



Preview

A Guide to Your Library



FanFest

Lunar New Year

Book and Movie Bingo

Message

From The Executive Director

Hello,

2024 was a big year for the library! From renovating the Main Library lobby to joining the CCS consortium to a bigger and better newsletter, we've been expanding the ways you can enjoy what the library has to offer.

We are starting 2025 off strong and are excited to announce that we have new book discussions, a craft swap, and our wildly popular FanFest to bring brightness to cold winter days. And if you don't feel like going out, the library has plenty for cozy nights in. Check out a puzzle, take an online crochet class, or stream your favorite shows from a library Roku.

Whether you want to learn a new hobby from the comfort of your home, read a new book, or dress up in your finest cosplay attire, there's something for you at the library this year (and every year).

Su

SU'S PICKS



The Count of Monte Cristo by Alexandre Dumas • *While You Were Out* by Meg Kissinger • *What We Do in the Shadows* on Hulu

E-newsletter Sign Up

Be in the know! Sign up for our e-newsletter for up-to-date programs, readers advisory ideas, program videos, online resources, and more.



Follow Us

Our social media channels continue to bring more news to you.



Library Programming

Program registration is often required. Register using the online calendar or by contacting the library. Program format and location will be indicated within the online calendar.

The library needs at least a one-week notice if special accommodations are needed.

Program Symbols

Registration required (R)

No registration required (NR)

Virtual program (V)

Hybrid program: both in-person and virtual options (H)



This newsletter is printed on recycled paper and is recyclable.

Youth Events

Home Sweet Habitat:

Presented by Cosley Zoo

BEST FOR AGES 3-5 WITH AN ADULT

Monday, January 6, 10 a.m.

Learn how amazing creatures survive in their unique environments, with some help from a few live animals! (R)

Family Book Party

BEST FOR AGES 6-8 WITH AN ADULT

Wednesday, January 15, 6 p.m.

Participate in hands-on activities and learn about beginning chapter books to read aloud or for children ready to move beyond early readers. (R)

Sensory Explorers:

Messy Playtime

BEST FOR AGES 6 AND YOUNGER

WITH AN ADULT

Thursday, January 16, 1:30 p.m.

Children can engage their senses and have fun making a mess! (R)



Kids Care Fun Fair: Spread Kindness!

BEST FOR AGES 11 AND YOUNGER

WITH THEIR FAMILIES

Monday, January 20,

10-11:30 a.m., 1:15-2:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 25,

10-11 a.m.

Drop in for fun, kid-friendly activities that help make the world a better place. Stop at one station, or explore them all! (NR)

Your Fantastic Feelings Party

Games, activities, and crafts will playfully teach children about words to describe emotions, how emotions can look or feel, and ways to stay regulated, building your child's social-emotional skills and giving adults strategies to manage big feelings at home. (R)

BEST FOR AGES 1-3

WITH AN ADULT

Thursday,

January 23,

10 a.m.



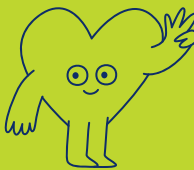
BEST FOR AGES 4-7

WITH AN ADULT

Thursday,

January 23,

4 p.m.



Infant Playtime

BEST FOR INFANTS THROUGH

PRE-WALKERS WITH AN ADULT

Mondays, January 27,

February 24, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

With their grown-ups, our littlest library lovers will explore baby-friendly toys with new friends, while they practice tummy time, rolling, crawling, and other motor skills. (NR)

Developmental Playgroup

BEST FOR AGES 5 AND YOUNGER

WITH THEIR FAMILIES

Thursdays, January 30,

February 27, 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Join us for an inclusive drop-in playgroup for children who receive or are considering therapy services. (NR)

Super Saturday: Hip-Hop Hype: Presented by Movement

Revolution

BEST FOR AGES 11 AND YOUNGER

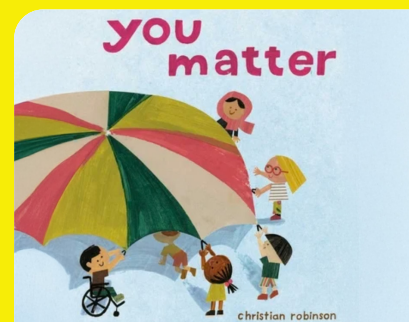
WITH THEIR FAMILIES

Saturday, February 1, 10 a.m.

Join us for a high-energy, exciting hip-hop and street dance show!

Sponsored by the Library Foundation.

(R)



Parachute Party

BEST FOR AGES 3-7 WITH

THEIR FAMILIES

Monday, February 3, 1:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 15, 10 a.m.

Thursday, February 27, 9:30 a.m.

Brighten up your day with exciting group parachute games, and then create colorful pictures inspired by the artwork of popular children's book author and illustrator Christian Robinson. (NR)

Baby Prom

BEST FOR AGES 5 AND YOUNGER

WITH AN ADULT

Saturday, February 8, 10-11 a.m.

Drop in for a fancy dance party featuring our favorite kids songs, fun activities, and a simple craft.

(NR)

Preschool and Child Care Information Night

FOR PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS

Find the right fit for your family!

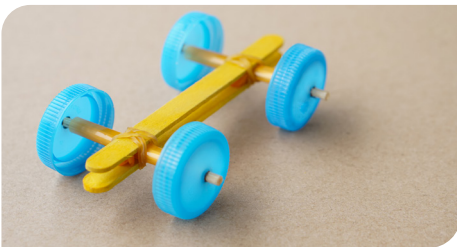
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29 | 6:30-8 P.M.

This annual open house is your chance to speak with teachers and directors of the more than 20 preschools and child care centers located in Mount Prospect.

The library will have promotional materials from participating preschools and child care centers available after the event while supplies last. For more information, visit our Preschool and Child Care Information page: mpl.org/preschool. (NR)



The event is geared toward adults, but if your little ones tag along, stop by the Youth Program Room to enjoy a fun activity as a family before or after the event.



Family Engineering: DIY Rubberband Cars

BEST FOR AGES 4-11 WITH THEIR FAMILIES

Wednesday, February 12,
1:30-2:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 13, 6-7 p.m.

Design, build, and test rubberband vehicles and learn about Black engineers who created inventions we depend on every day like automatic transmissions and traffic lights. (NR)

Family LEGO Meetup

BEST FOR AGES 5 AND OLDER
WITH THEIR FAMILIES

Monday, February 17,
10 a.m.-11 a.m.

Pop in to make fantastic and unique creations with other LEGO fans! (NR)

Creation Station: Stamp-tastic!

BEST FOR AGES 3 AND OLDER
WITH THEIR FAMILIES

Monday, February 17, 1:30-3 p.m.
Wednesday, February 19, 6-7 p.m.

Craft and create with us! We'll use rubber stamps (or create your own) to decorate greeting cards or bookmarks. (NR)



Ready, Set, Read!

BEST FOR AGES 3-8 WITH AN ADULT

Tuesday, February 18, 4:15 p.m.

Come have fun with play-based activities that develop early literacy skills based in the science of reading. (R)

Storytimes

Find the perfect-fit storytime for your child and schedule. Each storytime is especially created for your child's unique age and stage. Learn more about storytime options and view our full calendar online at mpl.org.



Storytime Playdate

BEST FOR AGES 6 AND YOUNGER
WITH AN ADULT

Fridays, January 10, 17, 24,
February 7, 14, 21, 9:30-11 a.m.

This new play-based program combines the magic of storytime with the hands-on fun of our Stay and Play sessions. (NR)

Animal Explorers Storytime

BEST FOR AGES 2-5 WITH AN ADULT

Tuesdays, January 7, 14, 21,
1:30 p.m.
Wednesdays, January 8, 15, 22,
February 5, 12, 19, 9:30 a.m. or
10:30 a.m.

Join us for this special animal-themed storytime series full of animal actions, books, songs, and fun. (NR)

Twist and Shout Storytime

BEST FOR AGES 6 AND YOUNGER
WITH AN ADULT

Monday, January 13, 10 a.m.
Thursday, January 16, 10 a.m.
Shake, wiggle, and groove during this action-packed storytime full of music, movement, and fun! (NR)

Baby Storytime: American Sign Language

BEST FOR INFANTS THROUGH
PRE-WALKERS WITH AN ADULT

Tuesday, January 14, 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, January 23, 6 p.m.

Sing, rhyme, and share stories while learning baby-friendly signs in American Sign Language. (NR)

Bilingual Storytime | Cuentos y Cantos

BEST FOR AGES 10 AND YOUNGER
WITH THEIR FAMILIES

Saturday, January 18, 10 a.m.

Join us for a bilingual storytime for the entire family! (NR)

Family Storytime

BEST FOR AGES 8 AND YOUNGER
WITH THEIR FAMILIES

Mondays, February 3, 10, 17,
9:30 a.m.

Tuesdays, February 4, 11, 18,
6 p.m.

Thursdays, February 6, 13, 20,
9:30 a.m.

Bring the whole family for an interactive storytime with high-energy stories, songs, and activities. (NR)

Baby Storytime

BEST FOR INFANTS THROUGH
PRE-WALKERS WITH AN ADULT

Tuesdays, February 4, 11, 18,
9:30 a.m.

A lifelong love of reading starts at birth! Join us for songs, rhymes, stories, and playtime made specially for infants. (NR)

Big Kids Storytime

BEST FOR AGES 3-7 WITH AN ADULT

Tuesdays, February 4, 11, 18,
1:30 p.m.

Grow into a super reader through playful books and fun with friends! This storytime is the perfect fit for preschoolers and kindergarteners who are ready for longer stories. (NR)

Ballet and Books Storytime

BEST FOR AGES 2 1/2-4

Friday, February 28, 10 a.m.

In this storytime we'll use our imaginations to stretch and move our bodies and brains in new and exciting ways! (NR)

For School-Aged Children



Up Close Animal Encounters: Presented by Cosley Zoo

BEST FOR AGES 6-11

Monday, January 6,
11:30 a.m. or 1 p.m.

Get an up-close look at some very special animals while learning about how they survive in their unique environments. (R)

Minecraft Engineers

BEST FOR AGES 8-11

Wednesdays, January 8,
February 5, 6 p.m.

Build unique structures that solve various design challenges. (R)

Art and Science Adventures: Cardboard "Combination" Safe

BEST FOR AGES 8-11

Thursday, January 9,
Monday, February 10, 4:15 p.m.

Turn a cardboard box into a safe using a simple locking mechanism. Then decorate your safe with fun tape, stickers, and designs! (R)

Tinker Appointment

STRICTLY FOR GRADES 4 AND 5

Thursdays, January 9,
February 6, 6 p.m.
Monday, January 20, 4:15 p.m.

Build, code, or craft in this appointment-based program for children in grades 4 and 5. (R)

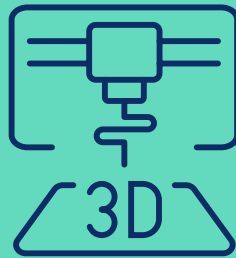
CheckMates Meetup

BEST FOR AGES 7-17

Saturdays, January 11,
February 15, 2-3:30 p.m.

Join other chess fans for a mini lesson and guided instruction to sharpen your skills at 2 p.m., or just stop by for a match at 2:30 p.m.!

Sponsored by the Friends of the Library. (NR)



3D Printing for Kids

Learn Tinkercad

STRICTLY FOR GRADES 3-5

Monday, January 13, 4:30 p.m.

Learn how to create objects using Tinkercad, a digital-design computer software. (R)

Learn Thingiverse

BEST FOR AGES 8-11 WITH AN ADULT

Wednesday, February 12,
4:45 p.m.

Learn how to use Thingiverse to find a 3D print project and submit it to the library to be printed. (R)

CodeBuilders: Play with Augmented Reality

BEST FOR AGES 8-11

Tuesday, January 21, 4:15 p.m.

Experience the thrill of telling a computer what to do and watching your instructions come to life! (R)



A Club for Kids Who Like Books

BEST FOR AGES 8-11

Wednesday, January 22, 6 p.m.,
Monday, February 24, 6:30 p.m.

Meet new friends, make a project, and find your next great read in this unique book club (no prior reading required). Plus, all participants will select a free book to take home and keep! *Sponsored by the Library Foundation.* (R)



LEGO Squad

BEST FOR AGES 8-11

Mondays, January 27,
February 10, 6 p.m.

Ready, Set, BUILD! Join the LEGO Squad! We'll provide the LEGO bricks; you show off your skills. (R)

For School-Aged Children



Animal Investigators

BEST FOR AGES 8-11

We'll learn, share our knowledge and excitement, plus do an experiment or craft. (R)

Beavers

Tuesday, January 28,
6 p.m.

Electric Eels

Tuesday, February 25,
6 p.m.

Animal Investigators Junior

BEST FOR AGES 6-8

All the same fun as Animal Investigators with a smaller group for younger children. (R)

Beavers

Tuesday, January 28,
4:15 p.m.

Thursday, January 30,
4:15 p.m.

Electric Eels

Monday, February 24,
4:15 p.m.

Tuesday, February 25,
4:15 p.m.

Drawing Workshop With Cartoonist Mark Anderson: Adventure Quest

BEST FOR AGES 7-11

Monday, February 3, 4:30 p.m.

Led by teaching artist and professional cartoonist Mark Anderson of Andertoons, kids will create their own epic adventure, deciding who they meet and what happens along the way as they draw their journey. (R)

Homeschool Hangout

FOR FAMILIES

Thursday, February 6, 10-11 a.m.

Get to know some other homeschool families in the area while playing games, trying out hands-on activities, and more! (NR)



Potions Lab

BEST FOR AGES 6-8

Friday, February 7, 1:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 20, 4:15 p.m.

Fizzy, frothy, or bubbly? What kind of colorful concoction will you mix today? (R)

Rolling Racers

BEST FOR AGES 7-11

Thursday, February 13, 4:15 p.m.

Build a rubberband-powered car that moves by converting potential energy into kinetic energy! (R)



"Whiz Kids" Game Show Extravaganza

BEST FOR AGES 8-11

Thursday, February 20, 6:30 p.m.

Trivia enthusiasts and fans of Sharon Draper's *Out of My Mind* won't want to miss this general trivia game program inspired by the novel's Whiz Kids academic team. (R)



My First Book Club

BEST FOR AGES 5-8

Wednesday, February 26,
4:15 p.m.

This introductory book club is made special for growing readers! We'll explore a picture book with friends and enjoy fun, hands-on activities related to the story. (R)

Lunar New Year Party

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4 | 10-11:30 A.M.

Two billion people from around the world celebrate Lunar New Year, which begins on January 29. Traditions vary across cultures, but they all share the common elements of family, friends, food, and plenty of fun! When celebrating Lunar New Year, some people wear red clothing to signify a new start or good luck.

You're invited to celebrate the Lunar New Year with exciting lion dance performances, crafts, and activities! Bring your family and friends so we can wish each other happiness and good luck in the coming year. Feel free to wear something red, too! (NR)

Youth Department Activities 10-11:30 a.m.

Enjoy crafts and activities throughout the Youth department.

Lion Dance Performances 10 a.m., 10:30 a.m., or 11 a.m.

Call in the lions to watch their amazing acrobatics! Photo opportunities with the lions will be available.



FOR FAMILIES



Sponsored by



Teen Events

FOR GRADES 6-12



Teen Volunteering

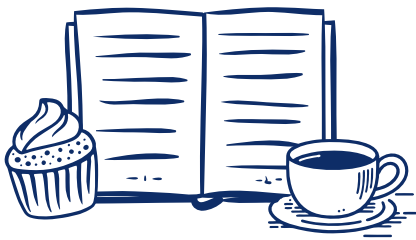
Give back to the community and earn volunteer hours as you work for a good cause helping with community service projects. (R)

South Branch

Mondays, January 13,
February 10, 5 p.m.

Main Library

Fridays, January 17,
February 28, 5 p.m.



Teen Book Café

Fridays, January 10,
February 14, 4:30 p.m.

Join us at our new meeting spot — Khepri Kitchen and Coffee, 106 S. Emerson St.! We'll enjoy tasty treats, share new books, and recommend some of our favorites. (R)

CheckMates Meetup

BEST FOR AGES 7-17

Saturdays, January 11, February 15,
2-3:30 p.m.

Join other chess fans for a mini lesson and guided instruction to sharpen your skills at 2 p.m., or just stop by for a match at 2:30 p.m.! *Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.* (NR)

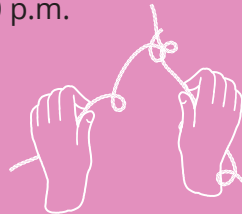
Craft Programs

Each month we meet to get crafty and make something new. (R)



Paint by Sticker

Wednesday, January 15,
4:30 p.m.



Macramé Keychains

Wednesday, February 12,
4:30 p.m.

Teen OREO Taste Test

Wednesday, January 22,
4:30 p.m.

Which OREO flavor is the best? We'll taste test different flavors of OREO cookies and vote on our favorites! (R)

See page 17 for information on 2025 Book Bingo!

BOOK BINGO 2025
FOR TEENS AND ADULTS | JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31

For every book read, place a sticker on the coordinating category on your bingo card. Get a reward after darning your first bingo and after completing the entire card.

Play along online, too, by visiting mopl.beamstack.org or downloading the Beamstack mobile app.

Categories: Standalone Book, Revenge Story, Set in a Home, Castle, or Mansion, Author's Debut, Grieving Character, Set Afloat, Mystery/Science or History, Standalone Book.

TEENS AND ADULTS

BookFix

Hand-picked library book. Bookish goodies to keep.



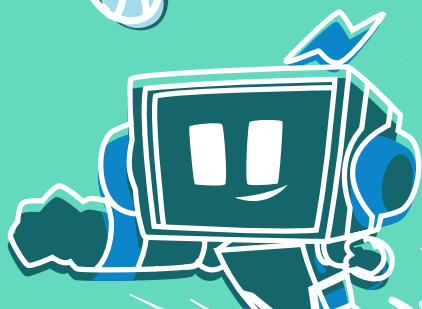
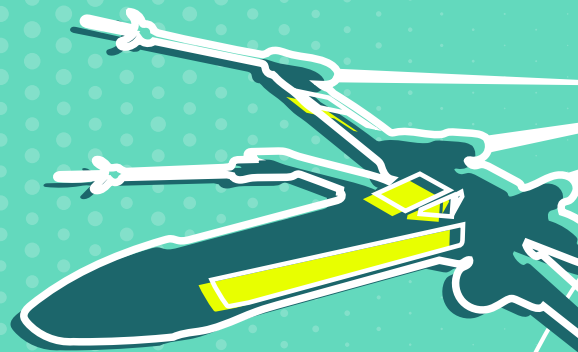
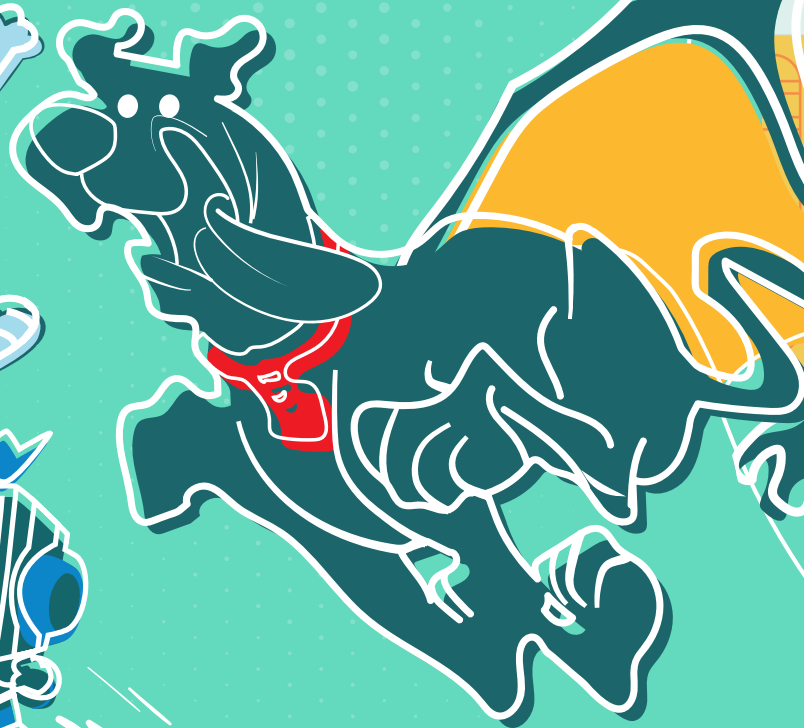
See February 1 on our online calendar at mopl.org to register using your library card.

FANFEST

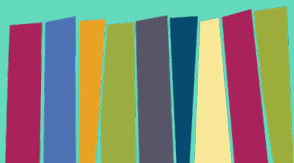
“Geek out” at the library with a day dedicated to your favorite fandoms!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22 | 11 A.M.-4 P.M.

We’re calling all Whovians, book nerds, Swifties, culture vultures, and all other fans and stans. This family-friendly event will feature games, crafts, virtual reality, trivia, and more — all celebrating your favorite fandoms.



Sponsored by



Friends
Mount Prospect Public Library



Adult Events

Can't make it to FanFest?

Whatever your fandom or fascination, the library has something for you. Find more at mopl.org.



FOR COSPLAYERS

Sewing machines, 3D printing, and online classes with Creativebug to elevate your creations.



FOR BINGEWATCHERS

Stream your favorite series and movies using Hoopla, Kanopy, or a circulating Roku device.



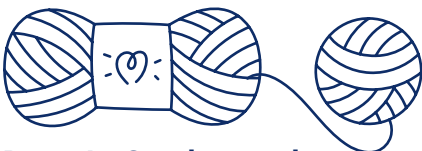
FOR TECHIES

Mac Studio computers, technology programs, and web resources galore to fuel your innovation.



FOR GAMERS

In-person game nights, circulating virtual reality systems, and video game collections.



Drop-In Crochet and Knit Group

Thursdays, January 2, February 6, 7 p.m.

Bring your latest knit or crochet projects and share your enthusiasm with other needlecrafters. (NR)

Beginning Ceramics With Air Dry Clay

Tuesday, January 7, 7 p.m.

Curious about ceramics? Try beginner techniques with air dry clay. (R)



SCORE Business Mentoring

Wednesdays, January 8, February 12, 5 p.m., 6 p.m., or 7 p.m.

Local entrepreneurs and small businesses can get one-on-one support by meeting with an experienced mentor from SCORE North Cook and Lake Counties. (R)

Career Coaching Appointment

| Cita de orientación profesional
Thursdays, January 16, 30, February 13, 27, 6 p.m. or 7:15 p.m.

Jumpstart your job search with a virtual one-hour session with an experienced career coach to discuss resume updates, applying for jobs online, and interview preparation.

Inicie su búsqueda de empleo con una sesión virtual de una hora con un entrenador profesional experimentado para analizar las actualizaciones del currículum, la solicitud de empleo en línea, y la marca personal y la preparación de entrevistas. (V) (R)

Movies at MPPL *All movies are shown with closed captioning.*



Afternoon Movies



White Bird

2023; PG-13; 121 MINUTES
Thursday, January 9, 2 p.m.
Struggling to fit in at his new school after being expelled, Julian is visited by his grandmother and is transformed by the story of her attempts to escape Nazi-occupied France during World War II. (R)



Saturday Night

2024; R; 109 MINUTES
Thursday, February 13, 2 p.m.
At 11:30 p.m. on October 11, 1975, a ferocious troupe of young comedians and writers changed television forever. Find out what happened behind the scenes in the 90 minutes leading up to the first broadcast of Saturday Night Live. (R)



Morning Movies



The Homesman

2014; R; 122 MINUTES
Tuesday, January 28, 10 a.m.
Three women who have been driven mad by pioneer life are to be transported across the country by the pious, independent-minded Mary Bee Cuddy, who employs low-life drifter George Briggs to assist her. (R)



The Good Liar

2019; R; 109 MINUTES
Tuesday, February 25, 10 a.m.
Con man Roy Courtney has set his sights on his latest mark: the recently widowed Betty McLeish, worth millions. But what should have been a simple swindle escalates into a cat-and-mouse game with the ultimate stakes. (R)



Decoding the Mysteries of Cats

Thursday, January 16, 7 p.m.
Join Stephen Quandt, a feline training and behavior specialist, to unravel the mysteries of your cat's behavior. (V) (R)

Managing DNA Kits Safely Through Different Companies

Monday, January 20, 7 p.m.
Suz Bates, a local genealogist, will discuss and demonstrate managing tools in Ancestry DNA, MyHeritage DNA, 23andMe, and FTDNA kits to protect your DNA information. (V) (R)

Night Off? Game On!

FOR AGES 18+
Mondays, January 20,
February 17, 7 p.m.
Spend your night off playing tabletop games with other gaming enthusiasts! (R)



Let's Plan a Trip to Europe

Tuesday, January 21, 7 p.m.
Gene Flynn will highlight both traditional and updated recommendations for planning an excellent European vacation. (R)

Financial Forecast 2025

Thursday, January 23, 7 p.m.
Join John Daly, CFP of Daly Investment Management, for a review of 2024's key market developments, an assessment of our current economic standing, and informed insights into what these trends could mean for 2025. (R)

Post-Election Update With Paul Lisnek

Tuesday, January 28, 7 p.m.
WGN-TV host Paul Lisnek will speak about the election results and what we can expect from the upcoming four years. *Presented in partnership with the League of Women Voters.* (V) (R)



Illinois Libraries Present

Illinois Libraries Present (ILP), a statewide collaboration among public libraries, connects communities and audiences by offering premier online events for member libraries and their patrons.



Chicago Pizza: Past, Present and Future With Steve Dolinsky Thursday, January 9, 7 p.m.

Steve Dolinsky, well-known Food Guy reporter at NBC5 Chicago and James Beard Award winner for his TV, radio and podcast work, will dish on *The Ultimate Chicago Pizza Guide: A History of Squares & Slices in the Windy City*, his comprehensive guide to the styles, locales, and people that make Chicago a destination for slices and pies. (V) (R)



Love and Laughs With Michelle Buteau Thursday, January 23, 7 p.m.

Join comedian, actress, and producer Michelle Buteau for a night of comedy as she shares stories about love, life, and everything in between with the host and producer of WBEZ's "Nerdetette" podcast, Greta Johnsen. Buteau won the Critics Choice Award for Best Comedy Special for *Welcome to Buteaupia*. Her new special, *A Buteau-ful Mind*, drops on Netflix December 31. (V) (R)



An Evening With James McBride Tuesday, February 4, 7 p.m.

Spend an evening with author, musician, and screenwriter James McBride, whose memoir, *The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother*, remained on the New York Times bestseller's list for two years. The New York Times also named his novel *The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store* one of 100 Notable Books of 2023. President Obama awarded McBride the 2015 National Humanities Medal "for humanizing the complexities of discussing race in America." (V) (R)



Slowing Down with Amy Tan Wednesday, February 19, 7 p.m.

National Humanities Medal winner and bestselling author of *The Joy Luck Club*, Amy Tan shares her body of work and reflects on the wonder of slowing down and savoring the quiet moments. Her connection to nature is captured in her latest publication, *The Backyard Bird Chronicles*, a collection of sketches and essays which debuted at No. 1 on both the New York Times and the Indie bestsellers lists. (V) (R)

ILP is funded in part by a grant awarded by the Illinois State Library, a department of the Office of Secretary of State, using funds provided by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services, under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA). ILP is committed to inclusion and accessibility. To request accommodations, please email illinoislibrariespresent@gmail.com.

Craft Supply Swap

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 1-4 P.M.

Donate new or gently used craft supplies items January 11-19 at the Information Desk or second floor Fiction/AV/Teen desk and receive a 1 p.m. early entry ticket to the event. Doors open to the public from 2-4 p.m.



Lawyers at the Library: Your Legal Help Desk

Wednesdays, January 29, February 26, 6:30 p.m., 7 p.m., or 7:30 p.m. (V) (R)



After You're Gone: Future Proofing Your Genealogy Research

Thursday, February 6, 7 p.m.
Author and genealogist Thomas MacEntee will demonstrate how to ensure your genealogy research carries on so the next generation of researchers can benefit. (V) (R)



The Black Music Experience

Tuesday, February 11, 7 p.m.
A renowned pianist, bandleader, composer, and arranger, Joyce Rene Walker gives a performance with narration that explores the impact of urban music on the Civil Rights Movement and how music from the past and present brings people together. (R)

Internet Privacy and Reducing Robocalls with CUB

Thursday, February 13, 7 p.m.
Join the Citizens Utility Board (CUB) for an informative session on internet privacy and reducing robocalls. (V) (R)

Diamond Painting for Beginners

Wednesday, February 19, 6:30 p.m.
Come create a tiny art piece using "diamond" rhinestones as the paint! (R)

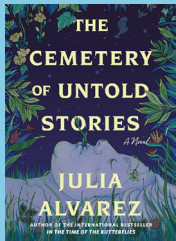
The Shakespeare Project of Chicago: *The Winter's Tale*

Tuesday, February 25, 7 p.m.
The library welcomes The Shakespeare Project of Chicago with a performance of *The Winter's Tale* by William Shakespeare. Directed by Peter Garino. *Sponsored by the Library Foundation.* (R)

Book Discussions

Connect with fellow readers in the community over thoughtfully chosen books during one of our book groups. Looking for something non-traditional? Check out Let's Talk Books or Completely Booked: A 20s and 30s Book Group.

Wednesday Morning Book Group (NR)

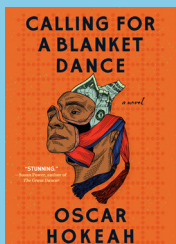


Wednesday,
January 8, 11 a.m.
*The Cemetery of
Untold Stories*
by Julia Alvarez

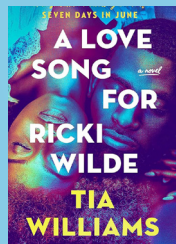


Wednesday,
February 5, 11 a.m.
*The Queen of
Sugar Hill*
by ReShonda Tate

Monday Night Book Group (NR)

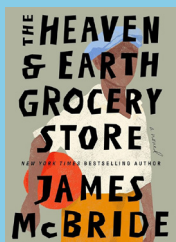


Monday,
January 13, 7 p.m.
*Calling for a
Blanket Dance*
by Oscar Hokeah

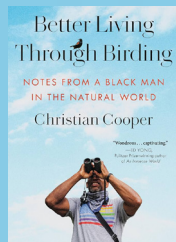


Monday,
February 10, 7 p.m.
*A Love Song For
Ricki Wilde*
by Tia Williams

Thursday Afternoon Book Group (NR)



Thursday,
January 16, 12 p.m.
*The Heaven & Earth
Grocery Store*
by James McBride



Thursday,
February 20, 12 p.m.
*Better Living
Through Birding*
by Christian Cooper



Let's Talk Books (R)

Wednesdays, January 29, February 26, 1 p.m.
Recommend your favorites and learn which titles have others readers talking.

EMERSON'S ALE HOUSE

Completely Booked: A 20s and 30s Book Group

Wednesday, January 15, 7 p.m.
A social book group for book enthusiasts in their 20s and 30s at Emerson's Ale House, 113 S. Emerson St.! The library will provide a round of appetizers for the group — other food and beverages are available for purchase — while we discuss *Margo's Got Money Troubles* by Rufi Thorpe. (R)

Build Your Own Book Discussion Kit

Hosting your own book group or looking to start one? Consider one of the over 150 book discussion titles available at the library. From gripping thrillers to offbeat character studies to popular celebrity book club picks, there's something for every kind of book club.

Stop by the Fiction/AV/Teen desk for help building your own book discussion kit complete with book copies and discussion materials prepared by our expert Readers' Advisors.

New year, new challenges!

2025 Book Bingo and Movie Bingo

JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31

Whether your to-be-read or to-be-watched lists are a mile long or you're just looking to shake things up a bit in the new year, the library has two new bingo cards for you! Our year-long challenges encourage you to explore our collection, try new genres, and maybe even discover a new favorite. Plus, earn prizes as you complete each card.

So, turn the page to a new year and make a resolution to expand your reading, or pop that popcorn and start tackling your watchlist. Cheers to making 2025 a year of literary and cinematic fun!

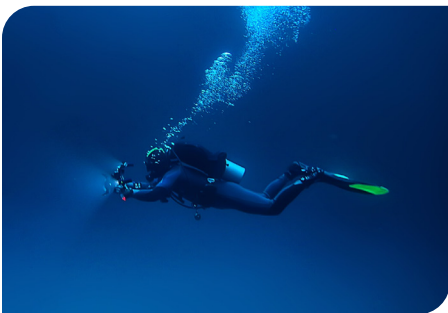
Pick up a bingo card after January 1 at the Fiction/AV/Teen desk or visit mopl.beanstack.org to sign up!

TEENS AND ADULTS





Small Business Morning Meetup
Wednesday, February 26, 9 a.m.
Share a cup of coffee with other local entrepreneurs, start-ups, founders, freelancers, home businesses, and solopreneurs. Expand your network, exchange ideas, and make valuable connections while enjoying coffee and donuts. (R)



Frozen in Time: The W. C. Kimball, a Lake Michigan Shipwreck
Thursday, February 27, 7 p.m.
Dive into an evening with award-winning underwater photographer Cal Kothrade as he uses video and photos of the W.C. Kimball — the most intact 19th century schooner shipwreck in the world — to weave a tale of loss and mystery. (V) (R)

Technology



Digital Basics

Computer Essentials
Tuesday, February 4, 10 a.m.
Learn the basics of computers, beginning with an introduction to different types of computers to the systems they run on and more. (R)

File Management
Tuesday, February 11, 10 a.m.
Learn the basics of computer file management, from organizing files and folders to regulating the storage on computers running Windows 10 or 11. (R)



Drop-In Tech Training
Tuesday, February 18, 2-4 p.m.
Stop in and bring your questions about technology-related subjects like Word, Excel, PowerPoint, email, and e-books. (NR)



Job Search Series

This virtual series is designed to set you up for job search success in 2025 and beyond. Join us for one or all of these sessions

Get Organized for Your Job Search
Monday, January 27, 7 p.m.
Krissy Metzler and Kate Wade, executive function coaches and founders of The Golden System, will present helpful advice to make your job search smoother and more manageable. (V) (R)

Ace the Job Interview
Monday, February 3, 7 p.m.
Join us for practical tips and strategies to improve your interview performance, whether you're a recent graduate or an experienced professional. (V) (R)

Leverage AI for Career Success: Transform Your Resume and Job Search with AI
Thursday, February 20, 7 p.m.
Career progression expert and coach Rosie Zilinskas will explain how to tailor your resume and cover letters and interview like a pro using AI tools. (V) (R)

South Branch Events

1711 W. Algonquin Rd., Mount Prospect, IL 60056 847-590-4090 | www.mppl.org/southbranch

Teen Volunteering

Check out volunteer opportunities on page 9.

Build and Watch |

Ver y construir

FOR FAMILIES

Enjoy a movie night at the library and have fun building with LEGO bricks! (R)



Inside Out

2015; PG;
95 minutes

Friday, January 3,
5 p.m.



Toy Story

1995; G;
77 minutes

Monday, February 3,
5 p.m.

Perler Bead Creations |

Creaciones de Perler

BEST FOR AGES 5-11 WITH AN ADULT

Monday, January 6, 5 p.m.

Design your own colorful bead creations! (R)

Play and Learn | Jugar y aprender

BEST FOR AGES 2-5 WITH AN ADULT

Tuesdays, 11:30 a.m.

Join us for a bilingual English/Spanish storytime, music, crafts, and play-based learning. Call the Community Connections Center at 847-506-4930 to register. (R)

"Read it and Eat it" Storytime |

Hora de cuento "Léelo y cómelo"

BEST FOR AGES 3-6 WITH THEIR FAMILIES

Friday, January 17, 5:30 p.m.

Join us for a read aloud storytime, then create snacks and treats to enjoy. (R)



Cricut Design Space for

Beginners | Cricut Design Space para principiantes

FOR TEENS AND ADULTS

Wednesday, January 22, 4 p.m.

Join us to learn and explore Cricut Design Space and learn how to use the machine. Pick a design, cut with the Cricut machine, and transfer it to a mug with the Cricut Mug Press. (R)

Super STEAM Stations

BEST FOR AGES 7-11

Friday, January 31, 5:30-7 p.m.

Play and learn through a variety of interactive stations featuring science, nature and art activities from our Library of Things Junior collection. (R)



Valentine's Day Storytime |

Hora de cuento del día de San Valentín

BEST FOR AGES 2-5 WITH THEIR FAMILIES

Friday, February 14, 11:30 a.m.

Join us for a Valentine's Day storytime with stories, songs, and a special craft. (R)

LEGO Mania | LEGO manía

BEST FOR AGES 5-11 WITH AN ADULT

Wednesday, February 19, 5:30 p.m.

Create a masterpiece using our large collection of LEGO bricks! At the end of the program, we will display all LEGO creations at the library. (R)

Many of our programs at South Branch are presented in English and Spanish. | Muchos de nuestros programas en la Sucursal del Sur se presentarán en inglés y español.



Mount Prospect
Public Library

10 S. Emerson St., Mount Prospect, IL 60056
www.mppl.org

**CARRIER ROUTE PRE-SORT
NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION**
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 299
MOUNT PROSPECT, IL 60056

ECRWSS EDDM

POSTAL CUSTOMER MOUNT PROSPECT IL 60056

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Marie Bass
Mary Anne Benden
Sylvia Fulk
Brian Gilligan
Rosemary Groenwald
Sylvia Haas
Kristine O'Sullivan
Su Reynders, Executive Director

Regular Library Board Meeting

Thursday, January 16, 6 p.m.
Thursday, February 20, 6 p.m.

CONTACT US

Our public service desks are available by chat, text, and phone.

Phone: 847-253-5675

South Branch: 847-590-4090

Chat: bit.ly/MPPLlivechat

Text: 847-750-4275

Online: mppl.org/contact-us

Main Library Location and Hours 10 S. Emerson St.

Monday–Thursday: 9 a.m.–9 p.m.
Friday: 9 a.m.–7 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m.–5 p.m.
Sunday: 11 a.m.–5 p.m.

South Branch Location and Hours 1711 W. Algonquin Rd.

Monday–Friday: 11 a.m.–7:30 p.m.
Saturday: 11 a.m.–3 p.m.
Sunday: Closed

Friends Book Sale

Saturday, January 18, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

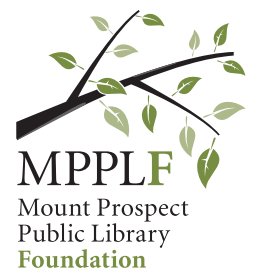
Sunday, January 19, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Stock up on great books at bargain prices during the Friends of the Library's used book sale. Funds raised through the sale will help the Friends support additional library programs, events, and services. For more information about the Friends of the Library including volunteer opportunities, visit their website: www.friendsofmppl.org



Foundation Volunteer Opportunity

The Foundation is seeking a volunteer treasurer. This role requires just a few hours a month and helps us continue our mission of providing funding for cultural and educational programming, which enhances the library's already incredible calendar of events. Some knowledge of QuickBooks and general accounting is required. Be a part of the team that supports both our library and community. For more information about the Foundation, check out mpplfoundation.org.



The library will be closed on
Tuesday, December 31 at 5 p.m.
Wednesday, January 1 — New Year's Day