  Hello Ms. Boyer,

 I would love to perform my new one-woman show, "Adventures in Liking My Looks: 'Normal' Must Be So Boring!" at the Greenfield Library.  The show takes the audience on a fun, spirited, sometimes poignant journey to a woman's discovery that her non-"normal" body is beautiful.  I am a writer/actress who lives in Amherst, MA.

Almost everyone I know, from 14 to 84, has a body image issue, even as many of us admit that we really should get over it.  In my case, I have felt ashamed of my breasts, or rather the lack thereof.  First they were too small.  Then I lost one to a mastectomy.

The show takes the audience to Central Park and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, to art therapy and ballroom dance lessons, to London.  A certain green vine turns out to be pivotal.  I tell the story with the help of over 12 characters and a bit of music.

I hope the show nudges and inspires the audience to realize that each of their bodies is uniquely beautiful, that all of our bodies are parts of the beautiful human palette.

The show runs an hour, approximately.

Please see my website,  [http://www.bodyimagetheater.com/](http://www.bodyimagetheater.com/" \t "_blank)  , for further information, including a short video of show excerpts and comments from, among others, Laurie Wheeler, Director of the Arms Library in Shelburne Falls, MA.

Thank you very much!  I will be away July 17-Aug. 2, and I will call you when I return.

Sincerely,

Susan Cummings

[413-834-3891](tel:(413)%20834-3891)

**Possible tick-borne disease prevention speakers (paired with a craft night led by Pamela on natural bug repellents)**

Here are the suggestions libraries shared:

[http://ohdeer1.com](http://ohdeer1.com/).

Michele Miller of the Central Mass Lyme Foundation  [centralmasslyme@gmail.com](mailto:centralmasslyme@gmail.com" \t "_blank).

210 Park Ave., Suite 143

Worcester, MA 01609

[www.CentralMassLyme.org](http://www.centralmasslyme.org/)

Call toll free at 1-888-511-LYME

 Clarisse Hart at Harvard Forest in Petersham.

Outreach & Development Manager for Education & Research Programs <http://harvardforest.fas.harvard.edu/researchers/4272>

Hi Robin, we usually have our County Entomologist, Larry Dapsis, come to the Library with representatives of our local Lyme Awareness group.  You might have an Entomologist in your area too.

Tick Talk Awareness News Letter

Dr. Samuel Donta, who presented for us as the medical professional at our STOP LYME forum, is booking.

Sharon Hawkes, MLIS

Director, Nahant Public Library

Does an overview talk

Creator of the "Stop Lyme!" handbook.

Natick’s Community Health Director has given talks at the library about ticks and their diseases.  He was very well received.  Do you have such a person in Athol?  If so, they may be able to do this for you.

Dr. Sam Telford is on the faculty at Tufts Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine in Grafton. He does research on ticks and tick-borne diseases. He says that he frequently speaks at the invitation of communities. Usually the Board of Health extends the invitation.

Try John Prenosil who lives in Belchertown

Last night, the Athol Library hosted Ted Reinstein, author and reporter for TV's Chronicle.  
  
Ted spoke very engagingly, giving brief excerpts from many of the feuds included in his book, Wicked Pissed.  He spoke at length about the controversy over first flight.  The audience was enrapt.  Almost everyone lined up to shake his hand afterwards, and he nearly sold out of both books (Wicked Pissed & New England Notebook).  Many attendees were fans of the show Chronicle.  They were very excited to have a TV person here.  
  
Ted was very easy to work with throughout planning, and was clearly at ease with the audience.  (They have already asked us to have him back when his next book comes out.)

**Cooking with Chocolate with Liz Barbour of the Creative Feast**

Last night we hosted Liz Barber of the Creative Feast for a 2 hour cooking presentation demonstration and tasting.

Liz is such a delight to work with.  She brings all her own stuff, provides recipes, gives tips and tricks for cooking and baking, offers knives, knife sharpeners, and her cookbook for sale. She gives a wonderful cooking demonstration and a great overview on different types of chocolates when and how to use them in your dishes as either the main ingredient, or to enrich the flavor of your savory dish.

She had lots of tips about chocolate and as a special added bonus offered tips about brownies because our library is having a brownie bake off program next week.

We even had a two-course meal, one main dish and a side dish to sample at the end.  This is my second time working with Liz and I will work with her again.

Contact: Liz Barbour, The Creative Feast

[www.thecreativefeast.com](http://www.thecreativefeast.com/)

Call: [603-321-5011](tel:(603)%20321-5011)

We held a great baking workshop at the Athol Library last Thursday with Paula Castner.

She brought nine desserts made from all healthy ingredients and almost no sugar.

She gave each person a name tag and discussed with each person what they specifically wanted to learn that night.  She covered everything they wanted and more all in 1.5 hours.  She was very knowledgeable.

She brings her own laptop and her own plates and cutlery for serving the desserts, and handouts packed with information.  She offers people the option of samples before and after the program.  Everyone seemed to enjoy the program. They were all engaged and had many questions.  People felt comfortable enough with her to ask questions.  She was VERY personable, knew her stuff and everyone enjoyed her program.

I would recommend hosting one of her workshops at your library.  Please contact Paula directly for her fee.

Contact: Paula Castner

Email: [pajamalivingbaking@gmail.com](mailto:pajamalivingbaking@gmail.com)

Blog/ website: [www.pajamaliving.com](http://www.pajamaliving.com/)

Hello Everybody,

I must add our library to the list of groups raving about Kim Larkin’s workshops, which we became acquainted with after a shout-out from East Longmeadow Public Library.  We had Kim in last Sunday for her Mighty Aphrodite workshop, originally planning it for February 12 but rescheduling due to snow.  Kim came very well prepared and set up multiple tables in record time.  I checked in regularly to see if she needed help, but she shooed me away each time.  This workshop could accommodate 45 people, which we thought was a wonderful way to reach out to our many patrons that must be turned away after smaller workshops fill to capacity.  She gave a detailed history of chocolate (an aphrodisiac) and coupled it with tastings of other romantic foods and beverages.  She highlighted romantic couples in ages gone by, all the while circling back to her main theme of Aphrodite.  We had a wonderful mix of age groups in this adult workshop; some of the men appeared a bit hesitant upon entering (to the point of placing a library book on the chair next to them to prevent company)  but were extremely happy with her content and presentation. Kim cleared up the area and was out the door in record time and we were left with a new found admiration for the way romance has transpired through the ages.  We are have booked her for her fall Aromatherapy workshop and are tempted by many of the offerings on her website! [http://klassickreations.weebly.com](http://klassickreations.weebly.com/)

Kim Larkin (2 libraries suggested) [kimlarkin61@yahoo.com](mailto:kimlarkin61@yahoo.com).

Bill Collins aka Chef Bill. [bill@chefbill.com](mailto:bill@chefbill.com), <http://chefbill.com/>

Dede Wilson [dede@dedewilson.com](mailto:dede@dedewilson.com)

I am using Dede to do a chocolate tasting, similar to that of a wine tasting. She will go over the history of chocolate, differences in the taste as to where is is grown, a tasting vocabulary, and then patrons sample and discuss the many samples. If there is a library in the area that would like to book in February, she said we could get a booking discount. Let me know if you are interested.

Stephanie

7. "A Holiday Season Campfire" (sometimes known as "A Choirboys's Christmas," is Todd Goodwin's warm and amusing stories about growing up with his brothers. Todd is a terrific storyteller, Jean Shepherd style, who can entertain everyone from toddlers to the elderly. Last year we had him do his program "Stories from the Studebaker." Mr. Goodwin is also a very flexible performer, who talked with our Children's Librarian about doing traditional campfire stories for the kids next summer. He is also one of the nicest men you will meet. Todd teaches and does some drama work with the local Applewild School as well. He is one of those local talents that I will bring in again and again.

     Contact Todd at #[978-345-4812](tel:(978)%20345-4812) or at [tgoodwin@msn.com](mailto:tgoodwin@msn.com). His website is:  [www.good41.com](http://www.good41.com/) We paid Todd $200 for each program.

(Maybe not a 1st Wednesday, but…)

Dear Ellen,

I'm writing to let you know that acclaimed author and public speaker **Anthony Amore** is available for an appearance for your programming and upcoming events.

As you might know, Anthony is the author of two best sellers: *Stealing Rembrandts* and *The Art of the Con*. The former was a Wall Street Journal True Crime Best Seller, and the latter a New York Times Crime Best Seller as well as one of Amazon's top 10 non-fiction books of 2015.

*The Art of the Con* is now available in paperback and makes for an excellent presentation.

I'd love to talk more with you about booking Anthony to appear at your location.  I've included a summary of his speaking topics and some testimonials for your review.

All my best,

Leah Ikeda

**SPEAKING TOPICS**

*STEALING REMBRANDTS: THE TRUE STORY OF INTERNATIONAL ART THEFT*

Art theft is a multi-billion dollar per year illicit industry, and the world’s most significant heists share one thing in common: the priceless works of Rembrandt.  The great Dutch Master’s paintings are known for their value by everyone, from high school dropouts to museum curators. While Hollywood has portrayed the theft of high-value paintings as the work of dashing, likeable thieves working to steal art for evil, reclusive geniuses, in fact that’s nothing like the reality of art theft. Instead, it’s much more interesting.  Amore takes his audience behind the scenes of the most notorious of these heists, telling the true story of art crime from the conception of the crime to the recovery of the art.

*THE ART OF THE CON: NOTORIOUS FAKES, FRAUDS, AND FORGERIES*

The famed former director of the Metropolitan Museum, Thomas Hoving, famously said that 40% of the art hanging on the walls of the museums and galleries of the world are fakes.  Art forgery scandals continue to dominate the pages of the industry’s newspapers and, in recent years, have led to the closing of some of the world’s oldest and most esteemed galleries. Though talented copyists are involved in the most famous scandals, Amore describes how the true art in art scams is not on the canvas but in the con itself.