

Insider Guide

SUMMER 2025 | June, July, August



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Program Key

In-Person Virtual Level Up Summer Series

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.

LEVEL UP SUMMER CHALLENGE

Sunday, June 1 to
Thursday, July 31
for Kids, Teens &
Adults

@the new lenox library

This year's summer challenge theme is **Level Up!** There are challenges for ALL ages, from birth through adults. Sign ups start Sunday, June 1. The first week (Sunday, June 1 to Sunday, June 8) is for registration **ONLY**. Prizes for kids' completed logs are available starting Monday, June 9.

Download the Beanstack app or register at newlenoxlibrary.beanstack.org. You can also sign up with one of our staff members. Visit www.newlenoxlibrary.org/summer to download reading logs and activity sheets or pick up print copies at the Youth Services and Adults & Teen Services desks.

BIRTH TO 8TH GRADE

Complete the Summer Challenge by filling in one square for every 15 minutes you read. Log your reading anytime on the Beanstack app!

SOLO MODE (INDIVIDUAL LEVELING UP):

- Color in one square for every 15 minutes you read
- Turn in your completed log to receive a "Level Up" button, prize token (to be used in our prize vending machine), and prize book!
- Complete bonus logs to earn additional prize tokens and "Level Up" buttons throughout the summer!

TEAM MODE (COMMUNITY LEVELING UP):

- Every minute you read helps us towards our community goal of 500,000 minutes read!
- Watch our Tetris wall grow as we add blocks for every 5,000 minutes read!
- Vote for community prizes (fun in-library toys, games, and activities) at each 100,000 minute milestone!

TEENS & ADULTS (7TH GRADE & UP)

Complete the Summer Challenge by doing the activities on the Teen or Adult activity lists. Log your activities anytime on the Beanstack app! Staff can also help you log your badges in Beanstack at the desk.

- You do not need to do every activity.
- You can repeat the same activity.
- Every 5 activities you complete enters you into our Teen or Adult prize drawings.
- Maximum of 10 total prize entries per person. (Up to 50 activities)

Teens in 7th and 8th Grade can decide which Summer Challenge is best for them! They can register either for the Birth-8th Grade challenge or the Teen challenge.

Scan to QR code to sign up
for a Beanstack account!





Gamers Advisory: Games, Books & Movies for Every Adventure

All ages

Fridays, June 6 - July 25 | 5:30 PM Release
Online

Gamers Advisory pairs your favorite video games and board/tabletop games with library materials that share related themes, characters, adventures or audience appeal. Each week, we'll recommend a game along with a book, movie or TV show with a similar feel. Whether you're solving puzzles, discovering new worlds, embarking on epic quests, or enjoying family game night, discover new ways to enjoy your favorite games and level up at your library!

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

GAME-A-PALOOZA!

Summer Challenge Kick-off

All ages

Saturday, June 7 | 11 AM - 3 PM

Entire Library

Join us for Game-a-Palooza! and kick off our Level Up Summer Challenges with a day of games! Explore a variety of hands-on stations throughout the library, featuring video games, board games, and card games. Drop in and start playing! Level up your skills as you try out some new games, enjoy old favorites, and get in on some friendly competition. It's the perfect chance to come together, have fun, and discover new games for everyone. *Adult supervision required. No registration required!*

Code Expo at the Library

All ages

Saturday, June 14 | 10 AM - 12 PM & 1 - 3 PM
Meeting Room AB

Enjoy this drop-in tech program where families can visit different learning stations to develop skills in computational thinking, computer science, technology, and coding. Our Code Expo provides the perfect opportunity for hands-on learning and gives caregivers & kids a chance to test out new, exciting tech! *Adult supervision required. No registration required!*

Rock Band 101

All ages

Saturday, June 28 | 1 - 2:30 PM

Meeting Room AB

Join students from the Mokena School of Rock for a live performance of rock standards for all ages. Plus hands-on opportunities to learn more about instruments and the art of performance. Between live music sets, the School of Rock staff will be there to show the basics of guitar, bass, drums, and keys. Teens and Adults will have the opportunity to experiment with each instrument. Maybe you're the next rock band superstar?!

Registration opens Wednesday, May 28.

LIVE ACTION OREGON TRAIL

Live Action Oregon Trail: Family & All Ages

Family & Adult/Teen Teams

Saturday, July 26 | 11:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Meeting Room AB

Celebrate the grand finale of our Summer Reading Challenge: Level Up! Step into a life-size version of the classic computer game Oregon Trail. Work together as a team to overcome obstacles, visit landmarks, and journey toward the Willamette Valley. Please register for a timeslot as a team of up to 4 players—play with friends or family. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Registration opens Saturday, July 12.

Live Action Oregon Trail: Adult After Hours

Adults

Saturday, July 26 | 5 - 6:30 PM

Meeting Room AB

Can you avoid dying of dysentery? We will be ramping things up for an adults-only session of live-action Oregon Trail! Will your team survive? Gather your friends, register as a team of up to 4, and get ready for a night of high-stakes fun after hours in the Library! **Registration opens Saturday, July 12.**

SRP Community Rocks!

All ages

Saturday, August 2 | 10 AM - 2 PM

Outdoor Naturescape

Help us celebrate the success of our Summer Challenge and enjoy a fun-filled day with games, music, and activities for the whole family! *Adult supervision required. No registration required!*

Puzzle Racing

Family & Adult/Teen Teams

Saturday, August 16 | 1 - 3 PM

Meeting Room AB

On your mark, get set, PUZZLE! Come with your team of up to four friends or family members to show off your puzzle-solving skills in this fun competition.

There will be two categories: Family Teams & Adult/Teen Teams. The top three teams in each category that finish fastest (or place the most pieces before time runs out) win a prize!

Family teams consist of at least one child, age 12 or less, and at least one adult, age 18+. Maximum of 2 adults allowed per family team; up to 4 participants per team. Each Family Team will be given an identical 300-piece puzzle.

Adult/Teen teams consist of adults and/or teens, age 13+. Up to 4 participants per team. Each Adult/Teen team will be given an identical 500-piece puzzle.

Individual competitors count as one team.

The library will provide the puzzles-- you are welcome to bring additional supplies such as magnifying glasses, piece sorters, etc.

Registration opens Saturday, August 2.

Adults & Teens (9th Grade & Up)
Artwork Submitted: July 1 - August 1

Gallery Exhibition: August 6 – August 26
Gallery Reception: August 28 | 6:00 PM
Meeting Room AB

Celebrate creativity and share your artistic vision in our annual Summer Visual Art Showcase! This is your chance to showcase your paintings, drawings, sculptures, photographs, digital art, and more.

With no set theme this year, the possibilities are endless! Explore any subject, style, or medium that inspires you. Experiment, innovate, and let your creativity shine!

- **The artwork must be original.** You must be the creator of the submitted artwork. Your art must be your own original concept and not a copy of anyone else's copyrighted material.
- **In light of the evolving understanding of AI generated art and the ambiguity regarding its copyright, any artwork that is heavily AI-generated or uses primarily generative fill is not allowed.** You may alter digital images or photos, but you must be the creator or have proper permissions.
- **Entry forms must be legibly completed, signed, and turned in with the artwork.** Submissions by a minor must include a parent or guardian's signature.


Entry Process

- Complete an entry form by either picking up a form at the Adult & Teen Services desk or complete the form at www.newlenoxlibrary.org/artcontest.
- Entries must be submitted by 8 PM on Friday, August 1 at the Adult & Teen Services desk.
- Only 1 submission per individual can be entered.

Summer Visual Art Showcase

Art Guidelines

- Any medium will be accepted, including but not limited to sculpture, photography, watercolor, chalk, digital art, etc.
- Wall & 2D Pieces must be no larger than 12" tall and 16" wide, **including** any frame or backing, and able to sit on our lobby bookcase display shelf.
- 3D Pieces must be no larger than 12" x 12" x 12" and able to sit on our lobby bookcase display shelf.
- The art/object must be gallery ready. **Unframed artwork should be mounted onto matte board or other sturdy background within the size limitations.** 3D objects should be able to sit level on a shelf or arrive with an appropriate stand, plinth, or display case within the size perimeters. Framed artwork should be able to sit level on a shelf.
- Artwork should be practical for a space that is open and available to the public. Avoid submitting items that are too fragile, sharp, or small to be safe in such an environment. The Library does not assume responsibility for loss of or damage to your artwork or frames.
- Artwork must be "appropriate," as it will be displayed in the library building. The Library reserves the right to reject work deemed unsuitable for display at the library.
- Artwork must not have been submitted to a previous Visual Art Showcase at the New Lenox Library.

 **Visual Art Showcase & Contest Reception**
All Ages
Thursday, August 28 | 6 – 8 PM
Meeting Room AB

Join us for a formal gallery showing of 2025 Visual Art Showcase entries as we announce the winners! Enjoy refreshments and live music entertainment as you peruse the art created by members of your community. **Registration opens Monday, July 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, June 5
Thursday, July 3
Thursday, July 17

Thursday, August 7
Thursday, August 21

📍 Intro to 3D Printing & TinkerCAD

4th Grade and Up

Wednesday, June 11 | 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 Sunday, May 11.**



📍 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, June 16: Felt Citrus Coasters (hand-sewn or with sewing machine)

Monday, July 21: Red, White & Blue Sunglasses Case*

Monday, August 18: Cornhole Bag Set*

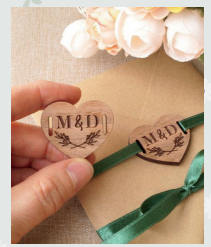
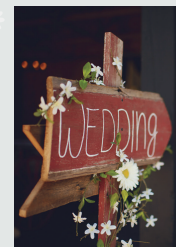
Registration opens Friday, May 16, Saturday, June 21, and Friday, July 18.

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

📍 Wedding Craft Club

Adults

Saturday, June 14 | 11 AM - 12 PM
July & August Dates TBD
The Studio



Are you planning a DIY wedding but don't know where to start? This club is for you! During these meetings, we'll focus on a DIY wedding project that you can incorporate into your big day. These projects will include sublimation, embroidery, laser cutting, and more! Not only will this club provide you with the tools to add personal touches to your wedding, but it will also be a space for you to share ideas and gather feedback about your planning! Other topics include bridal shower brainstorm, vision boards and mocktails, and making a custom cake topper using the laser cutter! **Registration opens Wednesday, May 14.**

📍 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! Looking for a project to do? New Life for Old Bags will be there with materials to get you started! **Registration encouraged.**

DATES

Monday, June 23

Monday, August 25

Monday, July 28

📍 Intro to Laser Cutting

Adults & Teens

Wednesday, June 25 | 5:30 - 7 PM

The Studio

Learn the ins-and-outs of how to use the Laser Cutter in The Studio. We will go over what the laser cutter can do, different projects you can create, and how to submit a request. Want to design something yourself? Learn how to make a keychain on basswood using xTool Creative Space. **Registration opens Sunday, May 25.**

📍 Crafting Corner: Paint a Canvas Bag

Teens

Monday, July 7 | 5:30 - 7 PM

The Studio

Let's craft in the Studio! This month, join other teens and paint your own canvas bag. All materials provided. **Registration opens Saturday, June 7.**

📍 Crafting with the Cricut: Intro to the Cricut

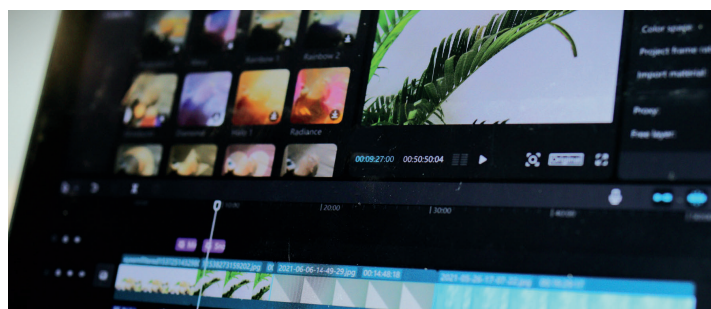
Adults & Teens

Wednesday, July 23 | 5:30 - 7 PM

The Studio

Join Studio staff as we give an introduction to our new Cricut machine. We'll show you Cricut Design space and how to set up a beginner project.

Registration opens Monday, June 23.



📍 Intro to Video Editing

Adults & Teens

Tuesday, August 5 | 5:30 - 7 PM

The Studio

Learn how to edit videos together, add music, create photo slideshows, and other basic editing skills. We will be using Adobe Premiere Pro to edit videos. This class is beginner-friendly- no prior knowledge necessary!

Please bring a flash drive with videos you'd like to edit together, or digital photos you'd like to turn into a slideshow. We will also provide video clips for you to practice with. **Registration opens Saturday, July 5.**

📍 Hawaii Fluid Art: Canvas Painting

All ages

Wednesday, August 6 | 5:30 - 7 PM

The Studio

Create your very own painting in a completely new way! Presented by Hawaii Fluid art, learn what fluid art is and how you can create your own piece of art. Supplies and materials will be provided. **Registration opens Sunday, July 6.**

📍 Let's Sublimate!: Glass Tumblers

Adults & Teens

Wednesday, August 20 | 5:30 - 7 PM

The Studio

Sublimation printing is the process of using heat and pressure to transfer photos and designs onto different materials. We'll create a design, print it using our Sawgrass500, and heat transfer it onto a glass tumbler. **Registration opens Sunday, July 20.**

Creating Sound Effects: Video Games

4th Grade and Up

Wednesday, July 9 | 5:30 - 7 PM

The Studio

Step into the world of sound design with a hands-on, Minecraft-themed workshop! Ever wondered how the iconic sounds of snowy footsteps, crackling fire, flying arrows, or splashing water are made?

In this fun, interactive session, you'll learn how sound effects—also known as foley—are created using everyday props and household items. Then, put your creativity to the test as we recreate classic Minecraft sounds using everything from paper bags to cornstarch.

This active class involves standing, movement, and some mess—so wear shoes you don't mind getting a little dirty, and come ready to make some noise! **Registration opens Wednesday, June 25.**

Kids Code Club

2nd-5th Grade

Thursdays, June 12 & July 10 | 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, June 12: Scratch - Code a Virtual Pet

Thursday, July 10: Scratch - Create an About Me Page

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Thursday, June 12	Thursday, May 29
Thursday, July 10	Thursday, June 26

Crafternoon in The Studio

All Ages

Fridays, June 13, 20, 27 & July 11, 18, 25

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.

STEAM Studio

1st-6th Grade

Mondays, June 30 & July 21 | 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, and Math.

Monday, June 30: Beach Ball Towers

Monday, July 21: Ice Cream Palooza (in collaboration with Biography Bunch)

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Monday, June 30	Monday, June 16
Monday, July 21	Monday, July 7

Did You Know?

Our Tech2Go Collection is a mix of technology and maker-focused equipment that's available to check out with your New Lenox library card!

Check out items like:

- A Blue Yeti Tabletop Microphone
- Canon Rebel T6i DSLR Camera Kit
- Sewing Machines
- Jewelry Maker Tool Kits & more!

Storytimes

📍 Family Storytime

All ages with caregiver

Mondays, June 9, 16, 23, 30 & July 7, 14 & 21

10 - 10:30 AM

Meeting Room AB

Songs, stories, and rhymes for the whole family!

Registration is not required, but priority will be given to those on the registration list. Space is limited!

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Monday, June 9	Monday, June 2
Monday, June 16	Monday, June 9
Monday, June 23	Monday, June 16
Monday, June 30	Monday, June 23
Monday, July 7	Monday, June 30
Monday, July 14	Monday, July 7
Monday, July 21	Monday, July 14

📍 Park Pals

All ages with caregiver

Tuesdays, June 10, 17, 24 & July 1, 8, 15, 22

9:30 - 10:30 AM

Freedom Park | 300 Charleston Dr., New Lenox

This summer, we're bringing the library to you! Join Ms. Liz at Freedom Park for songs, stories, and fun. Bring a blanket or chair and get ready for laughs and read-alouds. Weather permitting. **No registration required!**

📍 Movin' & Groovin'

Ages 2-5 with caregiver

Wednesdays, June 11, 18, 25 & July 2, 9, 16, 23

9:30 - 10 AM

Storytime Room

Wiggle, jiggle, and jump around to some of our favorite children's tunes. Musical instruments provided!

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Wednesday, June 11	Wednesday, June 4
Wednesday, June 18	Wednesday, June 11
Wednesday, June 25	Wednesday, June 18
Wednesday, July 2	Wednesday, June 25
Wednesday, July 9	Wednesday, July 2
Wednesday, July 16	Wednesday, July 9
Wednesday, July 23	Wednesday, July 16



📍 Little Explorers Storytime

Ages 0-6 with caregiver

Thursdays, June 12, 26 & July 3, 10, 17, 24

10 - 10:45 AM

Outdoor Naturescape

Enjoy a short story in the library's Outdoor Naturescape followed by a walk around the Commons filled with songs, rhymes & activities! Bring strollers, water bottle & sunscreen to beat the heat! *Weather permitting.*

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Thursday, June 12	Thursday, June 5
Thursday, June 26	Thursday, June 12
Thursday, July 3	Thursday, June 26
Thursday, July 10	Thursday, July 3
Thursday, July 17	Thursday, July 10
Thursday, July 24	Thursday, July 17

📍 Folk & Fairytales Storytime

Ages 4-6

Thursdays, June 12, 26 & July 3, 10, 17, 24

1 - 1:30 PM

Storytime Room

Step into the magical world of folk & fairy tales with Ms. Elizabeth! Enjoy a traditional tale & themed activity in this independent storytime! *Caregivers must sign-in participants and stay within the youth department during the program.*

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Thursday, June 12	Thursday, June 5
Thursday, June 26	Thursday, June 12
Thursday, July 3	Thursday, June 26
Thursday, July 10	Thursday, July 3
Thursday, July 17	Thursday, July 10
Thursday, July 24	Thursday, July 17

📍 Chalk the Walk

All ages

Mondays, June 9 & July 7 | 10:30 AM - 12 PM
Commons Circle Drive

Bring your creativity and help us make our sidewalk pop with color this summer! Weather permitting.
No registration required.



📍 Let's Go Fishin'

Ages 6-12 with caregiver

Mondays, June 9, 16, 23 | 6:30 - 7:30 PM **OR**
Thursdays, July 3, 10, 17 | 8:30 - 9:30 AM
Commons Circle Drive

In this 3-week class, kids will learn to cast, bait, and take fish off the hook. Fishing poles and bait are supplied. Class occurs rain or shine.

An adult must be present and will need a fishing license if they are planning to assist their children (16 and under do not need fishing licenses). A signed waiver is also required.

Register for one session only (June or July). Registration is required. Registration is for a 3-week session and attendance is required for all 3 weeks.

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Monday, June 9, 16, 23	Monday, May 26
Wednesday, July 3, 10, 17	Thursday, June 19

📍 D&D Kids Club

3rd-6th Grade

Mondays, June 9, 16, 23 & July 7, 14, 21
5:30 - 6:30 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.**

New to D&D? Please arrive 30 minutes prior to the first session to have ample time to create your character!

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Mondays, June 9, 16, 23	Monday, May 26
Mondays, July 7, 14, 21	Monday, June 23



📍 Art Club

1st-6th Grade

Mondays, June 16 & July 14 | 4:30 - 4:45 PM
Online

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

Monday, June 16: Pokéball Art
Monday, July 14: Tetris Puzzle

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Monday, June 16	Monday, June 2
Monday, July 14	Monday, June 30

📍 Super Mario Bros Drive-In Movie

Ages 3-7

Tuesday, June 10 | 12:30 - 3 PM

Meeting Room AB

Race on over to the library for this special event sure to get your motor running! Bring your own large box (make sure you can sit in it comfortably) and use our craft supplies to create a one-of-a-kind ride. Pull up to the big screen, grab a provided snack, and enjoy the show! *Adult supervision required. Siblings welcome!* **Registration opens Tuesday, May 27.**

📍 Family Trivia Night

Ages 6 and up with caregiver

Tuesdays, June 17 & July 22 | 5 - 6 PM

Meeting Room AB

Engage in friendly competition and test your wits with a variety of exciting trivia challenges that span literature, history, science, and more- perfect for all skill levels! The top three teams will each win a prize!

Only one person per group should register as Team Captain and list all participants' names and ages (up to 4 total) in the special question field on the form.

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Thursday, June 17	Thursday, June 3
Thursday, July 22	Thursday, July 8

📍 Biography Bunch

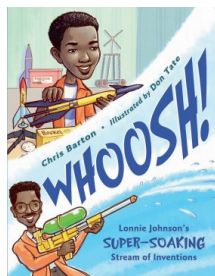
Ages 6-10

Tuesday, June 24 | 4:30 - 5:15 PM

Outdoor Naturescape

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. **Registration opens Tuesday, June 10.**

BOOK: Whoosh!: Lonnie Johnson's Super-Soaking Stream of Inventions by Chris Barton



📍 Super Mario Bros Bouncy Ball Course

Recommended ages 4-12

Tuesday, July 8 | 10 AM - 12 PM & 2 - 4 PM

Meeting Room AB

Bounce your way to the finish line in this hilariously reimagined Mario Kart course complete with wacky obstacles and magnificent surprises! Dress up as your favorite Mario Kart character, jump on a bouncy ball, and race your way to victory!

This is a drop-in style program. Participants will be allowed to race on a first-come, first served basis. *Adult supervision required.* **Registration not required.**

📍 Geek Out! Graphic Novel Club

4th-8th Grade

Tuesday, July 1 | 4:30 - 5:15 PM

Storytime Room

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



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! **Registration starts Tuesday, June 17.**

BOOK: Just Roll with It by Lee Durfey-Lavoie and Veronica Agarwal

📍 Puzzle Gauntlet

3rd -5th Grade

Tuesday, July 15 | 2:30 - 3:30 PM & 4:30 - 5:30 PM

Meeting Room AB

Do you have what it takes to beat the Puzzle Gauntlet? The Puzzle Master devised a series of devious challenges to test your STEAM skills and cunning to the max. Should you triumph, you will unlock the snack-a-licious treasure stash. **Registration opens Tuesday, July 1.**

📍 NLPL 1st Annual Potato Derby

Ages 5-12

Tuesday, August 19 | 5 - 6:30 PM

Meeting Room AB

Stop into the library anytime starting Tuesday, August 5 to pick your potato racer! Bring home a building kit and put together the best potatomobile the world has ever seen!

Come back Tuesday, August 19 at 5 PM with your completed potatomobile and race potato vs potato on our state-of-the-art track. Who will be crowned the Potato Head? You can try to sMASH the competition to earn awards in these categories: Speedy Spud (Fastest), Spud Muffin (Best Looking), Spud-Tacular (Judges Choice), and Spud-nique (Most Unique). *Adult supervision required.*

Registration starts Tuesday, August 5.



📍 Stay & Play

Ages 0-5 with caregiver

Wednesdays, June 11, 18, 25 & July 2, 9, 16, 23
10 - 11:30 AM

Meeting Room AB

Join us for a morning of open-ended free play. Kids will be able to imagine, explore, discover, and meet new friends in a fun environment. **No registration required.**

📍 Kindness Club

Ages 7-12

Wednesdays, June 18 & July 16 | 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, June 18: Kindness Bingo

Wednesday, July 16: Bookmarks for Little Free Library

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Wednesday, June 18	Wednesday, June 4
Wednesday, July 16	Wednesday, July 2

📍 Weird Wednesdays

Ages 8-13

Wednesdays, June 25 & July 23 | 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.

Wednesday, June 25: Crop Circles

Wednesday, July 23: Chimera

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Wednesday, June 25	Wednesday, June 11
Wednesday, July 23	Wednesday, July 9

📍 Chess Club for Kids

Ages 8-12

Wednesday, June 11, 18 & 25 | 6:30 - 7:30 PM

Meeting Room A

Learn the basics of chess & use your skills with other players in this three week program. This program is designed for beginner players, but all skill levels are welcome to come enjoy the fun! Registration is for a 3-week session and attendance is required for all 3 weeks. **Registration opens Wednesday, May 28.**

Cooking with Kyra

Ages 4-10

Thursday, June 26 & July 24 | 4:30 - 4:45 PM
Online

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

Thursday, June 26: Star Power Pizza

Thursday, July 24: Creeper Crunch

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Thursday, June 26	Thursday, June 12
Thursday, July 24	Thursday, July 10

Family BINGO Night

Ages 4 and up with a caregiver

Thursdays, June 26 & July 24 | 5 - 6 PM
Meeting Room AB

Join us for a fun-filled Family Bingo Night at the library! Gather your loved ones for an evening of excitement and friendly competition. Prizes will be awarded to winners of each round!

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Thursday, June 26	Thursday, June 12
Thursday, July 24	Thursday, July 10

LEGO Club

1st-5th Grade

Thursday, July 3 | 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. **Registration opens Thursday, June 19.**

After Hours Switch Gaming Night

Ages 8-12

Fridays, June 20 & July 18 | 4 - 6 PM
Meeting Room AB

Join us to play games like Mario Kart, Super Smash Bros. Ultimate, and more on the library's Nintendo Switch—attendees choose the games! Snacks and refreshments provided.

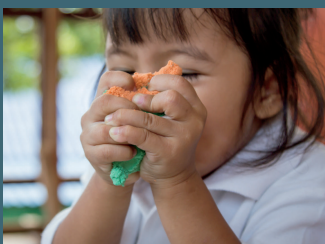
DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Friday, June 20	Friday, June 6
Friday, July 18	Friday, July 4

Play-Doh Playtime

Ages 1-3

Fridays, June 13, 20, 27 & July 11, 18 & 25
9:30 - 10 AM in the *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.



DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Friday, June 13	Friday, June 6
Friday, June 20	Friday, June 13
Friday, June 27	Friday, June 20
Friday, July 11	Friday, July 4
Friday, July 18	Friday, July 11
Friday, July 25	Friday, July 18

Play-Doh Playtime: Master Molders

Ages 4-6 with caregiver

Fridays, June 13, 20, 27 & July 11, 18 & 25
10:15 - 10:45 AM in the *Storytime Room*

Big kids love Play-Doh, too! Let your child's creativity shine in this Play-Doh program perfect for those who want to build and create.



Teens

Starbucks Favorites

7th-12th Grade

Friday, June 13 | 1 - 2 PM

Meeting Room A

Love your favorite coffee shop vibes? Join cooking instructor, Kristyn Slick from Mealtime Memories, in a live cooking demo where she unveils three Starbucks-inspired recipes that you can recreate at home. Perfect for teens looking to channel their inner barista, this presentation brings the coffeehouse magic straight to your kitchen! **Registration opens Tuesday, May 13.**

Chess for Teens

7th-12th Grade

Thursdays, June 26, July 24, August 7 | 2 - 3 PM

Meeting Room A

Join us this summer for our brand new Teen Chess Club! Enjoy friendly competition in a relaxed atmosphere and meet other players. The Library will provide a few chess sets, but players are encouraged to bring their own. Attendance at all sessions is not required. All skill levels are welcome! **Registration opens Monday, May 26, Tuesday, June 24 & Monday, July 7.**

Adults & Teens

Spice Club

Adults & Teens

Mondays, June 2 & August 4 | Starting at 4 PM

Adult and Teen Service Desk

Spice up your cooking with our bi-monthly spice kits! Each kit includes a sample spice, and a booklet filled with recipes, cookbook picks, and other info. Pick up a print packet at the library or view the interactive digital version on our website through the library calendar.

June's spice: Hibiscus

August's spice: White Pepper

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

Chocolate Tasting Kit

Adults & Teens

Monday, June 21 | Starting at 4 PM

Adult and Teen Service Desk

Did you know there is a World Chocolate Day in July? Join us in celebrating this sweet holiday by picking up a chocolate tasting kit that includes a variety of chocolate samples from around the world.

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 at Beggars Pizza

9th Grade - Adult

Thursday, July 10 | 6 - 8 PM

Beggars Pizza: 650 Maple St., New Lenox

Looking for Thursday night fun? Join us for trivia at Beggars Pizza in New Lenox! Enjoy food, drinks, and questions on all kinds of topics. Play solo or with a team for prizes! One person per team must register to reserve a table (4-6 players per table; larger groups will be split). **Registration opens Tuesday, June 10 and closes two days before the event.** Please help us get an accurate headcount by registering your team in advance. Groups of more than 6 must make two separate reservations.

Dungeons and Dragons 101

9th Grade - Adult

Saturday, July 12 | 1 - 2:30 PM

Meeting Room AB

Dungeons & Dragons 101 is the perfect introduction to this dynamic role-playing game. Learn some history, the basics of the game, and be inspired to explore new lands and fight weird monsters with Steve Hurovitz. Experienced players will take something away as well! Attendees are invited to participate in a mini-game as part of the presentation. **Registration opens Thursday, June 12.**

Adults & Teens

📍 Seas the Day! Beach House Craft

Adults & Teens

Tuesday, August 5 | 6 - 7:30 PM

Meeting Room B



Get ready for high tides and good vibes as we create 3 unique beach houses as a table top decoration. We'll paint and decorate wood house them with ocean & sea embellishments as well as starfish, shells, and nautical or coastal scrapbook paper. Please join us in-person as we discover "Life's a Beach"! **Registration opens Saturday, July 5.**

📍 Visual Art Showcase & Reception

All Ages

Thursday, August 28 | 6 - 7 PM

Meeting Room AB

Join us for a formal gallery showing of 2025 Visual Art Contest entries as we announce the winners! Enjoy refreshments and live music as you peruse the beautiful art created by members of your community. **Registration opens Monday, June 28.**

📍 What's Herb Got to Do With It?

Making Cocktails, Mocktails & Infused Water

Adults & Teens

Tuesday, August 12 | 6 - 7 PM

Meeting Room B

Learn how to create your own mocktails, cocktails, and infused waters using herbs you can easily grow in your garden or on your kitchen sill. Discover how to take herbs from your garden to your glass! **Registration opens Saturday, July 12.**

Adults

📍 Blue Mind Wellness

Monday, June 9 | 11 AM - 12:30 PM

Meeting Room B

Ever feel more relaxed around water? Discover why through the Blue Mind theory, introduced by marine biologist Dr. Wallace Nichols. Join Blue Mind Water Ambassador Debbie Podwika to learn how water can boost your well-being, happiness, and performance. **Registration opens Friday, May 9.**

📍 Genealogy for Beginners

Genealogy Club

Tuesday, June 10 | 6 - 7 PM

Meeting Room B



Learn the basics of genealogical research in a friendly and welcoming environment with Debra Dudek. All experience and skill levels welcome! **Registration opens Saturday, May 10.**

📍 BYOB: Bring Your Own Book Club at 3 Corners Grill & Tap

Wednesdays, June 18 & August 20 | 6:30 - 7:30 PM

3 Corners Tap & Grill, 901 E Lincoln Hwy, New Lenox

Join our BYOB (Bring Your Own Book) Book Club for adults—no required reading! Share recent reads, get new recommendations, and enjoy food and drinks at 3 Corners Grill & Tap. **Registration opens Sunday, May 18 & Sunday, July 20 and closes two days before the program.**

Memory Makers: Using Games to Share Family Stories

Tuesday, June 24 | 6 - 7 PM
Meeting Room B

Games have a unique ability to turn family stories into lasting memories. In this program, discover how to bring your family's history to life through playful activities that spark conversation and create meaningful connections across generations.

We'll share resources and instructions to help you bring these games to life at home, and we'll even play a few together. From classic favorites with a family twist to storytelling games to interactive challenges, this program offers fun, engaging ways to share the past and create new memories.

Registration opens Saturday, May 24.

The Leisurely Librarian Quarterly Activity Packet

Available Starting Tuesday, July 1!

Grab the next edition of our quarterly large-print activity book designed just for adults at the Adult Programs Display or Senior Info Table. Features puzzles, reading recommendations, recipes, games, and more. Digital copies are on the library website calendar.

Senior Coffee Breaks: Level Up! Game Social

Thursday, July 3 | 10:30 AM - 12 PM
Doors open at 10:30 AM
Meeting Room AB

Enjoy a mid-morning break at the library with discussion, socializing, and plenty of coffee! Each coffee break will have a short talk or activity at 11 AM. Enjoy a fun day of card games and board games. Feel free to bring your own games to share! **Registration opens Tuesday, June 3.**

Tranquil Tuesdays: Sticker Pixel Art Creations

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

Take some time for yourself at the library! Each Tranquil Tuesday will feature 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 opens Sunday, June 8.**

The craft station for Summer will be Sticker Pixel Art Creations!

Phone Basics with Tech Tutors

Monday, July 21 | 3:30 - 5 PM
Conference Room

Get one-on-one help with your smartphone and apps—register in advance for a 30-minute session. **Registration opens Saturday, June 21.** *This series focuses on basic device use; we can't repair or troubleshoot damaged devices but we will do our best to assist you.*

Ignacy Jan Paderewski: America, My Second homeland

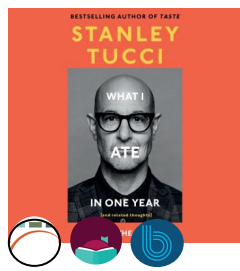
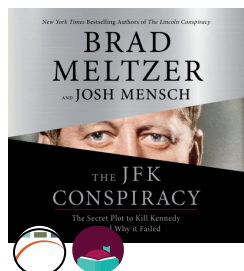
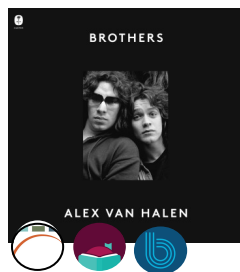
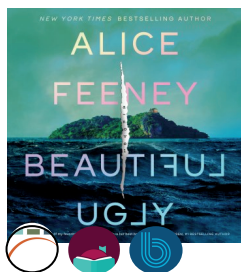
Tuesday, July 29 | 6 - 7:15 PM
Meeting Room B

Famed Polish pianist and statesman Ignacy Jan Paderewski considered America his "second homeland." Join historian Bogdan Goc of the Aurea Libertas Institute to explore his lasting U.S. ties through music, philanthropy, and politics. This standalone session builds on Ignacy Jan Paderewski: A Life with Purpose and focuses on his time in America. **Registration opens Saturday, June 29.**

Staff Picks

with Adult & Teen Services

Audiobooks with Annette



April Storm

by Leila Meachum

A seemingly perfect suburban housewife is being pursued by a private detective . . . and hunted by a murderer in this riveting, much-anticipated posthumous novel from the beloved author of *Roses* and *Dragonfly*.

Beautiful Ugly

by Alice Feeney
Author Grady Green calls his wife to share some exciting news as she is driving home. He hears Abby slam on the brakes, get out of the car, then nothing. When he eventually finds her car by the cliff edge the headlights are on, the driver door is open, her phone is still there. . . but his wife has disappeared.

Brothers

by Alex Van Halen
In this intimate and open account—nothing like any rock-and-roll memoir you’ve ever read—Alex Van Halen shares his personal story of family, friendship, music and brotherly love in a remarkable tribute to his beloved brother and band mate.

The JFK Conspiracy: The Secret Plot to Kill Kennedy—and Why It Failed

by Brad Meltzer & Josh Mensch
From the New York Times bestselling authors of *The Nazi Conspiracy* and *The Lincoln Conspiracy* comes a true, little-known story about the first assassination attempt on John F. Kennedy, right before his inauguration.

We Lived on the Horizon

by Erika Swyler
The acclaimed author of the “dazzling” *The Book of Speculation* returns with an engrossing new novel about a bio-prosthetic surgeon and her personal AI as they are drawn into a revolution.

What I Ate in One Year

by Stanley Tucci
Food has long been central to Stanley Tucci’s life, from meals in Rome to home-cooked dishes with his kids. In *What I Ate in One Year*, he chronicles a year of eating across settings—from film sets to family dinners—around the world and sometimes alone.



Find it in the library



Find it in Libby/Overdrive

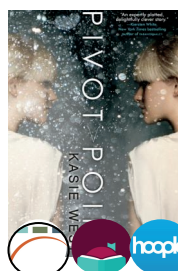
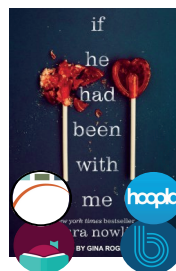
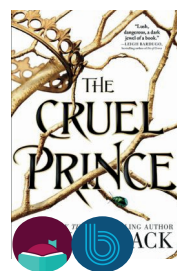


Find it in Boundless



Find it in Hoopla

Young Adult with TAG



The Cruel Prince

by Holly Black
Jude was seven years old when her parents were murdered and she and her two sisters were stolen away to live in the treacherous High Court of Faerie. Ten years later, Jude wants nothing more than to belong there, despite her mortality. But many of the fey despise humans. Especially Prince Cardan, the youngest and wickedest son of the High King. To win a place at the Court, she must defy him - and face the consequences.

If He Had Been With Me

by Laura Nowlin
A poignant YA romance about love, loss, and what could have been. Once close, Autumn and Finn drifted apart—but as one fateful August approaches, Autumn must confront the heartbreaking truth of how different life might have been if they'd stayed together.

Pivot Point

by Kassie West
Addie can see the future before making choices. When her parents divorce, she must choose between two lives—one familiar, one new—each with love, danger, and sacrifice. Faced with a murder mystery and heartbreak, she must decide which future she’s willing to live.

Fiction with Juliana



Murder by Cheesecake: A Golden Girls Cozy Mystery by Rachel Ekstrom-Courage

When Dorothy's obnoxious date is found dead in a hotel freezer, it not only ruins a gorgeous cheesecake but threatens the elaborate St. Olaf-themed wedding Rose is hosting.

The Liminal Zone, Volume 2 by Junji Ito

When four students find a mysterious machine in a deserted village, they vanish one by one.

The Haunting of Room 904 by Erika T. Wurth

Olivia Becente was never supposed to have the gift. The ability to commune with the dead was the specialty of her sister, Naiche. But when Naiche dies unexpectedly and under strange circumstances, somehow Olivia suddenly can't stop seeing and hearing from spirits.

Nowhere by Allison Gunn

After a tragic loss, a fractured family faces rising tensions, a haunting forest presence, and a town gripped by fear—forcing them to confront their darkest truths.

Black Mouth by Ronald Malfi

A group of friends return to their hometown to confront a nightmare they first stumbled on as teenagers in this mesmerizing odyssey of terror.

The Little Friend by Donna Tartt

Twelve years after her brother's murder, determined young Harriet sets out to uncover the truth, unearthing dark secrets in her small Mississippi town.

Non-Fiction with Monica

Good Nature: Why Seeing, Smelling, Hearing, and Touching Plants Is Good for Our Health by Kathy Willis

A scientific exploration revealing how nature—through sights, scents, and soil—profoundly improves our physical and mental wellbeing, backed by research.

Lifestyled: Your Guide to a More Organized & Intentional Life by Shira Gill & Vivian Johnson

Simplify your life, reduce overwhelm, and create lasting ease with Shira Gill's practical minimalist toolkit and inspiring, actionable strategies for everyday living.

Crush Your Money Goals: 25 Smart Money Habits to Save, Invest, and Fast-Track Your Financial Freedom

by Bernadette Joy

Financial expert Bernadette Joy's CRUSH program helps you ditch debt, save, invest wisely, and build lasting wealth for a financially freer life.

Band of Sisters: Madeleine Pauliac, the Women of the Blue Squadron, and Their Daring Rescue Missions in the Last Days of World War II

by Maynial Philippe & Richard Bernstein

Band of Sisters follows Madeleine Pauliac and Red Cross nurses on daring WWII rescue missions across Europe.



Compassion in the Court: Life-Changing Stories from America's Nicest Judge by Frank Caprio

Judge Caprio shares powerful courtroom stories of justice, compassion, dignity, and personal growth.

The Curious Kitchen Gardener: Uncommon Plants & How to Eat Them by Linda Ziedrich

Explore 35 uncommon plants with seasonal guidance, recipes, and rich stories blending gardening, cooking, and culture.



@the new lenox library

Sunday, June 1 to Thursday, July 31
for Kids, Teens & Adults

This summer's theme is **Level Up!** Sign up starts Sunday, June 1. **There are challenges available is for all ages, from birth through adults.** The first week, June 1–8, is for registration only.

See pages 3, 4 & 5 for more info!

Looking at a print version of this Guide?



Read the Guide Online

Use this QR code to read this Guide online at newlenoxlibrary.org/guide on a mobile device.



Library Calendar & Program Registration

Use this QR code to go to our calendar at newlenox.librarymarket.com on a mobile device.



Library Website

Use this QR code to go to www.newlenoxlibrary.org on a mobile device.



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— on the commons
120 Veterans Parkway New Lenox, IL 60451

Library Board

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Dr. Edward Tatro, Treasurer

Erin Moncek, Secretary

Cari Didion

Colette Loecke

Dawn Wheat

Michelle Krooswyk, Executive Director

Library Hours

Monday-Thursday: 9 AM-8 PM

Friday & Saturday: 9 AM-4 PM

Sunday: 12-4 PM

Contact Us

Call: 815-485-2605

Email: info@newlenoxlibrary.org

Connect



Facebook: New Lenox Public Library



Instagram: @newlenoxlibrary



YouTube: New Lenox Library

Upcoming Closure Dates

Thursday, June 19

Friday, July 4

Sunday, August 31

Monday, September 1

Juneteenth

Independence Day

Sunday before Labor Day

Labor Day