

# Park Ridge Public Library



## LIBRARY HOMECOMING:

THREE ADULT PATRONS SHARE HOW THEY REDISCOVERED THE LIBRARY

### ALSO INSIDE:

- Holiday crafts and more in The Studio (see schedule on page 5)
- Special Effects Makeup Tutorial for Teens
- Firefly Family Theater Performance



FALL  
2023



# Director's Note



As children, many of us are first brought to the Library by our parents or caregivers to attend a Storytime, get some books to bring home, or for a change of scenery. As students, maybe you used the library as a study space. As adults, sometimes work or life in general gets in the way of using the library for ourselves, but adulthood is a

great time to rediscover the library. In this issue of our newsletter, we're featuring stories of three patrons – a recent high school graduate, an attorney and new-ish resident to Park Ridge, and a parent of school-age kids – who have returned to using the library as adults. They're not alone – in the past 12 months we had 262,013 visitors.

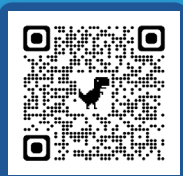
If you're a new resident of Park Ridge, or someone who has lived here awhile and just not had a chance to stop in, we invite you to come in and take a tour or just explore the Library for yourself. Check out our second floor where you'll find not only some of the newest fiction and nonfiction available for adults, but The Studio, our makerspace, and The Media Lab, where you can use a brand new Apple Mac Studio computer and more great equipment (see page 5 for details). Like what you see? Use the QR code below to get a library card if you don't have one yet.

**We hope to see you in the Library soon!**

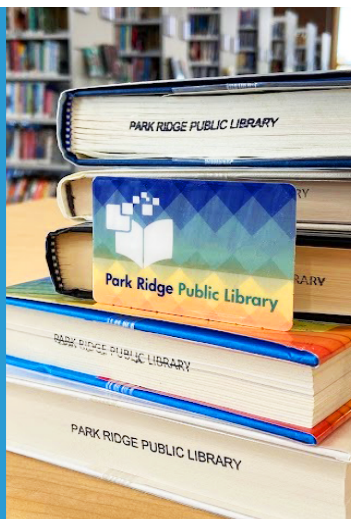
Joanna Bertucci

[librarydirector@parkridgelibrary.org](mailto:librarydirector@parkridgelibrary.org)

**Need a library card?  
scan here to apply  
online, or come in  
and see the Patron  
Services staff  
to sign up!**



**Scan me!**



## LIBRARY BOARD WELCOMES NEW TRUSTEE, APPOINTS NEW OFFICERS



Park Ridge Mayor Marty Maloney appointed a new trustee, Anita De Frank, to the Library board. De Frank is an attorney with more than 10 years of professional experience working with investment advisers, registered investment companies and their trustees on regulatory, compliance and governance matters.

Deepika Thiagarajan was named president, and Alex Hanba was named vice president. Gregg Rusk will serve as treasurer, and Lauren Rapisand was named secretary. Hanba served as president since July 2022. The officers will serve in their respective roles through June 2024.

The Mayor's Advisory Board, consisting of four alderpersons, interviews candidates for non-elected city boards and commissions and makes recommendations to the mayor, who presents them to the full city council for a final vote.

### Board of Trustees

**Deepika Thiagarajan**, *President*

**Alexandrea Hanba**, *Vice President*

**Gregg Rusk**, *Treasurer*

**Lauren Rapisand**, *Secretary*

**Anita De Frank**

**Joshua Kiem**

**Danielle Powers**

**Theresa Renaldi**

**David Somheil**

# LIBRARY HOMECOMING

## PATRONS REDISCOVER THE LIBRARY IN A NEW PHASE OF LIFE



As a child, **Patricia** vividly recalls visiting her local Chicago Public Library branch with a summer camp group. “I must have been about six years old,” she said. “I remember the beep sounds of the scanner as the librarian checked out my books.” As an adult, living in the Chicago Loop after law school, Patricia, like a lot of young

professionals, was pressed for time and bought a lot of the books she read. “I had been used to a campus library and when classes ended, I didn’t take advantage of any local libraries. She said “It was probably a mix of convenience and time -- everything seems to take longer to get done in the city and the few books I read, I just ordered online.”

**“Getting a library card... was on my ‘moving and settling in’ list.”**

- Patricia

I had just started working as an attorney and I confess I did very little reading for pleasure during that time.”

In the few years since she and her husband moved to Park Ridge, things have changed.

“Establishing ourselves again in a new place meant getting a library card. It was on my “moving and settling in” list. I had greatly missed reading for pleasure,” Patricia says. “I’m still mostly reading fiction for pleasure. As a lawyer, I read non-fiction all day, everyday. I have logged quite a few hours with the audiobooks on Libby and Axis 360 — I listen a lot when cooking or gardening.”



**Evan** remembers using his library in his hometown of Northfield to do research for school reports. “Reference and the periodicals section were where I would spend the most time,” he said. “I think I’ve always known the library was there when I needed it, but only after I had kids did I start using library services much more often.”

Now a father of two

whose wife and children are also avid library users, Evan says he not only brings his children here, but he uses several areas of the Library himself. “My wife and I will stop in when we’re out on a walk,” he said. “We bring the kids in for any number of reasons – piano sheet music, looking for a new series they can get into, recipe ideas, sometimes it’s nice just to wander.”

Evan finds it also serves his needs when he’s here on his own. “The wi-fi is super fast, and I like using the study rooms for a change of pace during the day. The staff are all so pleasant and helpful, and the Reader Services staff gives great recommendations.” He added that he and his family also enjoy the monthly Library Pub Trivia.

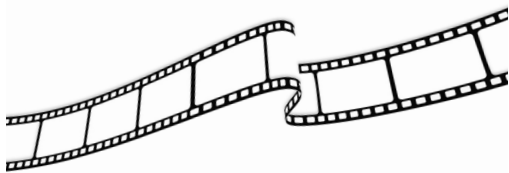


**Macy** is a recent Maine South High School graduate and avid reader. “When I was a kid, I remember running home from school and walking to the children’s section of the library and sitting in the chairs and just reading until it was time to go home!”

In high school, she had a lot of required reading to do in addition to her other schoolwork that made it difficult to fit in reading for entertainment. “I felt like I either didn’t have enough time or had too much work. I felt like reading for fun was less appealing when I would have required chapters or books to read,” she said.

Macy rediscovered the Library when she graduated and says she enjoys having more free time. “I am constantly reading and it is a lot easier and more cost effective to go to the library to get my books.” She added that she has discovered new features in the Library as well, now that she has more time to explore. “I forgot about all of the amazing things that the library offers, from crafts, events, classes and book [discussions]. I’m happy to have rediscovered some of the things that the library offers!”

# Films and Book Discussions for Adults



## FILMS @ THE LIBRARY

These movies are screened at the Library in the First Floor Meeting Room. No registration is required.

Sponsored by The Friends of the Library.



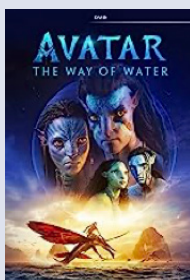
### Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret.

[PG-13, 106 min.]

When her family moves from the city to the suburbs, 11-year-old Margaret must also deal with the beginning of

adolescence. Starring Rachel McAdams and Kathy Bates.

Tuesday, September 19 | 1 & 6:30 p.m.



### Avatar: The Way of Water

[PG-13, 192 min.]

The Na'vi race of the planet Pandora must work with avatar Jake Sully to protect their home from a once familiar threat. Starring Sam

Worthington and Sigourney Weaver.

Tuesday, October 17 | 1 & 6:30 p.m.



### Book Club: The Next Chapter

[PG-13, 107 min.]

Four best friends entering their golden years take a no-holds-barred luxury excursion to Italy and madcap adventures

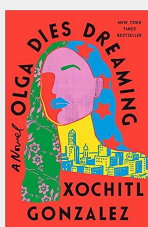
follow. Starring Jane Fonda and Mary Steenburgen.

Tuesday, November 21 | 1 & 6:30 p.m.

## BOOK DISCUSSIONS

These programs will be at the Library in the Third Floor Meeting Room. Books are available at the Reader Services desk two weeks before the discussion. Registration required.

### Fiction Group

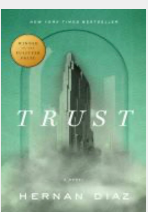


### Olga Dies Dreaming by Xochitl Gonzalez

Olga, a wedding planner for Manhattan's elite, must weather the storm of her family when her mother returns from Puerto Rico in advance of Hurricane Maria.

**VIRTUAL:** Tuesday, September 12 | 7 p.m.

**IN PERSON:** Thursday, September 28 | 10 a.m.

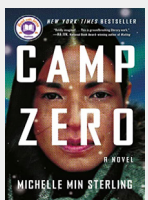


### Trust by Hernan Diaz

In glamorous 1920s New York City, two characters of sophisticated taste come together: a legendary Wall Street tycoon and the brilliant daughter of penniless aristocrats.

**VIRTUAL:** Tuesday, October 10 | 7 p.m.

**IN PERSON:** Thursday, October 26 | 10 a.m.



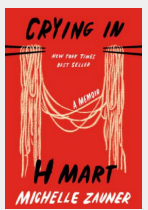
### Camp Zero by Michelle Min Sterling

Living in an experimental camp in remote Northern Canada, Rose is recruited on a mission to monitor the mercurial architect in charge.

**VIRTUAL:** Tuesday, November 14 | 7 p.m.

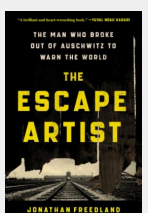
**IN PERSON:** Thursday, November 30 | 10 a.m.

### Nonfiction Group



### Crying in H Mart by Michelle Zauner

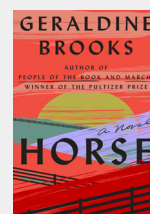
A memoir about growing up Korean American, losing her mother, and forging her own identity. Friday, September 8 | 10 a.m.



### The Escape Artist by Jonathan Freedland

The astonishing forgotten story of the hero who escaped from Auschwitz to reveal the truth of the Holocaust. Friday, November 10 | 10 a.m.

### Wednesday Evening Group



### Horse by Geraldine Brooks

A scientist from Australia and a Nigerian-American art historian become connected by their shared interest in a 19th century race horse, one studying its remains,

the other uncovering the history of the Black horsemen who were critical to its success.

Wednesday, September 20 | 7 p.m.



### Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow by Gabrielle Zevin

Two friends come together as creative partners in the world of video game design, where success brings them fame, joy, tragedy, and

ultimately, a kind of immortality.

Wednesday, October 18 | 7 p.m.



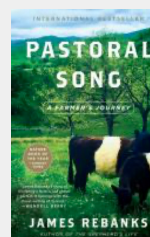
### Saturday Night at the Lakeside Supper Club by J. Ryan Stradal

A story of a couple from two very different restaurant families in rustic Minnesota, and the

legacy of love and tragedy, of hardship and hope, that unites and divides them.

Wednesday, November 15 | 7 p.m.

### Green Reads



### Pastoral Song: A Farmer's Journey by James Rebanks

A chronicle across three generations on a family farm in England, revealing the profound global transformation of agriculture and of the human relationship to the land.

In partnership with Go Green Park Ridge

Tuesday, October 24 | 7 p.m.

# The Studio and Media Lab



## Orientation

This mandatory orientation introduces The Studio equipment, software, and policies. Patrons must complete this orientation before booking appointments in The Studio.

Open to Park Ridge Library cardholders only. *Limit 3 per session.*

Tuesdays at 6 p.m. | Thursdays at 11 a.m.

## THE STUDIO CLASSES

All classes are free. Phone, online and in-person registration begins at 9 a.m. 4 weeks before the class. Open to Park Ridge cardholders only. **Must be comfortable using a computer.** After registration, if you are unable to attend please notify the Library at 847-720-3230.

\* *Limit of 1 Laser Cutter Class per Month*

### Cricut 101

See a brief demonstration of the Cricut Design Space software before learning how to create a simple project. *Limit 4 people per class.*

Friday, September 8 | 11 a.m.

Thursday, September 14 | 2 p.m.

Wednesday, September 20 | 7 p.m.

Tuesday, September 26 | 2 p.m.

### Laser Cutter 101: Engraved Wooden Pencils (Beginner)

It's back to school! Learn how to personalize No. 2 pencils in this introductory class to the Library's Epilog Laser Cutter! *Limit of 1 person per class.*

Saturday, September 16 - Nine 30-minute Sessions | 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

### Laser Cutter 201: Midori Style Leather Notebook Cover (Intermediate)

Create a Midori Style Leather Notebook cover using the laser cutter! *Prerequisite: Laser Cutter 101. Limit of 3 people per class.*

Thursday, September 21 | 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Friday, September 22 | 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

### Haunted House Mandala

Create a layered haunted house mandala from cardstock with the Cricut machine. *Limit 4 people per class.*

Friday, October 6 | 11 a.m.

Thursday, October 12 | 2 p.m.

Wednesday, October 18 | 7 p.m.

Tuesday, October 24 | 2 p.m.

### Laser Cutter 101: Laser Cut Halloween Earrings (Beginner)

Learn how to make two pairs of fun and spooky earrings in this introductory class to the Library's Epilog Laser Cutter! *Limit of 1 person per class.*

Saturday, October 14 - Nine 30-minute sessions 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

### Laser Cutter 201: Bookshelf Book Nook Build (Intermediate)

Paint, decorate, and assemble a laser-cut miniature bookshelf complete with miniature books! *Prerequisite: Laser Cutter 101. Limit of 3 people per class.*

Thursday, October 19 | 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Friday, October 20 | 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

### Woven Paper Stars

Create a beautiful, dimensional, woven paper star using paper strips. Hang as an ornament or several of them can become a garland. *Based on a Creativebug class. Limit 4 people per class.*

Friday, November 3 | 11 a.m.

Tuesday, November 7 | 2 p.m.

Wednesday, November 15 | 7 p.m.

Tuesday, November 30 | 2 p.m.

### Laser Cutter 101: Thanksgiving Cork Trivet (Beginner)

Learn how to engrave a cork trivet in this introductory class to the Library's Epilog Laser Cutter! *Limit of 1 person per class.*

Saturday, November 11 - Nine 30-minute sessions | 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

### Laser Cutter 201: Recipe Cutting Board (Intermediate)

Laser engrave a wooden cutting board with a personal recipe or design! **(Please bring a high contrast, black and white printed copy of recipe or design to be scanned at class).**

*Prerequisite: Laser Cutter 101. Limit of 3 people per class.*

Thursday, November 16 | 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Friday, November 17 | 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.



## Orientation

This mandatory orientation provides an introduction to The Media Lab's equipment, software, and policies. Patrons must complete this orientation before booking appointments in The Media Lab. Registration required. *Open to Park Ridge Library cardholders only.*

Wednesdays at 7 p.m. | Thursdays at 2 p.m. or Saturdays at 10 a.m.

## THE MEDIA LAB CLASSES

All classes are free. Phone, online and in-person registration begins at 9 a.m. 4 weeks before the class. Open to Park Ridge cardholders only. *Limit 3 per class.*

### Archiving Photos, Slides, and Negatives

Learn how to take those boxes of old photos, slides, and negatives and digitize them.

Thursdays: September 7, October 5, or November 2 | 3 - 4 p.m.

### Converting Home Videos to Digital

Learn the steps to convert your old VHS home videos to DVD.

Tuesdays: September 12, October 10, or November 7 | 7 - 8 p.m.

### Digitizing Audio Cassettes and Records

Learn how to convert your old audiocassette recordings and records to MP3 or CD using the TEAC machine.

Thursdays: September 21, October 19 or November 16 | 3 - 4 p.m.

### Converting 8mm and Super 8 Home Movies to Digital

Learn the steps to digitize your 8mm and Super 8 film.

Tuesdays: September 26, October 24 or November 28 | 7 - 8 p.m.



## Programs

Adult programs will be **virtual**, **hybrid**, or **in-person**. Refer to the registration instructions in each category. *Program schedule is subject to change.*

### Virtual Programs

These programs will be held over Zoom. Register online or call 847-720-3280.



These webinars 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).

### Author Talks



Image courtesy of Kate Lawless of Williston Northampton School.

#### Colson Whitehead

Wednesday, September 6 | 7 p.m.

#### Stephen Graham Jones

Wednesday, October 4 | 7 p.m.

#### Grace Lin

Tuesday, October 17 | 7 p.m.

#### Maya-Camille Broussard

Wednesday, November 8 | 7 p.m.

### Financial Fitness

#### Investing Made Simple with Karen Chan\*

Tuesday, October 3 | 7 p.m.

#### Developing Retirement Income Strategies with Ed Gjertsen\*

Wednesday, October 11 | 7 p.m.

#### Terry Savage Talks Money\*

Wednesday, October 18 | 7 p.m.

\*These webinars are presented in partnership with area libraries.

### AI and Career Branding for Your Job Search

Workplace Futurist Marti Konstant will discuss how ChatGPT can assist in your job search, specifically in creating a personal career brand and sharpening your interview smarts.

Tuesday, October 31 | 7 p.m.

### Hybrid Programs

These programs will be held on-site while also available over Zoom. Please register on our website or call 847-720-3280.

#### Library Pub Quiz

Do you have a head full of useless facts? Show them off and earn bragging rights by joining us for our Library Pub Quiz. Have a laugh, learn something new, and keep up with your Library friends.

**IN-PERSON:** Tuesday, November 28 | 6:30 p.m. *Limit 30. \*Held at Harp & Fiddle - 110 Main Street.*

**VIRTUAL:** Tuesdays: September 26, October 24 | 6:30 p.m. *Limit 60.*

#### Chair Yoga

Join Sun and Moon instructor Joan McGee for this gentle yoga class. Stretch, breathe, and meditate your way to renewed energy. No experience necessary!

*Joan is on-site September 6, October 4, and November 1.*

Wednesdays | 2 p.m.

#### Park Ridge Writers Group

Do you want to write? Do you need a creative jumpstart to finish a piece? Join the Library's writing group for positive critique and support from other writers. *Limit 20.*

**IN-PERSON:** Wednesdays: September 13, October 11, and November 8 | 7 p.m.

**VIRTUAL:** Wednesdays: September 27, October 25, and November 29 | 7 p.m.

#### Recycling Right

Ever wondered if that food container is recyclable? Theresa Greinig of the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County will help you make sure you're recycling the way Mother Nature wants you to!

Tuesday, September 5 | 6:30 p.m.



### Afternoon Programs

#### Katharine Hepburn: A Class All Her Own

Bob Burton of Oakton College will celebrate the 66-year career of this legendary actress, named Top Female Screen Star by the American Film Institute.

Tuesday, September 12 | 2 p.m.

#### Concert: The Saddle Shoe Sisters

Musical trio the Saddle Shoe Sisters will perform a medley of hits from the 1940s to 60s in the style of girl groups like The Andrews Sisters and The Supremes.

Tuesday, October 10 | 2 p.m.

#### The History of Billy Joel

Music historian Gary Wenstrup returns to celebrate the life and work of "Piano Man" Billy Joel in a musical lecture.

Tuesday, November 14 | 2 p.m.

### NEW! Global Neighbors

#### Ukraine with the Chicago Cossacks

Immerse yourself in Ukrainian culture with this Chicago-based group of musicians and dancers. Enjoy a performance of vocals, accordion, mandolin, and two dancers before hearing a lecture on Ukraine, past and present, by group leader Gennady Sergienko. *Sponsored by Marion's Mark.*

Thursday, September 21 | 7 p.m.

#### Keeping Your Online Accounts Secure

What is MFA? Why use a password manager? What's the Dark Web? Cybersecurity hygiene can be confusing. Tech experts from the local IT support firm FireLogic will cover practical tips and tricks to help keep you secure in today's digital world.

Tuesday, October 3 | 7 p.m.

#### Home Solar Power and Electric Vehicles

Tim Milburn of Green Ways 2Go will discuss the latest options in home solar power and electric vehicles, including available incentives and community programs to motivate and reward you. *In partnership with Go Green Park Ridge and the Park Ridge Sustainability Commission.*

Thursday, October 12 | 7 p.m.

## Reclaim Your Natural Self

Are you feeling burnt out or disconnected? Emma Mulvany of EM Holistic Wellness returns with a crash course on how to refill your cup by adding more nature and natural ways of being to your modern life.

Thursday, October 26 | 7 p.m.



## Book Club Mixer Featuring Author Claire Lombardo

Local book clubs are invited to join us for a virtual author talk with Claire Lombardo, author of the *New York Times* bestseller *The Most Fun We Ever Had*. In addition to hearing about her writing journey, we will have opportunities to meet other book clubs, hear about new book discussion sets, and giveaways. Not in a book club? You're also welcome to attend!

Saturday, November 4 | 2 p.m.

## Vietnam Veterans Speak

In honor of Veterans Day, Gary Sieroslowski and the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 311 will share their experiences serving in the Vietnam War.

Tuesday, November 7 | 7 p.m.

## In-Person Programs

These programs will be held on-site only. Register on our website or call 847-720-3280.

### Drop-In Help Desk

The experts from FireLogic will be available to assist you with your tech questions.

No registration required.

Saturdays: September 2, October 7, and November 4 | 9 a.m. to Noon

### Stitch Night

Calling all knitters, crocheters, quilters, cross-stitchers, and fiber artists of all levels! Join us for an evening of free crafting advice and lively conversation. Show us what you've been working on or ask a fellow needleworker how to get started. No registration required.

Thursdays: September 7, October 5, and November 2 | 7 p.m.

## Crochet 101

Librarian and crochet artist Lynnanne Pearson will lead a beginner's class on crochet. All supplies included. *Limit 16.*

Sponsored by Marion's Mark.

Thursday, September 14 | 7 p.m.

## Wits Workout

Boost your cognitive function and memory while reconnecting with your Park Ridge neighbors in this interactive program of brain puzzles and discussion starters. *Sponsored by the 20th Century Club.*

Thursdays: September 14, October 12, and November 9 | 1 p.m.

## DAR Genealogy Assistance

Representatives of the 21st Star Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) are available to answer your genealogy questions.

No registration required.

Thursdays, September 21, October 19, and November 16 | 9 a.m. to Noon

## Mobile DMV

Don't want to wait in line at the DMV? The Secretary of State will be on-site at the Library to help you save time! Services offered include driver's license update and renewal, plates renewal, vision screening, organ/tissue donor registry, and motor voter registration. *Real ID services not available. In partnership with State Representative Marty Moylan.*

Saturday, September 23 | 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

## Cooking Demo: Holiday Cookies

Cake decorator and pastry chef Kelly Dull will demonstrate how to decorate your own bakery-worthy holiday cookies, including how to make your own royal icing. *Limit 50.*

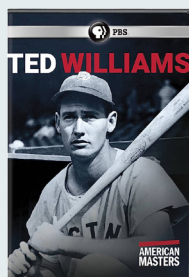
Thursday, November 16 | 7 p.m.



COFFEE CLUB

## Friday Morning Coffee Club

Registration required. *Limit 40.*



### Ted Williams

A portrait of Ted Williams, his complicated relationships, and the impact he has had on Major League Baseball.

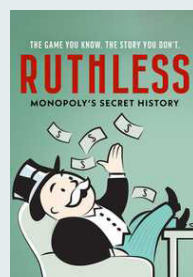
Friday, September 15 | 10 a.m.



### American Horses

Grounded in historical moments, charismatic people, and singular places, the program takes viewers on a journey tracing the emergence of these remarkable horses.

Friday, October 20 | 10 a.m.



### Ruthless: Monopoly's Secret History

Contrary to folksy legend, behind the myth of Monopoly's creation is an untold tale of theft, obsession and corporate double-dealing.

Friday, November 17 | 10 a.m.



## Middle School & High School Programs - Grades 6 – 12

Teen programs will be held **in person**, unless otherwise indicated. Register in person, by phone at **847-720-3286**, or online at [parkridgelibrary.org](http://parkridgelibrary.org). *Program schedules are subject to change. Registration required unless otherwise noted.*

### MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL

#### Teen Take & Create

Stop by The Loft to get all the materials you'll need; *supplies are limited.*

**Starting September 11:** Parakeets

**Starting September 25:** Pipe Cleaner Friendship Bracelets

**Starting October 16:** Spoon Bats

**Starting October 30:** Ghost Wands

**Starting November 13:** Fuzzy Sheep

**Starting November 27:** Plastic Chain Necklaces

#### RPG Club

Check our online calendar for dates, then grab your multi-sided dice and join us for RPG adventures; or, work with our Game Master to host your own.

Select Sundays this fall from 1 - 4:45 p.m.

#### Teen Study Space

Early dismissal means extra time to do homework! Stop by our first floor meeting room and do homework with your friends or work on group projects.

Wednesdays, 3:30 - 5 p.m. *(no study space on October 18 or November 22).*

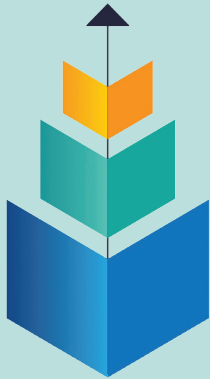
#### Middle Grade and YA at the Friends of the Library Book Sale

Visit the Friends of the Library Book Sale this fall for great deals on middle grade and young adult titles! Books, puzzles, and games are also available for purchase.

October 19 - 22

# TEEN BOOK MATCH

Not sure what to read next? Prepping for a day off with a good book? Fill out our Book Match form to tell us what kind of books you enjoy reading and we'll make a personalized list (with goody bag!) for you to pick up in the Teen Loft.



**BOOK MATCH**

#### Teens in The Studio

*\*Limited to Park Ridge Cardholders.*

##### DIY School Supplies

Join us in the Library's makerspace and use available tools to personalize some school supplies to start the year off right. Registration opens one week before the event and space is limited.

Friday | September 15, 4 p.m.



##### Pumpkin Papercrafting

Join us in the Library's makerspace and use available tools to customize a paper pumpkin craft to round out the fall season. Registration opens one week before the event and space is limited.

Friday | November 10, 4 p.m.

## Online Book Recommendations

Check out our online booklists and featured new materials by checking out the Teen dropdown menu on our website.

Scan me!



Book lists are updated frequently, and our page of new materials will help you always know what's freshest on the shelves.



## MIDDLE SCHOOL

### Middle School Voices Writing Workshop with Tellin' Tales Theater

This interactive workshop will help teens understand that within us all lies creativity and a story to be told. Stories are everywhere. Gain confidence in developing your own voice in a safe and fun environment as you learn techniques to bring a personal story to life.

Saturday, November 11 | 3 p.m.

## HIGH SCHOOL

### Conquering the Common App Essay

Turn your confusion into confidence! We'll review some brainstorming activities, a few successful essays, and do some essay prep work and planning together to help you on your way to the perfect common app essay.

Monday, September 11 | 7 p.m.

## MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL

### Breakout Challenge

Sign up with your friends to solve themed puzzles before the time runs out!

Friday, September 8 and November 17 |

4 - 4:30 p.m. or 4:45 - 5:15 p.m.

### Bullet Journaling for Beginners

Learn the basics of bullet journaling, including sample layouts and possible uses to find the right fit for you to remove some stress with artful organization. Supplies provided.

Saturday, September 16 | 3 p.m.

## 100 Books Before Graduation

The new school year has begun, and there's no better time to join one of our 100 Books Before Graduation programs. Log the books you finish reading during the school year, and earn prizes for every 25 books you read along your way to 100. Sign up today at: [parkridgelib.beanstack.org](http://parkridgelib.beanstack.org).

### Teen Craft Club: Autumn Luminaries

Make a cozy or spooky fall luminary to celebrate the best season of the year.

Friday, September 22 | 4 p.m.

### Banned Books Club

Celebrate the American Library Association's Banned Books Week by discussing frequently banned books, learning about censorship, and crafting letters to local officials in support of the freedom to read. Snacks provided.

Tuesday, October 3 | 4 p.m.

### Hands-On Special Effects Makeup Tutorial

Join special effects makeup artist Devon Ford to learn techniques to create a gory zipper face using a live model.

Friday, October 6 | 4 p.m.

### Self Defense Class with Fonseca Martial Arts

In this one hour self-defense class, students will develop essential self-defense techniques, improve physical fitness, and enhance mental health and discipline.

Monday, October 9 | 2 p.m.

### Astrology 101

In this introduction to astrology, learn sun, moon, and rising signs, planets, and houses. Plus, learn to read your natal chart so you can avoid future problems, learn your strengths, and embrace your best self.

Saturday, October 14 | 3 p.m.

### Murder Mystery Party: Murder at Homecoming

There's been a murder at homecoming! With school pride running rampant and competition for Homecoming king and queen fierce, everyone is a suspect. When you arrive, you'll be assigned a character identity with a backstory and possible clues. You'll interact with other characters throughout the event to try to uncover who committed the murder.

*Registration opens two weeks before the program.*

Friday, October 27 | 4 p.m.

### Monday Night Marvel

Join us for some Marvel movie magic (vote between three!), popcorn and hot cocoa. Movies in the Marvel Cinematic Universe are rated PG-13.

Monday, November 20 | 6 p.m.



## Children's Programs

Children's programs will be held **in person**, unless otherwise indicated. Register in person, by phone at **847-720-3250** or online at **parkridgelibrary.org**. *Program schedule subject to change. Registration required unless otherwise noted. Opens 3 weeks prior to the program.*

### DROP-IN STORYTIMES

*No registration required.*

#### Hello, Baby! | Ages 0 - 14 months

*with caregiver*

Snuggle, bounce and bond with your little one in this lapsit program for infants and babies who are not yet walking.

**Mondays:** September 18 - October 9; October 23 - November 13; November 27 - December 18 | 9:30 a.m.

#### 2s & 3s Storytime | Ages 2 - 3

*with caregiver*

Looking for the next step in your little one's storytime adventure? Full of fun stories, lively rhymes and plenty of silliness, this Storytime is the perfect fit for 2- and 3-year-olds who have aged out of Busy Bees!

**Tuesdays & Wednesdays:** September 5 & 6; September 19 - October 11; October 24 - November 15; November 28 - December 20 | 9:30 a.m.

#### Busy Bees | Toddlers

*with caregiver*

Read, sing and play at this shortened version of our traditional Storytime which will be followed by time to play with age-appropriate toys.

**Tuesdays & Wednesdays:** September 5 & 6; September 19 - October 11; October 24 - November 15; November 28 - December 20 | 10:30 a.m.

#### Pre-K Storytime | Ages 3 - 5

*with caregiver*

Join us for stories in all shapes and sizes that are sure to engage, entertain and educate your preschoolers.

**Thursdays:** September 7; September 21 - October 12; October 26 - November 16; November 30 - December 21 | 10 a.m.

#### Virtual PJ Storytime | All ages

Put on your PJs and grab your favorite stuffed animal, then meet us online for a live virtual Storytime that will carry you off to dreamland.

**Wednesdays:** September 13, October 11, November 15 | 7 p.m.

#### Bilingual Storytime | Ages 2 and up

*with caregiver*

Enjoy a bilingual storytime with songs, stories, and other activities.

**Polish:** Monday, October 2 | 6:30 p.m.

**Spanish:** Fridays: October 27, November 24 | 10:30 a.m.

### EARLY CHILDHOOD

**DROP IN** - *No registration required.*

#### Tot Time Playdate | Ages 1 - 5

*with caregiver*

Stop by and spend some quality playtime with your pals in the storytime room. We'll even bring out our favorite toys for all to share!

**Thursday, September 14 & Wednesday, November 22 | 10 a.m.**

#### Discovery Hour | Ages 2 - 5

*with caregiver*

From science and technology to building and crafting, you never know what you and your little one will discover at these open-ended, hands-on, drop-in programs!

**Tuesdays:** September 12, October 17, November 21 | 10 a.m.

#### Musical Storytime with Miss Megan | Ages 0 - 5

*with caregiver*

Join Miss Megan from Harmonious Horizons for a special musical storytime! Take a new look at some old favorite books with a musical spin!

**Monday, October 16 | 10 a.m.**



### REGISTRATION REQUIRED

*Registration opens 3 weeks before the program.*

#### Harmonious Horizons | Ages 0 - 5

*with caregiver*

Join us for a family music class for children 0 - 5 years with a parent/caregiver.

It will include singing, dancing and instrument play with the guidance of a talented music teacher.

*(Limit 1 session per month.)*

**Fridays:** September 1, October 6, November 3 | 10 a.m. or 10:45 a.m.

#### Adult & Tot Yoga | Ages 3 - 5

*with adult*

Stretch, play, and connect with your little yogi in this fun-filled class.

**Wednesdays:** September 13, October 18 | 10 a.m.

### FAMILIES

**DROP IN** - *No registration required.*

#### Family Storytime & Craft | Families

Saturdays are family days! Spend your morning together at the Library as we share stories and songs followed by a craft project.

**Saturdays:** September 2, November 11 | 10:30 a.m.

#### Sensory-Friendly Hour | All ages

We welcome our sensory-sensitive and neurodivergent friends to experience the Library in an adapted and welcoming environment during this early open time. The Children's Department will be adjusted to be more sensory-friendly, and supports and activities will be available.

**Sundays:** October 1, November 5 | 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.



# FOR CHILDREN

## Homeschool Hangout | Families with homeschooled children

Are you looking to meet other homeschool families in the area? Or maybe your homeschool group needs a change of scenery. Drop in and connect!

**Mondays: September 18, October 23, November 27 | 11 a.m.**

### REGISTRATION REQUIRED

*Registration opens 3 weeks before the program.*

## Family Yoga Storytime | Families with kids ages 4 - 7

Gather your family and roll out your mat for a story and some stretches! We will do stretches and poses inspired by our picture book, while practicing breathing techniques and relaxation.

**Saturdays: September 9, November 18 | 10 a.m.**

## Family Art: Dot Painting | Families with kids ages 8 and up

It's a creative experience for the whole family! Learn how to create beautiful art using dots in this hands-on guided family activity.

**Saturday, October 14 | 10 a.m.**

## TICKETED EVENTS

### Firefly Family Theatre Presents Harvest Moon | All ages

We are thrilled to welcome back our friends from the Firefly Family Theatre as they perform their autumnal celebration using beautifully handcrafted puppets! *Tickets available at the Children's Services desk beginning Saturday, September 16.*

**Saturday, September 30 | 10 a.m.**

## TEACHERS

### REGISTRATION REQUIRED

*Registration opens three weeks before the program.*

### Flannel Board Fun | Adults

Preschool and elementary teachers are invited to learn how to make fun and engaging stories out of felt for classroom use. *Registration closes Wednesday, November 8.*

**Monday, November 13 | 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.**

## SCHOOL AGE

### DROP IN - No registration required.

### LegoMania | Grades K and up

Show off your creativity and engineering skills at the Library with some free-form brick building fun! We'll provide the Legos, the rest is up to you.

**Mondays: September 11, October 16, November 20 | 4 p.m.**

### STEAMagination with American Science & Surplus | Grades K and up

Ignite your child's curiosity by exploring a variety of hands-on STEAM activities together! Our friends from the American Science and Surplus store will be on hand with a special activity as well.

**Fridays: September 15, October 13, November 10 | 4 p.m.**

### Art Party | Grades K and up

We'll put out a whole bunch of art supplies and you'll create...whatever you want!

**Thursdays: September 28, October 26 | 4 p.m.**

### REGISTRATION REQUIRED

*Registration opens 3 weeks before the program, except for Read to the Dogs.*

### Recycled Journals | Grades K - 2

Learn about how recycling helps our world with Mary Allen from Go Green Park Ridge. Then make your own journal using fun, recycled materials like cereal boxes!

**Thursday, September 14 | 4 p.m.**

### Read to the Dogs | Grades 1 - 6

*Registration opens 1 week before the program.*

Reserve your space to read to a dog from Rainbow Assisted Animal Therapy. This is a perfect opportunity for young readers to practice their reading skills in a judgment-free environment. *(Limit 1 session per month.) This program is generously made possible by Marion's Mark.*

**Wednesdays: September 20, October 11, November 8 | 15-minute sessions from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.**



### Oodles of Doodles | Grades K - 2

Art and books collide in this super fun mash up of creativity. We'll offer some inspiration, but the final masterpiece will be all you!

**Mondays: September 25, November 6 | 4 p.m.**

### Book Swap | Grades 3 - 5

Refresh your home library by swapping books with other readers. Bring a gently used book that you've enjoyed and talk it up to make a trade to try something different. *Snacks will be served. Please notify us of any food allergies. Ingredients available upon request.*

**Monday, October 2 | 4 p.m.**

### Fonseca Martial Arts | Grades 1 - 5

In this one hour self-defense class, students will be introduced to basic karate techniques while also learning important values and developing healthy habits.

**Monday, October 9 | 1 p.m.**

### Kid's Crochet Series | Grades 4 - 6

Calling all young aspiring fiber artists! Learn the basics of crochet in this 3-part series. All materials will be provided. No experience necessary. *Registration is for consecutive Monday night classes.*

**Mondays: October 16, 23, 30 | 6:30 p.m.**

### Dino Exploration | Grades K - 3

Celebrate Dinovember by exploring the prehistoric world of dinosaurs!

**Thursday, November 9 | 4 p.m.**

## FEATURED EVENTS



**Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) | Families**  
Wednesday, November 22 | 4 p.m. (92 min)

### First Friday Fun Kits

Stop by the first Friday of each month to pick up a kit full of DIY at-home fun. Kits will be available on a first come, first served basis while supplies last.

*One craft per child, please.*

### Monthly Adventures

- September - Giant Fun
- October - Make-A-Monster
- November - We Are Beary Grateful!



20 South Prospect Avenue  
Park Ridge, IL 60068 | 847-825-3123  
Patron Services & Operator 847-825-3123  
Children's Services 847-720-3250  
Reference & Nonfiction 847-720-3230  
Reader Services 847-720-3280  
Teen Loft 847-720-3286

**Library Hours**

Monday – Thursday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Sunday, Noon to 5 p.m.

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