

Author Talks—In Person—Return!

For 20 years, the UDPL has brought you face-to-face with acclaimed authors like Lorene Cary, Alice Hoffman, and Harlan Coben. This month, we added two nationally-acclaimed writers to our record. On September 12, writer and photographer Rob Cardillo, shared his latest work *Private Gardens of Philadelphia* as well as tips and techniques for photographing gardens, even if just with a smartphone. We were delighted to host the launch of Louis Bayard’s 11th book *The Wildes* on September 18. It was named a most anticipated book by the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Oprah Daily, and Kirkus Reviews. A master of historical fiction, Bayard is known best for his novels *Jackie & Me* and *The Pale Blue Eye*, adapted into the global #1 Netflix release starring Christian Bale.



UDPL staff with Louis Bayard to celebrate the launch of *The Wildes*



Congratulations to UD resident Diane Billas who launched her latest work, *Superficial*, at the UDPL on September 27. Pictured here in conversation with *Peril at Price Manor* author Laura Parnum.



Thanks for supporting Banned Books Week (September 22-28)! Launched nationally in 1982, “this annual event highlights the value of free and open access to information and brings together the entire book community in shared support of the freedom to seek and to express ideas.”

<https://www.bannedbooksweek.org>

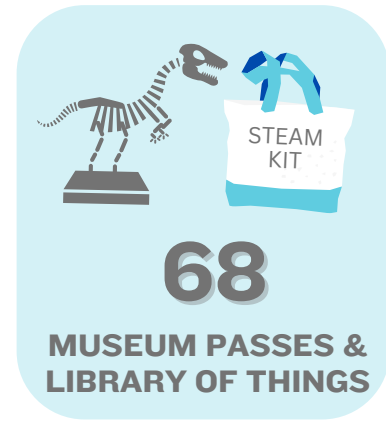
Adult Discovery & Learning--7th Season & Still Growing



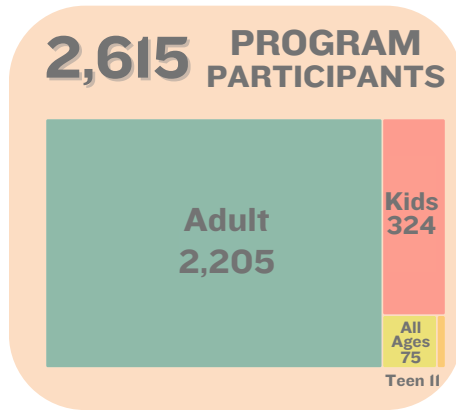
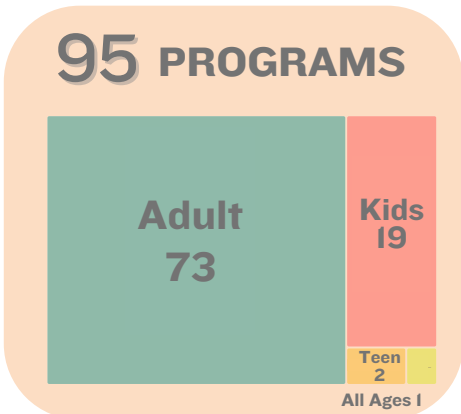
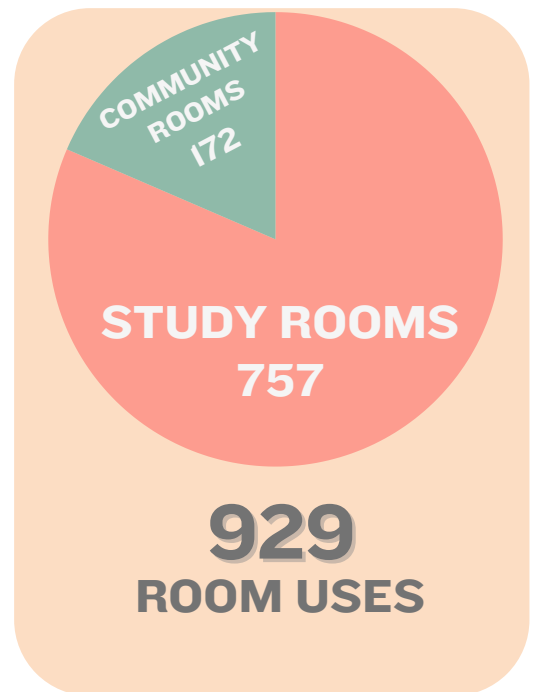
Word is spreading about UDPL's Adult Discovery & Learning series—nearly 1,000 adults have already registered! “Five stars for the entire program!” said one participant. In the photo, a full house is captivated by the lecture "Artificial Intelligence 101: Shaping Tomorrow's Future Today." Plus attendees enjoy food trucks every Friday!

BOOKS & MATERIALS

32,831 TOTAL ITEMS CHECKED OUT



PROGRAMS & SPACES



Thanks to Jo-Ann Hunt— The True Gem of the Jewelry Sale

A heartfelt thank you to Jo-Ann Hunt, who, after 15 years as the visionary behind the Friends Jewelry Sale, has decided to step down from her role as coordinator. What began as her own idea has grown into a much-anticipated event, thanks to Jo-Ann and her team of dedicated volunteers, including her husband, John, who has supported her every step of the way. Over the years, the sale has raised more than \$50,000 for the Library—an incredible achievement! Jo-Ann, your dedication, attention to detail, and immense contribution to the Upper Dublin community have made a lasting impact. We are deeply grateful!



Jo-Ann (left) served as Treasurer from 2008 - 2021
Photo by elina.l.photography



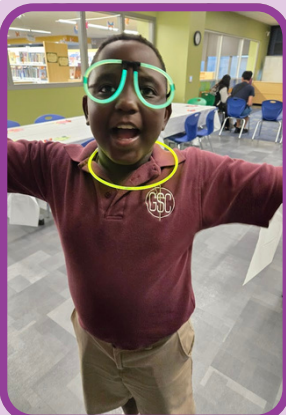
The 15th Annual Friends of UDPL Jewelry sale was held on Saturday 9/28 at Twining Valley Park

UDPL Presents Future Building Phases

At a special Board of Commissioners meeting on September 16, Director Cheri Fiory outlined future plans for the UDPL facility. While the core spaces for collections, meetings, and children's services were completed in 2020, several areas of the 57,000-square-foot library remain unfinished. With new grant opportunities and the anticipated relocation of Township meetings and the Police in 2026, Fiory shared plans for key improvements, including a new lighting system and expanded stage in the auditorium, upgraded technology for hybrid meetings, and repairs to the parking lot. These upgrades are part of a grant application currently under consideration. A Keystone grant, if awarded, would further support the construction of community rooms and the restoration of the café—spaces currently occupied by the Police since the 2021 tornado. Fiory also mentioned early-stage plans for exterior enhancements, including a long-envisioned children's discovery garden.



Stage and lighting enhancements envisioned for the Shanis Auditorium. Rendering by GKO Architects



A Glow Party for Growing Readers

The Story Lab was all aglow on September 18 as 25 young readers celebrated a well-deserved achievement. These children, having completed the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten challenge, danced, played games, and enjoyed refreshments. Quite an accomplishment! 1000 Books Before Kindergarten is a national initiative that promotes reading to newborns, infants, and toddlers while fostering parent-child bonding through shared stories. UDPL is proud to be part of this initiative, supporting families as they set the foundation for their children's lifelong success.