

The Open Door Newsletter

Published by

The Open Door

Bookstore and Gift Gallery

128 Jay Street

Schenectady, N. Y. 12305

Holiday 2021

Volume 29, Number 4

Editor: Lynn Blankman



Season's greetings to all

Books continue to make the best gifts in this strange time of pandemic, and we have plenty of ideas to find that perfect title. Start with these:

* ***The Lyrics: 1956 to the Present*** celebrates the creative life and musical genius of Paul McCartney through 154 of his most meaningful songs, in two absolutely gorgeous slipcased volumes. A masterpiece inside and out, this is a treasure trove and an essential addition to any fan's library. \$100

* In the newest novel in Diana Gabaldon's epic *Outlander* series, ***Go Tell the Bees That I Am Gone***, the Fraser family is reunited during the Revolutionary War – but it's the most dangerous time to be alive. With the war coming to their doorstep, everything is at risk. \$36

* A book-length expansion of *The New York Times Magazine's* groundbreaking work of journalism by the same name, ***The 1619 Project***, created by Nikole Hannah-Jones, weaves together essays that explore the legacy of slavery in a profoundly revealing vision of the American past and present. \$35

* In ***Best Wishes, Warmest Regards: The Story of Schitt's Creek***, Dan and Eugene Levy, the father-son creators of the beloved phenomenon, take readers behind the scenes in a photo-packed volume that includes character profiles, cast interviews, and (wait for it) complete, illustrated catalogs of David's knits and Moira's wigs. OMG! A big, keepsake celebration that's a must for fans. \$40

* Best-selling novelist Ann Patchett (*Bel Canto*, *The Dutch House*, *Commonwealth*) switches genres with ***These Precious Days***, an eloquent collection of essays in which she invites us into her world, sharing her life with candor, emotion, and knock-out storytelling power. \$26.99

* Written with his signature wry humor, ***Taste: My Life Through Food*** is award-winning actor and food obsessive Stanley Tucci's intimate and charming memoir of life in and out of the kitchen. Bon appetit! \$28

* Master storyteller Ken Follett returns with ***Never***, a powerful international thriller in which he weaves together multiple plotlines as the stakes and the suspense steadily rise. By the final pages, all is made clear, and the shocked reader realizes that the story hasn't ended – it's just beginning. \$36

* An epic achievement, Sannah Kelefa's ***Major Labels*** surveys the past fifty years of popular music through the dominant genres that shaped it: rock, R&B, country, punk, hip-hop, dance music, and pop. An education, and a huge delight for music lovers. \$28

* Susan Orlean brings her trademark blend of meticulous research and scintillating writing to the delightful ***On Animals***, a smart, wide-ranging selection of pieces that build into a meditation on how the connections we make or fail to make with animals mark us profoundly. \$27

* Pulitzer Prize-winner Louise Erdrich's ***The Sentence*** gives us a sprawling novel about a motley group of Native American booksellers haunted by the spirit of a customer, while also offering profound insights into the effects of the pandemic and the damage of systemic racism. \$28.99

* Based on the wildly popular Instagram account, ***Subpar Parks*** by Amber Share features its greatest hits, a celebration of America's national parks juxtaposed with the clueless and hilarious one-star reviews posted by visitors. Comedy gold! \$22

The Open Door

A locally-owned
independent
bookseller
since 1971

Open 7 days a week at 10 am
Call or check our website
for closing times

Phone orders welcome
Curbside pickup available
Private appointments possible

518/346-2719 (local)
1-800/468-2598 (outside
local calling area)
FAX 518/346-0765
www.opendoor-bookstore.com

Lily Bartels
Book buyer

Great books for children

* **Red and Green and Blue and White**, Lee Wind, Paul Zelinsky. Isaac, who's Jewish, and Teresa, who's Christian, have been looking forward to the holiday season for months – drawing, writing poems, baking – and enjoying what they share and what makes them different. But when someone breaks Isaac's window, it seems not everyone appreciates differences. A quiet, uplifting tale, based on a true story of a community confronting bigotry. 4-7 \$17.99

* **Jan Brett's The Nutcracker**, Jan Brett. The beloved artist makes the classic story her own by setting it in snowy Russia and adding whimsical touches to the favorite elements of the traditional ballet. What better combination could there be but Jan Brett's inimitable illustrations and the well-loved story? **Limited supply available!** 4-8 \$18.99

* **Klezmer**, Kyra Teis. When Eastern European Jewish immigrants bring their klezmer music with them to America, it takes on a rockin' new vibe, which a little girl discovers when she visits her grandparents in New York City and finds a klezmer jam session. The tale is told in joyful bursts of expressive verse set in large bold type amid collages of old photos, lines of music notation, and bright exuberant illustrations. **Don't miss her book signing Dec. 5!** 4-8 \$7.99

* **The Christmas Owl: Based on the True Story of the Little Owl Named Rockefeller**, Gideon Sterer, Ellen Kalish, Ramona Kaulitzki. When Little Owl's home is cut down by people saying it will make a beautiful Christmas tree, she's not sure she wants anything to do with *Christmas*, whatever that means. But then she is rescued by a woman named Ellen... Co-written by Ellen Kalish, caretaker of the real owl found inside the Rockefeller Center Christmas tree. 4-8 \$17.99

* **Joy to the World: Christmas around the Globe**, Kate dePalma, Sophie Fatus.

Explore Christmas traditions from 13 different countries! Rhyming text and detailed illustrations make the book accessible to younger readers, while educational endnotes add interest for older kids. Italy, Egypt, and India are among the countries included. 4-10 \$17.99

* **The Legend of the Christmas Witch**, Dan Murphy, Aubrey Plaza, Julia Iredale. From "Parks and Recreation" TV star Aubrey Plaza and her creative partner Dan Murphy comes the long-lost tale of Santa's mysterious twin sister, the Christmas Witch. A story of bravery, love, and magic. 5-8 \$18.99

* **Every Day Amazing: Fantastic Facts for Every Day of the Year**, Mike Barfield, Marianna Madriz. Something amazing really does happen every day of the year. This incredible compendium gives you fun and fantastic facts for every date on the calendar. Look up your birthday and see what happened on "your" day! 7-11 \$19.99

Kathleen Kemp
Children's book buyer

Dear friends,

We want to give a special thanks to everyone who came to our 50th anniversary celebration. It was a pleasure to share memories with so many longtime customers. We hope you enjoyed the look back at early years represented in the window display!

This holiday, supply chain issues, shortages, and delayed shipments are already presenting problems even more than last year.

Please shop early to avoid disappointment. Check out the many ways to shop on the opposite page.

Now more than ever, it is important to #shoplocal. Where we spend our dollars this year will determine what our community will look like in the future.

We look forward to the many happy reunions we often see in our aisles during the holiday season!

Janet Hutchison
Owner



'Tis the season for toys

Toys, toys, toys! The toy area is brimming with new and unique toys for all ages.

* Many **mini brain puzzles** and **fidgit toys** from Streamline and Love & Repeat, including the **internet-famous infinity cubes** and **bubble pop toys** in a variety of shapes and colors!

* **Superior plush!** Jellycat offers tons of characters from fairies and unicorns to land and ocean creatures – even your favorite houseplant. Many can be paired with a children's book for the perfect gift!

* Great quality and **super sustainable wooden toys** for early years from Begin

Again. Colorful puzzles, 3D play blocks, and building tinker toys themed as rockets and robots will help develop motor skills as well as inspire creativity and storytelling.

* **Retro toys** with Lava Lamps, Lite Brites, ViewMasters, and more! Schylling provides a nostalgic feel this holiday.

* **Bright new puzzles** inspired by Leo Leonni's children's books – in several sizes.

* **Little musical jewelry boxes** from Pinky Poppy with dancing characters and compartments to hold treasures!

Lynnea Imbesi
Toy buyer



Calendar

Sunday, Nov. 14, 11:30 am-1 pm: Shannon Hayes will sign *Redefining Rich: Achieving True Wealth with Small Business, Side Hustles, and Small Living*.

Saturday, Nov. 20, 1-2:30 pm: Don Ackerman will sign *Who Runs This Town: A Political History of Schenectady and Its Governments*.

Saturday, Dec. 4, 1-2:30 pm: Paul O'Brien will sign *Onward*.

Sunday, Dec. 5, 12-1:30 pm: Kyra Teis will sign *Klezmer*.

Holiday shopping - 2021 style

This most unusual time continues! We are here to assist your shopping in a variety of ways. Our carefully curated selections of books, home and personal accessories, toys, cards, jewelry, and more offer a gift for everyone on your list.

Ways to shop

* **In store:** We open **daily at 10 am** but suggest you **check our website or call the store for closing hours**. The store tends to be less crowded mornings and weekdays.

* **By appointment:** We are happy to offer appointments before or after regular hours.

* **Email:** Email us at shopping@opendoor-bookstore.com. Please include your phone number. Orders can then be picked up in the store or curbside.

* **Website:** Order books on our website, opendoor-bookstore.com, for in-store or curbside pick-up or to be shipped.

* **Personal Shopper Service:** Call or email us and we will walk through options and help you shop remotely.

Call us: With questions, requests, assistance at **518-346-2719** or **518-346-0765**.

Shipping: We are happy to ship books and unbreakable items within the United States with US Priority Mail or FedEx.

However you choose to shop, our staff is here and ready to lend a hand in choosing the perfect gift.

Shop local and support your community!

Lending a hand

Please join us in helping others in our community during the holiday season. Buy a children's paperback book (at 20% off) for **The Giving Tree** project by Dec. 15, and we'll deliver it to Northeast Parent and Child Society.



The Open Door

A locally-owned
independent bookseller since 1971

128 Jay Street
Schenectady, N.Y. 12305
518/346-2719 (local)
1-800/468-2598 (outside local calling area)
FAX 518/346-0765

Open 7 days a week at 10 am
Call or check our website for closing times

Phone orders welcome
Curbside pickup available
Private appointments possible

www.opendoor-bookstore.com

Phone orders welcome.
We will wrap and ship your books anywhere!

 Printed on recycled paper.



PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #664
ALBANY, N.Y.

**Please bring in
this coupon to
receive 20% off
any hardcover
book.**

**The Open Door
128 Jay Street
Schenectady,
N.Y.**

Expires Dec. 10, 2021
**Special orders
and sale books
excluded**

Gifts with a conscience

The holidays are a time for sharing. We carry a diverse selection of **Fair Trade** items. In addition, many of the companies whose merchandise we offer support worthwhile causes. Here are a few:

Conservation efforts _____	Positively Green greeting cards
Bee Cause Project _____	Savannah Bee Company
Doctors Without Borders and wildlife preservation _____	Blue Q
Environmental protection and domestic violence services _____	Solemate Socks
Giving World Foundation _____	Danica Now Designs
Harambee Centre _____	Swahili Imports items
Hunger _____	Seattle Chocolate
Nature conservation _____	Wild Republic
Ocean conservancy _____	Rockflowerpaper Blu Bags
Organizations that break the cycle of human trafficking _____	Greenleaf Candles
Organizations that support women _____	Scout Curated Wears
UNICEF _____	S'Well
Various ecological and humanitarian organizations _____	Conscious Step Socks