Insider Guide

SPRING 2025 | March, April, May

new lenox public library
on the commons

In This Issue

March 2025 - April 2025 - May 2025

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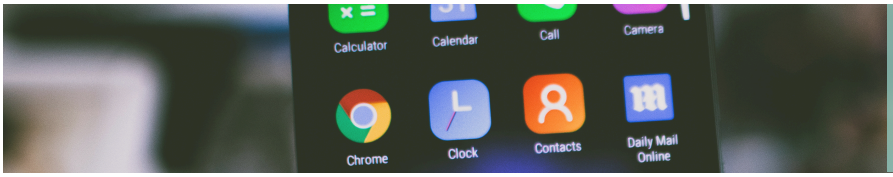


21-25 Adult & Teens

Program Key

In-Person Virtual

Registration is required for programs unless otherwise noted.

Register at www.newlenoxlibrary.org or call (815) 485-2605. You will receive an email and link for live stream virtual programs.

Not online? Call us to learn how you can listen to Zoom programs on your phone!

ADA Accommodations

Available for programs and Library visits. Please call (815) 485-2605 or email info@newlenoxlibrary.org.

Photo Policy

The New Lenox Public Library frequently engages in photographing and recording programs and events for its own publicity and promotional purposes. Patrons and visitors should notify a library staff member if they do not want to be photographed or recorded. Online programs are also subject to being recorded to archive on the Library's website at a later date.

Saturday, April 5 | 10 AM - 2 PM

Maker Day is back! Get hands-on with all that the Library has to offer as we kick off National Library Week.

Maker Day is a free, all-ages event, featuring local businesses, non-profit organizations, community members, and library staff. Drop in to explore exhibits and booths with demonstrations and activities throughout the first floor.

Learn and create with local author and illustrator Rene Galvin, Hawaii Fluid Art, Painting with Tracie, and more! Studio staff will also give presentations on xTool Creative Suite and Foley Audio!

Learn more at www.newlenoxlibrary.org/MakerDay

National Library Week: Drawn to the Library

April 6-12 *A celebration highlighting the valuable role libraries, librarians, and library workers play in transforming lives and strengthening our communities.*

Millions of people across the country visit their libraries every week. *What's the draw?* Everything!

From young families stopping in for play and storytime, to students sketching out their next creative project in a makerspace, to seniors seeking tech help and everyone in between, libraries of all kinds help us connect the dots from one part of our journey to the next. Chart your next literary adventure by browsing the stacks or joining a book club. Let an author color your imagination at an author talk, outline your big business idea at an entrepreneur workshop, or trace your history with your library's genealogy resources.

Whatever draws you in, the library has something for everyone. Celebrate National Library Week from April 6 - 12!

See page 2 for info: In-Person Virtual

Spotlight

Ultimate Instant Ramen Showdown

All Ages
Monday, March 31 | Starting at 10 AM
Youth Services & Adult/Teen Service Desks

Celebrate National Ramen Day with The Ultimate Instant Ramen Showdown! Pick up your ramen tasting kit at the library, then gather up to four friends or family members to cook and taste a variety of instant ramen at home. Rate each ramen in the provided booklet. Once you've tasted them all, visit the voting link to cast your vote for your favorite and help crown the Ultimate Instant Ramen Champion!

No registration required. Kits will be ready for pick up starting promptly at 10 AM while supplies last. Limit one kit per household; serves up to 5. Virtual voting ends Friday, April 11.

Not able to grab a kit? You can still play along at home by voting for your favorite here!

Celebrate National Ramen Day

All Ages
Friday, April 4 | Video posted at 5:30 PM
Library Facebook and Youtube Pages

Join Kyra (from Cooking with Kyra) and Kelli Jean (from Spice Club) as they dive into the world of ramen! They'll explore its rich history, diverse flavors, and even ramen-themed must-reads. Plus, Kyra and Kelli Jean will share their tips, tricks, and favorite ramen toppings in this fun and informative pre-recorded video.

No registration required, but by registering you will receive an email reminder about the video release.

Annual Poetry Contest

Calling all poets! Let's prepare to celebrate National Poetry Month together! The New Lenox Library will be hosting a poetry contest to spotlight your creativity!

Submit a poem on any topic and in a style of your choosing from Monday, March 3 through Monday, March 31. For more information, and to submit your poem, go to **www.newlenoxlibrary.org/poetrycontest**

- All poems will be published in our annual poetry booklet.
- Prizes will be awarded to the top poems in each of the following age categories: Grades 7-9, Grades 10-12, and Adult
- Only one poem per person can be entered.
- Entries accepted only within the U.S.
- Prizes and certificates must be picked up in person and will not be mailed.

Poetry Café

Adults & Teens
Tuesday, April 29 | 6 - 7:30 PM
Meeting Room AB

Wrap up and reflect on National Poetry Month with a poetry café. Read your favorite poem, share an original work, or just come and listen!

Please keep prepared material appropriate for all-ages and limited to 5 minutes. The Library will provide light refreshments.

In addition to the open mic, we will celebrate the release of last year's 2024 poetry booklet and announce the winners from this year's 2025 poetry contest. ***Registration encouraged.***

Mobile Memory Lab Community Digitization Day

Saturday, May 3 | 10 AM - 3 PM

Registration opens Thursday, April 3!

Digitize your community artifacts and family heirlooms at the library with the help of the Mobile Memory Lab!

For one day only, catalogers from the Mobile Memory Lab, a service of Illinois Heartland Library System, will carefully photograph or scan family heirlooms and community artifacts, learn about the items, and catalog them for inclusion in the Illinois Digital Archive. You'll get access to the digital images and help preserve valuable pieces of history for generations to come.
Please keep your artifacts limited to 20 items.

Save the Date!

friends OF THE new lenox public library

Spring Book Sale

Saturday, March 29

Meeting Room AB

10 AM - 3 PM

A VITAL LIBRARY AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Our fundraising efforts add valuable new materials, equipment, and services at the New Lenox Public Library every year!

See page 2 for info: In-Person Virtual

Spotlight

This free program encourages you to read 1,000 books with your child before they enter school. One of the best ways to encourage learning is to spend time sharing books every day. Reading together helps develop pre-reading skills that provide a good foundation for school and learning success.

By reading just three stories a day, you and your child will have read over 1,000 books in one year!

Signing up is easy! Register at the Library, by calling Youth Services at 815-485-2605, or by joining the challenge yourself in Beanstack. In Beanstack, add your child as a Reader in your account, and register them for the 1,000 Books challenge.

Create your Beanstack account here!

1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Graduation

Birth-Age 6
Wednesday, April 9 | 5 PM
Meeting Room AB

This program is for children who have completed the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program. Graduates will be congratulated, and refreshments, snacks, and sweet treats will be available. ***Registration opens Wednesday, March 26.***

Fairytale Formal

Birth-Age 5
Wednesday, April 30 | 5 PM
Meeting Room AB

Come dressed in your best to celebrate the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program! We'll be making crafts, playing games, and dancing the day away. Enrollment in 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten is encouraged but not required to attend this event. ***Registration opens Wednesday, April 16.***

March Madness 2025

"One-Word Wonders" Book Bracket

The battle of the books is back and it's going to be POP-U-LAR!

It's season four of March Madness at the library, and this year's theme is One-Word Wonders! Each week, vote for your favorite books as a brand-new selection of one-word titles battle it out for the title of March Madness Champion! Be sure to vote every Monday in March – each time you vote, your name will be entered into a prize drawing to win an Amazon Echo Show 5.

Registration is not required, but by registering you will receive email reminders each week when voting becomes available.

Turn in Your Bracket (optional) & Vote

Printed brackets and voting forms can be picked up and dropped off at the Adult & Teen Services desk. You can also download a bracket, print it out & bring it to the Library or email it to kcunningham@newlenoxlibrary.org. Each week, in-person voting is available at the Adult & Teen Service Desk and digital voting will be available on our website and through our social media pages.

Submit Your Bracket by Sunday, March 2

Get a bonus prize entry when you fill out a bracket with your predictions before the tournament begins; plus, ANYONE who correctly guesses their entire bracket will win a perfect bracket prize! Brackets are due no later than Sunday, March 2. The winning title will be announced Monday, March 31.

Tournament Starts Monday, March 3

Starting Monday, March 3, vote every Monday for your favorites at the Library or www.newlenoxlibrary.org/marchmadness.

- **March 3-9:** Sweet Sixteen
- **March 10-16:** Elite Eight
- **March 17-23:** Final Four
- **March 24-30:** Championship

Looking for a One-Word Wonder?

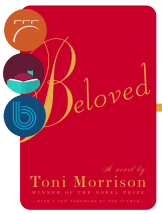
Check out our material online!
Use this QR code to go to our eBooks & Digital Collection apps or visit newlenoxlibrary.org.

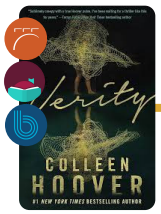
ENTER FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A AMAZON ECHO SHOW 5

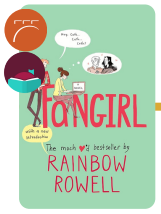
See page 2 for info: In-Person Virtual

Read the Sweet 16

This year's theme is One-Word Wonders! All the March Madness books are available in our Adult and Teen print collections, with many also offered in other formats, including audiobook, large print, and eBook/eAudiobook.







MARCH ONE-WORD 20

Find it in the Library

Find it in Libby

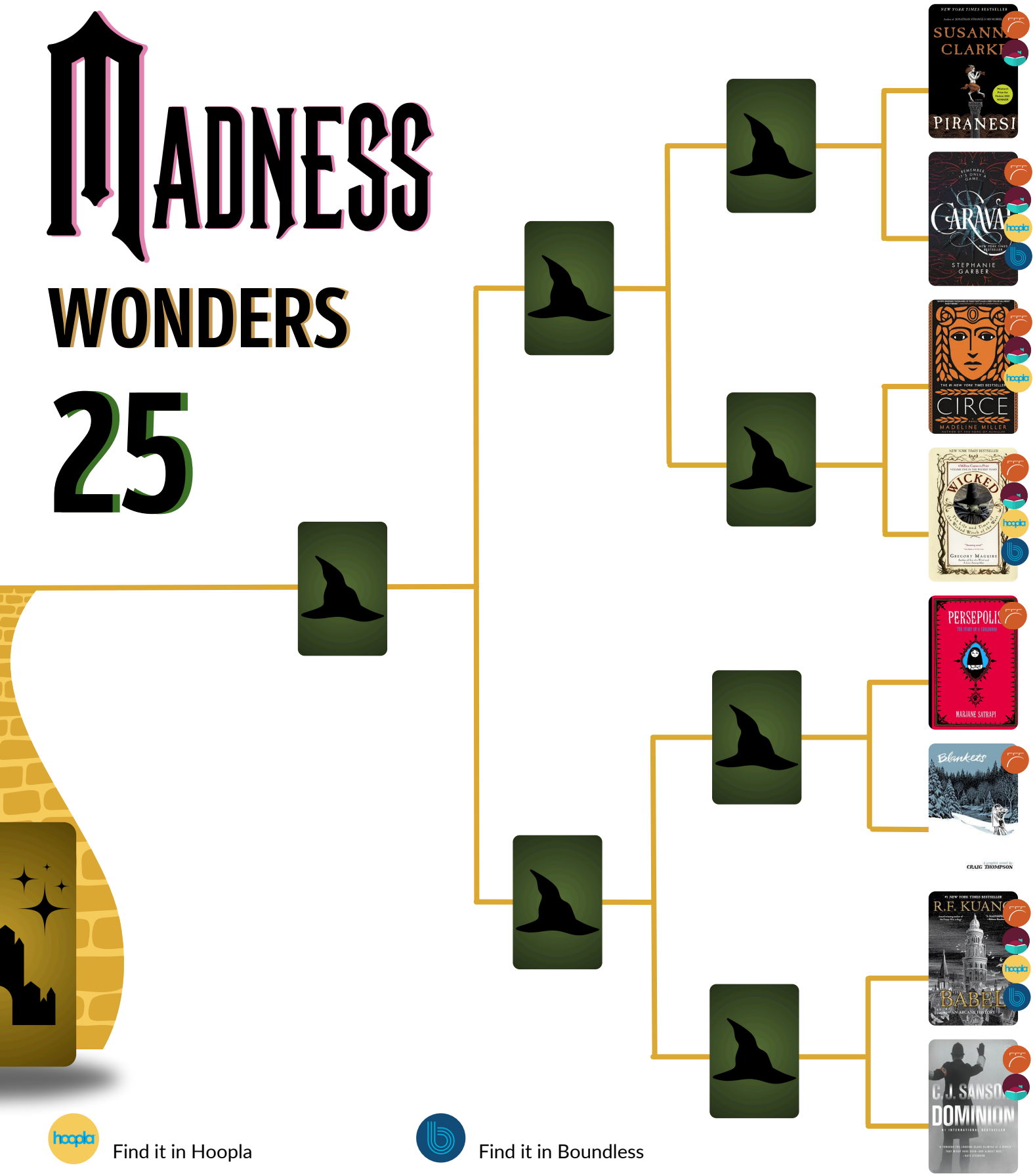
Read the Sweet 16

Whether you prefer reading digitally or listening on the go, we've got you covered! Explore our digital collections on Libby, Hoopla, and Boundless.

MADNESS

WONDERS

25



Find it in Hoopla

Find it in Boundless

See page 2 for info: In-Person Virtual

Illinois Libraries Present Premier Online Events

Exploring Space with
Coralie Adam

Tuesday, March 4 | 7 PM

Get an inside look at the space industry with Illinois' own Coralie Adam. She'll be joined in conversation by Renae Kerrigan, Curator of Science and Director of the Dome Planetarium at Peoria Riverfront Museum.

An At-Home Experience
9to5: The Story of a Movement

Friday, March 21 to Sunday, March 23

Watch the award-winning documentary from the comfort of your home! The documentary highlights the creation of the 9to5 movement, established to fight for workplace equity and against wage discrepancy.

The Art of Foraging with
Alexis Nikole Nelson

Thursday, April 10 | 7 PM

Alexis Nikole Nelson is a forager and an outdoor educator using her platforms, TikTok account (@alexisnikole) and Instagram page (@blackforager), to celebrate all the edible plants hiding in plain sight. She peels back historical layers on African American and Indigenous food traditions that have traditionally been repressed and empowers those living in food deserts with greater self-sufficiency.

Alexis Nikole Nelson will be joined in conversation with Natalie Evans, a wild edible foods instructor.

Illinois Libraries Present Premier Online Events

Art and Adventures with Author/Illustrator

Dan Santat

Saturday, May 3 | 2 PM

Dan Santat is the author and illustrator of over a hundred books for young people. Many of his books are New York Times-bestsellers, including The Adventures of Beekle: The Unimaginary Friend, Are We There Yet?, and After the Fall (How Humpty Dumpty Got Back Up Again). His latest works include the best-selling graphic novels, The Aquanaut and A First Time for Everything.

Poverty: A Discussion with

Matthew Desmond

Tuesday, May 13 | 7 PM

Matthew Desmond is a professor of sociology at Princeton University and author of the award-winning book Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City. Desmond's research focuses on poverty in the United States, city life, housing insecurity, public policy, racial inequality, and ethnography.

These events are made possible by Illinois Libraries Present, a statewide collaboration among public libraries offering premier events. ILP is funded in part by a grant awarded by the Illinois State Library, a Department of the Office for the Secretary of State, using funds provided by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services, under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA).

See page 2 for info: In-Person Virtual

Hearts & Crafts

Adults
4th Monday of the Month | 6 - 7:30 PM
The Studio

Do you make items for charities? Bring your projects and meet like-minded makers! New Life for Old Bags, Ryan's Case for Smiles, Project Linus, Loose Ends, and other favorite ways to give back are welcome. Please note that the Library is hosting a social meeting, and is not a drop-off point for charity projects. Attendees are welcome to organize amongst themselves. ***Registration encouraged.***

DATES

Monday, March 24 **Monday, April 28**

Knit Happens!

Adults
1st and 3rd Thursday of the Month | 6 - 7:30 PM
The Studio

And it's not just knitting! Bring your crochet, sewing, embroidery, weaving and other fiber arts projects. All skill levels are welcome! ***Registration encouraged.***

DATES

Thursday, March 6
Thursday, March 20
Thursday, April 3
Thursday, April 17
Thursday, May 1
Thursday, May 15

Demo Wednesday

Adults & Teens
1st Wednesday of the Month | 1 - 2 PM
The Studio

What do we have in the Studio? Let us show you! Each month, staff will demonstrate one of our maker tools and how you can use it for your own projects. Stop by the Studio to see what we're working on. ***No registration required!***

DATES

Wednesday, March 5: Sublimation

This month's theme is sublimation. We will show you how sublimation works, create a design, and heat press it. You are welcome to bring in a photo of your choosing. There will be various sublimation blanks while supplies lasts.

Wednesday, April 2: Create Your Own Book

In celebration of National Library Week, this month we will be making our own books! We will have supplies and show you how you can create your own book with paper, yarn, and more.

Wednesday, May 7: Silhouette Cameo

This month we will be using the Silhouette Cameo to make greeting cards.

The Studio

For info about The Studio, email studio@newlenoxlibrary.org or call 815-485-2605 ext. 127

Sewing with Rachael

Adults & Teens
3rd Monday of the Month | 5:30 - 7 PM
The Studio

Want to learn how to sew? Join Rachael as she teaches a different project each month, helping you gain a variety of sewing skills with a machine or by hand.

Monday, March 17: Padded Bookcovers
Monday, April 21: Essential Oil Heart Sachets
Monday, May 19: Fabric Corner Bookmarks

Registration opens Mondays, February 24, March 31, and April 28.

****Sewing machine required. We recommend learning on your own sewing machine. If you don't have a machine, you can use one of ours.***

Sublimation Printing

Adults & Teens
Wednesday, March 12 | 6 - 7:30 PM
The Studio

With the SawGrass500, we can sublimate any image or design onto different polyester-blended materials.

Project: Sublimate a Kitchen Towel
Registration opens Thursday, February 20.

Intro to 3D Printing & TinkerCAD

For 4th Grade and Up
Monday, March 31 | 5:30 - 7 PM
The Studio

Learn the ins-and-outs of The Studio's 3D printing process: how to find something to print, submit it to us, and pick up a finished design. Want to design something yourself? Learn how to make your own keychain design in TinkerCAD!
Registration opens Monday, March 3.

Adobe Photoshop Basics

Adults & Teens
Wednesday, April 2 | 5:30 - 7 PM
The Studio

Learn photo editing techniques using basic tools and menu items. Please create a free Adobe account prior to coming to class.
Registration opens Wednesday, March 12.

Studio Craft Kit

Adults & Teens
Week of April 14-18
The Studio

Stop by the Studio to pick up the craft of the month. We will provide all the materials you may need. *While supplies lasts

Project: Spring Pocket Wreath
Registration opens Monday, March 31.

Crafting with Cameo

Adults & Teens
Thursday, May 8 | 5:30 - 7 PM
The Studio

Let's use the Silhouette Cameo to make paper, vinyl, or heat transfer projects. This month, we'll be making custom stencils you can paint on a plant pot.

Project: Flower Pot Stencils
Registration opens Thursday, April 17.

See page 2 for info: In-Person Virtual

Kids Programs in The Studio

STEAM Studio

1st-6th Grade
Mondays | 4:30 - 5:15 PM
The Studio

Are you interested in STEAM? Do you enjoy creating, tinkering, and building? Join us once a month in the Studio for all things Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math.

Monday, March 24:
The Floor is Lava
Monday, April 28:
Wind-Powered Cars

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Monday, March 24	Monday, March 10
Monday, April 28	Monday, April 14

Spring Break Crafternoon

All Ages
Tuesday, April 1 & Thursday, April 3
1 - 3 PM
The Studio

Let your creativity flow with an afternoon of self-directed arts & crafts in the Studio! Supplies will be provided and adult supervision is required.
Registration NOT required.

Kids Code Club

2nd-5th Grade
Thursdays | 5 - 5:45 PM
The Studio

Join Mr. Eric for a fun introduction to block coding! Each month we will focus on a new challenge and provide step-by-step instructions for an exciting coding experience!

Thursday, March 13:
Scratch - Imagine a World
(Scratch Introduction)
Thursday, April 10:
Scratch - Code a Cartoon

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Thursday, March 13	Thursday, February 27
Thursday, April 10	Thursday, March 27

Tween Craft and Create

4th-8th Grade
Thursdays | 4:30 - 5:15 PM
The Studio

Join Ms. Kyra in The Studio to craft and create using the Silhouette Cameo, sublimation printer, heat pressand more! All supplies provided.

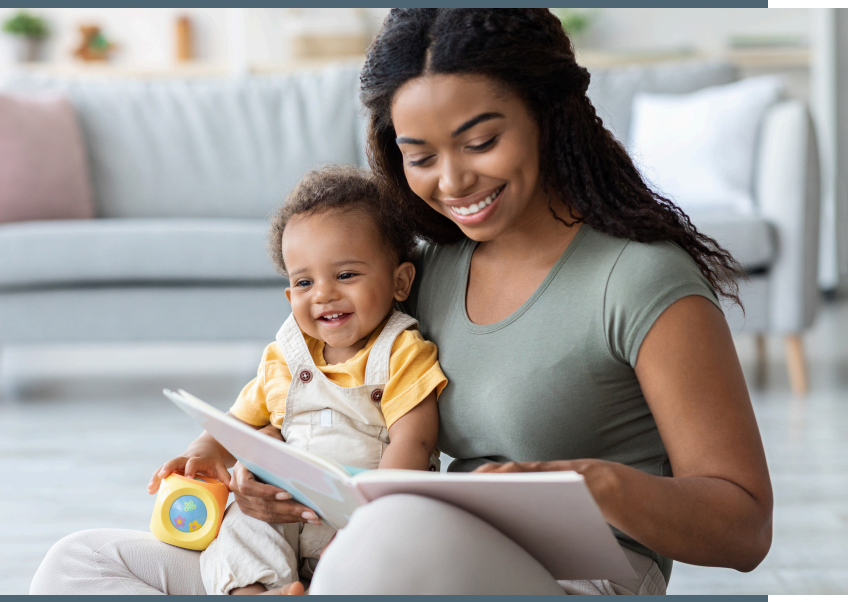
Thursday, March 20:
Acrylic Bookmarks
Thursday, April 17:
Personalized Color Changing Tumbler

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Thursday, March 20	Thursday, March 6
Thursday, April 17	Thursday, April 3

Storytimes

All Storytimes meet in the Storytime Room

Mondays



Baby & Me Storytime

6-23 Months with a Caregiver

9:30 - 10 AM

This sweet storytime is filled with books, songs, rhymes, and bubbles! Siblings are welcome.

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Monday, March 3	Monday, February 24
Monday, March 10	Monday, March 3
Monday, March 24	Monday, March 17
Monday, March 31	Monday, March 24
Monday, April 7	Monday, March 31
Monday, April 14	Monday, April 7
Monday, April 21	Monday, April 14
Monday, April 28	Monday, April 21

Tuesdays

On Our Own

Ages 4-6 Years

10:30 - 11 AM

Sing along with songs, listen to fun stories, then wrap it all up with a hands-on art project. Caregivers may sign-in participants and stay within the youth department during the duration of the program.

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Tuesday, March 4	Tuesday, February 25
Tuesday, March 11	Tuesday, March 4
Tuesday, March 25	Tuesday, March 18
Tuesday, April 1	Tuesday, March 25
Tuesday, April 8	Tuesday, April 1
Tuesday, April 15	Tuesday, April 8
Tuesday, April 22	Tuesday, April 15
Tuesday, April 29	Tuesday, April 22

Pajama Time

Ages 3-7 Years with a Caregiver

7 - 7:30 PM

Throw on your jammies for a family slumber party! Grab your favorite stuffed animal and cuddle up for bedtime stories and a simple craft. No children younger than 3 years, please.

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Tuesday, March 4	Tuesday, February 25
Tuesday, March 11	Tuesday, March 4
Tuesday, March 25	Tuesday, March 18
Tuesday, April 1	Tuesday, March 25
Tuesday, April 8	Tuesday, April 1
Tuesday, April 15	Tuesday, April 8
Tuesday, April 22	Tuesday, April 15
Tuesday, April 29	Tuesday, April 22

See page 2 for info: In-Person Virtual

Wednesdays

Music Makers

Birth-6 Years with a Caregiver

10:30 - 11 AM

Listen to stories and explore music while we dance around and sing songs.

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Wednesday, March 5	Wednesday, February 26
Wednesday, March 12	Wednesday, March 5
Wednesday, March 26	Wednesday, March 19
Wednesday, April 2	Wednesday, March 26
Wednesday, April 9	Wednesday, April 2
Wednesday, April 16	Wednesday, April 9
Wednesday, April 23	Wednesday, April 16
Wednesday, April 30	Wednesday, April 23

Thursdays

Toddler Storytime

Ages 2-3 Years with a Caregiver

10 - 10:30 AM

This storytime for twos and threes will have your toddler singing and dancing while making new friends along the way. Siblings are welcome.

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Thursday, March 6	Thursday, February 27
Thursday, March 13	Thursday, March 6
Thursday, March 27	Thursday, March 20
Thursday, April 3	Thursday, March 27
Thursday, April 10	Thursday, April 3
Thursday, April 17	Thursday, April 10
Thursday, April 24	Thursday, April 17
Thursday, May 1	Thursday, April 24

On Our Own

Ages 4-6 Years

1 - 1:30 PM

Sing along with songs, listen to fun stories, then wrap it all up with a hands-on art project. Caregivers may sign-in participants and stay within the youth department during the duration of the program.

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Thursday, March 6	Thursday, February 27
Thursday, March 13	Thursday, March 6
Thursday, March 27	Thursday, March 20
Thursday, April 3	Thursday, March 27
Thursday, April 10	Thursday, April 3
Thursday, April 17	Thursday, April 10
Thursday, April 24	Thursday, April 17
Thursday, May 1	Thursday, April 24

Girls Rule! Storytime

Ages 3-7 Years with a Caregiver

Saturday, March 1 | 10 - 11 AM
Meeting Room AB

Kick off Women's History Month with a special storytime celebrating girl power! Join us for stories featuring inspiring women, dance to the music, and get creative with crafts! Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Registration starts Saturday, February 15

Kids

Leprechaun Scavenger Hunt

All Ages
March 1-18
Youth Services Desk

Help! The Leprechauns have escaped and are causing mischief in the library! Find all the hidden leprechauns and win a prize! May the luck of the Irish be with you! ***Registration not required.***

Girl Power Swag

Ages 8-13
Saturday, March 1 | 2 - 3:30 PM
Meeting Room AB

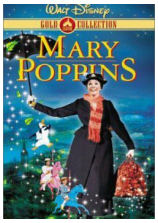
Who run the world? Girls! Bring your own blank cotton t-shirt or canvas tote, pick a girl power vinyl decal, and leave with an awesome design perfect for Women's History Month! Registration is required, but feel free to drop-in any time from 2 - 3:30 PM. ***Registration starts Saturday, February 15.***

Make a Leprechaun Trap

Ages 4-12
Saturday, March 15 | 10:30 - 11:30 AM
Meeting Room AB

St. Patrick's Day is right around the corner! Put your imagination and engineering skills to work by creating a leprechaun trap with your family. Supplies will be available, but feel free to bring your own! Legend says that if you catch a leprechaun, he'll give you his gold, but beware- these little pixies aren't so easy to capture. ***Registration starts Saturday, March 1.***

Sing-Along Favorites



All Ages
Sunday, March 16 | 1-3 PM
Meeting Room AB

Join us for a delightful afternoon of singing along to a children's favorite movie musical. Families attending are welcome to bring their own picnic blankets and snacks.

Children must be accompanied by an adult. Registration starts Sunday, March 2.

Springtime iSpy

Ages Birth-13
Starting Tuesday, April 1
Youth Services Desk

Spring is in the air! Grab a scavenger hunt sheet from the library starting April 1st. Get outside and enjoy the warmer weather by exploring the parks throughout town!

Bring your completed scavenger hunt sheet back to the library by Sunday, May 18 to be entered into a family prize pack giveaway!

Minecraft Mania

Ages 2-13
Wednesday, April 2 | All Day
Youth Services Makerspace

Join us as we celebrate the upcoming release of "A Minecraft Movie"! Drop in to the library all day for everything Minecraft including: sneaky scavenger hunts, cool coloring & crafts, and glorious games! ***Registration not required.***

See page 2 for info: In-Person Virtual

Art Club

1st-4th Grade
Mondays | 4:30 - 4:45 PM

Create some awesome art with a step-by-step video to help you create a masterpiece.

March Theme: Abstract Clover Art
April Theme: Rainy Day Art

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Monday, March 17	Monday, March 3
Monday, April 21	Monday, April 7

D&D Kids Club

3rd-6th Grade
Mondays | 6:30 - 7:30 PM
Meeting Room A

Make friends and get creative at this three week Dungeons and Dragons campaign perfect for beginner and experienced players alike. Registration is for a 3-week session and attendance is required for all 3 weeks.

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Mondays, March 3, 10, 17	Monday, February 17
Mondays, April 7, 14, 21	Monday, March 24

Kindness Club

Ages 7-12
Wednesdays | 5 - 5:30 PM
Storytime Room

Make the world a better place with fun projects and activities that will help spread kindness and leave smiles along the way.

Wednesday, March 19:
Silver Cross Kindness Cart Activity Bags
Wednesday, April 16:
Planting Kindness for Seniors

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Wednesday, March 19	Wednesday, March 5
Wednesday, April 16	Wednesday, April 2

Weird Wednesdays

Ages 8-13
Wednesdays | 5 - 5:45 PM
Meeting Room A

Join us for a discussion of everything weird, wacky, and wonderful! Each month will focus on a bizarre topic and include a themed activity.

March Theme: Loch Ness Monster
April Theme: UFOs

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Wednesday, March 26	Wednesday, March 12
Wednesday, April 23	Wednesday, April 9

Books that move!
iVox

iVOX Books is a book app for children ages 3-8 which uses the latest in storytelling technology to delight and engage curious young minds. Kids can follow along with a story while interacting with its characters and scenes — immersing them in the narrative like never before.

New Lenox Library cardholders can access the exciting "books that move" for free. All you need is a library card and the free app that's available for both iOS and Android. After downloading the app, just need to select a book and tap on the cover to bring it to life.

Kids

Cooking with Kyra

Ages 4-10
Thursdays | 4:30 - 4:45 PM

Hear a story and follow along with Ms. Kyra's video to make a simple snack.

March Theme: Lucky Charms Rice Squares
April Theme: Oreo Frog Cookies

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Thursday, March 27	Thursday, March 13
Thursday, April 24	Thursday, April 10

LEGO Club

1st-5th Grade
Thursdays | 5 - 5:45 PM
Meeting Room A

We supply the bricks and you bring your imagination! A new challenge will be presented monthly to keep the creativity flowing.

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Thursday, March 6	Thursday, February 20
Thursday, April 3	Thursday, March 20

Kinder Drawin'

Kindergarten
Thursdays | 5:30 - 6 PM
Storytime Room

Come read a story with Ms. Trisha & follow along to create a fun drawing in this program designed specifically for kindergarteners!

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Thursday, March 20	Thursday, March 6
Thursday, April 17	Thursday, April 3

Play-Doh Playtime

Ages 1-3
Fridays | 9:30 - 10 AM
Storytime Room

A fun, hands-on experience perfect for the littlest patrons, Play-Doh Playtime is sure to bring out your child's creativity and imagination. Leave the mess to us in this drop-in style program!

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Friday, March 14	Friday, March 7
Friday, March 28	Friday, March 21
Friday, April 4	Friday, March 28
Friday, April 11	Friday, April 4
Friday, April 18	Friday, April 11
Friday, April 25	Friday, April 18
Friday, May 2	Friday, April 25

Homeschool Hangout

Ages 5-13
Fridays | 10:30 - 11:30 AM
Meeting Room AB

Get to know some other homeschool families in the area while playing games, trying out hands-on activities, and more! Siblings are welcome to attend, but activities will be geared towards school-age children. Adult supervision is required.

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Friday, March 14	Friday, February 28
Friday, April 11	Friday, March 28

See page 2 for info: In-Person Virtual

All Kids book clubs meet in the Storytime Room

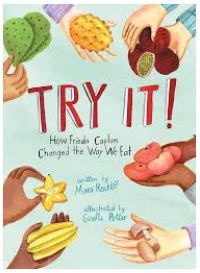
Biography Bunch

Ages 6-10
Tuesdays | 4:30 - 5:15 PM

Join us for a story and a fun activity as we embark on a journey of discovery to uncover the lives of some of the most fascinating people in history.

Tuesday, March 11:
The Girl Who Built an Ocean
by Jess Keating)

Registration starts Tuesday, February 25



Tuesday, April 8:
Try It! How Frida Caplan Changed the Way We Eat
by Mara Rockliff

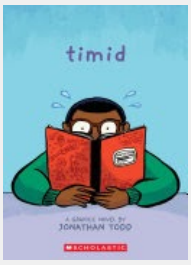
Registration starts Tuesday, March 25

Geek Out! Graphic Novel Club

4th-8th Grade
Tuesdays | 4:30 - 5:15 PM

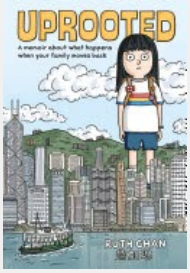
Come chat about this month's graphic novel selection while creating a unique craft. Pick up books at the Patron Services desk.

2025 Challenge: Earn a book button each time you attend Geek Out! at the library (button will have a picture of the book we are discussing that session). Earn four buttons by November's session for an **exclusive** invite to Geek Out!: Happy Holidays Party in December 2025!



Tuesday, March 18:
Timid
by Jonathan Todd

Registration starts Tuesday, March 4



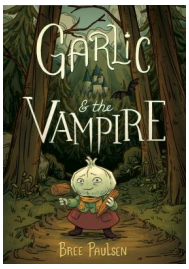
Tuesday, April 15:
Uprooted
by Ruth Chan

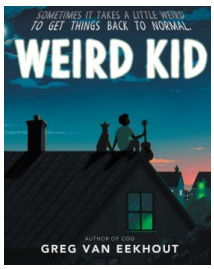
Registration starts Tuesday, April 1

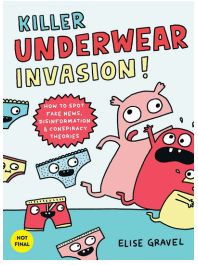
Bluestem Readers Group

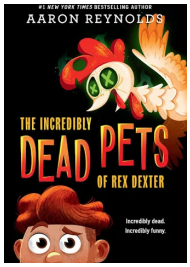
3rd-5th Grade
Thursday, March 27 | 5:30 - 6:20 PM

Registration opens Thursday, March 13.









This is a special celebratory meeting for Bluestem Readers who participated in any of our sessions throughout the 2025 Bluestem Readers' Choice Award period (September - March). We will celebrate the nominees and find out which book came out on top in the state of Illinois - as voted on by kids like you!

Teens

ACT Digital Practice Test

Presented by Huntington Learning Center

9th-12th Grade
Saturday, March 8 | 10 AM - 2 PM
Meeting Room AB

Join us for a full-length digital ACT practice test at the Library, offered by Huntington Learning Center. The ACT is required for high school graduation in Illinois, and this is a great opportunity to prepare. You'll receive a detailed score report and personalized guidance from Huntington experts to help you improve. Higher scores mean more college choices. *Test results will not be reported or affect college admissions.*

Special Registration Required: Sign up through Huntington using the QR code. A $20 fee is required for registration, but it will be applied as a credit if you choose to enroll at Huntington (no obligation).

Registration closes Wednesday, March 5.

Teen Advisory Group

7th-12th grade
Thursdays, March 20, April 17 & May 15 | 5 - 6 PM
Meeting Room B

Join us for our monthly Teen Advisory Group meeting. We will discuss programming ideas, your favorite reads, video gaming, and more. TAG is a great way to earn service hours and make a difference in your Library community! New members always welcome!

Registration encouraged but not required. Please contact our Teen Services Specialist at mleggero@newlenoxlibrary.org for more information and/or to sign up.

Chess for Teens: Open Play

7th-12th Grade
Saturday, March 22 | 1 - 2:30 PM
Meeting Room AB

Grab your chess set and come to the Library for an open play session. Learn from your peers and meet new chess aficionados! Limited number of chess sets will be available at the library. ***Registration encouraged, but not required.***

LEGO Club: Teen Edition

7th - 12th Grade
Thursdays, March 27, April 24 & May 22 | 6 - 7 PM
Meeting Room A

Calling all teens! Join us for our monthly LEGO Club! New to LEGOs or in a LEGO slump? We will have new inspiration at every session to get you started! Attendance at every session is NOT required.
Registration opens Thursdays, February 27, March 24, and April 22.

After Hours Teen Switch Tournament

7th-12th Grade
Friday, April 11 | 5 - 7 PM
Meeting Room AB

Let's take gaming competition to the next level! Join other teens and members of our Teen Advisory Group in a Switch Tournament. We will be playing Super Smash Bros. Players will compete in several brackets until a winner is determined. Participants are asked to stay the length of the tournament. Snacks will be provided! ***Registration opens Tuesday, March 11. Signed permission slips are required.***

Spring Finals Study Blitz

9th-12th Grade
Tuesday, May 27 | 3 - 7:45 PM
Meeting Room AB

School's out for the summer...almost! Come to the Library for a fun place to study and to do some last minute finals prepping. Snacks will be available and goody bags will be distributed while supplies last!
No registration required.

Adults & Teens

Check out the adult and teen classes in The Studio on pages 12 & 13!

Seed Starter Kits

Adults & Teens
Monday, March 3 | Starting at 4:00 PM
Adult and Teen Service Desk

Spring is fast approaching, which means it's almost gardening season! Stop by the Adult & Teen Services desk and pick up a seed starting kit for your vegetable or herb garden. It'll be the perfect way to start your garden growing for the season.

All take & make kits are available at Adult & Teen Services Desk starting at 4 PM while supplies last. Limit one per person present.

Spice Club

Adults & Teens
Monday, April 7 | Starting at 4:00 PM
Adult and Teen Service Desk

Variety is the spice of life, so let's try out a variety of spices! Every other month we will feature a different spice. Each kit will include a sample tin of that month's spice with a packet including recipes, cookbook recommendations, as well as some history and cultural context. Print packets will be available at the library, interactive digital versions will be available to view on the library website.

April's spice: Turmeric

All take & make kits are available at Adult & Teen Services Desk starting at 4 PM while supplies last. Limit one per person present.

Trivia Night

9th Grade-Adult
Thursdays, March 13 & May 8 | 6 - 8 PM
Offsite: Beggars Pizza
650 Maple St., New Lenox, IL

Looking for something to do on a Thursday night? Look no more! Join us for a brain-busting evening at Beggars Pizza in New Lenox. Enjoy pizza and drinks and answer questions on a multitude of topics. Form a powerhouse team or play by yourself for prizes! ***Registration opens Thursday, February 13 and Tuesday, April 8.***

Please help us get an accurate headcount by registering your team in advance. One representative from each team must register to reserve a table. Tables accommodate 4 to 6 players. Groups of more than 6 must make two separate reservations and will be divided into separate teams, each seated at a separate table. Registration closes two days before the program.

Empower & Excel: Successful College Transition for High School Students with 504 Plans & IEPs

Adults & Teens
Tuesday, March 25 | 6:00 - 7:00 PM (*Virtual*)

Looking to set your student up for success in college? Join MyCollegePlanningTeam for a workshop that ensures students with learning or physical differences are fully equipped to unleash their potential in college. Families will learn to navigate college applications, disability disclosure, and the transition from high school IEPs/504 plans. Students will learn to self-advocate for accommodations, utilize campus resources and supports, develop essential academic and self-care strategies, and build their confidence.
Registration opens Tuesday, February 25.

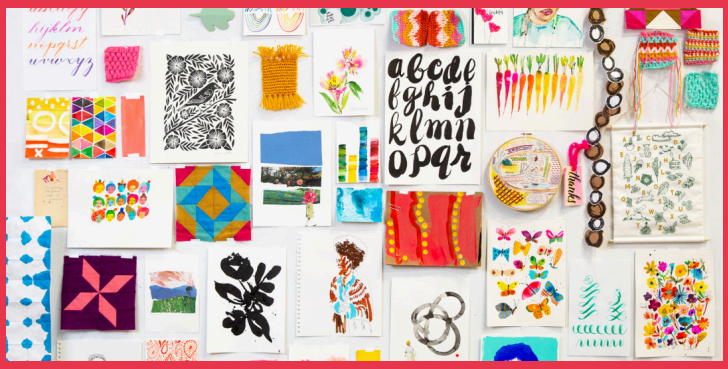
Chair Yoga

Tuesday, April 22 | 6 - 7 PM
Meeting Room AB

Gentle seated yoga designed for all levels. This class allows you to experience the benefits of yoga - flexibility, strength, relaxation, while remaining seated or using a chair for support. The class is open to all abilities.

All participants must sign a waiver at the start of class. Modifications may be given by the instructor for participants with chronic disease, inflammation, autoimmune disease, and injury rehabilitation. You are advised to consult your physician before beginning any fitness activity, yoga class, or exercise. ***Registration opens Saturday, March 22.***

creativebug



Creativebug is your go-to resource for high-quality, on-trend arts and crafts instructional videos. With your library card, you get on-demand access to 1,000+ art and craft classes for artists and makers of all levels. You'll enjoy award-winning instructional videos on drawing, baking, painting, sewing, knitting, crochet, quilting, and more!

Create an account here!

Lucy! A Lucille Ball Solo Musical

Tuesday, May 6 | 5:15 - 6:30 PM
Meeting Room AB

Join us for *Lucy!*, a solo musical performed by Jilliann Gabrielle of Paradise Playhouse, showcasing Lucille Ball's incredible life.

Lucille, the most famous American comedienne, was also an actress, singer, producer, and the first female head of a major Hollywood studio, Desilu. She and her husband, Desi Arnaz, created the first American sitcom, I Love Lucy, which ran for six years on CBS. They later produced and starred in the Lucy—Desi Comedy Hour. After their divorce, Lucille found success in solo projects on TV and film.

Lucy! traces her journey from a challenging childhood in upstate New York to Hollywood, her passionate marriage to Desi, her reign as Queen of the Bs, and her successful second marriage to Gary Morton. Exhaustively researched, brilliantly written, and radiantly performed, this musical offers an intimate look into Lucy's mind and emotions, her struggles, and her triumphs. ***Registration opens Sunday, April 6.***

"Oh, My Stars!" Take & Make Craft

Monday, May 19 | Starting at 4:00 PM
Adult and Teen Services Desk

Come celebrate America the Beautiful! Our Take & Make kit this month will have you seeing STARS! But in a good way. We will be decorating 3 stars with Americana fabric and creating a sign with them. Each kit includes all the supplies you'll need, along with clear, step-by-step instructions.

All take & make kits are available at Adult & Teen Services Desk starting at 4 PM while supplies last. Limit one per person present.

See page 2 for info: In-Person Virtual

Senior Coffee Break

Thursdays, March 6 & May 1 | 10:30 AM - 12 PM
Doors open at 10:30 AM
Meeting Room AB

Take your mid-morning break at the library with discussion, socializing, and, of course, plenty of coffee! Each coffee break will have a short talk or activity at 11 AM. Grab a cup of coffee and enjoy some conversation before and after the program. **Registration encouraged, but not required.**

Thursday, March 6: This month's activity will be a celebration of America's favorite pastime with a Baseball Spring Training Trivia game! Teams will compete in a general knowledge trivia showdown, answering questions across categories like food, geography, music, entertainment, history, sports, and more. Answer correctly to round the bases, and score runs for your team. See which team can slide into first place for the win!

Thursday, May 1: This month's activities will be all about the Kentucky Derby. We'll play a horse racing dice game, make headband fascinators and enjoy non-alcoholic Mint Juleps.

Reconstructing Susan's Family

Genealogy Club

Tuesday, March 11 | 6 - 7:15 PM
Meeting Room AB

Who was Susan Lyons Wagoner? Her husband, Henry O. Wagoner, was known as the Frederick Douglass of the West but almost nothing was known about Susan's family. By exploring her husband's pre-Civil War FAN Club—family, associates, and neighbors—her own family was found. Join Anita Boyd as we traverse the United States, and beyond, in search of clues. Dust off your old high school French and Spanish textbooks, too. **Registration encouraged, but not required.**

Phone Basics with Tech Tutors

Mondays, March 17 & May 19 | 3:30 - 5 PM
Conference Room

Learn to better navigate your smartphones and apps. Please register for a 30-minute time slot in advance to receive one-on-one assistance. ***Registration opens Monday, February 17 & Saturday, April 19.***

The Leisurely Librarian

Available Starting Tuesday, April 1

Grab the next edition of our quarterly large-print activity book designed just for adults. Features puzzles, reading recommendations, recipes, games, and more.

Pick up your print copy at the library from the Adult Programs Display or Senior Information Table. Digital versions of current and past editions are available to view on the library website through the event calendar.

Don't forget!
We now have 3 week checkouts for most items!

Adults

Tranquil Tuesdays

Tuesday, April 8 | 6 - 7:30 PM
Meeting Room AB

Take some time for yourself at the library! Each Tranquil Tuesday will feature a variety of mindfulness and relaxation activities.

Come and go as you please during the drop-in window for our adult coloring station, craft station, and meditation station. There will be a variety of materials for coloring and zentangles or bring your own supplies. Enjoy pleasant conversation or bring your headphones and zone out!
Registration encouraged, but not required.

Craft Station: *Scrabble Tile Pendant Keychain or Necklace*

Investing, Banking & More with Weiss Financial Ratings

Wednesday, April 9 | 10 - 11 AM
Meeting Room B

Join Tom Kilkenny to learn how Weiss Financial Ratings can help you with investing, banking, and more! Weiss Financial Ratings is available to all New Lenox Library cardholders.
Registration encouraged, but not required.

Board Game Night

20s & 30s
Tuesday, May 13 | 6 - 7:30 PM
Meeting Room AB

Meet up with other 20 and 30-something adults for a fun evening of board and card games! Learn to play a game from the Library's in-house collection or bring one of your own favorites to teach the group. With a variety of games to choose from, we may have several games in play at once! Invite your friends, unwind, and enjoy some friendly competition at the Library.
Registration opens Sunday, April 13.

Take the Trip: Why Traveling is Good for Your Health

Tuesday, May 20 | 6 - 7 PM
Meeting Room B

Did you know nearly two-thirds of Americans don't use all their vacation time, *including paid time off?!* Join local travel agent Charlene Recio to explore the benefits of taking your vacation time and traveling. Learn how travel improves your physical and mental health, strengthens relationships, and boosts work productivity. With real-life examples of rejuvenating trips and wellness activities, Charlene will inspire you to plan your next getaway and empower you to take the time off you deserve.
Registration encouraged, but not required.

BYOB: Bring Your Own Book Club

Wednesday, April 16 | 6:30 - 7:30 PM
Offsite: 3 Corners Tap & Grill, 901 E Lincoln Hwy, New Lenox

Join us every other month for the BYOB (Bring Your Own Book) Book Club for adults: a stress-free book discussion with no required reading! We'll talk about books we've recently read or listened to, share ideas for new reads, and enjoy great food and drinks at 3 Corners Grill & Tap. ***Registration opens Sunday, March 16 and closes two days before the program.***

See page 2 for info: In-Person Virtual

Staff Picks

with Adult & Teen Services

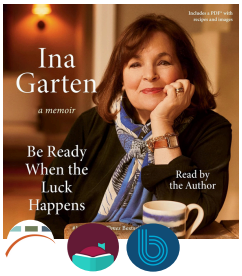
Find it in the library

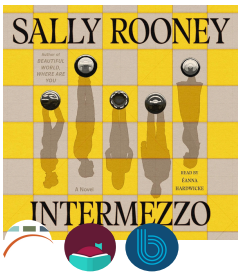
Find it in Libby/Overdrive

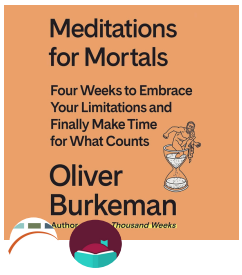
Find it in Boundless

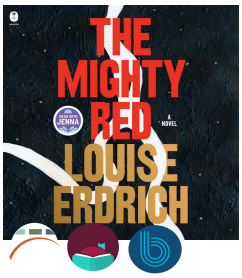
Find it in Hoopla

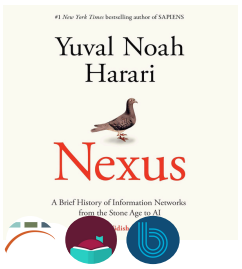
Audiobooks with Annette



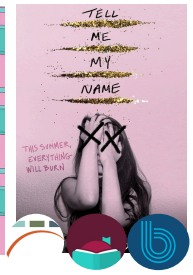


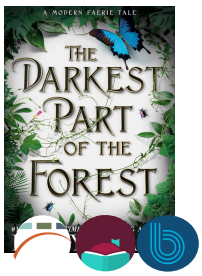






Young Adult with TAG





Be Ready When The Luck Happens by Ina Garten
In her long-awaited memoir, Ina Garten—aka the Barefoot Contessa, author of thirteen bestselling cookbooks, beloved Food Network personality, Instagram sensation, and cultural icon—shares her personal story with readers hungry for a seat at her table.

Intermezzo by Sally Rooney
For two grieving brothers and the people they love, this is a new interlude—a period of desire, despair, and possibility; a chance to find out how much one life might hold inside itself without breaking.

Meditations for Mortals by Oliver Burkeman
Meditations for Mortals takes us on a liberating journey towards a more meaningful life – one that begins not with fantasies of the ideal existence, but with the reality in which we actually find ourselves.

The Mighty Red by Louise Eldrich
In Argus, North Dakota, a collection of people revolve around a fraught wedding. *The Mighty Red* tells a story of love, natural forces, spiritual yearnings, and the tragic impact of uncontrollable circumstances on ordinary people's lives.

Nexus: A Brief History of Information Networks from the Stone Age to AI by Yuval Noah Harari
Information is not the raw material of truth; neither is it a mere weapon. *Nexus* explores the hopeful middle ground between these extremes, and in doing so, rediscovers our shared humanity.

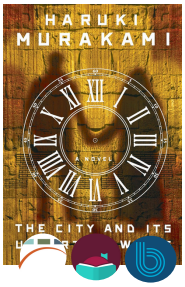
The Third Wife of Faraday House by B.R. Myers
Two brides must band together to unravel the ghostly secrets at the heart of a crumbling island manor.

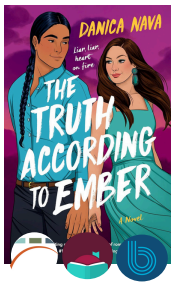
The Do-Over
by Lynn Painter
After living through a dumpster fire of a Valentine's Day, Emilie Hornby escapes to her grandmother's house for some comfort and a consolation pint of Ben & Jerry's. She passes out on the couch, but when she wakes up, she's back home in her own bed—and it's Valentine's Day all over again.

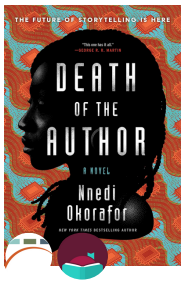
Tell Me My Name
by Amy Lynn Reed
On wealthy Commodore Island, Fern is watching and waiting--for summer, for college, for her childhood best friend to decide he loves her. Then Ivy Avila lands on the island like a falling star. When Ivy shines on her, Fern feels seen. As the two pull closer, Fern's cozy life on Commodore unravels and she won't emerge the same person she was.

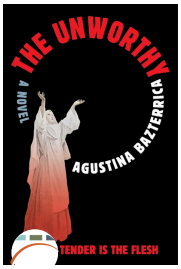
The Darkest Part of the Forest
by Holly Black
Hazel lives with her brother, Ben, in the strange town of Fairfold where humans and fae exist side by side. The faeries' seemingly harmless magic attracts tourists, but Hazel knows how dangerous they can be, and she knows how to stop them.

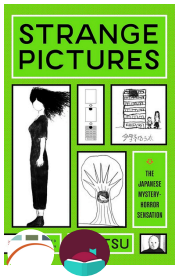
Fiction with Juliana











The City and Its Uncertain Walls
by Haruki Murakami
We begin with a nameless young couple: a boy and a girl, teenagers in love. One day, she disappears . . . and her absence haunts him for the rest of his life.

The Truth According to Ember by Danica Nava
A Chickasaw woman who can't catch a break serves up a little white lie that snowballs into much more.

Witchcraft for Wayward Girls by Grady Hendrix
They call them wayward girls. And they're sent to Wellwood House in St. Augustine, Florida, where unwed mothers are hidden by their families to have their babies in secret, to give them up for adoption, and most important of all, to forget any of it ever happened.

Death of the Author by Nnedi Okorafor
A disabled Nigerian American woman pens a wildly successful Sci-Fi novel, but as her fame rises, she loses control of the narrative.

The Unworthy by Agustina Bazterrica
From her cell in a mysterious convent, a woman writes the story of her life in whatever she can find—discarded ink, dirt, and even her own blood. Outside, the world is plagued by catastrophe— Inside, the narrator is controlled, punished, but safe.

Strange Pictures by Uketsu
Structured around nine childlike drawings, each holding a disturbing clue, Uketsu invites readers to piece together the mystery behind each and the over-arching backstory that connects them all.

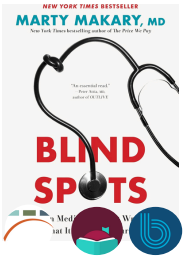
Non-Fiction with Monica

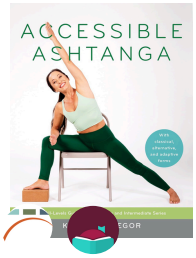
Blind Spots: When Medicine Gets It Wrong, and What It Means for Our Health by Marty Makary, M.D.
Explore the latest research on critical topics ranging from the microbiome to childbirth to nutrition and longevity and more, revealing the biggest blind spots of modern medicine.

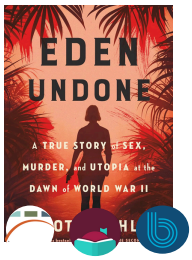
Accessible Ashtanga: An All-Levels Guide to the Primary and Intermediate Series by Kino Macgregor and Shanna Small
A bold, much-needed guide for Ashtanga yoga practice, useful for all levels and illustrated with 250 color photos, by one of yoga's best known and respected teachers, Kino MacGregor.

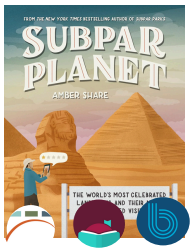
Eden Undone: A True Story of Sex, Murder, and Utopia at the Dawn of World War II by Abbott Kahler
Set against the backdrop of the Great Depression and the march to World War II, *Eden Undone* explores the universal and timeless desire to seek utopia—and lays bare the human fallibility that, inevitably, renders such a quest doomed.

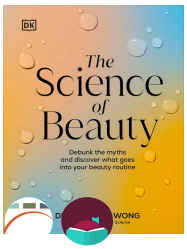
Subpar Planet: The World's Most Celebrated Landmarks & Their Most Disappointed Visitors by Amber Share
With Share's classic spin on visitors' candidly cranky reviews of each location, *Subpar Planet* fills skeptical travelers with a wanderlust for the world's most spectacular features.

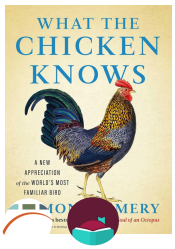












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What the Chicken Knows: A New Appreciation of the World's Most Familiar Bird by Sy Montgomery
A charming and eye-opening exploration of the special relationship between humans and chickens

SAVE THE DATE

for the Summer Learning Challenge: Sunday, June 1!

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Upcoming Closure Dates

Friday, March 7	Staff Development Day
Sunday, April 20	Easter
Sunday, May 25	Sunday before Memorial Day
Monday, May 26	Memorial Day