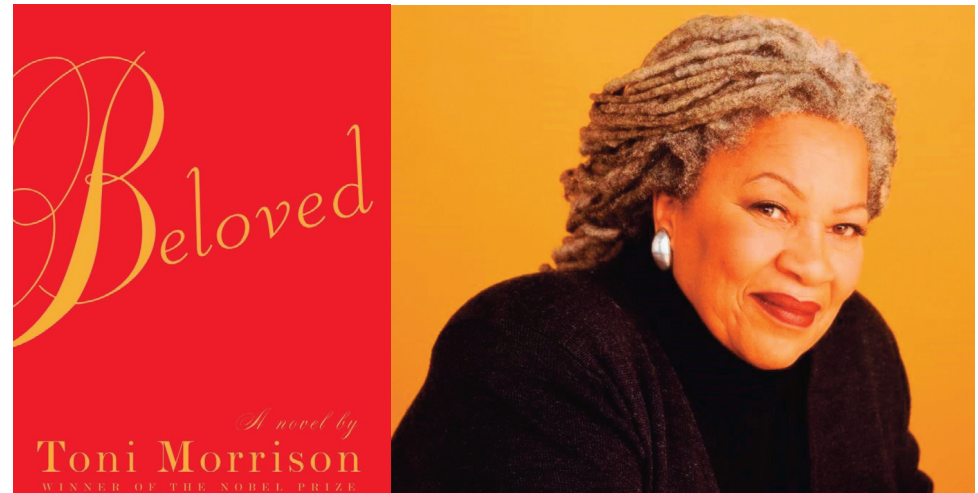
FERGUSONLIBRARY.ORG



Generously supported by the Friends of the Ferguson Library and offered in partnership with UConn Stamford and Stamford Stands Against Racism.

NEA BIG READ STAMFORD

BELOVED BY TONI MORRISON



Credit: Corbis via Getty Images

NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT for the ARTS
 BIG READ

Managed by Arts Midwest

arts.gov/neabigread

FERGUSON
LIBRARY

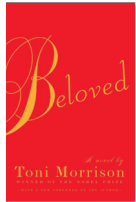
NEA Big Read broadens our understanding of our world, our communities and ourselves through the joy of sharing a good book.

NEA Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts
in partnership with Arts Midwest.

Generously supported by the Friends of the Ferguson Library
and offered in partnership with UConn Stamford
and Stamford Stands Against Racism.

Visit our NEA Big Read page at fergusonlibrary.org/nea-big-read

BOOK GIVEAWAYS at all Ferguson Library locations and select Bookmobile stops while copies last.



The library has copies of *Beloved* available to borrow in several formats – book, audiobook, e-audio and e-book. If you would prefer reading an e-book edition, download it from OverDrive with the Libby app. No waiting time. We have simultaneous access through October.

Schedule subject to change. For updates, please check our NEA Big Read page which can be found under Events on our website.



Throughout the month of October:
Documentary Screening:
Toni Morrison: The Pieces I Am
View the documentary, *Toni Morrison: The Pieces I Am*, available on Hoopla and DVD.

Book Discussions

Pick up your free copy at any Ferguson Library location prior to discussions. For virtual book discussions, check our online calendar for Zoom login.

Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch
Monday, October 4 at 11:30 via Zoom

Main Library, DiMattia Building
Third Floor Board Room
Tuesday, October 12 at 7

Mill River Park
Great Lawn
Friday, October 15 at 11

Harry Bennett Branch
Monday, October 18 at 7 via Zoom

South End Branch
Monday, October 25 at 7
(also via Zoom)



The NEA Big Read Kick-off:
Community Quilt Project
Saturday, October 2 from 11 to 2
Main Library, DiMattia Building,
First Floor Lobby

Create your square to add to the community quilt. All ages.

ADULT PROGRAMS

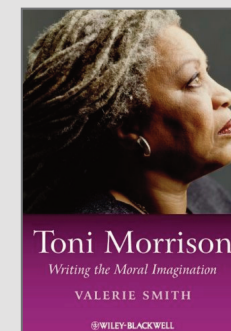
Keynote Speaker–Valerie Smith,
President of Swarthmore College

Thursday, October 7 at 6:30
Main Library, DiMattia Building, Third Floor Auditorium



(photo credit: Laurence Kesterson)

Valerie Smith is a Toni Morrison scholar and author of *Toni Morrison: Writing the Moral Imagination*. Registration required. Register online at fergusonlibrary.org/nea-big-read. (Also available via Zoom. Check our online calendar for Zoom login.)





Healing from Trauma—Exploring the Personal Grief Process through the Lens of Toni Morrison's *Beloved* with Allison Bass-Riccio

Wednesday, October 13 at 6:30

Main Library, DiMattia Building, Third Floor Auditorium

Allison Bass-Riccio currently serves as department chair and teacher of English literature at Cheshire Academy, a boarding school in Cheshire. Additionally, she is coordinator of the Campus Writing Center and house head of a girls' dorm. Registration required. Register online at fergusonlibrary.org/nea-big-read. (Also available via Zoom. Check our online calendar for Zoom login.)



The Work and World of Toni Morrison with Grégory Pierrot

Monday, October 18 at 6:30

Main Library, DiMattia Building, Third Floor Auditorium

Grégory Pierrot is associate professor of English at UConn, Stamford. He is the author of *Decolonize Hipsters* (OR Books, 2021), *The Black Avenger in Atlantic Culture* (UGA Press, 2019), and co-editor of the forthcoming *An Anthology of Haitian Revolutionary Fictions* (UVA Press,

2021). His writing has appeared in *Africa Is A Country*, *L.A. Review of Books*, scholarly journals such as *The African American Review*, and more.

Art Show Opening

Thursday, October 21 from 6 to 8

Main Library, DiMattia Building, Third Floor Auditorium

Opening of *Fragments of Memory* art exhibit. Co-sponsored by the Stamford Art Association. Pictured: *When a Door Opens* by Mary Ann Glass.



Gothic Elements in Toni Morrison's *Beloved* with Blessing Diala-Ogamba

Wednesday, October 27 at 6:30 via Zoom

Blessing Diala-Ogamba is a professor of English at Coppin State University in Baltimore, MD. She is the co-author of *Literary Crossroads: An International Exploration of Women, Gender, and Otherhood*; and *Emerging Perspectives on Akachi Adimora-Ezeigbo*. Registration required. Register online at fergusonlibrary.org/nea-big-read. Zoom details will be included in registration confirmation.

Finale: Friends of Ferguson Author Series Event Meet Farah Jasmine Griffin



(photo credit: Peggy Dillard Toome)

Author of *Read Until You Understand: The Profound Wisdom of Black Life and Literature*

Monday, November 1 at 6:30

Main Library, DiMattia Building
Third Floor Auditorium

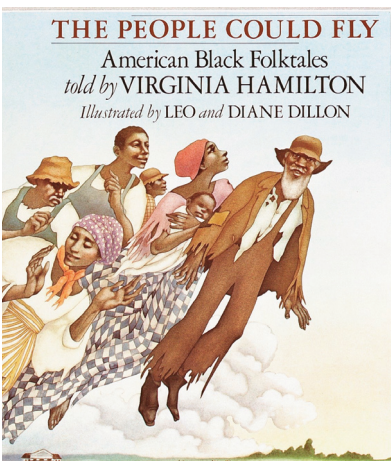
Farah Jasmine Griffin was the inaugural chair of the African American and African Diaspora Studies Department at Columbia University, where she is also William B. Ransford Professor of English and Comparative Literature. She is the

author of numerous books and the recipient of a 2021 Guggenheim Fellowship. She is also in the documentary *Toni Morrison: The Pieces I Am*. (Morrison personally selected her as one of the few scholars to speak about her work in the film, which played in theaters and on PBS.) Book sale and signing. Registration required. Register online at fergusonlibrary.org/nea-big-read. (Also available via Zoom. Check our online calendar for Zoom login.)



YOUTH PROGRAMS

The Library will also host companion book discussions for children and teens. Our young reader's selections are *Sugar* by Jewell Parker Rhodes and *Crossing Ebenezer Creek* by Tonya Bolden. Copies of both titles are available at the library.



The People Could Fly: A Storytelling Program

Saturday, October 9 at 11 via Zoom

Selections from the book by Virginia Hamilton. Grade 2 and up.

Registration required. Register online at fergusonlibrary.org/nea-biq-read.

Zoom details will be included in registration confirmation.

A Conversation with Jewell Parker Rhodes, Author of *Sugar*



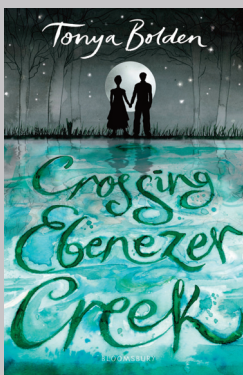
Saturday, October 23 at 2 via Zoom

Jewell Parker Rhodes is an award-winning and bestselling author.

In addition to *Sugar*, winner of the Jane Addams Children's Book Award, she is also the author of *Ninth Ward*, winner of a Coretta Scott King Honor, and the *New York Times*-bestselling *Ghost Boys*. Grades 3 and up. Registration required.

Register online at
fergusonlibrary.org/nea-big-read.
*Zoom details will be included in
registration confirmation.*

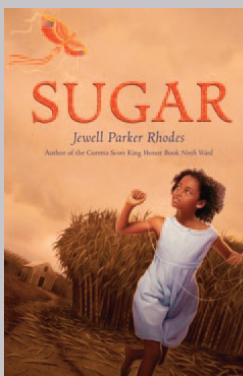
Book Discussions



Crossing Ebenezer Creek by Tonya Bolden

Tuesday, October 14 at 7 via Zoom

When Mariah and her young brother Zeke are suddenly freed from slavery, they set out on Sherman's long march through Georgia during the Civil War. Mariah wants to believe that the brutalities of slavery are behind them forever and that freedom lies ahead. But even hope comes at a cost, and as the treacherous march continues toward the churning waters of Ebenezer Creek, Mariah's dreams are as vulnerable as ever. For teens in grades 6 and up. Registration required. Register online at fergusonlibrary.org/nea-big-read. *Zoom details will be included in registration confirmation.*



***Sugar* by Jewell Parker Rhodes**

Tuesday, October 19 at 7 via Zoom

In 1870, Reconstruction brings big changes to the Louisiana sugar plantation where spunky ten-year-old Sugar has always lived, including her friendship with Billy, the son of her former master, and the arrival of workmen from China. For kids in grades 4 to 6. Registration required. Register online at fergusonlibrary.org/nea-big-read. *Zoom details will be included in registration confirmation.*

**“You are your
best thing.”**
–Toni Morrison,
Beloved

-Toni Morrison,
Beloved

