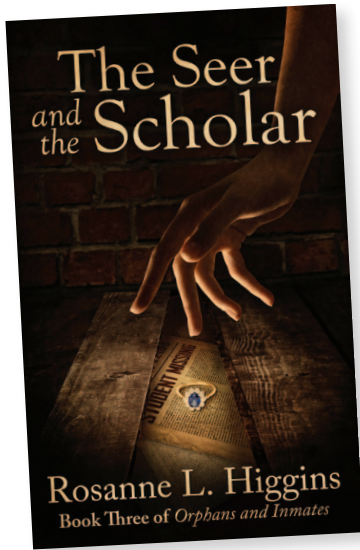


Book Premiere and Signing



The Seer and the Scholar

Featuring local author
and anthropologist
Rosanne Higgins, PhD

Friday, November 6, 2015
7 - 8:30 p.m.

Museum of disABILITY History
3826 Main Street, Buffalo

The stories of real people have inspired the writing of the *Orphans and Inmates* book series, which tells the tale of three sisters who were orphaned on their way from Ireland to Buffalo and sought refuge at the Erie County Poorhouse. The *Seer and the Scholar* takes place during the cholera epidemic of 1849. Martha, the youngest of the Sloane sisters and a student in the Medical Department at the University at Buffalo, takes in an orphaned child who is deaf. Woven through the child's story are Bishop Timon's attempts to establish a school for the deaf and some

details on the education of children who are deaf during the nineteenth century.

There are several other characters who have experienced life altering injuries or illnesses earlier in the series. Those debilitating experiences resulted in their need to seek assistance at the Erie County Poorhouse. The presentation will include their stories and how these characters have progressed through the three books. The facts and fiction of various historical themes in the story will also be discussed.

The presentation is ideal for:

- Fans of historical fiction and the *Orphans and Inmates* book series
- Historians
- Human service employees
- Students and writers



About Roseanne

Rosanne Higgins is an adjunct professor of anthropology at the University at Buffalo. Her research focuses largely on the nineteenth century's Asylum Movement and its impact on disease specific mortality. In the spring of 2012, she was invited to join the Erie County Poorhouse Cemetery project, undertaken by the Department of Anthropology at the University at Buffalo. This project, paired with a longstanding desire to tell a side of the 'Poorhouse story' that was accessible to more than just the scholarly community, resulted in her novel, *Orphans and Inmates*. The book is the first in a series chronicling fictional accounts of poorhouse residents inspired by historical data. The series' second installment, *A Whisper of Bones*, was released in October 2014. The third book, *The Seer and the Scholar*, will debut at this event.

Registration encouraged. RSVP to 716.629.3626.



Museum of disABILITY History
3826 Main Street, Buffalo, NY 14226
museumofdisability.org • 716.629.3626
facebook.com/museumofdisability

Museum Hours
Mon-Fri: 10am-4pm, Sat: 10am-2pm

Admission:
Museum Members – **FREE**
People Inc. Employees – **FREE**
Adults – **\$6.00**
Students, Seniors, and Human Service
Employees – **\$3.50**
**Event fee includes admission to the
Museum of disABILITY History.*