



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LA GRANGE, IL - *The Art of Beanie the Spider* is jumping off book pages and swinging into the La Grange Public Library on June 10th! View a free family-friendly art exhibit of sketches, artwork and prototypes from the illustrative process which created the first two books in the *Adventures of Beanie the Spider* children's book series, by La Grange artist-turned-author & illustrator, Christine Banks.

You may remember Christine's art from previous summer-long exhibits at the La Grange Public Library such as: *In my Backyard, art+nature exhibit* in 2018, and *Splash: World of Water art exhibit* in 2019. After writing and illustrating the first two books in her children's book series based on a spider living in a fine art gallery, she returns to the library this year with a whole new art show based on the books. In the stories, an imaginative little spider named Beanie goes on adventures in make-believe -- pretending to go inside the artwork on the walls of an art gallery. As such, real artworks (paintings, digital art & photography) were used to illustrate Beanie's gallery. In *The Art of Beanie the Spider*, you will have the chance to stand in a life-sized art gallery, next to the same artwork in the book. Beanie's world of art is jumping off the book pages to be as real as you and me!

Keep an eye out for a La Grange Easter Egg in both the art exhibit, as well as the books! Taken with a black & white film camera in 1998, Christine has included a photo she took of light-fixtures in the La Grange Public Library's old stairwell in the book illustrations. Be sure to find it in the exhibit.

This Summer is full of library fun as more *Adventures of Beanie the Spider* events roll out this month.

- **JUNE 10th THRU AUGUST 12th 2022** | View sketches, prototypes and artwork as seen in the children's book series, *Adventures of Beanie the Spider* in the art exhibit: *The Art of Beanie the Spider* at the La Grange Public Library. 10 W Cossitt Ave, La Grange, Illinois.

- **TUESDAY, JUNE 14th 2022 10:30am** | *Meet-the-Author* for a reading of books 1 & 2, plus games and patriotic prizes for Flag Day, at La Grange Public Library in celebration of the start of *The Art of Beanie the Spider* exhibit. 10 W Cossitt Ave, La Grange, Illinois.

- **NOW THRU JUNE** | Pick up a free *Beanie the Spider Coloring Page* from The Highland Queen Drive In and enter it in the coloring contest for a chance to win a signed copy of *Adventures of Beanie the Spider, Book 2*. 1511 W 55th St., La Grange, Illinois.

DID YOU MISS PAST EVENTS? Check out all the past (& upcoming) events here: <https://beaniethespider.com/events>
Media contact: events@beaniethespider.com



Leaping off the pages of the books and onto the walls of the library, find artwork from the *Adventures of Beanie the Spider* book series now at the La Grange Public Library.

About the series: Taking place in a fine art gallery featuring real artwork, *Adventures of Beanie the Spider* is a creative way to introduce young children to art galleries and spark interest in the arts. Inspired by a spider living on one of Christine's paintings, they are sweet stories about imagination, adventure, and friendship. Written in rhyme, they're fun for adults to read to children and for young independent readers alike. Repeatable favorites for the whole family. Enjoy engaging after-the-story activities at the end of each book as well as supplemental online content and FREE printables at <https://beaniethespider.com/>.