



PHOTO BY MIKE ELLIS

Christine Banks, author of the *Beanie the Spider* children's book series, is exhibiting artwork from her series at the La Grange Public Library through Aug. 12.

## LG children's author shows artwork at library

Mike Ellis

A La Grange children's author and illustrator has her artwork on display at the La Grange Public Library through mid-August.

Christine Banks, author of the *Beanie the Spider* children's book series, began exhibiting sketches, prototypes and artwork from her series in the library basement on June 10, which will remain on display through Aug. 12.

Banks hosted a meet-the-author event at the library on June 14, reading her first

two published books, while giving out Flag Day-inspired patriotic prizes and games.

She has previously showcased artwork at the library, participating in the "in my backyard, art + nature" exhibit in 2018 and the "splash: world of water" exhibit in 2019.

"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," Banks said in a release. "As such, real art-

works (paintings, digital art and 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."

Banks encourages guests to search for a La Grange "Easter egg" dropped in both the exhibit and books: a photo of the light-fixtures in the library's former stairwell that she snapped with a black-and-white film camera back in 1998.