Our Heroes!

In the early morning hours on Friday, March 31, an electrical transformer located under the sidewalk on Beacon Street malfunctioned, sending soot and ash into our building and triggering smoke alarms. The event prompted us to close the building for the day, while staff assessed the damage and arranged for a team of remediation specialists to clean ducts, replace air filters and smoke detectors, remove carpets for cleaning, and seal off basement-level stacks for specialist treatment.

The following night, a water leak on the fifth floor was discovered during a routine security patrol. Conservation and cataloging staff evacuated approximately 100 volumes from the affected area and froze them, to prevent mold growth while the books await conservation treatment.

We're grateful for our dedicated colleagues, who responded swiftly at all hours of the day and night to a complicated set of circumstances. Thank you for protecting our home at 10½ Beacon Street!

Pictured: Robert L. West, Director of Operations; Nazrul I. Quadery, Building Engineer; Evan Knight, Associate Conservator; Dawn Walus; Chief Conservator; Elizabeth E. Barker, Stanford Calderwood Director; and Will Evans,
FEATURED UPCOMING EVENTS

MUSIC, CONSERVATION, AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Thursday, April 13, 6-7 pm
Registration now open
P Members $15, Non-members $20

Join us for an evening of contemporary music dedicated to the topic of environmental conservation, intended to inspire thought and spark conversation. ECCE's residency at the Athenæum reflects the institution's historically significant role as a hub of civic discourse. The evening will consist of a performance and community forum with presentations by leading environmental innovators.

UNFATHOMING

Wednesday, April 12, 12-1 pm
Registration not required
P F Members and Non-members Free

Andrea Cohen's poems search the shadow regions of yearning and loss, but they take surprising, sometimes meteoric leaps, landing in a place where brightness reigns. The voice in Unfathoming strives to upend the title: to both acknowledge mystery, and with wile and grace, comprehend it.

ADDITIONAL UPCOMING EVENTS (click each title to read full details)

M-Members only P-Open to the Public R-Reception F-Free event

ELIZABETH BISHOP: A MIRACLE FOR BREAKFAST

Tuesday, April 4, 6-7 pm
M F Registration now open

EXHIBITION OPENING

New England on Paper: Contemporary Art in the Boston Athenæum's Prints & Photographs Collections

Wednesday, April 5, 5:30-7:30 pm
P F Registration not required

FRAME BY FRAME: SNAPS OF THE
INTERSECTION OF SCIENCE AND PHOTOGRAPHY

Tuesday, April 18, 6-7:30 pm
Registration now open
P R Members $15, Non-members $30

EMMANUEL MUSIC PRESENTS
MENDELSSOHN AND WOLF

Thursday, April 20, 12-1 pm
P F Registration not required

EYE OF THE EXPERT

Leading the Way: Innovators and Pioneers at the Boston Atheneum

Monday, April 24, 12-1 pm
Registration begins April 10, 9 am
M Members $20

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT: PURPOSEFUL CONTRIBUTIONS TO A GREATER GOOD

Tuesday, April 25, 6-7:30 pm
Registration begins April 11, 9 am
P R Members $15, Non-members $30

PRINCE CHARLES: THE PASSIONS AND PARADOXES OF AN IMPROBABLE LIFE

Wednesday, April 26, 6-7 pm
Registration begins April 12, 9 am
M Members $30

GLIMPSED AT 10½

New England Patriots Wide Receiver Malcolm Mitchell made a special stop at the Atheneum on his Read Across New England Tour. Mitchell spoke about his personal reading journey and his Read With Malcolm literacy initiatives, then gave a reading of his picture book, The Magician's Hat.

Though he initially struggled with reading, Mitchell grew to love books while recovering from an injury during his sophomore year at the University of Georgia. Today, Mitchell is an avid reader, book club member, and mentor to elementary school students.

FOR YOUR REFERENCE
Useful tales and tidbits from the reference desk

Want to sound like the smartest person in the room at your next book group? Check out the Boston Atheneum's electronic subscription to the Books & Authors database. Click here for instructions on how to access the database.

To learn more about electronic resources available to you, visit our website or contact reader services.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

• APRIL CLOSURE We will be closed on Monday, April 17 for Patriots' Day.

• APRIL FOOLS On April 1, we announced a very special author of the month: Athena! Read Circulation Assistant Arnold Serapilio's interview with the goddess of wisdom herself here.

• NEW ENGLAND ON PAPER Our upcoming exhibition, New England on Paper: Contemporary Art in the Boston Atheneum's Prints & Photographs Collections, opens to the public on April 6. Stop by the Norma Jean Calderwood Gallery on the first floor to view the exhibit.

CHILDREN'S EVENT:
PRINTMAKING
WORKSHOP

Saturday, April 22, 1-2 pm
Members $3, Non-members $5
Free for children under 8

Teaching artist Annie Silverman demonstrates how artists capture the look and feel of New England's built and natural environment. Participants will visit the exhibition gallery for some close looking at featured works from New England on Paper: Contemporary Art in the Boston Atheneum's Prints & Photographs Collection, then carve their own stamps from malleable rubber and use them to create an original artwork.

WATCH & LISTEN

The Art & Craft of Translation, a lecture with Ann Goldstein, translator of works by Elena Ferrante, Primo Levi, Pier Paolo Pasolini, and Alessandro Baricco, is available for streaming online in video and podcast format, perfect for catching up during your daily commute.

Catch up on other previous book talks and lectures here.