



Toms River's NEA Big Read

Timeline of Events: October 2017



Mon., Oct. 2, Station 1, Kick-off event, Ocean County Library's Mancini Hall, 6:30 - 8 p.m. We're kicking things off with a celebration of *Station Eleven* and Toms River's first ever NEA Big Read with door prizes and giveaways, dramatic readings, musical performances from Garden State Philharmonic's Junior Orchestra, a theatrical performance from High School North students, visual art displays, and much more.*

Mon. Oct. 9, Special Event, Heartbreak & Healing After Sandy, Ocean County Library @ 6:30 p.m. A free screening of the powerful documentary from Toms River's own Sandra Levine, who will preface the showing with a few words about Sandy and her experience making the film.

Tues., Oct. 10, Station 2, NEA Big Read Week EastTR: High School East; Intermediate East; East Dover; Silver Bay; Cedar Grove; and Hooper Avenue. A week of *Station Eleven*-inspired activities and themes including Career Academy capstone project presentations; thematic makerspace activities; parent and family engagement; school-wide book discussions (including companion books at intermediate and elementary levels), and more.

Wed., Oct. 11, Station 3, Writing with Scissors, Ocean County Library @ 6:30 p.m. Professor and author Ellen Gruber Garvey reveals in her book *Writing with Scissors: American Scrapbooks from the Civil War to the Harlem Renaissance* how people collected and critiqued accounts from a press that they did not control, to create "unwritten histories" in books they wrote with scissors. Join OCL for a presentation on the relationship between scrapbooks and archives, and how 19th century readers spoke back to the media and treasured what mattered to them. "First we only want to be seen, but once we're seen, that's not enough anymore. After that, we want to be remembered." *Station Eleven*

Sat., Oct. 14, Special event: Jersey Shore Makerfest, High School North, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Students, families, and attendees will visit "Station 11" and contribute to the book-inspired Halloween Parade float. Modeled after the Traveling Symphony's caravan, the float will welcome old recycled instruments, survival materials, and the imagination and creative energy of our community.*

Mon., Oct. 16, Station 4, NEA Big Read Week NorthTR: High School North; Intermediate North; North Dover; Walnut Street; West Dover; and Citta School. A week of *Station Eleven*-inspired activities and themes including Career Academy capstone project presentations; thematic makerspace activities; parent and family engagement; school-wide book discussions (including companion books at intermediate and elementary levels), and more.

Wed., Oct. 18, Station 5, Museum of Interesting Things, Ocean County Library @ 6:30 p.m. Denny Daniel is the curator and founder of The Museum of Interesting Things, a traveling interactive demonstration and exhibition of antique technologies and inventions. Ever a showman, Denny inspires kids and adults to be curious and to tinker. The exhibition will demonstrate what life was like as it relates to inventions and culture, and will be hands on, interactive and engaging. It will inspire, entertain, and demystify the inventions of various eras. "We like to say that we show people that their iPods did not pop out of thin air," says Denny. In *Station Eleven*, Clark began the Museum of Civilization because he wanted to preserve the memory of what came "before." His goal was to preserve civilization, and he put the artifacts in context.

Thurs., Oct. 19, Station 6, Community Book Discussion, High School North Auditorium -OR- HSN Active Learning Center (depending on anticipated attendance), 7 - 8:30 p.m. Structured like a traditional book club and facilitated by Toms River teachers, residents of all ages are invited to participate and share their thoughts about the novel in an open, honest, inviting setting.*

Fri., Oct. 20, Station 7, Trivia Night, Bahama Breeze Island Grille, 7 - 8:30 p.m. On the outdoor patio of one of TR's most popular dining spots, enjoy *Station Eleven*-themed cocktails, special menu items, book trivia, giveaways, and general merriment in honor of NEA Big Read. (Rain date Oct. 27.)*

Mon., Oct. 23, Station 8, NEA Big Read Week SouthTR: High School South; Intermediate South; Washington Street; South Toms River; Pine Beach; and Beachwood. A day of *Station Eleven*-inspired activities and themes including Career Academy capstone project presentations; thematic makerspace activities; parent and family engagement; school-wide book discussions (including companion books at intermediate and elementary levels), and more.

Wed., Oct. 25, Station 9, The Making of the Graphic Novel, Ocean County Library, @ 6:30 p.m. Mike Cavallaro, an accomplished artist with over 20 years of experience in comics and graphic novels and a NJ native, has worked for DC Comics, MTV, Archie Comics, Warner Bros., Image, and most recently, First Second publishers in New York. Join OCL upstairs in the graphic novel section, where Mike will introduce the history of graphic novels, his creative process, and what it takes for a graphic novel to go from idea to the bookshelf today. (Read more about Mike Cavallaro: <http://www.mikecavallaro.com/>) In *Station Eleven*, the creation of the graphic novel and Dr. Eleven is a central plot line for the novel and reveals parallels between storylines. It speaks of art, loneliness, and re-creating the world.

Thurs., Oct. 26, Station 10, Keynote & Panel Book Discussion featuring Emily St. John Mandel, author of *Station Eleven*, 6-9 p.m., Grunin Center for the Arts at Ocean County College. An exclusive meet-and-greet and book signing with the author precedes an academic discussion of the novel from five OCC professors representing lit, fine arts, theater, and environmental science. The book's best-selling author will then provide a personal account of the book, its themes, and connection to Sandy, before a Q&A featuring the OCC panel and student-driven questions.*

Sat., Oct. 28, Special event: Greetings From the Jersey Shore, The Jay & Linda Grunin Center for the Arts at Ocean County College, 7 p.m. The Garden State Philharmonic-- our NEA Big Read's literal Traveling Symphony-- will open its Exploring American Genius series by honoring the people and places of the Jersey Shore on the five-year anniversary of Superstorm Sandy. Tickets to the performance are discounted 20% by using code NEABIGREAD.*

Tues., Oct. 31, Culminating Event, Station 11, Halloween Parade, downtown Toms River, 6-9 p.m. Prior to the parade, students will flood the town with book-inspired art in a way that positively transforms the literal floods of Sandy five years prior. Toms River Fire Company No. 1 has assigned Division B as "Best Representation of Station Eleven" to be judged for costumes and creativity, and to be preceded by a student/community produced *Station Eleven* parade float.*

* denotes NEA Big Read Happy Hour featuring *Station Eleven* cocktail at Bahama Breeze Island Grille in Toms River from 5-6 p.m.