



Enriching Our Community, Expanding Our World.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PORTLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY EXPANDS YOUNG ADULT & CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING

PORTLAND, MAINE – Portland Public Library has increased its programming for youth by introducing the **First Friday Author Talks**. Using the popular Brown Bag Lecture template, young adult and children's authors/illustrators will be at the Main Library's Rines Auditorium at noon on the first Friday of each month for a talk and signing. Longfellow Books will sell books at each event.

Head of Youth Services Mary Peverada said, "There are so many talented area children's and young adult authors that we want to showcase. We are excited to bring these authors to the Library." Peverada noted that she hoped the noon hour would bring people of all ages to these programs.

Upcoming First Friday Author Talks (12:00 – 1:00, Rines Auditorium, 5 Monument Square, Portland):

December 1, Anne Sibley O'Brien, Peaks Island author/illustrator of the graphic novel *The Legend of Hong Kil Dong: The Robin Hood of Korea*. She has illustrated more than twenty picture books, including the Jamaica books by Juanita Havill and the Talking Walls books by Margy Burns Knight.

January 5, Cathryn Falwell, Gorham author of *Word Wizard*, *Butterflies for Kiri*, *David's Drawings*, and *Turtle Splash! Countdown at the Pond* (to name a few)

February 2, Alisa Libby, Massachusetts author of the young adult novel *The Blood Confession* (this is her first published novel)

Additionally, on Wednesday, December 6, from 3:30 – 4:30, in Rines Auditorium, 5 Monument Square, Portland, the Youth Services Department will host a **Holiday Tea** to help people with gift ideas for kids. The Youth Services Staff and Donna Gerardo, children's book buyer from Books Etc, will be on hand to help people find the right book for the young ones on their gift list (through middle school). Books will be available for purchase from Books Etc, and refreshments will be served.

For more information about the Portland Public Library's Youth Services, visit portlandlibrary.com or call 207-871-1700 ext. 707.

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