February 2018

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The Book Club Insider
Monthly Newsletter

The 2018 Edgar Award Nominations Announced

The Mystery Writers of America revealed the nominees for the 2018 Edgar Allan Poe Awards on January 19th. These awards honor the best in mystery fiction, non-fiction and television. On April 26, 2018, the Edgar Awards will be presented to the winners in New York City. If you are interested in the full list of nominees, in all categories, you can visit http://www.theedgars.com/nominees.html.

I have provided the titles for the category of Best Novel for your book club to consider:

- **Bluebird, Bluebird** by Attica Locke
  Forced by duty to return to his racially divided East Texas hometown, an African-American Texas Ranger risks his job and reputation to investigate a highly charged double-murder case involving a black Chicago lawyer and a local white woman.

- **The Dime** by Kathleen Kent
  A woman from a family of take-no-prisoners police detectives relocates from Brooklyn to Dallas, where she tackles adversaries ranging from drug cartels and cult leaders to difficult vagrants and society wives before a first major investigation is challenged by unruly subordinates, a stalker, a criminal organization and an unsupportive girlfriend.

- **Prussian Blue** by Philip Kerr
  Hiding on the French Riviera when his cover is blown, Bernie Gunther finds himself in a cat-and-mouse game with an old and dangerous enemy before fleeing to Berlin, where he places his survival in the hands of dubious former allies.

- **A Rising Man** by Abir Mukherjee
  In the days of the British Raj in 1919, Captain Sam Wyndham, a former Scotland Yard detective newly arrived in Calcutta, is confronted with the murder of a British official who was found with a note in his mouth warning the British to leave India.

- **The Twelve Lives of Samuel Hawley** by Hannah Tinti
  A once-professional killer protects his daughter from the legacy of his criminal past, an effort that is challenged by his daughter’s struggles with the death of her mother and the reckoning of old enemies.

All Summaries are from the publishers. Jean Simpson, Readers’ Services Librarian

New to Book Club in a Bag

Readers’ Services has added the following book to our Book Club in a Bag collection:

**Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis** by J.D. Vance

#1 New York Times Bestseller, Named By The Times As One Of "6 Books To Help Understand Trump's Win" And Soon To Be A Major-Motion Picture Directed By Ron Howard


"Essential reading." — David Brooks, New York Times

Shares the story of the author's family and upbringing, describing how they moved from poverty to an upwardly mobile clan that included the author, a Yale Law School graduate, while navigating the demands of middle class life and the collective demons of the past.

Let us provide everything you need for a successful book discussion. We can supply you with 10 copies of the book and a discussion binder. The binder contains discussion questions, biographical information and critical material.

Please contact Readers’ Services, 921-7161, ext 239 to reserve a book for your Book Club.

Evelyn Hershkowitz, Readers’ Services Librarian
A Museum Outing With Your Book Club

Now that winter is upon us, a trip to a museum or indoor garden may be just the thing to refresh your book club and beat those winter blues. Below is a sampling of current museum exhibits that are part of SPL’s Museum Pass Program.

**Museum of the City of New York**

King in New York – through June 1, 2018

Commemorating the 50th anniversary of the death of Martin Luther King Jr., King in New York traces the civil rights leader’s encounters with New York from the 1950s until his assassination in 1968. The exhibition’s historic images chronicle King’s sermons in churches and speeches to the United Nations, his discussions about race relations with New York City’s mayor, and his relationships with New York’s own networks of activists.

**Beyond Suffrage: A Century of New York Women in Politics** – through August 5, 2018

This exhibit traces women’s political activism in New York City from the struggle to win the vote, through the 20th century, and into our own times. Beginning with the long battle for women’s voting rights that culminated in 1917 statewide and 1920 nationally, the exhibition highlights women at the center of New York’s politics over the course of 100 years.

**Nassau County Museum of Art**

Fool the Eye – through March 4, 2018

Get ready to be amazed by an exhibition filled with optical illusions and artistic sleight of hand! Trompe l’oeil, hypnotic abstractions, perceptual illusions, mind-bending impossibilities and more. Artists include Salvador Dali, Jasper Johns, Roy Lichtenstein, Vik Muniz and many others.

**The Jazz Age** – March 17, 2018 – July 8, 2018

The Jazz Age is highlighted by masterpieces of the 1920s, neoclassical paintings by Picasso, the avant-garde breakthroughs of James Joyce and Coco Chanel and enduring classics such as Balanchine’s Apollo. The exhibition also features musical and literary programs, lectures and symposia exploring the art, design, music, dance and literature of this unforgettable era.

**New York Historical Society**

Mapping America’s Road from Revolution to Independence – through March 11, 2018

Mapping America’s Road from Revolution to Independence showcases hand-drawn and engraved maps from the 18th and early 19th centuries that illuminate the tremendous changes—geographic, political, and economic—that occurred before, during, and just after the Revolutionary War.

**The Vietnam War: 1945 – 1975** – through April 22, 2018

The New-York Historical Society presents a groundbreaking exhibition on one of the most controversial events of the 20th century: the Vietnam War. Populating a 3,000-square-foot gallery with interpretive displays, digital media, artwork, artifacts, photographs, and documents, the exhibit provides an enlightening account of the causes, progression, and impact of the war.

If your group is interested in any of these exhibits, our Readers’ Services Librarians would be happy to pair it with just the right book to couple your visit with a book discussion.

Museum passes can be reserved up to 60 days in advance with an adult Syosset Public Library card in good standing. Most passes admit 2 adults and 2 children. To reserve a museum pass or to view our Museum Pass Guidelines in full detail, visit www.syossetlibrary.org and click on the museum pass icon or call (516) 921-7161 ext. 239.

Exhibit descriptions provided by the museums.

-Lisa Jones, Readers’ Services Librarian