

PROGRAMMING SERIES 2020-21



COMMIT TO YOUR COMMUNITY



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Where Wakefield Connects



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Commit to Your Community is brought to you with federal funds provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and administered by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.

Commit to Your Community

Right now, making connections with others at both a personal and a communal level feels more important than ever. With that in mind, from October 2020 through June 2021, the library will be offering a series of speakers, panel discussions, book groups, and a final town-wide event to encourage all of us to form more meaningful connections with others in our community.

Commit to Your Community is divided into three chapters: **Get Involved**, **Act with Compassion**, and **Advocate for Change**. The first chapter will demonstrate the value of getting involved to improve your own health and well-being. Act with Compassion, the second chapter, asks you to turn outward and learn more about others in our community, particularly those experiencing homelessness. Finally, Advocate for Change builds on the knowledge of the first two chapters but adds a more global perspective, looking at what Wakefield can do to tackle climate change from a local level.



**COMMIT TO YOUR
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Get Involved

Starting October 2020



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Act with Compassion

Starting January 2021



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Advocate for Change

Starting March 2021

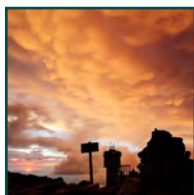
Commit to Your Community: Advocate for Change



KEYNOTE WITH DR. SUSAN DONALDSON

Thursday, March 11, 2021, 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

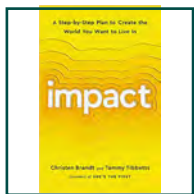
Dr. Donaldson will outline the scope of the climate challenge and the rationale for local grassroots action. She'll talk about some of the ways that people can engage in activism and describe several state and local issues where people power is critical. In particular, she'll highlight an issue that specifically involves Wakefield, and that may soon be getting a lot of statewide attention.



A PRIMER ON CLIMATE AND CLIMATE CHANGE WITH MT. WASHINGTON OBSERVATORY

Thursday, March 18, 2021, 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Join Weather Observer/Education Specialist Nicole Tallman live from the summit of Mount Washington as she discusses these topics as well as the science behind Earth's climate system, and differences between natural and human-influenced climate change.



BOOK DISCUSSION: *IMPACT*

Tuesday, March 30, 2021, 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Impact: A Step-by-Step Plan to Create the World You Want to Live In by Christen Brandt and Tammy Tibbetts explains where to start taking action in the fight against climate change. The authors show you how to create your own impact strategy, one that fits into your life and allows you to match what you have with what the world needs.



BOOK DISCUSSION: *PARABLE OF THE SOWER*

Tuesday, April 27, 2021, 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Published in 1993 and set in 2025(!), Octavia Butler shows us a world affected by extreme climate change in ways that seem more and more possible to us today. Join us to discuss this classic "hero's journey" with a strong young woman at its heart, which explores the nature of change and how we humans relate to it.



CLIMATE CHANGE IS A JUSTICE ISSUE, WITH MASS AUDUBON

Tuesday, May 4, 2021, 7:00 pm – 8:15 pm

Climate change is the number one existential threat to humanity and the planet, but some communities are more vulnerable than others. Where do social justice and climate change overlap? How does identity (race, gender, age, etc.) influence the way a person will be impacted by climate change? And how can we, as concerned community members, fight climate change in a way that is just and equitable for all?

All events are virtual. Register at wakefieldlibrary.org or 781-619-1100.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



DR. SUSAN DONALDSON

Susan Donaldson, MD is a retired physician who has been working as a climate change activist since 2013. A graduate of Harvard College and the University of Rochester School of Medicine, she completed a residency in psychiatry at Massachusetts General Hospital. She worked in community and public health settings. She is currently a lead volunteer with 350 Massachusetts, a volunteer organization working on climate change issues in Massachusetts, and is co-chair of the board of Better Future Project, a nonprofit with a mission to develop a grassroots

climate change movement in and beyond Massachusetts. She is a member of Greater Boston Physicians for Social Responsibility.



NICOLE TALLMAN

Nicole Tallman is the Education Specialist at the Mount Washington Observatory. Nicole has been a severe weather enthusiast for as long as she can remember. She received a bachelor's degree in meteorology with a minor in geology from Rutgers University. Before her current position at the Observatory, she worked as a teacher leading courses in meteorology, physics, and earth science at a science academy for gifted students in central Connecticut.



NIA KEITH

Nia Keith is a science educator with more than 15 years' experience working in nonprofits, schools, and cultural institutions. Dedicated to cultivating equity and justice in all environments, Nia has spent her career motivating people to address environmental, social, and economic issues. Her current role as the statewide Climate Change Education Manager at Mass Audubon, allows her to work in many settings, including classrooms, nature reserves, and online. She designs and delivers interactive lessons for all ages, to help people understand and take action to fight climate

change. Nia holds a Master of Science in Environmental Studies from Antioch University New England.



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