

Medal of Merit Winners: Carol Fitzgerald and Kathryn Enright

By Hannah Charity



Recently, members of the **Fort Orange Garden Club** awarded the co-chairs of the **Pruyn House** gardens committee, **Carol Fitzgerald** and **Kathryn Enright**, with the highest award: the **Medal of Merit**. The prestigious award is typically given to one or two members who have distinguished themselves in the field of horticulture or conservation or served as dedicated leaders in the club. Carol and Kathryn, well-versed in gardening and conservation, have upheld the mission of the garden club in promoting the vitality of gardening and the importance of protecting the environment. Throughout the past decade, Carol and Kathryn have poured their hearts into maintaining the stunning flower and cutting gardens of Pruy House—Colonie’s cultural center. They have been innovative and creative when it comes to leading projects of horticulture, conservation, and floral arrangement. Through collaboration with other club members and the Town of Colonie’s maintenance department, they have improved the watering system, replaced garden equipment, and addressed the trees that were interfering with the gardens. Their dedication and efforts in the garden club are truly unparalleled and worthy of the highest award. The garden club expresses the deepest appreciation for the co-chairs. Warmest congratulations to Carol and Kathryn!

Dangerous Play

By Jenna Caputo

Local author, **Emma Kress**, debuts her first young adult novel, **Dangerous Play**, on August 3rd with a virtual and in-person book launch from our very own **Northshire Bookstore** in Saratoga Springs.



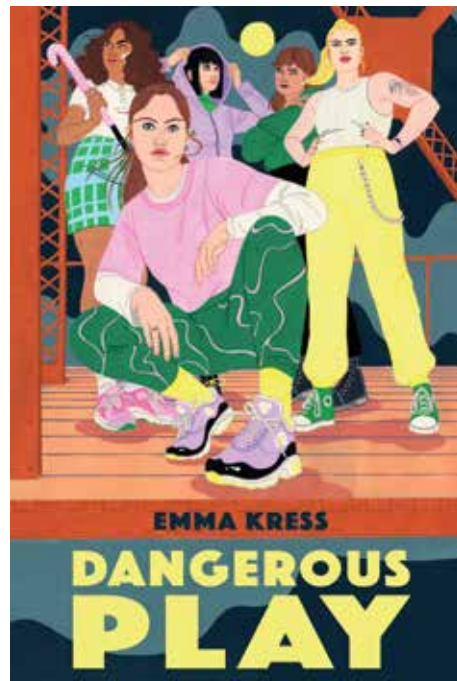
A fierce team of girls takes back the night in this propulsive, electrifying, and high-stakes novel that follows Zoe Alamandar, a girl with a goal to win the State Field Hockey Championships and earn a scholarship that will be her ticket out of town. But after she is assaulted at a party, she has a new goal—to make sure no girl feels unsafe again. Together with her teammates, they decide to stop playing by the rules and to take justice into their own hands, but what will it cost?

This feminist story has been called timely, daring, and thrilling as it explores female friendship and the difficulties of doing the right thing in a world that seems against you.

Previously a high school English teacher, with a Master in Writing for Children and Young Adults, Kress also worked at the Victim Services Agency in NYC and as a peer counselor facilitating workshops for teens on assault.

She is thrilled to celebrate release of her book by conversation with award-winning and bestselling young adult author, **Nova Ren Suma**. Tickets for the event can be reserved at www.northshire.com/event/northshire-live-emma-kress-presents-dangerous-play-nova-ren-suma.

Kress will also be signing books **IN-PERSON** at **Northshire Bookstore** on the same day from 3-4pm.



Northshire is excited to help launch this book. **Rachel Person** from Northshire said, “I want to put this book in the hands of every teenager I know. For anyone—especially any girl—who needs to find the power that comes from speaking up and speaking out, this gorgeous debut is a game-changer!”