

# Personal Paperback Art Show draws a crowd to fund children's literacy

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Artist John Charley and Library Staff members Alison Williams and Jason Macoviak at the Personal Paperback event at the Café Roka.

BISBEE — Walking into Café ROKA on Sunday afternoon, Nov. 6, was like walking into a Manhattan art gallery: stunning images, sophisticated music, spectacular food and a high energy crowd. All of these good times were in the interest of children's literacy in Bisbee, and all proceeds from the event, plus 10 percent of the profit from the show going forward, will be used to purchase additional children's books and create early childhood reading programs for children and their parents at the Copper Queen Library.

The Personal Paperback concept belongs to Bisbee artist John Charley, who photographed the books and worked to create large high quality art prints of the covers, which struck a chord with many of the avid readers in Sunday's crowd who enjoyed sharing memories of the paperbacks they still can't bear to part with.

The Friends of the Library, who sponsored the event, thanked Charley, Café ROKA owner Rod Kass and the Nancy Weaver Swing Trio for their generosity. Friends President Joan Reichel drew the winning ticket in a raffle of one of the prints (valued at \$750) and the winner was Jack Van Gorp, age 13 – very appropriate to an event that raised funds for young readers.

The show will continue to light up the walls at Café ROKA through April 2. For more information on the Personal Paperback project, go to [personalpaperback.net](http://personalpaperback.net).