



BINGHAMTON AREA READING COUNCIL

2023-24 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

BARC is a
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Provider

SAVE THE DATE FOR THESE EXCITING IN-PERSON EVENTS!

Theme: Supporting Our Community

Each event will feature a local non-profit organization that is contributing to the health and well-being of our community and its members!

When Binghamton Burned Its Books: The Past and Present of Today's School Wars

Historian and Professor of Education & History at Binghamton University

ADAM LAATS, PhD

Even the most experienced teachers and administrators have been surprised by the heat of today's school politics, including disruptions at school board meetings, book banning, and angry battles over classroom content. For a full century, similar battles have roiled America's public schools. Right here in Binghamton, the school board planned a bonfire of controversial history textbooks in the 1940s. Over and over, school politics have led to both vicious and violent actions and events. **YET THIS TURBULENT HISTORY OFFERS SURPRISING REASONS FOR OPTIMISM!**

In this talk, Dr. Adam Laats will share stories of the past and offer new perspectives for the future.

Endwell Greens, 3675 Sally Piper Rd, Endwell, NY 13760

TUESDAY, November 14, 2023 4:15-6:30 PM

Cost: \$18.00/members, students, and retirees \$23.00/Non-members

Light Fare will be served (sandwich buffet, salads, desserts) *Cash Bar *Door Prizes & Raffles!



Horseback, USA, An American Journey Experience

Author and Freelance Writer
MELISSA CHAPMAN

Come and enjoy an evening with local author and freelance writer Melissa Chapman! Melissa will share with us her recent book and remarkable memoir, *Distant Skies: An American Journey on Horseback* (2020). At the age of 23, Melissa said goodbye to a loving family, decent job, friends, and boyfriend. Carrying a puppy named Gypsy, she climbed aboard her horse and began a solo adventure spanning 2,600 miles, beginning in New York State and ending in California. Melissa is now a married mother of four, lives in Upstate New York, and still rides daily.

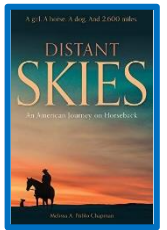
Endicott Visitor Center, 300 Lincoln Ave, Endicott, NY 13760

WEDNESDAY, January 31, 2024 (Snow date Feb. 7) 4:15-6:30 PM

Cost: \$10/members, students & retirees \$15/non-members

Co-sponsored by the Endicott Visitor Center – Open to the Public

Hot Cocoa Bar and Light Refreshments will be served *Books for Sale *Author Signing *Door Prizes & Raffles!



The Pleasure of Reading and Writing

★ Newbery Medal-Winning Author ★

JACK GANTOS

Jack Gantos has written books for readers of all ages, from picture books and middle-grade fiction to novels for young adults and adults. His works include *Rotten Ralph*, *Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key*, *Jack Adrift*, *Hole in My Life*, *Writing Radar*, and the Newbery Medal winning *Dead End in Norvelt*. Visit Jack's Website at <https://jackgantos.com/>. Jack believes we want all students to love reading, and we want their reading to inspire their writing! Join him for a lively 'teaching talk' on supporting elementary through middle school students to organize and write classic picture books and autobiographical short stories in their 'Young Writers' notebooks. He will tell stories and provide examples of how good stories are a clever arrangement of 'content' and 'structure' that work together in a standard 'beginning/problem, middle/action, ending/solution' form.

Atrio Banquet Hall, 409 Hooper Rd, Endwell, NY 13760

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1, 2024 4:15-7:00 PM

Cost: \$30/members, students & retirees \$35/non-members

Co-sponsored by the Broome County Teacher Center

Full Dinner Buffet *Cash Bar *Books for Sale *Author Signing *Door Prizes and Raffles

