

Park Ridge Public Library



Winter Reading
December 22 - February 9



ALSO INSIDE:

- Patrons and staff share tips for your audiobook and ebook experience (see page 3)
- Winter Program Schedule (see pages 4 - 11)
- Tiny Art Show returns! (see page 7)

WINTER 2023-24

Illustrated by Kerstin Kay

Director's Note



To call 2023 a busy year at the Park Ridge Library would be an understatement. From January 1 to September 30, we welcomed **213,000** patrons into the building, signed up **1,700** people for library cards, and loaned out nearly **614,000** library items to cardholders. We also held **530** free programs for adults, teens, children and babies. The year has flown by. Over the past few months, I've heard from many community

members asking about ways that they can support the Library. My answer each time to anyone who asks is wholehearted:

Come in and use your library.

- Borrow from our collection of more than **172,000** books, movies and music and access to over **1 million** digital titles.
- Attend one of our free programs; our schedule offers a variety of classes, speakers, concerts, and other performances.
- Borrow from the Staff Picks or Most Wanted shelves, or an item from our Exploration Library like a telescope or our new thermal camera.
- Use our study rooms to prepare for a big exam or brainstorm about a group project.
- Teens can meet up at our weekly Study Space or join our Teen Advisory Board and help shape the library experience for their peers.

I am so grateful to you, our community, for your dedication and enthusiasm. I'm also grateful to our staff, and to the trustees and other volunteers, who give so much of themselves to the library. I hope to see you soon in the building, attending a program or enjoying what your library has to offer.

Joanna Bertucci

Library Director

librarydirector@parkridgelibrary.org

New in Children's Services

Using funds from the Illinois State Library's Live and Learn Accessibility Grant, we renovated the restrooms in the Children's department, turning one of the rooms into a low-sensory space, with new furniture, a sink and a collection of sensory toys. The space can also be used as a mother's room.



WINTER READING

Friday, December 22, 2023 -
Friday, February 9, 2024



Stop in the Library anytime and ask our staff for great reading recommendations. We can do a Book Match for any age. Busy families with very young readers can grab a Book Bundle from the collection in our Children's department **Worried about finding enough time to read? See page 3 for tips from staff and patrons on working audiobooks and ebooks into your schedule!**

in a pinch. Check out our program schedules on the following pages and join us for book discussion or author event. Log your reading on Beanstack to keep your reading habit going all season.

Prizes sponsored by the Friends of the Park Ridge Library.

Kids | Ages 0 - Grade 5

Earn a prize book and tickets for chances to win gift cards and stuffed animals.

New this year - Gallery of Readers! Complete 40 days of reading and strike a pose with a book of your choice. We'll snap a photo and hang it in our Gallery of Readers in the Children's Department.

Be on the lookout for more activities in the Children's Department all season!



Teens | Grades 6 - 12

Earn a prize book after twenty days of reading! You'll also earn raffle tickets for every ten days you read - each one is a chance to win gift cards.

Adults

Read 4 titles of your choice between December 22 and February 9 to earn drawing tickets for a chance to win a gift card to a local business. Complete bonus activities for more chances!



Register or log your reading (starting Dec. 22) with Beanstack online here!

So Many Books, So Little Time? Try Downloading

Staff and patrons give tips on their favorite audiobooks, ebooks, and all the apps to get you started.

As the graphic on this page will show you, there are many ways to take in a good book these days. We asked patrons and staff to share what they love about ebooks and audiobooks, and what tips they have for making your experience great. **If you need help getting started, ask a library staff member.**

Q: What do you love about audiobooks?

“My favorite thing is that the story comes to life, your imagination becomes active ...when the narrator is good.” – *Chris, Library patron*
 “I drive long distances and audiobooks keep me company. Audiobooks also give me the incentive to go walking, so I can listen to the rest of the story.” – *Silvana, Library patron*
 “I can listen anywhere: in the car, at home, while cooking dinner or doing housework.” – *Beth, Library patron*

Q: What is your favorite thing about consuming a story via ebook?

“I love using my Kindle because I can change the font size and light so it’s easier to read; plus I just get lost in the story!” – *Maddie, Library staff*
 “I can read the book anywhere, without a reading lamp.” – *Lee, Library patron*
 “I prefer physical books, but if it’s available to borrow, I keep an ebook version of whatever I’m reading on my phone so I always have the book with me.” – *Jen, Library patron*

Q: What tip would you give to someone using a resource like Libby or Boundless for the first time?

“I always put multiple items on hold in Libby. This increases my chances that I always have my next listen in the queue.” – *Joanna, Library staff*
 “If your hold comes in and you aren’t ready for it, you can choose ‘deliver later’ and you won’t lose your place in the hold line.” – *Alyssa, Library staff*
 “Use tags to keep track of book recommendations in Libby.” – *Maureen, Library patron*
 “I keep a list of books I want to read on Goodreads, and put holds on the ones I want to read in the future.” – *Molly, Library patron*
 “Sort by ‘Available Now’ to access something right away.” – *Sarah, Library staff*

DOWNLOADABLES



What content is available from each service?

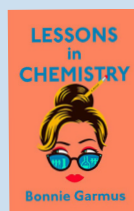
	Libby/Overdrive	Boundless	Hoopla	Kanopy	Flipster	PressReader
eBooks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Audiobooks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Movies			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Music			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Comics			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Magazines	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Newspapers						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Scan here to learn more!



FAVORITE AUDIOBOOKS

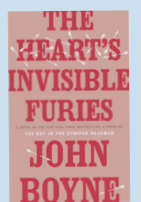
From patrons and staff.



Lessons in Chemistry
by Bonnie Garmus



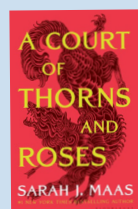
Greenlights
by Matthew McConaughey



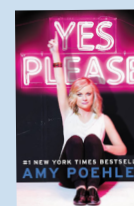
The Heart's Invisible Furies
by John Boyne, narrated by Stephen Hogan



The Dutch House
by Ann Patchett, narrated by Tom Hanks



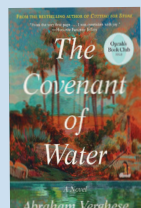
A Court of Thorns and Roses
by Sarah J. Mass, narrated by Jennifer Ikeda



Yes, Please
by Amy Poehler

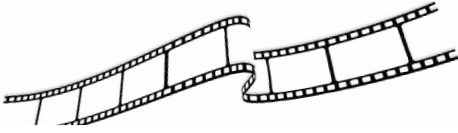


Shotgun Lovesongs
by Nicholas Butler, multiple narrators



The Covenant of Water
by Abraham Verghese

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.



Barbie

[PG-13, 114 min.]

Barbie rules in Barbieland until she suffers a crisis and ventures into the real world. Starring Margot Robbie and Ryan Gosling.

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



Oppenheimer

[R, 180 min.]

The story of J. Robert Oppenheimer, the American scientist who played a pivotal role in the development of the atomic bomb. Starring Cillian Murphy and Emily Blunt.

No 6:30 p.m. showing.

Tuesday, January 16 | 1 p.m.



Indiana Jones and The Dial of Destiny

[PG-13, 142 min.]

Indiana is back in a race against time to retrieve an artifact that could change the course of history.

Starring Harrison Ford and

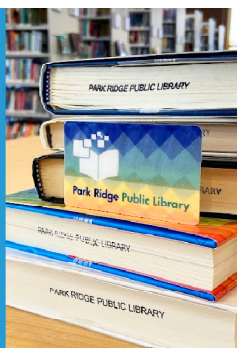
Phoebe Waller-Bridge. **No 6:30 p.m. showing.**

Tuesday, February 20 | 1 p.m.

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



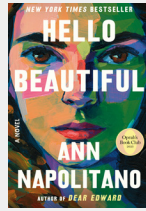
Scan me!



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



Hello Beautiful by Ann Napolitano

An emotionally layered and engrossing story of a family that asks: Can love make a broken person whole?

VIRTUAL: Tuesday, January 9 | 7 p.m.

IN PERSON: Thursday, January 25 | 10 a.m.



Crow Mary by Kathleen Grissom

When sixteen-year-old Goes First accompanies her husband into Canada, she finds herself leading a daring rescue mission of Nakota women.

VIRTUAL: Tuesday, February 13 | 7p.m.

IN PERSON: Thursday, February 29 | 10 a.m.

Nonfiction Group



The Art Thief by Michael Finkel

For centuries, works of art have been stolen in countless ways, but no one has been quite as successful at it as the master thief Stéphane Breitwieser.

Friday, February 9 | 10 a.m.

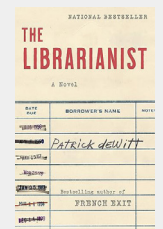
Wednesday Evening Group



Lady Tan's Circle of Women by Lisa See

Sent into an arranged marriage, forbidden to continue her work as a midwife-in-training, Tan seeks a way to continue in 15th-century China.

Wednesday, January 17 | 7 p.m.



The Librarianist by Patrick deWitt

Bob Comet, who has lived his life through and for literature, is unaware that his own experience is a poignant and affecting novel in itself.

Wednesday, February 21 | 7 p.m.

Green Reads



Carmageddon by Daniel Knowles

Weaving together history, economics, and reportage, a history of the rise of the automobile that traces the forces and decisions that

normalized cars and cemented our reliance on them.

In partnership with Go Green Park Ridge

Tuesday, January 23 | 7 p.m.



Made In The Studio

Connie (left), Janet (middle) and Adam (right) show off the projects they created in The Studio. See page 5 for the written schedule of Studio classes and orientation!

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

Felt Mistletoe

Perfect for holiday decorating, craft a mistletoe sprig using felt. Based on a Creativebug class.

Limit 4 people per class.

Friday, December 1 | 11 a.m.

Wednesday, December 6 | 7 p.m.

Thursday, December 14 | 2 p.m.

Tuesday, December 19 | 2 p.m.

Laser Cutter Take & Make Craft Project: Pre-Cut Layered Round Wooden Ornament Kit (Beginner & Intermediate)

Register to get all you need to assemble and decorate your ornament! *Registration is required.*

Pick up beginning Friday, December 1



Silhouette 101

See a brief overview of the Silhouette Studio software before learning how to make a simple project on the Silhouette cutting machine. *Limit 4 people per class.*

Friday, January 12 | 11 a.m.

Wednesday, January 17 | 7 p.m.

Thursday, January 25 | 2 p.m.

Tuesday, January 30 | 2 p.m.

Laser Cutter 101: Engraved Leather Bookmark (Beginner)

Learn how to create a leather bookmark in this introductory class to the Library's Epilog Laser Cutter!

Limit of 1 person per class.

Saturday, January 6 - Choose one 30-minute session | 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Laser Cutter 201: Wooden Tissue Box Cover (Intermediate)

Learn how to use the laser cutter to cut a custom Wooden Tissue Box Cover for this winter's cold and flu season! *Prerequisite: Laser Cutter 101. Limit of 3 people per class.*

Thursday, January 18 | 7 p.m.

Friday, January 19 | 11 a.m.

Cross-Stitched Necklace

Learn the basics of cross-stitch and make a sweet wooden heart pendant.

Limit 4 people per class.

Friday, February 9 | 11 a.m.

Wednesday, February 14 | 7 p.m.

Thursday, February 22 | 2 p.m.

Tuesday, February 27 | 2 p.m.

Laser Cutter 101: Stemless Wine Glass (Beginner)

For yourself or your bestie, learn how to use the laser cutter's rotary attachment to engrave a Stemless Wine Glass! *Limit of 1 person per class.*

Saturday, February 3 - Choose one 30-minute session | 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Laser Cutter 201: Wooden Heart Shaped Box (Intermediate)

Laser cut a wooden heart-shaped box for Valentine gift giving! *Prerequisite: Laser Cutter 101. Limit of 3 people per class.*

Thursday, February 8 | 7 p.m.

Friday, February 9 | 1 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 people per class.*

Archiving Photos, Slides, and Negatives

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

Thursdays: December 7, January 11, or February 8 | 3 - 4 p.m.

Converting Home Videos to Digital

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

Thursdays: December 14, January 18, or February 15 | 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: February 22 | 3 - 4 p.m.

Converting 8mm and Super 8 Home Movies to Digital

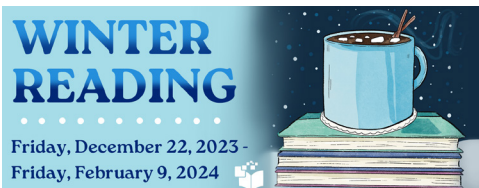
Learn the steps to digitize your 8mm and Super 8 film.

Thursdays: December 21, January 25 or February 29 | 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.*



Winter Reading for Adults

Read 4 titles of your choice between December 22 and February 9 to earn drawing tickets for a chance to win a gift card to a local business. Complete bonus activities for more chances!

Prizes sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

December 22 - February 9

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).*

Surviving the Holidays with Lori Gottlieb

Wednesday, December 6 | 7 p.m.

Speculating Our AI Future with Cory Doctorow

Thursday, January 11 | 7 p.m.

A Conversation with Jerry Craft

Tuesday, February 6 | 7 p.m.

Feeling the Romance with Julia Quinn

Tuesday, February 20 | 7 p.m.

College Scholarships, Grants, and Loans

Join My College Planning Team to get insider tips on the best college cost-reduction strategies. Learn the little-known asset, borrowing, and savings methods to help make your college planning affordable.

Thursday, February 1 | 7 p.m.

Mastering the Art of the Job Interview

Paula Christensen of Strategic Career Coaches will explain the prep you need to beat the stress and stand out in an interview, whether in person or over Zoom.

Thursday, February 29 | 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, February 27 | 6:30 p.m.

*Limit 30. *Held at Harp & Fiddle - 110 Main Street.*

VIRTUAL: Tuesday, January 23 | 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 December 6 & 20, January 3 & 17, and February 7 & 21.

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: December 13,

January 10, and February 14 | 7 p.m.

VIRTUAL: Wednesdays: January 24, and February 28 | 7 p.m.

Taxpayer Clinic: Top 12 Tax Scams

Michael Duhn of the Low Income Taxpayer Clinic at the Center of Concern will outline the most common tax scams to avoid as you file your tax returns this year.

Thursday, January 4 | 7 p.m.

Creating a Photo Legacy

Get your photos organized this year with Lida Bunting of Znimka Creations! She will explain how to sort through the mess and assemble a photo story that's satisfying and meaningful.

Thursday, January 18 | 7 p.m.

Author Talk: Patricia Skalka

Chicago native Patricia Skalka, author of the Dave Cubiak Door County mysteries, will talk Door County and her writing process. *Books will be available for sale.*

Thursday, January 25 | 7 p.m.

The Sinking of the Lady Elgin

When the Lady Elgin sank in Lake Michigan in 1860, three of Paul Timm's ancestors were aboard. Hear him tell their story, as well as the local history of this Great Lakes tragedy.

Tuesday, January 30 | 7 p.m.

E-Cigarettes, Vaping, and Your Kids

Join Teri Collins of the Maine Community Youth Assistance Foundation for a candid discussion of the popularity of e-cigarettes among children and teens. *In partnership with the Park Ridge Community Health Commission.*

Tuesday, February 6 | 7 p.m.

A Night at the Oscars: Best Picture Spotlight

Movie historian Annette Bochenek returns to offer perspective on this year's Best Picture nominees with a history of the category as well as memorable contenders.

Thursday, February 15 | 7 p.m.

Afternoon Programs

Laura Ingalls Wilder's Christmas Memories

Join us in the First Floor Meeting Room for this special screening as Laura Keyes of Historic Voices portrays Laura Ingalls Wilder, reminiscing about her Christmases past, regaling us with childhood stories and sharing some of Ingalls Wilder's beloved Christmas gifts.

Tuesday, December 12 | 2 p.m.

Concert: The American Folk Song with Mark Dvorak

Old Town School of Folk Music instructor Mark Dvorak returns to treat us to a concert on guitar of favorite American folk songs, including the work of Woody Guthrie, Pete Seeger, and Lead Belly.

Tuesday, January 9 | 2 p.m.

Afternoon Programs *continued.*

The Beatles Love Songs with Professor Moptop

Gregory Alexander (“Professor Moptop”) celebrates Valentine’s Day with a presentation of the Beatles’ best love songs, covering each of the band’s distinctive eras.

Tuesday, February 13 | 2 p.m.

NEW! Global Neighbors

Peru

Our Global Neighbors series continues with Peru! Enjoy a concert of traditional music of the Andes with Hugo Gutierrez and Armando Bakle followed by a presentation of regional life and food history from the staff of Taste of Peru restaurant. Samples will be provided.

Sponsored by Marion’s Mark.

Thursday, February 22 | 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: December 2, January 6, and February 3 | 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Craft Workshop: Upcycled Book Page Holiday Trees

Shari Pontillo of Twisted Fiber Art Studio returns to lead a workshop on festive holiday trees made from book pages and craft décor.

Limit 20. Sponsored by Marion’s Mark.

Thursday, December 7 | 7 p.m.

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 fiber artist how to get started. *Registration not required.*

Thursdays: December 7, January 4, and February 1 | 7 p.m.

Holiday Beer Tasting at Beer on the Wall

The beer enthusiasts at Beer on the Wall will present a selection of beers ideal for your holiday table, including a lesson on beer tasting and the best accompanying flavors.

Hosted at Beer on the Wall. Limit 20.

Thursday, December 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: December 14, January 11, and February 8 | 1 p.m.

Concert: “A Charlie Brown Christmas” with the Mick Archer Trio

The Mick Archer Trio channels Vince Guaraldi to perform the full 1965 soundtrack of “A Charlie Brown Christmas,” from “O Tannenbaum” to “The Christmas Song.”

Thursday, December 21 | 7 p.m.

Park Ridge Library Blood Drive

During a national blood shortage, join your neighbors to help save lives at this community event. Any healthy person aged 17 or older may donate. **Appointment preferred.**

In partnership with Versiti Blood Center of Illinois.

Thursday, December 28 | 12 p.m. – 5 p.m.



Tiny Art Show | Patrons ages 18 and up

Show off your artistic skill in the Park Ridge Public Library Tiny Art Show! Sign up to receive a mini art kit, create your masterpiece at home, and turn it in for display in our second floor display case.

Registration required.

January 8 - 31



Friday Morning Coffee Club

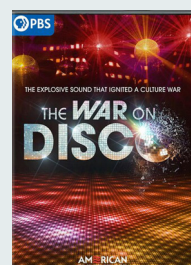
Registration required. Limit 40.



12 Days of Tudor Christmas

On each of the twelve days of Christmas, Lucy Worsley recreates a different aspect of the festivities as they were 500 years ago.

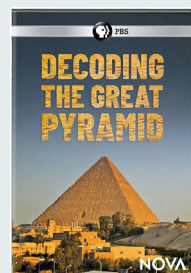
Friday, December 15 | 10 a.m.



War on Disco

An exploration of the culture war that erupted over the spectacular rise of disco music in the late 1970s.

Friday, January 19 | 10 a.m.



Decoding the Great Pyramid

How did the Egyptians engineer the Great Pyramid of Giza so precisely, and who were the thousands of laborers who raised the stones?

Friday, February 16 | 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**. Program schedules are subject to change. Registration required unless otherwise noted. Additional program details available online.

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL

Registration opens 3 weeks before the program, unless otherwise noted.

Teen Take & Create

Stop by The Loft to get all the materials you'll need; *supplies are limited*. Take your kit home, or work on it in the Library!

Starting December 4: Beaded Keychains

Starting December 18: Snowpeople

Starting January 8: Walruses

Starting January 22: Penguins

Starting February 12: Highland Cows

Starting February 26: Snails

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.

Registration opens 1 week in advance.

Select Sundays this winter 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 December 27 or January 3.)


Send us a Video Review

Submit a video review of a book, video game, TV show, movie, or music artist/album to our Teen Loft staff to post on our Library's social media pages. Earn one service hour per review. Details at parkridgelibrary.org/teens/teen-reviews/.




BOOK MATCH

- Looking for a new favorite book?
- Want to get ahead of the curve with a potential viral #BookTok?
- Curious what awesome new books you might not know about?



Fill out our Book Match form, tell us what kind of books you have enjoyed lately, and we'll make a personalized list of recommendations (with a special goody bag) just for you! Scan the QR Code to learn more.



**TEENS
IN THE STUDIO**
GRADES 6-12

*Limited to Park Ridge cardholders.
Registration opens 1 week in advance.*

Hot Cocoa Kits

Join us in the Library's makerspace and use available tools to personalize a hot cocoa mug. All supplies provided. Registration opens one week before the event and space is limited.

Tuesday, December 12 | 4 p.m.

Flowers for a Special Someone

Join us in the Library's makerspace and use available tools to create paper flowers for a special someone. All supplies provided. Registration opens one week before the event and space is limited.

Tuesday, February 6 | 4 p.m.

100 Books Before Graduation

The school year is halfway through and graduation will be here before you know it! Join our 100 Books Before Graduation reading program, log the books you finish, and earn prizes for every 25 books you complete! Sign up today at parkridgelib.beanstack.org. You can log Winter Reading at the same time.



WINTER READING

December 22 - February 9 Grades 6-12

Log your reading online at parkridgelib.beanstack.org and earn a prize book after twenty days of reading! You'll also earn raffle tickets for every ten days you read - each ticket is a chance to win gift cards!



HIGH SCHOOL

Parents are welcome to attend!

College Admission & Test Prep Trends | Grades 9 and up

Discover the essential college admission and standardized test trends every high school student needs to know. Join Excellerate Learning Studio to understand how to navigate through these challenges, manage time effectively, and alleviate anxiety and stress. Freshmen and sophomores are highly encouraged to join, too - don't think this is just for juniors and seniors!

Monday, December 4 | 7 p.m.

Acing the Digital SAT | Grades 9 and up

The SAT test is going digital in March of 2024! Discover everything you need to know about the new digital SAT test format, including question count, time limits, and scoring. Prepare for success with expert guidance from Excellerate Learning Studio, trusted local experts in test anxiety and content preparation. You'll walk out ready to conquer the new test format with confidence!

Monday, January 22 | 7 p.m.

College Scholarships, Grants, and Loans | Grades 9 and up

Join My College Planning Team to get insider tips on the best college cost-reduction strategies. Learn the little-known asset, borrowing, and savings methods to help make your college planning affordable.

This is a virtual program.

Thursday, February 1 | 7 p.m.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Chess Scholars | Grades 6 - 8

Learn chess basics or perfect your skills with the Chess Scholars.

Tuesdays, December 12, January 9, February 13 | 4 - 5 p.m.

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL

Henna Workshop

Learn the history and use of henna from its origins to modern day application. Participants will also get a quick lesson in making basic shapes with henna cones and receive a small design created for them by the instructor.

Ingredient list available in our online calendar.

Monday, December 11 | 4 - 6 p.m.

Books & Bites

Book lovers, join us for hot cocoa and snacks to celebrate all things books! We'll do some bookish activities and choose a book to discuss for our Spring book discussion. Bring a gently used book if you've got one and swap with someone else; we'll also have at least one book for you to take home.

Thursday, December 28 | 4 p.m.

Breakout Challenge

Sign up with your friends to rescue Will from *Stranger Things*. Solve puzzles to open a series of locks before time runs out and the portal to the Upside Down closes for good!

Friday, December 29 | 4 p.m.

Cartoon Cryptids with Andertoons | Grades 6 - 9

Learn to draw familiar creatures like the Loch Ness Monster and Bigfoot, but also lesser known beasts like the Lizard Man of Scape Ore Swamp, the Jersey Devil, and the Loveland Frog!

Thursday, January 4 | 3:30 p.m.

Teen Advisory Board Meet-Up

The Teen Advisory Board consists of like-minded, library-loving tweens and teens coming together to improve library services and meets formally May-August to work on projects. Join us this winter break to touch base, eat snacks, and do some light brainstorming. *New and returning members alike are welcome to attend.*

Friday, January 5 | 4 p.m.

Murder Mystery Party: A Knight of Murder

There's been a murder at the tournament and everyone is a suspect! When you arrive, you'll be assigned a character identity with a back-story and possible clues. You'll interact with other attendees throughout the event to try to uncover who committed the murder. *School-appropriate medieval costumes are encouraged. Registration opens 2 weeks in advance.*

Monday, January 15 | 4 - 5:30 p.m.

Craft Club: 2024 Memory Boxes

Make memory boxes to use in the new year. Decorate a shoebox with inspirational images or words to motivate you.

Friday, January 19 | 4 p.m.

Trivia Game Show

Grab your smartest friends and come play our trivia game show featuring Kahoot, Jeopardy-style questions, and maybe even a Family Feud style game! We'll test your knowledge on topics like Taylor Swift, Jordans, the Starbucks menu, TikTok trends, YouTubers, anime, and more!

Bring your own device to access Kahoot if possible.

Friday, February 2 | 4 p.m.



A Conversation with Jerry Craft: Author Visit & Draw Along

Prepare to be transported into the world of bestselling and award-winning *New Kid* author and illustrator, Jerry Craft, joined in conversation with Ronell Whitaker. Sign up to watch the livestream or join us for a brief book discussion and activity, then we'll jump on Zoom to learn about life, art, and telling your own story with Jerry Craft, including a drawing demonstration.

Please note, this event will not be recorded.

This event is made possible by Illinois Libraries Present (ILP), 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 of 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).

Tuesday, February 6 | 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Candy Taste Test

Sample various types of candy, both familiar and less well known, then log your tasting notes, guess what the candy is, rate each one on a 5-star deliciousness scale! *All ingredients lists will be available for each candy; allergens may be present.*

Friday, February 9 | 4 p.m.

Just Dance Party

It's a Library dance-off! Stop by during your day off of school and practice for your next soon-to-be-viral TikTok with Just Dance 2024.

Monday, February 19 | 2 - 4 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.*

DROP-IN STORYTIMES

No registration required.

Hello, Baby! | Ages 0 - 14 months

with caregiver

This is an introductory lapsit storytime for infants not yet walking.

Mondays: December 4 - 18; January 8 - 22;
February 5 - 26 | 9:30 a.m.

2s & 3s Storytime | Ages 2 - 3

with caregiver

Tuesdays & Wednesdays: December 5 - 20;
January 2 - 24; February 6 - 28; | 9:30 a.m.

Busy Bees | Ages 12 - 24 months

with caregiver

This is a transitional storytime for toddlers. Playtime follows stories.

Tuesdays & Wednesdays: December 5 - 20;
January 2 - 24; February 6 - 28 | 10:30 a.m.

Pre-K Storytime | Ages 3 - 5

with caregiver

Thursdays: December 7 - 21; January 4 - 25;
February 8 - 29 | 10 a.m.

Family Storytime & Craft | Families

Bring your whole family to the Library for stories and crafting.

Saturdays: December 16, January 13,
February 10 | 10:30 a.m.

Virtual PJ Storytime | All ages

This storytime takes place on Zoom for families to enjoy before bedtime.

Wednesdays: December 20, January 17,
February 14 | 7 p.m.

Bilingual Spanish Storytime | Ages 2 and up

with caregiver

Disfrute de un espacio de cuentos bilingüe con canciones, cuentos y otras actividades. Enjoy storytime in Spanish and English!

Fridays: December 22, February 23 | 10 a.m.

Bilingual Polish Storytime | Ages 2 and up

with caregiver

Ciesz się dwujęzyczną opowieścią z piosenkami, opowieściami i innymi zajęciami.

Enjoy storytime in Polish and English!

Monday, January 29 | 6:30 p.m.

TODDLER & PRESCHOOL

DROP IN *No registration required.*

Tot Time Playdate | Ages 1 - 5

with caregiver

Drop in with your toddler to play with toys and connect with friends!

Tuesday, December 26 | 10 a.m.

Move & Groove with Twisted Tree | Ages 18 months and up

with caregiver

Drop in for a fun movement and music class!

Wednesdays: December 27 & January 31 | 10:45 a.m.

Discovery Hour | Ages 2 - 5

with caregiver

Stop in for some hands-on fun with your preschooler!

Tuesday, January 30 | 10 a.m.

Imagination Playground | Ages 3 and up

with caregiver

Drop in for some pretend freeplay!

Thursday, February 1 | 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.

Fridays: December 1, January 5, February 2 | 10 a.m. or 10:45 a.m.

Adult & Tot Yoga | Ages 3 - 5

with caregiver

Stretch, play, and connect with your little yogi in this movement class.

Wednesdays: December 27, January 31 | 10 a.m.

Early Language Development | Ages 0 - 15 months

with caregiver

Learn developmental milestones and how to boost your little one's language skills.

Monday, January 29 | 9:30 a.m.

FAMILIES

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Registration opens 3 weeks before the program.

Family Yoga Storytime | Families with kids ages 4 - 7

Gather your family for a story and some stretches.

Saturdays: December 2, January 27,
February 24 | 10 a.m.

Homeschool Hangout | Families with homeschooled children

Connect with other local homeschool families at the Library.

Mondays: December 18, January 22,
February 26 | 11 a.m.



Noon Year's Eve Party | Families of all ages

Ring in the New Year early with games, activities and a NOON Year countdown balloon drop! *Space is limited for the noon balloon drop.*

Tickets will be available on a first come first served basis on Saturday 12/30. Activities from 10 - 11:45, drop-in, no tickets needed.

Saturday, December 30 | 10 a.m. - Noon

Illinois Libraries Present: The Nutcracker | All Ages

Watch the 2016 stage recording of The Nutcracker, danced by The Royal Ballet!

This event is made possible by Illinois Libraries Present, a statewide collaboration between public libraries offering high-quality events. Illinois Libraries Present 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).

Saturday, December 16 - Sunday, December 17

FOR CHILDREN

The Magic of Gary Kantor, Performance & Workshop | Families with kids ages 3 and up

Prepare to be delighted by the magic of Gary Kantor! After the show, kids ages 5 - 12 are welcome to stick around to learn some tricks of their own in a hands-on Magic Workshop.

Tickets available at the Children's Services desk beginning Friday, December 29.

Monday, January 15 | 1 p.m.

SCHOOL AGE

DROP IN *No registration required.*

LEGOMania | Grades K and up

Drop in and build whatever you can dream up with our LEGOS!

Tuesdays: December 26, January 30, February 27 | 4 p.m.

STEAMagination with American Science & Surplus | Grades K and up

Drop in and explore STEAM activities!

Fridays: December 8, January 12, February 16 | 4 p.m.

Art Party | Grades K and up

Drop by for some open art time.

Thursdays: December 14 & January 18 | 4 p.m.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

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

Chess Scholars | Grades K - 5

Learn chess basics or perfect your skills with Chess Scholars.

Tuesdays, December 12, January 9 | 4 p.m. and Tuesday, February 13 | 4:30 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. *(Limit 1 session per month.) This program is generously made possible by Marion's Mark.*

Wednesdays: December 13, January 10, February 21 | 15-minute sessions, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Oodles of Doodles | Grades K - 2

Enjoy a story followed by an art project inspired by our book.

Mondays: December 4 & January 8 | 4 p.m.

Breakout Challenge | Grades 5 and up

Join together with your friends to solve a series of puzzles, open a series of locks, and rescue *Stranger Things*' Will from the Upside Down!

Friday, December 29 | 4 p.m.

Andertoons Drawing Class: Winter Wildlife | Grades K - 5

Learn to draw animals like arctic foxes, polar bears and snow monkeys step by step with cartoonist Mark Anderson!

Thursday, January 4 | 2 p.m.

Craft Club: 2024 Memory Boxes | Grades 5 and up

Come make memory boxes to commemorate all that 2024 has in store.

Friday, January 19 | 4 p.m.

A Conversation with Jerry Craft: Author Visit & Draw-Along | Grades 4 and up

Join us for a brief book discussion and activity followed by a live Zoom session with bestselling and award-winning *New Kid* author, illustrator and cartoonist, Jerry Craft who will discuss his works and journey to success, including a drawing demonstration!

Please note, this event will not be recorded.

This event is made possible by Illinois Libraries Present (ILP).

Tuesday, February 6 | 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Candy Taste Test | Grades 5 and up

Sample various types of candy, both familiar and less well known, then log your tasting notes, guess what the candy is, and rate each one on a 5-star deliciousness scale.

Friday, February 9 | 4 p.m.

Book Swap | Grades 3 - 5

Bring a gently used book (or two) that you've enjoyed to make a trade and try something new!

Monday, February 19 | 4 p.m.

TEACHER PROGRAM

Nature, Earth Day and the Classroom with Chicago Botanic Garden | Pre-K & Elementary Teachers

Learn ways to teach your students about nature and how we can take care of it.

Wednesday, February 28 | 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

FEATURED EVENTS

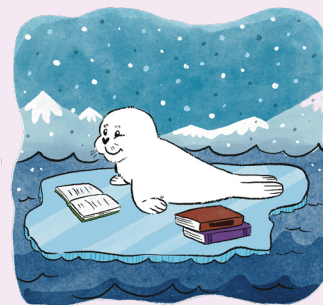
GIVING OPPORTUNITY

Cozy Comforts Tree

Donate new hats, scarves, gloves and mittens to our Cozy Comforts tree in the Children's Services department. Donations will be given to families seeking shelter from domestic violence through local WINGS locations.

New items only, please.

November 24 - December 22



Winter Reading

Cozy up with some good books this winter to earn a prize book and tickets for chances to win gift cards and stuffed animals.

New this year - **Gallery of Readers!** Complete 40 days of reading and strike a pose with a book of your choice. We'll snap a photo and hang it in our Gallery of Readers in the Children's Department.

Friday, December 22, 2023 - February 9, 2024

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 kit per child, please.*

Fridays: December 1, January 5, February 2

Sensory-Friendly Hour

We will open an hour early for an adapted, accessible and sensory-friendly Library experience for all. The Children's Department environment will be adjusted, and supports and activities will be available.

Sunday: December 3, January 7, February 4 | 11 a.m. - Noon

Preschool & Enrichment Fair

Learn about some of the wonderful daycare, preschool and enrichment facilities in the area, all in one place! Representatives from dozens of schools and organizations will be available to answer your questions. *Located at St. Andrew's Lutheran School Gym.*

Saturday, January 20 | 10 a.m. - Noon

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.

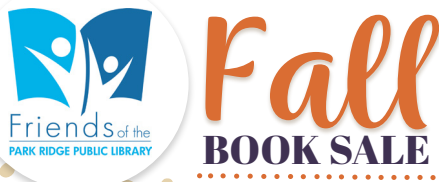
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 librarydirector@parkridgelibrary.org

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The Friends of the Library Fall Sale raised nearly \$6,000.

Thank you to everyone who shopped the sale!

Follow us on social media!



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Cozy Comforts Drive

Through December 22, we will be collecting new hats, scarves, gloves and mittens in the Children's Services department and the second floor lobby. All donations will be given to families seeking shelter from domestic violence through local WINGS locations. New and unworn items only, please.



Toys for Tots

The Library is partnering with the Park Ridge Police Department to collect new toys for kids in need through Toys for Tots. Leave your donation in the marked bin in our first floor lobby.



Youth Commission Food Drive

The Library's Teen Loft staff partners with the Park Ridge Youth Commission on various community projects, including its annual food drive supporting the Maine Township Food Pantry. The Food Drive will kick off mid-December and run through the end of the year. The Library serves as a collection site, as do several local businesses. A complete list is available at parkridge.us. The "wish list" from Maine Township will also be posted on our website.



**TEENS,
 SEND US A
 VIDEO REVIEW**



See page 8 for details...

