

# News from the Library

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## Message from the Librarian

Hello all. Second semester in the Library has been full of activity. Students have been working on their Science Fair projects and their Senior Projects. The Library clubs have been holding meetings regularly. During our last DEAR cycle, many students perused our fiction shelves for something good to read.

VHS students continue to work on their online classes. Five students began new semester-long classes, while the other five girls continued on with their full-year AP courses. The students are taking AP Physics, AP Calculus, AP Art History, AP English Language and Composition, AP European History, Criminology, Forensics, Career Awareness and Creating Art History. Please encourage your junior and senior students to consider choosing VHS as an elective for next year.

In January, I attended the American Library Association Mid-winter meeting in Boston. The event was held from January 15 to January 18 at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center. I attended two of the days. I toured the exhibition hall and collected some interesting literature from a variety of vendors. I will create a list of some of the most interesting products on exhibition at the conference. I saw a number of authors speak including Lois Lowry, Adriana Trigiani and M.T. Anderson. I heard first-hand the announcement of this year's winners of ALA's various Youth Media Awards including the Caldecott Medal (The Lion and the Mouse, illustrated and written by Jerry Pinkney), the Newbury Medal (When You Reach Me by Rebecca Stead) and the Michael L. Printz Award (Going Bovine by Libba Bray) among others. To top off my Mid-Winter experience I attended a gala author tea. All in all, I thoroughly enjoyed the conference and appreciated the fact that this year it was held right here in Boston, so I could be there.

*Linda L. Walkins*, MSJA Librarian

## Book Club Update

Our first meeting of second semester was a Free Choice meeting. We each brought one or two books to recommend to the group. We discussed the following titles: The Mermaid Chair by Sue Monk Kidd, Peony by Pearl Buck, Firefly Summer by Maeve Binchy, The Da Vinci Code by Dan Brown, Don't Sweat the Small Stuff by Richard Carlson, Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close by Jonathan Safran Foer, Host by Stephanie Meyer, The Other Queen by Philippa Gregory and Viola in Reel Life by Adriana Trigiani.

Our February Book Club selection is Dear John by Nicholas Sparks. On February 24, several members of the club went to the Fenway Regal cinema to see the film version of the novel. We will meet again in the Library on March 3 to talk about both the book and the movie.

For our meeting at the end of March, the club will read Deception Point by Dan Brown. If you like to read, talk and laugh, please join our club. All are welcome!

## New Acquisitions

Please make the journey up to the Library to peruse some of our new materials, including:

Self-Defense for Women

The Yoga Handbook

Exploring Life, Myth and Art of India

How a Recession Works

Taking Action Against Bullying

America in the 1950s

America in the 1940s

America in the 1920s

Buddhism

Judaism

Hinduism

This year I am concentrating on the sports and recreation, music and American History areas of the collection. However, if you would like to request any materials in your discipline for the Library collection, please let me know and I will be happy to look into obtaining the requested items.

## Web Site Review for January/February

Glogster (<http://edu.glogster.com>)

Glogster offers a user friendly program to create online interactive posters and features a site specifically for teachers and their students. The educational version, called Glogster EDU, includes links to instructive tutorials on how the online tool works. Introducing your students to Glogster is a fun and easy way to incorporate technology into your teaching. Students will be able to create imaginative and educational online posters across the curriculum by using this innovative online resource. They can include text, images, Web links, video, and audio clips in their glogs. The glogs can be printed or viewed online. I tried it out last night and created the glog pictured to the right about Jane Austen. Although users must register and create an account, the program is free of charge.



## Book Review for January/February

[Viola in Reel Life](#) by Adriana Trigiani

Viola an aspiring teen filmmaker is shipped off to boarding school. Her parents have accepted an assignment to make a documentary in Afghanistan and cannot take her along. Viola's mother attended the prestigious all girls school in Indiana when she was a teen. Even though Viola misses her old life in Brooklyn, she soon settles in at her new school. Her roommates become the sisters she never had, she meets an intriguing boy who shares her interest in film and she takes on the challenge of making her first full-length film, focusing on the story of a doomed silent screen star who haunts the school grounds. Adriana Trigiani's first teen novel is a fast-paced read and Viola is a lively and engaging character. I can't wait for the sequel.



*Read, Imagine, Discover and Learn @ the Library!!*