



OFF THE PAGE

LITERARY CELEBRATION NOV. 1-18

Two plus weeks of author talks, book signings, writing workshops and more, with every library location participating.



**ATTENDING AN EVENT? POST A SELFIE WITH
#OFFTHEPAGEFL AND BE ENTERED TO WIN A PRIZE!**


Sarasota County

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AT THE **LIBRARY**

For more information, visit OffThePageFL.org, call 311 or 941-861-1110.

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT:

Oliver Dominguez

Oliver Dominguez, a talented local artist, illustrated artwork for this year's "Off the Page" event. The artwork beautifully captures the love story between reading a book in the Florida sunshine and John Ringling's stained-glass window from Ca' d'Zan, adding to its charm. This piece was traditionally painted with gouache and ink on paper.



Love for illustration began at a young age for Oliver, earning him the nickname "the artist boy" for his constant companionship with his trusty portfolio. He dedicated his life to perfecting his craft and attended The Illustration Academy twice while studying at Ringling College of Art and Design. Today, he is a highly respected children's book artist, freelance illustrator and professor at Ringling College. Oliver's passion for history has inspired him to create many wonderful children's books, including "Ellen Takes Flight: The Life of Astronaut Ellen Ochoa," "Electrical Wizard: How Nikola Tesla Lit the World," "Miracle Mud: Lena Blackburne and The Secret Mud that Changed Baseball," and "Nacho's Nachos," among others.

Oliver lives in Fort Myers with his family and their adorable dogs, Cooper and Ryder. Besides being an amazing artist, Oliver is an avid reader, movie buff and creator of unique hats. His unmatched creativity and craft dedication make him a unique artist and educator.



Join the conversation with **#OffThePageFL**

EVENT SCHEDULE



NOV. 1

NaNoWriMo Kick-Off with Ryan G. Van Cleave | 11 a.m.

BETTY J. JOHNSON NORTH SARASOTA LIBRARY

The NaNoWriMo (National Novel Writing Month) kick-off with Ringling College's Creative Writing Coordinator Ryan G. Van Cleave offers activities and exercises to strengthen your writing skills. All are welcome. Bring a laptop or pen and paper!

NOV. 3

"The Cactus League in Grapefruit Country: Baseball Fiction" with Emily Nemens | 6 p.m.

THE BEACH AT THE HERMITAGE ARTIST RETREAT, 6630 MANASOTA KEY ROAD, ENGLEWOOD



THE HERMITAGE
artist retreat

Join Emily Nemens, who's known for editing literary quarterlies, including The Paris Review and The Southern Review, as she reads from and discusses her debut novel, "The Cactus League in Grapefruit Country: Baseball Fiction."

NOV. 4

Carnivorous Plants Program with Kenny Coogan | 10 a.m.

FRANCES T. BOURNE JACARANDA LIBRARY

This all-ages program, with Kenny Coogan a carnivorous plants expert, features a discussion of the 32 species of carnivorous plants you can find in Florida and how to grow them, with a plant sale to follow.



Author Talk with Sarah MacLean | 1 p.m.

SELBY LIBRARY

New York Times, Washington Post and USA Today bestseller Sarah MacLean, "the elegantly fuming, utterly intoxicating queen of historical romance," will discuss her writing and hold a book signing.

Poetry as Activism with Laura Shoemaker | 3:30 p.m.

BETTY J. JOHNSON NORTH SARASOTA LIBRARY

Poet Laura Shoemaker will teach you how to create poetry as a form of activism. Laura teaches at the University of South Florida and has previously taught at Ringling College of Art and Design, State College of Florida and the University of Washington.

NOV. 6



Author Talk with Dr. George Eisen | 10:30 a.m.

ELSIE QUIRK LIBRARY

Local author Dr. George Eisen will discuss his latest book and the chain of events that lead to the writing of this hitherto untold chapter of the Holocaust. Seating is limited. First come, first seated.

“Writing from the Bones: A Songwriting Workshop” with Kirya Traber | 3 p.m.

ELSIE QUIRK LIBRARY

Music and song are some of the most powerful and evocative tools for communicating stories. Join award-winning writer and librettist Kirya Traber as she shares her process for song writing.



THE HERMITAGE
artist retreat

Teen Writing Workshop – How to Terrify: Introduction to Writing Horror | 4 p.m.

NORTH PORT LIBRARY Teen Writing Workshop Series

Unleash your imagination as you explore how to craft suspenseful plots, develop chilling atmospheres and create memorable characters that will haunt readers' nightmares!



Ringling College
of Art + Design

“Doing Crime the Florida Man Way” with Tamara Lush and Craig Pittman | 6 p.m.

GULF GATE LIBRARY

Two Florida writers discuss how Florida and its history of kooky crimes have affected both crime-writing and the state's reputation.

NOV. 7

Teen Writing Workshop – Fantasy Worldbuilding for Writers | 3 p.m.

BETTY J. JOHNSON NORTH SARASOTA LIBRARY Teen Writing Workshop Series

In this workshop, we'll show you how to unlock the secrets of creating captivating realms filled with magic, mythical creatures and epic quests. Together, we'll transport readers to enchanting worlds beyond their imagination.



Ringling College
of Art + Design



Author Talk with Neil Gaiman | 7 p.m.

VENICE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER,

1 INDIAN AVE., VENICE | FIRST COME, FIRST SEATED.

Join New York Times bestselling author Neil Gaiman, creator of “The Sandman” comic series, now on Netflix, “Stardust,” “American Gods,” “Coraline” and more.

Pre-signed book sale. No registration required.

NOV. 8

“Miguel’s Bay: The Pioneer Tale of Miguel and Frederica Guerrero” with Ron Prouty and Peggy Donoho | 2 p.m.

OSPREY LIBRARY

Local historical fiction authors Ron Prouty and Peggy Donoho talk about the research behind their story, which is one of enduring love in the face of overwhelming difficulties, with a book signing to follow.

“So You Want to Write Kid Lit?” with Ryan G. Van Cleave, Sylvia Whitman and Dianne Ochiltree | 3:30 p.m.

FRUITVILLE LIBRARY

Award-winning children’s authors and writing teachers Dianne Ochiltree, Ryan Van Cleave and Sylvia Whitman tell you everything you need to know about writing for children.

Mystery Night with Oceanview Publishing | 6 p.m.

SELBY LIBRARY

Oceanview is an independent book publisher specializing in mystery, thrillers and suspense. Join owners Bob and Pat Gussin along with the authors Don Bruns, Susan Klaus, and Ward Larsen, for an exciting discussion about the genre!

NOV. 9

“Writing with A.I.” with Rick Dakan | 7 p.m.

SELBY LIBRARY

Sarasota County native, Rick Dakan lives, writes and teaches classes on writing for video games, tabletop games, comics, the history of game art and other fun stuff.

NO EVENTS ON VETERANS DAY, NOV. 10.

NOV. 11



Author Talk with Raina Telgemeier | 2 p.m.

SHANNON STAUB LIBRARY

Author, illustrator and middle-grade graphic novelist Raina Telgemeier discusses her popular graphic novels. Join us for this great event, with a book signing to follow.

NOV. 13

**“Dreams in the New Century: Instant Cities, Shattered Hopes and Florida’s Turning Point” with Dr. Gary Mormino
3 p.m.**

OSPREY LIBRARY

Eminent historian Dr. Gary Mormino discusses his book, which illuminates early 21st century Florida and its connections to some of the most significant events in contemporary American history.

**Teen Writing Workshop – Writing Time Travel
4 p.m.**



NORTH PORT LIBRARY Teen Writing Workshop Series

If you like writing and don't want your characters stuck in a time loop, come join us for our Teen Writers Club. Ages 12-18 welcome.



Author Talk with Sam Kean | 6 p.m.

GULF GATE LIBRARY

After years of collecting mercury from broken thermometers as a kid, Sam Kean has grown up to be a respected writer, popularizing science! Come out to hear Sam tell humorous, harrowing and macabre stories from his bestselling books.

NOV. 14

Teen Writing Workshop – Crafting Vivacious Villains | 3 p.m.



BETTY J. JOHNSON NORTH SARASOTA LIBRARY Teen Writing Workshop Series

Examine the great villains and antagonists of literature, film, animation and more. This workshop is recommended for middle school students and will include an interactive roleplay session!

Writing with Roy Peter Clark | 7 p.m.

RINGLING COLLEGE, GOLDSTEIN LIBRARY ROOM 113

2700 N. TAMiami TRAIL, SARASOTA

America's writing coach, Roy Peter Clark tells it like it is and reveals the value of clear and honest writing while sharing some of his best tips for getting readers to pay attention.



For a list of Sarasota County library locations, please see the back cover.

NOV. 16



Author Talk with Sarah Penner | 6 p.m.

WILLIAM H. JERVEY JR. VENICE LIBRARY

Join us for an author talk with bestselling novelist Sarah Penner, whose books have been translated into more than forty languages worldwide, followed by a book signing.

NOV. 18



Illustrators Panel | 2 p.m.

SELBY LIBRARY

Come be a part of this year's Off the Page Illustrators Panel with John Herzog moderating, including Katherine Blackmore, Oliver Dominguez and Jenin Mohammed.

**Off the Page NaNoWriMo Closing Celebration
with Glenn Schudel | 5 p.m.**

SELBY LIBRARY

Celebrate the closing of this year's Off the Page events with author and instructor Glenn Schudel. He'll motivate you to keep writing, reach your milestones and will offer special insights regarding the publishing process. Refreshments will be served.

Did you know?

Walter Farley, author of the Black Stallion series, was one of the founders of the Friends of the Venice Public Library. Following his death in 1989, the group designated the William H. Jervy, Jr. Venice Library as a Literary Landmark in his honor.



SCAN HERE
to learn more.



Join the conversation with **#OffThePageFL**

SPECIAL THANKS

from the Director of Libraries and Historical Resources **Renée Di Pilato**



We created Off the Page with the objective of integrating literature into Sarasota County's world-class art scene, to offer all residents the ability to create, celebrate and experience all types of renowned writing. Through our library system and partner organizations, there are immense opportunities for residents to experience enlightening, enriching, inclusive and entertaining programming. Off the Page takes place on different dates, with differing times and locations to provide all residents with ample opportunities to attend.

Thank you to our supporters, the Friends of the Venice Library, Florida Humanities, The Library Foundation of Sarasota County and our partners at Ringling College of Art and Design and The Hermitage Artist Retreat. We're thrilled to host this literary celebration, as planning this event has been a labor of love. It promises to be an exceptionally enjoyable occasion!

LIBRARY LOCATIONS

Betty J. Johnson North Sarasota Library

2801 Newtown Blvd., Sarasota, FL 34234

Elsie Quirk Library

100 W. Dearborn St., Englewood, FL 34223

Frances T. Bourne Jacaranda Library

4143 Woodmere Park Blvd., Venice, FL 34293

Fruitville Library

100 Apex Road, Sarasota, FL 34240

Gulf Gate Library

7112 Curtiss Ave., Sarasota, FL 34231

Osprey Library and History Center

337 N. Tamiami Trail, Osprey, FL 34229

North Port Library

13800 S. Tamiami Trail, North Port, FL 34287

Selby Library

1331 First St., Sarasota, FL 34236

Shannon Staub Library

4675 Career Lane, North Port, FL 34289

William H. Jervey, Jr. Venice Library

300 Nokomis Ave. S., Venice, FL 34285



For more information, visit OffThePageFL.org, call 311 or 941-861-1110.

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