Fall 2026

Programs. Events. Discovery.

THE LIBRARY | DAUPHIN COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

YOUR PLACE TO BELONG

DCLS.ORG

COMPASS



PA FORWARD. | PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARIES



Ethan Long



Matt Phelan

Joan Y. Leopold Children's Book Week
November 8-14, 2026

FREE BOOK TO KEEP!

For families with children of all ages

Join us as we welcome authors Matt Phelan and Ethan Long to The Library. To learn more about the authors, the dates they will be visiting, and more about Children's Book Week, see page 9

Find your direction with The Library

Compass is your guide to discovering events and programming for children, families, teens, and adults.

Our library system contains 8 libraries in Dauphin County, from Hummelstown all the way to Lykens. For your convenience, programs in the lower half of the county are listed in **blue**, programs in the upper half of the county are in **red**, and virtual or hybrid programs are in **green**.

The Library encourages all people to participate in its programs and activities. If you anticipate needing any type of accommodation or have questions about the physical access provided, please call The Library in advance of your participation or visit.

HOW TO REGISTER

DCLS.ORG/EVENTS

Most events with The Library require registration, which is noted in their descriptions. **Visit dcls.org/events, or call 717-234-4961 and choose option 6 to register.** Once you're registered, you'll receive a confirmation email.

For most recurring programs, register once and you're registered for all events following.

For virtual programs, please be sure to include your email address for a library employee to contact you with more information and any links you need to join. If you registered for a recurring virtual program, you'll be contacted weekly with a link to the program.

For all programs, please be sure to include your phone number and/or email address when registering so that The Library can contact you if a program is canceled or changed.

We are excited to welcome you to The Library! If you cannot attend a program for which you have registered, please let us know as early as possible, so we can make sure members waiting for a spot can be notified.

We respect your privacy

The Library sometimes photographs or records at in-person events and programs or takes screenshots at virtual events and programs for publicity purposes. If you'd prefer that you or your children not appear in any photos, videos, or screenshots taken by The Library, please let the leader know prior to the event.

Let us know what you think or suggest a program

Email eventscoordinator@dcls.org or contact us through our website or on social media.

On the cover: Golden retriever posing with MARCO at the Millersburg Cherry Blossom Festival.

Fall 2026

Programs. Events. Discovery.

September

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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27	28	29	30			

October

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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November

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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

SESSION 6 REGISTRATION BEGINS:
Monday, August 31 at 10:00 am

SESSION 6:
Sunday, September 20—Saturday, October 24

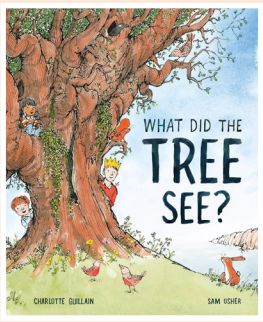
SESSION 7 REGISTRATION BEGINS:
Monday, October 19 at 10:00 am

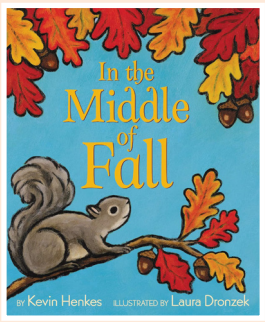
SESSION 7:
Sunday, November 1—Saturday, December 5

LIBRARY CLOSINGS:

Labor Day – Monday, September 7
Staff Enrichment Day – Monday, September 14
Thanksgiving Day – Thursday, November 26
Christmas Eve – Thursday, December 24
Christmas Day – Friday, December 25

Take a StoryWalk® with The Library!





Visit our StoryWalk® locations to read a story together as you walk and play. Stories change seasonally, so come back often!

The Capital Area Greenbelt: Paxtang Parkway
Take Derry St. to Parkway Blvd. to the Paxtang Parkway Parking Lot behind the City Line Diner and follow the Greenbelt north towards Paxtang Commons Park to read *What Did the Tree See?* by Charlotte Guillain and illustrated by Sam Usher.

Ned Smith Center for Nature and Art
Located at 176 Water Company Rd., Millersburg. Take Smitty's Locust Loop trail to read *In the Middle of Fall* by Kevin Henkes and illustrated by Laura Dronzek.

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Stepping Stones to Milestones

Session 6: Sunday, September 20-Saturday, October 24

Registration begins Monday, August 31 at 10:00 am

Session 7: Sunday, November 1-Saturday, December 5

Registration begins Monday, October 19 at 10:00 am

Parents and caregivers, join us for Stepping Stones to Milestones! Learn how to be your child's first teacher and prepare them for success in school.

To accommodate all members, please limit registration(s) for Stepping Stones to Milestones programs to one age-appropriate storytime (Born to Read, Toddler Storytime, or Preschool Storytime) and one All Ages Storytime per child, as needed.



Born to Read

For ages Birth–18 months

ESA: Tuesdays at 9:30 am
EV: Tuesdays at 10:15 am
AFL: Wednesdays at 10:15 am
LOV: Fridays at 10:15 am
ESA: Fridays at 10:30 am

Baby, you are Born to Read! Experience songs and stories together to help your baby learn sounds, language, and a love of books. This program is for parents, grandparents, and caregivers to connect with their babies and each other.

20-30 minutes. Registration is required and limited.



Preschool Storytime

For ages 3–5 years

ESA: Tuesdays at 11:00 am
AFL: Thursdays at 10:15 am
LOV: Thursdays at 10:15 am
EV: Thursdays at 10:15 am
ESA: Fridays at 9:15 am
ND: Fridays at 10:15 am

Songs, rhymes, and stories foster a love of reading and build early learning skills that will help your child succeed. Adults learn tips and tricks to continue teaching at home.

30-40 minutes. Registration is required and limited.



Toddler Storytime

For ages 19–35 months

EV: Mondays at 10:15 am
AFL: Tuesdays at 10:15 am
LOV: Tuesdays at 10:15 am
ESA: Wednesdays at 9:30 am
EV: Wednesdays at 10:15 am
ESA: Wednesdays at 11:00 am
ND: Thursdays at 10:15 am

Give your toddler a foundation for early learning and reading skills. Songs, rhymes, fingerplays, and stories will help your toddler develop a love of reading. Adults will learn tips and tricks to continue the learning at home.

30-40 minutes. Registration is required and limited.



All Ages Storytime

For families with children of all ages

ESA: Mondays at 9:30 am
MOM: Wednesdays at 10:15 am

Children and adults will enjoy books, music, and rhymes. Early learning activities will be modeled for adults so that learning can continue at home and help your child build their skills and succeed at whatever is next.

30 minutes. Registration is required and limited.

Preschool Programs

Tunes and Tales

For ages 3-6 years

ESA: Mondays at 11:00 am (session 6)

Books and music pair up for a fun time in this program. Children will sing, play, and explore rhythm instruments. Basic music vocabulary will be introduced in addition to early literacy learning.

45 minutes. Registration is required and limited.

Down by the Pond

For ages 3-6 years

ESA: Mondays at 11:00 am (session 7)

Preschool children will experience a storytime that features pond life and environments. Books, songs, activities, and crafts will provide a "quacking" good time!

30-45 minutes. Registration is required and limited.

Pathway to Pre-K

For ages 19-35 months

ND: Tuesdays at 10:15 am (session 6)

Join us for an exciting program designed to prepare your toddler for their journey into preschool. Each week will include structured circle times where we explore weather, learn our days of the week, and delve into many stories. In addition to these activities, we will incorporate fun movements to help your child develop motor skills and keep them engaged.

1 hour. Registration is required and limited.

Mathamagical Storytime

For ages 4-6 years

EV: Tuesdays at 11:30 am (session 7)

What happens when you blend fairy tales with mathematical concepts? You get a Mathamagical Storytime! Each week, we will share a story and then explore how math relates to that story. This hands-on program will have children learning about numbers and counting as well as doing measurements and comparisons.

30-45 minutes. Registration is required and limited.

Stories at Sunset

Best for children ages 3 years and older

ESA: Tuesdays, September 8, October 13, November 10, and December 8 at 6:00 pm

Looking for an engaging program for children ages 3 and up? Join us once a month for Stories at Sunset! Families will enjoy a cozy evening of storytelling, poetry, songs, and a themed craft activity. Each craft is designed for children to enjoy, but adults are welcome to join in the fun too. Come create, sing, and share stories with us. We can't wait to see you there!

45 minutes. Registration is required, limited, and separate for each month.

Speech Links to Literacy

For ages 4-5 years

MOM: Fridays, October 16, 23, and 30, November 6, 13, and 20, and December 4 and 11 at 10:30 am



Is your child headed to kindergarten in the fall of 2027? If so, come check out Speech Links to Literacy! Heidi Haas MS, CCC-SLP/L, a speech-language pathologist and Assistant Teaching Professor at Penn State Harrisburg, has partnered with The Library to offer a special storytime focused on speech sound production and early literacy skills. You and your child will participate in activities to promote speech and language skills and learn how to use library books to make reading together at home a fun and rewarding experience. Siblings are welcome to attend! Due to the instructional level of the program, registered children must be at least 4 years of age and preparing to enter kindergarten in fall 2027.

1.5 hours. Registration is required and limited.



Zumbini

For ages 0-4 years

MOM: Thursdays at 10:00 am

MOM: Thursdays at 11:00 am

Zumbini is now at the MOM Library with two chances to participate! Featuring new music and a new storybook, *Kalino Finds the Music* is sure to get you and your little one(s) aged 0-4 years moving and grooving!

Our 8-week series will take you on an imaginary ride to the farm, beach, or jungles of Africa and have you jumping like a kangaroo. We will be singing and dancing about your day-to-day activities and exploring colors, shapes, feelings, and musical instruments! The classes incorporate Spanish and basic baby sign language. You will love the moves and music, but best of all, this series gives you more chances to bond with your little one(s)!

45 minutes. Registration is required and limited.

See page 2 for registration and accommodation instructions and the back cover for library location details.

Family Programs

Parent Early Literacy Workshop

For parents and caregivers of children under 5 years

ESA: Saturday, November 7 at 10:00 am

Parents are their children's first teachers. In this workshop, parents and caregivers will learn about six early literacy skills along with five practices they can use to help their children develop those skills and be ready to read. Learning to read begins at birth and so does the impact of providing an early literacy-rich environment.

This program is designed for parents and caregivers who want to learn more about early childhood literacy. Children are welcome to attend, but childcare will not be provided.

2 hours. Registration is required and limited.



Once Upon a Rainbow

For families with children 10 years and under

MOM: Wednesdays, September 2, October 7, November 4, and December 2 at 5:00 pm

Once Upon a Rainbow is now at The Library! Join us for stories and crafts that celebrate LGBTQ+ families and diversity of all kinds. Snacks provided!

45 minutes. Registration is required, limited, and separate each month.

A Grand Storytime

For families with children of all ages

EV: Saturday, September 19 at 11:00 am

JOH: Monday, September 21 at 5:30 pm

MOM: Thursday, October 15 at 5:00 pm

AFL: Thursday, October 22 at 5:30 pm

Join us at The Library for a very grand storytime! We invite you to bring your grandparents or a special grown-up to share in an hour of captivating stories, joyful songs, and a fun-filled craft activity. This is a wonderful opportunity to bond with your loved ones, creating cherished memories that will last a lifetime. Mark your calendars and come join us for a grand storytime!

1 hour. Registration is required and limited.



Drive-In Movie

For children ages 3-7 years and their families

ND: Tuesday, October 20 at 5:00 pm

ESA: Thursday, November 12 at 6:00 pm

LOV: Tuesday, November 24 at 4:00 pm

The weather may be too chilly to put the top down and watch a true drive-in style movie, but we can make our own fun...and our own cars! Using materials available, participants can decorate their own "cars." Then, we'll watch some seasonal short stories. Popcorn provided!

1 hour. Registration is required and limited.

Dance Me a Story

Best for ages 3 to 9 years, but families with children of all ages are welcome

AFL: Saturday, November 7 at 10:30 am

Dance with the 2026 Studio 22 Nutcracker Cast as we bring the beloved and timeless classic ballet to life. Dancing feet required! Ideal for ages 3-9 years, although younger siblings will also enjoy the music and movement.

Throughout this creative movement and storytelling dance workshop, we will make our way through the story of *The Nutcracker*. Participants will meet Clara and Fritz at their holiday party, battle the Mouse King, sail to the Land of Sweets, and meet the Sugar Plum Fairy! Your tiny dancer will learn that, in ballet, the dancer is trained to act out the story with movement instead of words.

1 hour. Registration is required and limited.



STUDIO 22 •DANCE ACADEMY•

Raising the Barre

Family Programs

Firearm Safety with BlackShark LLC

For families with children of all ages

ND: Saturday, September 12 at 11:00 am

LOV: Saturday, October 17 at 11:00 am

EV: Saturday, November 21 at 11:00 am

This program is designed to promote safe, responsible, and informed practices for households where firearms may be present. It will provide foundational knowledge and practical guidance to help prevent accidents and create a culture of safety. This is intended for families, caregivers, and individuals seeking to enhance safety awareness and create a secure home environment. With prizes and refreshments for participants, come learn how to keep your loved ones safe.

Part 1: Foundations of Firearm Safety

The first part of the course introduces essential firearm safety principles and basic awareness. Participants will learn the core safety rules that guide responsible handling, develop an understanding of different types of firearms, and build habits to reduce risk. Emphasis is placed on awareness, proper behavior, and age-appropriate safety messages.

Part 2: Safe Storage and Responsible Ownership

The second part focuses on practical strategies for keeping firearms secure and preventing unauthorized access. Topics include safe storage solutions, household risk prevention, and responsible ownership practices. Participants also explore real-world scenarios and learn how to respond safely if encountering an unsecured firearm. We will explore the hard questions and discussions. There are no "one-size-fits-all" answers. Instead, we help families set expectations, build trust, and create a culture of safety.

1.5 hours. Registration is required and limited.

Exploring PA with The State Museum of Pennsylvania

For families with children ages 10 years and under

LOV: Wednesdays, September 16, October 14, November 18, and December 9 at 12:00 pm

Join us as we welcome The State Museum to The Library! The State Museum is all about Pennsylvania. Explore topics related to Pennsylvania history, natural history, art, and science. Museum educators will provide instruction, hands-on opportunities, and activities. Each month, you can explore a different aspect of Pennsylvania, from learning about our state tree to celebrating William Penn's birthday (with cake!).

The State Museum of Pennsylvania
Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

September: Daily Life in Revolutionary Pennsylvania
October: Party Like It's 1644! Happy Birthday, William Penn
November: The Eastern Wild Turkey
December: Pennsylvania's Tree: The Eastern Hemlock

45 minutes. Registration is required, limited, and separate for each month.

School Age Programs

Paws 2 Read

For ages 6-11 years

ESA: Mondays, September 21, October 5 and 19, and November 2, 16, and 30 at 6:00 pm

AFL: Mondays, September 28, October 12 and 26, November 9 and 23, and December 7 at 5:30 pm

EV: Wednesdays, September 23, October 7 and 21, November 4 and 18, and December 2 at 5:00 pm

Paws 2 Read encourages children of all reading levels to read to the easiest and most willing audience—a dog. Each attendee will read to a registered therapy dog for 15 minutes by appointment. Reading sessions will be held outside as weather permits.

1.5 hours (ESA), 1 hour (AFL and EV). 15-minute appointments. Registration is required and limited.

Scan to register!



Batmania!

For ages 6-12 years

LOV: Tuesday, October 6 at 4:30 pm

ESA: Thursday, October 8 at 6:00 pm

AFL: Thursday, October 15 at 5:30 pm

ND: Tuesday, November 3 at 5:00 pm

Do you love seeing bats flying at night? Come to The Library and find out why bats are so important for our ecosystem. You will make a bat cave to take home and play a game to learn how bats use their strong sense of smell. Use your bat wings to fly over and join us!

1 hour. Registration is required and limited.

The Case of the Shaky Egg Heist!

For ages 6-12 years

MOM: Thursday, October 1 at 4:30 pm

EV: Wednesday, October 14 at 5:00 pm

Follow the clues to determine which Youth Services storyteller stole the shaky eggs. Dust for fingerprints, analyze footprints, and solve coded clues to figure out the culprit!

1 hour. Registration is required and limited.

Tween and Teen Programs



Bring Your Own Book Club

For ages 13-18 years

EV: Tuesdays at 5:00 pm (session 6)

Join us for an evening of reading, conversation, and snacks! Bring the book you are currently reading and share your thoughts or just read with friends. In a reading rut? Come learn what others are reading and see if anything sparks your interest. Snacks provided.

1 hour. Registration is required and limited.

Craft-tween-ess Club

For ages 10-15 years

EV: Tuesdays at 5:00 pm (session 7)

For our tween-aged crafters! Join a group of creative kids to improve your crafting skills and make some cool pieces to display or gift.

1 hour. Registration is required and limited.

Junk Journaling

For ages 12-18 years

LOV: Wednesdays at 4:00 pm (session 6 and 7)

Come and create a fun journal with us. You can use all types of materials, such as stickers, photos, fabric, art, old book pages, and more to reflect your amazingly unique personality. Embrace your creative side!

1 hour. Registration is required and limited.

Teen Zine Club

For teens 12-18 years

MOM: Tuesdays at 4:00 pm (sessions 6 and 7)

Get creative and express yourself with personalized zines! Zines (short for magazines) are miniature publications about your passions and interests. Zines can be artistic, political, silly, or serious. Use words and art to share with the world what matters most to you. No previous experience or drawing ability necessary. A light snack will be provided.

1 hour. Registration is required and limited.

Bad Art Club

For ages 13-18 years

AFL: Mondays, September 21, October 5 and 19, and November 16 and 30 at 5:00 pm

Good art? Who needs it! Calling all teens who love art, crafting, or hanging out and getting creative. Come explore multiple mediums, learn from your peers or professionals, and get out of your creative comfort zone in a chill environment. The joy of Bad Art Club is in the name—you don't need to make Good Art to have a Good Time!

1.5 hours. Registration is required, limited, and separate for each date.

Anime Club

For ages 13-18 years

ESA: Thursdays at 4:00 pm (sessions 6 and 7)

Join us at the East Shore Area Library to discuss your favorite anime and manga with other fans! We'll also explore Japanese culture through crafts, food, and more.

1.5 hours. Registration is required and limited.

Tween Dungeons and Dragons

For ages 10-12 years

AFL: Tuesdays at 4:30 pm (sessions 6 and 7)

Adventure? Check. Monsters? Check. An unlikely group of swashbuckling adventurers? That's where you come in. Join us on Tuesdays to battle some of the worst monstrosities that the fantasy world has to offer. We need you. No...the world needs you.

1 hour. Registration is required and limited.



Dungeons and Dragons for Teens

For ages 13-18 years

MOM: Saturdays, September 26, October 10 and 24, November 14 and 28, and December 12 at 11:00 am

Dungeons and Dragons is now in person at the MOM Library! Join us every other Saturday for unusual NPCs, dangerous encounters, thrilling combat, and endless exploration. Never played D&D before? That's okay! Our Library's Guild is perfect for newcomers and veterans alike. Each week, you'll work as a team to choose a quest, complete the job, uncover more about the world, and most importantly, score new loot. What are you waiting for? It's time to roll!

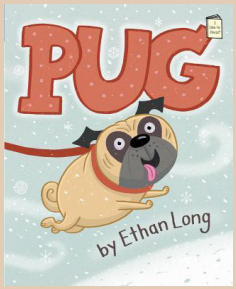
2 hours. Registration is required and limited.

Children's Book Week! November 8-14, 2026

Joan Y. Leopold Children's Book Week

Ethan Long





Every family receives a FREE signed copy!

For families with children of all ages
ESA: Thursday, November 12 at 10:30 am
AFL: Thursday, November 12 at 5:00 pm
EV: Friday, November 13 at 4:30pm

Ethan Long is an award-winning and internationally recognized creator of children's books, television, and digital media. He is the Emmy-nominated creator of *Scribbles and Ink*, now a game and video series on PBSKids.org and in development for television with WGBH. He also created *Tasty Time with Zefronk*, which aired on Disney Channel and Disney Junior from 2008 to 2011.

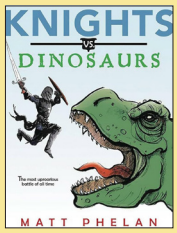
In publishing, Ethan is the author and/or illustrator of over 140 titles, including *Up! Tall! and High!* (winner of the Theodor Seuss Geisel Award), *Fright Club*, *Hoggy at Bat*, the *Happy County* series, and *The Death and Life of Benny Brooks*, his acclaimed middle-grade memoir. He also illustrates beloved series such as *Stick Dog*, *Junior Monster Scouts*, and *Good Night, Good Night, Construction Site*.

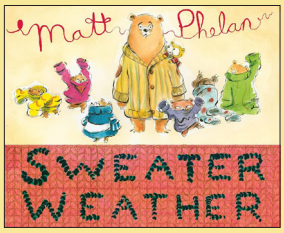
Ethan lives in NYC with his wife, Heather, where he spends his days drawing, writing, cooking, and walking with his dog, Auggie.

1 hour. Registration is required and limited. For more information, visit dcls.org/CBW

Matt Phelan







Every family receives a FREE signed copy!

For families with children of all ages
LOV: Saturday, November 14 at 10:15 am
ND: Saturday, November 14 at 12:30 pm

Matt Phelan is an award-winning, *New York Times*-bestselling author/illustrator of picture books, middle grade novels, and graphic novels for young readers. Recent books include, *Leave It to Plum!* and its sequels, *The Sheep, The Rooster, and The Duck*, the *Knights VS Dinosaurs* trilogy, and the picture books *Sweater Weather* and *Turtle Walk*. He is also the illustrator of picture books by authors such as Linda Sue Park, Jeanne Birdsall, and Jane Yolen. Matt's latest picture book is *Bartleby*.

1 hour. Registration is required and limited. For more information, visit dcls.org/CBW



Joan Y. Leopold Children's Book Week Celebration

This Children's Book Week Celebration is made possible by the Joan Y. Leopold Endowment Fund. Joan Y. Leopold, a life long resident of Dauphin County, served as a board member of the Dauphin County Library System for more than 20 years. A tireless advocate for both child and adult literacy, her belief that reading opens a world of education and imagination lives on in her family, students and all those she touched through her efforts.

Joan Y. Leopold
Children's Book Week

Including You...

OCTOBER | Family History Month

Genealogy Fair

For ages 18+ years

ESA: Saturday, October 10 at 10:00 am

Come explore your family history at our second annual Genealogy Fair! During this event, you will have the opportunity to hear genealogy experts discuss the latest in genealogy tools that will help you break through your "wall" and find the next link in your search. Book an afternoon appointment with a reference librarian to ask personalized questions and seek help tracing your family tree.

6 hours. Registration is required and separate for each fair event.

Rhonda R. McClure: *Resources for Pennsylvania Genealogy*

ESA: Saturday, October 10 at 10:30 am

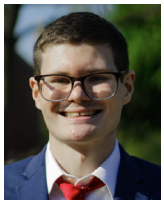


Pennsylvania has played a significant role in America's history. Lucky for those with ancestral ties to the Keystone State, there is a wealth of information available to researchers, ranging from the seventeenth century to present day. In this lecture, Rhonda R. McClure, senior genealogist with American Ancestors, will provide an overview of what resources exist, what information is recorded, and how to access those materials.

1 hour. Registration is required.

Eric Schubert: From Family Trees to Cold Cases: Genealogy in Practice

ESA: Saturday, October 10 at 1:00 pm



Join genetic genealogist and public historian Eric Schubert, ES Genealogy, for the story of how a childhood fascination with family history grew into a career helping identify unknown victims and solve decades-old cold cases. Eric will take audiences behind the scenes of investigations including Pennsylvania's oldest cold case, Marise Chiverella, and other local cases such as Edna Laughman, showing how traditional genealogy and modern DNA research work together to answer questions that once seemed impossible. Along the way, you'll pick up practical tips you can use in your own research.

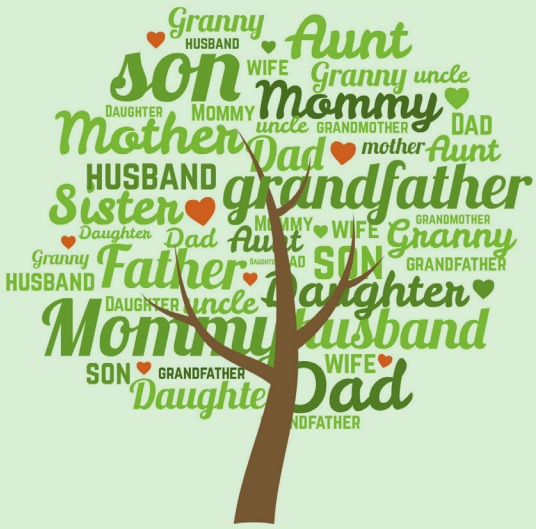
1 hour. Registration is required.

Personal Genealogy Consultation

ESA: Saturday, October 10 at 2:00 pm

Join us for a one-on-one, in-person genealogy session tailored just for you! In this focused session, you can ask questions about getting started with family research, explore how to use tools like MyHeritage and FamilySearch, discover Pennsylvania-specific resources, and learn how to tap into library services for your genealogy journey. We'll cover essential tips and suggest next steps—perfect for beginners or those looking to broaden their search. Please note: questions needing advanced expertise on a single topic may be outside this session's scope, but we'll always help you find the next best place to look!

2 hours. 20-minute appointments. Registration is required and limited.



Discover Genealogy Resources at Your Library and Beyond

For ages 18+ years

AFL: Thursday, October 8 at 5:00 pm

Family history research doesn't have to be overwhelming—or expensive! Join us for a workshop designed for genealogists at every level. We'll take a tour of the genealogy resources available through the library (you might be surprised what's already at your fingertips!) and explore some of the best free tools available online. Whether you're just getting started or you've been at this for years, you're sure to discover something new. Feel free to bring your laptop or mobile device so you can explore along with us!

1.5 hours. Registration is required.

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER | Hispanic Heritage Month

A Taste of Puerto Rico with Koki Latin Cuisine

For all ages

ESA: Saturday, September 26 at 2:30 pm

Join us as we welcome Chef Eli Rodriguez of Koki Latin Cuisine for a tour of Puerto Rico's diverse cultural identity through food. Discover where these foods come from, the history of why they are important, and a bit of practical advice on food affordability. The menu will include chicken and rice, lentil stew, and tostones. This program could contain allergens, including but not limited to dairy, gluten, soy, peanuts, and tree nuts. For a complete list of ingredients, please contact The Library.

1 hour. Registration is required and limited.

OCTOBER | LGBT History Month

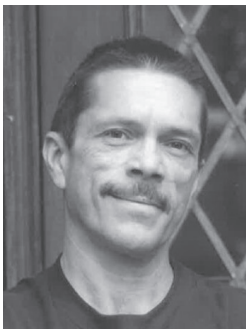
How to Survive a Plague

For ages 18+ years

MOM: Saturday, October 17 at 11:00 am

In observance of LGBT History Month, The Library and the LGBT Center of Central PA History Project will screen the documentary *How to Survive a Plague*. The documentary captures the struggles and unity of the LGBT community amidst the AIDs epidemic in the US and the fight for the cure to save lives. The film will be introduced by local writer-journalist Frank Pizzoli, known widely for covering HIV in print publications. Light refreshments will be provided. Pizzoli will be available to answer questions about Central PA's response to the AIDS epidemic for 20 minutes following the film.

2.5 hours. Registration is required.



Writer-Journalist Frank Pizzoli has a deep experience in covering HIV in print publications. He's written on the topic for *POZ Magazine*, *Body Positive*, *Instinct Magazine*, *Positively Aware*, and *HIV Plus*. The early AIDS and queer movement years are covered in his book, *Passionate Outlier: Gay Writers and Allies on Their Work*.

NOVEMBER | Native American Heritage Month

Native Storytelling with Dovie Thomason

Best for families with children under 8 years, but families with children of all ages are welcome

ESA: Thursday, November 5 at 11:00 am

EV: Saturday, November 7 at 11:00 am

Join The Library as we welcome back nationally recognized and award-winning storyteller Dovie Thomason, who will share stories from her Indigenous elders, family teachings, and kitchen-table wisdom. Her personal stories of Indigenous history will delight, entertain, and educate caregivers and children of all ages.

45 minutes. Registration is required and limited.



Drawing from her Lakota, Apache, and Scot Traveller backgound, Dovie has been a steward of Indigenous history and stories throughout her life. She has been featured at countless prominent global events, including the Kennedy Center, the National Museum of the American Indian, the Smithsonian, Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, and festivals from Tennessee to Estonia and from New Zealand to New Mexico. She has shared storytelling as an Artist-in-Education on many state rosters for over thirty years. She is a recipient of the National Storytelling Network's Circle of Excellence award and the Wordcraft Circle of Native Writers' Traditional Storyteller Award.

See page 2 for registration and accommodation instructions and the back cover for library location details.

LAMA

LAMA
Local Authors Making An Appearance



Local Authors Making an Appearance

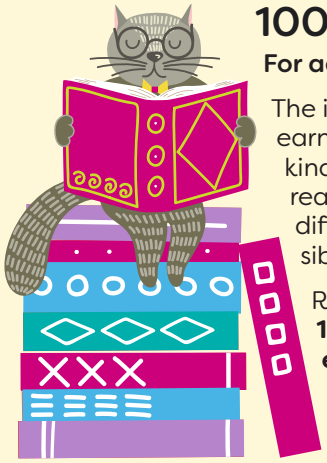
For all ages

ESA: Saturday, October 3 at 11:00 am

This program will feature six local authors, each providing short talks about their work, opportunities for one-on-one engagement, book browsing, and sales.

3 hours. Registration is not required.

Reading Challenges



1000 Books Before Kindergarten

For ages 0–5 years

The idea is simple: build a daily reading habit with your child, log your reading, and earn prizes! Register your infant, toddler, or preschooler any time before they start kindergarten and start reading. Log the books you read. What counts towards your reading? **EVERYTHING!** You can read the same book 1000 times or you can read 1000 different books. You can hear books at The Library's storytimes and they count. An older sibling or grandparent can read, and it still counts!

Read three books a day and you'll be done in less than a year! **Earn a prize book at 100 books, 500 books, and 1000 books, and sign our wall of readers at your library every time you hit a 100-book milestone.**

Register today on Beanstack at **dcls.beanstack.org.** Pick up a paper log at any library, or log your reading online with the Beanstack Tracker app.



Yearlong Reading **Marathon** 2026

For ages 18+ years

January 1 to December 31, 2026

Ever wanted to run a marathon, but 26.2 miles just seemed so... long? Now you can read a marathon! This year, we're bringing you an even bigger, yearlong reading challenge—just make sure to pace yourself. Read 26 books in 2026 (don't worry, we'll forgive you the .2) to complete the challenge, become a bronze medalist, and earn a prize. But your momentum doesn't have to stop there: read 35 books total to become a silver medalist, or show us your grit and read 50 books this year to become a gold medal champion.

Register today on Beanstack at **dcls.beanstack.org.**

Spooky Season Movies Reading Challenge



For all ages

October 1 - October 31

Dare to enter the Spooky Season Movies Reading Challenge, where each book you read, movie you watch, and activity you do unlocks a spine-tingling badge. Earn the eerie badges before the clock strikes midnight on Halloween night to earn bingo! Each member who completes their Bingo Card is entered to win spook-tacular prizes. Learn more at **dcls.beanstack.org.**

Winter Reading Challenge

For all ages

December 1 – February 28

Cozy up with The Library's Winter Reading Challenge! Track your reading, write reviews, and create fun picture reviews to earn points. Each point brings you closer to completing the challenge and earning a special prize! Learn more at **dcls.beanstack.org.**



Adult Programs

Harrisburg Zine Fest

For all ages

Bruce E. Cooper Student Center, HACC Campus (1 HACC Drive, Harrisburg)
Saturday, September 12 at 11:00 am

Zines (stemming from magazine) are short, self-published booklets, that are easy to reproduce and distribute. These publications can be by anyone and about anything. Folks from across PA will join to express themselves, share ideas, and build community. We'll have workshops to learn where zines come from and how to make them. This event is open to all ages and is free to attend.

3 hours. Registration is not required.









Food for the Soul: Screening and Director Talk-Back

For ages 18+ years

ESA: Saturday, September 12 at 2:30 pm

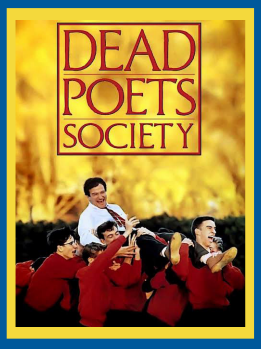
Join us for a screening of *Food for the Soul* and a talk-back with director Chisom Chieke in this collaboration by The Library and The Harrisburg Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Food for the Soul is a powerful story that explores the beauty, challenges, and resilience of Black love through a comedic lens. This story follows a couple navigating the challenges of their relationship while balancing personal ambitions and family pressures.

2 hours. Registration is required.

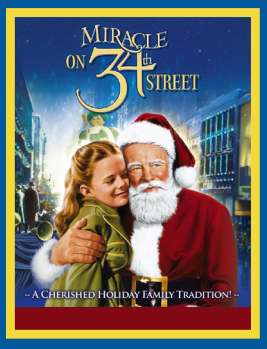
Chisom Chieke is an Igbo-American multimedia artist and second-generation storyteller with a lifelong passion for narrative. She writes, directs, and produces work that examines the past, present, and future of radical love, acceptance, and growth across Black diasporic communities.

EAST SHORE CINEMA









East Shore Cinema

Ages vary (see movie details)

ESA: Monthly in September, October, November and December

Find adventure on the big screen at East Shore Cinema—enjoy a free movie showing, with snacks and popcorn included! From classic movies to horror flicks, romantic revues, and seasonal fun, there's always something new (or old!) to see.

Sunday, September 20 at 2:00 pm: *Dead Poets Society* (1989, rated PG, 2hr 9m, for ages 13+ years)

Saturday, October 10 at 3:00 pm: *Fantastic Mr. Fox* (2009, rated PG, 1h 27m, for ages 7+ years)

Wednesday, November 11 at 2:00 pm: *Planes, Trains & Automobiles* (1987, rated R, 1h 33m, for ages 18+ years)

Sunday, December 13 at 2:00 pm: *Miracle on 34th Street* (1947, rated G, 1h 36m, for ages 5+years)

Program length varies based on movie run-time. Registration is required and separate for each movie.

Adult Programs

Knit One, Crochet Too!

For ages 15+ years at LOV and ND

For ages 18+ years at AFL

AFL: Tuesdays, September 29, October 20, and November 24 at 5:30 pm

LOV: Saturdays, September 12, November 21, and December 12 at 10:30 am

ND: Wednesdays, September 9, October 21, and November 18 at 5:30 pm



Whether you can whip up a sweater in a day or you don't know a knitting needle from a crochet hook, this class is for you. Gather your supplies and join us for a bit of learning and conversation. Limited supplies will also be on hand for anyone who wants to try it out.

1.5 hours at LOV. 1 hour at AFL and ND. Registration is required and separate for each month.

The Stitch Sitch

For ages 18+ years

EV: Thursdays, September 24 and October 22 at 5:00 pm

Whether your sewing skills are superb, so-so, or you're just starting out, The Stitch Sitch is the group for you. This monthly open-sew session is a place to hang out, sew, and share tips and tricks with others. We will have basic materials (including a couple of sewing machines) during the program, but feel free to bring your own supplies and/or whatever you're working on.

1.5 hours. Registration is required and separate for each month.

Mixed Media Journaling

For ages 18+ years

LOV: Thursday, October 22 at 5:30 pm

Welcome to Mixed Media Journaling! Join us for a fun and creative session where we'll craft beautiful, expressive spreads and bring your ideas to life on the page. Bring your own supplies or start from scratch—this workshop is all about exploring your unique art style and letting your creativity flow. All skill levels are welcome. Come create, experiment, and make something uniquely yours!

1.5 hours. Registration is required.

Upcycled Crafting

For ages 18+ years

JOH: Wednesday, September 23 and Tuesday, December 1 at 6:00 pm

ND: Thursday, December 10 at 5:30 pm

Join us for some creative crafting and transform everyday items into unique, upcycled art. September's project will be fall fabric-covered books or pumpkins. In December, we'll create snow globes. All supplies will be provided.

1 hour. Registration is required and separate for each date.

Craft Café

For ages 15+ years

EV: Thursdays, September 10, October 8, November 12, and December 10 at 5:00 pm

Join our staff at the Elizabethville Area Library for some relaxing crafting. In September, we're making wood and nail string art words. In October, we'll make tic-tac-toe boards with air dry clay. For November, we'll do embroidery kits. In December, we'll be making no-sew "quilted" ball ornaments. All materials will be provided.

2 hours. Registration is required and separate for each month.

Ceramic Painting

For ages 18+ years

LOV: Tuesdays, September 29 and October 27 at 4:30 pm



Summer is ending, and it's time to transplant your garden joy from outdoors to inside. Join us to paint beautiful ceramics and introduce an autumnal accent to your home.
September Project: Mushroom houses
October Project: Gnomes

1.5 hours. Registration is required and separate for each date.

Get Crafty at MOM

For ages 18+ years

MOM: Thursdays, September 24, October 29, and November 19 at 3:30 pm

Channel your inner artist into a crafty project each month at Madeline L. Olewine Memorial Library.
September Project: Stained Glass Bookmarks
October Project: Popsicle Stick Spider Webs
November Project: DIY Ornaments

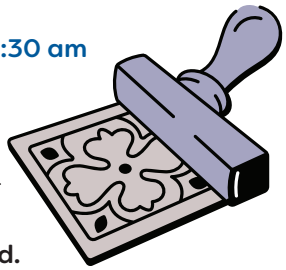
1 hour. Registration is required and separate for each date.

Adult Programs

Linocut Card Carving

For ages 18+ years

AFL: Saturday, October 3 at 10:30 am



Ever dreamed of designing your own winter card? Join Kjersti from Cat Coven to create a lino block for use in printing your own holiday cards.

2 hours. Registration is required.

Weekday Getaway

For ages 18+ years

EV: Thursdays, September 3, October 1, November 5, and December 3 at 12:00 pm

JOH: Wednesdays, September 16, October 14, November 18, and December 16 at 4:30 pm

Take time out of your busy schedule and unwind at The Library. We'll provide coloring pages, puzzles, and other low-stress activities to enjoy. Light refreshments provided.

1.5 hours. Registration is not required.

Crafting with Citrus

For ages 18+ years

AFL: Saturday, December 5 at 11:00 am

Tap into the magic of holiday scents by crafting either a garland from spices and slices of dried citrus or creating pomanders from cloves and carved citrus.

1.5 hours. Registration is required.

Build Your Own Succulent Garden

For ages 18+ years

LOV: Friday, November 6 at 3:30 pm

Are you already anticipating the return of the winter blahs? Studies have shown that plants reduce stress and promote a sense of well-being. Low maintenance plants like succulents are a great way to get this benefit, regardless of your gardening skills. We'll have all the substrates, plants, and decor you need to craft your perfect mini-oasis—just bring your own container.



1 hour. Registration is required.

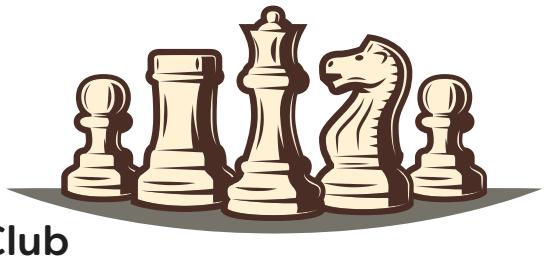
DIY Whipped Body Lotion

For ages 18+ years

AFL: Saturday, November 14 at 11:00 am

A hands-on workshop where participants create a rich, creamy herbal lotion while learning about skin-supportive herbs and natural ingredients.

1 hour. Registration is required.



Chess Club

For ages 18+ years

MOM: Saturdays, September 5, October 3, November 7, and December 5 at 11:00 am

ESA: Wednesdays, September 9, October 7, and December 9 at 12:00 pm

Whether you're brand new to the game or already familiar with the moves, join us for an engaging session of strategy and fun! Learn the basics, sharpen your skills, and enjoy friendly matches with other adult players in a relaxed, welcoming environment. Chess sets will be provided, and all experience levels are encouraged to attend. Attendees are encouraged to show up any time during the program to participate.

1.5 hours. Registration is required and separate for each date.

Mah Jongg Club

For ages 18+ years

ESA: Fridays, September 4, October 2, November 6, and December 11 at 9:30 am

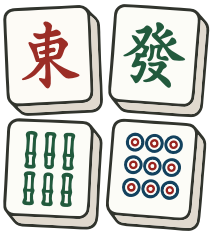
Looking for a place to practice your American Mah Jongg skills? Join us for Mah Jongg club monthly. This group is appropriate for those comfortable with basic gameplay through experts. Because this game requires four players per table, please update your registration as soon as possible if you are unable to attend.

2 hours. Registration is required and separate for each date.

Learn to Play Mah Jongg

For ages 18+ years

ESA: Wednesdays, September 9, 16, 23, and 30 and October 7 at 9:30 am



Can't tell your bams from your dots? The Library has you covered. Join us for an introduction to American Mah Jongg for absolute beginners. We'll start with tile basics and hand identification and work up to playing with increasing independence. If you have previously taken this course, please sign up for Mah Jongg Club.

2 hours. Registration is required, and participants are expected to attend all 5 dates.

Adult Programs

Lively Minds: Candle Making Workshop

For ages 18+ years

EV: Saturday, November 14 at 10:30 am

Learn the art of candle making with Moonrise Candle Co.! Participants will create their own fragrance and pour their own candle to keep. While waiting for the candles to set, we'll design matchstick boxes with paint and decoupage. All materials will be provided.

2 hours. Registration is required.

Elizabethville Library Lively Minds Series is made possible by the Carole DeSoto Endowment with support by the Friends of Elizabethville Library and benefactor Jane C. Esterline.

Ace That Job App

For ages 18+ years

MRL: Mondays, September 28, October 12, November 9, and December 14 at 11:00 am

MOM: Mondays, September 21 and November 16 at 2:00 pm

Struggling with job applications or a resume? We can help! If filling out job applications or constructing a resume feels overwhelming, don't worry—our staff is here to guide you through the basics and help you take that next step toward employment. No appointment needed—just stop by! Help is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

2 hours. Registration is not required.

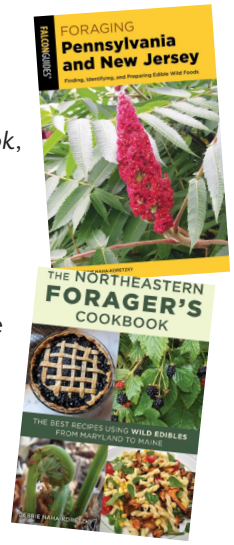
Foraging Wild Edibles

For ages 18+ years

MOM: Thursday, September 17 at 5:30 pm

Join us for an enlightening talk with Debbie Naha-Koretzky, the Wild Edibles Lady! Author of *Foraging Pennsylvania and New Jersey* and *The Northeastern Forager's Cookbook*, Debbie will share how to identify edible plants growing in the wild. A Licensed Dietitian Nutritionist and Master Naturalist, she brings expert insight into the world of wild foods. Weather permitting, Debbie will take the group on a tour of wild edibles around the library.

1 hour. Registration is required.





Happy Birthday, John Prine!

For ages 18+ years

EV: Saturday, October 24 at 11:30 am

Honor the life and legacy of John Prine (1946-2020) during his birthday month with music, images, and storytelling presented by Dr. Doug Morris of West Chester University. Known as the "Mark Twain of American songwriting," Prine penned signature songs such as "Angel from Montgomery" and "Hello in There" and greatly influenced other famous musicians such as Bob Dylan and Johnny Cash. Prine received a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award in early 2020.

2 hours. Registration is required.

Medicare 101

For ages 18+ years

LOV: Tuesday, September 22 at 4:00 pm

ND: Tuesday, September 29 at 5:30 pm

Pennsylvania Medicare Education and Decision Insight

This seminar by PA MEDI provides an overview of Medicare. Medicare Parts A, B, C, and D will be reviewed along with comparisons between Medicare Advantage and Medicare Supplement Plans. Enrollment timeframes and programs that are available to help beneficiaries save money will also be reviewed.

PA MEDI is a State Health Insurance Assistance Program that provides free Medicare counseling to people in Pennsylvania. PA MEDI counselors are specially trained to answer questions and provide objective, unbiased, easy-to-understand information about Medicare options.

1 hour. Registration is required.

Adult Programs

Blood Drive

For ages 17+ years

AFL: Friday, September 4 at 11:00 am

The Red Cross is partnering with The Library to accept blood donations. You must be at least 17 years old or 16 years old with parental consent to donate. Donors are encouraged to sign up for time slots in advance, but walk-ins are welcome!

4.5 hours. Please call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter DCLS to schedule an appointment.

Gentle Yoga with Plant Family

For ages 18+ years

AFL: Saturdays, September 12 and October 10 at 10:00 am

Join long-time massage therapist and yoga teacher Sara Rose Bryant for a one-hour gentle yoga class focused on somatic awareness, long-held therapeutic stretches, breathwork, and calming the nervous system. After class, we'll have a 30-minute tea and social time to gently integrate your practice and re-enter your day feeling refreshed. Bring your own yoga mat or borrow one from The Library. All other props will be provided as needed.



1.5 hours. Registration is required and separate for each date.

Extinction of the Passenger Pigeon

For ages 18+ years

AFL: Saturday, September 5 at 11:00 am

How did one of the most common birds in the world go extinct? L.A. Daly, the executive director of The Manada Conservancy, will discuss the fascinating history of the passenger pigeon, once the most abundant bird in North America.

1 hour. Registration is required.

Pigment of Your Imagination

For ages 18+ years

ESA: Wednesday, September 16 at 5:30 pm

You don't have to imagine you're an artist, because you are one! At least, for a few hours. Join us for artist workshops taught by local artists, and turn your imagination into beautiful art. Each program, we will try different art mediums, and you can quit imagining and just do. Refreshments will be provided. All learners are welcome.

September 16: Watercolor Sunflowers with Shelly Lipscomb Echeverria

2 hours. Registration is required.



Limelight on Local Artists



October-December Exhibition

Meet & Greet Artist Reception

For all ages

ESA: Saturday, October 10 at 2:00 pm

In partnership with the Lower Paxton Township Arts Council, we invite you to The Library to meet two local artists whose work will be displayed and in the limelight this fall! Light refreshments will be served.

2 hours. Registration is not required. Artwork on display is available for purchase. Sales will occur between the seller and buyer. Ask library staff for more details.

Partnership Program

LOWER PAXTON TOWNSHIP ARTS COUNCIL

Book Clubs

Books on Tap

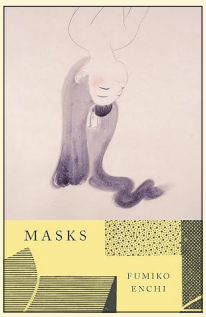
For ages 21+ years

Rubber Soul Brewing Company (136 S. Hanover Street, Hummelstown): Tuesdays, September 8, November 10, and December 8 at 6:00 pm

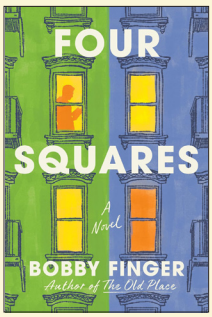
Books on Tap is a book club that meets on the second Tuesday of the month at Rubber Soul Brewing Company in Hummelstown. Enjoy lively discussion and great beer with fellow book lovers!

September Pick: *Masks* by Fumiko Enchi
November Pick: *Four Squares* by Bobby Finger
December Pick: *Hogfather* by Terry Pratchett
1 hour. Registration is required and separate for each month. No purchase is necessary to attend.

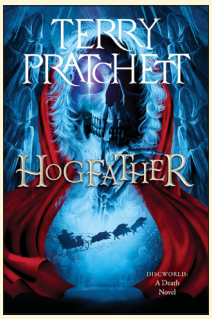
SEPTEMBER



NOVEMBER



DECEMBER



Fluff & Stuff

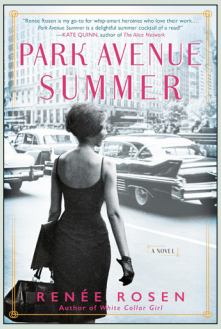
For ages 18+ years

ND: Thursdays, September 24, October 22, and November 19 at 4:00 pm

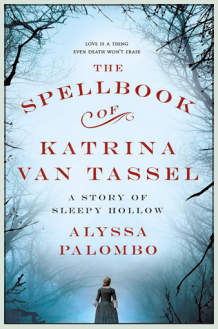
Join us for our book club at Northern Dauphin Library, where we'll read lighter fare ranging from humorous rom-coms to spine-tingling suspenses and wonderfully witchy adventures. We'll meet monthly for fun, lively discussions and light refreshments.

September Pick: *Park Avenue Summer* by Renée Rosen
October Pick: *The Spellbook of Katrina Van Tassel* by Alyssa Palombo
November Pick: *The Spellshop* by Sarah Beth Durst
1 hour. Registration is required and separate for each month.

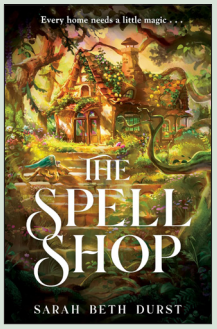
SEPTEMBER



OCTOBER



NOVEMBER



Sip and Speak

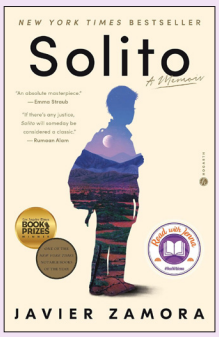
For ages 18+ years

ESA: Thursday, September 17 at 3:00 pm
St. Thomas Roasters (5951 Linglestown Rd., Harrisburg): Thursday, October 15 at 3:00 pm

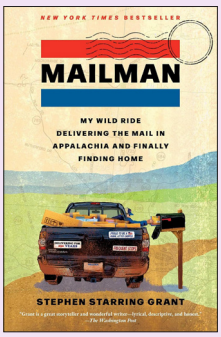
Come sip some tea and let's talk life—especially how we persevere, how we find hope, and how we define ourselves through it all. This book club features non-fiction titles with themes of pain, loss, love, strength, and triumph. Light refreshments will be served.

September Pick: *Solito* by Javier Zamora
October Pick: *Mailman: My Wild Ride Delivering the Mail in Appalachia and Finally Finding Home* by Stephan Starring Grant
1.5 hours. Registration is required and separate for each month.

SEPTEMBER



OCTOBER

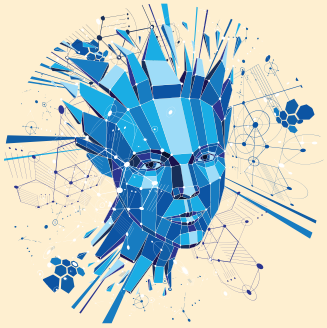


Otherworldly Book Club

For ages 18+ years

LOV and Zoom: Saturdays, September 5, October 3, November 7, and December 5 at 12:00 pm

Otherworldly Book Club invites sci-fi and fantasy lovers to explore the multiverse of stories on their terms. Instead of reading a single assigned title, participants choose any book within these genres and gather monthly to share insights, recommendations, and favorite moments. Whether you're into starships, sorcery, or something in between, all books are welcome. Come for the stories, stay for the conversation!
1 hour. Registration is required and separate for each month.



Book Clubs

Toni Morrison Circle

For ages 18+ years

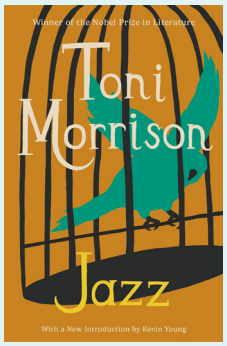
LOV: Tuesday, October 20 at 5:15 pm

Whether this is your first Morrison book or your fifth, you're invited to read slowly, ask questions, and discover how her novels illuminate identity, memory, family, and belonging. Each session in this quarterly book club will include a brief, accessible introduction, guided discussion questions, and room for personal reflections. Let's discover how her work continues to shape our understanding of ourselves and each other. Light refreshments will be served.

October Pick: *Jazz* by Toni Morrison

Toni Morrison Circle is presented by The Library in collaboration with The Harrisburg Alumnae Chapter of Delta Theta Sigma Sorority, Inc. and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.®, Epsilon Sigma Omega Chapter.

1.25 hours. Registration is required.



Writing Groups

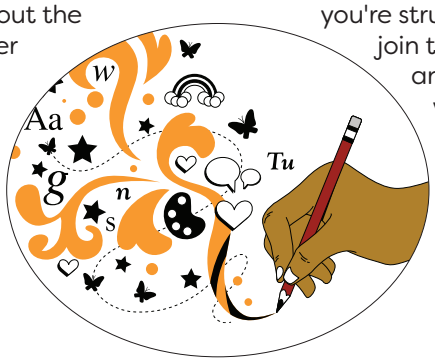
Figment Forge

For ages 18+ years

ESA: Saturdays, September 5, November 7, and December 5 at 10:30 am

Calling aspiring fiction writers! Join our writing group, Figment Forge, to learn more about the craft of fiction writing, connect with other novice writers, and find encouragement and accountability for your writing aspirations. We'll focus on a different facet of writing fiction with time to practice our craft and share.

2 hours. Registration is required and separate for each month. Please include your email when registering in order to receive writing prompts from the program instructor.



Write On!

For ages 18+ years

LOV: Saturdays, September 26, October 31, and November 28 at 11:00 am

Tired of writing all alone, holed up at your desk? Or maybe you're struggling to carve out the time to write. Come join this casual group as we chat, commiserate, and—most importantly—write! Whether you're working on a short story, the next Great American Novel, poetry, or a memoir, all genres and skill levels are welcome.

1 hour. Registration is required and separate for each month.

Hari Jones: Hidden Histories Collection and Program Series

Kindred Spirits Genealogy Workshop Group

Zoom: First Saturday of each month, 12:00 pm-2:00 pm

Kindred Spirits Genealogy Workshop Group (GWG) is an informal network of amateur genealogists officially established in 2017 by Harrisburg natives Dr. Sharonn Williams, founder, and Mr. Calobe Jackson, consultant. Members are descendants of the enslaved and slaveholders, having varying degrees of experience with family history research, who gather to learn from and provide support for one another as they honor legacy and document lineage.

To receive additional information and meeting invitations and links:

- Send Email: KindredSpiritsGWG@gmail.com
- Join the Mailing List: https://tinyurl.com/zpdbxsr5



Hari Jones
HIDDEN HISTORIES PROGRAM

The Library has partnered with the Dauphin County Commissioners to create a carefully curated, permanent Hidden Histories collection and program series that celebrates the life and work of visionary historian, Hari Jones. Both the program series and collection have been designed to foster ongoing community dialogue, discussion, and discernment.

Your Place to Belong

Free WIFI

William H. & Marion C. Alexander Family Library (AFL)
200 West 2nd Street
Hummelstown, PA 17036
717.566.0949

East Shore Area Library (ESA)
4501 Ethel Street
Harrisburg, PA 17109
717.652.9380

Elizabethville Area Library (EV)
80 North Market Street
Elizabethville, PA 17023
717.362.9825

Johnson Memorial Library (JOH)
799 East Center Street
Millersburg, PA 17061
717.692.2658

George & Hettie Love Memorial Library (LOV)
530 South 29th Street
Harrisburg, PA 17104
717.234.3934

Madeline L. Olewine Memorial Library (MOM)
2410 North 3rd Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110
717.232.7286

McCormick Riverfront Library (MRL)
101 Walnut Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101
717.234.4976

Northern Dauphin Library (ND)
683 Main Street
Lykens, PA 17048
717.523.0340

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