

Strategic Plan 2026 - 2030 Year One Update

Our Next Chapter: Initiatives



Optimize Spaces



Invest in resources and staff



Align programming, services, and outreach



Increase community awareness and support



Invest in resources and staff

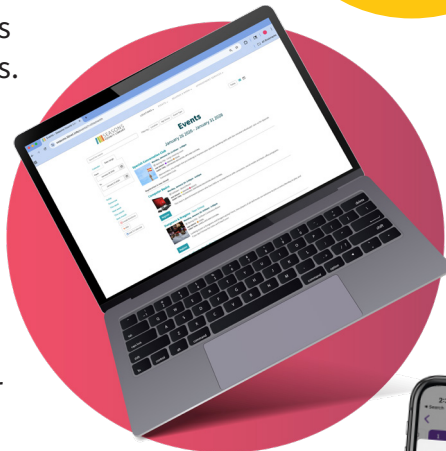
Coming soon! New Calendar System and an App

Stay tuned to our social media, our newsletter and, of course, our website for news on the official launch of these digital upgrades!

Our strategic planning initiative to invest in resources and staff includes improving digital access and ease of use of the Library and its resources. One of our most widely used features on our website is our program calendar. This spring, we will debut a new calendar system to make registering for programs and events easier than ever.

- ✓ Easily view and register for events.
- ✓ Create brochure PDFs tailored to your preferences and summarizing what you've signed up for on one printout.
- ✓ Manage your event registration from wherever you are, on all your devices.

This summer, we will debut a Library app that will allow you to browse the catalog, register for events, reserve meeting rooms, manage your account and more from your smartphone or tablet. It will also feature an online registration and tracking tool for our Summer and Winter Reading programs!



Optimize Spaces

Our community-wide survey and focused community sessions last year let us know what you want to see in our collections, and our data shows how patrons are using those collections. We are working through a space-planning study to understand how we can better organize and optimize our displays and support modern library services and collections. Throughout the year, you will notice improvements that will enhance your library experience.



Kids | Teens | Adults

June 5 - August 22, 2026

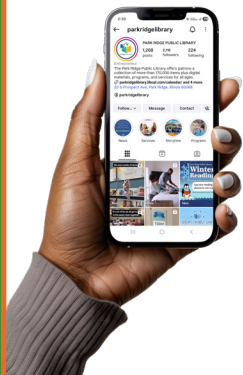

Celebrate Your Library This April

National Library Week: Find Your Joy

Celebrate National Library Week with us this April 19 – 25! Visit the library, subscribe to our weekly e-newsletter, and follow us on social media for details on giveaways, stories from patrons and staff, and more.



APRIL 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<p>19 National Right to Read Day</p> <p>is a day for readers, advocates, and library lovers to take action to protect, defend, and celebrate the right to read. The American Library Association (ALA) kicks off National Library Week with the release of its State of America's Libraries Report, including the list of Top Ten Most Challenged Books of 2025.</p>	<p>20 National Library Workers Day</p> <p>We will celebrate on social media with videos about staff and a look behind the scenes at the Library. <i>Follow us on Facebook and Instagram.</i></p> 	<p>21 Library Outreach Day</p> <p>celebrates all we do in the community – from Doorstep Delivery to school visits for preschools, elementary and high schools – and what we have planned in the coming year to meet patrons where they are.</p> 	<p>22 Take Action for Libraries Day</p> <p>A day to rally advocates to support libraries. Know someone who doesn't have a library card? Tell them how much you love your card, and how they can sign up. Bring a friend to your favorite Library program. Join the Friends of the Park Ridge Library. There are many ways to advocate for your local library, or visit the American Library Association for more information about their work on a national scale.</p>



Our Seed Library will be reopening this spring - stay tuned to our social media and watch our weekly e-newsletter

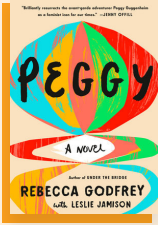
Once again, we'll be sharing the seeds we've "harvested" this winter to help make your garden or flower bed the best it can be. All you need is a Park Ridge Library card to take home up to 10 seed samples. **The Seed Library is located on the second floor by the Reference desk.** Seeds are available on a first-come, first-served basis.



Films and Book Discussions for Adults

Book discussions will be at the Library in the Third Floor Meeting Room OR available live over Zoom. Choose how you would like to join and sign up on our website or by calling 847-720-3280. Books are available two weeks before the discussion at the Reader Services desk.

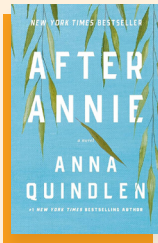
FICTION GROUP



Peggy
by Rebecca Godfrey
VIRTUAL: Tuesday,
March 10 | 7 p.m.
IN PERSON: Thursday,
March 26 | 10 a.m.



Automatic Noodle
by Annalee Newitz
VIRTUAL: Tuesday,
April 14 | 7 p.m.
IN PERSON: Thursday,
April 30 | 10 a.m.

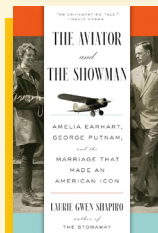


After Annie
by Anna Quindlen
VIRTUAL: Tuesday,
May 12 | 7 p.m.
IN PERSON: Thursday,
May 28 | 10 a.m.

NONFICTION GROUP



Realm of Ice and Sky
by Buddy Levy
Friday, March 13
10 a.m.

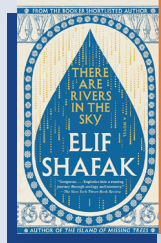


The Aviator and the Showman
by Laurie Gwen Shapiro
Friday, May 8
10 a.m.

WEDNESDAY EVENING GROUP



The Original
by Nell Stevens
Wednesday,
March 18 | 7 p.m.

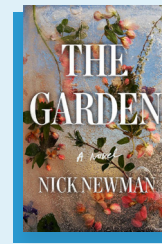


There Are Rivers in the Sky
by Elif Shafak
Wednesday,
April 15 | 7 p.m.



Culpability
by Bruce Holsinger
Wednesday,
May 20 | 7 p.m.

SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY GROUP



The Garden
by Nick Newman
Wednesday,
March 4 | 7 p.m.

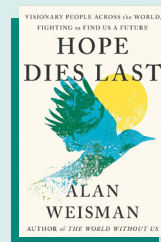


Silver Elite
by Dani Francis
Wednesday,
April 1 | 7 p.m.



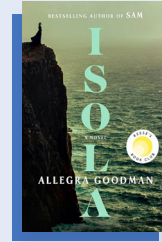
The Women of Wild Hill
by Kirsten Miller
Wednesday,
May 6 | 7 p.m.

GREEN READS



Hope Dies Last
by Alan Weisman
In partnership with
Go Green Park Ridge
Tuesday, April 28
7 p.m.

DIRECTOR'S CHOICE




Isola
by Allegra Goodman
Wednesday, May 27
7 p.m.




Join Library director Joanna Bertucci to discuss her recommended book.

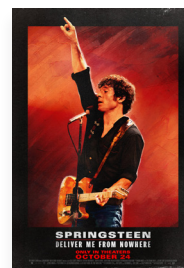
FILMS - These movies will be screened at the Library in the First Floor Meeting Room.




A Big Bold Beautiful Journey 
[R, 139 min.]
Tuesday, March 17
1 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.
Starring Colin Farrell
and Margot Robbie



Hamnet 
[PG-13, 125 min.]
Tuesday, April 21
1 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.
Starring Jessie
Buckley and
Paul Mescal



Springsteen: Deliver Me From Nowhere 
[PG-13, 119 min.]
Tuesday, May 19
1 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.
Starring Jeremy Allen White
and Jeremy Strong



The Studio and Media Lab for Adults



R Orientation

Patrons must complete this mandatory orientation before booking appointments in The Studio.

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

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

THE STUDIO CLASSES

All classes are free and open to Park Ridge Library cardholders only. **Must be comfortable using a computer for Laser Cutter classes.**

Registration opens four weeks in advance.

If you are unable to attend, please notify the Library at 847-720-3230.

** Limit of 1 laser cutter class per month.*

R Pressed Flower Frame

Decorate a wooden frame with pressed flowers. *Limit 4 people per class.*

Thursday, March 5 | 2:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 12 | 2:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 17 | 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 25 | 7 p.m.

R Laser Cutter 101 (Beginner):

Knit Hat with Engraved Leatherette Patch

Keep your head warm with a knit cap customized with an engraved Leatherette Patch. *Limit 4 people per class.*

Saturday, March 7 | Nine half-hour slots from 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

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

Create a Midori-style leather notebook cover. *Prerequisite: Laser Cutter 101.*

Limit 4 people per class.

Thursday, March 12 | 6:30 p.m.

Friday, March 13 | 11 a.m.

Thursday, March 19 | 6:30 p.m.

R Laser Cutter 101 (Beginner): Acrylic Wine Glass Charms

Just in time for Easter! Use the laser cutter to create acrylic Wine Glass Charms.

Limit 1 person per class.

Saturday, April 4 | Nine half-hour slots from 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

R Book Vase

Learn how to transform an old hardcover book into a beautiful vase ready for a silk or dried floral arrangement.

Limit 4 people per class.

Tuesday, April 7 | 2:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 16 | 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 22 | 7 p.m.

Thursday, April 30 | 2:30 p.m.

R Laser Cutter 201 (Intermediate): Laser Cut Wind Chime

Brighten up your garden with a custom laser cut wind chime. *Prerequisite: Laser Cutter 101. Limit 4 people per class.*

Thursday, April 9 | 6:30 p.m.

Friday, April 10 | 11 a.m.

Thursday, April 16 | 6:30 p.m.

R Laser Cutter 101 (Beginner): Engraved Canvas Cosmetic Pouch

Custom engrave a canvas pouch.

Limit 1 person per class.

Saturday, May 2 | Nine half-hour slots from 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

R Macrame Coaster

Get ready to add an extra special touch to your table with a fun DIY macrame coaster.

Limit 4 people per class.

Tuesday, May 5 | 2:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 14 | 2:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 21 | 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 27 | 7 p.m.

R Laser Cutter 201 (Intermediate): Engraved Rolling Pin Hanging Rack

Spruce up your kitchen with a hanging custom engraved rolling pin. *Prerequisite:*

Laser Cutter 101. Limit 4 people per class.

Thursday, May 7 | 6:30 p.m.

Friday, May 8 | 11 a.m.

Thursday, May 14 | 6:30 p.m.



R Orientation

Patrons must complete this mandatory orientation before booking appointments in The Media Lab. *Open to Park Ridge Library cardholders only.*

Tuesdays: 7 p.m. | Saturdays: 10 a.m.

THE MEDIA LAB CLASSES

All classes are free. Open to Park Ridge cardholders only. *Limit 3 people per class. Registration opens four weeks in advance.*

R NEW! Basic Digital Photo Editing

Learn common digital file formats for pics, cropping, and basic color correcting.

Mondays: March 16, April 20, May 18
7 - 8 p.m.

R Archiving Your Photos, Slides, and Negatives

Take those boxes of old photos, slides and negatives and digitize them.

Thursdays: March 5, April 9, May 7
7 - 8 p.m.

R Converting Home Videos to Digital

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

Thursdays: March 12, April 16, May 14
7 - 8 p.m.

R Digitizing Audio Cassettes and Records

Convert your old audiocassette recordings and records to MP3 or CD using the TEAC machine.

Thursdays: March 19, April 23, May 21
7 - 8 p.m.

R Converting 8mm and Super 8 Home Videos to Digital

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

Thursdays: March 26, April 30, May 28
7 - 8 p.m.

FOR ADULTS



ILLINOIS LIBRARIES PRESENT
These programs will be held over Zoom.

Beyond the Page **R**
with Percival Everett
Thursday, March 19
7 p.m.



Cristina Henriquez: Voice, Culture, and Human Connection **R**
Thursday, April 16 | 7 p.m.



Babel-On with R.F. Kuang **R**
Tuesday, May 19 | 7 p.m.



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).

LIVE MUSIC

R **Rags to Rhinestones: The Musical Life of Dolly Parton**
Join Marianne Orland and Girls Like Us to celebrate the life, music, and stories of country music icon Dolly Parton. *In person.*
Tuesday, March 10 | 2 p.m.

R **Petra van Nuis & Andy Brown**
Jazz vocalist Petra van Nuis returns with guitarist Andy Brown for a concert of jazz favorites. *In person.*
Tuesday, April 14 | 2 p.m.



R **Big Sky Acoustic Trio**
Rob Anderlik and his trio, featuring cello, acoustic guitar, and dobro, will perform American roots music. *In person.*
Tuesday, May 5 | 7 p.m.



AFTERNOON PROGRAMS

R **Genealogy 101**
Are you interested in exploring your family tree but don't know where to start? Join us for tips on where to begin and explore the library's digital genealogy resources. *Limit 10. Limit one session per patron.*
Wednesdays: March 4, April 8, May 6
11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

D **Drop-in Help Desk**
Volunteers from the Maine South Key Club will be available for tech questions related to smartphones and tablets. Questions about Library downloadables are also welcome. *In person.*
Saturdays: March 7, April 4, May 2
10 a.m. - Noon

R **Dementia Caregivers Support Group**
Join the Center of Concern at the Library for a safe place to learn, exchange strategies, and meet other caregivers coping with Alzheimer's or another dementia. *Limit 20. Light refreshments served. In person.*
Mondays: March 9, April 13, May 11
10 a.m.

R **Brain Boosters**
Keep your brain sharp and reconnect with your neighbors in this interactive, collaborative program of brain puzzles and discussion starters. *Limit 30. In person. In partnership with the Center of Concern. Sponsored by the 20th Century Club.*
Thursdays: March 12, April 9, May 14
1 p.m.

R **Chair Yoga**
Stretch, breathe, and meditate your way to renewed energy with Sun and Moon instructor Joan McGee in this gentle yoga class. *No experience necessary. Hybrid. Joan is on-site March 4 & 18, April 1 & 15, May 6 & 20.*
Wednesdays | 2 p.m.

R **Smartphone Basics**
Learn the basics of using your touchscreen device such as screen navigation, essential functions and applications, and more. **Must bring your own tablet or smartphone device.** *Limit 10. Limit one session per patron.*
Wednesdays: March 18, April 15, May 20
11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

R **Park Ridge Library Blood Drive**
Join your neighbors to help save lives at this community event. Any healthy person aged 17 or older may donate (people aged 16 must have a permission slip). *In partnership with Versiti Blood Center of Illinois. In person.*
Thursday, March 19 | Noon - 5 p.m.

D **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. *In person.*
Thursdays: March 19, April 16, May 21
9 a.m. - Noon

R **Family Puzzle Challenge**
Are you an expert puzzler? Join our jigsaw puzzle challenge with the whole family and see who can complete a 500-piece puzzle first. The winning team gets a prize! *Limit 12 teams. Snacks provided.*
Registration opens March 13.
Friday, April 3 | 2 - 4 p.m.

FRIDAY MORNING COFFEE CLUB



Last B-24
Friday, March 20
10:30 a.m.
Limit 40.



Ghosts of Stonehenge
Friday, April 17
10:30 a.m.
Limit 40.



Grizzly 399: Queen of the Tetons
Friday, May 15
10:30 a.m.
Limit 40.

R **NEW! Park Ridge Page Pals**
Adults 18+ with intellectual and developmental disabilities are invited to read and socialize in this book club. For more information, contact Kelly at kmayer@parkridgelibrary.org or call 847-720-3285. *In-person.*
Monday, May 18 | 3 p.m.

- R Debating Independence: The American Revolution in 1776**
Historian Joyce Haworth returns to take a deep dive into the defeats, victories, and intrigue that inspired thirteen disparate colonies to fight for a unified independence. *Hybrid.*
Tuesday, May 12 | 2 p.m.

EVENING PROGRAMS

FINANCIAL FITNESS

- R Budgeting and Savings Basics with Ryan Decker**
Ryan Decker, professor of Finance, breaks down the basics of personal finance: budgeting and introductory saving and investment strategies. *Virtual.*
Thursday, April 9 | 7 p.m.
- R Buying a Home: The Basics**
Learn what lenders look for in a loan application, credit basics, down payments, and the players in the home-buying process. *Virtual.*
Monday, April 13 | 7 p.m.
- R Retirement Reality with Jill Schlesinger**
CBS News Business Analyst Jill Schlesinger, CFP, will talk through the specific steps necessary to get you where you want to go. *Virtual.*
Tuesday, April 21 | 7 p.m.

- D Stitch Night**
Fiber artists of all levels, join us for an evening of free crafting advice and lively conversation. *In person.*
Thursdays: March 5, April 2, May 7 | 7 p.m.

- R Park Ridge Writers Group**
Join the Library's writing group for positive critique and support. *Limit 20. In person.*
Wednesdays: March 11, May 13 | 6:30 p.m.

- R Brick of Chicago**
Will Quam, architecture photographer, writer, and researcher, will lead you on a tour of brick architecture in Chicago, breaking down the architectural and artistic intentions behind this popular material. *Hybrid.*
Thursday, March 26 | 7 p.m.

CALLING ALL CRAFTERS

- R Empowerment Dolls**
Join Teaching Artist Victoria Reeves for this hands-on workshop to design and hand sew your own Empowerment Doll using brightly-colored doll forms, yarn hair, clothes, vintage buttons, and beads. *All supplies included. Sponsored by Marion's Mark. Limit 10. In person.*
Tuesday, March 24 | 7 p.m.
- R Natural Soap-Making**
Join Soapy Roads of Lombard for a people-and planet-friendly soap-making workshop. Craft your very own organic-base goats milk soap and custom blend natural color & fragrance to your liking. *Limit 16. All supplies included. Sponsored by Marion's Mark. In person.*
Thursday, May 28 | 7 p.m.

- R Library Pub Quiz**
Do you have a head full of useless facts? Put them to use at our Library Pub Quiz. Have a laugh, learn something new, and catch up with your Library friends. *Held at Harp & Fiddle, 110 Main Street. Limit 50. In person.*
Tuesdays: March 31, April 28, May 26 6:30 p.m.



- R Senior Homeowners Seminar**
Dan Werdel of Rate Mortgage returns to advise older homeowners on financing options, including reverse mortgages. *Hybrid.*
Tuesday, April 7 | 7 p.m.

- R RESCHEDULED DATE**
Why I Love Horror: A Conversation with Local Horror Authors
Join Becky Siegel Spratford, editor of *Why I Love Horror: Essays on Horror Literature*, for a conversation with local horror authors. *Books will be available for sale from New Book Joy. In person.*
Wednesday, April 8 | 7 p.m.

SCORE Small Business Mentoring Sessions

Call 847-720-3230 to register. *Free.*

GLOBAL NEIGHBORS

- R Global Neighbors: Ireland**
The Chicago Irish Singers will bring a musical taste of Ireland with songs from the traditional Gaelic to contemporary pub favorites. *Refreshments will be served. Sponsored by Marion's Mark. In person.*
Thursday, March 12 | 7 p.m.

- R Kenneth Brown Ransley: Original Park Ridge Artist**
Join Dr. Maria Hrycelak to learn about one of the original pioneers of the Park Ridge Art Colony in the early 1900s. *In partnership with the Kalo Foundation. Hybrid.*
Thursday, April 16 | 7 p.m.

- R Parent Education: AI in the Classroom**
Eric Santos of Better Teaching LLC, a leader in education technology, will explore the pros and cons of AI for students and teachers, including the tools already being used in classrooms. *Hybrid.*
Thursday, April 23 | 7 p.m.

WE THE EARTH

- R Seed Swap**
Join us for a community seed exchange celebrating leaves, roots, fruit, and flowers! Share your homegrown seeds or come simply to learn and connect with fellow gardeners. *In person.*
Tuesday, March 3 | 6:30 p.m.

- R Silent Wings: Discover Illinois Owls**
Join Alyse Burman of the Wildbird Shack to explore the eight fascinating species of owls who call Illinois home. *Hybrid.*
Thursday, April 21 | 7 p.m.

- R The Ocean Adventure | Families**
Dive deep at the Library to learn all about the ocean world and marine animals in two different programs.
Monday, April 27
Fishes of the Caribbean Adventure | 4 p.m.
Great White Shark Adventure | 7 p.m.

FOR TEENS

Middle & High School Programs | Grades 6 – 12 *unless otherwise noted.*

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL

R RPG & Board Game Club

Teen gamers, unite! Join an RPG adventure or explore various exciting tabletop games with other passionate players (*no prior experience required*). Check our online calendar for dates.

Registration opens one week before the program.

Select Sundays | 1 - 4:45 p.m.

R T(w)een Advisory Board Meet-Up

The T(w)een Advisory Board is made up of like-minded library-loving tweens and teens who plan future programming and suggest improvements for the Teen Loft. Join us to weigh in on summer programs!

Monday, March 16 | 4 p.m.

Teen Take & Create

Stop by The Loft to pick up a bag of supplies. Take your kit home or work on it in the Library!

Supplies are limited.

Starting March 2:

Paper Robot

Starting April 6:

Raincloud

Starting May 4:

Dragonfly



Supply pickup: Friday, March 20 - Monday, March 30

Canvases due by: Monday, March 30

On display: Wednesday, April 1 - Thursday April 30

Feeling fancy? Put your artistic skills to work in the 4th Park Ridge Public Library T(w)een Tiny Art Show. Pick up a supply bag and paint whatever you want - as long as your school-appropriate work features one essential detail: a tiny top hat.

Completed pieces must be brought back to the Library by March 30 and will be elegantly displayed outside the Teen Loft. Provided supplies include acrylic paint, brushes, and canvas/easel.



Keep logging your books or join us for a reading challenge to keep you motivated!

Join our 100 Books Before Graduation program and discover new stories, genres, and authors while working toward an epic goal: reading **100** books before you walk across that graduation stage!

Sign up today at the library or on parkridgelib.beanstack.com and get ready to turn the page on an unforgettable year of reading.

T(W)EENS IN THE STUDIO

GRADES 6-12

All supplies provided.
Events limited to Park Ridge Library cardholders; registration opens one week in advance.

Join us and get crafty in the Library's makerspace!



Suncatcher R

Tuesday,
April 28
4:30 - 5:30 p.m.



Felt Popsicle Keychain R

Tuesday,
May 19
4:30 - 5:30 p.m.

WHAT'S UP IN THE LOFT?

Stay up to date on all things Lofty in our monthly e-newsletter just for t(w)eens!



MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL

R Gravity Falls Trivia

Are you a *Gravity Falls* superfan? Come join us and put your knowledge to the test while having fun with like-minded peers at this trivia event!
Friday, March 13 | 4 p.m.



R Andertoons: Cartoon Castoffs Grades 4 - 8

Oh sure, there's a lot of fun, popular, recognizable cartoon characters, but that's not who we are drawing!
Monday, March 23 | 4 p.m.

R Special Effects Makeup Class

Join GlamBat Studios for a hands-on workshop to learn the tricks of the trade to transform with special effects makeup! Learn how to texturize skin, apply prosthetics and how to master fake blood!
Thursday, March 26 | 3:30 - 5 p.m.



R T(w)een Tasters

Taste and rate snacks from another country, selected by Universal Yums! Check the events page closer to the date of the program to see what country we'll be focusing on.

Make sure you share any dietary restrictions or information when you register.

Fridays: March 27, May 8 | 4 p.m.



R Family Puzzle Challenge | Families

Are you an expert puzzler? Join our jigsaw puzzle challenge with the whole family and see who can complete a 500-piece puzzle first. The winning team gets a prize! *Limit 12 teams. Snacks provided.*
Friday, April 3 | 2 - 4 p.m.

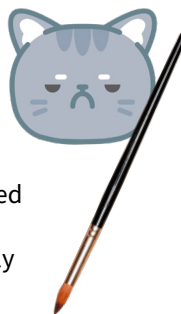
R T(w)een Crochet 101

Join us to learn all you need to know to get started on your crochet journey! Librarian and crochet artist Lynnanne Pearson will lead you through the steps.
Monday, April 6 | 7 p.m.



R T(w)een Paint: Cat Party

Unleash your inner artist (and a little attitude) at this follow-along painting class! We'll guide you step-by-step as you create a Grumpy Cat-inspired painting —think unimpressed whiskers, judgmental eyes, and a party that it absolutely did not ask for. No art experience needed, just come ready to paint, laugh, and give your cat the most dramatic side-eye possible.
All supplies provided.
Friday, April 17 | 4 p.m.



R Decorate a Plant Pot | Grades 4 - 7

Grab your creativity and come join us to decorate a plant pot! Afterwards, grab your library card and check out the Seed Library to choose what to plant.
Friday, April 24
4 p.m.



R The Ocean Adventure | Families

Dive deep at the Library to learn all about the ocean world and marine animals in two different programs.

Monday, April 27

Fishes of the Caribbean Adventure

A funny and fascinating look at how fish play 'hide-n-seek' in the colorful Caribbean coral reef environment!
4 p.m.

Great White Shark Adventure

Learn all about Great White Sharks in this exciting (but not scary) action-packed marine science adventure!
7 p.m.



R Creative Clay

From butterfly figures to potted plants, express your creativity and join us for an afternoon of crafting with air dry clay! No experience needed, prompts and inspiration will be provided to help you on your artistic journey.
Friday, May 22 | 4 p.m.



AVAILABLE TO BORROW IN THE TEEN LOFT

- Lightning Charger
- USB-C Phone Charger
- Chromebook Charger
- Calculator Charger
- Games
- Clicky Fidget
- Squishy Fidget
- Noise Reducing Earmuffs
- Headphones
- iPhone Audio Adapters
- Calculators



Looking for a good book vibe?

Tell us more & we'll make you a personalized list of book recommendations along with some stickers & goodies as a special treat!

BABY, TODDLER & PRESCHOOL

- T** **Merry Music Makers with Miss Megan** | Ages 0 - 5 *with caregiver*
Tickets available 30 minutes before the program. Limit one session per family per month.
Fridays: March 6, April 3, May 8
10 a.m. OR 10:45 a.m.
- T** **STEAM & Snuggles**
Ages 0 - 14 months *with caregiver*
This baby program combines simple STEAM-inspired toys and activities.
Tickets available 30 minutes before the program.
Monday, March 9 | 10 a.m.
- D** **Tot Time Playdate**
Ages 1 - 5 *with caregiver*
Drop in with your toddler to play with toys and connect with friends.
Tuesday, March 10 | 10 a.m.
- R** **Adult & Tot Yoga** | Ages 3 - 5 *with caregiver*
Wednesdays: March 11, April 15, May 20
10 a.m.
- T** **Move & Groove with Twisted Tree Yoga** | Ages 2 and up *with caregiver*
Develop coordination and self-expression through movement and music. *Tickets available 30 minutes before the program.*
Wednesdays: March 11, April 15, May 20
10:45 a.m.
- T** **Developmental Speech Language Playgroup with Assential Therapies**
Ages 18 months - 3 years *with caregiver*
Playtime to promote language development and social skills in a supportive setting. *Tickets available 30 minutes before the program.*
Thursdays: March 12, April 16, May 21
9:30 a.m.
- D** **Bilingual Polish Storytime**
Ages 2 and up *with caregiver*
Zapraszamy na dwujęzyczne spotkanie z opowieściami, piosenkami i zabawami. Enjoy storytime in Polish and English!
Fridays: March 27, April 24 | 10 a.m.

STORYTIME

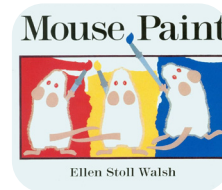
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
T Hello, Baby! Ages 0 - 14 months 9:30 a.m. OR 10:30 a.m. <i>Tickets available 30 minutes before the program.</i>	D 2s & 3s Storytime Ages 2 - 3 9:30 a.m. D Busy Bees Story and Playtime Ages 1 - 3 10:30 a.m.	D 2s & 3s Storytime Ages 2 - 3 9:30 a.m. D Pre-K Storytime Ages 3 - 5 10:30 a.m.	D Busy Bees Story and Playtime Ages 1 - 3 9:30 a.m.

Caregiver must be present. No storytimes are held during the weeks of March 9, April 13, May 18. Check the calendar online or in the Children's Department for dates and alternative programs.

- D** **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!
Thursdays: April 2, May 7 | 10:30 a.m.
- T** **Bubbles & Bounce**
Ages 0 - 14 months *with caregiver*
Float into fun with bubbles, bouncy tunes, and playful movement. *Tickets available 30 minutes before the program.*
Monday, April 13 | 10 a.m.
- D** **Mother Goose and Friends Storytime**
Ages 2 - 5 *with caregiver*
Tuesday, April 14
10 a.m.
- T** **Supported Storytime & Craft with Little Steps** | Ages 3 - 6 *with caregiver*
Hosted by Little Steps Pediatric Therapy, this program targets age-appropriate fine motor and communication skills. *Tickets available 30 minutes before the program. Siblings welcome.*
Thursday, April 23 | 11:30 a.m.



- R** **Explore Colors!**
Ages 2 - 6 *with caregiver*
Join us as we stir up a rainbow of fun—exploring colors through stories and activities.
Tuesday, May 19 | 9:30 a.m.
- D** **Discovery Zone**
Ages 2 - 6 *with caregiver*
Enjoy hands-on early learning fun with your curious kiddos!
Friday, May 22 | 10 a.m.



FAMILIES

- D** **Sensory-Friendly Hour | Families**
Join us in the Children's Department for an adapted, accessible and sensory-friendly Library experience designed to support our neurodivergent friends and their families.
Sundays: March 1, May 3 | 11 a.m. - Noon
- D** **Family Storytime & Craft**
Saturdays: March 14, May 9 | 10:30 a.m.
- R** **Family Puzzle Challenge | Families**
Join our jigsaw puzzle challenge with the whole family and see who can complete a 500-piece puzzle first. The winning team gets a prize! *Limit 12 teams. Snacks provided.*
Friday, April 3 | 2 - 4 p.m.

- R Family Story Stretches**
Families with kids ages 4 - 7
Join us for some stretches and poses inspired by our book.
Saturday, April 11 | 10 a.m.

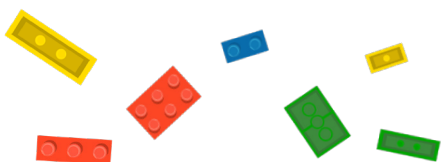
SCHOOL AGE

- R Chess Scholars | Grades K - 8**
Learn chess basics or perfect your skills with Chess Scholars.
Mondays: March 9, April 13, May 11
4 p.m.
- R Read to the Dogs | Grades 1 - 5**
Reserve your space to read to a dog from Rainbow Animal Assisted Therapy.

This program is generously made possible by Marion's Mark. Registration opens one week in advance at time of program.
Wednesdays: March 18, April 22, May 20
15-minute sessions, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
- R Junior RPG Club | Grades 3 - 5**
This intro to role-playing games is perfect for young adventurers looking to take off on their first quests.
Registration opens one week in advance at time of program.
Fridays: March 20, May 15 | 4 - 5:45 p.m.

- R Andertoons**
Monday, March 23
Power Pets | Grades K - 3: Look! Up in the sky! It's a dog! It's a cat? Wait, is that a bearded dragon?! Wearing a cape? Oh, they're Power Pets!! | 2:30 p.m.
Cartoon Castoffs | Grades 4 - 8: Oh sure, there's a lot of fun, popular, recognizable cartoon characters, but that's not who we are drawing! | 4 p.m.

- D LEGOpalooza | Grades K and up**
What can you create with our LEGO bricks?
Tuesdays: March 31, May 5 | 4 p.m.



- R K-Pop Demon Hunters Fan Party**
Grades 3 - 5
Come craft, sing, and play with activities inspired by your favorite demon-hunting idols!
Tuesday, April 7 | 4 p.m.

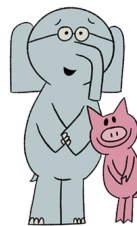


- R Decorate a Plant Pot | Grades 4 - 7**
Grab your creativity and come join us to decorate a plant pot! After, grab your Library card and check out the Seed Library to choose what to plant.
Friday, April 24 | 4 p.m.



- R Oodles of Doodles | Grades K - 2**
Enjoy a story followed by an art project inspired by our book.
Monday, May 4 | 4 p.m.

- R Elephant & Piggie Party**
Grades K - 2
Love Gerald and Piggie? We do too! Come celebrate them with activities full of friendship and fun!
Thursday, May 21 | 4 p.m.



- R Art Masters for Little Learners**
Preschool Teachers and Caregivers
Learn simple, meaningful ways to introduce preschoolers to the great art masters!
Tuesday, April 28 | 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

PRETEND PLAY ZONE

Stop in the play area to see what's new each month!

MARCH	APRIL	MAY
Pizza Parlor 	Flower & Garden Shop 	Grocery Store 

FEATURED EVENTS

Join us at the Library for exciting programs about our amazing planet and the incredible creatures that call it home!

KOHL CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

- Kohl Children's Museum: Animals as Architects | Grades K - 3**
Explore, compare, contrast, and construct animal homes and shelters.
Thursday, March 26 | 1:30 p.m.

- Dave DiNaso's Traveling World of Reptiles | Families**
Join us for an up-close, hands-on presentation featuring reptiles and amphibians from around the world!
Tickets will be available at the Children's Services desk beginning Saturday, April 4.
Saturday, April 18 | 10 a.m.

- Eco Challenge | Grades 3 - 5**
Celebrate Earth Day with a rousing round of recycling bingo. Then show our planet some love by making an upcycled planter.
Monday, April 20 | 4 - 4:45 p.m.



- Pigeon Friends Storytime | Grades K - 2**
Join us for a feather-filled celebration! Hear fun stories, learn cool pigeon facts, and meet real pigeons up close.
Thursday, April 23 | 4 p.m.



- The Ocean Adventure | Families**
Dive deep at the Library to learn all about the ocean world and marine animals in two different programs.
Monday, April 27



- Fishes of the Caribbean Adventure**
A funny and fascinating look at how fish play hide-and-seek in the colorful Caribbean coral reef environment! | 4 p.m.
- Great White Shark Adventure**
Learn all about Great White Sharks in this exciting (but not scary) action-packed marine science adventure! | 7 p.m.



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.

Library Trustees

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 librarydirector@parkridgelibrary.org

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Please note: Library staff may take photos or videos at our programs for use on our website, social media, and other communications. If you do not wish to be photographed, please notify the staff member.



SAVE THE DATE!

June 5 - August 22

Keep an eye on our social media, e-newsletter, and website for details.

Follow us on social media!



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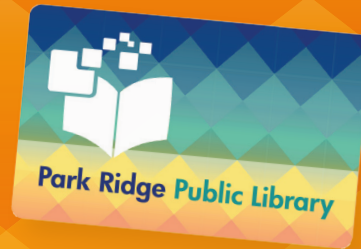
Spring
BOOK SALE

SAVE THE DATE!

**May 1 - 3,
 2026**



**ONE
 CARD,
 ENDLESS
 POSSIBILITIES**



**Sign up today online or at
 the Patron Services desk!**

Borrow things like books, birdwatching kits, and museum passes from the Library's collection, take part in engaging programs, access technology, Wi-Fi, career resources, and more with your library card!