

MESSENGER

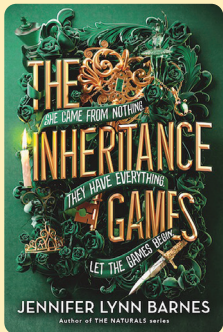
PUBLIC LIBRARY

OF NORTH AURORA

SPRING NEWSLETTER 2022

MYSTERY FOR ALL AGES

Teen Mystery Book Club



The Inheritance Games
by Jennifer Lynn Barnes

Wednesday, April 13 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Grades 6-12. Everything changes for Avery Grambs when she gets summoned to Hawthorne Manor. But the manor and its occupants are full of secrets. Will Avery make it out alive?

Registration required.

The first five who register receive a free copy of the book.

The Dark & Stormy Night: Solve a Mystery at the Library

Tuesday, April 19 • 6:30-8:30 p.m.

For adults. Come solve a mystery, courtesy of The Deadbolt Mystery Society. In the style of Agatha Christie and other classic whodunits, The Dark and Stormy Night will take you to Winterwood Mansion where a disappearance has occurred...and maybe a murder! Join us for a fun evening of sleuthing.

Spaces are extremely limited, please register in advance.



Mystery Adventure Club

Saturday, April 30 • 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Grades 3-6. Do you like mysteries and adventure?

We need your help to solve a mystery!

There will be puzzles to solve and codes to decipher.

Program will be outside, weather permitting.

Dress appropriately. Registration required.



An Evening With Jenny Lawson

Wednesday, March 30 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Welcome bestselling author/blogger Jenny Lawson for this virtual event on Zoom, moderated by R. Eric Thomas, longtime host of *The Moth StorySLAMS* in Philadelphia. Lawson has risen to fame with her blogging alter ego, The Blogless. Her books include *Let's Pretend This Never Happened*, *Furiously Happy*, and *Broken (In the Best Possible Way)*.

Illinois Libraries Present is a statewide collaboration among public libraries offering high-quality events. Grant funding was awarded by the Illinois State Library, a Department of the Office for Secretary of State, using funds provided by IMLS under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act.



Family Concert: Miss Jamie's Farm

Wednesday, May 4 • 10:30 a.m.

All ages. Celebrate Children's Book Week with a family concert on our back lawn! Sing, dance, laugh and learn about life down on the farm with Miss Jamie and her puppet animal friends!

Register for weather updates. If needed, rain date will be May 11.

► MARCH ► APRIL ► MAY

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. Register in advance. Teens are welcome to register. Please note: Art Club requires a registered adult as well as teen.



More than Muses: Female Composers Throughout History

Thursday, March 3 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Explore the often overlooked and unappreciated world of female composers with the Sapphire Woodwind Quintet. Through this multimedia presentation, hear their beautiful music (including several original arrangements by the quintet) and understand the obstacles women overcame to earn their place in history.

Native American Residential Schools: Recognizing Historic Trauma While Honoring the Victims & Survivors

Wednesday, March 9 • 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Join us for a panel discussion, presented in partnership with the College of DuPage and other local libraries, as exclusively Native people give voice and share their stories surrounding the history, trauma, and aftermath of the Native American Residential School policy.

Wildflower Walk At Bliss Woods

Saturday, April 23 • 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Join us for a guided walk in beautiful Bliss Woods Forest Preserve in Sugar Grove, and learn all about wildflowers. Discover the structure and life cycle, relationships between wildflowers and pollinators, plus the names and cultural history of various wildflowers.

Quick & Easy Decorating: Use What You Have On Hand

Tuesday, April 5 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Sass up your place! Julea Joseph will share tips for decorating, corralling collections, and repurposing your old stuff in this fun and fast-paced workshop. Plus, you'll learn how to make smart purchases to complement your existing treasures.



Great Picnic Cuisine

Tuesday, May 17 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Summer is almost upon us, and that means "Picnic Season" is almost here. Chef Susan teaches guests how to prepare a wonderful salad, savory quiche, and a fruit dessert, plus many methods and techniques for preparing the recipes with culinary ease. *Recipes will be provided.*



DNA Testing & Genealogy Research

Tuesday, May 24 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Can a DNA test help you solve the mysteries hiding in your genealogy? Professional genealogist, Steve Szabados, compares the major companies offering DNA testing, and discusses available practical tools that should answer some of your questions.

TOASTMASTERS

Timely Talkers Toastmasters & Advanced Expressive Toastmasters

Join one of two Toastmaster International community clubs devoted to public speaking.

Guests are welcome. For more information visit the Toastmasters website, toastmastersclubs.org.

For library meeting times, check the library calendar or contact John Jerrard at 630-688-8438.



DISCUSSION GROUPS FOR ADULTS

Love to discuss books and ideas? Join one of the Library's monthly groups on Zoom, and enjoy lively discussions of fiction and non-fiction titles. Register in advance for a Zoom link and more information. EBooks and eAudiobooks may be available on Hoopla, Overdrive, Libby, or Axis360. Print copies and audiobooks may be available for checkout at the User Services Desk.

Narrative Nonfiction Book Group

Meets second Monday of the month • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

March 14: *One Summer: America, 1927* by Bill Bryson

April 11: *Eagles of Heart Mountain: A True Story of Football, Incarceration, and Resistance in World War II America* by Bradford Pearson

May 9: *I Feel Bad About My Neck* by Nora Ephron

Midweek Murder Mystery Club

Meets third Wednesday of the month • 2:00-3:00 p.m.

March 16: *Murder on Black Swan Lane* by Andrea Penrose

April 20: *Elusive* by Sara Rosett

May 18: *Murder at Mallowan Hall* by Colleen Cambridge

Messenger Evening Book Discussion Group

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

March 3: *The Girls in the Stilt House* by Kelly Mustian

April 7: *The Song of Achilles* by Madeline Miller

May 12: *The Lost Apothecary* by Sarah Penner
(Meeting the second Thursday of May.)

TED Ideas worth spreading Talks (In Person)

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

March 5, April 2 & May 7

Join us each month as we watch and discuss two Ted Talks related by an inspiring theme.

March: **Can our memories be trusted?**

- *How reliable is your memory* by Elizabeth Loftus
- *The riddle of experience vs. memory* by Daniel Kahneman

April: **Is Happiness a Choice?**

- *Choice, happiness, and spaghetti sauce* by Malcolm Gladwell
- *The surprising science of happiness* by Daniel Gilbert

May: **How can we become more creative?**

- *Why humor is the key to creativity* by Taika Waititi
- *Your elusive creative genius* by Elizabeth Gilbert

ARTS & CRAFTS

Art Club for Grownups (In Person) Second Saturday of the month • 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Art Club programs provide an opportunity for adults to explore their artistic spirit. Each month we explore a different art medium. *Beginners welcome! Space is limited. Register in advance. For adults and teens over 16 (with registered adult).*

Floral Alcohol Inks Saturday, March 12 • 10:00 a.m. **OR** Tuesday, March 15 • 7:00 p.m.

Artist Tammy Haman guides us as we explore alcohol inks on different surfaces. Create an abstract flower on an any occasion greeting card for the end project. *Space is limited. Register beginning February 1.*

Needle Felted Bunny Peeps

Saturday, April 9 • 10:00 a.m.

Watch CreativeBug video instruction as a group and learn to needle felt bunnies in the style of marshmallow peeps.

Register beginning March 1.

Decoupage Bird Houses

Saturday, May 14 • 10:00 a.m.

Celebrate Spring! Using a combination of paint and decoupage, create a one-of-a-kind bird house for your home or garden.

Register beginning April 1.

Monthly Take Home Craft Kits

Pick up supplies each month for a small craft. Kits are available beginning on the first day of each month, while supplies last. Post a photo of your creation on Facebook. *One kit per person. For adults and teens over 16.*

March 1: **Plastic Canvas Book Marks** April 1: **Clothespin Carrots** May 1: **May Basket & Flowers**

TEENS

Registration for teen programs begins Monday, February 21 online, by phone, or in person.

Teen Take Out Grades 6-12. Stop by the Library each week to pick up a kit you can take home and complete on your own time. New kits are available every Monday, so grab one before they disappear! *Available while supplies last.*



Teen Volunteers

Spring • Grades 6-12

Summer • Entering grades 7-12

Grades 6-12. Join our Teen Volunteer team! Help with programs, special projects, or around the Library.

Apply now at messengerpl.org/teenvolunteers.

MAGIC The Gathering

Wednesday, March 16

4:00-5:00 p.m.

Grades 4-12. Duel against your friends new and old. Bring your own deck or use ours. Learn how to play in a friendly, non-competitive environment.

Registration and masks are required.



Spring Break: Take It Apart, Make It Art

Wednesday, March 30 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

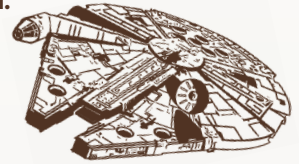
Grades 6-12. Take apart some old school electronics and create an art project out of the pieces. *Registration required.*

Teen Escape Room: ESCAPE FROM TATOOINE

Monday, May 9 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Grades 6-12. Can you solve riddles, decipher clues and find the key to escape in just 60 minutes?

Registration required.



Welcome to High School

Wednesday, April 20 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Introduce eighth-graders, freshmen, and sophomores to the importance of high school and how to prepare for college academically, socially, and behaviorally.

Presented by Lauren Waitt from ISAC. Registration required.



Connect the Dots: Careers

Wednesday, May 11 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Aimed at grades 8-10. Come explore your interests and see how they relate to possible career options.

Presented by Lauren Waitt from ISAC. Registration required.

TEENS, KIDS & FAMILIES

creativebug® Kits for Teens

March 15: **Botanical Leaf Embroidery**

April 15: **DIY Letter Decor**

May 15: **Macramé Plant Hanger**

Grades 6-12. Learn a new skill while completing a craft kit. Creativebug is a craft database that you can access online for free through the Library! *Register to reserve a kit online.*

Family Storytime & Craft Kit

March: **Spring** April: **Earth Day** May: **Plant a Seed**

Ages 2-5 and families. A DIY storytime! Books, crafts and activities. *Reserve a kit online. Pick up new kits on the 15th of every month!*

Sensory Kits

March: **Kinetic Sand** April: **Natural Dyed Cloud Dough** May: **Taste Safe Slime**

Aimed at 0-3 years. An activity kit with a fun sensory experience, books suggestions, and activity ideas you can do at home. *Reserve a kit online. Pick up new kits on the 15th of every month!*

READING CHALLENGES for Kids & Teens

Read • Learn • Grow: Early Learning Challenge

Page Turners: K-12 School Year Challenge

2022 Summer Challenge Pre-Registration: May

Read and complete activities to earn badges and free books! Participate and find details at messengerpl.beanstack.org or on the Beanstack Tracker app.

Spring Book Subscriptions

Picture Book Bags (Ages 0-8)

Elementary Boxes (Kindergarten-Grade 5)

Teen Boxes (Grades 6-12)

Pick up a box/bag on the tenth of each month with books chosen just for you, plus some treats for you to keep. Return your box/bag each month to be eligible for the next month's books.

Subscriptions are limited. Registration and a Messenger Public Library card required.

KIDS & FAMILIES

Registration for kids' programs begins Monday, February 21 online, by phone, or in person.



Activity Kits

Ages 0-5,
Kindergarten-Grade 2
and Grades 3-5.

New kits every Monday, while supplies last.
Register online for a reminder email or text.

Messenger March Madness

Aimed at readers in kindergarten-grade 5. Stop by the Youth Services desk and pick up a Messenger March Madness Bracket. Peruse our book display with author matchups.

Check the online calendar for voting dates and more details.

Literacy Investigation Station

Aimed at preschool-grade 2. Drop by Youth Services to explore our Literacy Investigation Station. New activities every other Friday focusing on literacy and math skills.

Check the online calendar for the current activity.

Spring Break Craft-a-thon

March 28-April 1

Aimed at pre-kindergarten-grade 2. Did you know that March is National Crafting Month? We'll provide the materials, all you need to bring is your imagination and creativity!

Register for a reminder email or text.



Thursdays: March 10,
April 14 & May 12
6:00-8:00 p.m.

All ages. Build a creation to display at the Library!
Register online for a reminder via email or text.

Rhyme Time

Saturday, April 9 • 12:30 p.m., 2:00 p.m. OR 3:30 p.m.

Aimed at ages 2-5. It's time to rhyme with your family or friend pod! *Registration required.*

FAMILY ESCAPE ROOM



Saturday, April 2 • 10:00 a.m., 1:30 p.m. OR 3:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 3 • 1:30 p.m. OR 3:00 p.m.

Aimed at Grade 3+. Do you have the teamwork skills to find the key to escape in just 60 minutes?

One family/friend pod per time slot. *Registration required.*



Laugh Out Loud Club

Wednesday, March 2: Take-Home Kit

Wednesdays, April 6 & May 4 • 6:30-7:15 pm.

Kindergarten-grade 2. Explore the silly world of picture books! Create funny crafts, sing silly songs, and laugh out loud.

Program will take place outside in April & May.
Registration required.

Curious Families

Tuesday, March 15: Crystal Yeti Creativebug Kit Pick-Up

Saturdays • 10:00-10:45 a.m.

April 16: Garden Growers

May 21: Edible Destruction

Aimed at kindergarten-grade 5, with families. It's time to explore and experiment all things STEAM!

Program will take place outside, weather permitting.
Registration required.



Doodleville Book Club

Saturday, May 14 • 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Grades 3-5. Join us for snacks, conversation and activities about the graphic novel *Doodleville* by Chad Sell.

First five to register at the Youth Services Desk will receive a free copy of the book.
Registration required.

OUTDOOR STORYTIMES

Baby Storytime Outside

Tuesdays, April 19 - May 17 • 9:30-10:00 a.m.

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

Registration required. Please register each child attending.
This program will be held outside, weather permitting.

Stories in the Sun

Wednesdays • 10:30-11:00 a.m.

April 20 & 27, May 11 & 18

Aimed at ages 2-5. Join us on the back lawn for storytimes featuring characters and creators from the global majority!

This program will be held outside, weather permitting.
Registration required.

MESSENGER

PUBLIC LIBRARY OF NORTH AURORA

113 Oak Street • North Aurora, IL 60542

(630) 896-0240

www.messengerpl.org

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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.

LIBRARY CLOSINGS

Spring Holiday

Saturday, April 16

Sunday, April 17

Memorial Day Holiday

Sunday, May 29

Monday, May 30

MESSAGE FROM THE LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Shannon Halikias, Library Director

Hello North Aurora, I look forward to meeting your needs as the next Library Director of the beautiful Messenger Public Library. I believe that libraries are the heart of a community, and continually working to improve services, innovate, and build relationships with patrons is central to institutional success. A library supports literacy, learning and culture as a cornerstone necessary for an informed citizenry and successful democracy.

I began serving in January, and the Board and Staff have given me a warm welcome and onboarding support. I'm already quite smitten with Messenger as it has beautiful design and lovely aesthetic touches reflecting local natural resources and its proximity to the Fox River. I've described us as a "Goldilocks Library," not too big, not too small, and just the right size to get to know patrons and local needs.

I want all patrons to receive gracious and friendly service as they walk through our doors and feel like we are YOUR Library. I fully support partnerships and engagement with other organizations, especially as we work to determine our next steps through strategic planning.

Please stop in to meet me, and I look forward to taking the Library into the next chapters of service, stewardship, technology and community building.



Take a Book. Share a Book.

Visit either of the Messenger Little Free Libraries located close to the gazebo in North Aurora Riverfront Park and 2201 Tanner Trail Road (by the North Aurora Fire Department, Station #2) to find free books for all ages.