

PLAINFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY

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*****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*****

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Plainfield Public Library Celebrates Women's History Month

The Plainfield Public Library announces two new exhibits in celebration of Women's History Month. The Library is displaying selected items from the newly donated Anne Louise Davis Collection, as well as eight artworks by women artists that are in the library's Fine Art Collection.

This year's Women's History Month exhibits honor Anne Louise Davis (1913-2000), who was a life-long resident of Plainfield. Miss Davis was active in numerous community organizations and boards. She would work full time in New York City and then volunteer in the evening as a nurse's aide at Muhlenberg Hospital. She was at the forefront of local advocacy efforts for the construction of the current Plainfield Public Library building. She later became President of the Library's Board of Trustees, a position she held for many years. In recognition of her dedication to the Library, after her death the Library Board of Trustees named the library's community meeting room in her honor.

During her career, she was a public relations officer for an advertising agency in New York City, handling contracts for non-fiction magazine articles, radio, T.V. and movies. She went on to become a literary agent, working with noted authors like J. D. Salinger and Langston Hughes. Two notable items in the exhibit are books inscribed to her by Salinger and Hughes.

The fine-arts exhibit of female artists includes works by Indira Bailey, Ellie Bogardus, Riva Helfond, Gerry Heydt, Carolyn Keskulla, and Elizabeth Nathan. Anne Louise Davis was also an amateur sculptor, working in wood, metal and stone. Several of her pieces are in the current exhibit.

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The Anne Louise Davis Collection is on display on the main level near the Reference Desk and in the reading area; it will run through April 2015. The artwork by women artists is on display in Room 5 on the lower level and will remain on display through the summer. All Library exhibits are free to the public. The Plainfield Public Library is located at 800 Park Avenue. For hours of operation, call 908-757-1111 or check the website at *plainfieldlibrary.info*.



Above: *"Anne Louise Davis"*, oil on canvas. 1990. Gerry Heydt, artist.



Above: *"Initiation"*, oil on canvas. 1997. Indira Bailey, artist.

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