**AUTHOR SERIES:** Thursday, June 16, 7-8 pm

*Jellyfish Have Eyes by Joram Piatigorsky*

In this futuristic novel, an acclaimed government scientist makes a breakthrough discovery that he believes will be a boon for modern science. Rather than receiving praise, his findings are vilified when he is ensnared in a witch-hunt for the misuse of government research funds. Will he be condemned by the political climate of the times, or will he prove the validity of his studies and the importance of creativity in basic science? The story captures the complexity of the human heart, science, and politics in research.

The book raises profound questions regarding the current and future state of scientific exploration and about the role of government in science and academic freedom. An interesting side-bar: Dr. Piatigorsky was a research scientist at NIH.

**Thursday, July 7th, 7-8 pm** Save the Date for John DeFerrari will weave a discussion on both of his recent books: *Lost in Washington* and *Capital Street Cars: Early Mass Transit in Washington DC.*

**REFRESH PROJECT UPDATE:** Through the generosity and support of the Kensington FOL members we raised $15,000 to augment our community library’s aesthetics.

**Literary Mural:** The mural on the library wall in the downstairs area is done for now (a few tweaks coming when the artists are less busy in their day jobs). The artists Katie Silky and Tina Frizzell donated many, many hours and their considerable artistry to create and install the mural. We are so very grateful for their efforts. The KP FOL purchased the painting supplies and assisted with the development of the theme. The mural is comprised of six vignettes by genre, much like you would see if you browsed through the stacks at the library, including Childrens/YA, Mystery, Adult Classics, Poetry, Fables and a shout-out to authors with ties to Maryland: Anne Tyler, *Spool of Blue Thread*; Edgar Allen Poe, *The Raven*; F. Scott Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby* (green orb); and Ta-Nehisi Paul Coates, Black Panther Marvel Comics.
**Stair Risers Installed:** The stairs to the lower level now feature stair riser art showcasing popular classics.

Also approved was a lectern for the Author Series and outdoor seating. The board meets again later this month to allocate the remaining funds.

**KP FOL Board:** The KP FOL leadership meets monthly to monitor current programs and discuss the development of new projects. This month the group will be crafting the 2016-2017 budget and finalizing the allocation of the Refresh funds. We are still hoping to identify a volunteer to work with library staff on promoting and developing teen/young adult programs. Description below. Please feel free to send this info out to friends/neighbors that might be interested.

The Kensington Park Friends of the Library Board is looking for a new Board member with ties to the teen and/or young professional communities (ages ~16-26) in the greater Kensington area. A young professional that has connections to teens would be a nice fit. Equally ideal would be a parent, mentor, or teacher of residents in this age range. This new volunteer to the Board will focus primarily on proposing, developing, and maintaining FOL programs to engage and meet the needs of the aforementioned populations with support from the Kensington Library Advisory Committee and branch librarian with time allocated for teen+ programming. Currently, there is a Teen Writing group and a Teen (throwback) Game Night so the Board volunteer would need to help promote these existing program as well as develop additional programs. Like all Board positions, this one includes attending FOL Board Meetings (monthly or less), participating in email exchanges on FOL Board business, and helping to set up and/or work at FOL events and activities (per personal availability). Board members must be dues paying members of the FOL-Kensington Park.

**LITERARY GARDEN:** Saturday, June 4th at 9:00 am. Bring your garden tools to help plant shrubs and flowers. The full plan for the garden is currently under review by the county and until that approval is received the KP FOL Garden Committee plans to incrementally establish the first garden. This group has been hard at work since the beginning of the year getting plant donations, seeking volunteer labor support and identifying grants. The first “planting party” is set for June 4th. The committee is in need of additional volunteers. Please contact Ann Johnson annhoria@gmail.com for questions or if you would like to be included on this committee.

**FOL Membership Update:** The KP FOL is the fastest growing FOL Chapter in the County – so please let's keep that title by getting a friend or neighbor to join or by renewing your membership (if you haven’t already done so). For more info/application visit: http://www.folmc.org/kensington-park-chapter/.
**DAY OF THE BOOK:** This year’s festival enjoyed record crowds and fabulous weather, which just proves that Mother Nature is a book lover!

The KP FOL sponsored special guest Michael Dirda, regaled the group on the state of the literary scene and information on his newly released book: *Browsings: A Year of Reading, Collecting, and Living with Books* as well as a preview for his book that is to be released this fall. Mr. Dirda is a Washington Post book critic and winner of a 1993 Pulitzer Prize.

The 2017 Day of the Book Festival is scheduled for April 23, 2017 – stay tuned for more info.

**MCPL READERS CAFE: A Virtual Meeting Place for Books and Readers**

Montgomery County Public Libraries. Website includes this nifty page which provides info on what books are on order, librarian choices, book clubs and author events at other branches. Check it out at: [http://montgomerycountymd.libguides.com/readerscafe](http://montgomerycountymd.libguides.com/readerscafe)

**WHAT ARE LOCAL BOOK CLUBS READING?** There are dozens of book clubs in Kensington and it is always interesting to see who is reading what. In the spirit of sharing we are providing the list below of books that are currently being read. Please share your bookclub reads at: kensingtonpark@folmc.org

Between the World and Me, Ta-Nehisi Coates
The Wright Brothers, by David McCullough
Necessary Lies, Diane Chamberlain
That Old Cape Magic, Richard Russo
A Bear, A Backpack, and Eight Cases of Vodka: A Memoir, Lev Golinkin

**READING RAVES: Have you read a book recently that you really liked?** In the spirit of sharing a love of books, we encourage members to submit book reviews! Tell us what you liked and why. Reading Raves are anonymous. We provide a monthly list on the FOL shelf in the library along with other friends “favs” in addition to publishing in the monthly FOL newsletter. Email your Rave to kensingtonpark@folmc.org
**Falling From Horses**, Molly Gloss. Fiction.

In the late 1930's two young people meet on their way to Hollywood, a ranch hand who wants to become a stunt rider and a writer. The book describes the early days of the Hollywood movie business and the lifelong friendship of these two characters.

**The Love Song of Miss Queenie Hennessy**, Rachel Joyce. Fiction.

In many ways this is a very satisfying companion piece/follow up to *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry*. It truly is interesting to meet Queenie and get her perspective on the same timelines once shared with Harold: the duration of his walk and the events from 20+ years ago when they worked together. The intervening years when Queenie was alone in a seaside cottage- but more fully alive than ever - are also revealed with a kind of painful beauty. Yet despite all this great writing, as more of Queenie's past is revealed, I shifted from liking or at least having great empathy for Queenie to eventually finding her to be quite cowardly or perhaps unnecessarily, illogically cowed.

In short, I'm Team Harold. Regardless of how well anyone may like Queenie, this story is a gem & well worth reading because of Joyce's immense skill and tenderness in revealing the lives of everyone (patients & caregivers) at the hospice where Queenie lives her last days. A note on logistics: The references to Harold's journey are nice touch points & not redundant to those who read his book. They offer enough detail that anyone who did not read Harold's book will be sufficiently oriented to understand Queenie's plight.


Clinton has had a front seat to many major political decisions, incidents and events, which are told in this book. While the majority of the book is during her tenure as Sec. of State - she does go back to her time as first lady. The book is interesting in that it is a personal reflection on current events I did find it engaging and informative when describing some of the behind the scenes events that I read about in the paper.

**Yes, Please!** Amy Poehler. Biography.

I loved much of the women friendship, confidence and self-reliance messaging, and I enjoyed Poehler and the cast of Parks and Rec. But for some reason this book didn't grab me in the way that I wanted it to. Many of the time periods track my own childhood, young adult and adult milestones so the references were familiar.