

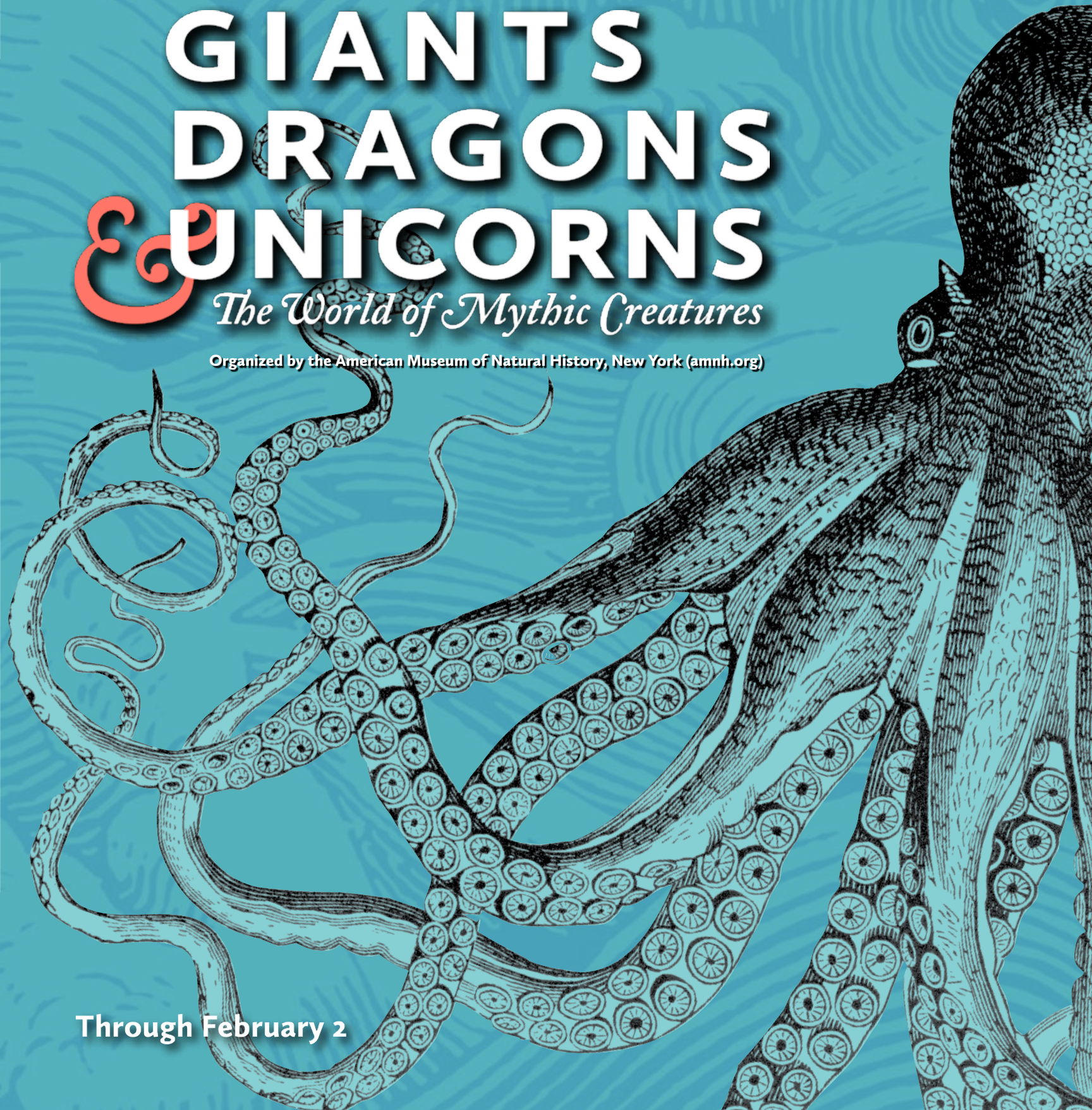
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ela area public library's newsletter December 2024 – February 2025

GIANTS DRAGONS & UNICORNS *The World of Mythic Creatures*

Organized by the American Museum of Natural History, New York (amnh.org)

Through February 2



GIANTS DRAGONS & UNICORNS

The World of Mythic Creatures

Plan Your Visit

Organized by the AMNH in New York and hosted by the Library, this exhibit includes a stunning vibrant sculpture of the African water spirit Mami Wata; a replica “Feejee mermaid,” of the type made famous by showman P. T. Barnum, created by sewing the head and torso of a monkey to the tail of a fish; a “life-size” model of a European unicorn; and a dramatic model of a kraken, whose tentacles appear to rise out of the floor as if surfacing from the sea (pictured, left).

Participate in activities like rearranging scale models of mammoth bones to look like a giant human skeleton. In an engaging digital interactive, you can build a dragon and watch as it comes alive in a virtual environment. The exhibition also includes video interviews with experts in various fields discussing the significance of mythical creatures and their possible real-life counterparts.

Let's Play!

- Look & Find Scavenger Hunt – All ages Available at all public desks.
- Mythical Bingo – Teens grades 6-12 Available at the Readers' Services or through Beanstack.



Giants, Dragons & Unicorns: The World of Mythic Creatures is organized by the American Museum of Natural History, New York (amnh.org).

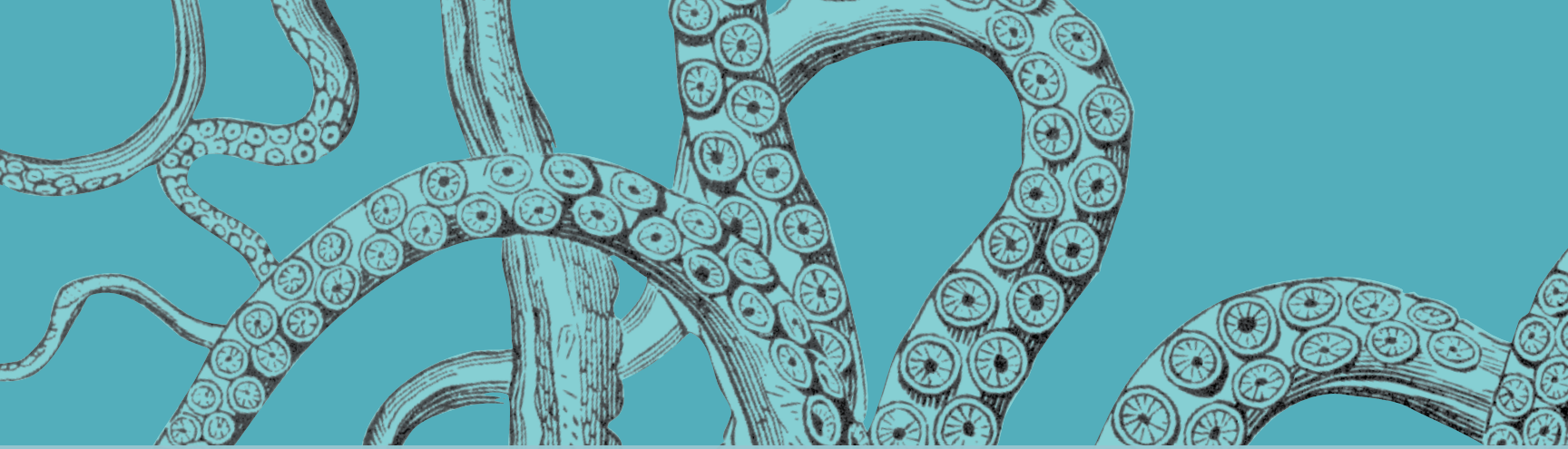
About the Exhibit

See unique cultural objects that highlight the surprising similarities and differences in the ways people around the world envision and depict mythical creatures. Discover how narwhal tusks were believed to be magical remnants of unicorn horns, how dinosaur fossils may have been mistaken for the remains of griffins, and how tales of sea monsters may simply have been fisherman's tales of real creatures such as the oarfish and giant squid.



Through February 2

Organized by the American Museum of Natural History,
New York (amnh.org)



Mystic Medallions

Collect the set of wooden coins (6) by attending various special events throughout the exhibit, while supplies last.

adult programs

Registration (R) is required for all programs, unless noted (NR).

- *Registration begins Dec. 1 (unless noted).*
- *Zoom links are sent to your email the day of the event.*
- *In-person programs are held at the Library.*

Fantastic Creatures in the History of Art (Zoom)

Art historian Jeff Mishur explores the relationship between art history and fantastic creatures drawn from myth, religious tradition and legend. From symbolic unicorns in European tapestries to dragons chasing pearls in Chinese royal vestments, this program features a broad range of subjects, cultures and materials.

7pm Thurs., Dec. 12 (R)

Lost Cities (Zoom)

Join Lynette Reiner, science director at McKinley Presidential Library and Museum, as we explore what lost cities are through ancient ruins, myths, legends and folklore. Some of the interesting lost cities we examine are Petra, Camelot, Atlantis, Pompeii, Cliff Palace of Mesa Verde and many more.

7pm Tues., Dec. 17 (R)

Watercolor Dragon (Zoom)

Join artist Victoria Elizabeth for this step-by-step class and learn to draw and paint a colorful dragon. *Pick up supplies at the Children's Desk beginning Dec. 1. The Zoom link will be sent to your email the morning of the program.*

10:30am Fri., Dec. 27, ages 8 to adult (R)



Giant Squid: An Author Visit with Candace Fleming

See page 5 for details.

1:30-2:15pm Sun., Jan. 5, ages 6 to adult (R)



Sea Serpents, Lake Monsters and the Search for "Hidden Animals" (Zoom)

Cryptozoology, the study of so-called "hidden animals" (or cryptids) examines many unexplained creatures—the Loch Ness Monster, Abominable Snowman, and Mbolel Mkembe, a miniature dinosaur from swamps in central Africa. The highlight of this presentation is an in-depth discussion of Cadborosaurus, an aquatic cryptid frequently seen along the Pacific Northwest coast. Presented by David George Gordon.

7pm Thurs., Jan. 16 (R)



Chinese Lion Dance

Experience the excitement of the Chinese Lion Dance, and learn more about the power of this mythical creature.

1:30-2pm Sat., Jan. 18, all ages (NR)



Shodō Calligraphy

Come celebrate the Year of the Serpent by learning how to write Serpent in kanji as well as taking home your own artwork on shikishi. Space is limited. *Ela cardholders only.*

6pm Wed., Jan. 22 (R) Registration opens Jan. 2

Hurdy Gurdy Lecture and Recital

Mary Vanhoozer returns with a lecture-recital program of live hurdy gurdy music. Hear French and English songs and see dances from the Middle Ages and the Renaissance plus visuals. All ages welcome.

2pm Sun., Jan. 26 (R)



20%⁺
30*

Dragon Diamond Art Coasters

Create stunning sparkling dragon-themed coasters at this relaxing event.

6:30-7:30pm Wed., Jan. 29, ages 20-39 (R)

(R) Registration required
(NR) Registration not required



GIANTS DRAGONS & UNICORNS

The World of Mythic Creatures

forge programs

Registration (R) is required for all programs, unless noted (NR).

- Registration begins Dec. 1 (unless noted).
- In-person programs are held in Forge at the Library



Needle Felted Baby Dragon

Create an adorable baby dragon with Natasha Lehrer Lewis of Esther's Place! Walk through the process of using wool to sculpt a 4" tall figurine with needle felting. All supplies are included in this beginner-friendly craft. Only one registration per person.

5pm or 7pm Wed., Dec. 18, ages 12+ (R)



Dragon Pillow

Make a double-sided dragon pillow out of felt pieces.

2pm Sat., Dec. 21, ages 11+ (R)

Unicorn Door Sign

Embellish a wooden unicorn silhouette with an array of artificial flowers to create a charming door decoration!

6pm Tues., Jan. 14, ages 14+ (R)



Plushie Workshop

Join Georgia from HeartFelt for a hands-on plushie workshop, where you'll learn to sew and create your very own magical friend. Ages 14+ (R)

2-4pm Saturdays,

Jan. 18 – Bigfoot or Yeti

Feb. 1 – Pride Mothman

teen programs

Registration begins Dec 1. All programs are for teens in grades 6-12, unless otherwise noted. If you have any questions, please contact Readers' Services at readers@eapl.org.



Teen Mythical Bingo

Join our new Teen Winter Reading Program and embark on a mythical adventure. Read books featuring legendary creatures and complete challenges to fill your Bingo card. Prizes await those who participate. Sign up via Beanstack or pick up a paper copy at the Library.

December 1 – February 1



Sea Serpent Cardboard Automata

Join us at this STEM workshop, where you'll design and build moving sea serpent automata using cardboard and recycled materials! This hands-on program encourages creativity while exploring the mechanics of motion.

6-8pm Thurs., Dec. 12 (R)



A D&D One-Shot Adventure

Ready to embark on an epic quest? Join us for a one-shot Dungeons & Dragons adventure perfect for beginners. Dive into a world of imagination, teamwork, and fun. No experience is necessary—just bring your creativity and a sense of adventure.

6-8pm Thurs., Jan. 2 (R)

Mythical Mystery Quest

Unleash your inner detective in this hands-on mystery, presented by the Teen Leadership Committee. Join us for a thrilling adventure as you and your teammates solve puzzles, gather clues, and uncover the secrets of legendary creatures. Perfect for those who love challenges and mythical tales. Each time slot can accommodate up to 20 players. Smaller groups and individuals are welcome but may be joined by other participants. Only register for one time slot.

10:30am, 11:45am, 1pm, 2:15pm or
3:30pm Sat., Jan. 25 (R)



DON'T MISS THIS ALL AGES EVENT!



Chinese Lion Dance

Experience the excitement of the Chinese Lion Dance, and learn more about the power of this mythical creature.

1:30-2pm Sat., Jan. 18,
all ages (NR)

(R) Registration required
(NR) Registration not required

Organized by the American Museum of Natural History,
New York (amnh.org)



kids programs

December registration begins Dec. 1 at 12pm.
January registration begins Jan. 2 at 9am.

Mythic Creatures Trading Cards

Design unique trading cards as you compose creatures with special powers and skills, then play games and trade cards with new friends. Participate in one event or all of them!
Grades K-5 (NR)

- 5-8pm Mon., Dec. 2 – open house for card making
- Dec. 3 through Jan. 26 – create cards (supplies available at the Children’s Desk)
- 5-7pm Mon., Jan. 27 – open house to play games and trade cards



Mythical Magical Storytimes

Stop by to enjoy imaginative stories featuring fantastical creatures. **All ages with an adult (NR)**
9:30am Thurs., Dec. 5 – unicorns
9:30am Thurs., Dec. 12 – giants
9:30am Thurs., Dec. 19 – mermaids



Fantastical Bingo

Get ready to roar, hiss and shout out BINGO! at this family-friendly game full of fantastical creatures! Games are ongoing; drop by for friendly competition and a chance to win awesome prizes.
4-5pm Thurs., Dec. 5 and 2-3:30pm Thurs., Jan. 2, ages 5 and up with an adult (NR)

Fantasy Terrarium

Create your own magical world! Have fun customizing a terrarium habitat for your very own mini mythic creature using artificial plants, pebbles, moss and more.
4:30pm Tues., Dec. 10, unaccompanied kids in grades 3-5 (R)

Mythic Creature Party

Dance like a dragon, stomp like a giant, sing like a mermaid! We’ll do all this and more at a legendary party. Costumes are optional but encouraged.
1-3pm Mon., Dec. 16, ages 2-5 with an adult (NR)

Ela Library cardholders have priority registration. Non-Ela cardholders may be placed on the waitlist for an event and notified by email. An adult must remain in the building while their children are attending programs.

Adopt-a-Creature

Choose your very own mythic pet to care for! We will create everything your stuffed creature needs for a cozy home—from toys to food.
4:30pm Tues., Dec. 17, unaccompanied kids in grades K-2 (R)

Watercolor Dragon (Zoom)

Join artist Victoria Elizabeth for this step-by-step class and learn to draw and paint a colorful dragon. *Pick up supplies at the Children’s Desk beginning Dec. 1. The Zoom link will be sent to your email the morning of the program.*
10:30am Fri., Dec. 27, ages 8 to adult (R)

Story Acting with Paddy Lynn

Become a mythic creature and help save the world! Join storyteller Paddy Lynn in this interactive program where you will transform into griffins, faeries and more while putting your creativity and storytelling skills to the test.
Registration for this event will open Dec. 1 at 9am 9:30am or 11am Fri., Jan. 3, unaccompanied kids in grades K-4 (R)



Giant Squid: An Author Visit with Candace Fleming

The giant squid is one of the most widely discussed yet little understood animals found on land or in the sea. Learn more about this strange and sometimes fearsome creature with Candace Fleming, author of the book *Giant Squid*.
1:30pm Sun., Jan. 5, ages 6 to adult (R)



Family Book Club with Candace Fleming

Meet award-winning author Candace Fleming as she answers all our questions about her new nonfiction picture book *Narwhal: Unicorn of the Arctic!* We’ll make a fun narwhal craft while learning more about these fascinating creatures. Registered families can pick up their own copy of the book (to be signed at the program!) at the Children’s Desk starting Jan. 2.
10am Mon., Jan. 20, families with children in grades K-4 (R)

(R) Registration required
(NR) Registration not required



adult programs

Registration (R) is required for all programs, unless noted (NR).

- Registration begins Dec. 1 (unless noted).
- Zoom links are sent to your email the day of the event.
- In-person programs are held at the Library.

See Exhibit Programming for more ADULT programs.



Share Your Story as a Human Book!

Do you have a unique life experience to share? We're seeking volunteers ages 18+ for our Human Library held in June 2025 to engage in meaningful one-on-one conversations. Whether you've faced bias, overcome challenges, or have a distinct perspective on life, you can be a "Human Book." Previous book titles include a Muslim Woman, Disabled Veteran and Security Guard. Readers will choose a Book and enjoy a 30-minute conversation, where all questions are welcome. Interested in participating? For more details and to apply, scan the QR code above.

Senior Scrabble Club

Looking for a little friendly competition? Join our Scrabble Club and play against friends and members of the community. Senior adults of all skill levels are welcome. Refreshments and supplies are provided.

10-12:30pm Mondays, Dec. 2, Jan. 6, Feb. 3 (R)

Alzheimer's Support Group

This monthly drop-in event provides information and support to those in a caregiving role. For further information, please contact Lisa Gaggiano at Ela Township 55+ (847) 438-9160.

7-8pm Tuesdays, Dec. 3, Jan. 7, Feb. 4 (NR)

A Charlie Brown Christmas with The Chris White Trio

Experience a bit of nostalgia as The Chris White Trio performs Vince Guaraldi's complete *A Charlie Brown Christmas* soundtrack this holiday season. Chris has performed at the top jazz clubs in Chicago such as Andy's, The Green Mill and the Jazz Showcase with his own groups and as a sideman. A must-see performance for all ages.
7pm Wed., Dec. 4 (Registration currently open)



Blood Drive

Donate the gift of blood. Appointments are preferred, but walk-ins are welcome. Receive a FREE Culver's Custard coupon with your donation.

12-5pm Thurs., Dec. 5 (Registration currently open)

Chair Yoga and Meditation (Zoom)

Yoga is for every body! Join instructor Isabel Raci in a gentle seated yoga and meditation session, perfect for seniors and those with limited mobility. Attend any or all sessions.

6-7pm Thursdays, Dec. 5, Jan. 2, Feb. 6 (R)

Chicago Bronze Handbell Choir

This handbell ensemble concert features sacred, secular, classical, jazz and old favorites. A must-see for the season!

1:30pm Sun., Dec. 8 (Registration currently open)

Social Worker in the Library

A social worker from Ela Township is available to talk and provide wellness, medical or emergency resources.

3-5pm Mondays, Dec. 9, Jan. 13, Feb. 10 (NR)

Desserts by Chef Maddox

Local chef and cooking instructor Susan Maddox returns to share her favorite desserts for the holiday season. Recipes included and samples served. Space is limited.

7pm Mon., Dec. 9 (R)



Warm Up Lake Zurich

Share and learn about yarn crafting from crocheting to knitting. Open to all levels. Held in Forge.

4-6pm Thursdays, Dec. 12, Jan. 9, Feb. 13 (R)

Ela Library Quilt Talks

Share and learn about fabrics and quilt making. All skill levels are welcome. Held in Forge.

6:30-8:30pm Thursdays, Dec. 12, Jan. 9, Feb. 13 (R)



BOOK DISCUSSIONS/CLUBS

Registration is required with a valid email address.

Tea & True Love

Steamy beverages and steamy romance novels! Join us in person at Gravitea Boba, 65 S. Rand Rd., Lake Zurich.

6-7pm Tuesday (R)

Dec. 3 *The Christmas Tree Farm* by Laurie Gilmore

Feb. 4 *The Truth According to Ember* by Danica Nava

Senior Book Discussion (Zoom and In Person)

10-11am Mondays (R) 2nd Floor Conference Room

Dec. 9 *Piranesi* by Susanna Clarke

Feb. 10 *The Heart is a Lonely Hunter* by Carson McCullers

Books & Brews

Join us at Consume: 569 W. State Rte. 22, Lake Zurich.

7-8:30pm Tuesdays (R)

Dec. 10 *All the Colors of Dark* by Chris Whitaker

Feb. 11 *The Wedding People* by Alison Espach

Dewey Dining Book Club –

Skinnytaste Simple by Gina Homolka

Do you love browsing through cookbooks and trying new recipes? Grab a copy of this quarter's cookbook at the Information Desk before the discussion. Make one of the recipes and bring it to share as we chat about the book together. Please send the recipe you are sharing to Renée, rstein@eapl.org or (847) 438-3433 x217 a week prior to the discussion. Please note that the Library is not responsible for food allergies.

1:30pm Thurs., Jan. 9 (R)

Queer Book Club

A welcoming and safe space to explore, read and discuss LGBTQIA+ themed books, while making a themed craft. Held in Meeting Room B.

7pm Wednesday, ages 18+ (R)

Jan. 15 *The Pairing* by Casey McQuiston

Nonfiction Book Club

Join us quarterly to discuss a wide range of nonfiction books.

7-8:30pm Thursday

Feb. 27 *Master Slave Husband Wife: An Epic Journey from Slavery to Freedom* by Ilyon Woo

2024 Reading Wrap Up

Finish up the 2024 **12 To Try** reading challenge and bring the book journal you received as a prize! Join us to chat about our favorite and least favorite reads of the year. Journaling materials will be provided. Register to receive an email to submit your 12 titles and receive stickers of the covers at the program to use while journaling.

7-8:30pm Tues., Jan. 14 (R)



12 To Try Annual Reading Program

Allow us to treat you to 12 different genres and topics to stretch your reading horizons in 2025. Scan the QR code for further details and registration instructions.

Through Dec., 31, 2025 (R) Prize pick up starts

Mon., Mar. 3, 2025 and runs through Fri., Jan. 9, 2026.

GENEALOGY & LOCAL HISTORY



Turning Genealogy Clues Into Genealogy To-Dos (Zoom)

Is genealogy on your 2025 to-do list? Join genealogist Thomas MacEntee to learn how to identify new clues in records and build better and more efficient research habits.

7-8pm Thurs., Jan. 23 (R)

Genealogy Interest Group

Join Librarian Kristen McCallum for a brief overview of HeritageQuest Online and stay for personal research time and the opportunity to ask questions and share research strategies. Newcomers welcome.

2-4pm Wed., Feb. 5 (R)



BUSINESS

Headshots

Swing by the Library for a professional headshot for all your social media and job search needs. College and high school students are welcome. Registration required.

5pm Thurs., Jan. 2 (R)

Investing Fundamentals for Those Under 50

Interested in learning more about investing and how to build a strong financial foundation to reach your financial goals? Eric and Ethan Rosenbloom offer an excellent opportunity to learn about investing fundamentals and how to help ensure your financial security and success.

7pm Tues., Jan. 21 (R)

Investing Fundamentals for Those Over 50

Interested in learning more about investing and navigating retirement? Eric and Ethan Rosenbloom return to help you learn how to navigate through the financial challenges and uncertainties of retirement.

7pm Wed., Jan. 29 (R)

Holiday Mitten Tree

Place new hats, mittens, gloves, scarves and sweaters on the Library's mitten tree. The tree is located on the first floor near the Information Desk. All donations benefit local agencies in need.

December 1-29



adult programs

Registration (R) is required for all programs, unless noted (NR).

- **Registration begins Dec. 1 (unless noted).**
- **Zoom links are sent to your email the day of the event.**
- **In-person programs are held at the Library.**

See Exhibit Programming for more ADULT programs.



Winter Photography

Professional photographer Scott McNeill shares insights on how to have fun and make creative images in the cold. Hear about the many photographic possibilities the season offers as well as tips for gear and how to dress for the extreme temps. Come see some of Scott's winter images, and hear his insights about what and how to photograph subjects in the cold.

7pm Mon., Dec. 16 (R)

Memory Café

Memory Café is designed to provide social connections for those with memory issues and their care partners. Each month features a different theme and can include music, art projects, guest presenters and more. Each activity is designed to be “no fail” and encourage connections with others in the group. Questions? Contact Pam Pellizzari at Barrington Area Council on Aging (BACOA) (847) 381-5030.

10-11:30am Tuesdays, Dec. 17, Jan. 21, Feb. 18 (R)

English as a Second Language/ESL

Free English classes for adults are available at the Library beginning in January. Classes begin January 14.

Registration: January 9, 9:15am-12pm and 6-8:30pm

Classes: 9:15am-12pm or 6-8:30pm Tuesdays/Thursdays

For more information and a full list of area classes, call 847-949-2200 x1403.

Inglés como Segundo Idioma

A partir de enero se ofrecerán clases gratuitas de inglés para adultos en la Biblioteca. Las clases comienzan el 14 de enero.

Inscripciones: el 9 de enero, de 9:15am-12pm y 6-8:30pm

Clases: 9:15am-12pm o 6-8:30pm Martes y Jueves

Para obtener más información y una lista completa de las clases del área, llame al (847) 949-2200 x1403.

Romeo and Juliet: Lake Zurich High School's Theatre Preview

Travel back to the Elizabethan period and preview this Shakespeare classic complete with authentic costumes and lines. Meet the cast and have a chance to win tickets to their February stage performance.

6:30pm Mon., Jan. 27 (NR)

Post Election Update with WGN-TV Analyst Paul Lisnek (Zoom)

Join political analyst Paul Lisnek for a chat on the 2024 presidential election and what to expect in the upcoming four years.

7pm Tues., Jan. 28 (R)



AARP Tax Prep

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide provides tax assistance to anyone, free of charge. Tax assistance will be held in the Meeting Room on the first floor, except on March 15, 22, and 29. These three dates will be held in the 2nd floor Computer Lab and 2nd floor Conference Room. Registration opens January 2, 2025. Call to schedule your appointment (224) 326-0605.

Saturdays, Feb. 1 – Apr. 12, 2025 (R)

Artemis: Returning to the Moon (Zoom)

In the next few years, NASA will land the first woman and first person of color on the Moon, exploring more of the lunar surface than ever before. The goal of Artemis is to establish the first long-term human presence on the Moon and, later, send the first astronauts to Mars. We'll discuss the plans and technologies that will get us back to the Moon for the first time since 1972. Presented by Michelle Nichols, Director of Public Observing at the Adler Planetarium.

7pm Tues., Feb. 4 (R)

Passport Services 20th Anniversary!

See page 10 for details.

Passport Scavenger Hunt Begins 11am Fri., Feb. 7 (NR)

Book Buzz

Join us for this special after-hours event! Enjoy visiting staff at different stations on the first floor to hear about delectable cookbooks, hot new fiction, and amazing memoirs and non-fiction. Participants will get to choose up to three free books to keep if they listen to every presentation. A full book list is provided.

The Library will close before this event. Please arrive promptly at 6:30pm. Early or late arrivals will have to wait for library doors to open.

Ela cardholders only.

6:30-7:30pm Fri., Feb. 7 (R)

Lady Bird Johnson – A Living History

Actress and historian Leslie Goddard portrays Lady Bird Johnson, who forged her own path as first lady as an advocate for the environment. Co-sponsored with the Lake Zurich Garden Club.

6:30pm Tues., Feb. 11 (R)

Puzzle Race

We are looking for ten teams of 2-5 players who will compete to build the same 500-piece puzzle. When you register, please only sign up your team captain. Team captains are responsible for forming the team. Team captains – ONLY register if you have a team of 2-5 players. Prizes are awarded to the top finishers. The Library will supply the puzzle. Teams—bring any additional tools that will be helpful (lights, magnifiers, etc). Families are welcome!

6-8pm Wed., Feb. 12 (R)



Tarot Explorers

See what's in the cards during this two-hour tarot class led by professional tarot reader Anna Jollymore. Learn the history of tarot, create card spreads and practice intuitive skills with provided tarot decks. No experience needed. Space is limited. Registration opens February 1. *Ela cardholders only.*

6-8pm Mon., Feb. 17, ages 18+ (R)

Great Decisions

Great Decisions is a discussion program on world affairs that meets eight times throughout the year. The program model involves reading the Great Decisions briefing book, which is available Jan. 15 at the second floor Reference Desk, watching a DVD provided by the Foreign Press Assoc., and meeting to discuss. Visit fpa.org for topics. Contact Librarian Renée Stein rstein@eapl.org for more details.

1-2:30pm Tues., Feb. 18 (R)

Lawyer in the Library

Attorney Bonnie Weis from Buckley Fine Law returns to answer questions about estate planning. Register for a one-on-one 15-minute appointment. No drop-ins. Held in the 2nd Floor Conference Room. Registration opens February 1. *Ela cardholders only.*

5-7pm Mon., Feb. 24 (R)

On the Good Ship Lollipop: The Life of Shirley Temple (Zoom)

When times were tough during the Great Depression, there was one tiny, spunky, curly-haired, adorable little girl that American families could count on to put a smile on their face. Her name was Shirley Temple. Historian Jim Gibbons discusses the life and many accomplishments of Shirley Temple, who has warmed the hearts of many across the generations.

6pm Thurs., Feb. 27 (R)

AUTHOR EVENTS



The Magic of Raina Telgemeier (Zoom)

Join us for a night with critically-acclaimed comic artist, Raina Telgemeier! Raina is the author and illustrator of the graphic novels *Smile, Drama, Sisters, Ghosts and Guts*.

7pm Tues., Dec. 10 (R)



Experience *Little Women: The Musical, An At-Home Experience (2022)* (Zoom)

Louisa May Alcott's classic story of four sisters growing up in 19th-century Massachusetts at Park Theatre.

December 20-22 (R)



Chicago Pizza - Past, Present & Future with Steve Dolinsky (Zoom)

Dish on *The Ultimate Chicago Pizza Guide: A History of Squares & Slices in the Windy City*, a comprehensive guide to the styles, locales and people that make the Windy City a prime destination for slices and pies.

7pm Thurs., Jan. 9 (R)



Love and Laughs with Michelle Buteau (Zoom)

Michelle Buteau is an American stand-up comedian, actress, producer and television and podcast host. Buteau published her first book in 2020, titled *Survival of the Thickest*, which was adapted into a series on Netflix.

7pm Thurs., Jan. 23 (R)



An Evening with James McBride (Zoom)

Join us for American author and musician James McBride known for his acclaimed works of historical fiction and autobiography, including the best-selling memoir *The Color of Water* and the National Book Award-winning novel *The Good Lord Bird*.


7pm Tues., Feb. 4 (R)



Slowing Down with Amy Tan (Zoom)

Join author Amy Tan as she discusses her new book *The Backyard Bird Chronicles*.

7pm Wed., Feb. 19 (R)

 These events are made possible by Illinois Libraries Present, 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 the 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). ILP is committed to inclusion and accessibility. To request accommodations, please email illinoislibrariespresent@gmail.com.

Celebrating 20 Years of Passport Services!



Passport Services at the Library is celebrating its 20-year anniversary the month of February.

Ela Library was one of the first libraries in the suburbs to process U.S. passport applications in 2005. Former Library employee Kim Murphy spearheaded the initiative and the rest is history. We asked Murphy to recall how the service started. Here's what she had to say:

How did the Library become a passport acceptance facility?

Matt Womack, a former executive director, visited a U.S. Department of State booth at a library conference and shared the information with Library staff. At that time, we were looking for ways to expand our services and decided to apply. Once approved, six staff were trained and certified by the U.S Department of State.

Do you have any vivid memories of that time?

There were a few months we processed between 1,000 – 2,000 passport applications! I jokingly made my staff coffee mugs that year inscribed, "I survived passports." I wish I had made one for myself!

Do you recall any obstacles?

The biggest challenge I would say is mailing the passport once it's processed. Taking the photo was another challenge. We converted a clothing rack into a white backdrop and would roll it out for the photo. Our staff was always so accommodating. They would retake photos over and over until the patron was happy. We no longer offer this service.

What makes the service a success?

Our patrons appreciate it, especially in a pleasant environment. Libraries are way more comfortable than the post office, village hall or going downtown. You can't beat the hours either. It can be challenging to get to a facility that only processes applications during business hours, Monday through Friday. Booking an appointment is another bonus. You aren't standing around waiting for hours to go through processing.

Passport Services 20th Anniversary!

Join us in February to celebrate 20 years of passport services. Enjoy drop-in activities throughout the month. Stop by the Information Desk to participate in the Passport Scavenger Hunt. Applicants who book an appointment in February will receive a special gift, while supplies last. For more information about Passport Services, scan the QR code. Don't forget to check out our World Map displayed at the Information Desk and add a sticker to places where you've traveled.



computer programs

Due to the popularity of computer classes, please do not register for classes you have already taken within the last year.

Registration (R) is required for all programs, unless noted (NR).

- January registration begins Jan. 2
- February registration begins Feb. 1
- All classes are located in the Computer Lab unless otherwise noted.

OFFICE/GOOGLE APPLICATIONS



For computer programs not offered in person, we recommend using LinkedIn Learning, which you can access with your library card.

Scan the QR code for more information.

Here is a list of suggested classes:

Word Essential Training
PowerPoint Essential Training
Photoshop 2024 Essential Training

Word Basics

Prerequisite: Basic computer skills

Learn how to create text-based documents using Microsoft Word, as well as how to complete simple actions like saving, opening and printing documents.

1-2:30pm Tues., Jan. 14 (R)

Word: Formatting Documents

Prerequisite: Word Basics

Add visual interest and tell stories by displaying numbers and data sets in chart or graph format.

1-2:30pm Tues., Jan. 21 (R)

Word: Editing Tools

Prerequisite: Word Basics and Word Formatting Documents

Learn how to use Word's built-in editing features like cut and paste, spell check, grammar suggestions and adding comments to documents.

1-2:30pm Tues., Jan. 28 (R)

Word: Tables, Images & Graphics

Prerequisite: Word Basics, Formatting Documents and Editing Tools

Tables, borders, backgrounds and WordArt allow users to create custom designs that make their documents pop. Learn how to use these tools to spruce up your own creations in this class.

1-2:30pm Tues., Feb. 4 (R)

PowerPoint

Prerequisite: Word Basics

Learn how to use PowerPoint's features to add and delete slides, change slide layouts, format text, select themes and add graphics to a presentation. Learn how to insert objects such as text boxes, shapes, charts and more, then discover how to apply animations and slide transitions to spruce up even the most basic presentations.

1-2:30pm Tues., Feb. 11 (R)



ADVANCED TOPICS

Convert Records and Cassettes to Digital (Zoom)

Learn how to convert your vinyl records and cassette tapes into digital format through the Digital Media Labs.

10-11:30am Thurs., Jan. 16 (R)

Canva Basics

Prerequisite: Basic computer skills

Learn how to use the free graphic design website Canva to make marketing materials such as flyers or brochures, specially-formatted graphics for posting to social media, and even menus and invitations.

1-2:30pm Tues., Feb. 18 (R)

Convert Video to Digital Format (Zoom)

Learn how to easily convert your VHS or DVD into a digital format on your flashdrive using one of the digital converters in the Digital Media Lab.

10-11:30am Thurs., Feb. 20 (R)

Email Basics

Prerequisite: Basic computer skills

Attendees will create a Gmail account, learn how to perform basic email functions like send, receive/reply to an email, recognize/deal with spam, organize/delete emails and search for messages.

1-2:30pm Tues., Feb. 25 (R)

Advanced Mobile Photography Editing

Would you like to take your mobile photography to the next level? Join us as we learn how to use a few simple apps to turn almost any photo into a work of art. Held in the 2nd Floor Conference Room.

7-8:30pm Wed., Feb. 26 (R)

forge programs

Registration (R) is required for all programs, unless noted (NR).

- Registration begins Dec. 1 (unless noted).
- In-person programs are held in Forge at the Library.

See Exhibit Programming for more FORGE programs.



Made in Forge Workshops

Learn and make unique items using our equipment in small sessions. Registration is limited to one session per person, per activity. **Ages 18+ (R)**

11am, 1pm, 3pm or 5pm on the following dates:
Mon., Dec. 16 – Embroidered Monogram Beanie
Tues., Jan. 21 – Laser Patch Baseball Cap
Wed., Feb. 12 – DIY Sublimation Mugs

Miniature Cat Painting

Paint your very own RPG cat figurine.

6-8pm Wed., Jan. 8, ages 11+ (R)

Sewing Basics

Learn to use a sewing machine and create a simple project. All materials and equipment provided. Due to high interest, registration is limited to one class per person, per season.

6-8pm Mondays, Jan. 20 or Feb. 10, ages 14+ (R)



Creative Cinema: Hidden Figures (PG)

Celebrate Black History Month and watch a powerful story that highlights the contributions of Black women who broke barriers at NASA. As you watch, paint a pre-drawn outlined canvas reflecting the impact of their achievements in history.

3pm Mon., Feb. 17, ages 12+ (R)

K-Craft Night

Join and chat with fellow K-pop and K-drama fans to create your very own photo card holder featuring your favorite idol!

7pm Tues., Jan. 28, ages 14+ (R)

Take Home Crafty A Kits



Kits include supplies, directions and video instruction. Available for pick up in the Forge starting on the date specified. Kits available while supplies last. Ages 18+.



Winter Hat Garland

Make your own mini hat garland out of yarn and beads. Pick up a kit in Forge while supplies last.

Pick up begins: Mon., Dec. 9 (NR)

teen programs



Registration begins Dec 1. All programs are for teens in grades 6-12, unless otherwise noted. If you have any questions, please contact Readers' Services at readers@eapl.org.

See Exhibit Programming for more TEEN programs.



Teen Leadership Committee Applications Available Dec. 1-30

The Teen Leadership Committee is seeking new members! Applications are available at the Library starting December 1 and due by December 30.

The Teen Leadership Committee is a group of teens dedicated to enhancing library services for teens. Members meet regularly to plan events, volunteer for special projects, and participate in service projects to help the community. They also promote Library programs and events in their schools, clubs, and social groups, acting as ambassadors within the community.



Monday Night Movie Nights

Stop by the Teen Lounge on Monday nights and catch a flick!

6pm Mondays, Dec. 2, 9, 23, 30;
Jan. 13, 20, 27;
Feb. 3, 10, 24 (NR)

Teen Study Space

Prepare for finals in a relaxed environment and study with friends. Snacks for brain fuel are provided. There will be no tutors at this event, but the teen librarian can direct teens to library resources.

5-7pm Tues., Dec. 17 (NR)

Pride Cookie Decorating

Celebrate Pride with creativity and fun by decorating heart-shaped cookies with vibrant colors and designs.

6:30-7:30pm Thurs., Feb. 13 (R)

Crochet and Cocoa

Warm up with a cup of cocoa and learn the basics of crochet. All skill levels welcome.

6-7:30pm Wed., Feb. 19 (R)

kids programs

Ela Library cardholders have priority registration. Non-Ela cardholders may be placed on the waitlist for an event and notified by email. An adult must remain in the building while their children are attending programs.

December registration begins Dec. 1 at 12pm.

January registration begins Jan. 2 at 9am.

February registration begins Feb. 1 at 9am.

See Exhibit Programming for more KIDS programs.



Kids Book Match

Want personalized book recommendations from a children's librarian? Fill out our online form and we'll email you a list of new favorites!

For independent readers through grade 6 (R)



Tails & Tales: Winter Reading Program

Choose which mythic creature will lead you on an adventure this winter! Stop by the Children's Desk to find out how you can earn prizes for completing reading and activity challenges.

Dec. 1 through Jan. 31, ages 0-12 (R)

Miracle on Main Street

Visit the library booth at the Miracle on Main Street event in downtown Lake Zurich.

3-7pm Sat., Dec. 7, all ages with an adult (NR)

Squishy Lab

Get your hands messy in this fun workshop! We provide the recipe and ingredients for kids and their adults to make squishy slime during this hands-on class. Dress for a mess.

4:30pm Wednesdays, Dec. 18 and Feb. 12, ages 3-10 with an adult (R)

Noon Year's Eve Party

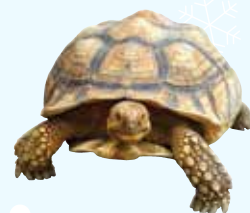
Dress in your best to ring in the new year with friends at the library! Help us count down to a mid-day balloon drop and celebrate with crafts, snacks, music and games!

11:30am-12:30pm Mon., Dec. 30, ages 3-8 with an adult (R)

Skills for School

Preschoolers can practice important developmental skills during this drop-in workshop made just for them!

9:30-10:30am Thurs., Jan. 9, ages 3-5 with an adult (NR)



Dave DiNaso's Reptile Show

Slither on over to the library for a funny and educational reptile show! Meet over a dozen different reptiles, from a 50-pound tortoise to a 5-foot alligator to a 15-foot python. Register to reserve your tickets, then pick up your tickets at the Children's Desk the morning of the event.

10am Sat., Jan. 11, all ages with an adult (R)



Trolls Party

Let's rock 'n' troll! Wear your wildest outfit, warm up your singing voice and join us for a rainbow of games, dancing and crafts!

10am-12pm Sat., Feb. 1, all ages with an adult (NR)

Family Cookie Decorating

Cookies by Em will supply the cookies, icing and sprinkles. We will share a few decorating tips and tricks. Then you can design and decorate your own cute, delicious cookies! The hardest part will be deciding whether to share or eat them all yourself! Register for one spot per family.

2pm or 3:30pm Mon., Feb. 17, families with children in grades K-5 (R)

BOOK CLUBS



How to Heal a Gryphon

Travel to the magical underground city of Malafi with Giada, as she works to develop her powers to heal mythical creatures and save her brother. We will brew our own potions as we discuss *How to Heal a Gryphon* by Meg Cannistra. Snacks will be provided. Registrants can

pick up their own copy of the book at the Children's Desk starting Jan. 2.

4:30pm Thurs., Jan. 30, unaccompanied kids in grades 3-5 (R)



A Royal Conundrum

Join Olive and her spy team as they work together to stop a jewel heist! Lisa Yee's book *The Misfits: A Royal Conundrum* is full of high-tech gadgets, humor and lots of cats. We'll even create theft-worthy jewels of our very own. Snacks will be provided. Registrants

can pick up their own copy of the book at the Children's Desk starting Feb. 1.

4:30pm Wed., Feb. 26, unaccompanied kids in grades 3-5 (R)

kids programs



ARTS & CRAFTS

Ela Library cardholders have priority registration. Non-Ela cardholders may be placed on the waitlist for an event and notified by email. An adult must remain in the building while their children are attending programs.

December registration begins Dec. 1 at 12pm.

January registration begins Jan. 2 at 9am.

February registration begins Feb. 1 at 9am.

See Exhibit Programming for more KIDS programs.

Drop-In Crafts

Stop by the Children's Department to design a unique craft project with the provided materials.

All ages with an adult (NR)

- 10am-7pm Mon., Dec. 23 – penguin bookmarks
- 10am-7pm Mon., Jan. 6 – hedgehog magnets

Kiddie Crafternoon

Enjoy an afternoon of crafting with friends and create your own one-of-a-kind project!

Unaccompanied kids in grades K-2 (R)

- 4pm Tues., Jan. 14 – mythic creature masks
- 4pm Wed., Feb. 19 – paper plate aquariums

Mini Makers

Work on important art skills like cutting, pasting and following directions in this crafting class designed just for preschoolers! Dress for a mess.

Ages 3-5 with an adult (R)

- 10am Wed., Jan. 22 – dragon eggs
- 10am Wed., Feb. 12 – valentines

Valentine Crafting Open House

Sweet or silly, you decide! We will provide a variety of supplies for you to design unique valentines for your family and friends.

10am-3pm Sat., Feb. 8, all ages with an adult (NR)



Cartooning with Mark Anderson

Join Mark for these lively, interactive cartooning classes. The library will provide your supplies.



Reindeer Games

It's well known that reindeer enjoy playing wintery games, and we'll be drawing them all—snowball soccer, tundra tennis, blizzard basketball

and maybe even icicle skating! Don't worry, there won't be any name-calling, but there will be tons of laughs!

4:30pm Thurs., Dec. 19, unaccompanied kids in grades K-5 (R)

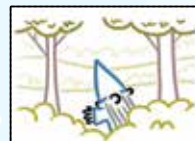


Myth, Magic & Monsters

Kids will learn to draw all sorts of mythological, fantasy, and fairy tale characters, and then draw in their own stories. Will the ogre and

unicorn fight? Have a dance party? Meet at a small cafe and discuss the events of the day over coffee and scones?! Whatever happens, we'll have a great time!

4:30pm Tues., Jan. 21, unaccompanied kids in grades K-5 (R)



Gnow Your Gnomes

Are you gnuts about gnomes? Then this class is a gno-brainer! Gnice gnomes, gnasty gnomes, gnervous gnomes, and gnoteworthy gnomes!

Do gnot miss this gnifty class!

4:30pm Tues., Feb. 18, unaccompanied kids in grades K-5 (R)





STORYTIMES

Bilingual Storytime

Join us for bilingual English/Spanish storytimes featuring stories, songs and crafts! You do not need to know how to speak Spanish as we will learn simple vocabulary words together.

10:30am Tuesdays, Dec. 3, Jan. 7, Feb. 4, ages 2-6 with an adult (NR)

¡hora del cuento bilingüe!

¡Únase a nosotros para una hora de cuentos bilingüe inglés/español con cuentos, canciones y manualidades! No es necesario registrarse.

Los martes 3 de diciembre, 7 de enero y 4 de febrero a las 10:30 de la mañana. Para niños de 2 a 6 años con un adulto.

Toddler Storytime – Winter Class Session

There's no sitting still in this lively storytime! Together we'll enjoy 30 minutes of stories, songs and rhymes all selected to engage your active toddler, followed by 15 minutes of play time! Register once to save your child's spot for all six weeks of this winter session.

9:30am Mondays, Jan. 13, 20, 27; Feb. 3, 10, 17 or 9:30am Thursdays, Jan. 16, 23, 30; Feb. 6, 13, 20 ages 18-35 months with an adult (R)

FOR BABIES

Drop-In Baby Storytime

Meet new friends and enjoy cuddly, bouncy fun with your little one! We'll share some of our favorite rhymes, stories and songs.

10am Fri., Dec. 6, ages 0-17 months with an adult (NR)

Obstacle Course

Calling on-the-go babies and toddlers! Whether your little one is crawling, walking, running or something in between, stop in for a fun challenge that will help them develop their motor and sensory skills.

- **9:30-11:30am Fri., Dec. 13, crawling babies with an adult (NR)**
- **2-4pm Fri., Dec. 13, walking toddlers with an adult (NR)**

Sign with Katy

Join instructor Katy Roth as she teaches basic American Sign Language vocabulary to you and your little one. Learning ASL is a great way for babies to communicate their wants and needs with caregivers before developing the ability to speak. ASL also unlocks language capabilities for babies to build valuable skills that help with language and literacy abilities later in life. Each presentation is different.

10am Saturdays, Dec. 14 and Jan. 25, parents/caregivers and their children ages 0-3 (R)

Drop-In Storytimes

Stop by for a casual storytime experience.

10:30am Mondays, Jan. 13, 20, 27; Feb. 3, 10, 17, all ages with an adult (NR)

Preschool Storytime – Winter Class Session

Young children will explore the world through stories, songs and crafts specifically selected for their developmental stage. Register once to save your child's spot for all six weeks of this winter session.

10:30am Thursdays, Jan. 16, 23, 30; Feb. 6, 13, 20, ages 3-5 with an adult (R)

Pajama Family Storytime

Gather the whole family for fun and cozy stories, songs and a collaborative craft. Pajamas are encouraged!

6:30pm Mon., Feb. 10, ages 2-6 with an adult (NR)

Baby Storytime – Winter Class Session

So much more than stories! Join us for lots of movement and smiles as we share songs and rhymes chosen specifically for this age group. You'll go home with new tools to sing your way through diaper changes, mealtime and anytime, making your day easier and enriching your child's language and literacy skills. Stay after storytime to chat with other caregivers as your little ones play. Register once to save your baby's spot for all six weeks of this winter session.

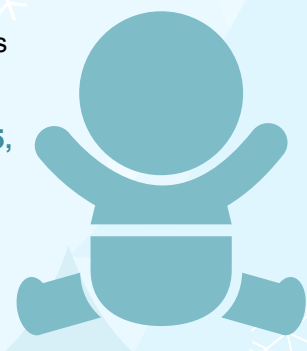
9:30am or 11:00am Fridays, Jan. 17, 24, 31; Feb. 7, 14, 21, ages 0-17 months with an adult (R)

Baby Buddies

Stop in for a special baby playtime!

You and your baby can play and explore sensory bins while visiting with other families. Dress for a mess to create a keepsake art project, while supplies last.

9:30am-11:30am Tues., Feb. 25, ages 0-17 months with an adult (NR)



Ela Area Public Library District
275 Mohawk Trail
Lake Zurich, IL 60047
www.eapl.org

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Art Gallery and Display

The Library has a dimensional art space in addition to the Art Gallery. Works of emerging and established local artists are displayed. For information about the art featured, visit the Information Desk.

Art Gallery (Second Floor)

Closed due to the exhibit.

Display Case (Children's Department)

December – January

Five Star Creative Goods Custom Woodworking, Laser Cutting & Engraving

New! Shop the Library Foundation Store

The store is open. Shop for official EAPL wearables while supporting your library.



This season, find merchandise featuring Giants, Dragons & Unicorns, a special Library exhibition on display Nov. 16–Feb. 2. Purchase wearable products and gifts from t-shirts and baby bodysuits to accessories like stickers and zip pouches with the exhibit logo and design collages.

Proceeds support lifelong learning at Ela Area Public Library.

ABOUT THE LIBRARY FOUNDATION

The Library receives most of its operating revenue from local property taxes, grant and state tax money, and revenue from operations such as passport processing. To best serve residents, we look for additional revenue sources wherever possible to lessen the burden on local taxpayers. The Ela Public Library Foundation can assist in this goal. To donate, or for ways to give, scan the QR codes.

ELA PUBLIC LIBRARY
FOUNDATION



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www.eapl.org

Library Board

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Tracy Suykerbuyk
Erica Christianson–Executive Director

Board meetings are open to the public and are held in person. They begin at 6pm on these Tuesdays: Jan. 21 and Feb. 18. No Meeting in December.

Library Hours

Monday – Thursday	9am – 9pm
Friday	9am – 6pm
Saturday	9am – 5pm
Sunday	12 – 5pm

Currently Scheduled Library Closings

Tues., Dec. 24	Christmas Eve
Wed., Dec. 25	Christmas
Tues., Dec. 31	New Year's Eve
Wed., Jan. 1	New Year's Day
Fri., Feb. 28	Staff Training

Phone

(847) 438-3433

Program Registration

Register online at www.eapl.org. For more information, call the Information Desk at (847) 438-3433 or the Children's Dept. at (847) 438-3840.

If you need an accommodation for a visual, hearing or other disability, please let us know at least two weeks before the program you plan to attend.

Footnotes is published to inform patrons about Ela Area Public Library District news, programs, materials and services.

Editor: Valerie Stern
Graphic Artist: Jennifer Nickels

