

Roseburg Library to Host Acclaimed Authors
Kris Wiley for The News-Review

I am thrilled to announce that Roseburg Public Library will host two highly regarded Oregon authors over the next month.

First up is Eileen Garvin, whose latest bestselling novel is “Crow Talk.” Garvin will Zoom in at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 16. This program was rescheduled from September.

I’m trying something new with Garvin’s visit. Patrons are invited to join me at the library, where I will have a meeting room set up to project Garvin on a large screen. I also will have a camera and microphone focused on the audience so Garvin can see and hear us. Attendees will be able to share their thoughts and questions directly with Garvin.

Alternately, patrons can tune in to the discussion on the library’s Facebook page at www.facebook.com/roseburglibrary; a Facebook account is not required. Questions for the author may be submitted before the event to me at kwiley@roseburgor.gov or 541-492-7051. Viewers who have a Facebook account may post questions during the event by commenting on the live stream.

“Crow Talk” and Garvin’s first book, “The Music of Bees,” are contemporary novels set in the Pacific Northwest. They feature multiple storylines with likeable characters navigating challenging family situations, relationships and grief.

My favorite aspect of both books was how Garvin weaved the natural world into the storylines. In “Crow Talk,” it was bird behavior in the foothills of Mount Adams. In “The Music of Bees,” it was honeybees in Hood River.

Next up, Victor Lodato will share his latest novel, “Honey,” at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 13. This program will be in person only.

The first 20 people to arrive will receive a free, hardcover copy of “Honey,” courtesy of Friends of the Roseburg Public Library.

“Honey” is Honey Fasinga, the daughter of a New Jersey mob boss who fled her family for college and Los Angeles, where she worked at an art house. Now in her 80s, she is back home, coming to terms with her biological family and creating a found family.

Lodato is a Guggenheim Fellow as well as the recipient of fellowships from The National Endowment for the Arts, The Princess Grace Foundation, The Camargo Foundation (France) and The Bogliasco Foundation (Italy). His other novels are “Edgar and Lucy” and “Mathilda Savage,” which won the PEN Center USA Literary Award.

The library has print and digital copies of Garvin’s and Lodato’s work. No matter whether you read their books, please consider showing your support for Oregon writers by attending their programs.

Next week's library events

Tuesday, January 14, 10 a.m. – Grab-and-go craft kits for kids

Tuesday, January 14, 6:30 p.m. – Online Book Group (email kwiley@roseburgor.gov for the Zoom link)

Wednesday, January 15, 10:15 a.m. – Storytime with Aurora

Thursday, January 16, 10:15 a.m. – Storytime with Aurora

Thursday, January 16, 4-5 p.m. – STEAM program for elementary students

Thursday, January 16, 6:30 p.m. – Author Eileen Garvin in person or on Facebook Live (www.facebook.com/roseburglibrary).