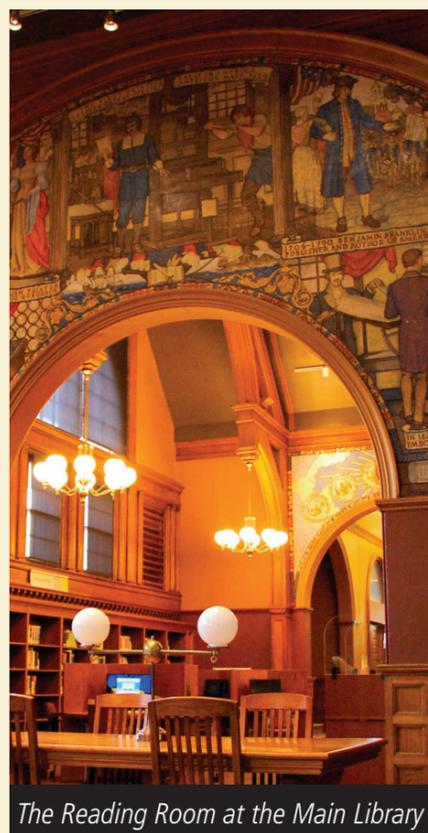


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The Reading Room at the Main Library

Building a Legacy at the Library

For decades, people asked the question “Can we build an endowment for the Cambridge Public Library that will provide private funds to enhance—not replace—public monies and will ensure excellent programming, services, and innovations?” The answer was YES! and in 2015 the Cambridge Public Library Foundation was established.

Since its inception, the Foundation has contributed hundreds of thousands of dollars to support Library programs, new initiatives, and staff development. In addition to its primary goal of building an endowment for the Library, the Foundation works closely with the Library to cultivate corporate and institutional partners, develop public programs, solicit and manage grants, and build the Library’s Scribe Society (through legacy gifts). The Library Foundation’s annual appeal generates

ongoing funding for the Library while simultaneously building the endowment.

The strong public/private partnership between the Library and its Foundation enriches vital community services and resources. The Foundation’s experienced staff, dedicated volunteer Board of Directors, and professionally managed investments underscore its commitment to being here now and forever to support our cherished Library.

As you think about how the Library has benefited you and your family, please consider making a gift to the Library Foundation that will live in perpetuity—establishing your legacy as a champion of learning, literacy, and innovation—and will ensure that the Library remains a vibrant community resource for generations to come. For more information about the Foundation, making a legacy gift, or the endowment, please contact Foundation Director Katie Welch at katie@cplfound.org or call 781-798-0959. You can also visit us on the web at www.CPLFound.org

On & Off Broadway

an update from the CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

FALL 2022

Detail of the mural “Creative Freedom” at the Central Square Branch Location by artist Silvia López Chavez



From the Director

Welcome to another edition of On and Off Broadway.

Our community finds solace and inspiration in art, and this edition of On and Off Broadway celebrates the art on display at the Cambridge Public Library. Among them are photographs from the collection of the photographer Diane Asséo Griliches, two works by Kehinde Wiley on loan from an anonymous donor, a mural celebrating Ed Emberley in the Children’s Room by Caleb Neelon, and a mural at the Central Square Branch by Silvia López Chavez.

The art and the cultural and science programs we offer fall under the umbrella of our Arts and Ideas and Learning and Literacy strategic priorities. We thank the City of Cambridge, the Cambridge Public Library Foundation, and the Friends of the Cambridge Public Library for helping to support the art, the programs, the passes, and so much more.

For example, with the Foundation’s support, the Library hosted an enlightening conversation with the Pulitzer Prize winner Louise Erdrich in April and an Our Path Forward Lecture featuring Barbara F. Walter, the author of *How Civil Wars Start and How to Stop Them*, in conversation with the Harvard University political scientist Erica Chenoweth. With Foundation support Imbolo Mbue, the award-winning author of *How Beautiful We Were*, sat in conversation with Dr. Aliyyah Abdur-Rahman of Brown University in early August. On September 7, Nobel Laureate Wole Soyinka will converse with Professor Henry Louis Gates, Jr. at the

Main Library courtesy of the Foundation.

With support from the Friends, we welcomed the National Book Award winner Malinda Lo, the author of *Last Night at the Telegraph Club*, as part of our celebration of PRIDE. The Friends are also supporting a music series celebrating sacred songs and rituals from across the world which we will launch on September 20. With funding from the Friends, the Library also provided passes to the Museum of Fine Arts, the New England Aquarium, the Museum of Science, and other cultural institutions. The Friends are also supporting subscriptions to hotspots that we lend out through the Tech Bar.

I invite you to take in the art on our walls, browse through art books, and attend the many cultural and educational programs available to you.

Warm wishes,

Maria McCauley, Ph.D.
Director of Libraries

Diane Asséo Griliches

Diane Asséo Griliches began taking photographs in 1981 and soon after embarked on her first professional project: photographing libraries worldwide. Her photographs captured libraries big and small, showcasing the grandiosity of the old and the utilitarian of the new. A partnership with the Library of Congress's Center of the Book led to the publication of her book, *Library: The Drama Within*, in 2008, which celebrates libraries and their patrons worldwide.

These photographs have a unifying theme: no matter the location, size, or the circumstances, the ordinary act of a person visiting a library is elevated. Griliches captures the wonder, joy, appreciation, and immersion of the individual in the library, which the black-and-white photographs transform into shrines of learning.

Griliches' photographs are displayed in several spaces at the Main Library and at the Collins and O'Neill Branch



"Reading Room, The Library of Congress, Washington D.C." displayed in the Administrative Office on L2

Libraries. Photographs of the Emma Yates Memorial Library in Pocahontas, Virginia, the Main Reading Room of the Library of Congress, and the Manuscript Room of the National Library of Israel in Jerusalem are on display in the administration office. Photographs of the

Rare Book Room at the Toledo Biblioteca, in Toledo, Spain, and the Widener Library at Harvard are shown at the Collins Branch. The home library of Tulkarm Arab Orphans Home Library, in Tulkarm, Palestine, and the Boston Public Library can be seen at the O'Neill Branch Library.

Outdoor Mural at CSQ

Since 2019, the Central Square Branch Library has displayed a new mural celebrating the many ways libraries serve communities. Created by the Dominican American muralist Silvia López Chavez, *Creative Freedom* is part of the Central MURALS program, a partnership of the Central Square Business Association, the Central Square BID, the Central Square Cultural District, and Cambridge Arts to create new murals in prominent locations along the Massachusetts Avenue corridor to showcase the history and culture of Central Square.

The 240-foot-long and 20-foot-tall mural spans the length of Pearl Street, between Green and Franklin Streets, and turns onto part of Franklin Street. Set against the backdrop of dynamic colors and graphic elements such as flying birds, paper planes, and open books, it evokes the vibrancy of Central Square and the Branch Library. The Pearl Street façade incorporates words and patterns that assist with wayfinding.



Artist López Chavez painting "Creative Freedom" in 2019

López Chavez's art is informed by her belief in the importance of making and celebrating connections on a social, political, and cultural level – connections that occur in spaces like public libraries. She explores the emotional narratives of joy, struggle, acceptance, and assimilation as vehicles for empowerment, growth, and transformation. López Chavez's murals are known for their experimentation with

color and form as well as their reliance on traditional methods of drawing and painting.

López Chavez is a graduate of the Massachusetts College of Art & Design and the Altos de Chavón School of Art & Design in the Dominican Republic. In addition to her fine art practice, she is an award-winning designer and illustrator.



Ed Emberley Mural

Can you create a world with simple shapes and your thumbprint? If so, you may know the Ed Emberley drawing books. The celebrated children's book creator Ed Emberley, who grew up in Cambridge, has written and illustrated more than 100 books. He received the Caldecott Medal, the highest honor for a children's book illustrator in the United States, for *Drummer Hoff*, a 1968 collaboration with his wife, Barbara.

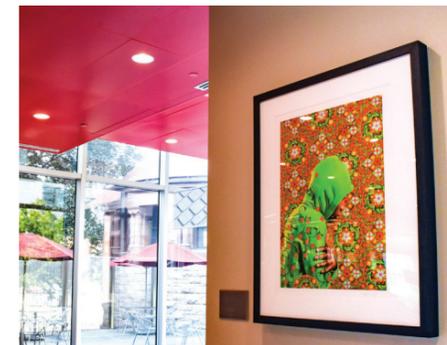
In 2019 the Cambridge Public Library Foundation, with support from the

Margret and H. A. Rey Curious George Fund, commissioned a mural for the space inspired by Ed Emberley's work. For two weeks, the artist Caleb Neelon painted the wall from a scissor lift while families gathered to watch. Tables full of art supplies created opportunities for everyone to participate. When the mural was completed, the Children's Room was lucky enough to receive a special visit from Ed and Barbara Emberley.

Caleb Neelon made a name for himself in the global graffiti scene under the

name SONIK, and his art and murals can be seen in cities throughout the world. He has written or collaborated on more than two dozen books, including *Ed Emberley* (Ammo, 2014), written with the designer Todd Oldham.

The completed mural's four panels present beautiful scenes from both fantasy and reality. Families engage with it daily, and we are thrilled to celebrate the art and legacy of Ed Emberley in this way.



Young Girl Veiled



Sharrod Holsten Study III

Kehinde Wiley

Kehinde Wiley, a Los Angeles native and visual artist based in New York, is famous for reimagining the Western portrait tradition with Black protagonists and for his 2018 official presidential portrait of Barack Obama. Wiley said: "There's something glorious about the portraits that you see of aristocratic and royal families. Something beautiful in those expansive imperialist landscapes... what I wanted to do was to take the good parts, the parts that I love, and fertilize them with things that I know to be beautiful— people who happen to look like me." Wiley's work inserts Black faces into historical white spaces and therefore also into the canon of painting. "It's an opportunity for people who traditionally have had very little relationship to museums and to what's on their walls to feel themselves included," he said.

The Library is thrilled to display two Wiley prints, on loan from an anonymous donor and facilitated through the

Cambridge Public Library Foundation. *Young Girl Veiled* is hung in the Main Library (on L1) by the glass corridor that leads to the historic building. Wiley said that this piece "speaks to the layered complexities of sight and knowledge, provoking inquiry by sitting at the intersection between the masculine and feminine, the historic and the present." *Sharrod Holsten Study III* is hung in the Central Square Branch Library's children's area (2nd floor). The classic pose in this portrait, held by a young Black man, subverts traditional renderings of race and gender. The subject is adorned with pink carnations and ladybugs, offering a very delicate portrait.

For more information about Wiley, his work, and his artistic process, check out the documentary *Kehinde Wiley: An Economy of Grace*, which is available for free through the CPL's Kanopy video streaming service.