

Bloomington Public Library



**ALL AGES** PAGE 2

**CHILDREN** PAGE 4

**TEENS** PAGE 7

**ADULTS** PAGE 11

# FALL PROGRAMS

SEPTEMBER – NOVEMBER 2025



# STANDALONE PROGRAMS FOR EVERYONE

## A Beginner's Introduction to Native Plants

Saturday, September 13 • 3 – 4:30pm  
Community Room 3 & Library Patio

Join us for a fun and informative session that will open your eyes to the beauty and importance of native plants!

You'll discover:

- Why native plants are essential for pollinators
- How to spot native plants and grow them
- Tips for creating a vibrant, low-maintenance pollinator garden at home

During a guided tour of the library's Prairie on the Patio Garden, attendees will view real examples of native plants and become inspired! People of all ages are welcome. Children should plan to attend with their caregiver. A limited number of native plant starters will be available for attendees to take home (one per person).

*BPL's Prairie on the Patio Garden was made possible through grant funding from Illinois Prairie Community Foundation. Thank you IPCF and Wild Ones Illinois Prairie Chapter for helping make this garden a reality.*

Questions about this program can be emailed to the Library's Green Committee at [greencommittee@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:greencommittee@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Hispanic Heritage Month Kickoff Party

Thursday, September 18 • 2:30 – 4pm  
Meadows Bookmobile Stop 

Celebrate the beginning of Hispanic Heritage Month with a kickoff party at the Meadows Bookmobile stop (14940 Old Colonial Road, Bloomington)! Fun, games, and crafts highlighting the diversity of our community will be offered.

Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated annually from September 15 to October 15 to honor the contributions and culture of Hispanic and Latino Americans.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Caitlin at [circulation@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:circulation@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Houseplant Swap

Saturday, September 20 • 11am • Library 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.

No registration is needed. *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](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).



## Found Poetry Workshop at University Galleries\*

Saturday, September 27 • 1 – 2:30pm • University Galleries

Create found poems inspired by artwork on view at University Galleries in Jen Bervin's exhibition, *Shift Rotate Reflect*. This free workshop will be held off-site at University Galleries of Illinois State University in Uptown Normal (11 Uptown Circle #103). All materials will be provided.

Poems created in this workshop will be compiled into a community zine with free copies available at the library starting November 8 (while supplies last). Poets of all ages are encouraged to participate.

Registration for this event is required and can be completed through University Galleries at [bit.ly/poetryzine](https://bit.ly/poetryzine).

Questions about this program can be emailed to Anna Elizabeth at [childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Halloween Tic-Tac-Toe

October 1 – November 1 • All Bookmobile Stops 

It's spooky season! Come play Halloween Tic-Tac-Toe on the Bookmobile!

You'll take part in both Halloween and fall activities as you mark off the squares on your Tic-Tac-Toe card. A small completion prize will be given to everyone who finishes and turns in their completed Tic-Tac-Toe card. A grand prize winner will be announced on Monday, November 3. *Tic-Tac-Toe cards will only be accepted on the Bookmobile.*

Visit [bit.ly/bookmobilesched](https://bit.ly/bookmobilesched) to view the Bookmobile's schedule.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Brittany at [circulation@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:circulation@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Uke-aholics Ukulele Band Concert

Wednesday, October 1 • 6:30pm • Community Room 2

Performing at the Bloomington Public Library for the first time is local crowd pleaser, The Uke-aholics Ukulele Band! This group promises to deliver a fun, lighthearted performance that will leave its all-ages audience feeling joyful.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Mimi at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Banned Books Week Launch

Saturday, October 4 • 10am – 12:30pm  
Community Rooms 1 – 3

Banned Books Week is an annual event that celebrates the freedom to read and highlights the value of free and open access to information.

Scheduled in 2025 from October 5-11, Banned Books Week brings attention to current and historical attempts to censor books in libraries, schools, and bookstores.





# STANDALONE PROGRAMS FOR EVERYONE

Join us for a morning of engaging activities for all ages!

- 10am - Story Time in Community Room 2
- 10:30am - 12:30pm - Informational Fair in Community Room 1
  - Enjoy games and interactive activities
  - Grab a passport and visit all the tables to receive stamps. Once the passport is full, you will receive a small prize!
- 11:30am - Panel Discussion in Community Room 3
  - Individuals will share their personal experiences with book bans
  - A Q&A with community members will follow as time allows

Questions about this program can be emailed to Molly at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Diwali Scavenger Hunt

October 6 - 25 • All Bookmobile Stops 

Visit any of the library's Bookmobile stops to take part in a fun, Diwali-themed scavenger hunt which will teach you about the Festival of Lights!

Visit [bit.ly/bookmobilesched](http://bit.ly/bookmobilesched) to view the Bookmobile's schedule.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Izzy at [circulation@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:circulation@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Leaf It Be:

### Sustainable Solutions for Autumn

Sunday, October 12 • 3pm

Community Room 3 & Library Patio

Join the Ecology Action Center to learn about eco-friendly fall yard management! You'll learn different methods to handle your autumn leaves and figure out which methods you might like to adopt at home!

Perfect for homeowners, gardeners, and anyone curious about smarter fall cleanup! Children should plan to attend with their caregiver.



*This program & BPL's Prairie on the Patio Garden were made possible through grant funding from Illinois Prairie Community Foundation. Thank you IPCF and Wild Ones Illinois Prairie Chapter for helping make this garden a reality.*

Questions about this program can be emailed to the Library's Green Committee at [greencommittee@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:greencommittee@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Puzzle Party: Jigsaw Puzzle Exchange & Team Puzzle Challenge\*

Sunday, October 19 • 1 - 3:30pm • Community Rooms 1 - 3

### Jigsaw Puzzle Exchange

Donate Puzzles to the Exchange:

- From 9am on Monday, October 13, until 12pm on Saturday, October 18, you can drop off up to 5 puzzles at the Help Desk on the library's second floor. You'll receive 1 ticket for each puzzle you donate.

- Puzzles should be in good condition, in the original box, and have no missing pieces.
- Adult & teen puzzles should have 300+ pieces.

Take Home New-to-You Puzzles:

- From 1- 2pm on Sunday, October 19, you'll be able to trade your tickets for puzzles!
- Kids' tickets can be redeemed for kids' puzzles. Adult/teen tickets can be redeemed for adult/teen puzzles.
- Between 2 - 2:30pm, anyone may take/exchange any remaining puzzles; no tickets needed.

At the end of the puzzle exchange, any leftover puzzles will become the property of the library.

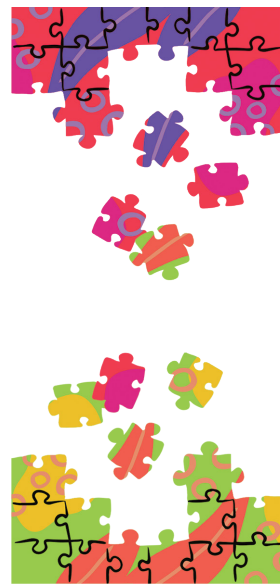
Questions about this program can be emailed to Mimi at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

### Team Puzzle Challenge\*

Put your skills to the test to see if you and your team can finish a 500-piece puzzle the fastest! Registration is required (1 person from each team only). Beginning September 29, registration can be completed at [bit.ly/puzzlerace1019](http://bit.ly/puzzlerace1019).

There will be room for a maximum of 10 teams. Each team can include 2 - 4 players of all different ages. Prizes will be awarded to the 3 top teams.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Molly at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).



## Grand Prairie Bird Alliance Opening Reception

Thursday, October 23 • 6 - 8pm • Community Room 3

Celebrate the opening of the Grand Prairie Bird Alliance photography exhibit at this meet-and-greet reception.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Mimi at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Celebration of India

Saturday, October 25 • 10am - 1pm • Community Rooms 1 - 3

Join us for "Celebration of India"! This exciting celebration will feature Indian folk music, traditional dance performances, live demonstrations of Indian fashion, and beautiful displays of traditional Indian art.

Children will have the opportunity to enjoy hands-on crafts and activities, while everyone can learn about India's diverse states and cultural traditions, including the festival of Diwali.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Caitlin at [circulation@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:circulation@bloomingtonlibrary.org).



# STANDALONE PROGRAMS FOR EVERYONE

## Fix It Friday

Friday, November 7 • 1 – 4pm • Community Room 1

Do you need a fall fashion refresh? Are you experiencing a wardrobe malfunction? Keep your favorite looks longer by getting them repaired – for FREE – thanks to the Fix It Friday volunteers from the Office of Sustainability at ISU!

How It Works: Stop by with an article of clothing in need of a basic fix, and the skilled Fix It Friday volunteers will repair the item on the spot. (Major alterations or repairs are not available.) Save money, reduce waste, and step out in style!

Questions about this program can be emailed to Mimi at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Found Poetry Zine Reception

Saturday, November 8 • 2 – 4pm • Community Rooms 2 & 3

The library has partnered with University Galleries at Illinois State University to create a community-sourced zine of found poems inspired by artwork on view at University Galleries in Jen Bervin's exhibition, *Shift Rotate Reflect*.

Join us as we celebrate the release of this free poetry collection with a reception at the library. Light refreshments will be served and copies of the zine will be available (while supplies last).

Questions about this program can be emailed to Anna Elizabeth at [childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

# CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS IN A SERIES

## D&D for Kids\*

Thursdays • 6pm • September 4 & 18; October 2 & 16; November 6 & 20

Mondays • 4pm • September 8, October 6, November 10  
Children's Program Room 2

This Dungeons & Dragons experience for kids in grades 3-5 will include a simplified, rules-light adventure with provided 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](http://bit.ly/ddforkids).

- Registration for the September sessions will open at 9am on August 21.
- Registration for the October sessions will open at 9am on September 18.
- Registration for the November sessions will open at 9am on October 23.

Questions about these programs can be emailed to Mr. Jesse at [childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org).



## Super Saturday Story Time

Saturdays • 10am • September 6, October 4, November 1  
^Children's Program Rooms 1 & 2

Get ready to dance, sing, and dive into magical stories at our all-ages story time! Perfect for caregivers and kids from birth to 11 years old, this event is packed with music, movement, and read-aloud fun. Come share in the joy and wonder. We can't wait to see you!

^On October 4, Super Saturday Story Time will meet in Community Room 2 and will include a Banned Books theme as part of our Banned Books Week Launch.

Questions about these programs can be emailed to Ms. Clare at [childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## RC Cars for Kids\*

Saturdays • 2pm • September 6, October 4, November 15  
Children's Program Rooms 1 & 2

Kids will work together to repurpose cardboard boxes to build obstacles and ramps for Remote Control cars. They'll then take turns at the wheel maneuvering 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/rccars2025](http://bit.ly/rccars2025).

Questions about these programs can be emailed to Mr. Jesse at [childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Lapsit Story Time

Tuesdays • 10am & 6pm • September 9, 16, 23; October 7, 14, 21, 28 • Children's Program Rooms 1 & 2

Join us at Lapsit Story Time for stories, music, movement, art, 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 to attend.

Questions about these programs can be emailed to Ms. Alysha at [childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Preschool Story Time

Wednesdays • 10am • September 10, 17, 24; October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; November 5, 12, 19 • 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](mailto:childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org).



# CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS IN A SERIES

## Tales for Tails\*

Wednesdays • 6pm • September 10, 17, 24; October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; November 5, 12, 19 • Children's Department

This program pairs trained and certified therapy dogs with children in Grades K – 5 who want to practice reading aloud. During each session, there will be 4 time slots available for kids to meet and read to a pup in the Children's Department.

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

Questions about these programs can be emailed to Ms. Alex at [childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org).



## Toddler Story Time

Thursdays • 10am • September 11, 18, 25; October 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; November 6, 13, 20 • Children's Program Room 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](mailto:childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Sensory Story Time\*

Thursdays • 11am • September 11, 18, 25; October 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; November 6, 13, 20 • 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](http://bit.ly/bplsensorystory).

Questions about these programs can be emailed to Ms. Alex at [childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Fun Friday Story Time

Fridays • 10am • September 12, 19, 26; October 3, 10, 17, 24; November 7, 14, 21  
Children's Program Rooms 1 & 2

Join us on Fridays at 10am for 30 minutes of music, movement, giggles, and great stories! This playful and engaging story time is perfect for kids – from birth to age 11 years – and their grown-ups, too.

Whether you're wiggling to a song or diving into a magical tale, there's something for everyone.



Come join the fun and make Friday your favorite day of the week!

Questions about these programs can be emailed to Clare at [childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Singing, Swinging Story Time

Mondays • 6pm • September 15, October 20, November 17  
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 people of all ages.

Questions about these programs can be emailed to Mr. Cody at [childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Fun & Games: Family Game Day

Sundays • 2 - 4pm • September 21, October 19, November 16 • Children's Program Rooms 1 & 2

Join us for classic board games, card games, and puzzles. Game masters from Red Raccoon Games will join us on site to demonstrate how to play a variety of games, all appropriate for your family gaming experience.

Questions about these programs can be emailed to Miss Jill at [childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## School-Age Crafts

Mondays • 3 – 7pm • September 22 & November 3  
Children's Program Room 1

School-Age children are invited to join us on the following afternoons/ evenings to create the following crafts.

- September 22: Beaded Wind Chime
- November 3: Perler Bead Craft

*These crafts contain smaller beads which could be a choking hazard for young children.*

Questions about these programs can be emailed to Lisa at [childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Lego Construction

Saturdays • 9:30 – 11:30am • September 27 & October 25  
Children's Program Rooms 1 & 2

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

This program is suitable for children ages 3-11 years and their caregivers. There is no need to register. Lego bricks, base plates, and example sheets will be provided. 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](mailto:childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

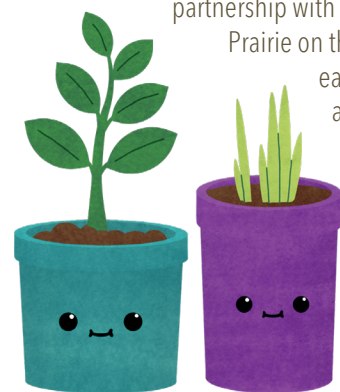


# STANDALONE CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

## Plant Pals on the Prairie Patio

Sunday, September 7 • 2pm  
Community Room 3 & Library Patio

Step into nature with this special outdoor program presented in partnership with Master Gardeners! Held in the library's Prairie on the Patio Garden, this program blends early literacy, environmental discovery, and hands-on fun in a vibrant natural setting. This program is perfect for children ages 0 – 11 years and their caregivers.



Thank you to the Master Gardeners for their contributions in making this program possible.

*BPL's Prairie on the Patio Garden was made possible through grant*

*funding from Illinois Prairie Community Foundation. Thank you IPCF and Wild Ones Illinois Prairie Chapter for helping make this garden a reality.*

Questions about this program can be emailed to the Library's Green Committee at [greencommittee@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:greencommittee@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Play, Learn, Grow!\*

Wednesday, September 17 • 2pm  
Children's Program Rooms 1 & 2

Join us at the library to play, learn, and grow with the University of Illinois Extension SNAP-ed office! Enjoy an easy-to-make, nutritious snack while we discuss how we can make healthy dietary choices and maintain an active lifestyle.

Child and Family Connections #16 (Early Intervention Services) will also be present to complete 0 – 3 developmental screenings and make referrals. This bilingual program will be provided simultaneously in English and Spanish and is for children ages 0 – 3 years and their caregivers.

Registration is required and can be completed online at [bit.ly/grow0917](http://bit.ly/grow0917). Registration is limited to 10 families. Only one person from each family needs to register.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Ms. Alysha at [childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Breakdance with BCAI\*

Saturday, September 20 • 2pm  
Children's Program Rooms 1 & 2

Let's move! This breakdance workshop empowers youth ages 7 – 12 years in their bold self-expression. Participants will practice fundamental dance moves, learn the history of breaking art and culture, and go home with additional resources. Learn more at [bcaiarts.org](http://bcaiarts.org).

Beginning September 6, registration can be completed online at [bit.ly/bplbreakdance](http://bit.ly/bplbreakdance).

Questions about this program can be emailed to Anna Elizabeth at [childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Monkey Business

Friday, September 26 • 9am – 4pm • Children's Department  
Monkey-themed activities and crafts will be offered in the Children's Department on this day without school.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Lisa at [childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Twin City Tale Spinners' Not So Spooky Stories

Sunday, October 26 • 2pm • Children's Program Rooms 1 & 2

Enjoy "silly and chilly" tales as the Twin City Tale Spinners delight listeners with fun stories. Come dressed in your Halloween costume if you wish! After the stories, we'll have crafts for kids to make in the Children's Department! This program is for children of all ages with an adult.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Melissa at [childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Halloween Parade and Story Time

Friday, October 31 • 10am – 12pm • Children's Department

Kids of all ages are invited to come to Bloomington Library in costume and join our annual Halloween Parade and Story Time.

The parade will begin at 10am in the Children's Department and will end with a special Halloween Story Time in Community Rooms 1 & 2. After story time, we'll offer crafts for kids to make back in the Children's Department.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Ms. Alex at [childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org).



## Family Art Night

Tuesday, November 11 • 6 – 7pm  
Children's Program Rooms 1 & 2

Join us at the library for a relaxing evening of art making and creativity with your family! There will be a variety of art supplies available during this drop-in program. The program is intended for children ages 3 – 11 years accompanied by their caregivers and families.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Ms. Alysha at [childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org).



# TEEN PROGRAMS IN A SERIES

## Teen Writing Workshops

Wednesdays • 12 – 1pm • September 10 & 24;  
October 8 & 22; November 12 • TeenZone

This writing workshop is for teens in Grades 6 – 12 and is perfect for homeschooled creative writers!

Drop by the TeenZone for writing tips and tricks and to talk about the art of prose. Essay help and personal creative writing projects are perfect for this workshop which will focus on creative collaboration and improving your writing skills. All you need is a writing project to work on (big or small), an open mind, and your thinking cap! Mini lessons may be available upon request.

Questions about these programs can be emailed to Cora at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Teen Genre Book Club

Saturdays • 11am • September 13, October 11, November 15  
Conference Room

The Teen Genre Book Club meets 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.

- September 13: **Reimagined Fairy Tales**
- October 11: **Latinx Literature**
- November 15: **Fantasy**

Registration for each session is suggested and can be completed at [bit.ly/bplteenbookclub](http://bit.ly/bplteenbookclub).

Questions about this book club can be emailed to Cora at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).



## Teen Craftivism\*

Mondays • 6pm • September 15, October 6, November 3  
Community Room 3

During Teen Craftivism, teens will learn a new craft and the history behind it, focusing on both historical and modern examples of arts and crafts being used to convey a message.

Monthly crafts for September through November are as follows:

- September 15: **Doing Your Research**
- October 6: **Sustainable Food: Indoor Gardening**
- November 3: **Dear Congressperson...**

Registration is required and opens one month before the date of each session at [bit.ly/teencraftivism](http://bit.ly/teencraftivism).

Questions about these programs can be emailed to Cora at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

# STANDALONE TEEN PROGRAMS

## Drop a Beat with Soundtrap\*

Saturday, September 6 • 2pm • Computer Lab

In this fun and interactive workshop, teens will dive into digital music production using Soundtrap, an online studio that allows for the creation of beats, loops, and full songs right in a browser.

Participants will learn how to layer sounds, mix tracks, and experiment with different instruments and effects before leaving the program with their very own original beat or short song to share with friends (or keep for their next viral video). Neither instruments nor experience are required.

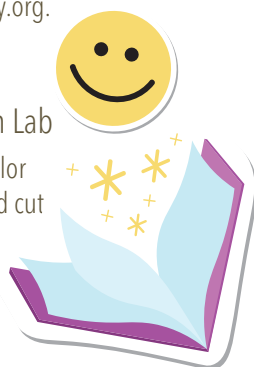
Beginning August 23, registration can be completed online at [bit.ly/bplsoundtrap](http://bit.ly/bplsoundtrap).

Questions about this program can be emailed to Gene at [techprogramming@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:techprogramming@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Make Custom Stickers\*

Monday, September 8 • 6pm • Innovation Lab

Using Canva, registered teens will design a full-color sticker sheet which will be printed and cut out using the Cricut in the library's Innovation Lab. Laptops will be provided.



Beginning August 25, registration can be completed online at [bit.ly/bplstickers](http://bit.ly/bplstickers).

Questions about this program can be emailed to Olivia at [techprogramming@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:techprogramming@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Teen D&D: The Lone Door\*

Saturday, September 13 • 12:45 – 4:45pm  
Conference Room

This adventure begins when your party encounters an ancient, lone door standing in the middle of the forest with carvings promising riches beyond what this realm can offer. Will your party be able to overcome the dangers within?

Teens will play through a horror-themed adventure full of mystery and tense encounters! Players will need to create a level 2 character using D&D 5th edition's official ruleset or use a provided character. Writing utensils, pre-made characters, and paper will be provided. This adventure has been designed to help you learn how to play D&D!

Beginning August 23, registration can be completed online at [bit.ly/lonedoor](http://bit.ly/lonedoor).

Questions about this program can be emailed to DJ at [techprogramming@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:techprogramming@bloomingtonlibrary.org).



# STANDALONE TEEN PROGRAMS

## 3D-Printed Wireless Speakers\*

Saturdays: October 4 & 11 • 2pm • Innovation Lab

In this two-part workshop, teens will design, print, and build their very own wireless speaker.

In the first session, you'll learn the basics of 3D modeling, create a custom speaker cabinet using design software, and prepare a 3D file by "slicing" it. In the second session, you'll assemble and wire the internal components – learning how wireless speakers work from the inside out. No experience is needed.

Beginning September 20, registration can be completed online at [bit.ly/3dspeakers](https://bit.ly/3dspeakers). This is a two-part program. Those who register should plan to attend both sessions. Registering for the October 4 session automatically registers you for the October 11 session.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Gene at [techprogramming@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:techprogramming@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Patch Pillows\*

Wednesdays • October 8 & 15 • 5:30pm • Innovation Lab

Using the Bernette B05 Academy Sewing Machine in the library's Innovation Lab, teens will explore sewing by machine as they create a pillow with colorful patches. The session will include a short demonstration of how to thread the machine and the bobbin. This single-session program is being offered on both October 8 and October 15. Participants will only be allowed to register for one session.

Registration begins September 24.

- Register for the October 8 session at [bit.ly/pillows1008](https://bit.ly/pillows1008).
- Register for the October 15 session at [bit.ly/pillows1015](https://bit.ly/pillows1015).

Questions about this program can be emailed to Olivia at [techprogramming@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:techprogramming@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Teen D&D: The House in the Mist\*

Saturday, October 25 • 12:45 – 4:45pm  
Conference Room

When children ask your group to save them from "the monster" in their house, it seems like an easy and harmless job. But little do you know that there are horrors unspoken within this dreaded home!

Players will need to create a level 3 character using D&D 5th edition's official ruleset or use a provided character. Writing utensils, pre-made characters, and paper will be provided. This adventure has been designed to help you learn how to play D&D!

Beginning October 1, registration can be completed online at [bit.ly/housemist](https://bit.ly/housemist).

Questions about this program can be emailed to DJ at [techprogramming@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:techprogramming@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Teen Murder Mystery Party\*

Thursday, October 30 • 5:30 – 8pm • Community Rooms 1 – 3

Join us the night before Halloween for a Murder Mystery Party, where someone will be murdered and our job is to figure out whodunit.

When registering, be sure to answer the question about the type of character you would like to play:

- Main: lots of interactions; you could even be the victim or the murderer.
- Side: some interactions
- Observer: mainly watching, with a few interactions.

Beginning October 1, registration can be completed online at [bit.ly/teenparty1030](https://bit.ly/teenparty1030).

Questions about this program can be emailed to Tiffany at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).



## Money Concepts for Teens\*

Wednesday, November 5 • 4pm • Community Room 2

During this Talk Money Week 2025 program, teens will learn about Money Concepts from the Illinois State Credit Union. This program is for teens in grades 6 – 12.

Financial success is a lifelong endeavor with many goals to achieve along the way. Attendees will learn:

- An introduction to saving, budgeting, and money management.
- How to build credit
- How to set and achieve financial goals

Beginning October 6, registration can be completed online at [bit.ly/money1105](https://bit.ly/money1105). A Spanish version of this program will be offered at 4pm on Thursday, November 6.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Tiffany at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Conceptos de Dinero Para Adolescentes\*

Jueves, 6 de noviembre • 4pm • Sala Comunitaria 2

Durante este programa de la Semana del Dinero 2025, los adolescentes aprenderán sobre conceptos financieros de la Unión de Créditos del Estado de Illinois. Este programa es para adolescentes de grados 6 a 12.

El éxito financiero es una tarea que dura toda la vida, con muchas metas por alcanzar. Los asistentes aprenderán:

- Introducción al ahorro, los presupuestos y la administración del dinero
- Cómo generar crédito
- Cómo establecer y alcanzar metas financieras

A partir del 6 de octubre, la inscripción se puede completar en línea en [bit.ly/dinero1106](https://bit.ly/dinero1106). Se ofrecerá una versión en inglés de este programa a las 4 p.m. el miércoles 5 de noviembre.

Las preguntas sobre este programa se pueden enviar por correo electrónico a Tiffany a [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).





# STANDALONE TEEN PROGRAMS

## Learn How to Build a Gaming PC!\*

Saturday, November 8 • 12 – 4pm • Community Room 1

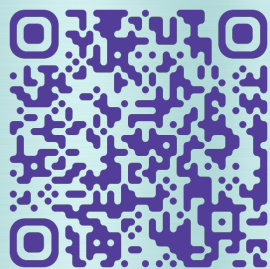
Have you ever wondered how people build their own gaming PCs? Now's your chance to find out! In this hands-on program, teens will work with staff to assemble brand-new gaming computers for the TeenZone. Learn about the different components, how they work together, and what it takes to build a machine from the ground up.

No prior experience is required – just curiosity and a willingness to learn!

Beginning September 1, registration can be completed online at [bit.ly/gamingpc1108](http://bit.ly/gamingpc1108).

Questions about this program can be emailed to DJ or Gene at [techprogramming@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:techprogramming@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

Learn more about the equipment available in the Innovation Lab by visiting [bit.ly/bplinnovationlab](http://bit.ly/bplinnovationlab) or scanning the QR code.



## Light-Up Bookmarks\*

Saturday, November 15 • 2pm • Innovation Lab

Teens will learn about simple circuits while creating light-up bookmarks. Participants will make a paper circuit using conductive tape, LED stickers, conductive pressure sensitive sheets, and a coin cell battery. All materials will be provided.

Beginning November 1, registration can be completed online at [bit.ly/bookmarks1115](http://bit.ly/bookmarks1115).

Questions about this program can be emailed to Olivia at [techprogramming@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:techprogramming@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Puzzle Art: Fall Trees\*

Wednesday, November 26 • 2pm • Community Room 3

Teens in Grades 6 – 12 are invited to join us at 2pm on this day without school to paint a fall scene. As part of this project, we'll use puzzle pieces to create leaves.

Beginning November 3, registration can be completed online at [bit.ly/puzzleart](http://bit.ly/puzzleart).

Questions about this program can be emailed to Tiffany at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

# PROGRAMS FOR TEENS & ADULTS IN A SERIES

## English Language Conversation Group\*

Mondays • 5:30pm • September 15, October 20, November 17 • 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 September is Sports.
- The theme in October is Holidays.
- The theme in November is Food.

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](http://bit.ly/bplenglish).

Questions about these programs can be emailed to Nazma at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).



## Did you know?

You have access to free language learning resources with your library card! Learn more by visiting [bit.ly/bpllanguages](http://bit.ly/bpllanguages) or scanning the QR code below.





# STANDALONE PROGRAMS FOR TEENS & ADULTS

## FAFSA Workshop

Tuesday, October 7 • 6:30 – 8pm • Computer Lab

Join us for help filling out your FAFSA\* for the Fall 2026-Spring 2027 School Year. A representative from the Illinois Student Assistance Commission will be at the library to assist students and their families. Help will be available in English and in Spanish.

Please bring the following documents:

- Social Security Number
- Alien Registration Number (if you are not a U.S. citizen)
- Most recent federal income tax returns, W-2s, & other records of money earned
- Bank statements and records of investments (if applicable)
- Records of untaxed income (if applicable)

*\*FAFSA is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. It should be completed as soon as possible after October 1, 2025. Awards are made until funds are depleted. This workshop is open to anyone attending college in Fall 2026 - Spring 2027.*

Questions about this program can be emailed to Tiffany at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Taller de FAFSA

Martes, 7 de octubre • 6:30 – 8pm

Laboratorio de computación

Únase con nosotros para recibir ayuda para completar su FAFSA\* para el año escolar otoño 2026 - primavera 2027. Un representante de la Comisión de Asistencia Estudiantil de Illinois estará en la biblioteca para ayudar a los estudiantes y sus familias. La ayuda estará disponible en inglés y español.

Por favor, traiga los siguientes documentos:

- Su Número de Seguro Social
- Su Número de Registro de Extranjero (si no eres ciudadano estadounidense)
- Sus declaraciones de impuestos federales más recientes, formularios W-2 y otros registros de ingresos
- Estados de cuenta bancarios y registros de inversiones (si corresponde)
- Registros de ingresos no tributados (si corresponde)

*\*FAFSA es la Solicitud Gratuita de Ayuda Federal para Estudiantes. Debe completarse lo antes posible después del 1 de octubre de 2025. Las becas se otorgan hasta agotar los fondos. Este taller está abierto a cualquier persona que asista a la universidad en otoño de 2026 - primavera de 2027.*

Las preguntas sobre este programa se pueden enviar por correo electrónico a Tiffany a [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Morbid History: You're More Interesting When You're Dead\*

Thursday, October 16 • 7pm • Online via Zoom

Satisfy your morbid curiosity with award-winning filmmaker Lorrissa Julianus.

From grand corpse larceny in medieval Venice to the iron coffins popping up in Lincoln Park, this light-hearted presentation takes you around the world with spine-tingling true tales you never learned in history class.

In this presentation, Lorrissa covers, among other topics:

- The bizarre burials of the Habsburg royal family
- The terror of Resurrectionists digging up your bones
- American cemetery history and lore
- The morbid truth of the Smithsonian collections
- Chicago's largest cemetery (which never really got moved)



Registration is required and can be completed at [bit.ly/morbidhistory](https://bit.ly/morbidhistory). As soon as registration is complete, you will receive an email with a link for this virtual program.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Sara at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Meditation: Staying Sane in an Insane World\*

Monday, November 10 • 7pm • Online via Zoom

Work, the news, and the world around us ... so many things are vying for our attention that it can become distressing.

Join Zelma Chamberlain, M. Ed, a retired educator with more than 35 years of experience in meditation, as she discusses the benefits of meditation in reclaiming peace of mind. Participants will have an opportunity to practice the meditation technique discussed. This presentation is only being offered online and will not be recorded.

Registration is required and can be completed at [bit.ly/meditation1110](https://bit.ly/meditation1110).

Questions about this program can be emailed to Mimi at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## DEPOSIT SERVICES

BPL's Deposit Services  
delivers lendable library

materials to centralized sites for those who have barriers getting to the library. The organization can then circulate the library's materials to its clientele. ***This service is provided at no cost to eligible sites.***

Visit [bit.ly/bpldeposits](https://bit.ly/bpldeposits) for details or to apply.





# PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS IN A SERIES

## Midweek Movie Club

Wednesdays • 1 – 4pm • September 3, October 1, November 5  
Community Room 3

Enjoy a relaxing afternoon at the library while watching a film on our big screen. It's a great way to unwind and enjoy a variety of movies in a comfortable setting. Snacks and drinks will be provided. (Many thanks to Marcus Theatres for providing popcorn for our movie!) Best of all, no registration is necessary – just come in and enjoy the show!

- September 3: **Ferris Bueller's Day Off**
- October 1: **Young Frankenstein**
- November 5: **Dead Poet's Society**

Questions about these programs can be emailed to Molly at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).



## STANDALONE PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

### CASA 101:

#### Court Appointed Special Advocates

Thursday, September 4 • 6pm • Community Room 3

Every child has a chance – it's you. Court Appointed Special Advocates are everyday people who become trained in promoting the best interests of children experiencing foster care in our community. Join volunteers and staff from CASA of McLean and Logan Counties to learn more about the program's success over the past 30 years, and to learn if this unique, flexible, and fulfilling volunteer opportunity is right for you. Registration is not required.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Kerrie at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

### Grown-Up Story Time

Friday, September 5 • 7:30 – 8:30pm

McLean County Arts Center

Bloomington Library, Next to Normal, and Normal Library are joining forces to bring children's stories to adults! While we may be forced to grow up, we're not forced to grow out of our love for picture books. Join us at the McLean County Arts Center (601 N. East Street, Bloomington) for some of our newer favorites.

Doors open at 7pm. Light refreshments will be provided.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Jesse at [childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:childrensstaff@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

### Print Your Own Puzzle\*

Sunday, September 14 • 2pm • Innovation Lab

Get creative at the library as you create a custom, 20-piece puzzle (approximately 5" x 7") using a photo, a blank puzzle template, and the sublimation printer in the library's Innovation Lab!

You'll leave with your masterpiece!

Beginning September 2, registration can be completed online at [bit.ly/puzzle0914](http://bit.ly/puzzle0914).

Questions about this program can be emailed to Molly at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

### Finding the Clues:

#### Then & Now with Steve Burns\*

Tuesday, September 16 • 7pm • Online via Zoom

Join Illinois Libraries Present online for a nostalgic and intimate hour-long conversation with Emmy-nominated actor Steve Burns, best known as 'Steve' from the beloved Nickelodeon show *Blue's Clues*.

This special interview offers a closer look at Burn's journey, from the early fame of *Blue's Clues* to his personal growth and creative evolution. Arionne Nettles, a Chicago based storyteller and cultural reporter, will join Steve in conversation.

Registration is required and can be completed online at [bit.ly/ILPSteveBurns](http://bit.ly/ILPSteveBurns).

*This event is made possible by Illinois Libraries Present (ILP), a statewide collaboration among public libraries offering premier events. ILP is funded in part by a grant awarded by the Illinois State Library, a department of the Office of Secretary of State, using funds provided by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services, under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA).*

Questions about this program can be emailed to Marcie at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

### Decoding the Mysteries of Cats\*

Thursday, September 18 • 7pm • Online via Zoom

Are you curious to understand your cat's purr-plexing behaviors, such as chattering at birds and "making biscuits"?

Join this engaging Zoom session with feline behaviorist Stephen Quandt as he explains cat behavior from the perspective of the evolutionary and adaptive forces that help shape their lives. The first 30 minutes of the program will be an informational presentation. The second half of the program will include a behavioral Q & A for those interested in behavior advice.

Registration is required and can be completed online at [bit.ly/cats0918](http://bit.ly/cats0918). As soon as registration is complete, you will receive an email with a link for this virtual program.

Questions about this program can be emailed to Sara at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).





# STANDALONE PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

## Meditative Watercolor\*

Sunday, September 21 • 2pm • Community Room 3

Watercolor painting is a wonderful way to meditate as we relax our ever-busy minds and bodies. The colors, the textures we can create, and the creative freedom all help to release emotions and focus intentions. You don't need any previous experience in watercolor painting to find enjoyment in this in-person, one-hour class.

Beginning September 8, registration can be completed online at

[bit.ly/bplwatercolor](http://bit.ly/bplwatercolor).

Questions about this program can be emailed to Rhonda at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).



## Estate Planning, Wills, and Living Trusts\*

Wednesday, September 24 • 6pm • Community Room 3

Learn how wills, trusts, and powers of attorney work, and why they matter in protecting your family and your future. This class also explores five key areas that shape financial life in retirement, offering clarity around common risks and practical strategies to help avoid them.

If you're recently retired or preparing for the transition, this conversation is designed to help you approach your planning with greater clarity and confidence. Our presenters will be Tyler and Bernie Wrezinski of the Institute for Financial Education.

Registration is required and can be completed online at [bit.ly/wills0924](http://bit.ly/wills0924).

Questions about this program can be emailed to Kerrie at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Glowforge Engraved Halloween Earrings & More!

Thursday, October 2 • 5 – 7:30pm • Innovation Lab

Celebrate Spooky Season in the library's Innovation Lab! If you love to read boooooooooooks, drop in to create literary skeleton earrings!

We'll be engraving a reading skeleton design onto earrings using the library's Glowforge Pro Laser Cutter. You'll get to watch the machine engrave the design and cut out the wood before assembling your earrings. If you don't wear earrings, you can instead create a pendant or bookmark. Materials will be provided.

Registration is not required for this drop-in program; however, supplies are limited and will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

*No additional designs will be available for engraving during this program. If supplies last the duration of the program, the last engraving will begin at 7 pm.*

Questions about this program can be emailed to Mimi at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Veterans' Fair

Saturday, October 11 • 10am – 2pm

Community Rooms 1 – 3

A variety of organizations, businesses, and nonprofits which offer veterans assistance, benefits, and opportunities will be represented at this Veterans' Fair presented by Central Illinois Veteran Warriors. Anyone looking to learn more about the options available to veterans in our community is invited to attend this drop-in event.

CIVW is a local veteran support group that utilizes the sport of ice hockey to improve the mental and physical well-being of military veterans. Visit [civw.org/home](http://civw.org/home) to view a list of participating organizations. If your organization would like to participate, please email Patrick at [Patrickduck1162@gmail.com](mailto:Patrickduck1162@gmail.com).

Questions about this program can be emailed to Marcie at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Disability Insurance Workshop\*

Saturday, October 18 • 1pm • Community Rooms 1 & 2

At this free workshop presented by Chestnut Health Systems, participants will learn how to navigate the application processes for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI). Attendees will learn the differences between these two programs, what qualifies as a disability, and learn tips that may increase the likelihood of application approval. A free disability starter kit will be provided to each attendee. This program is intended for adults who are interested in applying for SSI/SSDI for themselves or a family member.

Registration is required and can be completed online at [bit.ly/disability1018](http://bit.ly/disability1018).

Questions about this program can be emailed to Marcie at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

Are you in need of  
**Home  
Delivery?**



Bloomington residents and residents of the Golden Prairie Public Library District who are unable to visit the library, either temporarily or permanently, are eligible to receive Home Delivery.

Learn more about Home Delivery and apply online by visiting [bit.ly/bpldelivery](http://bit.ly/bpldelivery) or scanning the QR code.





# STANDALONE PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

## Beyond the Screen: A “Wicked” Conversation with Marissa Bode\*

Tuesday, October 21 • 7pm • Online via Zoom

Prepare for a magical evening as Illinois Libraries Present welcomes actress Marissa Bode. Bode made her feature film debut as Nessarose in the Academy Award-winning blockbuster, *Wicked*.

Join us to explore Bode’s early inspirations and performances, leading up to her portrayal of Nessarose in *Wicked*. As the highly anticipated sequel *Wicked: For Good* approaches, we’ll reflect on what makes the story so meaningful to Bode and audiences around the world. Bode will also share personal stories and insights from her time on stage. Amanda Finn will join Bode in conversation. Finn is a queer theater, lifestyle, and travel journalist based in Chicago.

Registration is required and can be completed online at [bit.ly/ILPMarissaBode](https://bit.ly/ILPMarissaBode).

*This event is made possible by Illinois Libraries Present (ILP), a statewide collaboration among public libraries offering premier events. ILP is funded in part by a grant awarded by the Illinois State Library, a department of the Office of Secretary of State, using funds provided by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services, under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA).*

Questions about this program can be emailed to Marcie at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Bird World: Hands-On Photography\*

Wednesday, October 22 • 6pm • Community Room 2

If you’d like to better understand your camera and how to photograph the natural world around you, then sign up for this in-person digital photography learning session with professional photographer Ray Silva.

Registration is required and can be completed online at [bit.ly/bpl/photoseries](https://bit.ly/bpl/photoseries).

Participants will need to bring their own digital camera. This presentation will focus on DSLR and Mirrorless cameras. Some of the information presented may be applicable to smart phones; however, the presenter will not be focusing on smart phone cameras.



Questions about this program can be emailed to Mimi at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Explaining Veteran Caregiver Support Programs

Thursday, November 6 • 10am • Community Room 1

Veterans and their caregivers may be eligible for support services through the VA (Veterans Affairs) Department. Join Debi Terfruchte, LCSW, General Caregiver Support Coordinator, for this presentation aimed at veterans, their families, and caregivers.

She’ll explain two different Caregiver Support Programs:

- Program of General Caregiver Support Services
- Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers

Questions about this program can be emailed to Mimi at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Estate Planning and Surviving Your Retirement\*

Wednesday, November 12 • 5:30pm  
Community Rooms 2 – 3

Retirement can often bring financial shifts that catch people off guard. During this program, we’ll take a closer look at how estate considerations and taxes may affect your overall plan. We’ll also introduce five key areas every retiree should be thinking about, some of which are often missed entirely.



If you’re recently retired or preparing for the transition, this conversation is designed to help you approach your planning with greater clarity and confidence. Our presenters will be Tyler and Bernie Wrezinski of the Institute for Financial Education.

Registration is required and can be completed online at [bit.ly/retirement112](https://bit.ly/retirement112).

Questions about this program can be emailed to Kerrie at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Illinois Libraries Present J. Kenji López-Alt\*

Tuesday, November 18 • 7pm • Online via Zoom

Join award-winning cookbook author, *New York Times* food columnist, and *Serious Eats* director J. Kenji López-Alt for an evening of cooking insights, techniques, and foodie exploration.

As the Culinary Director for *Serious Eats*, Kenji is known and loved for his thoroughly-tested and explained recipes and food features. His James Beard Award-winning cookbook, *The Food Lab*, uses evidence-based testing to show you the best ways to cook things. A former chef and restaurant worker, Kenji is also the author of *The Wok* and a best-selling children’s book, *Every Night is Pizza Night*.

Chicago’s Billy Zureikat joins Kenji in conversation. Billy Z is a home cook and baker with a story as unique as the flavors he whips up in his kitchen.

Registration is required and can be completed online at [bit.ly/KenjiLopez-Alt](https://bit.ly/KenjiLopez-Alt).

*This event is made possible by Illinois Libraries Present (ILP), a statewide collaboration among public libraries offering premier events. ILP is funded in part by a grant awarded by the Illinois State Library, a department of the Office of Secretary of State, using funds provided by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services, under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA).*

Questions about this program can be emailed to Marcie at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).



# BOOK CLUBS

## Mystery Book Club\*

Tuesdays • 7pm • Conference Room & Online

- **September 9** - *Murder by Degrees* by Ritu Mukerji
- **October 14** - *How to Solve Your Own Murder* by Kristen Perrin
- **November 11** - *The River We Remember* by William Kent Krueger

Registration is only required for online participants and can be completed online at [bit.ly/bplbookclubs](http://bit.ly/bplbookclubs).

Questions about this book club can be emailed to Marcie at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Silent Book Club

Thursdays • 6pm • September 11, October 9, November 13  
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](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## True Colors Book Club\*

Thursday, September 11 • 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 in person at the Unitarian Church (1613 East Emerson Street).

The September 11 meeting will discuss *Lavender House* by Lev A.C. Rosen.

Learn more or register online at [bit.ly/bplbookclubs](http://bit.ly/bplbookclubs).

Questions about this book club can be emailed to Mimi at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Fiction Book Club\*

Tuesdays • 7pm • Conference Room & Online

- **September 16** - *The Fellowship of the Puzzlemakers* by Samuel Burr
- **October 21** - *Lone Women* by Victor Lavalle
- **November 18** - *Somewhere Beyond the Sea* by TJ Klune

Registration is only required for online participants and can be completed online at [bit.ly/bplbookclubs](http://bit.ly/bplbookclubs).

Questions about this book club can be emailed to Mimi at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Books On Tap Book Club\*

Mondays • 6pm • Lil Beaver Brewery

- **October 6** - *A Haunting in Hialeah Gardens* by Raul Palma
- **November 3** - *Firekeeper's Daughter* by Angeline Boulley

Learn more or register online at [bit.ly/bplbookclubs](http://bit.ly/bplbookclubs).

Questions about this book club can be emailed to Molly at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Let's Dish! A Cookbook Club\*

Monday, October 13 • 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 October 13 meeting will discuss *My Mexican Mesa, Y Listo!* by Jenny Martinez.

Learn more or register online at [bit.ly/bplbookclubs](http://bit.ly/bplbookclubs).

Questions about this book club can be emailed to Nazma at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## Book Brunch Club\*

Thursdays • 10am • Conference Room & Online

Start your day right with Book Brunch Club, a cozy book club where you bring your coffee and snacks, we provide the books, and together we dive into lively discussions! Participants have the option to meet either in-person at Bloomington Public Library or online via Zoom.

- **September 25** - *The Country of the Blind: A Memoir at the End of Sight* by Andrew Leland
- **October 23** - *Lovely War* by Julie Berry

Registration is required and can be completed online at [bit.ly/bookbrunchclub](http://bit.ly/bookbrunchclub).

Questions about this book club can be emailed to Molly at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## History Reads Book Club\*

Tuesday, November 4 • 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 November 4 meeting will discuss *The Burning of the World: The Great Chicago Fire and the War for a City's Soul* by Scott W. Berg.

Registration is only required for online participants and can be completed online at [bit.ly/bplbookclubs](http://bit.ly/bplbookclubs).

Questions about this book club can be emailed to Sara at [reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org).



Bloomington Public Library

connect TRANSIT

NORMAL PUBLIC LIBRARY

# ALL OF SEPTEMBER RIDE FREE ON CONNECT TRANSIT WITH YOUR LIBRARY CARD!

**LIBRARY CARDS ARE FREE !**

Normal residents, visit [bit.ly/normalcard](http://bit.ly/normalcard) or scan here to get your library card!

Bloomington residents, visit [bit.ly/bplgetacard](http://bit.ly/bplgetacard) or scan here to get your library card!




September is Library Card Sign-Up Month!

Bloomington Public Library

connect TRANSIT

NORMAL PUBLIC LIBRARY

# ¡TODO SEPTIEMBRE VIAJA GRATIS EN CONNECT TRANSIT CON TU TARJETA DE LA BIBLIOTECA!

**¡LAS TARJETAS DE BIBLIOTECA SON GRATIS!**

Residente de Normal, visite [bit.ly/normalcard](http://bit.ly/normalcard) o escanee aquí para obtener su tarjeta de la biblioteca.

Residente de Bloomington, visite [bit.ly/bplgetacard](http://bit.ly/bplgetacard) o escanee aquí para obtener su tarjeta de la biblioteca.




¡Septiembre es el mes de inscripción de tarjetas de biblioteca!

## COMING SOON ... BPL On the Go!

Soon, you're likely to see a new Bloomington Public Library vehicle zipping around town. In these early days, the new vehicle will be used for Outreach Services such as Home Delivery, PopUp Libraries, and Deposit Services. By next Spring, we hope to also use the vehicle to provide offsite technology programming. Stay tuned! We're working on the details.

*Pictured: Staff learn to control the lift gate on the library's new On-the-Go vehicle.*





A photograph of a bicycle leaning against a dark wooden fence. The background is filled with trees with green and yellowing leaves, suggesting an autumn setting. The bicycle is dark-colored with a brown handlebar grip. The image is split vertically, with the left half being a darker, more saturated version of the same scene.

## ADDRESS:

205 E. Olive Street  
Bloomington, IL 61701

## WEBSITE:

[BloomingtonLibrary.org](http://BloomingtonLibrary.org)

## PHONE:

309.828.6091

## HOURS:

Monday - Thursday: 9am - 9pm

Friday - Saturday: 9am - 5pm

Sunday: 1 - 5pm

## LIBRARY CLOSURES:

August 31 - All Day

September 1 & 30 - All Day

November 26 - Closed at 5pm

November 27 & 28 - All Day

Bloomington Public Library

