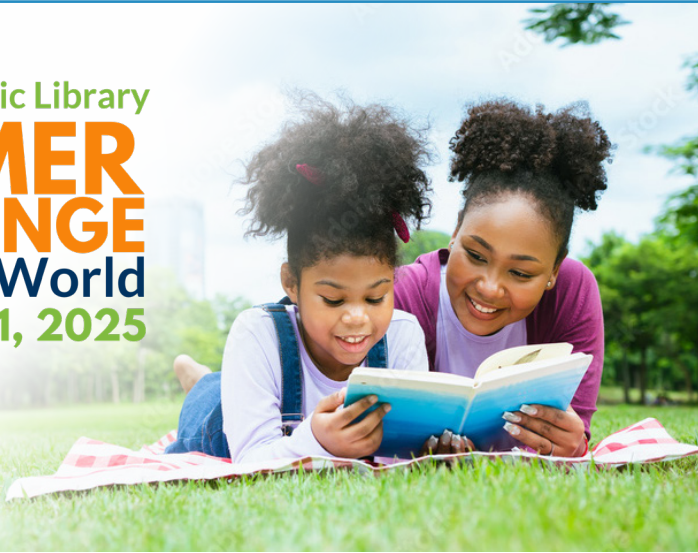




MESSENGER PUBLIC LIBRARY OF NORTH AURORA NEWSLETTER

Messenger Public Library
**SUMMER
CHALLENGE**
Color Our World
June 1-July 31, 2025



Ages 0-100+. North Aurora, take the summer challenge to read and participate in fun activities! Everyone is invited to join the fun and earn prizes with challenges for every age. Pick up reading and bingo trackers at the library and log reading online at messengerpl.beanstack.org or via the Beanstack Tracker app. Stop by the library all summer to enjoy scavenger hunts, guessing games, the Literacy Investigation Station, special prize drawings, and more!



Summer Challenge Kickoff Party Saturday, June 7 • 10 am-Noon

10 am Magic Show by El Mago
11 am Kona Ice Treat



Ages 0-100+. Join us to kick off the Summer Challenge with your family or friends. Enjoy a bilingual Magic Show! El Mago entertains everyone with his tricks for all ages, presenting in English and Spanish. The Kona Ice truck serves sweet treats from 11-Noon.

Tie-Dye Saturday, June 28 10 am-Noon

All ages. Bring a white cotton t-shirt or fabric item to tie-dye! Register online for a timeslot.



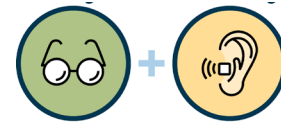
Help Fill the Pantry at Mutual Ground

MPL is collecting food and toiletry items (no clothing) for Mutual Ground **during the month of June**. Look out for a collection table in the library entrance and check the library website for a list of most needed items. Mutual Ground provides services to families and individuals impacted by domestic violence and substance use disorders.



MPL at North Aurora Days August 1 & 2 • 5-8 pm

Come see us at North Aurora Days! We offer a variety of activities and hands-on fun that promote literacy and a love for reading.



North Aurora Lions Club Hearing and Retinal Screenings

Friday, August 1 • 9 am-1 pm

North Aurora Lions Club sponsors free screenings for both adults and kids at the library in conjunction with North Aurora Days.

YOUTH SERVICES

Registration ^R is required for all programs beginning on May 20, via the online events calendar at messengerpl.org, by phone (630) 801-4340, or in person. For drop-in program reminders, use the **Remind Me** or **Add to My Calendar** buttons on the calendar.

BABIES-PRESCHOOL

Baby Storytime ^R

Tuesdays • 9:30-10 am OR 10:15-10:45 am

June 10-24 & July 8-22

Ages 0-24 months with

caregiver. Enjoy stories, songs, and movement to help foster early literacy skills.

Family Storytime ^R

Thursdays • 10-10:30 am

June 12, 26 & July 10, 17, 24

Ages 2-5 with caregiver. Enjoy stories and songs with your family while building pre-literacy skills and learning about the world around us.

Andy Warhol-Inspired Hands ^R

Monday, June 23

10-10:45 am

Ages 3-5 with

caregiver. Enjoy a hands-on art class with art teacher Mrs. M. We'll create masterpieces inspired by pop artist Andy Warhol.



Kiddie Raves ^R

Monday, June 30

Babies 0-2: 9:45-10:15 am

Preschool 3-5: 10:30-11 am

With caregiver. Get your glow on and dance the morning away with some fun music, shakers, and bubbles!



SUMMER PLAYTIMES

For child with participating adult. All playtimes will be outside, weather permitting.

Babies (ages 0-2)

Monday, July 7
10-11 am
Wet 'n Wild

Toddlers (ages 2-3)

Tues, August 12
10-11 am
Outdoor Messy Science

Preschool (ages 3-5)

Wed, July 9
10-11 am
Chalk Art

Sensory (ages 0-4)

Mon, June 16
10-11 am

Sat, July 19
10-11 am

Mon, August 18
10-11 am

Family Parties

Saturdays • 10:30-11:30 am

June 14: Fairy & Folk Tales

July 26: Fantastic Creatures

Ages 3-8 with families. Drop by the library to enjoy special activities celebrating picture books and popular characters. Make a craft, go on a special scavenger hunt, design a button, and more!

Preschool Storytime & Craft ^R

Fridays • 10-10:30 am

June 20: Summer Solstice

August 15: Back to School

Ages 3-5 with caregiver. Join us to read stories together and complete a fun craft to take home!

Summertime Fun Preschool Storytime with Ann Santori ^R

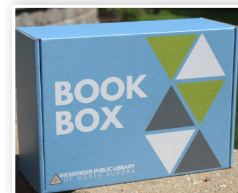
Friday, July 18 • 10-11 am
Ages 3-5 with caregiver.

Welcome storytime performer Ann Santori to Messenger for a special storytime all about Summertime Fun. We'll read books, sing songs, and celebrate the joy of summer on the library's back lawn!

ALL AGES

Summer Book Subscriptions ^R

Ages 0-18. Enjoy a new selection of books every month! Pick up your books on the **10th of June, July, and August.** Messenger Library card required.



Lego Club

Thursdays • 6-7 pm

June 12, July 10, August 7

All ages. Visit Youth Services to build a Lego creation to display for all to enjoy.

KIDS (AGES 5-12)

Programs with a **R** require advance registration.

Junior Library Helpers Training Session **R**

Monday, June 2 • 6:30 pm

Ages 9-11. Too young to be a Teen Volunteer but still want to help around the library? Attend training, then help with simple tasks on your own schedule!

DCM Detective Agency **R**

**Tuesdays, June 3, July 29,
August 5 & Friday, June 27
10:30-11:30 am**

Ages 5-10. Help Wanted: STEAM Detectives for the DCM Detective Agency! Solve a new mystery each session while learning about coding, arts, science, and more. Sign up for each date separately. Sponsored by the DuPage Children's Museum.



Reading Buddies **R**

Fridays • 11-11:30 am

June 6 & 20, July 11 & 25

Ages 5-10. Build confidence and fluency by reading aloud with a teen buddy. Bring a favorite book or come early to choose something new. Register for each date separately.

Books & Bites **R**

**Saturdays • 10:30-11:15 am
June 21 & August 16**

Ages 8-12. Let's learn how to make a tasty snack. Chow down while listening to a short story or chapter book teaser. Register for each date separately.

Creativity Lab **R**

Monday, July 21 • 6:30-7:30pm

Ages 8-12. Art, science, and technology, oh my! Let's explore a hands-on STEAM activity together. Dress to get messy!

Read with Rover **R**

Sundays • 2-3pm

June 15, July 20, August 17

For readers. Love reading? Or dogs? Practice reading aloud with a licensed therapy dog from the Fox Valley Therapy Dog Club.



Exploring Rainbows **R**

Tues, July 1 • 9:30-10:30 am

Ages 4-7. Experiment with "walking rainbows," a color transfer water experiment. You will also have the opportunity to create your own spectroscope to view rainbows.



Exploring Chromatography **R**

Tues, July 1 • 11 am-Noon

Ages 8-12. Explore color mixing by creating a design and adding water, then learn about simple circuiting to use your design to create a light up flower.

CAD and 3D Printing Workshop **R**

**Monday, July 7
6:30-8 pm**

Ages 9-11. Embark on an exhilarating journey into the captivating world of Computer-Aided Design (CAD)! This beginner CAD course ignites your creativity and unleashes your design potential to turn your ideas into vibrant, lifelike creations. Space is limited and reserved for kids who are 9-11 years old on July 7.



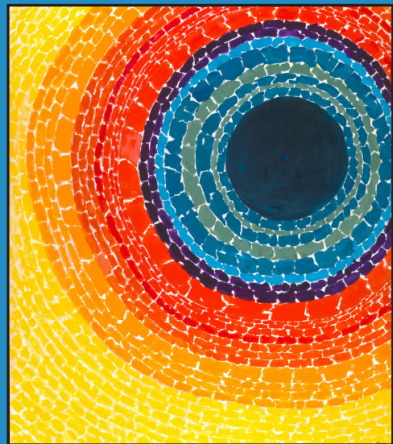
Kidinary Cooking: Crepes & Whipped Cream **R**

Thursday, July 31

Ages 4-7 • 4-5 pm

Ages 8-12 • 5:15-6:15 pm

Explore the culinary arts and gain confidence in the kitchen! Guided by a pro chef, kids learn essential skills and nutritional knowledge—all while preparing a tasty dish. Nut, dairy, and gluten accommodations provided.




Alma Thomas-Inspired Art Class **R**

Mon, June 23 • 6:30-7:30 pm

For families, ages 5+. Enjoy a hands-on art class with teacher Mrs. M. Create a masterpiece inspired by the art of Alma Thomas. Caregivers are welcome to participate!

TEENS

Registration  is required for all programs beginning on May 20, via the online events calendar at messengerpl.org, by phone (630) 801-4340, or in person. For drop-in program reminders, use the **Remind Me** or **Add to My Calendar** buttons on the calendar.

Audible Arts

Thursday • 7-8 pm

June 12: Squeegie Art

July 17: Dragon Eggs

August 21: Tote Bags

Ages 11-18. Let's get crafty while listening to an audiobook! See the online calendar for book previews.

Teen Yum Club: Taiwan

Thursday, June 26 • 7-8 pm

Ages 11-18.

Like to try new things? Wish you could travel around the world? Yum

Club is a place to explore new places through food! This month we are trying snacks from Taiwan. Space is limited, registration is required. Those with food allergies should proceed with caution.



Teen CAD and 3D Printing Workshop

Thursday, July 10 • 6:30-8 pm

Ages 11-18. Bring your imagination to life by designing a 3D printed creation of your own. Presented by Ready Set Code.



Teen Book Box Subscription

Grades 6-12. On the **10th of June, July, and August**, pick up your box with two books selected for you. Each box also includes some treats for you to keep! *Space is limited; registration required. Must have a Messenger Public Library card to participate.*

Teen Kidinary Cooking: Crepes & Whipped Cream

Thurs, July 31 • 6:30-7:30 pm

Ages 11-16. Explore the culinary arts and gain confidence in the kitchen! Guided by a professional chef instructor, young chefs will build essential skills while gaining nutritional knowledge, empowering them to make informed health choices—all while preparing a tasty dish. Nut, dairy, and gluten accommodations provided.

Teen Volunteers

Students ages 11-18/grades 7-12 are welcome to volunteer at the library! Applications are open for the summer until June 30. Visit messengerpl.org/teenvolunteers to apply.

Music @ Messenger

Select dates • 6:30 - 8 pm

The Music @ Messenger summer concert series returns for a fourth season with a musical tour of many genres including jazz, acoustic guitar, and even Elvis! Bring your lawn chair and picnic for an outdoor show on the rear lawn of the library.



John Till

Tuesday, June 10

Kick off our season with a little banjo, harmonica, beatbox, and guitar mixed together in the Americana melting pot of music.



Katie Bogle

Wed, June 18

A talented LGBTQ singer/songwriter, guitarist, drummer, and DJ powerhouse who performs summer tunes and brings joy for all.



Neil Potter

Tuesday, June 24

Known as a gentle maestro of guitar, delight in his soothing, thoughtful, and melodic performance, perfect for a summer evening.



John Elvis Lyons

Tuesday, July 8

Calling all Elvis fans! Hear the King's music by a tribute artist who brings the excitement of the jump-suit era to life.



Sam Burns

Tuesday, July 29

Killer jazz musician Sam Burns presents arrangements from standards to newly-released music.




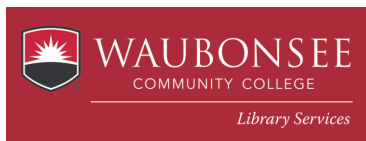
Pete Jive

Tuesday, August 5

Jive's charisma, syncopated rhythms, and punchy lyrics immediately imprint your heart through an all-in performance.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Registration  is required for all programs, unless noted, beginning on May 20, via the online events calendar at messengerpl.org, by phone (630) 896-0240, ext. 3, or in person. For drop-in program reminders, use the **Remind Me** or **Add to My Calendar** buttons on the calendar.



Summer Technology Programs

Coming soon!

MPL is excited to offer more technology programs in partnership with Waubonsee Community College and other local libraries. Watch our website and social media for scheduling and registration details as they become available.

Genealogy Assistance **NEW!**

Make a one-hour appointment dedicated to helping you with your genealogy questions and needs. This service is available for Messenger Public Library cardholders, once per week, for up to one hour. Please book at least 48 hours in advance. Call (630) 896-0240, ext. 4337 to schedule an appointment.

Introduction to the Art of Chinese Paper Cutting

Wed, June 11 • 6:30-8:30 pm

Educator Yvonne Wolf introduces Chinese paper cutting art, showcasing master samples and quick beginner projects. Whether you're an experienced artist or a first-timer wanting to learn to cut a snowflake, you'll find engaging activities and provided templates to kickstart your new paper hobby.

The Silver Linings Series

Fridays • 10:30-11:30 am

June 13 • Blue Zone

Documentary, Part 1

July 11 • Chair Yoga

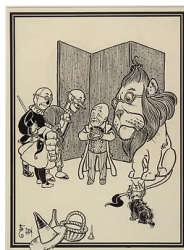
August 8 • Musical Bingo

The Silver Linings Series is a collection of programs designed for seniors, featuring a variety of activities each month, some of which may repeat. This series aims to promote physical and mental well-being while encouraging social interaction. Join us for a chance to learn, stay active, and have fun together!

The Historical Wizard of Oz

Saturday, June 21 • 10-11 am

Just hearing the name "Oz" conjures up fantastic images, adventures, and heartfelt memories. So many of us can recite the plot of the famous story, but how many of us really know what went into creating it? What influences did L. Frank Baum have in his life as he created what is widely acknowledged as America's first fairytale? Librarian Laura Keyes separates fact from fiction as she shares the fantastic story of the amazing creator of "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz."



Drop-In Crochet and Knit Club



Thursdays, June 26, July 17, August 21 • 6-8 pm

Come relax and work on making something cozy with others who are interested in the fiber arts! This is a drop-in program for experienced crafters. Refreshments provided. Please bring your own materials and projects to work on.

Craft Swap

Saturday, June 28 • 1-4 pm

Do you have surplus craft supplies? Want to explore a new hobby, medium, or material? Bring your partially used beading, fiber, or paper craft supplies to the Help Desk June 24-27 and receive a ticket. Bring that ticket to the library on June 28 to "shop" for new-to-you craft supplies! All remaining materials become available to the public from 3 to 4 pm, after the swap.

Don't Get Scammed **Wed, July 9 6-7 pm**

Scammers try to get your personal information in many different ways. Whether the attempt is through phone calls, email, web links, or even traditional mail, don't fall victim to having your personal information stolen. Learn more about common scams and how to avoid them from Officer Parr from the North Aurora Police Department.



Basic Self Defense for Adults [®]

Sat, July 19 • 2:30-4:30 pm

Learn several basic defense and escape techniques, and gain an understanding of the concepts that make them effective for use in self defense. This workshop includes partnering with a fellow attendee to practice the physical aspects of self defense and “what if” scenarios. Participants must complete a waiver by July 17. Link to waiver provided upon registration.

Chasing Mother Nature [®]

Thursday, July 24 • 7-8 pm

Join an experienced chaser on an electrifying journey through the thrilling world of storm chasing. Delve into the science behind severe weather phenomena, view awe-inspiring footage, and hear personal anecdotes of close encounters with nature's most powerful storms.

Yum Club [®]

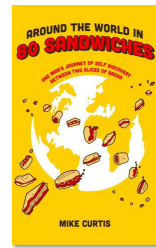
Monday, July 28 • 7-8:30 pm

Do you have an adventurous palate? Do you want to travel the world without leaving the library? Join us for the Yum Club, where foodies come together to taste snacks and treats from a different country each month. Spots are very limited, so please register to attend. Those with food allergies should proceed with caution.

Around the World in 80 Sandwiches [®]

Mon, August 4
7-8 pm

“Around the World in 80 Sandwiches” is one man's attempt to show his sons the world through sandwiches made in their own kitchen or found in local eateries. Mike shares the hilarious adventures, crazy characters, and life lessons he and his family find on their sandwich odyssey.



Handwriting Strategies for Student Success [®]

Tuesday, August 5 • 6-7 pm

This program empowers parents and teachers with practical strategies to support students struggling with handwriting by reviewing key developmental milestones and strategies learned through play to target fine and visual motor skills.



Take a Meditation Vacation [®]

Thursday, August 7 • 6-7 pm

Need to escape the stress and strains of life? Would you like to learn how to immerse yourself in peace, calm, and joy? Join long-time meditator Umesh Bhatia and learn techniques to revive yourself.



Resumé Workshop [®]

Wed, July 23 • 10-11 am

Make your resumé stand out to potential employers! Join workNet Batavia for this workshop to receive valuable tips and personalized feedback.

Mastering the Interview [®]

Wed, Aug 27 • 10-11 am

Let workNet Batavia equip you with the skills and confidence needed to excel in any job interview. This workshop covers key topics such as crafting impactful responses to common and challenging questions, highlight your unique strengths, and using body language effectively.

NORTH AURORA Community Group MEETINGS

North Aurora Garden Club

1st Monday/month • 6:30 pm
Gail Wilke (630) 618-6467

North Aurora Lions Club

2nd Tuesday/month • 7 pm
northauroralions@gmail.com

Toastmasters: Timely Talkers

1st & 3rd Wednesday/month • 7-8:30 pm
Dan Velasco at danvelasco123@gmail.com

Toastmasters: Advanced Expressives

4th Saturday/month • 10:15 am-Noon
John Jerrard (630) 688-8438

CAPE Con-Ready Cosplay [®]

Wednesday, August 27

6:30-8:30 pm

Need motivation to work on your Aurora Public Library District's CAPE Con cosplay before it's too late? Need some help on a tricky part of your costume? Veteran cosplayer Tess is here to help celebrate comics, anime, pop culture, and more! Limited materials and one-on-one assistance available.



ART CLUB FOR ADULTS

Pot Head Planters

Sat, June 14 • 10 am-Noon
OR Tuesday, June 17
6:30-8:30 pm

Add a pop of color to your home or garden with a hand-crafted, sassy planter! Fashion accessories for your diva are available, but bring your own if you choose. Registration starts May 1.




Summer Card Making

Sat, July 12 • 10 am-Noon OR
Tues, July 15 • 6:30-8:30 pm

Learn quick and easy techniques to craft paper greeting cards with a fun summer vibe. Registration starts June 1.

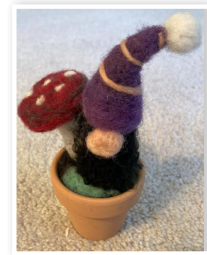
PLEASE NOTE:
September Art Club —
Project TBA. Registration
starts August 1.

Beginners welcome! Register  in advance. For adults and teens over 16 (with registered adult).

Needle Felted Gnomes

Sat, August 9 • 10 am-Noon
OR Tuesday, August 19
6:30-8:30 pm

Guest artist Jenifer Gouger is back to show us how to create a charming gnome and mushroom from needle felted wool. No previous needle felting experience required. Registration starts July 1.



ADULT BOOK CLUBS

Digital copies of book club titles may be available on Hoopla, Libby, or Boundless; print copies are available for checkout at the User Services Desk.

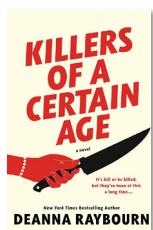
Book Club is Our Alibi

July 7 • 7-8:15 pm

Join us for this quarterly book club where we discuss thrillers. This session we discuss *All Good People Here* by Ashley Flowers. Copies available at the User Services Desk. Location provided upon registration.



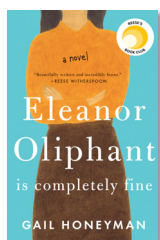
Morning Book Club Wednesdays 10:30-11:30 am



JUNE 4
Killers of a Certain Age by Deanna Raybourn



JULY 2
The Ministry of Time by Kaliane Bradley



AUGUST 6
Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine by Gail Honeyman

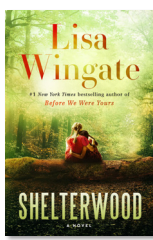
Evening Book Club Thursdays • 7-8 pm



JUNE 5
Vera Wong's Unsolicited Advice for Murderers by Jesse Q. Sutanto



JULY 10
The Lioness by Chris Bohjalian

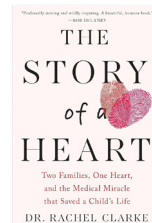


AUGUST 7
Shelterwood by Lisa Wingate

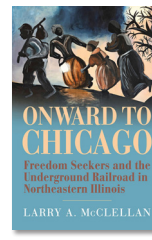
Narrative Nonfiction Book Club Mondays • 7-8 pm



JUNE 9
The Secret History of the Rape Kit: A True Crime Story by Pagan Kennedy



JULY 14
The Story of a Heart: Two Families, One Heart, and the Medical Miracle that Saved a Child's Life by Dr. Rachel Clarke



AUGUST 11
Onward to Chicago: Freedom Seekers and the Underground Railroad in Northeastern Illinois by Larry A. McClellan



RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

MESSENGER PUBLIC LIBRARY OF NORTH AURORA | SUMMER 2025: JUNE, JULY, AUGUST

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday-Thursday
9 am–9 pm

Friday-Saturday
9 am–5 pm

Sunday
1–5 pm

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mark Saperston, President
Darlene Bailey
Tanya Berley
Katherine Bogle
Peggy Carlson
Elizabeth Cranford
Laura McCoy

LIBRARY BOARD MEETINGS

Thursdays • 7–8 pm
June 12, July 10, August 14

THE LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:

June 19
July 3 (at 5 pm)
July 4
August 31



DIRECTOR'S CORNER

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) has been a topic in national library discussions lately, and I thought I would share a bit of what this federal agency does.

In 2024, IMLS was awarded \$266.7 million, or just .003% of the federal budget, and .75 cents per capita. This tiny portion has a big impact as funds are distributed to state libraries for projects and improvements. How does this affect us? IMLS funding is distributed by the Illinois State Library. Funding totaled \$5.7 million in FY 2024—the sixth-highest amount in the country. This supports the RAILS library system in delivery, databases and ebooks, resources, programming, professional development, and operations for various types of underserved libraries. MPL receives per capita grants each year, hopes for future accessibility grants to improve our entrances and bookdrop, and relies on RAILS for ongoing materials delivery as we share items across our SWAN consortium and the state.

While I can't predict the impact of projected cuts NOR confirm the final outcomes as this is all under discussion, I'll monitor the situation and update our community accordingly. MPL is primarily locally supported and we will continue to provide materials and resources, cultural programming, and foster a sense of community as a cornerstone of education and democracy.

Thank you for your uplifting calls, advocacy, and support – and we hope you are excited about the wide array of FUN in our summer offerings and encourage you to visit. Our newsletter is full of something for everybody.

Shannon Halikias
Library Director
shannon@messengerpl.org

