

Librarian's Shelf by Kelli Keyes

Treasures a Library Holds

I'm so thankful for the gift of books! Books are precious gifts that you can share with everyone and can be a timeless treasure that lasts a lifetime. What better place to start looking for your next read than your local library? The Columbus Public Library has over 46,500 books for you to browse. Can you imagine? And that's just the physical books within the building! There are 3,637 DVD's and 2,208 audio books in our continuously growing collection. Every month we add new items to our collections, making sure that we consider patrons' purchase suggestions. And if getting to the library is a problem, you can always sign in to Nebraska Overdrive and check out e-books and e-audios. This ever expanding collection currently holds 17,440 e-books and 7,855 e-audios for your reading and listening pleasure. Isn't that incredible? Because of space restrictions, the library stores holiday books during the spring and summer, which are always available for check out on request. We are currently setting out our holiday book collections on display for you so be sure to look for your holiday favorites.

I could go on and on about our amazing collections, but I need to let you know about our upcoming events. As always, November will be a busy month for us. On Saturday, November 14th at 2:00 pm is our Author Fair. This would be the perfect way to find a Christmas gift for that reader on your list. These books are written by local authors, who will sign their books for you. The next week, on Saturday, November 21st from 10 am to 5 pm, we will have our NaNoWriMo write in. Budding authors are welcome to come to the library all day Saturday and enjoy snacks while brainstorming.

Thursday evening, November 19th is the Downtown Christmas Stroll event for Columbus. It will start at 5 pm this year and conclude around 8 pm. This is such an exciting night for families and a wonderful way to see the beautiful lights and holiday decorations of downtown Columbus. Go to <http://www.columbusdowntown.com/> and click on the "Christmas Stroll" link in the list on the left side of the page. From this web page you can print out the map of the Downtown Christmas Stroll and see all the participating businesses. There will be music, caroling, toasted marshmallows, and hayrides around the lights of Frankfort Square. Look for characters from Dicken's "A Christmas Carol" as you enjoy the evening.

The Library is part of the Christmas Stroll. A Christmas story walk has been created using a beautifully illustrated children's book by Kandy Radzinski titled "What Dogs Want for Christmas". Come to the library to pick up your map to follow the pages of the story posted around downtown. To help with your story walk you will also be given a library key chain flashlight and a bag of M&M popcorn. Last year we welcomed 400 participants to the story walk and we hope to have as big a crowd or bigger this year. Make plans for a family night of fun and togetherness!

Librarian read recommend: "Sworn to Silence" by Linda Castillo.