



The BIG Read

Citywide Calendar of Events ■ Bridgeport & Shelton, Connecticut

ALL EVENTS TAKE PLACE IN BRIDGEPORT & SHELTON, CT AND ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

Draw a Dragon

April 1, 2008 | 9 a.m.
April 7 – 19, 2008 | 9 a.m.
Plumb Memorial Library & Huntington Branch
Shelton, CT 06484
Color a dragon picture (up to grade 2) or create your own (grade 3+). Submissions collected and displayed (refer to *Dragons on Display*). Coloring sheets available at both Shelton libraries: April 1-19. Drop off at either library.

Celebrate with Da Chen

April 5, 2008 | 2 p.m.
Barnum Museum
820 Main St., Bridgeport, CT 06604
203-331-1104 | barnum-museum.org
New York Times best-selling author opens this year's BIG Read. Da Chen grew up in the deep south of China, running barefoot in muddy fields and riding backs of water buffalo. As the grandson of a disgraced landowner, he was a victim of communist political persecution and threatened with imprisonment. Family love helped him survive a dysfunctional society. Hear Chen's story as he arrived in America at 23 with \$30, a bamboo flute, and hope.

Journey: Tales My Mother Told Me

April 5 – June 8, 2008
Daily Museum Hours
Barnum Museum
820 Main St., Bridgeport, CT 06604
203-331-1104 | barnum-museum.org
Exhibition reflecting themes of "The Joy Luck Club". Explore the American immigrant experience, diversity, preservation of heritage, and changing roles of women.

BIG Read Discovery Museum Admission Special

April 5 – April 30, 2008
Discovery Museum
4450 Park Ave., Bridgeport, CT 06604
203-372-3521 | discoverymuseum.org
•**Bring the Book:** Show your copy of Amy Tan's "The Joy Luck Club" upon entry to receive one free admission.
•**Show What You Know:** Correctly answer a "Joy Luck Club" question and receive a 20% discount on general admission for your entire group. Admission specials cannot be combined and must be presented upon arrival.

Joy Luck Club Book Celebration Day

April 7, 2008 | 9 a.m.–5 p.m.
St. Vincent's Hospital
2800 Main St., Bridgeport, CT
stvincents.org
Celebrate the opening of The BIG Read.

Book Discussion: Brothers by author Da Chen

April 7, 2008 | 7 p.m.
Plumb Memorial Library
Shelton, CT 06484
Librarian Karen Jensen leads the First Monday Book Club. Refreshments served.

Memoir Writing with Margaret DeMarino

April 5, 2008 | 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
April 12, 2008 | 10 a.m.
Plumb Memorial Library
Shelton, CT 06484
Explore the writer within, create personal memoirs, or craft life experiences into fiction. Co-sponsored by the Shelton Historical Society.

Film Series: Pizza and a Movie

April 10, 2008 | 6 p.m.
Huntington Branch Library
Shelton, CT 06484
Watch the breakthrough action-film "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon", setting the standard for all kung fu movies. Enjoy the food and fun!

Memoir Writing

April 12, 2008 | 2 p.m.
May 10, 2008 | 2 p.m.
Bridgeport Public Library
925 Broad St., Bridgeport, CT 06604
Participants share and write about their personal memories focusing on their family's immigration experience.

Film: Mulan (G, animated, 1998)

April 12, 2008 | 1 p.m.
Bridgeport Public Library – North Branch
3455 Madison Ave., Bridgeport, CT 06606
When Mulan's aging father is drafted into the Imperial army, she disguises herself as a soldier in his place.

Film: Great Wall (NR, comedy)

April 12, 2008 | 1 p.m.
Bridgeport Public Library
925 Broad St., Bridgeport, CT 06604
A warm comedy about the clash of cultures that result when a Chinese-American family returns to its homeland for a vacation.

Ways of Seeing

April 13, 2008
Grades K-2, 1 p.m., Grades 3-5, 3 p.m.
Barnum Museum
820 Main St., Bridgeport, CT 06604
203-331-1104 | barnum-museum.org
Children will be guided through the exhibition *Journey: Tales My Mother Told Me* and create their own work of art. RSVP.

"Ancient Chinese Science: A showcase of inventions and ideas from early China"

Science Demonstration
April 14 – 18, 2008 | 12 and 2:30 p.m.
Discovery Museum
4450 Park Ave., Bridgeport, CT 06604
203-372-3521 | discoverymuseum.org
Demonstrations of technology and ideas behind ancient China's greatest inventions. A bang-up finale outdoors celebrating early Chinese innovations in rocketry and flight. Program included with Discovery Museum admission.

Make a Kite

April 14 – April 17, 2008
Plumb Memorial Library and Huntington Branch
Shelton, CT 06484
Decorate a kite (for all ages), or create your own for the kite fly on Saturday. Kits, markers, and crayons provided. Plumb Memorial Library: 4/14 (9-1 p.m.), 4/15 (1-3 p.m.), 4/16 (9-1 p.m.), 4/17 (1-4 p.m.). Huntington Branch Library: 4/17 (1-3 p.m.).

Make-A-Kite: Hands-on Family Workshops

April 14 – 18, 2008 | 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Discovery Museum
4450 Park Ave., Bridgeport, CT 06604
203-372-3521 | discoverymuseum.org
Learn about the science and history of kite making. Create your own design. Program included with Discovery Museum admission.

Klein Porcelain Collection Tour

April 15, 2008 | 12:30 p.m.
April 17, 2008 | 7 p.m.
April 19, 2008 | 1 p.m.
Bridgeport Public Library
925 Broad St., Bridgeport, CT 06604
The history of Chinese porcelain is a rich tapestry of societal and cultural influences spanning centuries.

Film: The Good Earth (NR, drama, 1937)

April 15, 2008 | 6:30 p.m.
Bridgeport Public Library – North Branch
3455 Madison Ave., Bridgeport, CT 06606
A simple peasant farmer grows rich with the help of his unfaithful wife. Tragedy follows...

Chinese Story Time

April 16, 2008 | 1 p.m.
Huntington Branch Library
Shelton, CT 06484
For kids in Kindergarten/First Grade and up.

Simple Chinese Paper Cutting

Wednesday, April 16, 2008 | 3 p.m.
Bridgeport Public Library – Newfield Branch
1230 Stratford Ave., Bridgeport, CT 06607
This intricate and unique art form has existed for thousands of years, rewarding patience and care with beauty and symmetry.

Craft for Children: Paper Dragon Puppet

April 17, 2008 | 2-4 p.m.
Bridgeport Public Library – North Branch
3455 Madison Ave., Bridgeport, CT 06606
All the materials will be on hand to create your own unique symbol of ancient power.

Story Time: Min-yo and the Moon Dragon

April 18, 2008 | 11 a.m.
Barnum Museum
820 Main St., Bridgeport, CT 06604
203-331-1104 | barnum-museum.org
A tale about Chinese dragons by author Elizabeth Hillman, illustrated by John Wallner. Reading followed by craft project. RSVP.

Kite Fly at Jones Family Farm

April 19, 2008 | 10:30 a.m.
Jones Family Farm, 606 Walnut Tree Hill Rd.
Shelton, CT 06484
10:30–11:30 a.m.: decorate your kite.
11:30–12 p.m.: Lunch break (picnic area)
12–1 p.m.: kite fly
Rain date: Sunday, April 20th.

Film: Joy Luck Club (R, drama)

April 19, 2008 | 1 p.m.
Bridgeport Public Library
925 Broad St., Bridgeport, CT 06604
The life histories of four Asian women and their daughters who reflect and guide each other.

Kite Flying at Bridgeport's Seaside Park

April 19, 2008
10:30 a.m. Kite Making
12 – 1 p.m. Kite Flying
Seaside Park
Bridgeport, CT 06604
Decorate a kite for the Big Kite Fly! Kits, markers and crayons are provided. You design it!

Dragons on Display

April 21–May 2, 2008 | 9:00 a.m. Daily
Shelton Community Center, Plumb Memorial Library, Shelton City Hall
Shelton, CT 06484
Pictures and creations submitted from Draw a Dragon displayed. View our talent.

Film: China Revealed (NR, Documentary)

April 22, 2008 | 6:30 p.m.
Bridgeport Public Library – North Branch
3455 Madison Ave., Bridgeport, CT 06606
The story of the most complex country on Earth, and the dreams and challenges driving its people to look forward, while cherishing the past.

Joy Luck Club Featured Menu at Bloodroot

April 22 – 26, 2008 | Daily hours
May 13 – 17, 2008 | Daily hours
Bloodroot Restaurant
85 Ferris St., Bridgeport, CT
203-576-9168

Book Discussion: "The Joy Luck Club"

April 23, 2008 | 7 p.m.
Shelton High School Media Center
120 Meadow St., Shelton, CT 06484
Inter-generational book talk open to the public.

Film Series: Pizza and a Movie

April 24, 2008 | 6 p.m.
Huntington Branch Library
Shelton, CT 06484
"Shower". The different lifestyles of two sons and their father intersect in an old-fashioned bathroom in Beijing as life takes over.

Film: Joy Luck Club (R, drama, 1993)

April 26, 2008 | 2 p.m.
Bridgeport Public Library – Newfield Branch
1230 Stratford Ave., Bridgeport, CT 06607
Follow the story of four lifelong friends, whose lives are filled with joy and heartbreak.

Film: Red Doors (R, drama)

April 26, 2008 | 1 p.m.
Bridgeport Public Library
925 Broad St., Bridgeport, CT 06604
The Wongs struggle to cope with life, love, and family dysfunction in New York.

"The Emperor and the Nightingale"

April 26, 2008 | 11 a.m. & 2 p.m.
May 3, 2008 | 11 a.m. & 2 p.m.
Center Stage
100 Center St., Shelton, CT 06484
203-924-2622
Musical based on "The Nightingale" by Hans Christian Anderson. Music and lyrics by Brett Boles. Emperor of China learns valuable lessons about life, freedom and natural beauty. Fun for the whole family. Tickets \$10 each. RSVP.

Feng Shui, Art and Design with Catherine Brophy

April 27, 2008 | 1 p.m.
Barnum Museum
820 Main St., Bridgeport, CT 06604
203-331-1104 | barnum-museum.org
Examine how the classical concepts of Feng Shui can be used in modern times.

"Online Genealogy: Using the internet to connect with family and trace ancestors"

April 27, 2008 | 4 p.m.
Discovery Museum
4450 Park Ave., Bridgeport, CT 06604
203-372-3521 | discoverymuseum.org
Get started on a fascinating journey into your family history from your home computer.

Celebration of Nation; P.T. Barnum and the American Museum

April 28, 2008 | 6:30 p.m.
Barnum Museum
820 Main St., Bridgeport, CT 06604
203-331-1104 | barnum-museum.org
Celebrating exotic cultures and international traditions, 19th Century Americans were introduced to the diversity and beauty the world had to offer.

Favorite Poem Project

April 29, 2008 | 7 p.m.
Center Stage
100 Center St., Shelton, CT 06484
Shelton hosts Plumb Memorial Library's fourth annual community poetry event. Local residents read poems with special meaning for them and their lives.

Taste of The BIG Read at Two Boots!

April 29, 2008 | 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.
May 13, 2008 | 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Two Boots
Bridgeport, CT
203-331-1377 | twoboots.com
Dramatic and engaging readings, poems and narratives complimenting the themes of "The Joy Luck Club", while tasting a variety of tempting Two Boots specialties.

Art Exhibit Inspired by "The Joy Luck Club"

May 1 – 17, 2008 | 5:30-7:30 p.m.
City Lights Gallery
37 Markle Ct, (downtown Bpt. off State St.)
203-334-7748 | citylightsgallery.org
Bridgeport Public High Schools students present their artistic interpretations of the themes in Amy Tan's "The Joy Luck Club".

Read-A-Thon

May 2, 2008 | 12 p.m.-6 p.m.
May 3, 2008 | 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Huntington Branch Library
Shelton, CT 06484
Volunteers of all ages are invited to read excerpts/poems related to "The Joy Luck Club".

24 Hour Read-a-thon!

May 2 – 3, 2008 | 12 p.m.-12 p.m.
Barnum Museum
820 Main St., Bridgeport, CT 06604
203-331-1104 | barnum-museum.org
Beginning at noon on Friday, May 2nd, over 100 volunteers will read an assortment of book excerpts, poems and narratives complimenting "The Joy Luck Club".

Meet the Animals of China

May 3 | 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Beardsley Zoo
1875 Noble Ave., Bridgeport, CT
203-394-6565 | beardsleyzoo.org
Free admission to children who show a "BIG Read" bookmark or a copy of "The Joy Luck Club", accompanied by a paying adult. In tribute to the book's Asian theme and Asian Calendar's Year of the Rat, the Zoo will hand out scavenger hunt maps so visitors can look for the Zoo's rodent-related animals on exhibit.

Craft for Children: Paper Dragon Puppet

May 3, 2008 | 12-2 p.m.
Bridgeport Public Library
925 Broad St., Bridgeport, CT 06604
All the materials will be on hand to create your own unique symbol of ancient power.

Film: Wedding Banquet (R, comedy, 1993)

May 3, 2008 | 1 p.m.
Bridgeport Public Library
925 Broad St., Bridgeport, CT 06604
To satisfy his nagging parents, a gay landlord and a female tenant agree to a marriage of convenience, but hilarity ensues when his parents arrive.

Baseball in Bridgeport: Immigrant Experiences

May 5 | 5:30 p.m.
Barnum Museum
820 Main St., Bridgeport, CT 06604
203-331-1104 | barnum-museum.org
Baseball historian/author, Mike Roer will discuss the history of the immigrant influence on Bridgeport baseball during the 19th century.

Story Time

May 5, 2008 | 6 p.m.
May 7, 2008 | 10:30 a.m.
Bridgeport Public Library – Old Mill Green
1677-81 East Main St., Bridgeport, CT 06608
Enjoy the folktales/legends/culture of China.

Book Discussion with Rose Quiello

May 5, 2008 | 7 p.m.
Plumb Memorial Library
Shelton, CT 06484
Book Club and Reader's Circle of the Shelton Historical Society discuss "The Joy Luck Club".

Drop-in Children's Craft

May 7, 2008 | 3:30 p.m.
Bridgeport Public Library – Old Mill Green
1677-81 East Main St., Bridgeport, CT 06608
Materials will be on hand to create your own unique symbol of ancient power.

Textiles in Connecticut with Beverly York

May 7 | 6:30 p.m.
Barnum Museum
820 Main St., Bridgeport, CT 06604
203-331-1104 | barnum-museum.org
Discuss the impact of the female immigrant textile industry in 19th century Connecticut.

Shadows Around the World: Puppet Performance with Jim Napolitano

May 10, 2008 | 2 p.m.
Barnum Museum
820 Main St., Bridgeport, CT 06604
203-331-1104 | barnum-museum.org
Tales from around the world through shadow puppetry.

Little Read: Half and Half, by Lensey Namioka

May 10, 2008 | 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Bridgeport Public Library – North Branch
3455 Madison Ave., Bridgeport, CT 06606
Discussion for parents and children grades 4-6.

Film: Dim Sum (PG, comedy)

May 10, 2008 | 1 p.m.
Bridgeport Public Library
925 Broad St., Bridgeport, CT 06604
A Chinese immigrant widow faces the New Year with apprehension after it was foretold it would be the year she would die.

Mothers and Daughters Tea

May 10, 2008 | 2 p.m.
Stockbridge's Gourmet Cheesecakes
509 Howe Ave., Shelton, CT 06484
203-924-7853
Explore mother-daughter relationships in Amy Tan's "The Joy Luck Club" while relaxing and enjoying tea and culinary treats. Seating is limited. RSVP. 12 and older.

Book Discussion with Warm Tea

May 12, 2008 | 6:30 p.m.
City Lights Gallery
37 Markle Ct, (downtown Bpt. off State St.)
203-334-7748 | citylightsgallery.org
Enjoy discussions, soothing music and warm tea. The discussion will highlight the issues of "The Joy Luck Club" and welcome participants to share common experiences.

Film: Romeo Must Die (R, action)

May 17, 2008 | 1 p.m.
Bridgeport Public Library
925 Broad St., Bridgeport, CT 06604
In this modern day Romeo and Juliet, an avenging cop seeks out his brother's killer and falls for the daughter of a businessman who is involved in a money-deal with his father.

Feng Shui with Ned Ferrell

May 12, 2008 | 7 p.m.
Plumb Memorial Library
Shelton, CT 06484
Learn how to bring harmony and good fortune through your life and home.

Film Series: Pizza and a Movie

May 15, 2008 | 6 p.m.
Huntington Branch Library
Shelton, CT 06484
The film version of "The Joy Luck Club".

"Tiger Tales"

May 17, 2008 | 6 p.m.
Shelton High School
120 Meadow St., Shelton, CT 06484
Closing celebration for The BIG Read. We are delighted to bring The Chinese Theatre Works of Manhattan to Shelton. Their performance will feature Chinese puppetry, Lion Dancers, music, and crafts representing the Chinese culture. Ten Thousand Villages of New Haven will bring handcrafted articles to sell.