

# Croton Free Library

## SHELF LIFE

Annual Newsletter, Spring 2017

### First Annual Croton Comic Con Incredibly Successful



On October 10, 2016 The Croton Free Library served as the venue for the first annual Croton Comic Con. First imagined as a way of bringing the type of celebration of comics, movies, games, and art made famous by conventions such as the New York Comic Con to the Village of Croton, the day-long event for the community welcomed all ages and served as a way for fans and talented individuals to gather and celebrate their shared interests.

The Library had an amazing turnout, with over 1,200 people in attendance over the course of the day. Attendees were able to peruse the tables set up in our Artist's Alley, featuring goods and displays set up by talented artists and creatives, and collectors of pop culture goods. Additional activities included a cosplay (aka costume play) contest, a costume-making workshop, gaming in the Teen Room, and a screening of the film X-Men: Apocalypse.

Special programs were held for younger attendees, such as a show by Chris Fuentes, The Balloonman; Bryan Lee, The Etch-A-Sketch Artist; and Cody Wells, The Legoman of New York. The event also served as a successful collaboration between the Library and local businesses, with 3rd Universe's Bryan Deyo being instrumental in the organizing of the event and Franki's Grill providing food and drink. The 501st Legion, an international, volunteer organization specializing in creating and displaying incredibly detailed Star Wars cosplay, made an appearance, making it an even more memorable day for all.

Given its success, The Croton Free Library is planning to make Croton Comic Con an annual event. Details on what we have planned for 2017 will be announced this summer.

### 2016 STATISTICS

#### Circulation

Adult Book Circulation . . . . .	47,916
Children's Book Circulation . . . . .	37,800
Adult Audiovisual & Other . . . . .	24,008
Children's AV & Other . . . . .	5,633
Digital Materials . . . . .	5,850
Items Loaned to Other Libraries . . . . .	20,882
<b>Total Items:</b> . . . . .	<b>142,089</b>

#### Attendance

Adult Program Attendance . . . . .	2,045
YA Program Attendance . . . . .	1,092
Children's Program Attendance . . . . .	9,840
<b>Total Attendees:</b> . . . . .	<b>12,977</b>

### The Croton Free Library Welcomes New Director Jesse Bourdon

The Croton Free Library is very proud to name its new Director, Jesse Bourdon. A familiar face for many, Jesse was raised in Croton-on-Hudson and has held a number of positions at the Croton Free Library over the years. He served as the Assistant Director at the Library from 2013 until his appointment as Director, and prior to that he had worked as IT Support Technician for the Westchester Library System, an Art Director for Young & Rubicam Brands, and a Digital Colorist for Blue Sky Studios. Jesse holds a Bachelor of Art in Media Study with a concentration in Digital Art and a Master of Library Science, both from the State University of New York at Buffalo.

While Assistant Director, Jesse was instrumental in several changes and improvements to the Library in recent years. With a focus on the ways new technology can improve the existing services the Library provides, his contributions can be seen in the updates to the Ottinger Room A/V equipment, the technology in the Creative Space, and his involvement in the first Croton Comic Con last fall. *(continued)*

### New Director (*continued*)

As Director, he plans to continue to make upgrades that enhance the Library, create more weekly programming, listen to community feedback on patron needs, and work with other organizations in the Village to provide the best possible experiences and offerings for our community.



"The reception I've received from the staff and the residents has been humbling," Jesse stated. "I hope to bring new and innovative services to the Library while retaining the comfortable and friendly atmosphere that we pride ourselves upon."

### Croton Free Library

171 Cleveland Drive, Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520  
914-271-6612 • [www.crotonfreelibrary.org](http://www.crotonfreelibrary.org)

#### STAFF

Jesse Bourdon, *Library Director*

Lauren Dorien,  
*Head of Children's & Youth Services*

Lori Phillips, *Technical Services*

and over 25 valuable part-timers

#### LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Marianne Merola, *President, 2017*

Elizabeth Hiller &  
Lori Zablow-Salles,  
*co-Vice-Presidents, 2018*

Karen Zevin, *Treasurer, 2018*

Meredith Hertlein, *Secretary, 2018*

#### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

(Term Ending Year)

Kelly Thomann,  
*President, 2017*

Barry Feinberg,  
*Vice-President, 2018*

Howie Myers,  
*Treasurer, 2018*

Sharyse Eisinger,  
*Secretary, 2020*

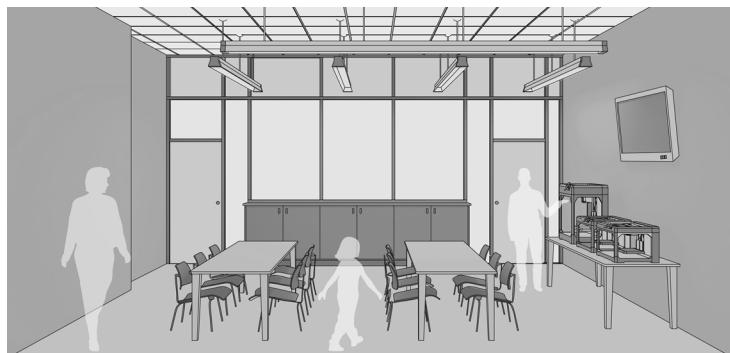
Michelle Minoff, *2018*

Leslie Ellis, *2019*

Debra Schor, *2019*

Jessica Godwin, *2020*

Mary McFerran, *2021*



### Creative Space Nearing Completion

One of the most exciting new additions to the Croton Free Library has been the Creative Space area, and we're very happy to announce that the space is almost completed. The glass partition has been installed and the doors are coming in the near future. We hope to have it available for printing for the public this summer. We will also continue to train volunteer instructors on the 3D printers as we prepare to open the space officially.

The construction of the Creative Space began when we had our new carpet installed. The library's collection was rearranged in order to accommodate the addition, and the construction of the room has been ongoing over the past year. Now that it's all come together, we invite you to have a look the next time you're in the Library.

We'd like to remind everyone that we will not only be using the area for 3D printing, but we hope to offer a variety of creative programming for years to come. If you'd like to volunteer your creative expertise and skills, and maybe teach a class, please stop in, and fill out a form. We have launched a Generosity donation page to generate funding for the remainder of the construction and for sewing machines and arts and crafts supplies. Please donate at:

[www.generosity.com/community-fundraising/croton-free-library-creative-space](http://www.generosity.com/community-fundraising/croton-free-library-creative-space)

## JOIN US!

Become a member of the  
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For details and to donate online go to  
[crotonfreelibrary.org/donate](http://crotonfreelibrary.org/donate)