



Winnetka-Northfield
PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT

The Source



WINNETKA PUBLIC LIBRARY

768 OAK



**Discover
Something
New**

**2026
Spring
March – May**

**Page 7
Beyond
Books**



Winnetka-Northfield
PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT

Winnetka Library

768 Oak Street, Winnetka, IL 60093
(847) 446-7220 • eref@wnpld.org

Monday – Thursday: 9am – 9pm
Friday – Saturday: 9am – 5pm
Sunday: 1pm – 5pm

Northfield Library

1785 Orchard Lane, Northfield, IL 60093
(847) 446-5990 • northfieldlibrary@wnpld.org

Monday – Thursday: 8am – 8pm
Friday: 8am – 5pm
Saturday: 9am – 5pm
Sunday: 1pm – 5pm

wnpld.org

Connect With Us



Library Closings

April 5: Easter
May 24 & 25: Memorial Day Weekend

Library Trustees

President: Laura Freechack
Vice President: Ranjini Shankar
Treasurer: Matt Rinnich
Secretary: Sarah Tegel
Jenny Fisher
Lindsay Jenkins
Sarah Munoz

Management Team

Director: Monica Dombrowski
Adult Services: Nick Mall
Branch Services: Melissa Morgan
Business Manager: Laura Martinez
Digital Services: Laura Munoz
Information Technology: Mark Swenson
Marketing & Public Relations: Sarah Quish
Patron Services: Courtney Volny
Youth Services: Anna Newhouse

Friends of the Library

P.O. Box 8146, Northfield, IL 60093

Photography & Videography Policy: Library staff use photographs and videos to help convey the story of the library's impact on the community. Attendance at our programs and events constitutes consent to be photographed and/or filmed for use in our promotional materials (including social media platforms). Names and personally identifying information will not be used without the express permission of the subject or the subject's parent, legal guardian, or caregiver. Participants (or their legal representatives on their behalf) may opt out of being photographed or filmed by informing the staff member coordinating the program or event.

News



Strengthening Community Connections

We are happy to announce that we are growing our outreach offerings and are excited to share several new initiatives to support community engagement efforts. We recently hired Pim Halka as our full-time Community Engagement Coordinator. Since joining the library, he has revamped our home delivery service and worked with local organizations on a food drive to support our community. Moving forward, we are deepening partnerships with the Winnetka and Northfield park districts and area schools to provide meaningful library services outside of our four walls. Stay tuned for a number of exciting new offerings starting this summer!

Northfield Renovation Coming Soon

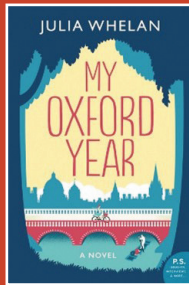
We are working in partnership with the Village of Northfield on an exciting project to expand and improve the Northfield Library through an Intergovernmental Agreement. This collaboration will allow us to continue serving the Northfield portion of our district while creating more space, updated features, and an improved experience for visitors of all ages.

Visit wnpld.org/northfield-library-expansion for more information.

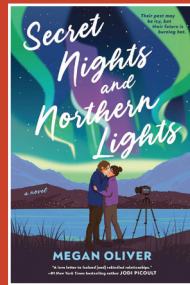
Romance + Fantasy = *Romantasy*

Fall in love with our list of romance, fantasy, and romantasy favorites.

Romance



My Oxford Year
by Julia Whelan



Secret Nights and Northern Lights
by Megan Oliver

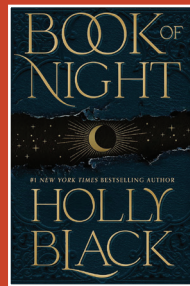


Not Another Love Song
by Julie Soto

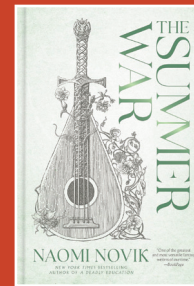
Fantasy



The House in the Cerulean Sea
by T.J. Klune

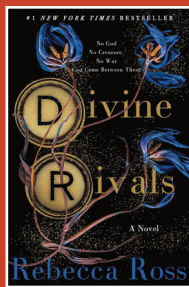


Book of Night
by Holly Black

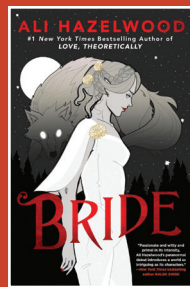


The Summer War
by Naomi Novik

Romantasy



Divine Rivals
by Rebecca Ross



Bride
by Ali Hazelwood



Neon Gods
by Katee Robert

Kids

(R) = Registration required | (D) = Drop In | (T) = Ticketed

How to register for an event: Log onto wnpld.org and under “events” you will find the events calendar. Locate the program of interest and register. You may call (847) 446-7220 or email youth@wnpld.org.

Babies, Toddlers, & Preschoolers

Pretend Play

Step into some new shoes with pretend play. Dress up and play as a firefighter, zookeeper, chef, doctor, and more.

Winnetka Library: Mondays, March 2, April 13, May 18, 10am
Ages 2+ with Adult (D)

Little Messy Art

Drop in for a messy craft and leave the cleanup to us.

Winnetka Library: Mondays, March 2 & April 6, 4pm
Ages 0-4 with Adult (D)

Art Play

Explore art and creativity with hands-on projects for little ones. Smocks will be provided for messy fun, but we recommend wearing clothes that can get a little dirty.

Northfield Library: Wednesdays, March 4 & 18, April 1 & 15, May 6 & 20, 10am • Ages 0-4 with Adult (D)

Tummy Time Painting

A no-mess introduction to art for babies who are building core strength or learning to crawl.

Northfield Library: Wednesdays, March 4, April 29, May 27, 8:30am • Ages 0-1 with Adult (D)

Sensory Shenanigans

Join us for an hour of interactive free play. Activities in this program will foster fine and gross motor skills, and concepts through play. This program is sure to be a little messy (and fun) so wear clothes you don't mind getting dirty.

Winnetka Library: Fridays, March 6 & 20, April 3 & 17, May 1 & 22, 10am • Ages 0-4 with Adult (D)

Busy Bodies

Join us for an hour of movement, fun, play, and activities to practice and build gross motor skills.

Winnetka Library: Mondays, March 9 & 30, April 6, May 4, 10am
Ages 0-4 with Adult (D)

Car Crawl

Little drivers will explore, zoom, and giggle their way through imaginative tracks in a mini neighborhood. Grab a toy car and get ready to roll!

Winnetka Library: Fridays, March 13, April 10, May 15, 10am
Ages 0-5 with Adult (D)

Look, Baby!

Join us with your infant and discover the world around us with baby-safe sensory and exploration activities.

Winnetka Library: Mondays, March 16 & April 20, 10am
Ages 0-14 Months with Adult (D)

STEAM Play

Join us for an exciting hour of hands-on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math) activities.

Winnetka Library: Thursdays, March 19 & April 16, 4pm
Ages 2+ with Adult (D)

Storytime Schedule (T)

Singing, dancing, stories,
and more!

Mondays

Northfield Library

Family Storytime
Ages 0-5 with Adult
10am

Tuesdays

Winnetka Library

Family Storytime
Ages 0-5 with Adult
9:30am

Wednesdays

Winnetka Library

Family Storytime
Ages 0-5 with Adult
9:30am

Thursdays

Winnetka Library

Family Storytime
Ages 0-5 with Adult
9:30am

Fridays

Northfield Library

Family Storytime
Ages 0-5 with Adult
10am

Move & Play
Ages 0-5 with Adult
10am

Move & Play
Ages 0-5 with Adult
10am

Move & Groove
Ages 0-5 with Adult
10am

We are on Storytime break March 17 & March 22 - April 11. Please check online for other events while we're on break!

Special Performers

Enjoy a visit from Miss Make-Believe or OMi Music Institute during Storytime breaks. Tickets will be available the morning of the event on a first-come, first-served basis.

Northfield Library: Mondays, March 23 & 30, April 6 & Fridays, March 27, April 3 & 10, May 29, 10am • Ages 0–5 with Adult (T)

Make Some Noise

Join us for some super noisy fun! Jiggle some shakers, hit the rhythm sticks, dance to the music with scarves, and more!

**Winnetka Library: Mondays, March 23 & April 27, 10am
Ages 0–5 with Adult (D)**

Destruction Derby

Does your little one love to destroy things? Lean into it! Join us for an hour of safe destructive play. This program is sure to be a little messy (and fun) so wear clothes you don't mind getting dirty.

**Winnetka Library: Tuesday, March 24, 4pm
Ages 2+ with Adult (D)**

Rock 'n' Roll Storytime

Rock 'n' Kids® involves music, movement, and imaginative play to create a one-of-a-kind musical experience.

Winnetka Library: Friday, May 8 & Monday, May 11, 9:30am & 10:15am • Ages 0–5 with Adult (T)



Playdough Party

Join us for an afternoon of squishing, sculpting, and creating with playdough.

Winnetka Library: Tuesday, April 7, 4pm • Ages 2+ with Adult (D)

Fancy Tea Party

Dress up in your fanciest clothes and join us for a morning tea party with snacks and crafts.

Winnetka Library: Friday, April 24, 10am • Ages 2+ with Adult (R)

Silly Sidewalk Obstacle Course

Join us for an hour of obstacle course fun outside in the Children's Garden.

Winnetka Library: Tuesday, May 5, 4pm • Ages 2+ with Adult (D)

School-Age

Stickerpalooza

Join us for an awesome afternoon of sticker fun. Each participant will get a booklet to decorate and collect stickers. Bring your own stickers to swap with others.

**Winnetka Library: Tuesday, March 3, 4pm
Ages 3+ with Adult (D)**

Sensational STEAM

Join us for an exciting hour of hands-on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math) activities.

March 4: Oobleck Slime

April 8: Stick Challenge

May 6: Soda with Mentos

**Winnetka Library: Wednesdays, 4pm
Ages 7–12 (R)**

LEGO® Fun

Lots of LEGO® bricks will be available so come ready with your imagination.

Winnetka Library: Mondays, March 9, April 13, May 11, 4pm • Ages 4+ with Adult (D)

After School Free Play

Join us after school for an hour of interactive free play. This program is sure to be a little messy (and fun) so wear clothes you don't mind getting dirty.

Winnetka Library: Wednesdays, March 25, April 15, May 13, 4pm • Ages 5+ with Adult (D)

Clay Play

Squish, shape, and sculpt with air drying clay. This sensory art experience lets kids explore texture, shape, and color through creative play.

Northfield Library: Wednesdays, March 25 & April 29, 4pm • Ages 5+ with Adult (D)

Crafternoon

No school today? Join us for an afternoon of crafting fun. Stay the whole time or drop in when you'd like!

**Winnetka Library: Fridays, March 27, May 1 & Tuesday, March 31, 2pm
Ages 5+ with Adult (D)**

Start Your Rockin' Collection

Join The Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art and start your very own rock collection! Everyone will receive six rock, mineral, and fossil samples, but feel free to bring your own rocks for expert identification.

**Winnetka Library: Thursday, April 2, 1pm
Ages 5+ with Adult (R)**

Nintendo Switch Gaming Fun

Meet us for an afternoon of gaming fun.

March 12: Mario Kart

April 23: Mario Party

May 7: Animal Crossing (please bring your own Switch)

**Winnetka Library: Thursdays, 4pm
Ages 5–12 with Adult (R)**

Pet Rock Plant

Decorate a rock and a mini-planter to bring home a no-maintenance "plant."

**Northfield Library: Tuesday, April 21, 4pm
Ages 6+ with Adult (R)**

Tweens & Teens

Ugly Art Contest

Create the weirdest, wildest, and most wonderfully hideous masterpiece imaginable! Then we'll vote for the ultimate eyesore. The champion will win an Ugly Trophy and a \$100 Michaels giftcard.

Submission Period: March 1–27

Rules:

- Open to students in Grades 5–12
- Students must live in Winnetka, Northfield, or Kenilworth or attend an in-district school
- One piece of art per entrant
- Artwork can be any medium
- Artwork must be entirely original (no assistance from adults or AI)
- No identifying personal information can be on the artwork

How to Submit:

Send a photo of your ugly art to youth@wnpld.org with the subject "Ugly Art Contest."

Include in the body of your email:

- First and Last Name
- Grade
- School
- Phone Number
- Email

Voting Period: March 30–April 5

Winners will be announced by April 10!

Spring Break Teen To-Go Craft

Capture spring break vibes by creating a DIY suncatcher.

Winnetka Library: Pickup begins at 12pm on Thursday, March 26 • Ages 9–18 (R)

Graphic Novel Crew

Let's meet at Graeter's and discuss a graphic novel. The library will provide a free scoop of ice cream, how sweet!

March 26: *Ember and the Island of Lost Creatures* by Jason Pamment

April 30: *El Deafo* by Cece Bell

May 14: *Refugee* by Alan Gratz

Graeter's Ice Cream (940 Green Bay Rd, Winnetka): Thursdays, 4pm • Ages 9–12 (R)

Family Fun

Family Science

Have fun while experimenting! Participate in fun STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math) activities that will leave a lasting impression.

Northfield Library: Wednesdays, March 11, April 8, May 13, 4pm
Ages 4+ with Adult (D)

Anything But Brushes

Time to get creative with anything but a brush. Get to work painting with toys, sponges, stamps, and more.

Winnetka Library: Monday, March 30, 2pm • Ages 2+ with Adult (D)

Great White Shark Adventure Friends Sponsored

Join Wayne and Karen Brown from The Ocean Adventure for a deep dive into the great white shark.

Winnetka Library: Wednesday, April 1, 4pm • Ages 5+ with Adult (R)

Dress-up a Peep

Peeps love to play dress-up. Decorate them with colorful candy to help each Peep stand out.

Northfield Library: Wednesday, April 1, 4pm • Ages 4+ with Adult (D)

Volcanoes! Friends Sponsored

Join Sara Kurth, volcano expert from The Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art, for an unforgettable journey into the fiery world of volcanoes. This interactive presentation is packed with hands-on activities, real rock samples, thrilling videos, and much more.

Winnetka Library: Thursday, April 2, 2pm • Ages 5+ with Adult (R)

Jellybean Taste Testing

Sample savory and sweet jellybeans and put your taste buds to the test.

Northfield Library: Wednesday, April 15, 4pm • Ages 4–12 with Adult (R)

No Escape!

Actually, there is an escape, but you must work together and solve the clues as a family! We'll be using Breakout EDU which turns any room into an escape room! Sessions run for 30 min. One family per session.

Winnetka Library: Saturday, April 18, 9:30am, 10:30am, 11:30am, 1:30pm, 2:30pm & 3:30pm • Ages 7+ with Adult (R)

Fruit Rocket Ship

Get creative with fruit and make an edible rocket ship.

Northfield Library: Wednesday, May 6, 4pm • All Ages with Adult (R)



Beyond Books

Discover What Else the Youth Department Has to Offer

Looking for new ways to learn, play, and explore beyond traditional books? The Youth Department offers a variety of engaging non-book materials designed to spark curiosity, creativity, and fun for all ages. From interactive audio stories and hands-on learning kits to STEAM experiments and skill-building projects for teens, these collections bring learning to life at home and on the go. Discover something new to check out this season!



Early Literacy Kits

Designed for pre-readers ages 0–5 with a focus on developing early literacy skills through concepts like words, rhymes, sounds, songs, and more.

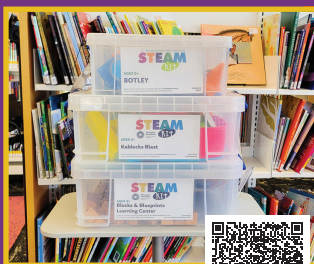
Explore →



Teen Learn It Kits

Explore kits designed for teens, where you can acquire new skills like crochet, sewing, and more.

Explore →



STEAM Kits

These kits allow children of all ages to explore topics in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics.

Explore →



Yoto Cards & Tonies

Check out our collection of Yoto Cards and Tonies.

Explore →



Rock Star Read Aloud Kits

Selected for their ability to engage, entertain, and captivate kids from grades K–3.

Explore →



Video Games

Check out our video game collection for kids, featuring a wide variety of fun, age-appropriate games for all interests and skill levels.

Explore →



Adults

(R) = Registration is required for this event.

How to register for an event: Log onto wnpld.org and under “events” you will find the events calendar. Locate the program of interest and register. You may call (847) 446-7220 or email eref@wnpld.org.

Gaming

Mah Jongg Lessons

Mah Jongg is a fun, tile-based strategy game. Instructor Sylvia Taflove will teach the basics — cards, suits, tiles, and rules — followed by supervised play each session.

Northfield Library: Mondays, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 11:30am **(R)**

Northfield Library: Mondays, April 6, 13, 20, 27, 11:30am **(R)**

Bingo!

After you file your taxes, enjoy a few rounds of BINGO. Join us for a great time playing for fun and a chance to win a small prize.

Northfield Library, Wednesday, April 15, 2pm **(R)**

Canasta Lessons

Discover the fun of Canasta, a rummy-style card game. Instructor Sylvia Taflove will teach the basics, with time for supervised play each session.

Northfield Library: Fridays, May 1, 8, 15, 22, 1pm **(R)**

Virtual Friends & Family Trivia Night

Join us for a fun evening of virtual trivia for all ages. Whether you team up with friends and family or play solo, test your knowledge of topics including movies, pop culture, science, history, literature, and more! Three lucky winners will receive a prize.

Virtual: Thursday, May 28, 7pm **(R)**

Author Events

Beyond the Page with Percival Everett



Percival Everett, like his fiction, defies categorization. His most recent novel, *James*, earned both the Pulitzer Prize for fiction and the National Book Award. Tune in for our interview with Percival, moderated by Brandis Friedman of WTTW, to get a glimpse beyond the page.

Virtual: Thursday, March 19, 7pm **(R)**

From the Ground Up: Gardening as Spiritual Ecology

Jeanne Nolan, local author and Winnetka native, has cultivated many beautiful outdoor spaces throughout her career as a professional gardener. Join us as she shares her story of gardening as stewardship and as a form of spiritual practice.

Virtual: Tuesday, April 14, 6:30pm **(R)**

Cristina Henríquez: Voice, Culture, and Human Connection



Join critically-acclaimed bestselling author Cristina Henríquez for a compelling conversation about her work. Henríquez's newest book, *The Great Divide*, is a moving exploration of the people who lived, loved, and labored during the construction of the Panama Canal.

Virtual: Thursday, April 16, 7pm **(R)**

Babel-On with R.F. Kuang



R.F. Kuang's genre-bending fiction broaches ordinarily serious topics from a satirical and fantastical perspective. Join us for a conversation with R.F., moderated by Kelly Jensen, author and senior editor at Book Riot.

Virtual: Tuesday, May 19, 7pm **(R)**

Health & Wellness

Chair Yoga

Join instructor Isabel Raci, C-IAYT, for a session of gentle chair yoga and guided meditation. Tune in to stretch, breathe, gain flexibility, and strengthen the body in an accessible way with seated poses. Perfect for beginners, students will leave class feeling relaxed and grounded.

Virtual: Fridays, March 6 & 20, April 3 & 17, May 1 & 15, 10am **(R)**



Illinois Legal Aid Database Demonstration

The Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County will offer drop-in sessions designed to help residents learn to use the Illinois Legal Aid Online (ILAO) database. The clerk will provide one-on-one demonstrations to help residents explore this legal resource. *(Please note staff will not be providing legal advice.)*

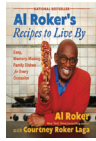
Northfield Library: Tuesday, May 12, 4pm

Book Discussions

Food for Thought: Cookbook Book Club

Do you love browsing through cookbooks and trying new recipes? Check out one of the spotlighted cookbooks, try some recipes and bring a dish to share.

Winnetka Library: Mondays, 7pm (R)



March 9: As Seen on Morning TV

Today Loves Food: Recipes from America's Favorite Kitchen by Emi Boscamp, Katie Stilo Debbie, and Cohen Kosofsky
Al Roker's Recipes to Live By: Easy, Memory-Making Family Dishes for Every Occasion by Al Roker and Courtney Roker Laga



April 13: Dinner with Melissa Clark

Dinner: Changing the Game by Melissa Clark
Dinner in French: My Recipes by Way of France by Melissa Clark



May 11: Party Time!

Party People: A Cookbook for Creative Celebrations by Brie Larson and Courtney McBroom
What Can I Bring? Recipes to Help You Live Your Guest Life by Casey Elsass

Clue: A Mystery Book Club

Join us for a spirited discussion exploring a variety of mystery genres, from true crime and dark thrillers to police procedurals and historical mysteries.

Hybrid (Northfield Library & Virtual): Tuesdays, 7:30pm (R)



March 10

The Unkindness of Ravens by M. E. Hilliard

April 14

Listen for the Lie by Amy Tintera

May 12

Tokyo Express by Seicho Matsumoto

Next Chapter Book Club

Join us as we explore all that popular fiction has to offer. We'll bring books to life through colorful conversation.

Winnetka Library: Thursdays, 11:30am (R)



March 19

The Irish Goodbye by Heather Aimee O'Neill

April 16

The Book Club for Troublesome Women by Marie Bostwick

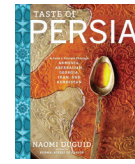
May 21

Broken Country by Clare Leslie Hall

Savor & Share: Cookbook Book Club

Join us for a lunchtime book club. Bring a recipe to share and a dish to savor with the group.

Northfield Library: Thursdays, 12:30pm (R)



March 19: Celebrate Nowruz

Taste of Persia: A Cook's Travels Through Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Iran, and Kurdistan by Naomi Dujuid
Sabzi: Vibrant Vegetarian Recipes by Yasmin Khan



April 16: Mystery Pick!

Knife Drop by Nick DiGiovanni
The Oh She Glows Cookbook by Angela Liddon

May 21: Signature Dish

Enjoy a lunchtime meet-up featuring food and conversation. Bring your signature dish and its recipe to share. No books this time—just good food and company.

Go Green Reads

Join us for this lively book discussion — we aim to raise environmental awareness one fascinating book at a time!

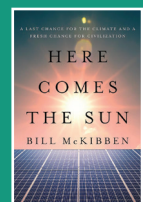
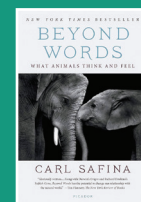
Go Green Reads is offered through a collaboration among Go Green Northfield, Go Green Wilmette, and Go Green Winnetka in partnership with The Book Stall and the Winnetka-Northfield Public Library District.

Virtual: Mondays, 7pm (R)

March 16: *Beyond Words* by Carl Safina

May 18: *Here Comes the Sun*

by Bill McKibben



Great Conversations with Robert Waterbury: A Short Classics Book Club

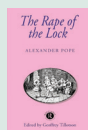
Join us for invigorating discussions on concise and thought-provoking works.

Winnetka Library: Mondays, 1pm (R)

March 2: *The Rape of the Lock* by Alexander Pope

April 6: *Les Misérables* by Victor Hugo

May 4: *Utopia* by Sir Thomas More



Overlooked Favorites Film Series

Register to receive a pre-recorded introduction and critique by our resident film expert Scott Siegel, along with a link to watch the film at home through our Kanopy streaming service.

Virtual: Fridays (R)



March 27

Between the Lines

See a young Jeff Goldblum in this 1970s dramedy about a counterculture newspaper.



April 24

Enemies, A Love Story

Anjelica Huston stars in this 1940s tale based on Isaac Bashevis Singer's tragicomedy.



May 22

King Cohen

A documentary on the life and low-budget work of B-movie legend Larry Cohen.

Find Scott's previous movie reviews at: wnpld.org/film-series.

98th Academy Awards Preview

Loyola University film and language professor Zbigniew Banas will examine the changing landscape of today's cinema while focusing on the most significant movies and filmmakers nominated for this year's 98th Academy Awards.

Virtual: Sunday, March 8, 11am (R)

History

Chow Down: Food in the Navy

Ask any sailors about their time in the Navy and one of the first things they mention is the food. Discover how innovations like canning and refrigeration affected the quality of Navy food over the course of its more than 200-year history and get inspired by some classic Navy recipes.

Virtual: Tuesday, March 3, 6:30pm (R)

Joyous Japan

World traveler Brian Michalski will retrace a glorious five-week adventure through Japan, journeying aboard the famous Shinkansen bullet train, following the blooming cherry blossoms. Learn about Japan's unforgettable cuisine, rich history, and vibrant culture. Michalski will share touching interactions with locals and striking original photography to transport you to the Land of the Rising Sun.

Virtual: Tuesday, March 10, 7pm (R)

America's Most Unusual Festivals — Film Screening

Join multi-Emmy Award winning producer and editor Harvey Moshman for a screening of *America's Most Unusual Festivals*, a 1-hour special and entry in the PBS series *Wild Travels*. Whether you're inspired to walk by the Stand Still Parade in Whalan, Minnesota, or enter your facial hair in the International Beard & Mustache Competition in Portland, Oregon (ladies welcome!), this is your VIP pass to the craziest annual celebrations that the U.S. has to offer.

Winnetka Library: Sunday, March 15, 2pm (R)

The Founding Mothers with Laura Keyes

The founding mothers of America aren't often mentioned — the women whose influence on the early years of the United States reverberated for centuries afterwards. Learn about soldiers, writers, printers, scholars, farmers, and spies who were vital to our nation's history.

Virtual: Tuesday, March 17, 7pm (R)

Singing Bird and the Importance of Native American Women in Illinois History

Dressed in her native regalia, Kim Sigafus, Ojibwe author and speaker, will give a history of the natives in Illinois with a focus on native women, such as Singing Bird (Blackhawk's wife) and Hononegah. She will discuss their day-to-day lives, including courting, marriage, and child-rearing, and how they changed the course of Illinois history.

Virtual: Wednesday, March 18, 7pm (R)

A Magician Among the Spirits — Houdini and the Supernatural

Before his death, Houdini stated that he would contact the living from the other side, if it is possible to do so. The question remains as to whether he succeeded. Join Troy Taylor on what would have been Houdini's 152nd birthday (100 years after his death) to learn about this American enigma's life and possible afterlife.

Virtual: Tuesday, March 24, 6:30pm (R)





Early Settler Homes of Winnetka

Join the Winnetka Historical Society for a trip back in time, exploring homes built in the 1800s that are still standing today. Discover fascinating stories of the early Winnetka settlers who built and lived in them.

Virtual: Wednesday, April 1, 7pm (R)

The Alamo and The Republic of Texas

Revisit the story of The Alamo and the Republic of Texas, once a sovereign country in North America from 1836-1846. This re-examination, presented by the National Museum of Mexican Art, will cut through familiar American myths and legends with historical context. It will explore how rebellion, expansion, and selective memory shaped nationalism, borders, and Texan culture—often at Mexico's expense.

Virtual: Tuesday, March 31, 7pm (R)

From War to Peace: Lee and Grant at Appomattox

In the final days of the American Civil War, two men from vastly different backgrounds would come together to begin the process of ending the conflict and returning the nation to peace. Those meetings set the tone for how the nation would move forward from the bloodiest conflict in American history.

Virtual: Thursday, April 2, 7pm (R)

The Happy Invention Postcard Show and Tell

Katherine Hamilton-Smith, founding curator of the Curt Teich Postcard Archives Collection, now at the Newberry Library in Chicago, returns to the Winnetka-Northfield Library to reprise her lavishly illustrated presentation on the history and significance of American picture postcards. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own family postcards for discussion on their historic and collectible value.

Winnetka Library: Tuesday, April 7, 7pm (R)

The History of Billy Joel

Though Billy Joel hasn't released a new album in over 27 years, he remains one of the world's most popular live performers. Through performance and interview video clips, this lecture traces his journey from humble beginnings in Hicksville, New York, to his rise to fame, iconic hits like "Just the Way You Are," "Uptown Girl," and "River of Dreams," glimpses into his personal life, and his enduring success as a top touring artist.

Virtual: Wednesday, April 15, 7pm (R)

Lights, Camera, Action! Stories of Action Movies Filmed in Chicago

From high-speed chases to explosive stunts, Chicago's architecture has helped create some of cinema's most unforgettable action moments. This presentation highlights incredible scenes and stunts from movies such as *The Dark Knight*, *The Blues Brothers*, *Transformers*, *Divergent*, *Backdraft*, *The Hunter*, and more.

Virtual: Wednesday, April 22, 7pm (R)

The Enduring Mystery of the Doomed 1845 Franklin Expedition

Join *Smithsonian* magazine editor Meilan Solly for a deep dive into the Franklin expedition, a failed search for the Northwest Passage that resulted in the deaths of all 129 officers and crew members. Solly will discuss how long-overlooked Inuit testimony holds the key to understanding what happened to the men after they vanished from the written record.

Virtual: Thursday, April 23, 7pm (R)

Inside Gene Kelly's House

Celebrate one of classic Hollywood's greatest song-and-dance men with a virtual tour of his Beverly Hills home.

Virtual: Tuesday, April 28, 6:30pm (R)

America's Oddest Museums — Film Screening

Join multi-E Emmy Award-winning producer and editor Harvey Moshman for a screening of *America's Oddest Museums*, a one-hour special from the PBS series *Wild Travels*. Beyond the museums you may remember from school field trips lies a wonderfully quirky world—featuring collections of mustard, pinball machines, and even dust, along with action figures and portraits made entirely from bugs. Discover these unusual institutions during the screening, followed by a live Q&A.

Winnetka Library: Sunday, May 3, 2pm (R)

How Do Movies Guide Your Eyes

Kelli Marshall, of Chicago Movie Tours, will demonstrate how movie directors use techniques like perspective relationships, focal length, and depth of field to guide viewers through a scene.

Virtual: Tuesday, May 5, 6:30pm (R)

Splish, Splash, and Stardom: Bobby Darin's Extraordinary Journey

Bobby Darin's career burned brightly and briefly, spanning rock 'n' roll, timeless standards, film, and political activism. Join historian and author Barry Bradford on Bobby Darin's 90th birthday to learn how Darin's immense talent, personal secrets, and fragile health shaped a life story as dramatic as his music.

Virtual: Thursday, May 14, 6:30pm (R)



Rooted in Success The Seed Library Is Back by Popular Demand

Our Seed Library invites gardeners of all experience levels, from first-time growers to seasoned green thumbs, to check out, exchange, or donate seeds for growing plants at home. Like a traditional library, but with seeds instead of books, it's an easy, low-risk way to try something new. Borrow seeds, grow them, and return some from your harvest to help restock the collection.

Visit the library to pick up seeds, or visit our website at wnpld.org/seed-library to learn more.

Home & Garden

Starting With a Seed

Seed starting is one of the most rewarding parts of gardening — watching a tiny seed become a healthy sprout brings real joy, when it goes well. We will discuss practical ways to start and care for seeds and seedlings before moving them outdoors. Topics include moisture management, preventing leggy growth, choosing the right soil mix, providing proper nutrients, temperature needs, and more.

Virtual: Thursday, March 5, 7pm (R)

Spring Migration Birding Walk

Join Red Hill Birding's founder Josh Engel at the Skokie Lagoons to learn about bird migration and see spring migrants at one of our best local birding hotspots. The beginning of May is a transitional period when a wide variety of species are passing through on their way north. Our walk will be easy, slow-paced, and educational. Bring binoculars if you have them.

Skokie Lagoons (north end of Willow Rd. parking lot): Saturday, May 9, 10am (R)

Live Performance

Cello Concert by the Fireplace

Enjoy a lively solo cello program by the fireplace, performed by Ellen Frolichstein.
Northfield Library: Sunday, March 8, 2pm (R)

Abigail Adams: A Dramatic Portrayal by Leslie Goddard

More than the wife of President John Adams and mother of President John Quincy Adams, Abigail Adams was a true partner to her husband and a committed patriot. In this living-history portrayal, she recounts her remarkable life, including her famous call for John Adams to "Remember the Ladies" during the founding of the new nation. With lively wit and insight, she shares her views on the founding fathers and offers a glimpse into one of history's great love stories.

Virtual: Monday, March 23, 7pm (R)

James Madison: Father of the U.S. Constitution with Terry Lynch

Enjoy a spirited portrayal of James Madison by actor Terry Lynch. Best known as the fourth president of the United States and the "Father of the U.S. Constitution," Madison was small in stature but great in determination. He co-authored The Federalist Papers, helping explain the need for a strong central government and championing the Constitution as its foundation.

Winnetka Library: Saturday, April 18, 3pm (R)



On the Homefront: How American Families Faced World War I

In 1917, a reluctant yet determined America entered World War I. Families sent their sons overseas, rationed food, and even gave up corsets to save steel for warships. Songs were written and sung to rally the troops and boost morale. Ellie from ElliePresents brings this pivotal moment to life, immersing you in the sights, sounds, and tastes of the era.

Northfield Library: Saturday, April 25, 2pm (R)



Handwriting Analysis

Graphologist Lorrissa Julianus will reveal what the size, shape, and spacing of your handwriting can say about your personality and relationships. Using celebrity handwriting examples, she'll share fascinating stories and insights into what our writing reveals about each of us.

Virtual: Wednesday, April 8, 6:30pm (R)

Personal Finance

Financial Planning Appointments

Do you have questions about how to invest, budget, or safeguard your finances? Schedule a free, one-hour in-person consultation with Certified Financial Planner®, Ed Gjertsen II, past national president of the Financial Planning Association and founder of Engage Wealth Group. There is a limit of one session per person.

Winnetka Library: Tuesdays, March 10, April 14, May 12, 10am & 11am (R)

Turbulence and Transition: The State of the Economy and Markets

Join Ed Gjertsen II, CFP®, for a timely overview of the 2026 economic and market outlook. He'll provide a clear-eyed view of current trends, including the impact of AI investment, interest rates, tariffs, and mid-cycle elections. Participants will gain clarity on key factors shaping today's complex financial landscape, from labor market shifts to household wealth effects.

Virtual: Wednesday, March 11, 7pm (R)

Budgeting and Saving

Ryan Decker, Associate Professor of Economics and Director for the Center for Financial Literacy, North Central College, will break down the basics of personal finance. This includes budgeting, introductory saving, and investment strategies. Learn when, where, and how to save, invest, or aggressively tackle debt. Resources and tools for learning more about these topics will be shared.

This is one of a collaborative series of virtual events presented by BIG (Business Interest Group) and co-sponsored by 23 public libraries in the Chicago area for Financial Fitness 2026.

Virtual: Thursday, April 9, 7pm (R)

Buying a Home: The Basics

Owning a home takes a lot of time, money, and energy, so it's important to be educated both about the process of buying a home as well as home ownership itself. This course will cover what a lender looks for in a loan application, credit basics, down payments, and the players in the home buying process.

This is one of a collaborative series of virtual events presented by BIG (Business Interest Group) and co-sponsored by 23 public libraries in the Chicago area for Financial Fitness 2026.

Virtual: Monday, April 13, 7pm (R)

Retirement Reality with Jill Schlesinger

Are you thinking about retirement? Does it seem completely out of reach? Award-winning Business Analyst for CBS News, Jill Schlesinger, CFP, will walk through the specific steps necessary to get you where you want to go, whether you are just starting out in your career or ready to wind down. Join us as Jill takes the mystery out of your finances and helps you take control.

This is one of a collaborative series of virtual events presented by BIG (Business Interest Group) and co-sponsored by 23 public libraries in the Chicago area for Financial Fitness 2026.

Virtual: Tuesday, April 21, 7pm (R)

Relationship Astrology

Astrology is a tool for understanding yourself and your relationship with others. Learn how to compare your chart with another person and see how your stars align.

Northfield Library: Saturday, March 28, 10:30am (R)



Travel

Walking Chicago's Coast: A 63-Mile Journey to the Indiana Dunes

Michael McColly, author of *Walking Chicago's Coast: A 63-Mile Journey to the Indiana Dunes*, will read from and discuss themes in his book about the benefits of urban walking for the health of people, communities, and the environment. He will also show slides from his two-day walk across Chicago.

Virtual: Wednesday, May 6, 7pm (R)

Caving Adventures

David Mundt (Cave Dave) is a professional caver and cave tour guide in California. In this presentation he will regale us with stories of his caving adventures in the United States and around the world, and share captivating photos.

Virtual: Thursday, May 7, 7pm (R)

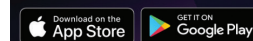


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The Studio

Want to make something amazing? The Studio is your one-stop shop for creative exploration.

Kids

Shrink Art Charms

Come experience the fun of creating custom Shrinky Dink art! Draw your favorite designs and watch them shrink into miniature plastic charms.

Northfield Library: Monday, March 16, 3pm • Ages 11+ (R)

The Studio: Tuesday, March 31, 6pm • Ages 11+ (R)

Springy Suncatchers

Let the sunshine in! Create your own colorful suncatcher to welcome spring and brighten up any window.

Winnetka Library: Thursday, April 9, 4pm • Ages 5+ with Adult (D)

Pixel Jewelry

Turn your pixel designs into wearable art! Follow patterns to create colorful Perler bead charms, then transform them into unique jewelry.

The Studio: Saturday, April 25, 2pm • Ages 11+ (R)

May the Fourth Be With You

Celebrate Star Wars Day by creating your own gear from a galaxy far, far away using our sublimation printer.

The Studio: Monday, May 4, 4pm • Ages 5+ with Adult (R)

Mom & Me: Leather Hairbow

Enjoy a creative "Studio-Date" making personalized leather hairbows. See our equipment in action and spend some quality time together assembling a custom accessory.

The Studio: Sunday, May 10, 2pm • 9+ with Adult (R)

Take Home Treasures

Visit our monthly craft station for a featured Take and Make project. Perfect for all skill levels, these kits are a fun way to spark your creativity. Available while supplies last.

The Studio: March, April, May • Ages 11+



Adults

Mixed Media Journaling

Drop in for camaraderie and creativity as we make free-form, mixed media journal entries. Supplies provided!

Northfield Library: Tuesdays, March 10 & 24, April 7 & 21, May 5 & 19, 6pm • Adults

Sit & Knit

Join fellow knitters of all skill levels. Basic supplies will be provided and a staff member will be on hand to teach beginners how to knit.

Northfield Library: Thursdays, March 12 & 26, April 9 & 23, May 7 & 21, 3pm • Adults (R)

Cherry Blossom Paper Wreath



Welcome the warmer weather with a handmade paper wreath. We'll guide you through creating realistic cherry blossoms using simple paper crafting techniques to celebrate the arrival of March.

The Studio: Saturday, March 14, 12pm • Adults (R)

Color Your Own Mandala Totes

Discover the creative possibilities of sublimation printing. Learn how to source mandala designs online and transfer them onto fabric to create your own coloring sheet tote. Take home a tote bag ready for coloring and customization.

The Studio: Wednesday, March 18, 6pm • Adults (R)

Hop Into Spring Wreath



Hop into spring! We will use pastel colors and festive patterns to create a paper wreath featuring spring accents. Perfect for adding a pop of color to your door.

The Studio: Thursday, April 2, 6pm • Adults (R)



Tip

Personalized Help Sessions

Curious about what you can do in the Studio? Come in anytime for a consultation to discuss your ideas. We'll walk you through the process and help you plan your project. Once you're ready to create, booking an appointment is the best way to guarantee one-on-one assistance and dedicated machine time.

Ready to book? It's easy!

- ☎ Call us at 847-446-7220 ext. 3.
- 📄 Reserve online at wnpld.org/studio.
- 👋 Or stop by The Studio desk — we're happy to help!

Laser Cut Name Stamps Demonstration

Join us for a live demonstration of our laser engraver as we produce personalized name stamps for every attendee. This session showcases the machine's precision and the design skills you can learn to create your own future projects.

The Studio: Tuesday, April 14, 6pm
Adults (R)

Handcrafted Leather Strawberry Keychain

Learn the art of leather crafting by making a custom strawberry keychain. We will guide you through the process of assembling this sweet springtime accessory to take home.

The Studio: Tuesday, April 21, 6pm
Adults (R)

Geometric Tape Painting

Love clean lines and bold designs? Use specialized tape to create geometric patterns on canvas, paint over your design, and peel back the tape for a satisfying reveal.

The Studio: Wednesday, April 29, 6pm
Adults (R)

Mother's Day Wreath

Celebrate Mother's Day by creating a beautiful paper wreath. We will use various colors and weights of paper to assemble a wreath that captures the bright spirit of May.

The Studio: Saturday, May 2, 12pm
Adults (R)

Collage Landscapes

Turn paper scraps into a landscape scene. Learn collage techniques as you cut and layer shapes and textures into a custom design.

The Studio: Wednesday, May 6, 6pm
Adults (R)

The Art of Flower Pressing

Explore the art of floral preservation. Learn how to properly press flowers and turn fresh blooms into delicate, dried art.

The Studio: Saturday, May 16, 2pm
Adults (R)

Northfield Library: Tuesday, May 26, 3pm
Adults (R)

Technology

Computer Basics

New to computers? This beginner-friendly class will teach you the essential skills to get started. You'll learn how to open files, navigate your computer's interface, and perform basic tasks with confidence.

The Studio: Wednesday, March 4, 1:30pm • Adults (R)

Podcasting for Seniors

Podcasts are popular for all age groups. Discover how to find them, how to listen to them, and maybe even how to start one of your own!

Winnetka Library: Thursday, March 12, 10am • Adults (R)

Consumer Reports Overview

Learn how to make informed purchasing decisions with Consumer Reports, available free with your library card. From appliances and electronics to cars and services, discover how this tool can help you shop smarter.

Virtual: Wednesday, March 18, 1:30pm • Adults (R)

Kindle Basics: Borrowing eBooks With Libby

Learn how to use your library card to borrow and read today's most popular eBooks on your Kindle for free. Join us in person or online and we will walk you through setup, borrowing your first book, and common troubleshooting tips. Bring your Kindle, smartphone, and Amazon login information if you would like hands-on help.

Virtual: Wednesday, April 1, 1:30pm • Adults (R)

The Studio: Wednesday, May 20, 6pm • Adults (R)

Using Morningstar and Value Line for Investment Research

Explore Morningstar and Value Line, two powerful investment research databases available free with your library card. This session will walk you through using these tools to make more informed financial decisions.

Virtual: Wednesday, April 15, 1:30pm • Adults (R)

Intro to Udemu

Looking to build new skills or strengthen your resume? Get an overview of Udemu and learn how it can help you grow. Discover thousands of on-demand video courses available free with your library card covering topics like business, technology, and more.

Virtual: Wednesday, May 6, 1:30pm • Adults (R)



Do You Need Tech Help?

Get free help with phones, emails, documents, and more at our Device Advice drop-in sessions.

The Studio: Thursdays, 3–5pm



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