

# Library News



VINELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

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## Vineland Public Library Annual Book Sale

Visit Vineland Public Library for the Friends of the Vineland Public Library's Annual Bargain Book Sale. The sale opens at 9:00 a.m. on **Saturday, November 1** and continues through December 20. The Doris Tripp Room, located on the first floor of the library, is stocked wall to wall with great books for every interest. The room will be restocked daily with new titles. Book sale hours are Monday-Thursday (9-7:30); Friday and Saturday (9-4:30). The library will happily accept donations in good condition for the book sale. Please call (856) 794-4244, ext. 4243 to make arrangements for dropping off books.

## December 2014 Free Events/ Schedule

**Monday, December 15:** Bay-Atlantic Symphony Music Lecture, 6:00—7:30 p.m. (Community Event Room)

**Wednesday, December 17:** Book Club Discussion of *The Art of Hearing Heartbeats* by Jan-Philipp Sendker, 2:00—3:00 p.m. (Community Event Room)

**Thursday, December 18:** Writers Society Gathering, 5:00—7:30 p.m. (Community Event Room)

**Wednesday, December 24:** Christmas Eve—Library Closed

**Thursday, December 25:** Christmas Day—Library Closed

**Wednesday, December 31:** New Year's Eve—Library open 9:00—5:00 p.m.

## 'More than Sad' Workshop for Teens

Teens ages 13-18 are invited to a free program about preventing teen suicide on **Wednesday, November 12, from 5 to 6:30 p.m.** in the Community Event Room.

Watch a short video and then participate in a discussion with representatives from Barnabas Health Institute for Prevention about recognizing the signs and symptoms of depression, promoting the importance and acceptability of seeking help for oneself or a friend, and what is involved in treatment for depression.

**Registration is not required for this free program.**

More than Sad was developed by The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention in partnership with the New York State Office of Mental Health. It is listed in the Best Practices Registry for Suicide Prevention and endorsed by the National Association of School Psychologists.



## Children enjoy stories at Vineland Library Read-A-Thon

The Children's Department at the Vineland Public Library invites families to celebrate reading this fall with stories, prizes and fun at a Read-A-Thon.

The Read-A-Thon will be held **Saturday, November 15 from 10:30 a.m. to noon** upstairs in the Children's Department. Enjoy an ongoing story time for children ages 10 and younger and their parents or caregivers (come and go as you please), as well as random prize drawings – you must be present to win! Winners of the Design a Bookmark contest for grades 1-6 will also be announced at the Read-A-Thon.

Volunteers from General Mills/Progresso in Vineland and Girl Scout Troop #56542 will be reading to the children. The program is free. **Registration is not required.**

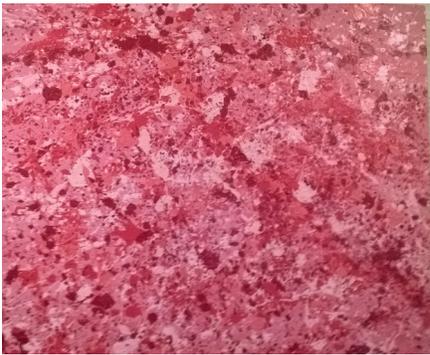
Children who attend a story session will receive at least one free book. Funding for the giveaway books is provided by the Friends of the Vineland Public Library.



**Children ages 8 and younger must be accompanied by an adult at all times in the library.**

# Italian Heritage Student Art Show Winners Announced

During the month of October, Vineland Public Library featured a juried art exhibit of South Jersey high school art students. The show was organized by Dr. Frank De Maio as part of the cultural activities of the Sicilian American Club in honor of Italian Heritage Month. High schools from throughout South Jersey participated in the exhibit. An Artists' Reception was held at the library on **October 25th** to honor the artists. Over twenty awards, including Best in Show, were given for winning entries during the program. The three Best in Show winners were:



"Cherry Blossoms" by Devin Mulloy  
(St. Augustine Prep)

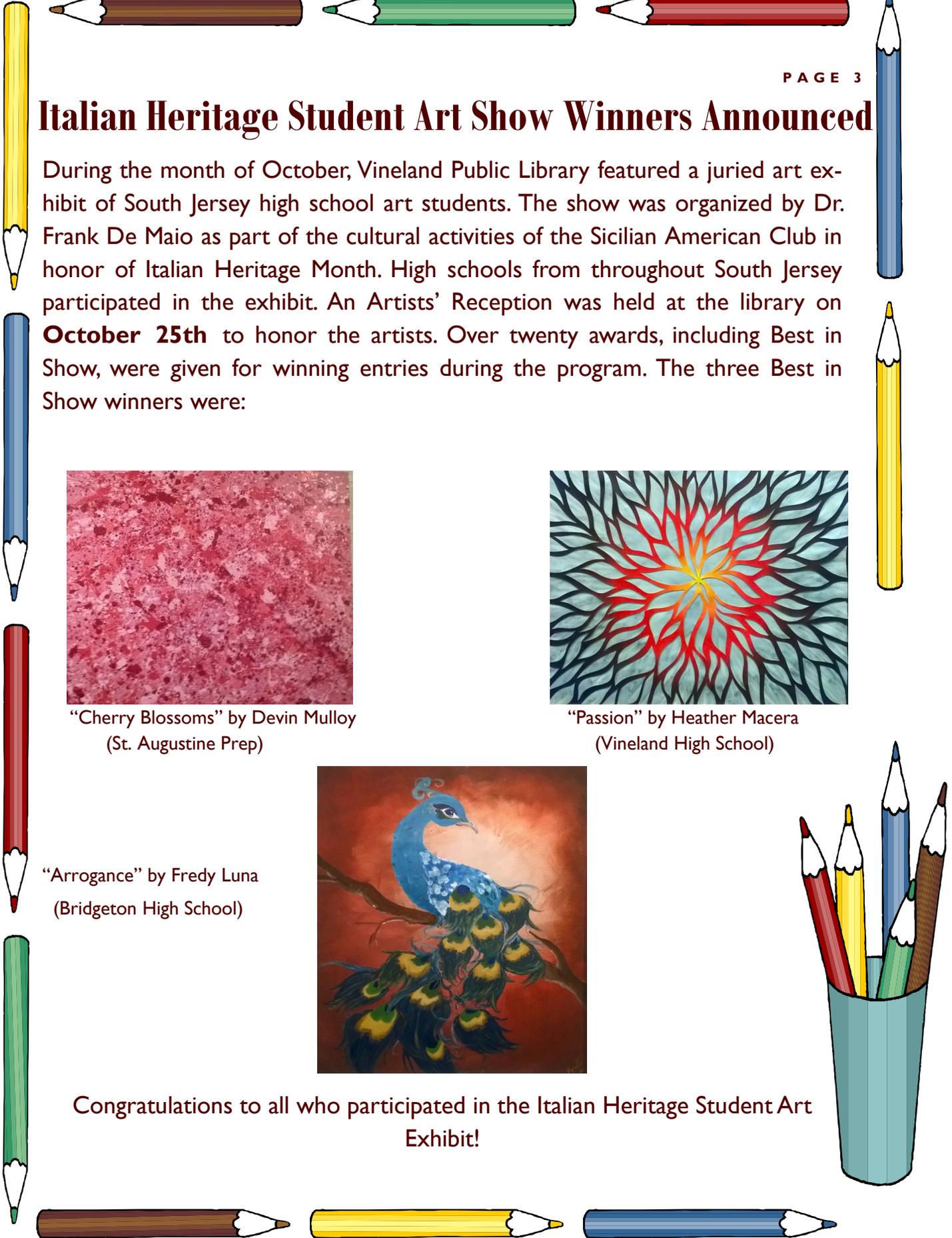


"Passion" by Heather Macera  
(Vineland High School)



"Arrogance" by Fredy Luna  
(Bridgeton High School)

Congratulations to all who participated in the Italian Heritage Student Art Exhibit!



In the fourth book of Douglas Adams' *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* trilogy, the dolphins all depart Earth before it's demolished to make way for a hyperspace bypass. What do the dolphins say as they leave? "So long, and thanks for all the fish." I'm not sure why it's that particular quote that occurs to me right now, but it seems appropriate.

O.k., there are a couple of differences. I'm not leaving Earth, just the Vineland Library. And – thankfully – the library is not being demolished. But people often expect librarians to pepper their writing with literary references; and I don't want to disappoint. So that's the obligatory nod to literature in this, my final note to all our newsletter readers, as I retire from my position as Director of the Vineland Library.

The famous dolphin farewell almost fits, since the dolphins sincerely enjoyed Earth and its fish - and only moved on because the time was right. Similarly, I've enjoyed my tenure here in Vineland and all that I have gotten out of it, despite there being no fish. But after 41 years spent in library service, the time is right for me to move on too. The first important thing about going is knowing when to go.

The second important thing about going is knowing just what you are leaving behind. In my case, that's a very great deal.

I'm leaving behind our partners on the staff and the boards of Millville and Bridgeton libraries who work diligently with us to assure that local municipal library service remains strong and responsive. Combined, we serve about 120,000 area residents who rely on us for cooperation and pooled resources. It's been gratifying to work closely with them since the formation of our service consortium 2 years ago; and my hope is that this partnership grows and deepens in the years ahead. We are stronger together than apart.

I am leaving behind a cadre of community supporters and Vineland Library volunteers who give freely of their personal time and resources: teaching and tutoring, shelving books, keeping the place neat, filing, helping computer users, encouraging young readers, contributing prizes and money for events like the 5K and Casino Night, and so much more. Without volunteers and community partners, the Library would be a leaner, lesser place. I have appreciated all that they do.

I'm also leaving behind a city government which understands the difference a progressive, thriving library makes in a diverse community. This isn't the case in every New Jersey municipality, as I've seen firsthand while traveling with the state's library consulting team. Librarians from north to south assure me that VPL enjoys an uncommon - even enviable – relationship with our city administration and all its various departments. In fact, the staff and officials at City Hall have long been supportive of the Library. I thank them all and hope this happy partnership continues.

I'm leaving behind thousands of appreciative patrons – like you - who turn to this Library for continuing education, cultural enrichment, personal development, employment help, and entertainment – whatever opens up a larger world. Without the hundreds and hundreds of you who visit us daily in person or online, I wouldn't have had a job here for nine years. I appreciate your loyalty, your comments (even the criticisms), and your faith in this Library's ability to help you pursue a better life.

I'm also leaving behind three dedicated and hard-working boards comprised of citizens - also all volunteers - whose only compensation is seeing Vineland Library be and do all that it can. The Directors of the Friends of the Library, the Vineland Library Foundation Board, and the Board of Library Trustees have distinct responsibilities that, taken together, help fund our many events and activities, support capital improvements such as the electric sign and the new roof, and assure that the Library provides the best possible return on local taxpayers' investment. Currently, these three Boards are composed of 36 people who show up, speak up, and pitch in when and where it counts. My heartfelt thanks go to each one of them - and their recent predecessors - who have made my tenure here so much easier than it would have been without their counsel and support.

Last, and hardest on the "leaving behind" list, are the staff of Vineland Library. They are 33 hard-working, well-trained, friendly people who strive to give their best every day. They welcomed me years ago as a total unknown. Since then we have grown to understand each other and work together harmoniously. Their dedication, creativity, and enthusiasm are the basis of all we do here. As the Director, I simply could not have accomplished anything without their many talents. Their cooperation and effort brought life to my vision for the Library and have assured success in meeting the many service improvement goals we set ourselves. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to work with each one of them. I will miss them all as colleagues, but trust we will remain friends.

I should now say that the last important thing about going is to know exactly where you are going to. I confess I'm still working on that. Maybe I'll be a library volunteer – since not entering one five days a week after a 41-year career will likely be a bigger shock than I can imagine right now. Time will tell.

But, wherever I go and whatever I do, I hope I find in retirement the same satisfaction that has filled my days here at Vineland Public Library. I've appreciated the experience tremendously.

So long, and thanks.

