



MESSENGER PUBLIC LIBRARY OF NORTH AURORA

WINTER NEWSLETTER 2021-22

READ • LEARN • GROW

Early Learning Challenge

Ages 0-5. Introducing Messenger Public Library's new and improved early learning challenge! Read • Learn • Grow incorporates 1000 Books Before Kindergarten, Every Child Ready to Read tips and activities, early learning resources, and much more. Open to all babies-preschoolers, no library card required. Register online via messengerpl.beanstack.org today!



Winter Challenge Bingo

December 1, 2021 - February 28, 2022

Adults can participate in the library and online to win prize packages and enter weekly trivia contests on Beanstack. Plus everyone who turns in a completed bingo entry will win a completion prize. Check our website, stop in the library, or call the Help Desk for more information.

PAGE TURNERS



K-12 School Year Challenge

Join Page Turners to explore new worlds, genres, and formats to earn free books! Log into Beanstack to find the current activities and check back regularly for new badges. Printed instructions and a list of badges are available. Participate via messengerpl.beanstack.org or the Beanstack Tracker app.

Open House Retirement Reception

Sunday, December 12 • 2:00-4:00 p.m.

The Library Board and staff invite North Aurora residents to an open house retirement reception for outgoing Library Administrator, Kevin Davis. Enjoy refreshments, live music, and conversation with Davis, the Board of Trustees and staff.

During his tenure Davis, working alongside the library staff and Board, have seen the Messenger Public Library through three major renovation projects totaling over \$2.5 million. The renovations have been partially underwritten by a donation from the Estate of the late Barbara Messenger Tinker, daughter of the Library's founder, Emeline Messenger.

Davis was instrumental in the Library's membership into the SWAN Library Consortium. As a member of SWAN, Messenger Public Library cardholders may borrow materials from neighboring Fox River Valley Libraries and many other libraries in Chicagoland (100 SWAN member libraries).

Davis has been the Administrator for Messenger Public Library since October of 2006. He has worked as a librarian since earning his master's degree over 33 years ago. Davis began working for libraries when he was 16 years of age, at a non-professional level, at the West Chicago Public Library. The Board and staff wish Davis well as he enters the next stage of his life.



▶ **DECEMBER** ▶ **JANUARY** ▶ **FEBRUARY**

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

Please call, check our online calendar or email askus@messengerpl.org for more information and registration for adult programs.

All programs are in the library, unless noted on Zoom. Sign up for eNewsletters to discover more programs and updates.

Teens over the age of 16 are welcome. Art Club requires a registered adult as well as teen.

Create a Kids Kindness Hat Through January 31

Brr! It's Getting Cold Outside. It's time to 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, and bring completed hats to the Help Desk by January 31.



Making Cannoli With Bill The Baker

Wednesday, December 1
7:00-8:00 p.m.

Come and join us for a one hour presentation on the making of cannoli with Bill the Baker. Bill will walk us through all of the steps to make your own cannoli in your kitchen. Samples will be available.

Holiday Movies & Music

Monday, December 20 • 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Journey through the past century of film history as host John LeGear showcases some of the happiest and most memorable holiday moments from classic and popular films.



Small Business Development Tips & Tactics Thursday, January 27 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Jennifer Barnes will help us discover strategies to determine what business is the right fit for you, learn to take your business idea to an actual business plan, and target simple marketing strategies to spark and grow your small business.

Black Sox, Billy Goats & the Monsters of the Midway: Chicago Sports

Monday, January 31 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Chicago Sports is loaded with weird history and somewhat sordid tales. Whatever your team and whatever your game, join Clarence Goodman for this presentation because there's something here for every Chicago Sports enthusiast!



Blues 101 With Fruteland Jackson

Wednesday, February 9
7:00-8:30 p.m.

Award-winning blues musician Fruteland Jackson will share the history of the blues from its early origins through song, lecture, and discussion, followed by a ½ hour concert. www.fruteland.com

30 Things to Do In Chicago for Under \$30

Thursday, February 17 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.



Jez Layman will show us how to take advantage of everything Chicago has to offer—without breaking the bank. Find free activities and great deals to make the most of your weekend or staycation, ranging from history to culture to green spaces and quirky sites off the beaten path.

Ten Tips for Getting the Most From Your Retirement Money

Tuesday, February 22 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Discover strategies to help you get the most from your IRA, 401(k), or other retirement plan. Financial educator Karen Chan will help you learn about required minimum distributions, early funds withdrawals, choosing beneficiaries, and more.



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 2nd Monday of the month • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

December 13: *Honey Bus: a Memoir of Loss, Courage and a Girl Saved by Bees* by Meredith May.

January 10: *Wild Horses of the Summer Sun: a Memoir of Iceland* by Tory Bilski

February 14: *Fuzz*, by Mary Roach

Midweek Murder Mystery Club

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

December 15: *Murder for Christmas* by Francis Duncan

January 19: *Auntie Poldi and the Sicilian Lions* by Mario Giordano

February 16: *Nobody's Sweetheart Now* by Maggie Robinson

Messenger Evening Book Discussion Group

Meets 1st Thursday of the month • 7:00-8:30 p.m.

December 2: *A Redbird Christmas* by Fannie Flag

January 6: *The Stepford Wives* by Ira Levin

February 3: *The Midnight Library* by Matt Haig

TED Ideas worth spreading Talks

Meets 1st Saturday of the month • 10:30-11:30 a.m.

December 4, No January Program, February 5

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

Family History Help: Genealogy One-on-One (Zoom or In Person. You decide!)

Register in advance to let us know if you prefer to meet on Zoom or in the library. Tell us what topic interests you, and we'll prepare resources ahead of time to share. Beginners are welcome. Check our calendar for dates, or call to arrange a time to meet.

ARTS & CRAFTS FOR ADULTS

Art Club for Grownups (Zoom & In Person) 2nd 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 to receive a Zoom link. Most supplies will be available to pick up before class. For adults and teens over 16 (with registered adult).*

Holiday Penguin Ornaments

(Zoom) Saturday, December 11 • 10:00 a.m.

Paint wood slices to create delightful penguin ornaments to decorate your tree.

Register beginning November 1st.

Steampunk Heart Pendant

(Zoom) Saturday, February 12 • 10:00 a.m.

Design your own steampunk heart pendant using polymer clay, miniature gears, cogs and watch parts.

Register beginning January 1st.

Ice Dyeing on Fabric (In Person) Saturday, January 8 • 10:00 a.m. OR Tuesday, January 18 • 7:00 p.m.

Claudia Moffat invites you to ice-dye an infinity scarf, book bag, kitchen towels, or bamboo socks. All materials will be provided in class. Comfortable clothing recommended.

Space is limited. Register beginning December 1st.

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. *One kit per person. No registration necessary. For adults and teens over 16.*

December 1: **Sock Snowman Ornament** January 2: **Cookie Cutter Bird Feeders** February 1: **Valentine Pom Pom Heart**

TEENS

Registration for teen programs begins Monday, November 23 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 Creativebug Kits

December 15: **Slice and Bake Cookies**

January 15: **Make a Macramé Keychain**

February 15: **Easy Acrylic Painting**

Grades 6-12. Learn a new skill while completing a fun craft kit. Creativebug is a craft database that you can access online for free through the library!

Registration required to reserve a kit.

Murder Mystery Monday

Mondays, December 13 & February 14 • 6:00 p.m.

Grades 6-12. Do you have what it takes to solve a mystery? Help look through clues and examine evidence to figure out who the culprit is.

Registration recommended.

All About Scholarships

Thursday, December 9 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.



All ages, especially grades 11-12. An introduction to applying for scholarships, including the basics of a scholarship application with tips from successful applicants and reputable sources of information. Presented by a trained ISACorps member.

Registration required.

Curious Families Kits

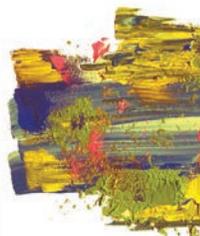
December 4: **Minute to Win It Party**

January 8: **Sound Art**

February 5: **Penny Batteries**

Aimed at Kindergarten-Grade 5 and families. Reserve a STEAM-inspired kit with activities to explore as a family!

Registration required.



Bad Art Night

Wednesday, January 12 • 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Grades 6-12. No art skills? No problem! Come de-stress and create some terrible art. The best “bad” art wins a prize!

Registration required.

One of Us is Lying

Wednesday, January 26
7:30-8:30 p.m.

Grades 6-12. Five strangers walk into detention and only four walk out alive. Can you figure out who is lying? Join us for a discussion of the bestselling novel *One of Us is Lying* by Karen M. McManus.

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



Teen Escape Room: Curse of the Mummy

Sunday, February 6
2:00 p.m. **OR** 3:30 p.m.

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

Select your time slot online with your friends!

Registration required.



Teen Volunteers

Students entering grades 6-12 are welcome to volunteer at the library! Help with programs, special projects, or tasks around the library.

Applications available at messengerpl.org/teenvolunteers.

STEAM-INSPIRED TAKE HOME KITS

Curious Families Kits

December 4: **Minute to Win It Party**

January 8: **Sound Art**

February 5: **Penny Batteries**

Aimed at Kindergarten-Grade 5 and families. Reserve a STEAM-inspired kit with activities to explore as a family!

Registration required.

STEAM Activities

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

Visit the library every week to pick up a new take-home activity. New kits every Monday.

Available while supplies last. You may register online for a reminder email or text.

KIDS & FAMILIES

Registration for kids' programs begins Monday, November 23 online, by phone, or in person.

Literacy Investigation Station

New!

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 calendar for the current activity.



Thursdays: December 16,
January 20, February 17
6:00-8:00 p.m.

All ages. Drop by for LEGO® building fun at Messenger!
Register for a reminder email or text.

Alcohol Ink Ornaments

Saturday, December 4 • 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Aimed at Grade 3+. Using alcohol ink, clear ornaments, ribbon and only 15 minutes, you can make a beautiful ornament.

Select your time slot online with your family or friends!

Registration required.



Wednesday, January 5 • 6:00-8:00 p.m.

All ages. Come have some hands-on fun with Snap Circuits, Strawbees, Makey Makey, and more.

Register for a reminder email or text.



Scavenger Hunts

December: Superheroes

January: Around the World

February: Mystery Characters

Family Escape Room: Spy School

Saturday, January 15 • 10:00 a.m., 1:30 OR 3:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 16 • 1:30 OR 3:00 p.m.

Aimed at Grade 3+. Do you have the brainpower and teamwork skills to solve riddles, decipher clues and find the key to escape in just 60 minutes?



Only one family per time slot. Recommended for groups of at least four people. Registration required.

Magic or Science?

Saturday, February 5 • 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Kindergarten-Grade 5. Drop by Youth Services to do some magic tricks and learn a little science.

Register for a reminder email or text.



STORYTIMES

Family Storytime (Zoom)

Wednesdays • 10:30-11:00 a.m.

December 1 & 15, January 5 & 19, February 2 & 16

Aimed at ages 2-5. Join us to sing songs and read stories featuring characters and creators from a wide variety of backgrounds, highlighting historically underrepresented races, religions, individuals, and families. Registration required to receive Zoom link.

Stuffed Animal Sleepover

DROP OFF: Tuesday, December 28 • 5:00-7:00 p.m.

PICK-UP: Wednesday, December 29 • 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Aimed at ages 2-5. On December 28, bring your lovies and stuffies to the library for a special stuffed animal sleepover storytime! YOU will read them a bedtime story and tuck them in for the night. The next day, pick up your stuffed animal and receive a sleepover party bag to continue the fun at home!

Registration required. Space is limited.

Nighttime Storytime (Zoom)

Thursdays • 6:30-7:00 p.m.

December 9, January 13, February 10



MESSENGER

PUBLIC LIBRARY OF NORTH AURORA

113 Oak Street • North Aurora, IL 60542

(630) 896-0240

www.messengerpl.org

Non-Profit 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.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mark Saperston, President

Mary Steed, Vice-President

Corinn A. Sparks, Secretary

Tanya Berley, Treasurer

Adrien Aaron

James R. Hicks

Marguerite Treest

RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

LIBRARY CLOSINGS

Thanksgiving Holiday

Wednesday, November 24

Open: 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Thursday, November 25

Christmas Holiday

Friday, December 24-

Sunday, December 26

New Year's Holiday

Friday, December 31-

Saturday, January 1, 2022

**LIBRARY
ADMINISTRATOR**

G. Kevin Davis

TAKE HOME KITS FOR KIDS & TEENS

Winter Book Subscriptions

PICTURE BOOK BAGS (Ages 0-8) ELEMENTARY BOXES (Kindergarten-Grade 5) TEEN BOXES (Grades 6-12)

Register for our Winter Book Subscriptions! Pick up a box/bag on the tenth day of each month with books chosen just for you, plus some treats for you to keep. Turn in your box/bag each month to be eligible for the next month's books.

Space is limited: registration and a Messenger Public Library card required.

Family Storytime & Craft Kit

December 15: Snowflakes

January 15: Polar Bears

February 15: DIY Playdough

Ages 2-5 and families. Explore and create with books, crafts and activities perfect for an interactive DIY storytime.

Register online to reserve a kit.

Sensory Kits

December 15: Taste Safe Play Dough

January 15: Taste Safe Color Blocks

February 15: Washable Window Paint

Aimed at 0-3 years. Activity kits filled with a fun sensory experience, books suggestion, and activity ideas to do at home.

Register online to reserve a kit.

Activity Kits & Buddy Bags

Check out a "storytime in a bag" or fun learning toys to enjoy at home! We have 60+ Book Buddy Bags with 6 books and 2 DVDs on a theme aimed at babies, preschool or early elementary. Activity Kit bags range from toys for 6 months+ to technology and robots for tweens and teens. Search for "buddy bag" or "activity kit" titles at med.swanlibraries.net to view options and place holds.

▶ INFORM ▶ CONNECT ▶ ENRICH