

# MESSENGER PUBLIC LIBRARY OF NORTH AURORA

## AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2022

### September is Library Card Sign-up Month!

Signing up for a library card is the first step on the path to academic achievement and lifelong learning. Libraries play a crucial role in education and childhood development, sparking creativity and stimulating an interest in reading and learning. Through access to technology, media resources and educational programs, a library card gives students the tools to succeed in the classroom and provides people of all ages opportunities to pursue their dreams, explore new passions and interests, and find their voice.



### Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration

Saturday, October 1  
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

For all ages. Experience a journey into Mexico's ancient Aztec culture of music, song and dance. Xochitl-Quetzal invites you to a dynamic and vibrant performance honoring the heritage of the tradition of La Danza De Los Concheros. Join us and explore the Aztec world of indigenous ceremonies and rituals.

### Incredible Bats (and More!)

Sunday, October 23  
For Kids & Families • 1:30 p.m.  
For Adults • 3:30 p.m.

Bats at the Library! Dispel the myths and learn how bats benefit many ecosystems, positively impacting humans globally and locally. Adults will also learn about bat houses, humane removal from homes, and how you can help bat species in peril. After each presentation, enjoy a photo op with the animals.

*Space is limited; registration required.*



## MUSIC AT MESSENGER

Bring your lawn chair and picnic to the back of the Library for a relaxed and early evening of music from the rich musical resources of the local cultural region of the Fox River Valley. For fall concerts, be sure to bring a hoodie or snuggle wrap.



**Aaron Kelly**  
Thursday, September 15  
6:00-8:00 p.m.

Aaron Kelly is a local Americana singer and songwriter, performing from a vast catalog of originals or covers from the likes of John Prine. His music will inspire you and get your toes tapping as he lays

it down with his guitar, sings from his soul, and creates a symphony from his harmonica.

**Matt Keen**  
Wednesday, September 28  
6:00-8:00 p.m.

With a multi-faceted background in rock and blues, Keen is known for capturing your attention with his phenomenal vocals. Whether he fronts Rebel Soul Revival or performs solo as a talented singer/songwriter, you will hear bare honesty, introspection, and growth in his music. His first solo album *Restless Days* launched in 2020, a southern renaissance effort meant to be heard.



▶ **SEPTEMBER** ▶ **OCTOBER** ▶ **NOVEMBER**

## DISCUSSION GROUPS FOR ADULTS

EBooks and eAudiobooks of discussion titles may be available on Hoopla, Overdrive, Libby, or Axis360.  
Print copies are available for checkout at the User Services Desk.

### Messenger Evening Book Discussion Group

Meets first Thursday of the month • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

September 1: *The Henna Artist* by Alka Joshi

October 6: *The Lost Girls* by Heather Young

November 3: *The Children's Blizzard*  
by Melanie Benjamin

### TED Ideas worth spreading Discussion Group

Meets first Saturday of the month • 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Join us each month as we watch and discuss two inspiring and themed *Ted Talks*.

September 3: *Secrets of Longevity*

October 1: No Meeting

November 5: *Human Evolution & Archaeology*

## FOX VALLEY WRITERS

Alternating Tuesdays Beginning August 9 • 6:45-8:45 p.m.

Fox Valley Writers is a community dedicated to the idea of helping writers of all skill levels connect and grow with one another. Often cited as the writers' group for those who don't care for traditional writing groups, we use a combination of imaginative exercises, personal attention to each author's needs, and positive, constructive feedback from peers to empower ourselves to create and share our best stories, memoirs, essays, and poetry. Our hybrid meetings are simultaneously in-person and live on Zoom. Membership is free. Regular attendance is encouraged, but not required. If you're looking for a relaxed group where you can develop your skills and network with other local authors at your own pace, this is the place for you!

Contact: Nik V. Markevicius, Facilitator

foxvalleywriters@gmail.com

Web: fox-valley-writers.mn.co

## ART CLUB FOR ADULTS

Second Saturday of the month @ 10:00 a.m. and third Tuesday of the month @ 6:30 p.m.  
Beginners welcome! Register in advance. For adults and teens over 16 (with registered adult).

### Autumn Gnome Door Hanger

Saturday, September 10 • 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. OR

Tuesday, September 20 • 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Craft a fall gnome door hanger with a burlap hat and leafy beard that is sure to bring a smile to your guests!

Registration starts August 1.

### Book Page Witch

Saturday, October 8 • 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. OR

Tuesday, October 18 • 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Transform an old book into a Halloween decoration!

Registration starts September 1.

### Holiday Cardmaking Using Fabric Fusing

Saturday, November 12 • 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

We welcome back Claudia Moffatt, who will be teaching us how to make holiday cards using a cool fabric fusing technique.

Registration starts October 1.

### Chainmaille Pendants

Tuesday, November 15 • 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Learn chainmaille basics crafting a lovely helm flower pendant.

Registration starts October 1.

## TEEN BOOK CLUB (Ages 11-18)

Thursdays • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

September 29: *Legend*  
by Marie Lu

October 27: *Monday's Not Coming*  
by Tiffany D. Jackson

November 17: *My Hero Academia Volume 1*  
by Kohei Horikoshi

Love reading new genres? At Book Club, we will tackle a new genre each month and read some popular titles.

Registration required. The first five to register will receive free copies of the books.

# PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

Call or check our online Events Calendar for more details, up-to-date information, and registration for adult programs.

In-house programming may be presented on Zoom or rescheduled when health and safety concerns require changes.

Registration required for all adult programs. Teens are welcome to register. Art Club requires a registered adult as well as teen.



## Vibrational Sound Healing

Saturday, September 24 • 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Lay back and let the healing sounds, loud and then soft, wash over you. The clanging of the gongs and the tinkling of chimes will stir and then soothe you. Based on ancient wisdom, the gong vibrates at the same frequency as the body allowing the body to heal itself. The gong balances the central nervous system and aids in deep meditation. Tibetan and Singing Crystal Bowls will be added to raise the vibration. Please bring a blanket, and a yoga mat if you have one.

## DIY Animal Toys for Anderson Animal Shelter

Tuesday, September 27 • 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Join us as we put together fun toys for the cats and dogs at our local animal shelter.

*All supplies will be provided!*

## Fall Foliage Walk

Saturday, October 15 • 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Trees are big this time of year – in more ways than one!

Join a naturalist from the Forest Preserve District of Kane County as we take a walk on the trails to learn about our local trees. We'll look at leaves, bark, fruit, twigs, and habitat as means of identifying trees.



## AARP Driver Safety Class

Tuesday, October 11 & Wednesday, October 12 • 12:30-4:30 p.m. (8-hour course, 2 sessions)

Refresh your driving skills, learn to adjust to age-related changes, and find out how to operate vehicles safely in today's increasingly challenging driving environment. This classroom style program will not include any on-road driving.

This class costs \$25, \$20 for AARP members. You must attend both classes to receive the insurance discount.



## NaNoWriMo Write-In Sessions

Working on your novel for National Novel Writing Month? Come work on it at Messenger!

You bring your creative juices and your laptop, and we'll provide a quiet work space along with snacks and prizes.

In partnership with NaperWriMo. Visit [www.naperwrimo.org](http://www.naperwrimo.org) to view a full list of events.

Saturday, November 12 • 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 13 • 1:00-4:00 p.m.

## Kids Kindness Hats

November 1 - January 31

Knit or crochet a warm children's hat to be donated to local charities. Stop by the Adult Help Desk starting November 1 to check out a kit with yarn, needles and patterns, or use your own materials.

*Bring completed hats to the Library by January 31.*



## Operation Christmas

Pick up a tag for the North Aurora Mothers Club's Operation Christmas to help provide a festive holiday for local families. Return gifts or donations to the Library during the first week of December.

Photo by Bill Delp Studio



## Journeying Through the American Indian Way of Life

Saturday, November 19  
2:00-3:00 p.m.

In this presentation, Kim Sigafus takes the audience through the American Indian way of life as it once was.

Kim talks about the tribes that once

inhabited Illinois, and includes a history of the Trail of Tears as it pertains to our state. She'll discuss the Native traditions and culture of the tribes that once lived in Illinois in the early 1800's before the Indian Removal Act moved them west. Topics such as Native gardening, harvest, and music will be included in the discussion, and Kim will sing and drum during the presentation.

# TEENS (Ages 11-18)

Registration for all teen and youth programs begins Monday, August 22.  
Register on the Events Calendar at [messengerpl.org](http://messengerpl.org) or by phone, (630) 801-4340.

## Teen Taste Test: Fast Food Showdown

Thursday, September 15 • 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Taste-test local fast food locations to find the best burgers or fries. Come hungry!  
*Registration required.*



## Teen DIY: Neon Sign

Thursday, October 6 • 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Update your space with a neon sign designed by you!  
*Registration required.*

## The Financial Aid Process

Thursday, November 3 • 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Grades 11-12 + parents. Learn about financial aid options for college and get your questions answered by Illinois Student Assistance Commission instructor Lauren Waitt.  
*Registration required.*

## Teen Book Subscription

For grades 6-12. Pick up a box on the tenth of each month with books chosen just for you, plus some treats to keep. Return your box to be eligible for next month's books.  
*Registration and Messenger Library card required. Limited spots.*

## Teen Take Out

September: Edible Stained Glass

October: Easy Sew Ghost Pillow

November: NaNoWriMo Writing Kit

Stop by the Teen Space each month to pick up a fun craft or activity you can take home and make on your own time.  
*Available while supplies last.*

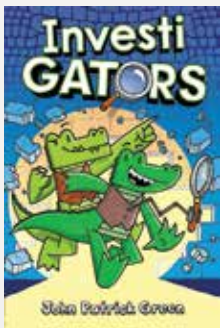
## Teen Volunteers

Volunteer at the Library! Visit [messengerpl.org/teenvolunteers](http://messengerpl.org/teenvolunteers) to fill out an application. Must be in grades 6-12, and age 11-17.

# KIDS & FAMILIES

## Elementary Book Box Subscription

For Kindergarten-grade 5. Pick up a box on the tenth of each month with books chosen just for you, plus some treats to keep!  
*Registration and Messenger Library card required. Limited spots.*



## InvestiGATORS Graphic Novel Party!

Saturday, September 17  
10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

For kids and families. Enjoy games, crafts and puzzles inspired by John Patrick Green's *InvestiGATORS* graphic novel series! *Registration requested.*

## School Year Reading Challenges!

500 Books Before Middle School

100 Books Before Graduation

Monarch, Bluestem, Caudill & Lincoln Awards

Kindergarten-grade 12. Track your reading during the school year and earn free books along the way!

*Register at [messengerpl.beanstack.org](http://messengerpl.beanstack.org) or pick up a reading log.*

## Egg Drop Challenge

Monday, October 10

Build: 1:30-2:30 p.m. Egg Drop: 2:45 p.m.

All ages. We're dropping eggs from up high! Can you design and create a safety contraption to protect your egg?  
*Registration requested.*

Spark curiosity and open a world of wonder inspired by Andrea Beaty's Questioners book series.

## Aaron Slater's Art Studio

Mondays • 6:30-7:30 p.m.

September 26, October 24, November 28

Aimed at grades 4-6. Each class will focus on a new art project.  
*Registration required for each date.*



## Ada Twist's Experiment Lab

Saturdays • 10:30-11:15 a.m.

September 10, October 8, November 12

Grades 1-3. Each month, enjoy a new hands-on STEAM learning experience.  
*Registration required for each date.*

# KIDS & FAMILIES

Registration for all youth programs begins Monday, August 22.  
Register on the Events Calendar at [messengerpl.org](http://messengerpl.org) or by phone, (630) 801-4340.

## Reading Buddies

Sundays • 2:00-2:30 p.m.

September 18, October 16, November 20

Aimed at kindergarten-grade 3. Build confidence and fluency by reading aloud with a teen book buddy! *Registration required.*

## Graphic Novel Book Club

Mondays • 6:30-7:30 p.m.

October 3: *El Deafo* by Cece Bell.

November 14: *The Witch Boy* by Molly Ostertag

Aimed at Grades 3-6. Love graphic novels? Join us to talk about what you liked – or didn't – about new and popular graphic novels! The first five to register will receive a free copy of the book.

*Registration required.*

## Game Night

Wednesdays • 6:30-7:30 p.m.

September 21, October 26, November 16

Kiindergarten-grade 2 and families. Join us for an hour of game playing fun! *Registration requested.*



Thursdays: September 8, October 13, November 10  
6:30-7:30 p.m.

All ages. Drop in to build a Lego® creation for display.  
*Register online for a reminder email or text.*

**No School!**

## Crafternoon

Monday, September 19 • 2:30-4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, November 8 • 2:30-4:30 p.m.

All ages. Drop by Youth Services for arts and crafts fun!  
*Register online for a reminder email or text.*

# BABIES & PRESCHOOL

## Book Subscription Theme Bags

Ages 0-8. Enjoy a new selection of books for early learners every month! Register by the fifth of the month for pick up on the tenth of the month.

*Registration and Messenger Library card required. Limited spots.*

## Sensory Playtime

Mondays • 10:00-11:00 a.m.

September 19, October 10, November 14

Babies-Preschool with caregivers. Enjoy sensory play experiences with your little ones! Stations are designed to stimulate your child's mind through sensory, discovery and gross motor activities.

*Register for a reminder email or text.*

## Baby Storytime

Tuesdays • 10:00-10:30 a.m.

Fall 1: September 6-October 11

Fall 2: November 8-December 6

Ages 0-24 months with caregiver. Enjoy stories, songs, and movement to help foster early literacy skills.

*Register each child attending.*

## Read, Learn, Grow Early Learning Challenge

Join Read, Learn, Grow to encourage a love of reading and learning with your children! Earn prizes for reading books and completing monthly early learning activities.

*Register at [messengerpl.beanstack.org](http://messengerpl.beanstack.org) or pick up a reading log.*

## Family Storytime & Craft

Tuesdays • 6:00-6:30 p.m.

September 27, October 25 & November 22

Join us for stories and a craft aimed at ages 3-6.

*Register each child attending.*

## Stories & Songs

Wednesdays OR Thursdays • 10:00-10:30 a.m.

Fall 1: September 7-October 13

Fall 2: November 9-December 8

Ages 2-5 with caregivers. Enjoy stories & songs while building pre-literacy skills and learning about the world.

*Register each child attending for Wednesday OR Thursday.*

# SPECIAL STORYTIMES

**Process Art:** Friday, September 16

**Dance Party:** Friday, November 18

Tots (6-23 months) • 9:30-10:00 a.m. Toddler (ages 2-3) • 10:15-10:45 a.m. Preschool (ages 3-5) • 11:00-11:30 a.m.

Enjoy stories, songs and a special activity! *Register each child attending.*

# MESSENGER

PUBLIC LIBRARY OF NORTH AURORA

113 Oak Street • North Aurora, IL 60542

(630) 896-0240

www.messengerpl.org

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## LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Shannon Halikias

# RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

## LIBRARY CLOSINGS

**Labor Day Holiday**

Sunday, September 4 &  
Monday, September 5

**Thanksgiving Holiday**

Wednesday, November 23  
Open: 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Thursday, November 24

## LIBRARY HOURS

**Monday-Thursday**  
9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.

**Friday-Saturday**  
9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

**Sunday**  
1:00-5:00 p.m.

## MESSAGE FROM THE LIBRARY DIRECTOR



Shannon Halikias, Library Director

Fall comes quickly here in the Midwest. Suddenly the tree leaves burst with color while crisp breezes blow. I am looking forward to seeing what our grounds will look like during my first autumn here at Messenger. Sweater weather, hoodies, and reading good books while sipping hot tea are just a few of my favorite things in the sunset season of our year.

In the past few months, we surveyed our community to develop the next Strategic Plan. Thank you to all who responded. Your input is important. Patrons answered positively about resources, services, collections, and love the friendliness and personal touch of our staff. The responses provided valuable data to assist us in identifying what we should better market, tweak in our facility, enhance in technology offerings, and consider for our future. In many respects, the public asked for “more.” I’ll work on making the Library deliver.

We are already acting on a few of the suggestions from our survey. Study rooms were painted along with many interior areas, and our front User Services was changed to a lighter color to provide a better visual for our interior book returns. Furniture has been reupholstered to extend service life and provide a clean, fresh appearance.

Stay tuned for more adjustments to better serve you, and enjoy the season!

# MUTUAL GROUND



**Donation Collection**  
September 1-30

Help healing begin! Mutual Ground provides counseling, a 24-hour hotline, residential services, medical advocacy and more to survivors of domestic abuse. We are collecting items the organization needs to help them provide this crucial assistance.



## September 20 Is National Voter Registration Day!

Register to vote for the  
November 8, 2022 general election!

Register online or check your status  
at [ova.elections.il.gov](https://ova.elections.il.gov).

Visit Messenger to use the Library's  
computers and/or internet to register  
to vote.