



Wilmette  
Public Library  
November–December 2024



## Winter Reading Begins December 15

Wilmette Reads Adults & Teens | Winter Reading Club Children p. 8

## Welcome Assistant Director Renee Grassi!

In September, Renee Grassi joined Wilmette Public Library as our new assistant director.

A graduate of Dominican University's Graduate School of Library and Information Science, Renee brings more than a decade of experience in library leadership and a passion for advocating for diversity, equity, and inclusion in communities. Prior to her new role, Renee served as the director of Lake Bluff Public Library and has been a library accessibility consultant since 2013. She's served as adjunct faculty for graduate education in library science at St. Catherine's University (MN) and held previous roles at Dakota County Library (MN), and in libraries throughout Chicagoland, where she's originally from.

"I am honored and thrilled to join the award-winning Wilmette Public Library as its new assistant director. My experiences working in other local libraries, such as Deerfield, Glencoe, and Lake Bluff, have taught me that Chicago's North Shore libraries are some of the highest caliber in the country. I am grateful for the opportunity to work with director Anthony Auston and the fantastic staff here, and am excited to bring my passion for public service to the Wilmette community."

Throughout her career, Renee has been honored with several awards, including her 2012 Library Journal Mover & Shaker honor as an Advocate for her inclusive programming work at Deerfield. In her role at Wilmette, Renee will be overseeing our public service departments and providing support to our director and management team. Join us in welcoming Renee to our library community!



wilmettelibrary.info  
847.256.5025

facebook.com/wilmettelibrary  
Instagram @wilmettelibrary

Monday-Friday 9am-9pm  
Saturday 9am-5pm  
Sunday 12pm-5pm

### Library Closures

Wednesday, November 27 at 5pm  
Thursday, November 28  
Tuesday, December 24  
Wednesday, December 25  
Tuesday, December 31  
Wednesday, January 1

### Book Return Sites

- Library parking lot
- Community Recreation Center
- Plaza del Lago
- Linden CTA Station

### Board of Trustees

Joan Fishman, *President*  
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Anthony Auston, *Director*  
Sarah Beth Brown, *Editor*

*Wilmette Public Library may take photographs and video of patrons in the building for use in library promotions. Please notify staff if you prefer not to be photographed.*

## Shop Books Down Under!

Buy gently used books for all ages at Wilmette's only bookstore, located on the Lower Level of the library. All proceeds from book sales and donations to the Friends support library programs, including Summer Reading Clubs and Wilmette Reads.

Find current BDU hours and information about donating to the Friends at [wilmettelibrary.info/friends](http://wilmettelibrary.info/friends)



# Events for Adults

All virtual programs require registration. On-site programs only require registration when noted.



## *Celebrate Native American Heritage Month* **Gather Film Screening**

**Friday, November 1, 1–2:30pm, Auditorium**

*Gather* is an intimate portrait of a growing movement amongst Indigenous Americans to reclaim their spiritual and cultural identities through food sovereignty.

## **Comparing the Big Four: Ancestry, FamilySearch, FindMyPast, and MyHeritage**

**Saturday, November 9, 1–2:30pm, Virtual R**

Learn the good, the bad, and the ugly about the four major genealogy databases: Ancestry, FamilySearch, FindMyPast and MyHeritage. Presented by Caron Primas Brennan and co-hosted by the North Suburban Genealogical Society.

## **The Identity Paradox: How Our Multiple Identities Both Divide and Unite Us**

**Wednesday, November 20, 2–3:30pm, Auditorium R**

Explore the complexity, sources, and power of our human identities, learning how we can use our multiple identities to unite instead of divide us by refocusing on our common humanity.

## Music & Theater

### Opera Lovers Lecture Corps **The Marriage of Figaro by Mozart**

**Monday, November 4, 7–8pm, Virtual R**

Learn about the Lyric Opera's production of *The Marriage of Figaro* by Mozart.



### **The Life & Songs of Woody Guthrie**

**Friday, November 15, 7–8pm,  
Auditorium**

Enjoy an evening with Mark Dvorak exploring Woody Guthrie's life, including readings from his essays and letters and lots of great songs from America's iconic folk ballad maker.

### Shakespeare Project of Chicago **Measure For Measure**

**Saturday, November 16, 2–4pm,  
Auditorium**

Enter a world of deception, justice, and hidden desires in this staged reading of Shakespeare's *Measure for Measure*. Funded by the Friends of the Wilmette Library.



### **New Year's Eve Concert Bobby Lewis Jazz Trio**

**Monday, December 30, 7–8pm, Auditorium**

An annual tradition! Celebrate 2025 with jazz favorites from trumpeter Bobby Lewis, guitarist Andy Brown, and bassist Stewart Miller.

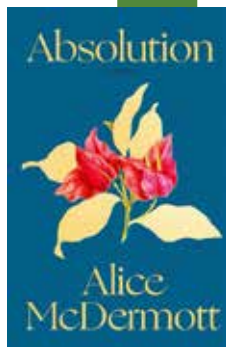
*Space is very limited, and overflow guests may not be accommodated. Doors will open at 6:40pm. Please arrive early to ensure your seat.*

## Classics & Contemporary Book Discussion

Visit our online calendar to learn more about each book and reserve a copy.

**Ceremony**  
by Leslie Marmon Silko  
Tuesday, November 12, 10:30–11:30am, Auditorium R

**Absolution**  
by Alice McDermott  
Tuesday, December 10, 10:30–11:30am, Auditorium R



## At Home Film Series

View the film on Kanopy, then join us on Zoom for a virtual discussion.

**She Came To Me**  
Tuesday, November 12, 7–8pm,  
Virtual R

Starring Marisa Tomei, Peter Dinklage, and Anne Hathaway (2023).

**Roman Holiday**  
Tuesday, December 10, 7–8pm,  
Virtual R

Starring Audrey Hepburn and Gregory Peck (1953).



## Armchair Travels

Join us for these on-site and virtual travel lectures, funded by the Rutherford Trust.

**Honoring the Dead: Afterlife Beliefs & Funerary Practices in Ancient Asia**  
Tuesday, November 19, 7–8pm, Virtual R

San Francisco's Asian Art Museum will examine rituals and practices that honor the dead from cultures and religions across Asia.

**Creating a Nation: The Founding Fathers in American Art**  
Monday, November 25, 7–8pm, Virtual R

Join Jane Oneail of Culturally Curious to explore art of our founding fathers, from battle scenes to formal portraits.

**Wild West Africa**  
Monday, December 2, 7–8pm, Virtual R

Join travel pro Brian Michalski on a tour of stunning West Africa.

**Journey to Malta**  
Monday, December 16, 7–8pm, Virtual R

Join Jeff Klapes, known as "The Traveling Librarian," for an armchair traveler's journey to beautiful Malta.

**Armchair Travels**  
Thursdays, 1–2:30pm, Auditorium

**November 7:** Skiing and dogsledding to the North Pole with Annie Aggens

**November 21:** London: Art, Parks & Architecture with Linda Rubin

**December 5:** Bermuda: Beyond the Beach with Barbara Sugden and Ron Vargason

**December 19:** Christmas Markets in Prague and Germany with Eugene Flynn

**January 2:** Maine with Nancy McCully





## Life Transitions

### Dementia Caregiver Support Group

**Monday, November 11, and Wednesday, December 18, 7–9pm, Virtual R**

Caregivers of an individual with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias are invited to attend these virtual support group meetings. Facilitated by Andee Albaum-Feinstein and Mike Denesha.

### Death Cafe

**Monday, November 18, 6–7:30pm, Auditorium R**

Join us for a thoughtful discussion about the end of life and share your experiences, thoughts, and fears about death. Led by a Death Café facilitator for the Chicago Death Doula Collective.

## Queer Aid

Learn about resources and pathways that support you and your loved ones in a safe and affirming space. Presented in partnership with Evanston Public Library and local organizations Alzheimer's Association, PFLAG Evanston, Transformative Justice Law Project of Illinois, Youth Services of Glenview/Northbrook, and YWCA Evanston North Shore.

**All programs are virtual.**

### They Love Me, They Love Me Not

**Monday, November 4, 6–7:30pm R**

### Strengthening LGBTQ+ Youth

**Thursday, November 7, 7–8pm R**

### Safer Sex for ALL!

**Monday, November 11, 6–7:30pm R**

### Name Change 101

**Tuesday, November 12, 6–7pm R**

### Alzheimer's and the LGBTQ+ Community

**Wednesday, November 13, 7–8pm R**



### Holiday Tips & Tricks with Chef Art Smith

**Wednesday, November 20, 7–8pm, Virtual R**

Join two-time James Beard Foundation award winner chef Art Smith to learn about his culinary journey and bring some culinary inspiration into your holiday season.

### Little Women Theatrical Screening

**Available to stream December 20-22**

Enjoy this limited-time screening of the musical *Little Women*, presented by London's Park Theater in association with Broadway HD. With a book by Allan Knee, lyrics by Mindy Dickstein, and music by Jason Howland, *Little Women* is a moving adaptation of Louisa May Alcott's beloved American classic.



These events are made possible by Illinois Libraries Present, a statewide collaboration among public libraries offering premier events.

## Family Action Network

We're excited to share these upcoming events from our partnership with Family Action Network. Find full details, registration information, and more upcoming events at [familyactionnetwork.net](http://familyactionnetwork.net).



**November 12:** *Triumph of the Yuppies: America, the Eighties, and the Creation of an Unequal Nation* with Tom McGrath

**November 18:** *You are Not Alone for Parents and Caregivers: The NAMI Guide to Navigating Your Child's Mental Health* with Christine Crawford

**December 2:** *The Miraculous from the Material: Understanding the Wonders of Nature* with Alan Lightman



## Gift Ideas from The Studio Staff

Create the perfect gift for anyone on your list with these projects made using The Studio equipment.

- Monogrammed robes with digital embroidery machine
- Garland decor with paper stock & Silhouette Cameo
- Paper lanterns for the longest night of the year
- Resolutions journal stickers
- Sew reusable fabric gift bags
- 3D design a statement ring
- Ornament stencils
- 3D print snowball molds
- Create a sentimental video montage at our Media Station to share at family get togethers

Visit The Studio or [wilmettelibrary.info/studio](http://wilmettelibrary.info/studio) to learn more or get started.

## Internet & Devices

### Staff Picks: Online Library Resources

**Tuesday, November 5, 6–7pm, Virtual, Adults & Teens R**

Delve into staff's favorite online resources provided by the library.

### Open iPhone Q & A Group Discussion

**Tuesday, November 12, 10–11:30am, Small Meeting Room, Adults R**

Bring your iPhone and the questions or challenges you have using the device. We will share answers, helpful tips, and ideas from the group.

### Intro to Android Phones

**Friday, November 22, 2–3pm, Small Meeting Room, Adults R**

Explore the settings and features of your Android phone.

### Password Management

**Monday, December 2, 2–3pm, Auditorium, Adults R**

Get organized and secure with your passwords.

### Understanding Apple Cloud Services

**Tuesday, December 10, 10–11:30am, Small Meeting Room, Adults R**

Learn more about the features and differences of iCloud and iCloud Drive, Apple's signature cloud services.

### What is AI?

**Friday, December 20, 5–6pm, Virtual, Adults R**

This class covers the basics, evolution, and real-world applications of AI. Learn about what AI is, ethical considerations, and what services are available.

## Hands On & Creative Tech

### Making a Patch Demo

Wednesday, November 6, 6:30–7:30pm, Virtual, Teens and Adults **R**

Learn how to make a patch using The Studio's embroidery machine and supplies in this virtual demonstration. Learn what's possible and then come in and try it out!

### Holiday Cards with Silhouette Cameo

Monday, November 11, 6:30–7:30pm, The Studio, Teens and Adults **R**

Impress your friends and family with layered cut-paper cards. Computer skills required.

### Place Cards with Silhouette Cameo

Tuesday, November 26, 10:30–11:45am, The Studio, Grade 5+, Teens, and Adults **R**

Dress up your holiday table with cut-paper place cards. Computer skills required.

### Let's Design a 3D Print

Wednesday, December 18, 5:30–6:30pm, The Studio, All Ages **R**

Interested in 3D printing but you don't know what to make? Participate in a collaborative 3D creation where everyone can contribute.

### Adult Take and Make Needle Felted Gingerbread House

Register starting November 19  
Pickup begins Tuesday, December 3

Pick up your kit at the Welcome Desk to make an adorable, seasonal felted craft. A link will be provided to follow a self-guided video class with Esther's Place.

## Events for Teens

All teen events open to grades 7-12.

### Teen Take & Make: Hot Chocolate Spoons

Register starting Friday, November 15

Pickup begins Friday, December 6

December is the time for hot chocolate. This kit contains ingredients to make cozy and delicious hot chocolate spoons for two. This is one of our greatest hits kits from 2020!

### Teen Pizza Study Night

Monday, December 16, 7–8pm, Auditorium

Take a break from studying for finals and eat some pizza. Pizza and snacks will be served at 7pm sharp until we run out.



### Dungeons & Dragons Teen Program

Saturday, November 9, 1–4pm, Small Meeting Room **R**

Welcoming experienced and new players alike, we will be playing Dungeons and Dragons 5E!

### TikTok Ghost Painting

Thursday, November 21, 7–8pm, Youth Program Room **R**

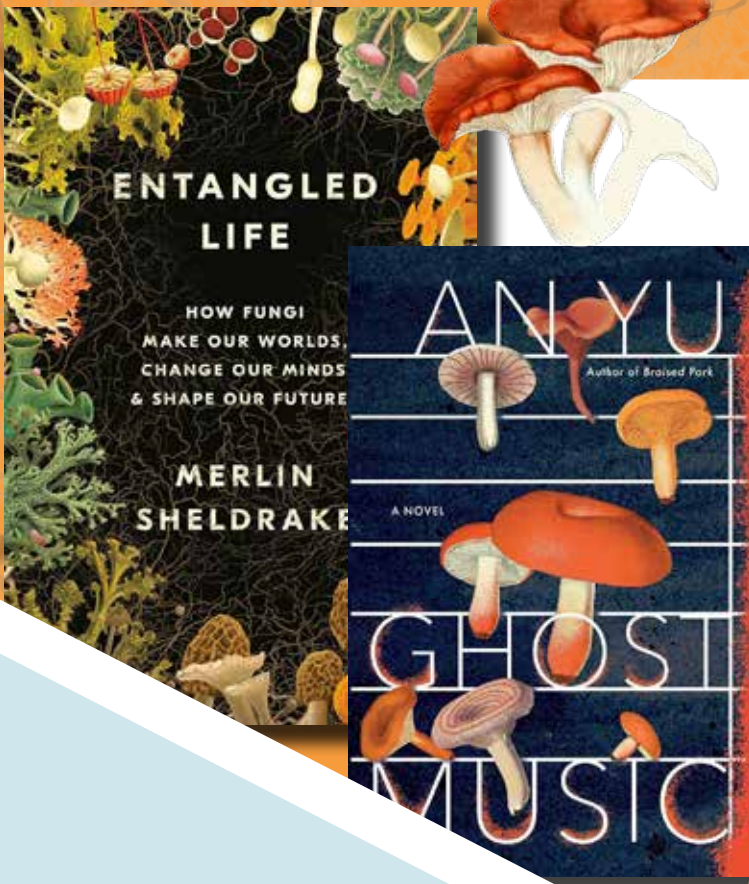
Upcycle an old painting by adding your favorite cryptid, ghost, or mythical creature. Sample designs and templates will be provided.

### Let's Design a 3D Printed Dice Tower

Thursday, November 7, 6:30–8pm, The Studio **R**

Celebrate International Games Month by learning to design a dice tower in Tinkercad, perfect for D&D and other tabletop roleplaying games!





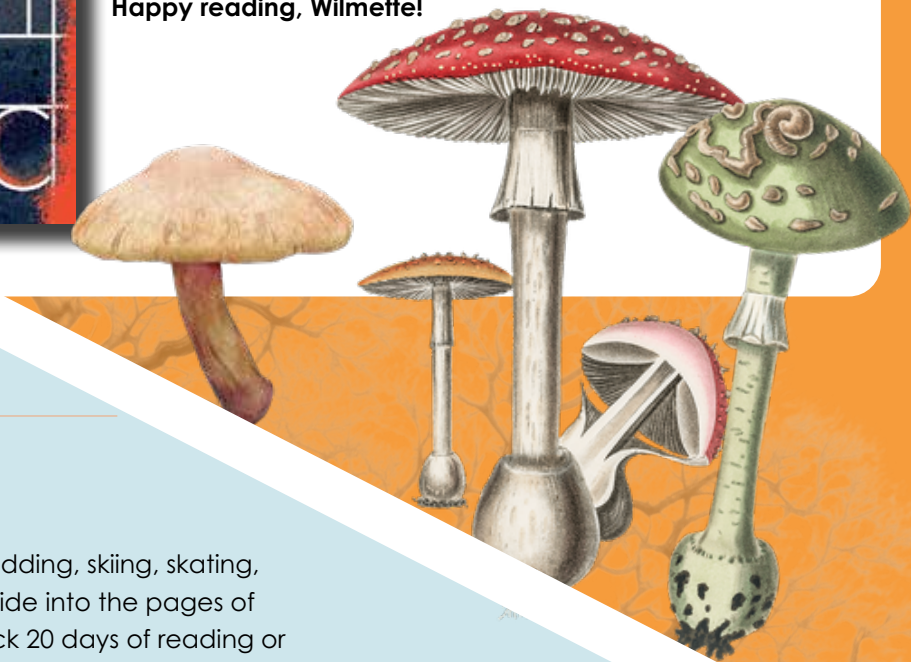
## Wilmette Reads

Join us this winter for a community reading series exploring connections of the natural world. We invite you to read our selected titles, take part in a book discussion, attend programs, or review any title of your choosing.

**All participants will receive Wilmette Reads-branded swag, and all finishers will receive a special completion prize!**

Visit the Recent Arrivals desk to sign up, pick out your swag, and pick up a participation log. Find full details on our website starting December 15 and in our Winter print newsletter.

**Happy reading, Wilmette!**



## Slide into Winter!

### Winter Reading Club December 15–February 15

Whether your family's winter plans include sledding, skiing, skating, or snuggling under a blanket, make time to slide into the pages of a good book, too! Pick up a reading log, track 20 days of reading or suggested activities, and turn the completed log in for a prize!

Winter Reading begins December 15. Pick up a log at the Youth Services Desk or print one from our website to get started.

*Winter Reading Club is open to children of all ages. Prizes will be awarded once per person.*





# Kids & Families

Find full program details on our online calendar. Programs are hosted in the Youth Program Room unless otherwise noted. Programs requiring registration are marked with an **R**. Programs marked with a **T** require a free ticket available at the Youth Desk starting at 9am the day of the show. Check our online calendar for registration open dates. Questions? Contact Youth Services at 847.256.6945 or youthdesk@wilmettelibrary.info.

## For the Whole Family

### Building with Bits and Bobs

**Sunday, November 3 & December 1, 2–3:30pm**

We'll supply a random assortment of items for you to upcycle into your own amazing creations.

### Diwali Celebration

**Saturday, November 9, 2–4pm**

Celebrate the Festival of Lights at our spectacular Diwali event! Hosted in collaboration with the South Asian Families of Wilmette.

### Drop-in Chess

**Sundays, November 10 and December 8, 2:30–4:30pm, All Ages**

Stop by to challenge your neighbors to a chess match.

### Istvan & His Imaginary Band

**Saturday, November 30, 2–2:45pm and 3:30–4:15pm, Auditorium T**

Rock along with Parents' Choice award winner Istvan & His Imaginary Band!

### Drop-In Crafternoon

**Monday, November 25, 2–3pm**

Drop in to recharge your batteries with open-ended crafting.

### Family Sing-Along with Kaleen Dolan

**Saturday, January 4, 2–3pm or 3:30–4:30pm, Auditorium T**

Bring the family and their song requests and sing along to your child's favorite tunes.

## Let's Talk About Books

### Wings of Fire Club

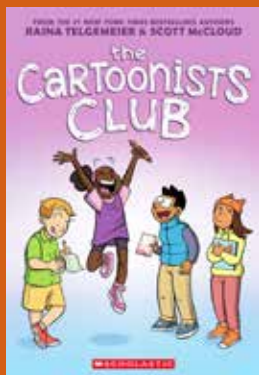
**Wednesday, November 20, 7–7:45pm, Grades 4-6 R**

Join us for dragon-themed activities and chat about *The Lost Heir: The Graphic Novel*.

### Caldecott Club

**Thursdays, November 21 & December 12, 4–4:45pm, Grades 1-5 R**

Take a close look at some new picture books, make an art project inspired by what you see, and vote for your favorite book of the day!



### Raina Telgemeier Fandom Party

**Friday, December 6, 4:30–5:30pm, Grades 3-6 R**

Celebrate your love for all things Raina with crafts, comics tutorials, and giveaways in anticipation of our Illinois-wide virtual visit with her.

### The Magic of Raina Telgemeier

**Tuesday, December 10, 7–8pm Virtual R**

Hear from the beloved children's graphic novelist in this virtual program presented by Illinois Libraries Present.



### String Art

**Tuesday, November 5, 7–7:45pm, Grades 4-8 R**

Design 3D art using string, balsa wood, pushpins, and your own imagination.



### Art for Big Feelings

**Thursdays, November 7 & December 5, 4–4:45pm, Grades K-2 R**

School, relationships, and other challenges can lead to big emotions. Help organize those complex feelings and relieve stress through stories and art activities.

### K-9 Reading Buddies of the North Shore

**Thursdays, November 7 & December 5, 6–7pm, Grades 1-5 R**

Read some of your favorite stories to a trained therapy dog. Register at the Youth Desk or by phone at 847.256.6945.



### Hungry Crafters

**Thursdays, 7–7:45pm, Grades 5-8 R**

Enjoy tasty treats while making these crafty projects.

**November 14: Personalized Mugs  
December 12: Upcycled Gift Wrap**

### Lego Club

**Friday, November 15 & December 13, 4–4:45pm, Grades K-3 R**

Your imagination is the limit as you build with our bricks.

### Minecraft Club

**Mondays, November 18 & December 9, 4:30–5:30pm, Grades 3-5 R**

Do you love Minecraft? Join our Minecraft Club to make friends, collaborate, and build together.

### Classic Snow Globes

**Tuesday, December 10, 7–7:45pm, Grades 5-8, R**

Create a classic snow globe to help celebrate the season.

### Secret Gift Workshop

**Saturday, December 14, 1–2:30pm and 3–4:30pm, Grades 1-8 R**

Make your own cards and gifts at the library, out of sight of the recipients.



## STEM & Technology

### Intro to PyGame

**Friday, November 8, 5:30–6:30pm, Small Meeting Room, Grades 5-8 R**

Discover the basics of programming in Python, one of the most popular programming languages.

### STEAM Lab: Snow Storm in a Jar

**Grades 3-5: Wednesday, November 13, 4:30–5:15pm R  
Grades K-2: Wednesday, December 4, 4:30–5:15pm R**

What if you could make it snow in a jar, no matter the weather outside? Create a mesmerizing snowstorm using water, oil, and other fun materials!

### 3D Design a Fidget Toy

**Tuesday, December 3, 5:30–6:30pm, The Studio, Grades 4-6 R**

Explore the basics of 3D design and printing through an interactive session developing a fidget toy on Tinkercad.

### Metal Stamping

**Monday, December 9, 5:30–6:30pm, The Studio, Grades 5-8 R**

We'll show you how to stamp metal and turn your designs into a necklace or a key chain.

# Weekly Events

Through December 13

Family Storytime and Babytime require a free ticket. Tickets will be given out on a first come, first served basis at the Youth Desk starting at 9am.

## Tuesday

### Family Storytime

9:30am or 10am **T**

Stories, songs, and rhymes for the whole family.

### Story Explorers

4pm, Ages 4+

Join us after school for interactive stories full of adventure and humor. Children are encouraged to attend independently.

## Wednesday

### Family Storytime

9:30am or 10am **T**

Stories, songs, and rhymes for the whole family.

## Thursday

### Babytime

9:15 or 9:45am, Ages 0-24 mo. **T**

A bonding experience with songs, cuddles, and bounces.

## Friday

### Little Dabblers

Fridays, 9:30–10:30am, Ages 2+

Explore art, science, and our own senses.



## Storytimes

### Mandarin Storytime

Saturdays, November 2 & December 14, 10–10:30am, For the whole family

Join us for stories, songs, and fun in Mandarin Chinese! Presented by local educator Ling Liu.

### Stories in Russian

Saturday, November 2, 2–2:45pm, Ages 3+ **R**

Listen to stories in Russian and make a fun craft. Presented by storyteller Vlada Bernhardtz.

### Pajama Storytime

Wednesday, November 6, 6:30–7pm, For the whole family

Get cozy in your PJs and bring your favorite lovie to enjoy stories, songs, and rhymes before bedtime.

### Family Storytime

Saturdays, November 9 & December 7, 10–10:30am, For the whole family

Stories, songs, and rhymes for the whole family.

### Little Play Cafe

Saturday, November 16, 10–11am, For the whole family

Join your librarian for a short storytime, followed by free play for the little ones and coffee for the grown-ups.

### Spanish-English Bilingual Storytime

Saturdays, November 16 & December 28, 2–2:30pm, For the whole family

Join us for stories and fun activities in Spanish and English! Presented by local bilingual speech-language pathologist Paula Acuña.

### Let's Learn Together: Open Books, Open Minds

Saturday, November 23, 10–10:45am, For the whole family

At this interactive story hour for the whole family, we'll engage with meaningful topics through stories, music, and art.

\*\*\*ECRWSSDDM\*\*\*\*\*

RESIDENTIAL  
POSTAL PATRON

## Staff Picks 2024

Our staff have read a lot over the past year! Here are our favorite books that we read in 2024, just in time for winter reading!

*Blizzard* by Marie Vingtras

*Death at the Sign of the Rook* by Kate Atkinson

*A Shore Thing* by Joanna Lowell

*Pay Dirt* by Sara Paretsky

*You Are Here* by David Nicholls

*The Rachel Incident* by Caroline O'Donoghue

*That Librarian: The Fight Against Book Banning in America* by Amanda Jones

*The Dead Cat Tail Assassins* by P. Djèlí Clark

*Somewhere Beyond the Sea* by TJ Klune

*The Heart's Invisible Furies* by John Boyne

*Magnolia Wu Unfolds it All* by Chanel Miller

*Shakespeare: The Man Who Pays the Rent* by Brendan O'Hea and Judi Dench

*Your Table is Ready: Tales of a New York City Maître d'* by Michael Cecchi-Azzolina

*The Anxious Generation* by Jonathan Haidt

*Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt

*Martyr!* by Kaveh Akbar

