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THE  
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Friends of Wood Memorial

Library & Museum

PO Box 131, 783 Main St

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## Gingerbread House Festival

Free & Open to the Public

The Friends of Wood Memorial Library & Museum invite you to join Clara and the Nutcracker Prince in the Land of Sweets, as you experience one of the largest gingerbread house festivals in New England. The Friends' 12th Annual Gingerbread House Festival opens Thanksgiving weekend and runs from Friday, November 25th thru Sunday, December 18th, 2022.

Gaze upon row after row of creative and colorful gingerbread creations, all made by regional artisans and bakers, students and community members, expert and beginner alike.

We're bringing back the friendly competition element of the festival. Our team of three local celebrity judges will choose the gingerbread masterpieces they think best represent different categories such as wonderfully whimsical and commendable use of candy. Don't forget to stop by "Ye Olde Gingerbread Shoppe" for the opportunity to take home a bit of the magic with many holiday themed gifts and treats.

For more details about the festival visit  
[www.WoodMemorialLibrary.org](http://www.WoodMemorialLibrary.org).

"Land of Sweets"

The Wood's 12th Annual Gingerbread House Festival

FREE and Open to the Public

November 25 thru December 18, 2022

Thursdays & Fridays 10am-7pm, Saturdays & Sundays 10am-5pm

Closed Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays



# THE WOOD

Where history, nature, and  
the arts come alive.



Winter 2022



## Edith Vibert Volunteer Award

Longtime supporter and volunteer Sue Shepard was the recipient of the Edith Vibert Volunteer Award for her decades of service to the organization in positions as varied as the children's librarian to a



Executive Director, Carolyn Venne and longtime Board Member, Sue Shepard.

a director on the Friends' Board. In the 90s she was instrumental in the development of the Friend's annual fund, and in 2011 she helped to establish the Friends' endowment fund at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving. Over the years, Sue helped to found fundraising dinners and the Friends' annual golf tournament. Sue is a true ambassador, having helped to introduce the Friends to new neighbors, volunteers and sponsors over her many years of service. Thank you, Sue Shepard!

## Be The Change Sculpture Installed in Nowashe

There is a new wigwam in Nowashe Village courtesy of artist Nayana LaFond, titled *Be The Change*. The sculpture is about Domestic Abuse, and it will be on display for around two years. It is constructed out of rebar aluminum, stainless steel, plexiglass and concrete. When you sit inside the structure you will see words & phrases in over 12 languages including five Indigenous Languages. These words are meant as a source of comfort & inspiration for those experiencing domestic abuse, and those who survived. Visit [www.Nowashe.org](http://www.Nowashe.org) for more details.



Artist Nayana LaFond pictured in her sculpture *Be the Change*

## History In Progress Award

The American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) selected the Friends of Wood Memorial Library as one of 4 recipients nationwide to be presented with the History in Progress (HIP) Award and Award of Excellence for Nowashe Village.

The HIP Award is given at the discretion of the AASLH Awards Committee, and is an additional award chosen from amongst the winners of Award of Excellence awards, which recognizes specific projects that are "highly inspirational, exhibits exceptional scholarship, and/or is exceedingly entrepreneurial in terms of funding, partnerships, collaborations, creative problem solving, unusual project design, or inclusiveness."

Friends' staff traveled to Buffalo, NY to accept the award at the Annual AASLH Conference. They also were the presenters at the small museum luncheon, where they shared highlights of their project including lessons learned. Spending a few days at a national conference among their peers was an educational and worthwhile experience. Thank You to everyone who has helped in making Nowashe Village such a success!



Pictured left to right-AASLH President and CEO John Dichtl with Friends of Wood Memorial Library & Museum Staff; Education Director Liz Glaviano, Executive Director Carolyn Venne, Communications Director Jessica Vogelgesang and AASLH Council Chair Norman Burns.

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## SW Student Researches Space

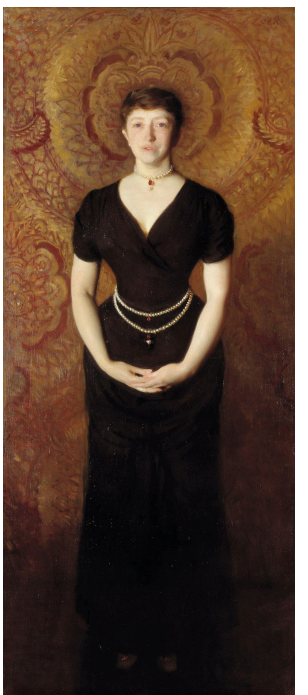
It's 1962. The stars, the Moon, and the entire galaxy seem as far away from South Windsor as putting a human in space, among the dark, intrepid unknown. Gazing into its depths has become your new pastime. Halfway across town however, a group of engineers from Pratt & Whitney have devoted their pastimes to reaching space. Partnered with NASA, a group of several engineers signed onto what was supposed to be a three-week project in developing fuel cells for the Apollo missions. Their next eight years would define not only their careers, but the ambitions of America as a whole in a rapid race to perfect this new, breakthrough technology. Visit Wood Memorial Library & Museum this spring 2023 and discover the work of countless local South Windsor engineers and NASA employees as we take a retrospective look through untold history gathered from newspapers, interviews, and more. This exhibit is the culmination of countless hours of research spearheaded by Friend's volunteer Ria Saxena and involving documents and objects both donated and on loan from the Joseph A. Bost Collection of UTC Fuel Cell Papers, Vicky and Paul Margiott, and Friends' Board Member Henry Cote.

Visit our websites for the latest details on our 2023 programs

[www.WoodMemorialLibrary.org](http://www.WoodMemorialLibrary.org)  
[www.Nowashe.org](http://www.Nowashe.org)

## 2023 Spring Program Highlights

In 2023, the Friends are also welcoming back the Delvena Theatre Company to entertain patrons with their Salem Witch Trials and Isabella Stewart Gardner programs. Visitors will be able to further explore these subjects in depth through lectures offered by Pulitzer Prize winning reporter Edmund H. Mahony and Connecticut State Historian emeritus, Walter W. Woodward. For more information on all of our upcoming 2023 programs visit our website [www.WoodMemorialLibrary.org](http://www.WoodMemorialLibrary.org) and sign up for our monthly e-newsletter.



Isabella Stewart Gardner portrait by John Singer Sargent