

guide

December 2023–February 2024



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Library Closures

- Dec. 24** Christmas Eve
- Dec. 25** Christmas Day
- Dec. 31** New Year's Eve
- Jan. 1** New Year's Day
- Feb. 19** Presidents' Day

Register for Programs

Online in the Event Calendar at
newlenox.librarymarket.com

Call the Library at 815-485-2605

Ask a staff member while you're
visiting the building



Home Delivery

New Lenox Library provides free Library delivery to residents within our district boundaries who are unable to physically come to the Library, whether temporarily or long-term.

Home visits are scheduled on the 2nd Wednesday of every month. Materials will be delivered to and picked up from each participant's residence by Library staff.

Residents of New Lenox Library District with a current New Lenox Library card, who are unable to come to the Library due to mobility, health, or disability barriers. Residents living at home, in assisted living, or in a nursing facility are all eligible.

Our Adult & Teen Services Outreach Coordinator will contact the applicant to explain how to request books and other materials, as well as help with suggestions.

The Library has a large collection of large print and regular print books, as well as many audiobooks, back issue magazines, movies, and music.

The lending period for New Lenox Library items through Home Delivery is generally 4 weeks. You can renew most materials one time. Materials not available at the time of request will be placed on hold and delivered when they become available. Please note that there may be waiting lists for new and/or popular items.

Participants will be charged the replacement cost for materials that are lost and/or damaged while in their care, but there are no additional fees for this service.

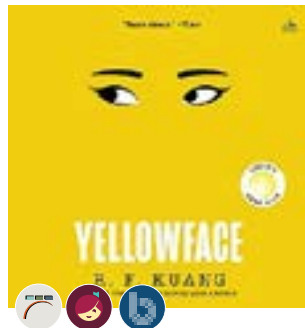
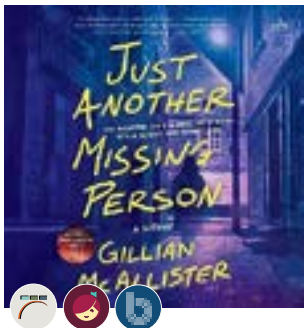
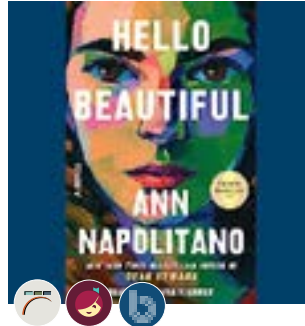
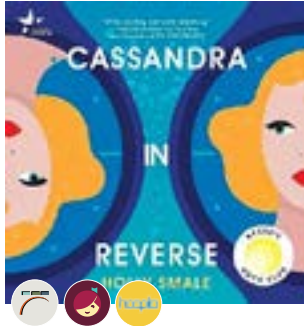
Fill out the form at the Library, on our website, email us, or call us, and we'll do the rest!





Dominic Ricobene
Adult & Teen Services Outreach Coordinator
815-485-2605 ext. 132

homebound@newlenoxlibrary.org
newlenoxlibrary.org/homedelivery

Staff Picks with Adult & Teen Services

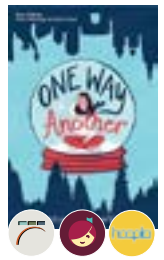
Audiobooks with Annette



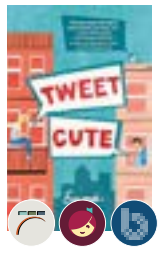
-  Find it in the Library
-  Find it in Libby/Overdrive
-  Find it in Hoopla
-  Find it in Boundless

Young Adult with Melissa

One Way or Another by Kara McDowell. A sweet, smart holiday romance about a girl who decides to stop letting her anxiety stand in the way of true love.



Tweet Cute by Emma Lord. All's fair in love and cheese – that is, until Pepper and Jack's spat turns into a viral Twitter war. Little do they know, while they're publicly duking it out with snarky memes and retweet battles, they're also falling for each other in real life – on an anonymous chat app Jack built.



A Year to the Day by Robin Benway. Leo can't remember what happened the night of the accident. All she knows is that she left the party with her older sister, Nina, and Nina's boyfriend, East. And now Nina is dead, killed by a drunk driver and leaving Leo with a hole inside her that's impossible to fill. Can she move on if she never knows what really happened that night? Is happiness possible without Nina?



The Best Strangers in the World by Ari Shapiro. From the beloved host of NPR's *All Things Considered*, a stirring memoir-in-essays seeking ways to help people listen to one another; to find connection and commonality with those who may seem different; to remind us that, before religion, or nationality, or politics, we are all human.

Cassandra in Reverse by Holly Smale. She's just been dumped. She's just been fired. Her local café has run out of banana muffins. Then, something truly unexpected happens: Cassie discovers she can go back and change the past.

Hello Beautiful by Ann Napolitano. An exquisite homage to *Little Women*; a profoundly moving portrait of what is possible when we choose to love someone not in spite of who they are, but because of it.

Just Another Missing Person by Gillian McAllister. *Not everyone who is lost should be found...* An endlessly surprising thriller with a clever look at family and motherhood, showing just how murky the distinction between right and wrong can be.

Romantic Comedy by Curtis Sittenfeld. A comedy writer thinks she's sworn off love, until a dreamy pop star flips the script on all her assumptions. Sittenfeld explores the neurosis-inducing, heart-fluttering wonder of love, while slyly dissecting the rituals of romance and gender relations in the modern age.

Yellowface by R.F. Kuang. White lies. Dark humor. Deadly consequences... Bestselling sensation Juniper Song is not who she says she is, she didn't write the book she claims she wrote, and she is most certainly not Asian American.

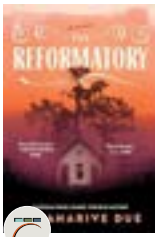
Fiction with Monica & Juliana



Hot Springs Drive by Lindsay Hunter. An urgent, vicious blade of a novel about a shocking betrayal and its aftermath, asking just how far you'll go to have everything you want.



Monica by Daniel Clowes. A series of interconnected narratives that collectively tell the life story—actually, stories—of its title character. Rich with visual detail, an impeccable ear for language and dialogue, and thrilling twists.



The Reformatory by Tananarive Due. A gripping, page-turning novel set in Jim Crow Florida that follows 12-year-old Robert Stephens Jr. as he's sent to a segregated reform school that is a chamber of terrors where he sees the horrors of racism and injustice, for the living, and the dead.



The Witching Tide by Margaret Meyer. For readers of Margaret Atwood and Hilary Mantel, an immersive literary debut inspired by historical events—a deadly witch hunt in 17th-century England—that claimed many innocent lives.



The Book Club Hotel: A Christmas Novel by Sarah Morgan. The Maple Sugar Inn is fully booked, and widowed mom Hattie just wants to make it through the weekend. But when three lifelong friends who seem to have it all check in for a girlfriends' book club holiday, it changes everything. Can these four women come together to improve each other's lives and make this the start of a whole new chapter?



A Chateau Under Siege by Martin Walker. When an actor in a local play is attacked during a performance, Bruno must learn whether it was an accident, a crime of passion, or an assassination attempt with implications far beyond the small village.

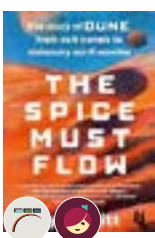
Non-Fiction with Monica & Juliana



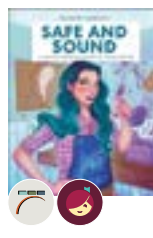
A Rome of One's Own: The Forgotten Women of the Roman Empire by Emma Southon. From the acclaimed author of *A Fatal Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, a wildly entertaining new history of Rome that uses the lives of 21 extraordinary women to upend our understanding of the ancient world.



On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft by Stephen King. Immensely helpful and illuminating to any aspiring writer, this special edition of Stephen King's critically lauded, million-copy bestseller shares the experiences, habits, and convictions that have shaped him and his work.



The Spice Must Flow by Ryan Britt. The true popularity of *Dune* is brought out into the light using original, deep-access reporting, extensive research, and insightful commentary.



Safe and Sound: A Renter-Friendly Guide to Home Repair by Mercury Stardust. For too many people, the simple act of contacting a plumber or repair person can feel like a game of chance. If you've ever felt panicked about opening your home to strangers in order to fix a maintenance issue, this book is for you.



The Black Angels by Maria Smilios. When tuberculosis stirred people's worst fears, white nurses at Sea View began quitting en masse. Desperate to avert a public health crisis, city officials summoned Black southern nurses.



The Ark of Taste by David Shields & Giselle Kennedy Lord. Explore the heritage foods that give the United States its culinary identity, from heirloom tomatoes to Tupelo honey, in this visual volume for curious eaters, gardeners, and home cooks.



Review to Win!

Winter Challenge for Adults & Teens

Monday, December 4–Sunday, January 28

Submit a brief review of a book, graphic novel, album or movie to be entered into the prize drawing.

The more you review, the more chances you have to win! Prizes available for Teens (7th–12th Grade) and Adults (18 and up).

Ways to Win

Submit Reviews Online

- Post a review through your Beanstack account! All reviews posted for ages 13+ on the Beanstack app from December 4 to January 28 are automatically entered.
- Go to newlenoxlibrary.org/reviewtowin and submit your review through our website form.

Submit Reviews at the Library

- Stop in and fill out a paper form at the Adult & Teen Services desk on the second floor.
- Go to newlenoxlibrary.org/reviewtowin, download a Review to Win form, and return the completed copy to staff at the Adult & Teen Services Desk.

THE ERAS TOURNAMENT



BATTLE OF THE DECADES

Get ready for the March Madness Book Tournament with our Beanstack Reading Challenge

This year's Sweet 16 picks are ready to battle it out this Spring! How many have you read? Are you ready to vote for your favorites?

Prepare for our third annual tournament by taking on our March Madness Reading Challenge and tracking your progress through our Beanstack app. Can you finish all 16 in time to build your bracket by Sunday, March 3? Look for more March Madness details in the Spring 2024 Guide!

Visit with a web browser at newlenoxlibrary.beanstack.org, or download the Beanstack app.

Find these books in our catalog or in Libby, Hoopla, or Boundless. This year's theme is **Best Sellers by Era!**

2010–2019

- The Girl on the Train
- The Girl with The Dragon Tattoo

2000–2009

- The Da Vinci Code
- The Hunger Games

1990–1999

- Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone
- The Bridges of Madison County

1980–1989

- The Name of the Rose
- The Alchemist

1970–1979

- Watership Down
- The Eagle Has Landed

1960–1969

- To Kill a Mockingbird
- One Hundred Years of Solitude

1950–1959

- Lolita
- East of Eden

1940–1949

- The Little Prince
- The Diary of Anne Frank



TITLE	LIBBY	HOOPLA	BOUNDLESS
The Girl on the Train by Paula Hawkins			
The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo by Stieg Larsson			
The Da Vinci Code by Dan Brown			
The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins			
Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone by JK Rowling			
The Bridges of Madison County by Robert James Waller			
The Name of the Rose by Eco Umberto			
The Alchemist by Paulo Coelho			

TITLE	LIBBY	HOOPLA	BOUNDLESS
Watership Down by Richard Adams			
The Eagle Has Landed by Jack Higgins			
To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee			
One Hundred Years of Solitude by Gabriel Garcia Marquez			
Lolita by Vladimir Nabokov			
East of Eden by John Steinbeck			
The Little Prince by Antoine de Saint-Exupery			
The Diary of a Young Girl by Anne Frank			

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ILLINOIS LIBRARIES PRESENT

Surviving the Holidays with Lori Gottlieb

Adults

Wednesday, December 6

7 PM

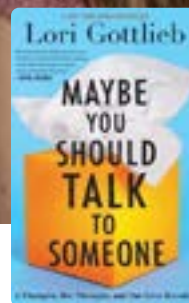
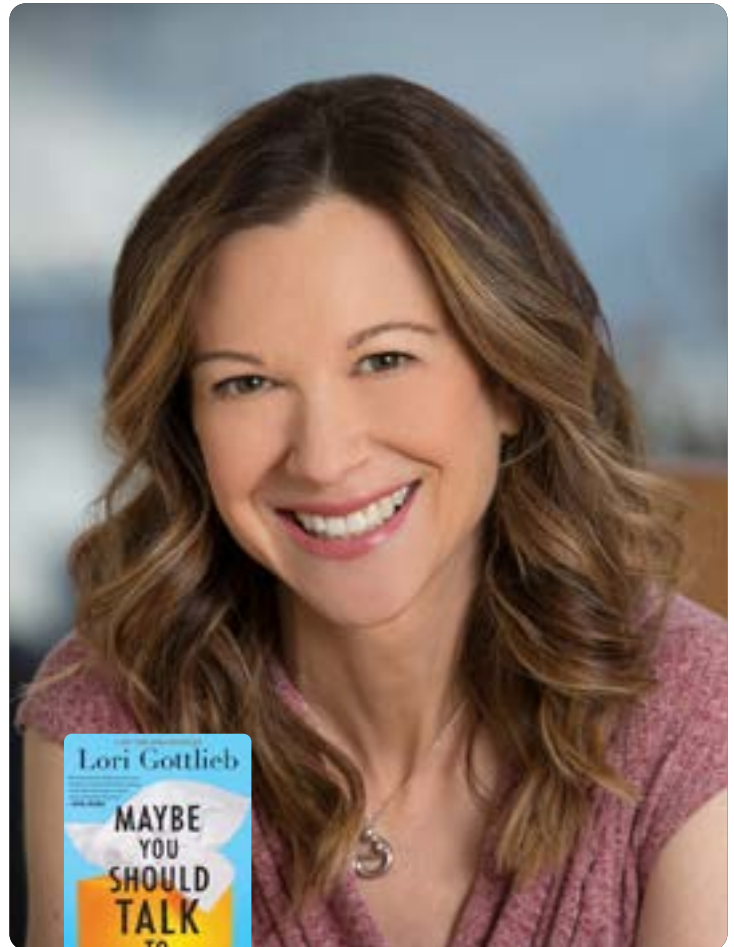
Virtual

Lori Gottlieb, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Maybe You Should Talk to Someone*, and co-host of the “Dear Therapists” podcast joins us for a thought-provoking conversation about mental health in anticipation of the winter holiday season.

Gottlieb will share tools to help in everyday life, especially as you prepare for the holidays. Lori Gottlieb is a psychotherapist and *New York Times* bestselling author of *Maybe You Should Talk to Someone*, which has sold over a million copies and is currently being adapted into a television series.

In addition to her clinical practice, she is co-host of the popular “Dear Therapists” podcast and writes *The Atlantic’s* “Dear Therapist” advice column. She has been on the *Today Show*, *Good Morning America*, CNN, and NPR’s “Fresh Air” as a therapy expert and her 2019 TED Talk was one of the most watched of the year.

ILP is committed to inclusion and accessibility. To request accommodations, please email illinoislibrariespresent@gmail.com.



Registration starts November 6

Registration is required. Please list the New Lenox Library as the place you heard about this event. This event will be recorded and publicly available for a limited time after the event.



This event is 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).

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ILLINOIS LIBRARIES PRESENT

Experience *The Nutcracker* at Home

All Ages

Saturday, December 16 &
Sunday, December 17

Virtual On Demand

Get in the spirit of the season with a recorded virtual performance of Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker* performed by the United Kingdom's internationally renowned Royal Ballet.

The ballet, a holiday staple for all ages, can be viewed Saturday, December 16, and Sunday, December 17. Registrants will receive an email with a special link to the performance.

With sumptuous period designs, spellbinding stage effects, and Tchaikovsky's iconic score, the 2016 performance of *The Nutcracker* will enchant audiences of all ages.

Performed by Britain's flagship ballet company, registrants can expect to see some of the most elite ballerinas in this performance.

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Registration starts November 16

Registration is required to receive links to these professionally-produced videos on the above dates. Please list the New Lenox Library as the place you heard about this event.

Save the Date! On Tuesday, February 20, #1 New York Times bestselling author Julia Quinn helps us feel the romance all month with a discussion about *Bridgerton* and all things romance. Announcement to follow.



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IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ILLINOIS LIBRARIES PRESENT

Speculating About Our AI Future with Cory Doctorow, Ken Liu, and Martha Wells

Adults & Teens

Thursday, January 11

7 PM

Virtual

Registration starts December 11

Registration is required. Please list the New Lenox Library as the place you heard about this event. This event will be recorded and available **only to registrants** for a limited time.

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Cory Doctorow (craphound.com) is a science fiction author, activist and journalist. He is the author of many books, most recently *The Internet Con: How to Seize the Means of Computation*, a Big Tech disassembly manual; *Red Team Blues*, a science fiction crime thriller; *Chokepoint Capitalism*, nonfiction about monopoly and creative labor markets; the *Little Brother* series for young adults; *In Real Life*, a graphic novel; and the picture book *Poesy the Monster Slayer*. In 2020, he was inducted into the Canadian Science Fiction and Fantasy Hall of Fame.



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Join us for a panel discussion featuring three best-selling science fiction writers, Cory Doctorow, Ken Liu, and Martha Wells. They will discuss the promise, perils, and possible impacts that AI will have on our future, as well as AI in contemporary and future science fiction writing.



Ken Liu (kenliu.name) is an American author of speculative fiction. A winner of the Nebula, Hugo, and World Fantasy awards, he wrote the *Dandelion Dynasty*, a silkpunk epic fantasy series (starting with *The Grace of Kings*), as well as short story collections *The Paper Menagerie and Other Stories* and *The Hidden Girl and Other Stories*. He also penned the Star Wars novel *The Legends of Luke Skywalker*. Prior to becoming a full-time writer, Liu worked as a software engineer, corporate lawyer, and litigation consultant. Liu frequently speaks at conferences and universities on a variety of topics, including futurism, machine-augmented creativity, history of technology, bookmaking, and the mathematics of origami.



Martha Wells (marthawells.com) has been a science fiction and fantasy writer since her first fantasy novel was published in 1993, and her work includes *The Books of the Raksura* series, the *Ile-Rien* series, *The Murderbot Diaries* series, and other fantasy novels, most recently *Witch King* (Tordotcom, 2023). She has also written media tie-in fiction for *Star Wars*, *Stargate: Atlantis*, and *Magic: the Gathering*, as well as short fiction, YA novels, and non-fiction. She has won Nebula Awards, Hugo Awards, and Locus Awards, and her work has appeared on the Philip K. Dick Award ballot, the BSFA Award ballot, the *USA Today* Bestseller List, the *Sunday Times* Bestseller List, and the *New York Times* Bestseller List. She is a member of the Texas Literary Hall of Fame, and her books have been published in twenty-five languages.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ILLINOIS LIBRARIES PRESENT

A Conversation with Jerry Craft: From *Mama's Boyz* to *New Kid* and Beyond

All Ages

Tuesday, February 6

7 PM

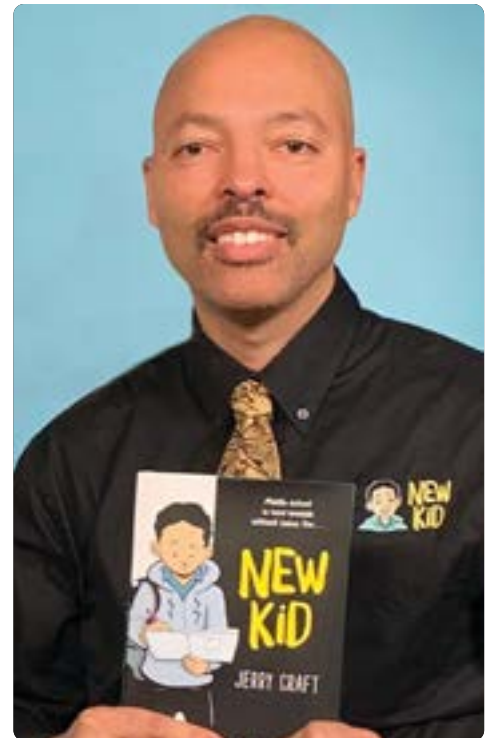
Virtual

Learn about life, art, and telling your story with bestselling author, illustrator and syndicated cartoonist, Jerry Craft. Join us for a conversation about his works and journey to success, including a drawing demo that will be fun for the whole family!

Jerry Craft (jerrycraft.com) is the author-illustrator of #1 New York Times bestselling graphic novels *New Kid*, and its companion book, *Class Act*. *New Kid* was the first book in history to win the Newbery Medal (2020), The Coretta Scott King Author Award (2020), and the Kirkus Prize for Young Readers' Literature (2019). In his latest book, *School Trip*, Jerry hopes to share his love of travel in order to inspire kids and their families to see the world and embrace new cultures. Craft is also the creator of *Mama's Boyz*, an award-winning comic strip which won the African American Literary Award five times. He is a co-founder of the Schomburg Center's Annual Black Comic Book Festival.

Despite not always being an avid reader, Craft has gained a unique ability to weave captivating narratives and bring them to life through stunning artwork. He has used his experience to create the works he wishes he'd had as a kid, with characters that represent his community. He frequently visits schools and libraries, hoping to give kids and families a new perspective on books and reading that he didn't always have when he was young. He loves working with children and hopes to inspire anyone he meets to keep trying, always.

Craft will be joined in conversation by Ronnell Whitaker, a founding member of the Lit-X Teacher Cohort. Whitaker is the English Curriculum Director for Community High School District 218 in Oak Lawn, Illinois. He has over 15 years of education experience and is a champion for comics in the classroom. He has presented across the country at conferences and conventions on the virtues of comics in the classroom. Whitaker also sits on the Board of Directors for Reading With Pictures. He believes in comics, and he likes to think that comics believe in him. Learn more about Ronnell Whitaker at <https://thecomicbookteacher.com/author/rqwhitaker/> and on LinkedIn at <https://www.linkedin.com/in/ronell-whitaker-2648326/>.



Registration starts January 6

Registration is required. Please list the New Lenox Library as the place you heard about this event. This event will not be recorded, so be sure to register to enjoy the fun!



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Winter Reading Club

Monday, December 4–Sunday, January 28 for Ages 1–13

Winter Reading is going to the dogs—and cats! Our pet friends need to get adopted and find their way to a happy home. Follow the paw path and color in one paw print for

every 15 minutes that you read. Once you get the pets home (by reading for 4 hours), you will receive a prize bag and a virtual entry into our weekly drawing. Bonus logs are available for you to earn extra drawing entries. Pick up your log starting December 4, or download it at

newlenoxlibrary.org/winter/

We are taking donations of items for NAWS Humane Society in Mokena. A list of items needed can be found in Youth Services, by using the QR code on your reading log, or by visiting the community bulletin board in our east entranceway.



Meow-ga Cat Yoga

Ages 13–Adult

Sunday, December 3
10–11 AM
Meeting Room AB



Meet your purr-fect new best fur-end!

Do some paw-some yoga poses while helping NAWS Humane Society of Illinois.

Don't have yoga experience? Fur-get about it! You don't have to be cat-hletic, but do bring your own yoga mat.

The wandering, cuddle-able cats will be from NAWS Humane Society of Illinois located in Mokena, and will be available for adoption if you stop in the shelter the day after the event.

Please bring some kitten food (any kind) with you to the yoga class. Registration is required. Participants are required to sign a waiver.

We ♥ NAWS Adopt-a-palooza

All Ages

Saturday, February 3
11 AM–1 PM
Meeting Room AB



Looking for a new love this Valentine's Day? Come meet rescue pets of all shapes and sizes! A study revealed that spending more time with dogs can give a 300% increase in oxytocin levels, also known as the love hormone. A whopping 87% of Americans were reported as happier than the average person because of owning a pet.

Attending an adoption event is a great way to get to interact with cats and dogs in an open environment, play with them, walk them around, and give them lots of love! Enjoy fun "love" themed activities for the whole family. Please bring an item from the NAWS wish list to the event (nawsus.org/ways-to-give).

Want to come prepared? Fill out an application beforehand!
<https://www.shelterluv.com/matchme/adopt/NAWS/Dog>
<https://www.shelterluv.com/matchme/adopt/NAWS/Cat>



Teens are making no-sew blankets for NAWS! Check page 18 for details!



Storytimes with the Library

Registration is required for all storytimes.

Mondays

Movers & Shakers

Ages 6–23 months with a caregiver

9:30–10 AM

Storytime Room

Books, songs, rhymes, and bounces for on-the-move babies. Siblings are welcome.

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Dec. 4	Registration starts Nov. 27
Dec. 11	Registration starts Dec. 4
Jan. 29	Registration starts Jan. 22
Feb. 5	Registration starts Jan. 29
Feb. 12	Registration starts Feb. 5
<i>Library closed on February 19</i>	
Feb. 26	Registration starts Feb. 19

Tuesdays

New Name! On My Own

Ages 4–6 years

10:30–11 AM

Storytime Room

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 in the Youth Services Department during the duration of the program.

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Dec. 5	Registration starts Nov. 28
Dec. 12	Registration starts Dec. 5
Jan. 30	Registration starts Jan. 23
Feb. 6	Registration starts Jan. 30
Feb. 13	Registration starts Feb. 6
Feb. 20	Registration starts Feb. 13
Feb. 27	Registration starts Feb. 20

Pajama Time

Ages 3–8 years with a caregiver

7–7:30 PM

Storytime Room

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
Dec. 5	Registration starts Nov. 28
Dec. 12	Registration starts Dec. 5
Jan. 30	Registration starts Jan. 23
Feb. 6	Registration starts Jan. 30
Feb. 13	Registration starts Feb. 6
Feb. 20	Registration starts Feb. 13
Feb. 27	Registration starts Feb. 20

Wednesdays

Music Makers

Birth–6 years with a caregiver

10:30–11 AM

Storytime Room

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

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Dec. 6	Registration starts Nov. 29
Dec. 13	Registration starts Dec. 6
Jan. 31	Registration starts Jan. 24
Feb. 7	Registration starts Jan. 31
Feb. 14	Registration starts Feb. 7
Feb. 21	Registration starts Feb. 14
Feb. 28	Registration starts Feb. 21

Thursdays

Wee Readers

Ages 2–4 years with a caregiver

10–10:30 AM

Storytime Room

Get ready for super stories, spectacular songs, and silly rhymes.

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Dec. 7	Registration starts Nov. 30
Dec. 14	Registration starts Dec. 7
Feb. 1	Registration starts Jan. 25
Feb. 8	Registration starts Feb. 1
Feb. 15	Registration starts Feb. 8
Feb. 22	Registration starts Feb. 15
Feb. 29	Registration starts Feb. 22

Saturdays

Saturday Morning Storytime

Ages 2–6 years with a caregiver

10–10:30 AM

Storytime Room

Go on a reading adventure with Mr. Eric, The Story Dude! Join us for songs, tales, and a fun family activity. Siblings are welcome.

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Dec. 16	Registration starts Dec. 2
Jan. 13	Registration starts Dec. 30
Feb. 10	Registration starts Jan. 27



Programs for Kids

Grab & Go

Winter Craft Grab & Go

Ages 3–10

Youth Services Desk

Drop by the Youth Services desk or call to reserve a different winter-themed craft every Monday beginning at 9 AM. Everything you need is contained in the craft kit. Crafts are available while supplies last and are usually claimed within two hours. Crafts must be picked up by 8 PM on the day they are available.

Monday, December 4

Color-Your-Own Grinch Garland

Monday, December 11

Handprint Snowman Sign

Monday, December 18

Happy New Year Sign

Tuesday, December 26

Hot Cocoa Table Art

Tuesday, January 2

Smiley Hanging Snowman

Monday, January 8

Snowman 3D Table Decor

Monday, January 15

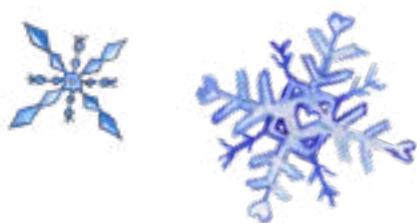
Snowboarding Winter Animals

Monday, January 22

Snow Friend Picture Frame

Monday, January 29

Beaded Snowflake Ornaments



Mondays

Family Gingerbread House Craft

Ages 3–12 with caregiver(s)

Monday, December 4, 6–7 PM

Meeting Room AB

'Tis the season for Gingerbread Houses! Children and their families are invited to join us for an evening of Gingerbread House crafting, milk and cookies, and letters to Santa. Registration is required and starts November 30.

Art Club

1st–4th Grade

Video posted at 4:30 PM

Create some awesome art with a step-by-step video to help you create a masterpiece. Registration is required for an art supply kit, but everyone can watch the videos!

December 18: Frosted Art

Registration starts December 4

January 15: Bleeding Tissue Paper Art

Registration starts January 2

February 19: Art Dice

Registration starts February 5

Library closed, video will still post

Mad Scientist Club

1st–4th Grade

4:30–5:15 PM

The Studio

Do you love hands-on activities? Join us to make all kinds of cool predictions and do exciting (and sometimes messy) experiments. Registration is required.

December 18: Color Science

Registration starts December 4

January 22: Spectacular Snow

Registration starts January 8

February 26: Fizzing Hearts

Registration starts February 12

Upcycled Art

1st–8th Grade

Monday, February 5, 4:30–5:30 PM

The Studio

Create a fun art project using upcycled library materials and CDs. Registration is required and starts January 29.



Programs for Kids

Tuesdays

Geek Out! Graphic Novel Club

4th–8th Grade

5–5:45 PM

Storytime Room

Geek out over graphic novels, talk about this month's book, have a snack, and make geeked-out art. Pick up books at the Patron Services Desk. Registration is required.

December 19:

Squished by Megan Wagner Lloyd

Wear an ugly sweater for our Ugly Sweater Party! Registration is required and starts November 21.

January 23:

Out There by Seaerra Miller

Registration is required and starts December 19.

Kindness Club

Ages 7–12 years

5–5:45 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. We'll be making crafts to give to others. Registration is required.

December 12:

Make Toys for NAWS Adoptable Pets

Registration starts November 28

February 13:

Random Acts of Kindness Week Fun

Registration starts January 30

Wednesdays

Pokémon Club

3rd–6th Grade

5:30–6:15 PM

Meeting Room A

Calling all Pokémon fanatics! Bring your card collection to the library for trading and camaraderie. You can show off your favorite cards, play the Pokémon Trading Card Game, and talk about all things Pokémon with fellow enthusiasts. Other fun activities offered each month, too! Registration is required.

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Dec. 20	Registration starts Dec. 6
Jan. 17	Registration starts Jan. 3
Feb. 21	Registration starts Feb. 7

Art Attack!

4th–8th Grade

6–6:45 PM

The Studio

Your imagination mixes with art in this program just for tweens. Registration is required.

December 13: Aquabead Ornaments

Registration starts November 29

January 10: Handprint Bowls

Registration starts December 27

February 7: Origami Friendship Bracelets

Registration starts January 24

Thursdays

LEGO Club

1th–5th Grade

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 is required. *December's LEGO Club will be in Meeting Room B.*

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Dec. 7	Registration starts Nov. 23
Jan. 4	Registration starts Dec. 21
Feb. 1	Registration starts Feb. 19

STEAM Studio

Ages 8–12 years

4:30–5:15 PM

The Studio

Create, tinker, and build in The Studio! Join us once a month for all things Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. Registration is required.

December 14: 3D Designing

Registration starts November 30

January 11: Igloo Challenge

Registration starts December 28

February 8: Towers & Structures

Registration starts January 25



Programs for Kids

Thursdays, continued

Bluestem Readers Group

3rd–5th Grade

5:30–6:30 PM

Storytime Room

The Bluestem Award is an Illinois Readers' Choice Award for students in 3rd–5th Grade. Read some of the 2024 nominees to be eligible to cast your vote in selecting the winner! Each month, we'll read and discuss a different nominee, enjoy a snack, and complete fun activities related to the book. Please read and come prepared to discuss this month's book. Pick up books at the Patron Services desk. Registration is required.

December 28:

Chunky by Yehudi Mercado

Registration starts November 30

January 25:

Opening the Road: Victor Hugo and His Green Book by Keila V. Dawson

Registration starts December 28

February 29:

Maya and the Robot by Eve L. Ewing

Registration starts January 25

Fridays

Coding with Robots

Ages 8–12 years

9:30–10:30 AM

The Studio

Discover and learn all about coding and robots in this hands-on, interactive class for homeschooled tweens. Registration is required.

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Dec. 15	Registration starts Dec. 1
Jan. 26	Registration starts Jan. 12
Feb. 23	Registration starts Feb. 9

Young Author Visit & Book Signing

The Theatrical Tragedy Book Signing with Local Teen Author Josiah Posey

All Ages

Thursday, February 8, 6–6:30 PM

Meeting Room B

Josiah Posey will be in the Library to talk about his new book *The Theatrical Tragedy*. Copies of his book will be available for purchase and signing.

OVERVIEW: Doctor Akel Rose is a genius, but he feels like he's already learned everything. Subjects that once interested him have become dull, and all the doctor wants is for life to have color again. After discovering a dusty old Bible in his driveway, the doctor's fascination with the world is rekindled. And when otherworldly spirits contact the doctor, his passion for power is ignited, and his thirst for knowledge becomes unquenchable. Finding a new interest in sorcery, a demon that keeps him on his toes, and intentions of creating a world free of evil, the doctor sets off on a mission with his newfound power—but will it be enough?

The Theatrical Tragedy will take you headlong into a new fight between right and wrong and the consequences of choices as it traces the rise and fall of a man who claimed to be a god on a quest that questions the morality of human virtue and the ideology of justice.



You Can Write a Book: A Conversation with Teen Author Josiah Posey

7th–12th Grade

Thursday, February 8, 5–6 PM

Meeting Room B

Are you a teen writer or just interested in the creative writing and publication processes? This program is for you! Josiah Posey talks about his experience writing his new book, *The Theatrical Tragedy*, and answers your questions about what it's like being a teen author! Registration is encouraged and starts January 8.



Teen Programs

Countdown to the Holidays

7th–12th Grade

December 1–23

Adult & Teen Services

Each day in December, a lucky teen will have the opportunity to earn a treat from our Countdown to the Holidays Tree! We will choose a winner randomly each day, so the more you come to the Library, the more chances you have to win the daily prize! Tree created courtesy of Teen Advisory Group members.

Holiday Painting Party with Diane

7th–12th Grade

Thursday, December 7, 6–7:30 PM

Meeting Room A

Get ready to deck your canvases for the holidays! Local artist Diane Cochran takes you step by step through the painting process. You will go home with a beautiful handmade creation that will make for amazing decor or a perfect gift for someone special. No experience necessary! Cookies will be served! Registration is required and starts November 7.

Winter Finals Study Blitz

9th–12th Grade

Tuesday, December 19

Wednesday, December 20

2–8 PM

Teen Scene

Knock out your finals prep! We'll have snacks and de-stress activities. Don't forget to pick up your care package (while supplies last)! Some sweet canine visitors from Love on a Leash will be visiting the Library between 6–7 PM on both days, so be sure to stop by their station and say hello! Study room availability is first-come, first-served.



Blankets for NAWS

7th–12th Grade

Thursday, January 18, 5–6 PM

The Studio

All teens are welcome to this special Teen Advisory Group-led activity. We will be making no-sew blankets for the canine and feline residents of NAWS. Receive service hours and do a good deed! Snacks will be provided! Registration is encouraged and starts December 18.

Laser Tag After Hours

7th–12th Grade

Friday, January 26, 6–7:30 PM

Adult & Teen Services

You asked for it, so here we go! Join us for an evening of laser tag fun at the Library. Snacks and water will be provided. Permission slips must be signed to attend. Registration is required and starts December 26.

Teen Advisory Group

7th–12th Grade

Thursday, February 15,

5–6 PM

The Studio

Join us for our monthly Teen Advisory Group meeting. Come prepared to discuss programming ideas, your favorite reads, videogaming, and more. TAG is a great way to earn service hours and make a difference in your Library community! Please contact our Teen Services Specialist at mleggero@newlenoxlibrary.org for more information and/or to sign up.



The Studio

3D Printing

TinkerCAD Challenge

Kids, Teens & Adults

Video posted on YouTube & Facebook at 10 AM on the first day of the month

Create your Challenge design in TinkerCAD, then submit it to the Library for a free print in the color of your choice! TinkerCAD is best for kids in 4th Grade and above. Younger children may need grown-up help.

Challenges are online, on-demand and at your own pace. You can also make an appointment with staff for hands-on help with TinkerCAD. Registration is required to access the TinkerCAD classroom. Registration opens one month before each Challenge begins.

December: Customized Coasters

Challenge runs November 1–30

January: Code a Wiggly Snake

Challenge runs January 1–31

February: Make a Kazoo!

Challenge runs February 1–29

Intro to 3D Printing & TinkerCAD

All Ages/Families

Wednesday, January 17 5:30–6:30 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! TinkerCAD is best for kids in 4th Grade and above. Younger children may need grown-up help. Registration is required and starts one month before the program.

The Studio

Art & Cosplay

New Day & Time!
Cosplay, Anime & Art Club
Teens

Mondays, 6–7 PM
The Studio

Bring your cosplay, art ideas, and love for anime! Work with and meet like-minded peers to work on projects while geeking out about favorite shows, manga, games, and more. Bring a project with, or create one out of the materials we have here. Registration is encouraged and starts one month before each program.

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
Dec. 4	Registration starts Nov. 4
Jan. 8	Registration starts Dec. 4
Feb. 5	Registration starts Jan. 8

Sewing & Embroidery

Sewing with Rachael
Adults & Teens

Mondays, 5:30–7 PM
The Studio

Gain a variety of sewing skills with a machine or by hand with Rachael! We recommend learning on your own sewing machine. If you don't have a machine, you can use one of ours. Registration is required.

December 18: Hand Sewing

Registration starts November 18

January 15: Get to Know Your Sewing Machine

Registration starts December 18

February 12: Understanding Patterns

Registration starts January 15

Crafting with the Cameo

Vinyl & Wood Clock (Kit)

Adults & Teens

Starts Monday, December 11 while supplies last
StudioDIY Kit pickup in The Studio

Crafting with the Cameo classes and do-it-yourself kits use the Silhouette Cameo to make a paper, vinyl, or heat transfer project. This StudioDIY kit contains all the pieces you'll need to put together your very own clock.

Paper Shadow Box (Class)

Adults & Teens

Thursday, February 22, 6–7 PM
The Studio

Crafting with the Cameo classes and do-it-yourself kits use the Silhouette Cameo to make a paper, vinyl, or heat transfer project. In this group class, use layers of paper to create beautiful 3D paper shadow box art—with fairy lights to make it pop! Registration is required and starts January 22.

Sublimation Printing

Sublimate a 48-Piece Puzzle

Adults & Teens

Thursday, January 25, 5:30–7 PM
The Studio

We'll use the SawGrass500 to create a design in CreativeStudio, print it, and heat transfer it onto a 48-piece puzzle. You're welcome to bring in images from your phone or flash drive. One puzzle available per registered attendee. Registration is required and starts Monday, December 25 (to register online) and Tuesday, December 26 (to register in person or over the phone).

Social Meetups

Hearts & Crafts

Includes New Life for Old Bags

Adults & Teens

Mondays, 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 all welcome.

Registration is encouraged. We'll be meeting on:

- Monday, December 11
- Monday, January 22
- Monday, February 26

The Library is hosting this as a social meeting. We do not provide projects nor are we a drop-off point for charity projects. Attendees are welcome to organize amongst themselves.

Knit Happens!

Formerly Fiber Arts Club

Adults

1st & 3rd Thursdays, 6–7:30 PM
The Studio

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

Registration is encouraged. We'll be meeting on:

- Thursday, December 7
 (This is the group's end-of-year party! Feel free to bring a sweet or salty treat to share!)
No meeting on December 21
- Thursday, January 4 & 18
- Thursday, February 1 & 15



Adult & Teen Programs

Food & Drink

Spice Club: Aniseed & Ginger Adults & Teens

December & February
Take & Make Kits at Adult & Teen
Services Desk while supplies last

Variety is the spice of life, so let's try out a variety of spices! Every other month we will feature a different spice. Kits each include a sample of that month's spice, recipes, cookbook recommendations, as well as some history and cultural context.

Print packets will be available at the library, digital versions will be available for download on the library website.

December's spice is Aniseed. Kits are available starting at 4 pm on Monday, December 4 while supplies last.

February's spice is Ground Ginger. Kits are available starting at 4 pm on Monday, February 5 while supplies last.

Bake Your Way Through the Holidays with The Bread Monk Adults & Teens

Tuesday, December 5, 6:30–7:45 PM
Virtual

'Tis the season to be baking! Benedictine monk and PBS TV host Father Dominic Garramone will present a live virtual program with recipes for three holidays, including Hanukkah Jelly Donuts, Fruited Sweet Potato Bread for Kwanzaa, and a braided sweet bread centerpiece for your Christmas buffet that doubles as dessert! He'll share all three recipes and answer your baking questions, too. Registration is required and starts November 5.

A Reluctant Cook Shares Tips Adults & Teens

Tuesday, February 27, 6–7:30 PM
Meeting Room B

Have good intentions of providing healthy meals for you and your family but don't feel you have the right tools, know-how, or time? When busy people consider the challenges of cooking with more whole-food and plant-based foods, they often become discouraged, and concerned about increased time and effort that may be involved.

Join Joan Davis, RN, MS, Plant-based speaker and self-proclaimed "Reluctant Cook," as she shares tips to streamline your kitchen time. Get introduced to tried and true meal planning approaches such as batch cooking to cut down on prep time. Gain recipes and resources to send you back to the kitchen confident you can cook plant-based without spending your life there!

Joan will teach you to make healthy ingredient swaps by "veganizing" many of your old favorites and help you discover new plant-based dishes. Learn to pull together greens, grains, and beans for quick delicious dishes that will impress even carnivores. Leave feeling confident you can master the basic cooking skills needed for efficient preparation of plant-based meals and snacks. Registration is encouraged.



Health & Wellness

Reading Deeply: Bring-a-Book Yoga Adults & Teens

Thursday, January 25, 6:30–7:30 PM
Meeting Room AB

If your resolution this year was to read more, move more, or be more mindful, we've got you covered! Reading Deeply is a Yin Yoga class designed for bookworms. Bobbi Pehle, aka the Half Moon Yogi, will lead students through carefully sequenced held poses for several minutes giving you uninterrupted time to read.

Bring your own yoga mat and book—It's a self-care two-for-one! The class allows for stretching and modifications for individuals who need them. Registration is required and starts Monday, December 25 (to register online) and Tuesday, December 26 (to register in person or over the phone).

Take & Make Crafts

The Key to My Heart Craft Adults & Teens

Starts Monday, January 15, 4 PM
Take & Make Kits at Adult & Teen
Services Desk while supplies last

Ever wanted to give your heart to someone for Valentine's Day? Well, now you can with this lovely Take & Make. Create this button heart with key craft on canvas and give it to someone you love - or keep it for yourself - you deserve it! Pick up all the supplies you need to make this "heartfelt" Valentine's Day surprise! Kits are available starting at 4 pm on Monday, January 15 while supplies last. One kit per person present.



Arts & Culture

**Samurai: An Introduction to Japanese Swordsmanship
Adults & Teens**

Tuesday, February 13, 5:30–7:45 PM
Meeting Room AB

Join Rob Dillon and members of Flowering Dogwood Martial Arts Way in an introductory exploration of Japanese swordsmanship. In this program, you'll learn about Japan's oldest surviving martial art, the Tenshin Shoden Katori Shinto Ryu. A ryu is a school, and this one was founded in the 15th Century!

You're invited to learn some of the historical and cultural background of this art form and see this authentic and bona-fide, "old-school" art of Japanese swordsmanship in action.

You'll see how a martial practice may become an art of peace, of self-expression, social engagement, and a "way to go" towards whole-person fitness. Registration is encouraged and starts January 13.



a Team Captain to ease registration. Tables can accommodate teams of 4 to 6 players. Groups larger than 6 must reserve two tables and should be prepared to split.

Registration is required, starts December 11, and closes two days before the event.

Trivia Night

Adults & Teens (9th Grade & Up)

Thursday, January 11, 6–8 pm
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 at 650 Maple Street (Route 30) in New Lenox.

Enjoy pizza and drinks and answer questions on a multitude of topics. Form a powerhouse team of up to 6 or play by yourself for prizes!

Please help us get an accurate headcount by registering your team in advance. **One** representative from each team must register to reserve your table; teams may wish to assign

Adult Programs



20s & 30s

**20s & 30s Nostalgia Game Night
Adults in their 20s & 30s**

Thursday, December 14, 6–7:45 PM
Meeting Room AB



Get nostalgic with games popular in the 80s, 90s, and (not quite) "now." We'll play retro video games and timeless tabletop classics from your childhood! We will have computers set up to play Oregon Trail and Zork,

stations to play Battleship, Pog, and Marbles as well as Mario Kart and Super Smash Bros on the Nintendo 64. There will be more surprises in store! Light refreshments will be provided. Registration is required and starts November 14.

Adult Programs

Genealogy & Family History

Scotland's Resources

Adults

Tuesday, December 12, 6–7:45 PM
Meeting Room B

There's more to Scottish research than Scotlandspeople. There are dozens of sites available to help you in your Scottish research; Scotlandspeople is just the tip of the iceberg! Sites like GenUKI, ScotlandsPlaces, SCAN and the National Library of Scotland are all free websites available to you from 'across the pond.' Join Tina Beaird as she discusses what resources are available and how to get started. Registration is required and starts November 12.

Health & Wellness

Color Me Calm Adult Coloring Club

Adults

Tuesday, December 19
Tuesday, January 16
Tuesday, February 20
4–5 PM (*New time!*)
Conference Room

Coloring isn't just for kids! Coloring is a great way to practice self-care. It can improve your focus, help you relax, and even improve sleep.

Color yourself calm in a soothing environment. Enjoy pleasant conversation or bring your headphones and zone out!

There will be a variety of materials for coloring and zentangles or bring your own supplies. Registration not required.

Book Clubs

Page to Screen Book Club at 3 Corners Grill & Tap

Adults

Wednesday, December 20, 7–8 PM
3 Corners Grill & Tap
901 E. Lincoln Highway (Route 30),
New Lenox

Join us at 3 Corners Grill & Tap as we discuss *Leave the World Behind*, a novel by Rumaan Alam with a Netflix adaptation (released December 8) starring Julia Roberts, Ethan Hawke, Kevin Bacon, and Mahershala Ali. Registration is required, starts November 20, and closes on December 18.

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

Adults

Wednesday, February 21, 7–8 PM
3 Corners Grill & Tap
901 E. Lincoln Highway (Route 30),
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 will 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 is required, starts January 21, and closes February 19.



Life Skills

Resume Workshop

With JJC Workforce Development & Workforce Center of Will County

Adults

Tuesday, January 16, 6–7:45 PM
Meeting Room B

Work with a certified professional resume writer to develop a competitive resume and cover letter, improving your visibility to employers and demonstrating your potential. Registration is required and starts December 16.

Can You Afford to Retire?

Adults

Tuesday, February 6, 6:30–7:30 PM
Meeting Room AB

Join Dr James Flanagan of Bentron Financial Group to learn what you need to know to retire well.

- See if you are prepared for retirement with guided self-evaluation exercises.
- Learn the “Ten Critical Questions” that every prospective retiree must answer before embarking on a successful retirement.
- Receive in-depth instructions on the nuances of Social Security such as:
 - How benefits are calculated
 - When to file to maximize benefits
 - Taxation of benefits
 - Benefits while working
 - Benefits for spouses, divorcées, and widows
- Get help navigating and identifying your unique financial and/or estate planning needs.

Flanagan will conduct an estate analysis complete with a net worth statement. Registration is encouraged and starts January 6.

Adult Programs

Seniors

The Leisurely Librarian Activity Booklet

Adults

Winter 2024 Edition out January 2
Adult & Teen Services Areas

The *Leisurely Librarian* booklet features puzzles, reading recommendations, recipes, games and more in large print. Booklets will be available on the second floor on the Programs Display and the Senior Information Table.

Senior Coffee Breaks

Seniors

Thursday, January 4, 10:30–12 PM
Meeting Room B

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 11:00 AM.

January's theme is "Classic Game Shows" with Kelli Jean. Registration is encouraged and starts December 4.

Phone Basics with Teen Tech Tutors

Seniors

Monday, January 15, 3:30–5 PM
Conference Room

Learn to better navigate your smartphones and apps with our Teen Tech Volunteers. Please register for a 30-minute time slot in advance to receive one-on-one assistance. Our staff and teen volunteers are here to help, but we cannot repair or troubleshoot damaged devices. Although we may not be able to answer every question or fix every problem, we will do our best to find solutions together. Registration is required and starts December 15.

Rise Up! Indigenous Music in North America

Adults

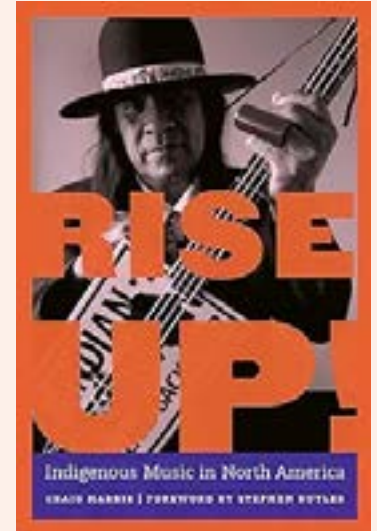
Tuesday, January 30, 6–7:30 PM
Virtual

More than powwow drums and wooden flutes, Indigenous music in North America intersects with rock, blues, jazz, reggae, hip-hop, and more!

Join author, percussionist, and music historian Craig Harris, M. Ed., as he presents a multimedia introduction to Indigenous music based on his newest book *Rise Up! Indigenous Music in North America*.

Together, we will explore more than five hundred years of Indigenous history, religion, and cultural evolution with an insightful discussion on the hows-whys-and-whos, a video sampling of pacesetting artists, and a lively Q&A segment. Combining deep research with personal stories, Harris offers an eye-and-ear-opening look at the growth of Indigenous music, spirituality, and life.

Registration is required and starts December 30.



Be sure to check out

Meow-ga Cat Yoga

We ♥ NAWS Adopt-a-palooza

on page 13!



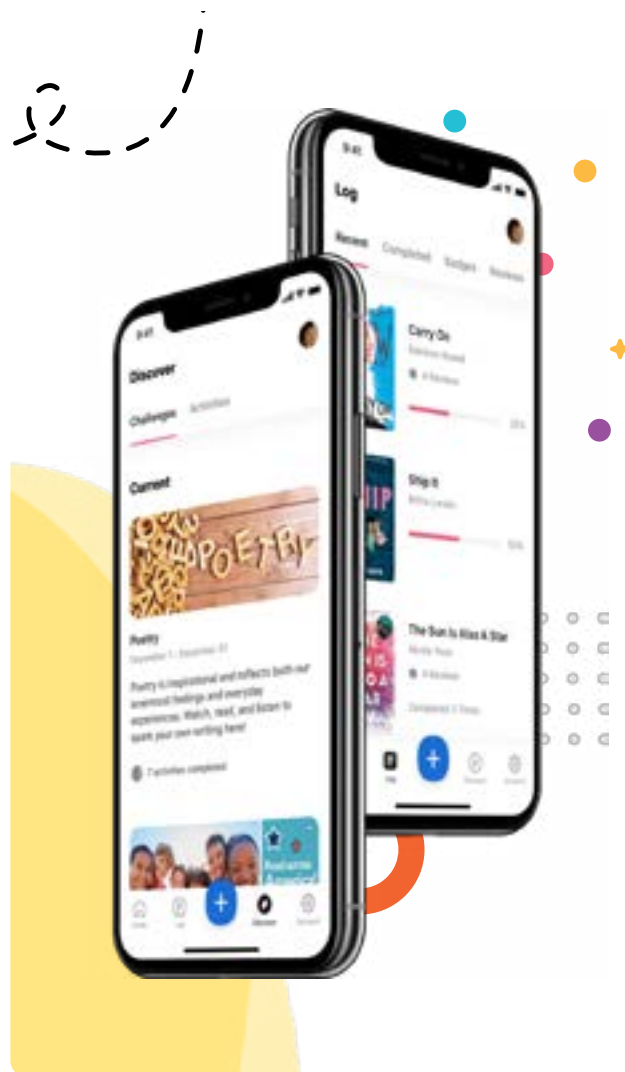
Track your reading and participate in reading challenges on your mobile phone.

March Madness Book Tournament Challenge, 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten, 2024 Award Book Challenges for Kindergarten–12th Grade, Growing Readers Challenge, Genre Challenge, and more!

Review the books you've read and add your minutes read to the community reading challenge tally!



Visit with a web browser at newlenoxlibrary.beanstack.org!



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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 newlenoxlibrary.org on a mobile device.

Hours

- Monday–Thursday: 9 AM–8 PM
- Friday & Saturday: 9 AM–4 PM
- Sundays: 12–4 PM

Contact Us

- Call 815-485-2605
- Email info@newlenoxlibrary.org

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