

Southington Public Library will begin offering a series of comedy workshops

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SOUTHINGTON – Southington Public Library will begin offering a series of comedy workshops, which will culminate in a performance from participants thanks to the support of several grants.

Southington Public Library, located at 255 Main St., is partnering with Sea Tea Improv to present the series of interactive comedy workshops this June through August, which will culminate with performances from participants.



Southington Public Library -FILE PHOTO

The series, "The Literacy of Laughter: A Community Gets Schooled in the Art of Comedy," is funded with the support of a \$2,900 grant from Connecticut Humanities. It is also supported by a \$1,500 grant from the Calvanese Foundation Green & White Fund and the KAWFY Memorial Fund at the Main Street Community Foundation.

The series will help participants to practice improvisational comedy and unscripted, theatrical performance. It is also intended to "encourage listening and cooperation and foster a sense of trust and community." It will encourage participants to "view the collective trauma of contemporary times through a comedic lens," touching on issues like covid, inflation, academic anxiety and friendship issues.

"The Southington Public Library understands how difficult the past two plus years have been on its community and the world at large," said Southington Librarian Lynn Pawloski. "We are grateful to Connecticut Humanities and the Main Street Community Foundation for funding our summer of smiles providing the welcoming, safe environment inherent in improv culture, where community members can enrich themselves in a joyful medium, is truly special for us."

Library Director Kristi Sadowski said that the program will offer a cool opportunity for the community.

"It's very timely with all of the things that are going on," she said. "It will offer new ways to interpret the world, which is important. It will be a great help for multiple age groups and will help to make a difference in the lives of participants."

Three public events, one each for adults, teens, and children, will be held, along with workshops for the John E. DeMello Sr. Veteran's Coffee Hour, the ARC of Southington, and Bread for Life.

"Southington Night Live" – an all-ages improv performance and community discussion will bring the series to a close.

These events will run in conjunction with the Library's Summer Reading Program.

All events are free but registration is required.

For more information, and program registration, call 860-628-0947 or visit southingtonlibrary.org.

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