

THE BOOK CLUB OF GROSSE
FOUNDED IN 1934
P.O. Box 375, Grosse Ile, MI 48138
gibookclub.com

September 3, 2019

Dear Members,

As summer blossoms fade and fall hues appear, save a piece of your heart for gladioli. Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA) docent, Dr. Lea Schelke, will explain the provenance of the Monet masterpiece, **Rounded Flower Bed**, on **September 20, 2019 (1:00 PM) at St. James Episcopal Church**. Dr. Schelke will surprise us with clues uncovered by DIA curator Jill Shaw, that contributed to the retitling of this stunning painting formerly known as **Gladioli**.

Our program committee swung for the fences and snagged Michigan Notable Book Award winner, Michael Zadoorian for our dinner event! Many of you will recognize Mr. Zadoorian's name as his book, **Beautiful Music**, is currently circulating through our members. The author of this coming of age story, set in northwest Detroit and punctuated by the rock 'n' roll music that gave a teenage boy refuge from post 1967 turbulent times, promises to captivate book lovers, spouses, and friends. Another of Mr. Zadoorian's novels, **The Leisure Seeker**, was adapted to the big screen by Sony Pictures Classics starring acting luminaries Helen Mirren and Donald Sutherland. Don't miss this opportunity to hear Mr. Zadoorian speak on **February 21, 2020 (6:00 PM) at the Grosse Ile Golf and Country Club**. We are truly pinching ourselves.

Rounding out a stellar program, our annual meeting will feature a topic that hits close to home for too many of us. Suzanne Dalton will share a personal story chronicled in her book, **A Year Lost, A Life Gained: Fighting Breast Cancer with Wit, Humor, Friends and a Perky Poodle**. Join us on **April 17, 2020 (1:00 PM) at St. James Episcopal Church** and think pink.

The Marsh King's Daughter, a book that had you talking last year, will be the subject of discussion at my home (**26663 East River Rd.**) at **1:00 PM on October 18, 2019**. Talented leader Chris Chambers will encore as our literary guide.

Educated: A Memoir, a book that has you talking this year, will be thoughtfully explored on **March 20, 2020 (1:00 PM) at the Grosse Ile Presbyterian Church**. Robin Brown, our program and circulation committee member, is stepping into the facilitation role with a passion for this story.

The Belle Isle **Dossin Great Lakes Museum** is our spring trip destination. Vice-President Katie Hartwell has arranged a private tour followed by lunch at the nearby beautiful Detroit Yacht Club on **Wednesday, May 13th, 2020**. Katie thought that visiting the Dossin would be especially meaningful after its curator, Joel Stone, fascinated us at last February's dinner meeting.

Dues are due! Please return the enclosed membership renewal form as soon as possible but not later than **October 31st**. Our secretary, Sue Pizzimenti, will finalize the membership list by November 15th. We cannot add regular members after that date.

Encourage others to join and help our club continue as a robust organization. Notify Sue (suepizzimenti@hotmail.com) or me if you would like to have materials sent to potential members. For those who cannot commit to passing books throughout the year, an associate membership, enabling one to enjoy our wonderful program, may fit the bill. The board is planning a “meet and greet” for new members in January, an opportunity to welcome them and explain our system. It can be confusing when you are a newbie.

Note the request for your cell phone number for our directory. It is so important that we can call or text you if there is a circulation issue. Many of us travel and do not retrieve messages on landline voicemail systems until we return.

Book circulation problems require immediate attention. Note the verbiage at the top of the passing order list in the back of each book. It asks you to notify your circulation head if your book is more than 3 days late. **Please do not** let problems fester. We want you to have a good experience and will work hard to see that you receive your books on time. Feel free to contact the individual who passes to you before you call your circulation head as well.

The board thanks each and every one of you for making the new book distribution system a success. Only a handful of books remained after the pickup at the February dinner meeting. The new procedures saved you time and eased the burden on our circulation committee.

Volunteers power this marvelous club. Ask to serve on a committee or hold a board position so that the Book Club of Grosse Ile continues to enrich our community for many years. Serving with the talented and interesting people on our board and committees is an absolute pleasure. We hope that you enjoy the book selections and program. We are proud of both. Our ability to modestly increase what we can spend on speakers has already reaped rewards.

As a final note, we are indebted to the St. James Episcopal and Grosse Ile Presbyterian churches for their generosity. Both venues (St. James for regular meetings and GIPC for our March book discussion) will waive room rental fees for us as a nonprofit organization.

I look forward to seeing you on September 20th.

Warm regards,

Christine Dowhan-Bailey
President

P.S. You can find this letter and much more on our **new and greatly improved website**, gibookclub.com! It is easy to navigate and looks great thanks to our website wizard, Sue Pizzimenti