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Registering for Programs

Online in the Event Calendar at newlenoxlibrary.org

Call the Library at 815-485-2605

Ask a staff member while you're visiting the building

Library Closures

- Mar. 1** Spring Staff Day
- Mar. 31** Easter Sunday
- May 26** Sunday before Memorial Day
- May 27** Memorial Day

Grow at your own pace at the Library

In our always-online world, libraries give us a green light to something truly special: a place to connect with others, learn new skills, and focus on what matters most.

Find your people at the author talks, programs, social meetings, and book clubs in this Guide!

No matter where you find yourself on the roadmap through life's journey—preparing for a new career, launching a business, or raising a family—your library provides an inclusive and supportive community where everyone belongs.

Get ready to explore, become inspired, and connect with your library this Spring. Libraries are there for you. Let's grow together.



National Library Week

Sunday, April 7–Saturday, April 13

Visit us in the Library and around our community during the second week of April! You might find us in surprising places. Follow us on social media, join our eNews mailing list at newlenoxlibrary.org/connect, and check the event calendar on our website to find out more.

Tried & True Book Sale

Saturday, March 2
9 AM–2:30 PM

Meeting Room AB

The Friends of the Library are holding a special used hardcover and paperback book sale on the first Saturday in March.

All of your favorite authors, from James Patterson to John Sanford, Catherine Coulter to Nora Roberts, and everyone in between will be available at incredibly low prices!

These books are in excellent condition and all are favorites. Get ready for your Spring and Summer reading and save yourself money!





Illinois Libraries Present Premier Online Events

Illinois Libraries Present provides premier online events for participating member libraries of all sizes, connecting communities and audiences across the state through shared event experiences. Registration links are available on our event calendar at newlenoxlibrary.org.



Ruth E. Carter: Interweaving Tradition & Imagination Through Costume Design

Wednesday, March 20 at 7 PM
Virtual Event

Ruth E. Carter's ability to develop an authentic story through costume and character made her one of the most sought after and renowned costume designers today.

Best known for turning the Black Panther superhero into an African king, Carter is the first Black woman to win multiple Academy Awards in any category and the first costume designer to win for the first film and its sequel.

Carter is known for her research and diligence to the craft of costume design, specifically for her work on films such as Spike Lee's *Malcolm X*, Steven Spielberg's *Amistad* and Ava DuVernay's *Selma*.



The Hidden Gifts of Visual Thinkers with Dr. Temple Grandin

Wednesday, April 3 at 7 PM
Virtual Event

One of the world's most accomplished and well-known adults with autism, Dr. Temple Grandin has been at the forefront of research and activism for autism and neurodiversity for decades.

Her memoir, *Emergence: Labeled Autistic*, was published in 1986 and she has continued to write about autism and neurodivergence over the decades. Her most recent book is *Visual Thinking: The Hidden Gifts of People Who Think in Pictures, Patterns, and Abstractions*.



The Many Lives of Kal Penn

Wednesday, May 7 at 7 PM
Virtual Event

Penn is an actor, writer, producer, and former Associate Director of the White House Office of Public Engagement. He is known for starring roles in *Designated Survivor*, *House*, *The Namesake*, the *Harold & Kumar* franchise, and much more.

From 2009 to 2011, Penn served as the President's Liaison to Young Americans, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and the Arts community. In 2012, he served on the President's Committee for the Arts and Humanities.

Penn has an undergraduate degree in sociology, theater, film, and television from the University of California, Los Angeles, and a graduate certificate in international security from Stanford University. Penn released his first book, *You Can't Be Serious*, in 2021.

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



March Madness, Library Style

The battle of the books is back for Season 3! Let's go!

newlenoxlibrary.org/marchmadness

It's season three of March Madness at the Library, and this year it's the Battle of the Decades! Each week, vote for your favorite titles as a brand new crop of books in eight era divisions battle it out for the title of March Madness Champion! Be sure to vote every Monday in March—each time you vote, your name will be entered into a prize raffle to win a gift basket (including a Stanley tumbler).

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

Turn in your bracket (optional) and vote

Printed brackets and voting forms can be picked up and dropped off at the Adult & Teen Services Desk. You can also download a bracket, print it out, and bring it to the Library or email it to Kelli Jean at kcunningham@newlenoxlibrary.org. Didn't turn in a bracket? You'll still get to vote! Each week, in-person voting is available in Adult & Teen Services, and digital voting on our website and through our social media pages.

Submit your bracket by March 3

Brackets are due no later than Sunday, March 3. Get a bonus prize entry when you fill out a bracket with your predictions before the tournament begins. Plus, EVERYONE who correctly guesses their entire bracket will win a perfect bracket prize!

Tournament starts March 4

Starting Monday, March 4, vote every Monday for your favorites at the Library or newlenoxlibrary.org/marchmadness. The winning title will be announced Monday, April 1.

- **March 4–10:** Sweet Sixteen
- **March 11–17:** Elite Eight
- **March 18–24:** Final Four
- **March 25–31:** Championship



Read the Sweet 16

This year's theme is **Best Sellers by Era!** You'll find all March Madness books in our catalog and Libby. Many titles are also available in Hoopla or Boundless. A variety of formats can be found, including many in large print.

Take on our March Madness Reading Challenge and track your progress through our Beanstack app! Join other New Lenox readers at newlenoxlibrary.beanstack.org, or download the Beanstack app from your device's app store to join.

TITLE BY DECADE	AUTHOR	CATALOG	LIBBY	HOOPLA	BOUNDLESS
2010-2019					
<i>The Girl on the Train</i>	Paula Hawkins				
<i>The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo</i>	Steig Larsson				
2000-2009					
<i>The Da Vinci Code</i>	Dan Brown				
<i>The Hunger Games</i>	Suzanne Collins				
1990-1999					
<i>Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone</i>	J.K. Rowling				
<i>The Bridges of Madison County</i>	Robert James Waller				
1980-1989					
<i>The Name of the Rose</i>	Eco Umberto				
<i>The Alchemist</i>	Paulo Coelho				
1970-1979					
<i>Watership Down</i>	Richard Adams				
<i>The Eagle Has Landed</i>	Jack Higgins				
1960-1969					
<i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>	Harper Lee				
<i>One Hundred Years of Solitude</i>	Gabriel Garcia Marquez				
1950-1959					
<i>Lolita</i>	Vladimir Nabokov				
<i>East of Eden</i>	John Steinbeck				
1940-1949					
<i>The Little Prince</i>	Antoine de Saint-Exupery				
<i>The Diary of a Young Girl</i>	Anne Frank				

Little Free Seed Library

Donations welcome

All Ages

Starts Monday, March 4
Upstairs at the Adult Tech Center
while supplies last

The Little Free Seed Library is back in Adult & Teen Services!

Come root through our seed collection including herbs, leafy greens, flowers, vegetables, and more.

Please take what you need and leaf the rest (no more than 2 packets at a time). Most seeds can be sown directly in the garden. We also will accept donations of open seeds in original packaging. Staff are happy to help if you have any questions.



Solar Eclipse Viewers

All Ages

March 25–April 8
While supplies last

A limited number of glasses and solar viewers will be available downstairs at the Youth Services Desk and upstairs at the Adult & Teen Services Desk.

April is National Poetry Month

6th Annual Poetry Contest

Adults & Teens

Friday, March 1–Sunday, March 31

Calling all poets: prepare to celebrate National Poetry Month together! The New Lenox Public Library will be hosting a month-long poetry contest to highlight your creativity.

Submit a poem on any topic and in a style of your choosing. For more information, and to submit your poem, go to our website at newlenoxlibrary.org/poetrycontest.

All submissions will be published in our annual poetry journal! Prizes will be awarded to the top poems in these categories:

- 7th–9th Grades
- 10th–12th Grades
- Adults

Only one poem per person can be entered. Entries accepted only within the United States. Prizes, books, and certificates must be picked up in person and will not be mailed.

Poetry Café

Adults & Teens

Tuesday, April 25, 6–7:30 PM
Meeting Room AB

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

Please keep prepared material appropriate for all ages and limited to 5 minutes. The Library will provide light refreshments. In addition to the open mic, we will celebrate the release of last year's 2023 poetry booklet and announce the winners from this year's 2024 Poetry Contest.

Poetry performers are encouraged to register in advanced starting March 25, but drop-ins are welcome!



May 9–20, 2024

Celebrate a long Maker Week at the Library with our mid-May programs! Look for this note on May programs celebrating our 2024 Maker Week:

Part of Maker Week 2024

Support and encourage working to create more opportunities for more people of all ages to make—including yourself! You'll spy many programs for all ages throughout this Guide.

Summer Learning is Coming!

Read, Renew, Repeat | June 2–July 31, 2024



Programs in The Studio

Kids

Mondays

Sewing with Rachael for Kids

Ages 8–13 years

Monday, March 4, 5–6 PM

The Studio

Now kids can learn 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 by request. Registration is required and starts February 19.

Mad Scientist Lab

Part of Maker Week 2024

1st–4th Grade

Mondays, 4:30–5 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.

March 25: DIY Lava Lamps

Registration starts March 11

April 29: Magnetic Marvels

Registration starts April 15

May 20: Geode Science

Registration starts May 6



Wednesdays

Art Attack!

4th–8th Grade

Wednesdays, 6–6:45 PM

The Studio

In this arts and crafts program for tweens, kids will create a craft while they chat and hang out with friends. Registration is required.

March 13: Bird Gliders

Registration starts February 7

April 10: Butterfly Suncatchers

Registration starts March 13

Thursdays

STEAM Studio

Part of Maker Week 2024

Ages 8–12 years

Thursdays, 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. Registration is required.

March 14: Ziplines

Registration starts February 29

April 11: Bucket Challenge

Registration starts March 28

May 9: Circuit Bugs

Registration starts April 25

Fridays

Coding with Robots

Part of Maker Week 2024

Ages 8–12 years

Fridays, 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
March 22	Registration starts March 8
April 26	Registration starts April 12
May 17	Registration starts May 3

Coding with Robots: Spring Break!

Ages 8–12 years

Friday, March 29, 9:30–10:30 AM

The Studio

Keep your mind active over spring break learning about coding with robots in this hands-on, interactive class for all tweens. Registration is required and starts March 15.



Programs in The Studio

All Ages & Families

TinkerCAD Challenge

Kids, Teens & Adults

Video posted on YouTube & Facebook at 4:30 PM 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.

March: Build a Locking Container

Challenge runs March 1–31

April: Make a Ring

Challenge runs April 1–30

May: Design a Boat

Challenge runs May 1–31

Intro to 3D Printing & TinkerCAD

All Ages/Families

Wednesday, April 17, 6–7 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! 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.

Teens

Inclusive Craft Night

7th–12th Grade

Thursday, May 2, 4–5 PM
The Studio

Enjoy making art in a relaxed and inclusive environment. Choose from various creative activities at one of our four art stations. This craft night will be sensory-friendly and targeted toward the needs of neurodivergent teens and those with developmental and learning disabilities. Registration is required and starts April 2.

Check out The Cozy on page 10 and Comic Book Workshop on page 16, too!

Adults & Teens



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.

March 18: Easter Egg Placemats

Uses hand sewing and machine sewing techniques. Registration starts February 18

April 15: Flower Pins

Uses hand sewing techniques. Registration starts March 15

May 13: Microwave Rice Heating Pad

Uses machine sewing techniques. Registration starts April 13.

Crafting with the Cameo: Spring Banner

Adults & Teens

Thursday, April 11, 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, we'll make a Spring banner from paper and yarn! Registration is required and starts March 11.

Sublimation Printing

Adults & Teens

Thursdays, 5:30–7 PM
The Studio

We'll use the SawGrass500 to create a design in CreativeStudio, print it, and heat transfer it onto an item. You're welcome to bring in images from your phone or flash drive. One item available per registered attendee. Registration is required and starts February 28.

March 28: Garden Flag

Registration starts February 28

May 30: Make a Magnet

Registration starts April 30

Programs in The Studio

Socialize in The Studio

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, March 25
- Monday, April 22
- Monday, May 20

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

Part of Maker Week 2024

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, March 7 & 21
- Thursday, April 4 & 18
- Thursday, May 2 & 16

The Cozy

Part of Maker Week 2024

Adults, Teens & Tweens

Sunday, May 19, 1–2 PM

The Studio

Introverts unite, quietly! Welcome to a low-key social group where talking isn't required and your presence is enough.

We'll put on some calm music (though we won't begrudge you your earbuds) and turn the lights a little lower to provide a chilled-out atmosphere.

Focus on your art and maker projects while still building community in your own way. Bring your own projects, pick our cozy craft, or we'll supply coloring sheets and maker-themed puzzles.

If you like this program, you might also like Tranquil Tuesdays on page 16.

Maker Meetup

Part of Maker Week 2024

Adults, Teens & Tweens

Saturday, May 18, 10–11:30 AM

The Studio

Are you a maker in our community? We want to meet you! Hang out and chat about what you love to do, stuff you've made, or what you're working on now. Let's all gather, connect, and appreciate our local maker community.

Show up and be counted so we know you're out there and can learn how to serve you better! Can't make it? Email us at studio@newlenoxlibrary.org to let us know what you make and why you love it.

Using The Studio

Get creative in The Studio

The Studio has your creative dreams covered! From sewing to papercraft, 3D printing to sublimation printing, digitization and more—spend time learning skills and making new friends at The Studio.

Save your memories, make more

Convert family videos, photos, and audio in the Digital Media Lab room, which is open to all PrairieCat library card holders by appointment (with orientation). We have equipment for 3D printing, paper and vinyl cutting, sewing, button making, and sublimation printing.

Create music and video, learn how to build websites, draw digital illustrations, or make animations and games. We have photography studio equipment for photography and video projects.

Who can make appointments and use the Digital Media Lab?

All New Lenox and PrairieCat card holders and their guests can use the DML (at least one card holder must be present). Patrons who wish to make appointments or use the Digital Media Lab must complete a short orientation and sign a Lab Policy Agreement. See The Studio brochure or go to newlenoxlibrary.org/studio for more.

Outreach Appointments

Are you interested in an Outreach event for your community group? Does your Scout troop need help earning a maker-related badge? Contact The Studio's staff to learn how we can help.

- Email studio@newlenoxlibrary.org
- Call 815-485-2605 ext. 127
- Visit newlenoxlibrary.org/studio

Storytimes

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 with a caregiver. Siblings are welcome. Registration is required.

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
March 4	Registration starts Feb. 26
March 18	Registration starts March 11
March 25	Registration starts March 18
April 1	Registration starts March 25
April 8	Registration starts April 1
April 15	Registration starts April 8
April 22	Registration starts April 15

Tuesdays

On Our 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. Registration is required.

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
March 5	Registration starts Feb. 27
March 19	Registration starts March 12
March 26	Registration starts March 19
April 2	Registration starts March 26
April 9	Registration starts April 2
April 16	Registration starts April 9
April 23	Registration starts April 16

Tuesdays, continued

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. Registration is required.

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
March 5	Registration starts Feb. 27
March 19	Registration starts March 12
March 26	Registration starts March 19
April 2	Registration starts March 26
April 9	Registration starts April 2
April 16	Registration starts April 9
April 23	Registration starts April 16

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. Registration is required.

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
March 6	Registration starts Feb. 28
March 20	Registration starts March 13
March 27	Registration starts March 20
April 3	Registration starts March 27
April 10	Registration starts April 3
April 17	Registration starts April 10
April 24	Registration starts April 17

Thursdays

Wee Readers

Ages 2–3 years with a caregiver
10–10:30 AM
Storytime Room

Listen to stories, sing, dance, and play in this storytime just for toddlers. Registration is required.

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
March 7	Registration starts Feb. 29
March 21	Registration starts March 14
March 28	Registration starts March 21
April 4	Registration starts March 28
April 11	Registration starts April 4
April 18	Registration starts April 11
April 25	Registration starts April 18

Saturdays

Saturday Morning Storytime

Ages 2–6 years with a caregiver
10–10:30 AM
Storytime Room

Come along on a reading adventure! Join us for songs, tales, and a fun family activity. Siblings are welcome. Registration is required.

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
March 9	Registration starts Feb. 24
April 6	Registration starts March 23



Looking for our kids' maker programs that meet in The Studio? Check out page 8!

Programs for Kids

Mondays

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!

March 18: Awesome Airplanes

Registration starts March 4

April 15: Earth Day Art

Registration starts April 1

Tuesdays

Geek Out! Graphic Novel Club

4th–8th Grade

5–5:45 PM

Storytime Room

Come chat about this month's graphic novel selection while creating a unique craft. Pick up books at the Patron Services desk up to a month ahead of the meeting. Registration is required.

March 26:

The Cool Code by Deirdre Langeland

Registration is required and starts March 12.

April 23:

A Sky of Paper Stars by Susie Yi

Registration is required and starts April 9.



Tuesdays, continued

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.

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
March 5	Registration starts Feb. 20
April 9	Registration starts Mar. 26

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
March 20	Registration starts Mar. 6
April 17	Registration starts Apr. 3

Thursdays



LEGO Club

1st–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.

DATE	REGISTRATION STARTS
March 7	Registration starts Feb. 22
April 4	Registration starts Mar. 21

Bluestem Readers Group Final Celebration Meeting

3rd–5th Grade

Thursday, March 28, 5:30–6:15 PM

Storytime Room

Bluestem Readers, did you join any of our group meetings throughout the 2024 Bluestem Readers' Choice Award period (October 2023–March 2024)? This is a special celebratory meeting for you! We will celebrate the nominees and find out which book came out on top in the state of Illinois—as voted on by kids like you! Registration is required and starts March 14.

Looking for our kids' and teen maker programs that meet in The Studio? Check out page 8 & 9!

Programs for Kids

Sundays

Fairytale Formal

Birth–5 years with a caregiver

Sunday, May 5, 1–2 PM

Meeting Room AB

Come dressed your best and be ready to party! We'll make crafts, play games, and dance the day away. Enrollment in 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten is encouraged, but not required, to attend this event. Registration is required and starts April 21.

1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Graduation

Birth–6 years with a caregiver

Sunday, May 19 at 1 PM

Meeting Room AB

Calling all children who have completed the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program! Let's celebrate you! Graduates will be congratulated, and refreshments, snacks, and sweet treats will be available. Each graduate can bring two grown-ups with them. Registration is required and starts May 5.



Programs for Teens

Teen Advisory Group

7th–12th Grade

Thursday, March 21

Thursday, April 18

Thursday, May 16

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 Melissa Leggero at mleggero@newlenoxlibrary.org for more information and/or to sign up.

Comic Book Workshop with Do Art Productions

7th–12th Grade

Saturday, March 16, 1–2 PM

The Studio

At the Do Art Productions Comic Book Workshop, we will explore the different languages of comics, from the eyes to body posture, to the actual language within speech bubbles.

The workshop is interactive and very creative with little tricks and turns to keep engagement. With a dynamic pose drawing exercise, you may see juggling axolotls, flying giraffes, or dabbing pandas.

Everyone will go home with stickers, bookmarks, and creative material to further our creative pursuits!

Registration is required and starts February 16.



Spring Finals Study Blitz

9th–12th Grade

Monday, May 20 & Tuesday, May 21

1:45–8 PM

Meeting Room AB

Knock out your finals prep at the Library! Drop by Meeting Room A for snacks and de-stress activities. Hang out in Meeting Room B for group studying; no registration necessary. Don't forget to pick up your care package while supplies last!

Reserving Study Rooms on May 20 & 21

Study rooms are reserved from 2–8 PM for teen students studying for finals during the above program. Please register through the event calendar to reserve a study room time slot.

Registration for study rooms opens at 9 AM each day, for that day only. Go to bit.ly/NLPLteenstudy or use the QR code below to reserve a study room on May 20 and May 21.

Additional tables and study carrels are available upstairs.



Link will show events on May 20 & 21

Programs for Adults & Teens



Seed Starter Kits

Adults & Teens

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

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

Be sure to visit our Little Free Seed Library, too! Visit page 6 for more information.



Spice Club

Adults & Teens

Starts Monday, April 1, 4 PM
Take & Make Kits at Adult & Teen Services Desk while supplies last;
Limit one per person present

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 Adult & Teen Services Desk, and digital versions will be available on the event calendar to view.

Busy Bee Welcome Sign

Part of Maker Week 2024

Adults & Teens

Starts Monday, May 20, 4 PM
Take & Make Kits at Adult & Teen Services Desk while supplies last;
Limit one per person present

Here a buzz, there a buzz, everywhere a buzz buzz. Stop by and pick up your Busy Bee Take & Make from Adult & Teen Services. This month we will be working with wood and all things yellow, black & bees. You will be designing a Welcome sign with paint, cute bee decals, ribbon, and bee embellishments. Adorn any room or door in your home and make it buzzworthy!



Card Making & Paper Craft with Kathy Congreve

Part of Maker Week 2024

Adults & Teens

Tuesday, May 14, 2-4 PM
Meeting Room B

Join Kathy Congreve, Creative Memories Advisor, as she guides you through an easy-to-follow method of making your own decorative greeting cards. Everything is included for you to create a set of cards that are perfect to send off to make that special someone's day or to let someone know you're thinking of them. Registration is required and starts April 14.



Trivia Night

Adults & Teens (9th Grade & Up)

Thursday, March 14, 6-8 pm
and Thursday, May 9, 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 Beggar's Pizza. 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 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 one month before each event, and closes two days before each event.

Programs for Adults & Teens

The Beatles After the Break Up

Adults & Teens

Tuesday, April 9, 6–7:30 PM

Meeting Room B

When the Beatles broke up in April of 1970, it wasn't the end of the phenomenon. Each band member went on to have their own solo career, films were made, and previously unissued materials were released.

Music historian Gregory Alexander, aka "Professor Moptop," will explore what happened to The Beatles after the breakup and why they are still part of the culture today in a multimedia presentation. Registration is encouraged and starts March 9.



Photo: From trade ad for Beatles' 1964 Grammy (EMI).

How to Mix Interior Design Styles with Confidence

Adults & Teens

Tuesday, April 16, 6:30–7:30 PM

Meeting Room AB

Do you live with a roommate, partner, or family member with a different interior design style from yours? Learn how to effortlessly create a space that appears cohesive and unified by properly mixing these styles. Carla Gentle of Design Realign will help you identify your style(s), address potential issues in your own home, and show you how to mix those styles with confidence in this fun and interactive class. Registration is encouraged and starts March 16.



Programs for Adults

Unlocking the Magic: A Guide to Planning a Disney Vacation

Adults

Tuesday, May 28, 6–7:30 PM

Meeting Room B

Have you always dreamed of a trip to Walt Disney World but are too overwhelmed with all of the details? Come hear insider tips and tricks for planning a magical Disney World vacation!

Megan Wrzesinski, a Disney Travel Agent, will be on hand to answer your questions and offer suggestions for getting started with the planning process. Whether it's your first or 50th visit, you will be amazed at how much there is to experience with your family at Walt Disney World. Registration is encouraged and starts April 28.



Photo: The United States Air Force Air Demonstration Squadron "Thunderbirds" perform a flyover over Magic Kingdom Park and EPCOT, Florida on October 30, 2023 to help kick off National Veterans and Military Family Month. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Andrew Burdette)

Programs for Adults

Book Clubs

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

Adults

Wednesday, April 17, 7–8 PM

3 Corners Grill & Tap

901 E. Lincoln Highway



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 March 17, and closes April 15.

Genealogy & Family History

Introduction to Genograms

Adults

Tuesday, March 12, 6–7:30 PM

Meeting Room B



Are you interested in better understanding why you are who you are? Why your family and ancestors held certain beliefs, behaviors, and patterns? Using a genogram, you can learn a lot more about your family. A genogram is a tool that resembles a family tree through which we use symbols to identify family beliefs, behaviors, and patterns. There are many themes that can be explored using this tool.

In this interactive workshop, Jennifer will help you create a basic genogram, teach some basic symbols, and help you start to identify patterns in your families. Registration is encouraged and starts February 12.

Health & Wellness

Tranquil Tuesdays

Adults

Tuesday, March 26, 6–7:45 PM

Meeting Room AB

Take some time for yourself at the library! Each Tranquil Tuesday will feature a variety of drop-in mindfulness and relaxation activities, coloring pages, calm music and a hot beverage. 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. The crafts for spring will be Tea Light Planets and Paper Stars. Registration not required. *If you like this program, you might also like The Cozy on page 10.*

Technology

Microsoft Word for Beginners

Adults

Level I: Monday, April 1 or April 15

Level II: Monday, April 29

2–3 PM

Meeting Room B

Learn the basics of Microsoft Word! We will be using Office 2019 on provided New Lenox Library devices.

Level 1 will be offered twice: on April 1 and again on April 15. Level 2 will be offered April 29.

These workshops are brought to you in collaboration with Joliet Junior College Workforce Development and Workforce Center of Will County.

Registration is required and starts March 1. Attendance at one session of Microsoft Word for Beginners I is recommended before Microsoft Word for Beginners II, but it is not required.



Photos: The tea light planet and paper stars crafts for the Tranquil Tuesday program on March 19.

20s & 30s

Sugar Rush: A 20s & 30s Candy Tournament

Adults in their 20s & 30s

Tuesday, April 23, 6–7:45 PM

Meeting Room AB

Do you enjoy the sweeter things in life? Join us for a tournament of games—all about candy! There will be a Razzle relay, a blindfold jelly bean taste test, a gumdrop construction contest, candy concentration game, and more. Plus some sweet sweet prizes for the winners.

Will you be the next Candy King or Queen? Registration is encouraged and starts March 23.



Adult Programs

Seniors

Senior Coffee Breaks: The Art of Youthful Aging

Seniors

Thursday, March 7,
10:30–12 PM
Meeting Room AB

Take your mid-morning break at the library with discussion, socializing, and, of course, plenty of coffee! Each coffee break will have a short talk or activity at 11 AM. Grab a cup of coffee and enjoy some conversation before and after the program. Stay a while and get to know one another!

March's topic is The Art of Youthful Aging with Constance Hallinan Lagan. We'll watch this live webinar together at the library, followed by a Q&A with Constance. Youthful aging is an attitude that supports positive emotions and motivates healthy behaviors. Aging is often seen as a limitation rather than as an opportunity for personal enrichment. Attitude determines outcomes as we age. Replacing unhealthy thoughts and habits with healthy ones requires commitment, perseverance, and dedication.

This webinar offers specific tips on lifestyle changes to age gracefully and peacefully while enhancing your emotional, mental, and physical well-being. Topics covered include understanding the nature of cognition, discarding negative expectations, looking beyond stereotypical outcomes, embracing change in all its forms, and living in lightness and hope rather than darkness and despair. Registration is encouraged and starts February 7.



Photo: Constance Hallinan Lagan

Senior Coffee Breaks: Bug Repellent Luminaries

Seniors

Thursday, May 2, 10:30–12 PM
Meeting Room AB

Take your mid-morning break at the library with discussion, socializing, and, of course, plenty of coffee! Each coffee break will have a short talk or activity to get us started. This month's activity is DIY Bug Repellent Luminaries with Kelli Jean. Get all the supplies to make and decorate an outdoor mason jar with natural bug repellents like citronella, eucalyptus, lemon, and bay leaves. Registration is encouraged and starts April 2.

The Leisurely Librarian Activity Booklet

Adults

Spring 2024 Edition out April 1
Adult & Teen Services Areas

Grab the next edition of our quarterly large-print activity book designed just for adults, featuring puzzles, reading recommendations, recipes, games, and more. Pick up your print copy at the Library from the Adult Programs Display or Senior Information Table. Digital versions of current and past editions are available to view on the library website through the event calendar.



Phone Basics with Teen Tech Tutors

Seniors

Monday, March 18, 3:30–5 PM
Monday, May 13, 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.

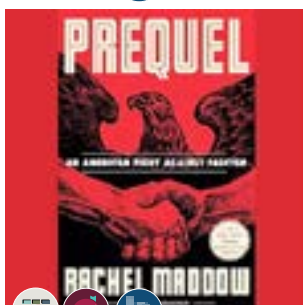
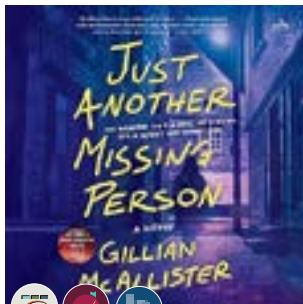
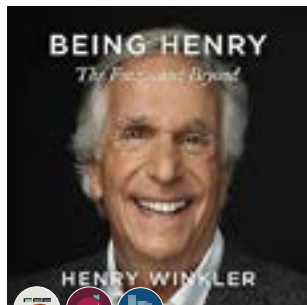
Our staff and teen volunteers are here to help, but we cannot repair or troubleshoot damaged devices. Although we may not be able to answer every question or fix every problem, we will do our best to find solutions together.

Registration is required and starts one month before the event.



Staff Picks with Adult & Teen Services

Audiobooks with Annette



Be Useful: Seven Tools for Life by Arnold Schwarzenegger. The seven rules to follow to realise your true purpose in life—distilled by Arnold Schwarzenegger from his own journey of ceaseless reinvention and extraordinary achievement, and available for absolutely anyone.

Being Henry the Fonz...and Beyond by Henry Winkler. From Emmy-award winning actor, author, comedian, producer, and director Henry Winkler, a deeply thoughtful memoir of the lifelong effects of stardom and the struggle to become whole.

Just Another Missing Person by Gillian McAllister. Twenty-two-year-old Olivia was last seen on CCTV, entering a dead-end alley. And not coming back out again. The detective thinks she knows what to expect—but she has no idea just how close to home this case is going to get.

The Long Game by Elena Armas. A disgraced soccer exec reluctantly enlists the help of a retired soccer star in coaching a children's team in this small-town love story from the *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Spanish Love Deception*.

My Darling Girl by Jennifer McMahon. The *New York Times* bestselling author returns with a spine-tingling thriller about a woman who, after taking in her dying, alcoholic mother, begins to suspect demonic possession is haunting her family.

Prequel: An American Fight Against Facism by Rachel Maddow. Rachel Maddow traces the fight to preserve American democracy back to World War II, when a handful of committed public servants and brave private citizens thwarted far-right plotters trying to steer our nation toward an alliance with the Nazis.



Find it in the Library



Find it in Libby/Overdrive



Find it in Boundless



Find it in Hoopla

Young Adult with Melissa



Highly Suspicious and Unfairly Cute by Talia Hibbert. Two teens must trudge through mud, dirt and their messy past. As this adventure brings them closer together, they remember the good bits of their history. But has too much time passed...or just enough to spark a new kind of relationship?

Before I Fall by Lauren Oliver. For Samantha, Cupid Day should be one big party. And it is...until she dies in a terrible accident. However, she still wakes up the next morning. Sam lives the last day of her life seven times, until she realizes that by making even the slightest changes, she may hold more power than she ever imagined.

Not if I Save You First by Ally Carter. Maddie thought she and Logan would be friends forever. But when your dad is a Secret Service agent and your best friend is the President's son, sometimes life has other plans. Stranded in the middle of the Alaskan wilderness six years later, Logan shows up—and an assassin follows.

Fiction with Juliana



The Children's Bach by Helen Garner. Dexter and Athena live with their two sons in the suburbs of early-1980s Melbourne. When a friend from Dexter's past resurfaces, Athena delves deeper into another kind of life, fraying the tenuous bonds that hold the Fox family together.



Let Him In by William Friend. "Daddy, there's a man in our room..." Though Alfie's daughters claim there's a shadowy figure in their bedroom, he assumes they had a nightmare. But the situation quickly develops into something more insidious: whatever this "friend" is, he doesn't want to leave.



Goodbye, Eri by Tatsuki Fujimoto. Yuta's moviemaking career started with a request from his mother to record her final moments. After her death, Yuta meets a mysterious girl named Eri, who takes his life in new directions. The two

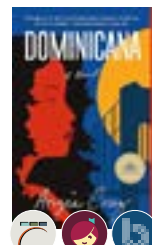


begin creating a movie together, but Eri is harboring an explosive secret.

Mister Magic by Kiersten White. Former child stars reunite to uncover the tragedy that ended their show—and discover the secret of its enigmatic host—in this "skin-crawling story of pop culture fandom and '90s nostalgia" (Melissa Albert).



Revenge: Eleven Dark Tales by Yoko Ogawa. Sinister forces collide—and unite a host of desperate characters—in this eerie cycle of interwoven tales from Yoko Ogawa, a master class in the macabre that will haunt you to the last page.



Dominicana by Angie Cruz. In bright, musical prose that reflects the energy of New York City, *Dominicana* is a vital portrait of the immigrant experience and the timeless coming-of-age story of a young woman finding her voice in the world.

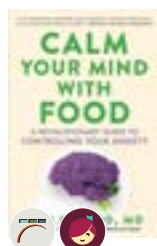
Non-Fiction with Monica



Yoga Life: Habits, Poses, and Breathwork to Channel Joy Amidst the Chaos by Brett Larkin. Overwhelmed? Overscheduled? Beat stress with yoga that works for you in 20 minutes or less. Adaptations for anxiety, weight loss, injury, and prenatal yoga.



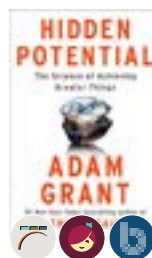
The Autists: Women on the Spectrum by Clara Törnvall and Alice E. Olsson. Until the 1980s, autism was regarded as a condition found mostly in boys. Yet autistic women exist, and always have. An incisive, candid account exploring autistic women in culture, myth, and society through the prism of the author's own diagnosis.



Calm Your Mind With Food: A Revolutionary Guide to Controlling Your Anxiety by Uma Naidoo. Anxiety is often rooted in the brain, gut, immune system, and metabolism. Drawing on the latest science, Naidoo shows us how to use food and nutrition as essential tools for calm.



House Love: A Joyful Guide to Cleaning, Organizing, and Loving the Home You're In by Patric Richardson & Karin B. Miller. Tidying up is a privilege and a task you do for those you love (including yourself). Learn how to infuse joy into your tasks.



Hidden Potential: The Science of Achieving Greater Things by Adam Grant. Serena Williams says: "This brilliant book will shatter your assumptions about what it takes to improve and succeed. I wish I could go back in time and gift it to my younger self. It would've helped me find a more joyful path to progress."



How to Keep Your Plants Alive by Kit Carlson, Ph.D. & Aaron Carlson. Learn to be the best plant parent you can be, featuring over 50 houseplants that are exceptionally hard to kill. No green thumb required!

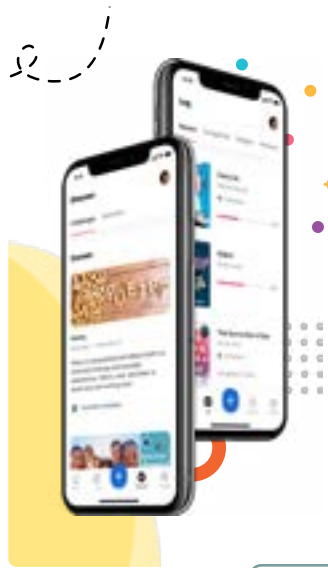


beanstack

at New Lenox Public Library

Track your reading and participate in our reading challenges on your mobile phone or computer.

- 2024 March Madness Book Tournament
- 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten
- 2024 Award Book Challenges for Kindergarten–12th Grade
- 2024 Summer Learning Challenge & more!



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

Library staff are happy to help with setup. You can create one account login for the whole household, and add individual profiles for each reader of any age. Teens and adults can also have their own account logins.

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



Volunteering at the Library

The Library happily accepts teen volunteers in 7th–12th Grade and adult volunteers. During the summer, teens going into 7th Grade can start volunteering! Court-ordered community service is not accepted.

Teens and adults, go to newlenoxlibrary.org/volunteer to fill out an application.

Spring Virtual Volunteers

This Spring, we'll be making Bookmarks for Cardz for Kidz, a Chicago-based organization that distributes cards and bookmarks to pediatric patients, veterans, and seniors.



Keep an eye on newlenoxlibrary.org/volunteers for details!

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 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

Social Media & eNews

Sign up for news, events, topical, and book suggestion emails and follow us on social: newlenoxlibrary.org/connect

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- **YouTube:** New Lenox Library