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**Seattle Arts & Lectures and The Seattle Public Library Announces *Seattle Walk Report* Cartoonist to Illustrate Summer Book Bingo
*First Category Released; Full Board to Release Early***

Seattle, WA—APRIL 9, 2020: Seattle Arts & Lectures (SAL) and The Seattle Public Library (SPL) announced today that this year's Book Bingo, an adult summer reading program, will launch online—and a bit earlier!—making it Spring/Summer Book Bingo. This year's board will be drawn by Susanna Ryan of *Seattle Walk Report*. Now in its sixth year, their annual Book Bingo offers a fun way for Seattle readers to expand their reading selections. Each square on the bingo card presents a reading challenge, where you read and record a book title that fits the challenge.

This year's board artist, Susanna Ryan, is a self-taught cartoonist and author of the Pacific Northwest Booksellers Association bestselling book, *Seattle Walk Report: An Illustrated Walking Tour Through 23 Seattle Neighborhoods*. After discovering a love for exploring Seattle by foot, she started the [Instagram comic series](#), *Seattle Walk Report* in 2017, which now has over 17,000 followers. With her keen eye for Seattle's overlooked landmarks and everyday ephemera, she captures everything that makes the Emerald City magical. Her work has been showcased in *The Seattle Times*, *Seattle Magazine*, *The Stranger*, *The Seattle Review of Books*, and on KING-5, where *Seattle Walk Report* was a finalist for *Evening Magazine's* Best of Western Washington 2019.

This year's board celebrates how even in Seattle's most urban-feeling areas, you're never too far from some wonderful natural spaces. The card features flora and fauna native to Seattle and the Pacific Northwest from a nature journal. Three free Seattle parks in different parts of the city also appear in the card: Kubota Garden in South Seattle, Licton Springs Park in North Seattle, and the Arboretum in Central Seattle. Licton Springs Park is the only officially recognized Native American landmark in Seattle ([background info here](#)).

The print and digital boards had been set to launch at a Seattle Arts & Lectures event on May 14. However, as COVID-19 has limited our ability to gather together, readers began to request an early release for the board. As a result, SAL and SPL moved up the timeline and will launch a digital version of the board in early May. Copies of the Bingo Board will be available for download at www.lectures.org/book-bingo and at www.spl.org/BookBingo. Print cards will be available at a later date once library

branches are open again.

As is their tradition, SAL and SPL are releasing a few categories early, and today they announced the first square: "Uplifting." Funny, heartwarming, and life-affirming stories are definitely in order right now, and the SPL librarians have assembled a list of eBooks and eAudiobooks that will deliver some feel-good vibes: <https://www.spl.org/programs-and-services/learning/summer-of-learning/2020-adult-book-bingo/uplifting-stories>. Each Thursday, a new bingo square will be released on social media with the tag #BookBingoNW2020.

Seattle Arts & Lectures will also release a Kids Book Bingo Board this year for readers 0-17, on Thursday, April 16, 2020.

If players need a little summer reading inspiration, they can turn to one or more of the incredible writers featured at [Seattle Arts & Lectures](#) or check out SAL's blog, [SAL/on](#), for more ideas. For custom-crafted recommendations, visit your local branch of The Seattle Public Library or fill out a brief form at spl.org/yournext5, and one of Seattle's expert librarians will recommend five books just for you.

How does it work?

Adults: Fill in a Bingo Card with the titles and authors of the books you've read between now and Sept. 8, 2020, and drop it off (or a photocopy of it, if you wish to keep the original) at the Seattle Arts & Lectures office or at any location of The Seattle Public Library, mail it in, or post a photo on Twitter or Instagram (be sure to tag #BookBingoNW2020). Book titles may only be used once per card, and only one entry per person, please. The Adult Book Bingo Board is for readers 18 and older.

Kids: Fill in a Bingo Card with the titles and authors of the books you've read between now and Sept. 8, 2020, and drop it off (or a photocopy of it, if you wish to keep the original) at the Seattle Arts & Lectures office, mail it in, or post a photo on Twitter or Instagram (be sure to tag #BookBingoNW2020). Book titles may only be used once per card, and only one entry per person, please. The Kids Book Bingo Board is for readers 0-17.

What can readers win and how?

Complete all 25 squares for a **blackout card** and adult readers will be entered in a drawing for one of three grand prizes—including a subscription to the 2020/21 SAL Series subscription of your choice. Kid readers who complete a blackout card will be entered into a drawing for the grand prize: a \$100 gift card to an independent book store.

Adults and kids: complete a horizontal, vertical, or diagonal line to get a **bingo** and

you will be entered into a drawing for a gift card to an independent book store. Prizes to be collected at The Seattle Public Library location of your choice.

About Seattle Arts & Lectures: Founded in 1987, Seattle Arts & Lectures champions the literary arts by engaging and inspiring readers and writers of all generations in the Puget Sound region. SAL's programs include the Literary Arts Series, Poetry Series, Women You Need to Know (WYNK), Journalism Series, SAL Presents, Hinge, Local Voices, Summer Book Bingo, the Youth Poet Laureate (YPL) program, and Writers in the Schools (WITS). For more information about SAL, visit lectures.org.

About The Seattle Public Library: Founded in 1890, The Seattle Public Library brings people, information, and ideas together to enrich lives and build community in the Seattle metropolitan region. The Library provides free educational resources that support lifelong learning, including a wealth of reading material for children, teens, and adults, online classes, access to computers, author readings, concerts, film festivals, cultural lectures, story times for children, and more. Librarians at all 27 of our locations and online (through Your Next 5 Books) are ready to help readers find the right books to complete their bingo squares. For more information, visit spl.org or call the Library at 206-386-4636.