



SPRING PROGRAMS MARCH - MAY 2025

PROGRAMS FOR EVERYONE

HER Story Histories

Saturday & Sunday, March 15 & 16 • 1:30 – 4:30pm Throughout the Library

Women's History Month comes alive during this unique, immersive pop-up event!

Local playwrights and actors from Nomad Theatre will perform scenes involving famous women throughout history. Performers will be stationed throughout the library, ready to teach you about these incredible women.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Anna Elizabeth at childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Bookmobile Birthday Celebration

April 1 – 30 • On the Bookmobile

Happy 10th Birthday to Bookmobile No. 8! Bloomington Library's current Bookmobile will celebrate its 10th Birthday this spring. In celebration, throughout the month of April a limited-edition Bookmobile sticker – designed by local artist Sarah Simpson – will be available to patrons who climb aboard our mobile library on wheels!

El día de los niños/ El día de los libros

Sunday, April 27 • 2 – 4pm • Illinois Art Station

Celebrate reading during El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Day of the Child/Day of the Book) at Illinois Art Station (101 E. Vernon Ave., Normal) with the Bloomington and Normal public libraries! Enjoy arts and crafts, snacks, bilingual story time (in Spanish and English), music, and more!

> No registration is required for this free public event. Visit *illinoisartstation.org* for parking information. ¡Celebre la lectura con nosotros durante El día de los niños/El día de los libros en Illinois Art Station (101 E. Vernon Ave., Normal) con las bibliotecas públicas Normal y Bloomington! ¡Disfrute de manualidades, bocadillos, cuentos bilingües en español e inglés, música y más!

No se requiere registración para este evento público gratuito. Visite *illinoisartstation.org* para información de estacionamiento.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Jesse at childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Pins and Needles: A Fiber Arts Celebration

Sunday, April 27 • 2 – 4pm • Community Rooms 1 – 3

Whether you're a needlework novice who's thinking about a new hobby or a seasoned crafter who is looking for new techniques, this program will allow you to explore the world of fiber arts with demonstrations of spinning, knitting, crocheting, quilting, cross stitch, embroidery, and more!

Experienced artisans and representatives from local craft shops and fiber guilds will answer your questions as you learn about new fiber arts tools and materials.

Additionally, the Fix It Friday Repair Shop will also be in attendance, so

bring something from your wardrobe that needs a little attention! (Fix It Friday offers basic sewing, mending, and clothing repair at no cost.)

This program is co-hosted by the Normal Public Library.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Mimi at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Art & Adventures with Author/Illustrator Dan Santat*

Saturday, May 3 • 2pm • Online via Zoom

Dan Santat is the author and illustrator of more than 100 books for young people. Many of his books are *New York Times*-bestsellers, including *The Adventures of Beekle: The Unimaginary Friend, Are We There Yet?*, and *After the Fall (How Humpty Dumpty Got Back Up Again).* His latest works include the best-selling graphic novels, *The Aquanaut* and *A First Time for Everything.*

Register at *bit.ly/ILP_DanSantat* to receive a link to view this online program.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Marcie at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Opening Reception: BPL Staff Art Exhibit

Tuesday, May 27 • 6 – 7pm • Community Room 1

You're invited to the opening reception of a very special local art exhibit which will showcase the incredible talent of our library staff!

Enjoy light refreshments while engaging with the artists and their work as we celebrate creativity, inspiration, and community!

This exhibit will be displayed through July 1, 2025, along the wall nearest the

Community Rooms on the library's second floor.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Mimi at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.



CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS IN A SERIES

Super Saturday Story Time

Saturdays • 10am • March 1 & April 5 Children's Program Rooms 1 & 2

Join us for an all-ages, raucous story time extravaganza. Swing by at 10am to dance, listen to music, read stories, and have a wondrous time. This story time is perfect for kiddos – ages birth – 11 years – and their caregivers. We'll see you there!

Questions about these programs can be emailed to Ms. Clare at childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

RC Cars for Kids*

Saturdays • 2pm • March 1, April 5, May 3 Community Rooms 1 & 2

Kids will work together as they re-purpose cardboard boxes to build obstacles and ramps for Remote Control cars. They'll then take turns driving through their creation. Boxes and cars will be provided.

Registration is required and opens two weeks before the date of each session at *bit.ly/rcforkids*.

Questions about these programs can be emailed to Mr. Jesse at childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Lapsit Story Time

Tuesdays • 10am & 6pm • March 4, 11, 18 April 1, 8, 15, 22 • Children's Program Rooms 1 & 2

Join us at Lapsit Story Time for stories, music, movement, and play intended to help develop and enhance early literacy skills and your baby's development. This program is intended for children ages 0 – 18 months and their caregivers, but all are welcome.

Questions about these programs can be emailed to Ms. Alysha at childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Preschool Story Time

Wednesdays • 10am • March 5, 12, 19; April 2, 9, 16, 23 • Children's Program Room 2

Help your child build independent listening skills while learning and having fun! This story time – recommended for children ages 3-5 years old – will feature longer stories, flannel boards, music, puppets, and activities which will help get your pre-readers ready for school.

Questions about these programs can be emailed to Mr. Jesse at childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Tales for Tails*

Wednesdays • 6pm • March 5, 12, 19; April 2, 9, 16, 23 Children's Department

This program pairs trained and certified therapy dogs with children in Grades K-5 who want to practice reading aloud. There will be four time slots available for kids to meet and read to a pup in the Children's Department.

Ms. Alex will personally email those who register to assign them a time slot and introduce them to the dog they'll be meeting! Registration is required and opens two weeks before the date of each session at *bit.ly/talesfortails*.

Questions about these programs can be emailed to Ms. Alex at childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Toddler Story Time

Thursdays • 10am • March 6, 13, 20; April 3, 10, 17, 24 Children's Program Rooms 1 & 2

Toddlers are always on the go! Come to story time to encourage their emerging skills with books, rhymes, music, and lots of movement activities. This program is intended for children ages 18-36 months and their caregivers, but all are welcome to attend.

Questions about these programs can be emailed to Ms. Alex at childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Sensory Story Time*

Thursdays • 11am • March 6, 13, 20; April 3, 10, 17, 24 Children's Program Rooms 1 & 2

This inclusive story time offers stories, songs, and sensory-focused activities for children of all ages and abilities! After story time, stay for sensory play and socialization. Intended as a safe space for children with autism, this program is also open to siblings, caregivers, and any kids who would like to make friends.

Registration is required and opens two weeks before the date of each session at *bit.ly/bplsensorystory*.

Questions about these programs and accommodation requests can be emailed to Ms. Alex at childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS IN A SERIES

D&D for Kids*

6pm on Thursdays • March 6 & 20; April 3 & 17; May 1 & 15 4pm on Mondays • March 10, April 7, May 5 Children's Program Room 2

This Dungeons & Dragons experience for kids in grades 3–5 will include a simplified, rules-light adventure with provided,

pre-generated characters. To accommodate more kids, each child is limited to signing up for ONE session per month.

Registration is required and can be completed at *bit.ly/ddforkids*. Registration for the March sessions will open at 9am on February 20. Registration for the April sessions will open at 9am on March 20. Registration for all the May sessions will open at 9am on April 17.

Questions about these programs can be emailed to Mr. Jesse at childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Fun Friday Story Time

Fridays • 10am • March 7, 14, 21; April 4, 11, 18, 25 Children's Program Rooms 1 & 2

Join us every Friday for a 30-minute, all-ages story time in the Children's Program Rooms. We'll enjoy music, lots of movement, stories, and FUN! This program is perfect for children – ages birth to 11 years – and their caregivers.

Questions about these programs can be emailed to Clare at childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Fun & Games: Family Game Day

Sundays • 2 – 4pm • March 9 & April 13 Children's Program Rooms 1 & 2

Join us in the Children's Department for classic board games, card games, and puzzles. Red Raccoon Games will join us on site to demonstrate how to play a variety of hand-picked games, all appropriate for your family gaming experience.

Questions about these programs can be emailed to Miss Jill at childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Itsy Arts*

Mondays • 10am • March 10 & April 14 Children's Program Rooms 1 & 2

Itsy Arts with the Illinois Art Station offers hands-on, transformative artmaking for young artists ages 2 – 5 years and their families.

Attendees will enjoy story time and thematic artmaking inspired by artists, mediums, and story elements – all facilitated by an IAS art educator.

Beginning February 24, register for the March 10 session at *bit.ly/itsy0310*. Beginning March 31, register for the April 14 session at *bit.ly/itsy0414*.

Questions about these programs can be emailed to Ms. Alysha at childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Lego Construction

Saturdays • 9:30 – 11:30am • March 15 & April 12 Children's Program Rooms 1 & 2

Join us for Lego Construction, and have your picture taken with your creation. The challenge is to build whatever you want!

This program is suitable for children ages 3-11 years and their caregivers. There is no need to register for this drop-in program. Please leave your blocks/bricks at home. Pictures of children and their creations will be taken by our staff and posted to the library's social media pages.

Questions about these programs can be emailed

to Ms. Alysha at childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Singing, Swinging Story Time

Mondays • 6pm • March 17,

April 21, May 19 • Children's Program Rooms 1 & 2

Join us for an evening of stories, laughs, fingerplays, and songs accompanied by guitar! This story time is for all ages.

Questions about these programs can be emailed to Mr. Cody at childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

School-Age Crafts

Mondays • 3 – 7pm • March 31, April 14, May 12 Children's Program Room 1

School-age children are invited to join us in the afternoons/evenings to create the following crafts:

- March 31: Q-tip Painting
- April 14: Pipe Cleaner Animals
- May 12: Tissue Paper Sun Catchers

Questions about these programs can be emailed to Lisa at childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

STANDALONE CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Ramadan Story Time

Saturday, March 8 • 10am • Children's Program Rooms 1 & 2

Join us for a fun, all-ages story time to celebrate Ramadan! We will read books, sing songs, and learn about the culture and traditions surrounding this holiday. Plan to stay after story time if your child would like to receive a henna tattoo from a henna artist. Henna tattoos last up to two weeks and begin to fade after a few days.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Ms. Alex at childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Doll Housewarming Party

Wednesday, March 12 • All Day • Children's Department

Help the library celebrate its new doll house with a housewarming party that will include activities and crafts in the Children's Department!

The miniature dollhouse was donated to the library by Donald Wood who began working on the it in 1978 along with his late wife, Bloomington Public Library retiree, Lois Wood. The doll house was recently donated to the library in remembrance of Lois Wood's 42 years of service to the library and the community.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Anna Elizabeth at childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Spring Break Space Adventure

March 24 – 30 • Children's Department

A Planet Scavenger Hunt and other space-themed activities will be available during all the library's open hours from Monday, March 24 - Sunday, March 30.

Questions about these programs can be emailed to Lisa at childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Free Range Rock Painting*

Wednesday, March 26, 6pm • Thursday, March 27, 1pm Children's Program Room 1

Attendees will have free range to paint rocks however they would like! We'll provide the supplies and help with assembly, but kids will also need help from their grown-up.



Beginning March 12, register for the March 26 session at *bit.ly/rock0326*. Beginning March 13, register for the March 27 session at *bit.ly/rock0327*. Please register your child for only one session.

Questions about these programs can be emailed to Alex at childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Build a Pantagraph*

Friday, March 28 • 2pm • Innovation Lab

The Pantagraph isn't just the name of our local newspaper! A pantagraph is also a tool used by artists and engineers to reduce or enlarge drawings. Kids age 7–12 years are invited to join us in the Innovation Lab to learn how to create and use a pantagraph of their own.

Beginning March 14, register at *bit.ly/pantagraph0328*.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Anna Elizabeth at childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

I'm a Poet and I Know It!

April 18 – 21[^] • Children's Department

Weave words together as we celebrate National Poetry Month! During any of the library's open hours, children are invited to join us in the Children's Department for activities based on writing and enjoying poems.

^The Library will be closed on April 20.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Anna Elizabeth at childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

5th Grade TeenZone Preview Nights

Tuesdays & Wednesdays • May 6 & 7, 13 & 14 • 5 – 9pm TeenZone

Calling all graduating 5th graders! School will soon be out, and starting in the summer you are considered a Teen by the library! So, how about a getting a TeenZone preview before the summer begins?

If you are a current 5th grader (with a birthday on or before 8/31/2014) you are invited to drop in and preview the TeenZone. For a quick online preview, you can visit *bloomingtonlibrary.org/teenzone* to learn about all the gaming equipment available in the TeenZone.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Tiffany at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Sign and Sing Story Time

Thursday, May 8 • 10am • Children's Program Rooms 1 & 2

Join Communication Junction at Bloomington Public Library for a 30-minute Sign + Sing Story Time. We will be signing, singing, and reading books! This story time is geared for children ages 0 – 5 years old.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Melissa at childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Ghost in the Opera House

Saturday, May 10 • 10am • Community Rooms 1 & 2



Prairie Fire Theatre presents *Ghost in the Opera House*, a 40-minute operatic romp that looks at empathy, teamwork, and why music matters.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Melissa at childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

TEEN PROGRAMS IN A SERIES

Teen Art Nights*

Thursdays • 5pm • March 6 & 27; April 3, 10, 17, 24 Community Room 3

Illinois State University Art Education students will lead six Teen Art Nights at the library. Each class will feature a different project. Details about the different projects will be shared in late February on the library's online calendar.

Registration for each session is suggested and can be completed at *bit.ly/bplteenart*.

Questions about these programs can be emailed to Cora at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Teen Craftivism*

Mondays • 6pm • March 10, April 7, May 5 Community Room 3

During Craftivism, teens will learn a new craft and the history behind it. From quilt codes leading the way to freedom to modern ecological warriors "bombing" barren cityscapes with wildflower seeds, arts and crafts have a long legacy of being used to convey a message.

- March 10: Book Page Flowers
- April 7: Book Page Blackout Poetry
- May 5: Seed Bombs

Registration for each session is suggested and can be completed at *bit.ly/teencraftivism*.

Questions about these programs can be emailed to Cora at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Teen Genre Book Club*

Saturdays • 11am • March 15, April 12, May 17 Conference Room

The Teen Genre Book Club will meet monthly to discuss a different genre of book, giving you more choice of what to read. Pick any book that fits the month's genre. If you'd like suggestions, inquire at the Help Desk or in the TeenZone.

- March 15: Intergenerational Relationships
- April 12: Novels in Verse
- May 17: Graphic Novels

Registration for each session is suggested and can be completed at *bit.ly/bplteenbookclub*.

Questions about this book club can be emailed to Cora at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Teen Writing Workshops

Wednesdays • 12 – 1pm • March 26, April 23, May 28 TeenZone

This teen writing workshop is for anyone in Grades 6 – 12 and is perfect

for homeschoolers! Drop by the TeenZone to learn tips and tricks and to talk about the art of prose. Essay help and personal creative writing projects are perfect for this program. All you need is a writing project to work on and an open mind! *Mini lessons* may be available upon request.



Questions about these programs can be emailed to Cora at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

No-School Crafts for Teens

2 – 4pm • Thursday, March 27; Friday, April 18; Thursday, May 29 • Community Rooms 2 & 3

Teens in Grades 6-12 are invited to join us for a different craft on each of the no-school days listed below.

- March 27 Fuse Beads
- April 18 Magnets
- May 29 Diamond Art Bookmarks

Questions about these programs can be emailed to Tiffany at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

STANDALONE TEEN PROGRAMS

VR Fruit Ninja Tournament*

Saturday, March 8 • 1 – 4pm • TeenZone

Teens are invited to join us for an epic, action-packed competition in which they'll experience the thrill of *Fruit Ninja*. Participants will don a VR headset and step into a virtual world where ×

they'll slice flying fruit in exciting, fast-paced rounds. The top scorers will move on to the final showdown where they'll have a chance to win awesome prizes!

Beginning February 22, registration can be completed online at *bit.ly/fruitninja0308*.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Gene at techprogramming@bloomingtonlibrary.org.



D&D: Shadow Over Graymoor*

Saturday, March 15 • 12:45 – 4:45pm • Conference Room

In this D&D program, teens will play through an adventure filled with mystery, tension, and detective work! Players will need to create a Level 2 character using D&D Beyond or use a provided character. This adventure has been designed to help you learn how to play!

Beginning February 28, registration can be completed online at *bit.ly/dnd0315*.

Questions about this program can be emailed to DJ at techprogramming@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Embroidered Tote Bags*

Monday, March 24 • 5:30pm • Innovation Lab

Using the library's Bernette 70 Embroidery Machine, teens will explore



embroidery by machine as they create an image which will then be embroidered onto a tote bag. Tote bags, thread, laptops, and tools will be provided. After the program ends, Library staff will embroider the designs onto the tote bags and the teens will pick up their completed projects at a later date.

Registration is required and can be completed online at *bit.ly/embtote0324*.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Olivia at techprogramming@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Mario Kart Tournament*

Saturday, April 5 • 2pm • TeenZone

Teens are invited to join us for a *Mario Kart* Tournament! Participants will put their pedals to the metal in a bracket-style tournament playing *Mario Kart 8* on the Nintendo Switch. First and second place winners will each receive a prize.

Registration is required and can be completed online at *bit.ly/mariokart0405*.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Olivia at techprogramming@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

D&D: Whispers from the Desert Tomb*

Saturday, April 12 • 12:45 – 4:45pm • Conference Room

In this program, teens will play through an adventure full of suspense, exploration, and tense confrontations! Players will need to create a Level 4 character using D&D Beyond or use a provided character. This adventure has been designed to help you learn how to play!

Beginning March 29, registration can be completed online at *bit.ly/dnd0412*.

Questions about this program can be emailed to DJ at techprogramming@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Sound & Story: ADR & Foley*

Wednesday, April 16 • 5 – 8pm • Innovation Lab

Calling all aspiring filmmakers, sound designers, and storytellers! Have you ever wondered how movies and video games come to life with their amazing sound effects and dialogue? Join us for this hands-on program where you'll discover the art and techniques behind Automated Dialogue Replacement (ADR) and Foley sound creation for film!



Beginning April 2, registration can be completed online at *bit.ly/sound0416*.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Gene at techprogramming@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Custom Sublimated T-Shirts*

Monday, May 12 • 6pm • Innovation Lab

Using Canva, registered teens will design a full-color sublimation print which will be pressed onto a white t-shirt. (If time allows, shirts will be pressed during the program so that teens can take them home that day. Shirts not pressed during the program will be pressed by library staff and can be picked up at a later date.)

Beginning April 28, registration can be completed online at *bit.ly/shirt0512*.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Olivia at techprogramming@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

D&D: Escape from the Pirate's Hold!*

Saturday, May 17 • 12:45 – 4:45pm • Conference Room

In this program, teens will play through an adventure full of suspense, exploration, and tense confrontations! Players will need to create a Level 3 character using D&D Beyond or use a provided character. This adventure has been designed to help you learn how to play!

Beginning May 3, registration can be completed online at *bit.ly/dnd0517*.

Questions about this program can be emailed to DJ at techprogramming@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Mini 3D-Printed Catapults*

Wednesday, May 21 • 6pm • Innovation Lab

Teens are invited to join us as we learn to design, 3D print, and build our very own miniature catapults! Along the way, you'll explore the fascinating world of physics, diving into the concepts of potential and kinetic energy to see how they make your catapult work.

Beginning May 7, registration can be completed online at *bit.ly/catapult0521*.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Gene at techprogramming@bloomingtonlibrary.org.



English Language Conversation Group*

Mondays • 5:30pm • March 17 in Community Room 3 April 21 & May 19 in Community Room 2

This program meets monthly from February to November and is designed for adults for whom English is a second language. Native English speakers are welcome as conversation partners to help others in the community.

We work on conversation skills with guided topics.

- The theme in March is Books.
- The theme in April is Change.
- The theme in May is Music.

This program is being held in partnership with STAR Adult Literacy. New participants are welcome at any time.

Registration can be completed online at *bit.ly/bplenglish*.

Questions about these programs can be emailed to Nazma at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Fix It Friday

Friday, April 11 • 1 – 4pm • Community Room 1

Celebrate Earth Day and keep your clothes out of the landfill by getting them repaired – for FREE – thanks to the Fix It Friday volunteers from the Office of Sustainability at ISU!

Stop by with an article of clothing in need of a basic fix, and Fix It Friday volunteers will repair the item on the spot.

Fix It Friday volunteers offer basic sewing, mending, and clothing repair at no cost. (Major alterations or repairs are not available.) They also offer basic shoe and jewelry repair and cleaning. By repairing, re-purposing, or transforming clothes, you're not only adding unique style to your wardrobe but also keeping textiles out of landfills. Every stitch counts towards a greener future!

Questions about this program can be emailed to Mimi at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Houseplant Swap

Saturday, May 10 • 11am – 12pm • Outside on the Patio

Calling all plant people! Plant lovers are invited to bring plants, cuttings, and seeds to share, and take new plants home. Introduce your plant to its new parent and be ready to share information such as its name and its light, soil, and water preferences. If you have extra pots or plant supplies to share, you can bring those as well.

We'll be sharing our plants on the library's patio. Please note: The McLean County Extension Office has advised us not to share outdoor garden plants (dug up from your yard) at our plant swaps due to the invasive jumping worm in McLean County. Please only bring houseplants, cuttings, and seeds!

Questions about this program can be emailed to Mimi at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

Exploring Space with Coralie Adam*

Tuesday, March 4 • 7pm • Online via Zoom

Get an inside look at the space industry with Illinois' own Coralie Adam, joined in conversation by Renae Kerrigan of the Dome Planetarium at Peoria Riverfront Museum.

Coralie leads the multi-mission Optical Navigation team at KinetX Aerospace where she's had lead roles on the navigation teams for NASA's New Horizons, OSIRIS-REx, Lucy, and OSIRIS-APEX missions. Coralie is currently the Deputy Navigation Chief on NASA's Lucy mission to the Jupiter Trojan asteroids.

Register at *bit.ly/ILP_CoralieAdam* to receive a link to this program.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Marcie at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Why Plant Trees?

Saturday, March 8 • 11am • Community Room 3

The Ecology Action Center's Tree Corps program aims to plant 10,000 trees every year in McLean County! Join EAC Tree Coordinator, Tess,

to discuss the program and the benefits to our community, our ecosystem, and our future. Together we'll learn about the impact trees can have on urban environments, and what we can do to make those benefits a reality here in our community.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Mimi at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

reterenc

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

0

Social Security and Tax Planning*

Wednesday, March 12 • 6pm • Community Rooms 2 & 3

Your Social Security claiming strategies can vary dramatically depending on numerous factors that the government doesn't share directly with you.

Representatives from The Institute for Financial Education will cover the basics of Social Security, potential tax minimization strategies, and the latest for optimizing your benefits and retirement.

Registration is required and can be completed at *bit.ly/taxplanning0312*.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Kerrie at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

9to5: The Story of a Movement*

Friday, March 21, at 2pm - Sunday, March 23 • Online

Watch the award winning documentary, *9to5: The Story of a Movement*, from the comfort of your home! The documentary highlights the creation of the 9to5 movement, established to fight for workplace equity and against wage discrepancy. The movement was the basis for the feature film, *9 to 5*, starring Jane Fonda, Dolly Parton, and Lily Tomlin.

Register at *bit.ly/ILP_9to5* to receive a link to this online program on March 21.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Marcie at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Lucy's Girls: Lucy Orme Morgan and the Girl's Industrial Home

Thursday, March 27 • 6pm Community Room 1 & Online via YouTube

Lucy Orme Morgan was passionate about social welfare and was active in numerous philanthropic activities throughout her lifetime. However,

her passion was the Girl's Industrial Home, founded in 1889. The Home was a place for dependent children who were neglected or had no one to care for them. It was an institution where girls would be taught useful skills to prepare them for a life of independence when they were of age.

> This program will be presented by Candace Summers of the McLean County Museum of History. The livestream can be accessed by visiting *bit.ly/blmlibyoutube*.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Sara at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Sourdough Breadmaking Essentials

Wednesday, April 2 • 6pm • Community Room 2

Discover the secrets behind turning simple ingredients – such as flour, water, and salt – into delicious, crusty sourdough bread using wild yeasts and bacteria. This program, presented by University of Illinois Extension Office, will guide you in the art and science of sourdough baking and pinners.

is perfect for beginners.

Participants will receive informational resources, digital handouts, and recipes to help them dive right into the world of sourdough after the program.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Mimi at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

STOP THE BLEED®*

Sunday, April 6 • 2pm • Community Rooms 1 & 2

This class will be presented by Carle BroMenn Emergency Department Staff and will combine lecture with hands-on practice to teach you how to be an effective first responder and to help stop the bleeding of a severely injured person.

Registration is required and can be completed at *bit.ly/bleed0406*.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Marcie at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

3D Printed Stained Glass*

Wednesdays • 6pm • April 9 & 23 • Innovation Lab

In this two-part program, adults will be introduced to Tinkercad, a 3D modeling program, which they will use to create designs that look like stained glass. Participants will meet again on Wednesday, April 23, to paint their pieces. (Between the two meeting dates, library staff will 3D print the designs.)

Beginning March 24, registration can be completed online at *bit.ly/glass0409*. The April 23 session requires participation in the April 9 session. *Please only register for the April 9 program if you are also available to attend the program on April 23*.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Kerrie at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

 $\bigcirc 0$

The Art of Foraging with Alexis Nikole Nelson*

Thursday, April 10 • 7pm • Online via Zoom

View a conversation between Alexis Nikole Nelson and Natalie Evans. Nelson, a forager and an outdoor educator, uses her TikTok account (@alexisnikole), and Instagram page (@blackforager), to

celebrate all the edible plants hiding in plain sight. She peels back historical layers on African American and Indigenous food traditions that have traditionally been repressed and empowers those living in food deserts with greater self-sufficiency. Evans is a wild edible foods instructor.

Register at *bit.ly/ILP_AlexisNikoleNelson* to receive a link to this online program.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Marcie at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Dogs of Chernobyl*

Thursday, April 24 • 7pm • Online via Zoom

Nearly 39 years after the Chernobyl nuclear accident, Feline Behaviorist Stephen Quandt reflects on his recent trip to the area. Viewers will learn how radiation has changed the environment and impacted the lives of the pets left behind after the disaster.

Register at *bit.ly/chernobyl0424* to receive a link to this online program.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Sara at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

QPR Suicide Prevention Training*

Saturday, April 26 • 10am • Community Room 1

During this life-saving training session attendees will learn to recognize the warning signs of suicide and take action. Led by the McLean County Center for Human Services, this training will equip you with the three simple yet powerful steps of QPR – *Question, Persuade, Refer* – to help those at risk of suicide.

Registration is preferred but not required and can be completed online at *bit.ly/training0426*.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Molly at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Estate Planning and Wills*

Wednesday, May 7 • 6pm • Community Rooms 2 & 3

An estate plan is vital for any individual, couple or family that owns a home and has assets. Ensure that your estate planning is in good order by reviewing the various methods families are using to avoid the delays and legal fees of probate court.

This program is designed to help you and your family avoid the most common costly mistakes. This informative seminar will be hosted by local retirement professionals from The Institute for Financial Education.



Questions about this program can be emailed to Kerrie at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Poverty: A Discussion with Matthew Desmond*

Tuesday, May 13 • 7pm • Online via Zoom



Matthew Desmond, a professor of sociology at Princeton University and author of the award winning book *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City*, will take part in a discussion about poverty. Desmond's research focuses on poverty in the United States, city life, housing insecurity, public policy, racial inequality, and ethnography.

Register at *bit.ly/ILP_MatthewDesmond* to receive a link to this online program.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Marcie at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Meet Prairie State Legal Services

Wednesday, May 14 • 6pm • Community Room 1

Join us for a program led by Prairie State Legal Services, a nonprofit law firm that provides free civil legal services to individuals who cannot afford a private attorney. PSLS focuses their services on legal issues that impact the ability of an individual to meet their basic needs. Attendees will learn about the organization's mission and receive an overview of the services PSLS offers.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Mimi at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.



BOOK CLUBS

Books On Tap Book Club*

Mondays • 6pm • Lil Beaver Brewery

- March 3 When Women Were Dragons by Kelly Barnhill
- April 7 Between Two Moons by Aisha Abdel Gawad
- May 5 They Called Us Enemy by George Takei

Learn more or register online at *bit.ly/bplbookclubs*.

Questions about this book club can be emailed to Molly at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Mystery Book Club*

Tuesdays • 7pm • Conference Room & Online

- March 11 Deep into the Dark by PJ Tracy
- April 8 Murder on Black Swan Lane by Andrea Penrose
- May 13 City Under One Roof by Iris Yamashita

Registration is only required for online participants and can be completed online at *bit.ly/bplbookclubs*.

Questions about this book club can be emailed to Marcie at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Silent Book Club

Thursdays • 6pm • March 13, April 10, May 8 Quiet Reading Room

Are you looking for a book club without assigned reading? Do you just need to spend a peaceful hour with a book? The Silent Book Club offers this! Bring a book with you or find a new favorite in the stacks to enjoy reading in our Quiet Reading Room from 6 – 7pm. After 7pm, you have the option to socialize with other readers in our Conference Room until 7:30pm.

Questions about this book club can be emailed to Mimi at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

True Colors Book Club*

Thursday, March 13 • 6:30pm Unitarian Universalist Church

The True Colors Book Club – hosted by Bloomington Library, PFLAG Bloomington-Normal, and Prairie Pride Coalition – meets quarterly to discuss books with themes relevant to the LGBTQ+ community.

Meetings are held at the Unitarian Church (1613 E. Emerson Street). The March 13 meeting will discuss *Singlets and Secrets* by Joe Chianakas.

Learn more or register online at *bit.ly/bplbookclubs*.

Questions about this book club can be emailed to Mimi at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Fiction Book Club*

Tuesdays • 7pm • Conference Room & Online

- March 18 The Hazelbourne Ladies Motorcycle and Flying Club by Helen Simonson
- April 15 The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store by James McBride
- May 20 Yellowface by R. F. Kuang

Registration is only required for online participants and can be completed online at *bit.ly/bplbookclubs*.

Questions about this book club can be emailed to Mimi at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

Let's Dish! A Cookbook Club*

Monday, April 14 • 6:30pm • Community Room 3

Participants are asked to prepare and share a dish from the month's chosen cookbook. Those who bring a dish can sample dishes brought by others as food and cooking are discussed.

The April 14 meeting will discuss *The Mediterranean Dish* by Suzy Karadsheh.

Learn more or register online at *bit.ly/bplbookclubs*.

Questions about this book club can be emailed to Nazma at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

History Reads Book Club*

Tuesday, May 6 • 7pm • Conference Room & Online

In partnership with the McLean County Museum of History, the History Reads Book Club meets quarterly and focuses on books about Illinois history.

The May 6 meeting will discuss *Living Downstream: An Ecologist's Personal Investigation of Cancer and the Environment* by Sandra Steingraber.

Registration is only required for online participants and can be completed online at *bit.ly/bplbookclubs*.

Questions about this book club can be emailed to Sara at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.



ADDRESS: 205 E. Olive Street Bloomington, IL 61701

WEBSITE: BloomingtonLibrary.org

PHONE: 309.828.6091

HOURS:

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

LIBRARY CLOSURES: April 20 - All Day

April 20 - All Day May 25 & 26 - All Day



