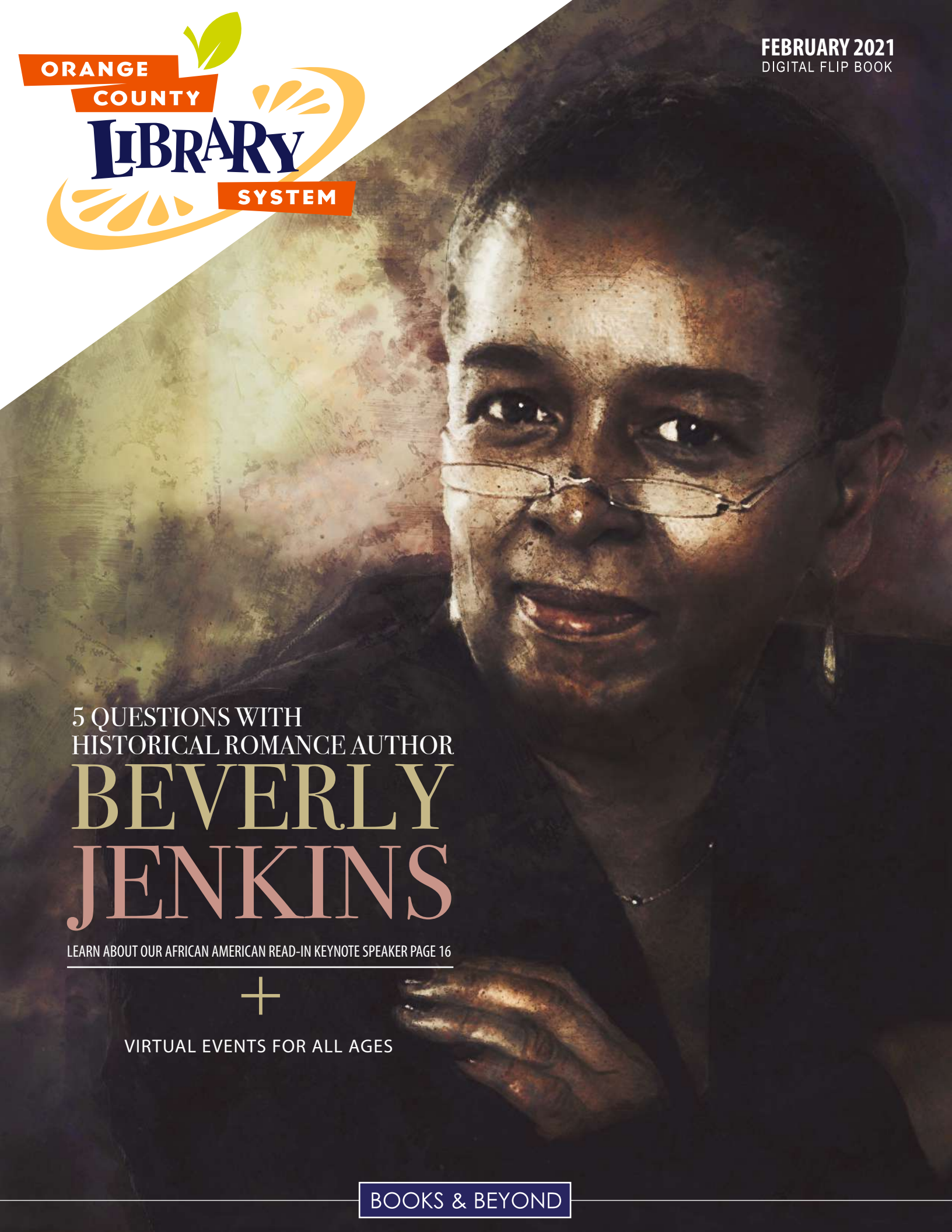




FEBRUARY 2021  
DIGITAL FLIP BOOK



5 QUESTIONS WITH  
HISTORICAL ROMANCE AUTHOR  
**BEVERLY  
JENKINS**

LEARN ABOUT OUR AFRICAN AMERICAN READ-IN KEYNOTE SPEAKER PAGE 16



VIRTUAL EVENTS FOR ALL AGES

BOOKS & BEYOND

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



**ORLANDO MUSEUM OF ART**

**SPRING ART CAMP 2021**

# Splash into Art!

MARCH 12, 15 - 19

**REGISTER AT [OMART.ME/SPRINGARTCAMP](https://omart.me/springartcamp)**  
 QUESTIONS? EMAIL US AT [EDUCATION@OMART.ORG](mailto:education@omart.org)

CONVENIENTLY LOCATED IN LOCH HAVEN PARK



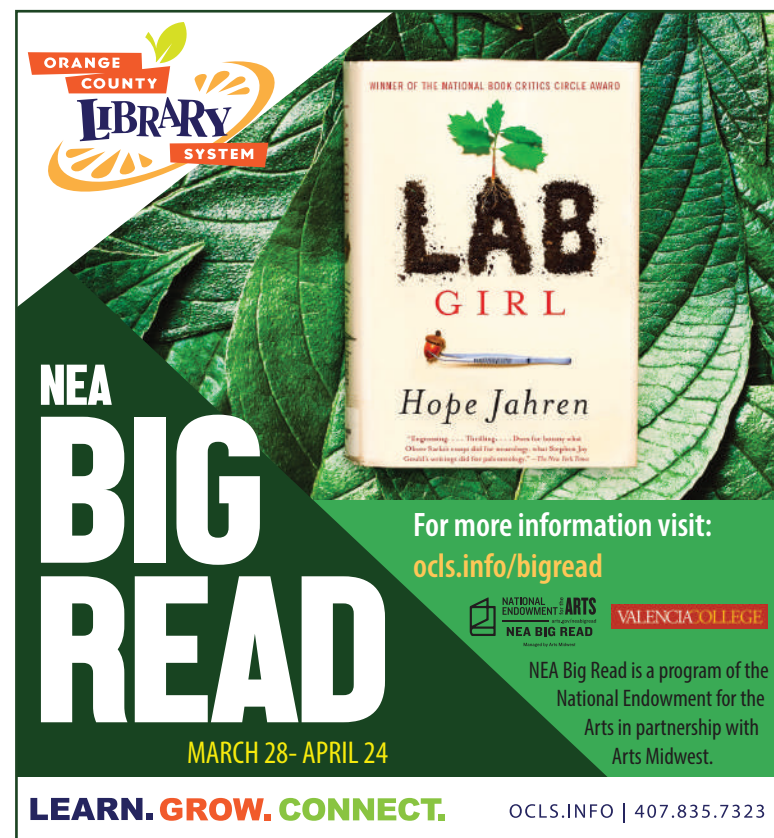
**ORLANDO SCIENCE CENTER**

Presented By: **UCF** Office of Research  
 UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

**February 12-15**

**INSPIRING A BETTER TOMORROW THROUGH SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY!**

**ONSITE & VIRTUAL EXPERIENCES**  
 Learn more at [otronicon.org](https://otronicon.org)



**ORANGE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM**

WINNER OF THE NATIONAL BOOK CRITICS CIRCLE AWARD

**LAB GIRL**  
 Hope Jahren

**NEA BIG READ**

For more information visit: [ocls.info/bigread](https://ocls.info/bigread)

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS VALENCIA COLLEGE  
 NEA BIG READ

NEA Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest.

MARCH 28- APRIL 24

**LEARN. GROW. CONNECT.** OCLS.INFO | 407.835.7323

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

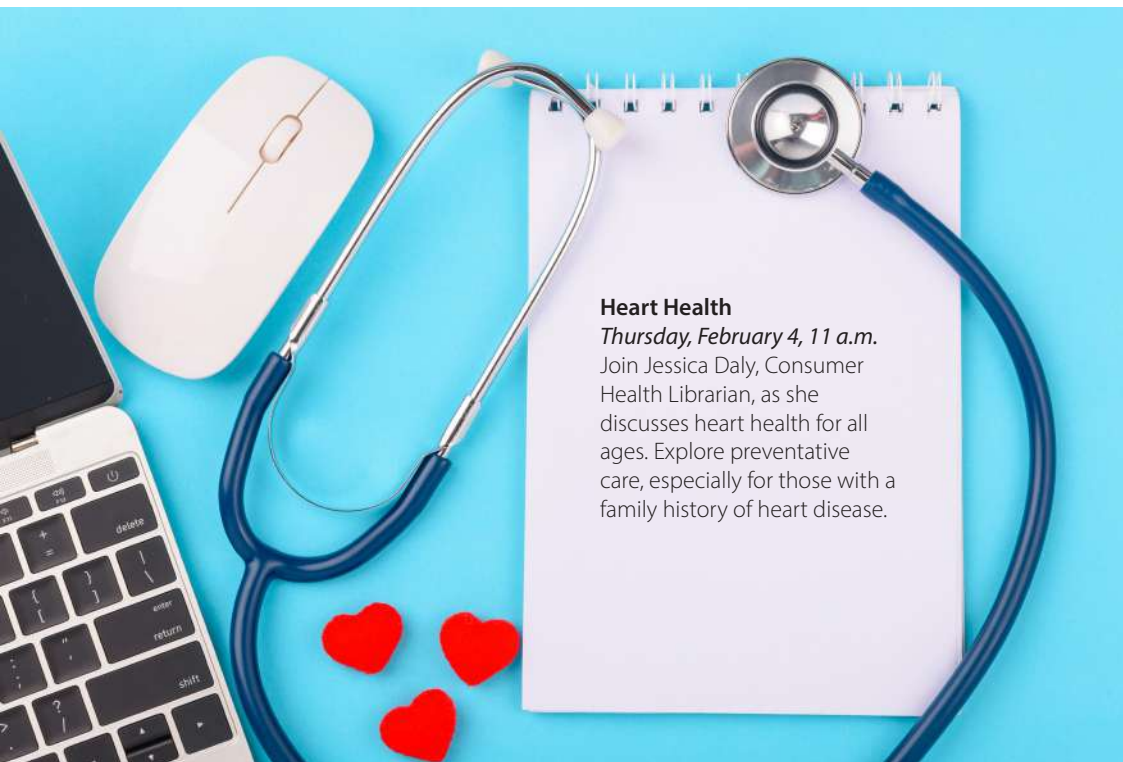
One positive thing that has come out of this pandemic has been some new opportunities available to us due to our extensive use of virtual programming. Orange County Library System used to be an entirely in-person operation – all of our events and programs happened at one of our 15 library locations. Now, though, we offer all programs virtually, which has made it possible for us to work with presenters who may not otherwise have been able to travel to us for an event.

For example, for this year’s African American Read-In, an annual event during which presenters read aloud from prose and poetry composed by African American authors, we are pleased to have two keynote presenters who may not have been able to join us if it were happening at one of our libraries. *USA Today*-bestselling author Beverly Jenkins, whose romance novels feature stories populated by Black characters living in the 19<sup>th</sup>-century, will be one of our keynote presenters. Our other keynote is the Librarian of Congress Dr. Carla Hayden, the first African American and the first woman to ever hold the post. We’re very excited that these two exceptional women will join our panel of local politicians, newsmakers and

influencers at this year’s event. It will stream live on February 28 over YouTube and Facebook – you don’t need a library card to watch, as the Read-In is open to all. You can read an interview with Jenkins on page 16 of this flipbook.

African American Read-In is not our only Black History Month event. We have events and programs throughout February for library lovers of all ages. Our Homeschool Meetup this month focuses on discussing African American inventors, and “Look I’m a Scientist!” will help educate our younger audiences about discoveries made by Black scientists. We’ll have a Grammy-nominated musician Nathi Gcabashe for a live musical performance, art programs about Black artists, a *Princess and the Frog* storytime and Black History Month Bingo. Flip to pages 18–19 to find an event that’s right for you.





**Heart Health**  
**Thursday, February 4, 11 a.m.**  
 Join Jessica Daly, Consumer Health Librarian, as she discusses heart health for all ages. Explore preventative care, especially for those with a family history of heart disease.

## LIBRARY EVENTS

**Shakespeare LIVE!**  
**Mondays, February 1–15, 6:30 p.m.**  
**Monday, February 22, 6–8 p.m.**  
 Enjoy the brilliance of *Twelfth Night*. Read and perform excerpts from William Shakespeare's festive comedy. Recommended for teens and adults.

**Qigong Movement and Breathing**  
**Tuesday, February 2, 10:30 a.m.**  
 Jasmine Win shows basic qigong techniques and how using them in your daily life can benefit your health. Qigong is a crucial tool in Chinese medicine which involves movement, breathing and meditation.

**Money Talks for Women**  
**Tuesdays, February 2–23, 6–7:30 p.m.**  
 Join the conversation! Learn about library services such as Morningstar Investment Research Center, goal-oriented tools for saving, investing and more.

**Southwest Film Club**  
**Tuesday, February 2, 7–8:30 p.m.**  
 Watch the 1940 classic film *His Girl Friday*, available on Hoopla, then join us for a short lecture and discussion.

**Acting 101 with Theatre South Playhouse**  
**Wednesdays, February 3 & 17, 7:30 p.m.**  
 Theatre South Playhouse instructor Eddie Wilder runs you through the basics of monologues and scene work in this monthly series on the basics of acting. Recommended for ages 18 and up.

**Lincoln as Storyteller**  
**Sunday, February 7, 2 p.m.**  
 Mr. Lincoln, as portrayed by Kevin Wood, shares some of his favorite stories and jokes and explains why he used these so often. Get a good dose of the nation's history and Mr. Lincoln's personal story.

**Victorian Language of Flowers**  
**Monday, February 8, 11 a.m.**  
 Did you know that Victorian people communicated with flowers? Learn how to convey emotions and portray messages using flora. Create arrangements to show others how you feel.

**Introduction to Foundation Center Resources**  
**Monday, February 8, 3:30–5 p.m.**  
 Looking for funding? Get information on using this comprehensive directory to win grants and make a difference.

**Self-Care Home Spa**  
**Thursday, February 11, 4 p.m.**  
 Take time for yourself and enjoy some at home self-care. Learn to make your own sugar scrub and face mask. Recommended for ages 18 and up.

**Dungeons & Dragons Adventurers League**  
**Thursday, February 11, 6–8 p.m.**  
 Have you been wanting to play D&D but don't know how or where to join? On the second Thursday of each month you can learn, play and teach the greatest game on earth. Recommended for ages 16 and up.

**Tea & Conversation**  
**Saturday, February 13, 2:30 p.m.**  
 This monthly social is designed to bring adults together. Share your stories and have a cup of tea in this celebration of everyday life. Recommended for ages 18 and up.

**Paper Flower of the Month**  
**Tuesdays, February 16 & 23, 2:30–3:45 p.m.**  
 Learn the craft of paper flower making. We will introduce tools and techniques to craft a cardstock flower.

**Podcast Listen and Discuss**  
**Tuesday, February 16, 7–8:30 p.m.**  
 Like a book club, but for podcasts. Discuss a themed podcast listening list for the month by Podcast Brunch Club. Recommended for ages 18 and up.

**Acrylic Painting**  
**Friday, February 19, 11 a.m.**  
 Create a beautiful work of art through guided instruction using acrylic paint. Recommended for ages 18 and up.

**Gaining Financial Control Of Your Divorce**  
**Tuesday, February 23, 6:30–8 p.m.**  
 Before making any financial decisions regarding your divorce, become aware of potential pitfalls and learn the smart questions you should be asking.

**Food 101: Wine Part 2**  
**Wednesday, February 24, 6:30 p.m.**  
 The Food 101 series introduces you to a new topic every month, examining the historical and social significance of what we eat. This month, learn more about wine and how it's consumed around the world.

**Crafts & Culture**  
**Thursday, February 25, 6 p.m.**  
 February is the month of love and what better way than to celebrate and make something from a fandom you cherish. Recommended for ages 18 and up.

**Paper Possibilities**  
**Friday, February 26, 10:30–11:45 a.m.**  
 Imagine the possibilities: book structures are not only fun to make, but can be customized to display art, write stories and more.

**Opera Orlando presents The Secret River**  
**Saturday, February 27, 11 a.m.**  
 Explore the world of opera with this unique storytime. Learn about opera and hear songs from Opera Orlando's new commission of *The Secret River* by Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings.



## ART & DISPLAY

**Themers and Dreamers**  
 Orlando Public Library  
**On Display Through February 24**  
 Orange County Library System is proud to present an exhibition of artwork created by former and present employees of Orlando's theme park attractions in partnership with Downtown Arts District. To purchase artwork on display, visit [downtownartsdistrict.com/signature-gallery-downstairs](http://downtownartsdistrict.com/signature-gallery-downstairs).

**OCLS x StoryCorps**  
 North Orange Branch  
**On Display Through February**  
 In 2018, Orange County Library System customers and staff had their library memories recorded by StoryCorps. We commissioned local sketch artist Thomas Thorspecken to chronicle the event in his unique style. In this touring exhibit, you can view his art and listen to the corresponding story.

**WOMEN IN THE ARTS, INC.**

**CELEBRATING**  
*the Genius* **OF WOMEN**  
**ART EXHIBITION**  
**10 YEAR RETROSPECTIVE**

**COMING SOON:  
 CELEBRATING THE GENIUS OF WOMEN –  
 10 YEAR RETROSPECTIVE**  
 Orlando Public Library  
**On Display March 8–April 23**  
 View the works of past winners of the Annual Celebrating the Genius of Women art competition in this special exhibition.

# LANGUAGE LEARNING

## SPANISH CLASSES

**“Hola Amigos” – Spanish from Zero for Kids**  
 Mondays, February 1–22, 5 p.m.  
 This basic introduction to Spanish for kids includes pronunciation, greetings, short sentences, descriptions and vocabulary.

**Basic Spanish**  
 Tuesdays, February 2–23, 10:30 a.m.  
 Get an introduction to basic Spanish pronunciation, alphabet, sounds, syllables and vocabulary building.

**Spanish from Zero – Basics with Ms. Brenda**  
 Tuesdays, February 2–23, 4 p.m.  
 Come learn the basic sounds of Spanish with Ms. Brenda.

**Basic Spanish with Ms. Wilnelia**  
 Tuesdays, February 2–23, 6 p.m.  
 Ms. Wilnelia will introduce learners who speak little to no Spanish to the basics sounds of the language.

**Intermediate Spanish**  
 Wednesdays, February 3–24, 10:30 a.m.  
 Designed for intermediate Spanish speakers, build grammar by focusing on the parts of speech, verb conjugations, sentence structure and vocabulary building.

**Practica Spanish Conversation**  
 Wednesdays, February 3–24, 4 p.m.  
 Practica tu español! Develop your Spanish language skills through conversation. Conversational topics and themed vocabulary will be provided. Recommended for ages 18 and up.

**Spanish from Zero – Intermediate with Brenda**  
 Thursdays, February 4–25, 4 p.m.  
 Learn Spanish grammar with Ms. Brenda.

**Ask a Spanish Teacher**  
 Thursdays, February 4–25, 6 p.m.  
 Do you want more Spanish language exposure? Speak with Spanish teacher Ms. Brenda and practice your Spanish speaking skills.

**Cuentacuentos Kids – Frozen**  
 Wednesday, February 17, 4:30 p.m.  
 With the help of the characters from *Frozen II*, kids will learn how to introduce themselves, common greetings, the Spanish vowels and much more in this bilingual program. Recommended for ages 6–10.

**Spanish for Social Interactions**  
 Friday, February 26, 4 p.m.  
 Learn different Spanish idioms and phrases that are used to communicate on a daily basis.



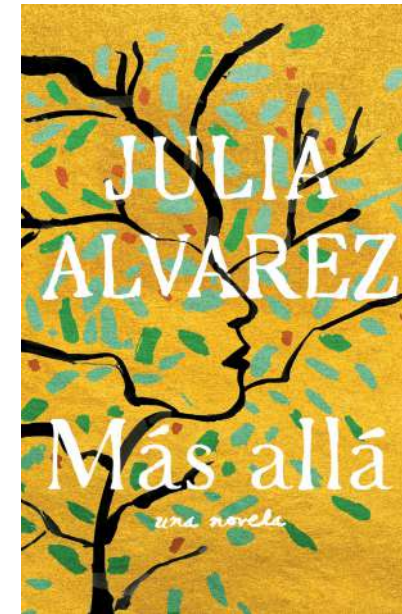
## ESOL

**English for Families**  
 Mondays, February 1–22, 5:30 p.m.  
 Wednesdays, February 3–24, 5:30 p.m.  
 In this family literacy program, practice reading with your child and learn English vocabulary for everyday use. This program meets twice per week for five weeks.

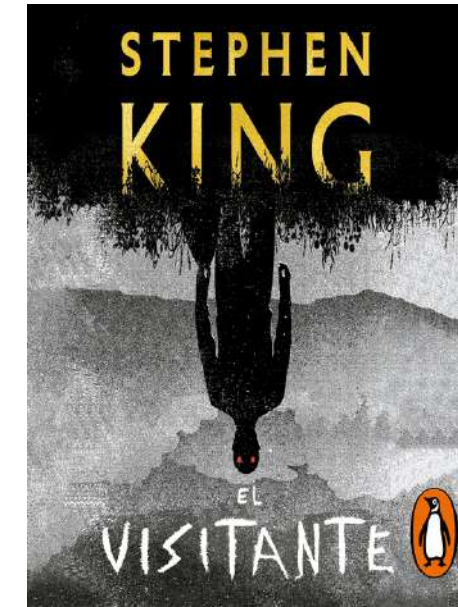
**Conversation Hour**  
 Tuesday, February 2, 6 p.m.  
 Practice your English speaking skills in a virtual conversation hour. Each session will have specific topics for discussion.

**English from Zero**  
 Thursday, February 4, 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.  
 Learn and talk about new basic English vocabulary associated with different topics.

# NUEVO EN LA BIBLIOTECA



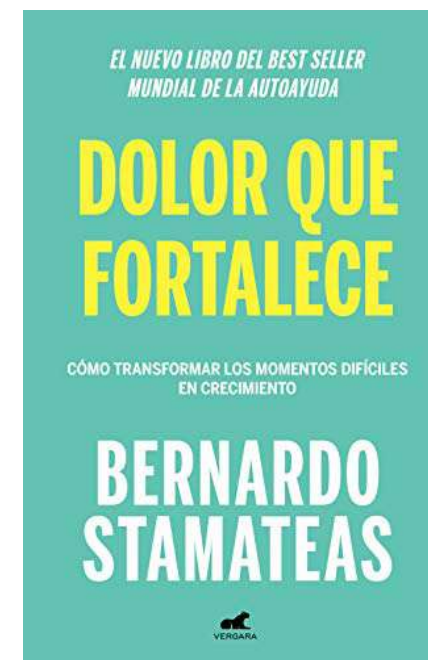
**Más Allá**  
 por Julia Alvarez  
 traducción de Mercedes Guhl  
 “Un retrato íntimo de una escritora inmigrante y reciente viuda que consigue sacar esperanza en medio de un luto personal y político.” – *O, The Oprah Magazine*.



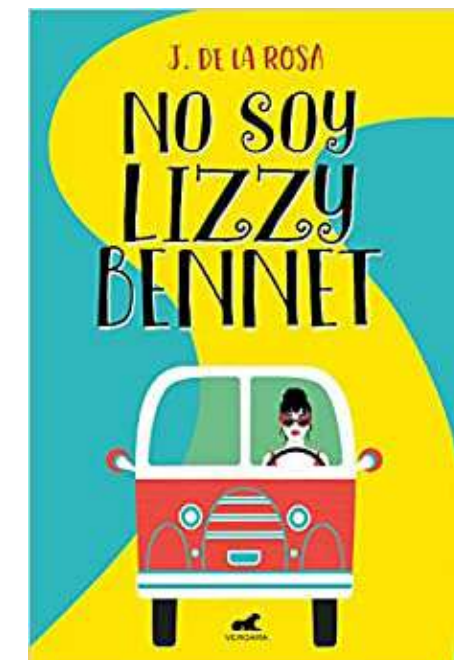
**El visitante**  
 por Stephen King  
 traducción de Carlos Milla Soler  
 Cuando se encuentra el cuerpo de un niño en el parque de la ciudad, el detective Ralph Anderson encuentra la evidencia y los testigos apuntando a uno de los ciudadanos más populares de la ciudad.



**El odio que das**  
 por Angie Thomas  
 Después de presenciar la muerte de su amigo a manos de un oficial de policía, la vida de Starr Carter se complica cuando la policía y un narcotraficante local intentan intimidarla en un esfuerzo por saber qué sucedió la noche en que murió Kahlil.



**Dolor que fortalece: cómo transformar los momentos difíciles en crecimiento**  
 por Bernardo Stamateas  
 El libro nuevo del autor de *Gente tóxica*, nos propone unas pautas esenciales para transformar el dolor en crecimiento.



**No soy Lizzy Bennet**  
 por J. de la Rosa  
*No soy Lizzy Bennet* es una invitación a ser uno mismo, a sobreponerse ante las adversidades, y a aceptar que la vida, si se observa atentamente, siempre tiene algo de magia con que sorprendernos.



## FIBER ARTS

### MINGLE IN MEETUPS

Have a great time mingling with other Central Florida fiber artists while working on your craft. Be sure to bring your work in progress, yarn and tools. All levels are welcome, recommended for adults.

**Knit and Crochet Meetup with Alafaya**  
Tuesdays, February 2–23, 6 p.m.

**Southwest Fiber Arts Meetup**  
Wednesdays, February 3–24, 10:30 a.m.–Noon

**Knit and Crochet Meetup**  
Wednesdays, February 3–24, 2–3:30 p.m.

### FALL IN LOVE WITH EMBROIDERY

Send your loved ones gifts with style. From decorations to valentines, add an embroidered touch to your Valentine's Day.

**Let's Embroider a Heart Garland**  
Friday, February 5, 4–5:30 p.m.

Create a fun embroidery project. Practice working with a pattern and felt while stitching a festive heart garland.

### Embroidered Valentines

Tuesday, February 9, 10–Noon

Create a unique Valentine's Day card for a special someone using basic embroidery stitches.

### Let's Embroider Candy Hearts

Friday, February 12, 4–5:30 p.m.

Practice working with a pattern and felt while stitching adorable conversation hearts and a heart box.

### Let's Embroider a

#### Doorknob Valentine Pocket

Friday, January 29, 4–5:30 p.m.

Create a fun embroidery project. Practice working with a pattern and felt while crafting an adorable doorknob pocket for sharing valentines at home!

### STITCH IT TOGETHER

Whether with a machine or by hand, master sewing with cute projects to keep you cozy on a cool night and organized all year round.

#### Sewing: Puff Pillow Quilt

Tuesdays, February 2–16, 10 a.m.–Noon

Create a fun and easy quilt. Perfect to cozy up with a good book.

#### Sewing: Cosmetic Case

Tuesday, February 2, 12:30–2:30 p.m.

Carry all your essentials on a trip with this fun and easy to make cosmetic case.

#### Hand Sewing:

##### Victorian Sewing Kit / Housewife

Thursdays, February 4–25, 2–3:15 p.m.

Learn basic hand sewing stitches and techniques to secure, hem and mend fabric.



## TECHNOLOGY

### QUICKBOOKS QUICK START

Get started using QuickBooks today! Our interactive classes will take you from opening the program for the first time to managing projects, clients and vendors with ease.

#### QuickBooks Pro Level 1

Monday, February 1, 9:30–11 a.m.

Thursday, February 4, 10:30 a.m.–Noon

Monday, February 15, 10:30 a.m.–Noon

Wednesday, February 17, 10–11:30 a.m.

Tuesday, February 23, 10:30 a.m.–Noon

Learn the basic features of QuickBooks to get you started in organizing your personal or business finances.

#### QuickBooks Pro Level 2

Monday, February 1, 11:15 a.m.–12:45 p.m.

Thursday, February 4, 12:15–1:45 p.m.

Monday, February 15, 12:15–1:45 p.m.

Wednesday, February 17, 11:45 a.m.–1:15 p.m.

Tuesday, February 23, 12:15–1:45 p.m.

Learn how to setup a new company profile including the Vendor Center, Customer Center and adding Items.

#### QuickBooks Pro Level 3

Tuesday, February 2, 9:30–11 a.m.

Thursday, February 4, 2:15–3:45 p.m.

Monday, February 15, 2:15–3:45 p.m.

Wednesday, February 17, 1:45–3:45 p.m.

Tuesday, February 23, 2:15–3:45 p.m.

Learn how to record different types of business transactions such as posting accounts payable and accounts receivable.

#### QuickBooks Pro Level 4

Tuesday, February 2, 11:15 a.m.–12:45 p.m.

Thursday, February 4, 4–5:30 p.m.

Monday, February 15, 4–5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, February 17, 3:30–5 p.m.

Tuesday, February 23, 4–5:30 p.m.

Learn how to add new employees, enter timesheets, setup employee benefits, setup payroll items, pay employees, process payroll forms and process payroll reports in QuickBooks.

### WOW WITH WORDPRESS

Create polished and professional websites with WordPress. Learn the ins-and-outs of everything from getting started to optimizing search engines to increase traffic to your site.

#### WordPress Level 1

Saturday, February 6, 10–11 a.m.

Friday, February 12, 10–11 a.m.

Learn how to build your own website. Start with WordPress, which offers lots of options for skinning your site the way you want it.

#### WordPress Level 2

Saturday, February 6, 11:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Friday, February 12, 11:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Create a website with WordPress. Customize the appearance and layout of your site to get the look you want by using a wide selection of free themes.

#### WordPress Level 3

Saturday, February 6, 12:45–1:45 p.m.

Friday, February 12, 12:45–1:45 p.m.

Learn how to use plugins and widgets to customize your site around your audience. Create interactive content to effectively engage your clients.

#### WordPress Level 4

Saturday, February 6, 2–3 p.m.

Friday, February 12, 2–3 p.m.

Learn how to turn your WordPress site into a Search Engine Optimization (SEO) powerhouse and protect your website from hackers.



### DESIGN DIGITAL ART

Wow audiences with interactive installations, game designs and art using Processing. In our classes, learn the basics of designing shapes with dazzling effects.

#### Programming for Digital Media Level 1

Saturday, February 13, 10–11 a.m.

Monday, February 15, 10–11 a.m.

Wednesday, February 24, 10–11 a.m.

Friday, February 26, 1–2 p.m.

Create graphics with a simple to use programming language. Processing is used to create data visualization programs, interactive media, 3D art and multimedia software.

#### Programming for Digital Media Level 2

Wednesday, February 24,

11:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Friday, February 26, 2:15–3:15 p.m.

Create interactive graphics with a simple to use programming language. Learn to program mouse interactions to add and change a shape's size, color and location.

## CUISINE CORNER

### Chicken Tikka Masala

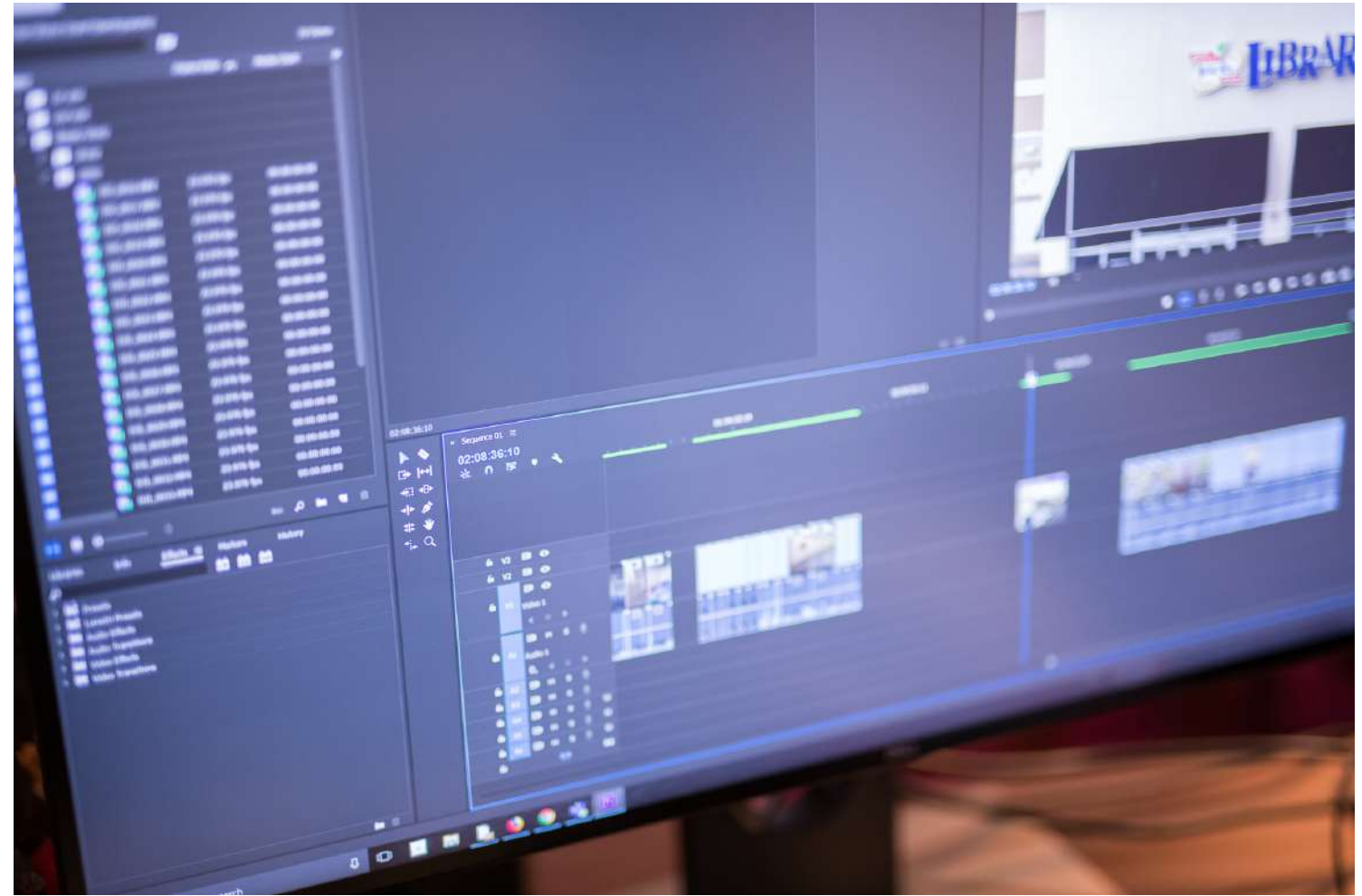
*Wednesday, February 10, 6:30 p.m.*

Culinary expert, Dianne Morin, demonstrates how to make a scrumptious step-by-step creamy chicken tikka masala.

### Heart Healthy

*Wednesday, February 17, 6 p.m.*

Yamira Lee Johnson, head chef and founder of Breaking Bread with Mira and certified holistic life coach, shows you how to make a heart healthy meal for the special people in your life.



## MELROSE CENTER

### Adobe Premiere Multi-Camera Editing

*Wednesday, February 10, 10–11:30 a.m.*

Using footage from the Melrose Center's *Reel to Real Podcast* video, we perform a demo of how to mark up and sync up clips to use in a multi-camera sequence.

### Video Editing with HitFilm Express

*Wednesday, February 10, Noon*

Introduction to HitFilm Express, a free software with professional effects to edit videos.

### Personalize a 3D Printed Valentine Rose

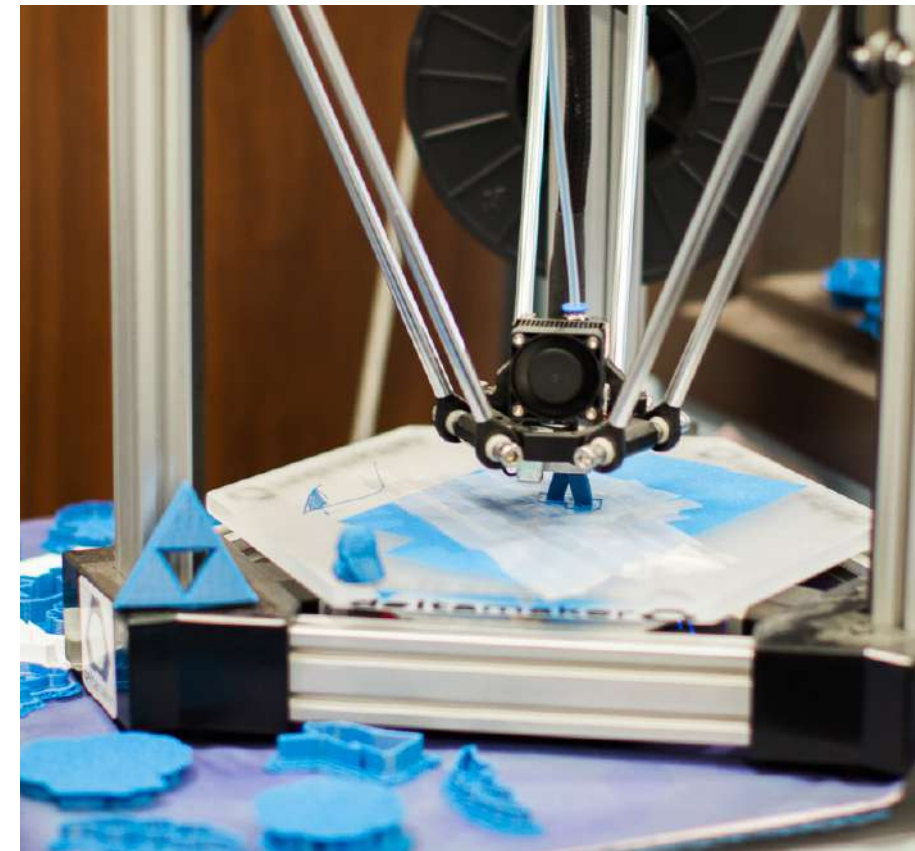
*Saturday, February 13, 11 a.m.*

Personalize a unique gift for your valentine! This class will ease you into the world of 3D printing with free software that's easy to use.

### Audio Recording Techniques for Guitar

*Friday, February 19, 2–3:30 p.m.*

Record it right the first time. Understand the workings of guitars, isolate the best sound and use techniques to capture the perfect sound.





## DIY FILM FESTIVAL: VALENTINE'S DAY

by Mike Donohue, Community Outreach Coordinator

“The sight of lovers feedeth those in love”

– William Shakespeare, *As You Like It*

It's February, again, which means love is all around us. Typically, Valentine's Day is defined by roses and chocolates. But in the Florida heat, flowers wilt and chocolate melts. So instead, why not get your significant other something more permanent? Say, the lasting memory of time spent watching a romantic movie specially selected from Orange County Library System's free home delivery and streaming collections. After all, why break the bank going to an expensive dinner, when you can make the more conscientious and frugal decision to just Hoopla and Hang, Kanopy and Canoodle, or even Library DVD and Liaise?

### **High Fidelity** (DVD)

In a list about romance movies, it seems fitting to include a romance movie about lists. *High Fidelity* stars John Cusack as record store owner, Rob (not Lloyd Dobbler), reaching out to former girlfriends after a particularly devastating dumping. The movie's structure hinges on Rob's compulsion to collate everything in to "Top 5" lists, from favorite films, to "desert island, all time, top five most memorable breakups." *High Fidelity* is particularly ideal for those who suffer from an overabundance of useless pop culture knowledge, but there's enough sardonic wit to please anyone who's had their heart broken.

### **Little Italy** (DVD, Hoopla)

Let's be clear about this up front: *Little Italy* is not a good movie. In fact, it's objectively terrible. But there is an undeniable charm in how consistently terrible the film is. So much so, that it makes for an excellent date night experience. This movie has it all: dubious attempts at questionable Italian accents, nonexistent chemistry between the two romantic leads (Emma Roberts stares at Hayden Christensen with a disdain that suggests he owes her money), confusing dialogue, and pizza. Lots and lots of pizza.

### **Beginners** (DVD)

We've included *Beginners* as a selection in our DIY Film Festival section before, but the film's uplifting message about never being too old to start over, or the way it challenges the bygone notions of how society defined love, makes it deserving of another mention. With artful direction, and a career performance from Christopher Plummer, *Beginners* hits all the right notes. And while the film is unmistakably a romantic comedy, it's packaged in such a way that even the most cynical viewer may not mind.

### **Paris, Je T'Aime** (DVD, Kanopy, Hoopla)

Famed directors including Wes Craven, Joel and Ethan Coen, Alfonso Cuaron, Gus Van Sant, and many, many more, helm short vignettes that make up this anthology film about the titular city of love. The film's exuberance is matched only by its creative artistry, and the sugared and comedic perspectives on love make *Paris, Je T'Aime* a perfect Valentine's Day watch. The film's spiritual, and more domestic successor, *New York, I Love You*, is also available for check out through Hoopla.

### **Seemingly Every Lifetime Christmas Movie Ever** (Hoopla)

Not quite ready for the holidays to be over? That's alright, neither is Lifetime. And with your library card, you have instant access to an expansive catalog of their holiday-themed romance movies. I haven't seen many of these as, true to Lifetime's name, it would take the course of my natural life to watch all of them, but my understanding is you more or less know what you're in for: Girl meets boy. Boy meets girl. Boy's family opens rival pizza place next door. Wait, that's *Little Italy*...

Either way, sometimes it's comforting to know a story ends happily ever after before you even begin, and in that case, these films are like a nice, warm blanket for two.

These titles and more are available for home delivery through the library's DVD Vault.

ALL CLASSES AND PROGRAMS ARE CURRENTLY VIRTUAL. CLICK LINKS IN THIS LISTING FOR DETAILS.

## VALENTINE'S DAY

### CHILDREN'S EVENTS

#### **Woven Paper Heart Basket**

*Tuesday, February 2, 2:30 p.m.*

Make a woven paper heart basket that can be filled with treats to give to your valentine. Recommended for families.

#### **Valentine Escape Game**

*Fridays, February 5 & 19, 4:30 p.m.*

Join us for a Valentine's Day themed escape room filled with candy, a chocolate factory and a fun filled adventure. Recommended for ages 6–12.

#### **Count on Me**

*Tuesday, February 9, 10:30 a.m.*

How much do I love you? Let's count the ways! Use simple math counting exercises to show what's in your heart. Recommended for ages 3–5.

#### **Cuisine Corner Junior: Valentine Rice Krispies Treats**

*Wednesday, February 10, 4 p.m.*

Learn how to turn a classic delight into your next Valentine's Day treat! Recommended for ages 9–12.

#### **Science of Love**

*Thursday, February 11, 4 p.m.*

We may not be making love potions, but this event is sure to get your heart beating with fun science experiments and STEAM challenges. Recommended for ages 6–12.

#### **Love Monster Storytime & Craft**

*Friday, February 12, 11 a.m.*

Enjoy a Valentine's Day storytime and follow along craft inspired by the book *Love Monster* by Rachel Bright. Recommended for ages 3–5.

#### **Cute as Cupid Makeup Tutorial**

*Friday, February 12, 3 p.m.*

Time to get cute with cupid as we create a Valentine's Day-inspired look that is sure to be fun and flattering. Learn fun facts about one of the most popular love myths as we get cute. Recommended for ages 13–18.

#### **Valentine Origami**

*Friday, February 12, 4 p.m.*

Cut, fold and paste your way to the cutest valentines ever! Recommended for ages 13–18.

### ADULT EVENTS

#### **Stress Buster Art: Paper Mosaic Heart**

*Tuesday, February 9, 10:30–11:45 a.m.*

A relaxing and stress buster art adventure where you can create a paper mosaic heart craft. Recommended for ages 18 and up.

#### **Valentine's Day Origami**

*Monday, February 15, 4 p.m.*

Celebrate love of all and love of self as we cut, fold and paste beautiful origami hearts for the ones you love. Recommended for ages 13 and up.

#### **Calligraphy Projects for Valentine's Day**

*Monday, February 8, 11 a.m.*

Get ready for Valentine's day by joining Lynda Chandler, calligraphy instructor, as she demonstrates how to make simple and creative projects using calligraphy.



# WRITERS CORNER



## How to Parse Writing Feedback

Saturday, February 6, 2 p.m.

Receiving feedback is vital to a successful career as a writer. Author Kritika H. Rao will discuss what to do when you receive differing feedback and how to keep the core of your story as you revise.

## OCLS Writer's Group

Sunday, February 14, 4 p.m.

Join your fellow writers for critique, discussion and camaraderie. Writers of all genres and experience are welcome. Please attend one meeting before submitting a piece for critique.

## Writing Workshop:

### Avoid the Sophomore Slump

Tuesday, February 16, 7 p.m.

You've written one book that is ready to go; what's next? Author Brandon Goode will discuss choosing and writing your next project and what you should be doing while you're waiting for the next step.

## Creating Successful Book Proposals

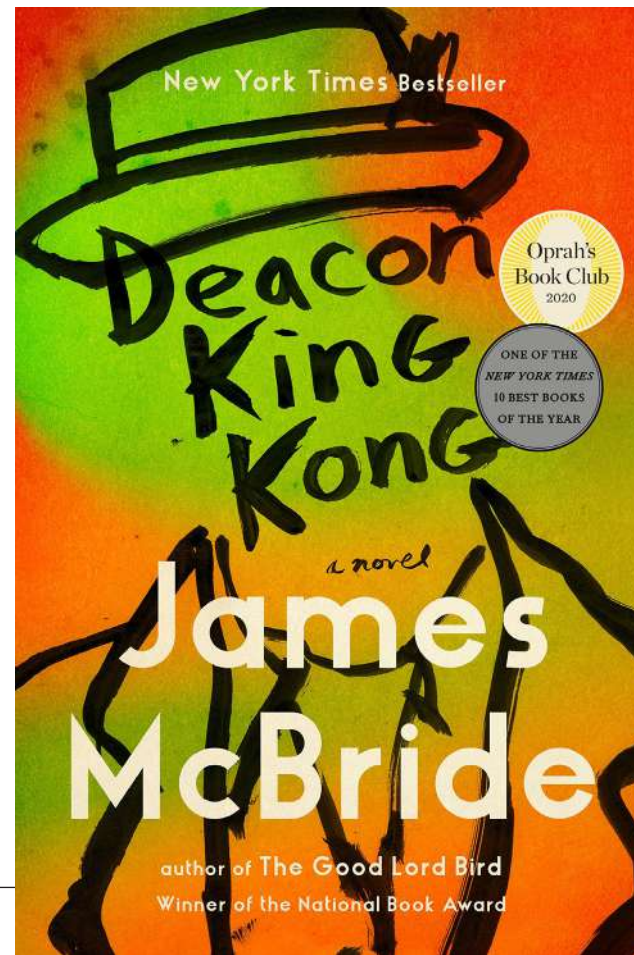
Saturday, February 20, 2–3:30 p.m.

Editor Allison Lane will share how to develop a compelling book proposal, the required element to submitting your book to literary agents and publishers. All genres are welcome.

## Putting the Sci in Sci-Fi

Sunday, February 21, 2–3:30 p.m.

Author Premea Mohamed will discuss science-fiction idea generation, vetting scientific research, extrapolating ideas, creating a narrative from a premise, themes, tone and trends.



## BOOK CLUBS

### Southeast Book Club

Monday, February 8, 7 p.m.

Discuss this month's book selection, *Deacon King Kong: A Novel* by James McBride. In the aftermath of a 1969 Brooklyn church deacon's public shooting of a local drug dealer, the community's African American and Latinx witnesses find unexpected support from each other when they are targeted by violent mobsters.

### Tertulia Cuatro Gatos

Wednesdays, February 10 & 24, 4:30 p.m.

A Spanish-language book club that discusses literature, art, music and more related to Latin American culture.

### Alafaya Book Club

Thursday, February 11, 7 p.m.

This club's February selection is *The Jane Austen Society* by Natalie Jenner. A group of disparate bibliophiles bands together in the small English village of Chawton in the hopes of restoring the final home of Jane Austen, revealing their respective losses along the way.

### Winter Garden Book Club

Thursday, February 25, 6 p.m.

Join us as we discuss *A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman. A curmudgeon hides a terrible personal loss beneath a cranky and short-tempered exterior while clashing with new neighbors, a boisterous family whose chattiness and habits lead to unexpected friendship.



## READ TO UNDERSTAND: PEACE & TRUST

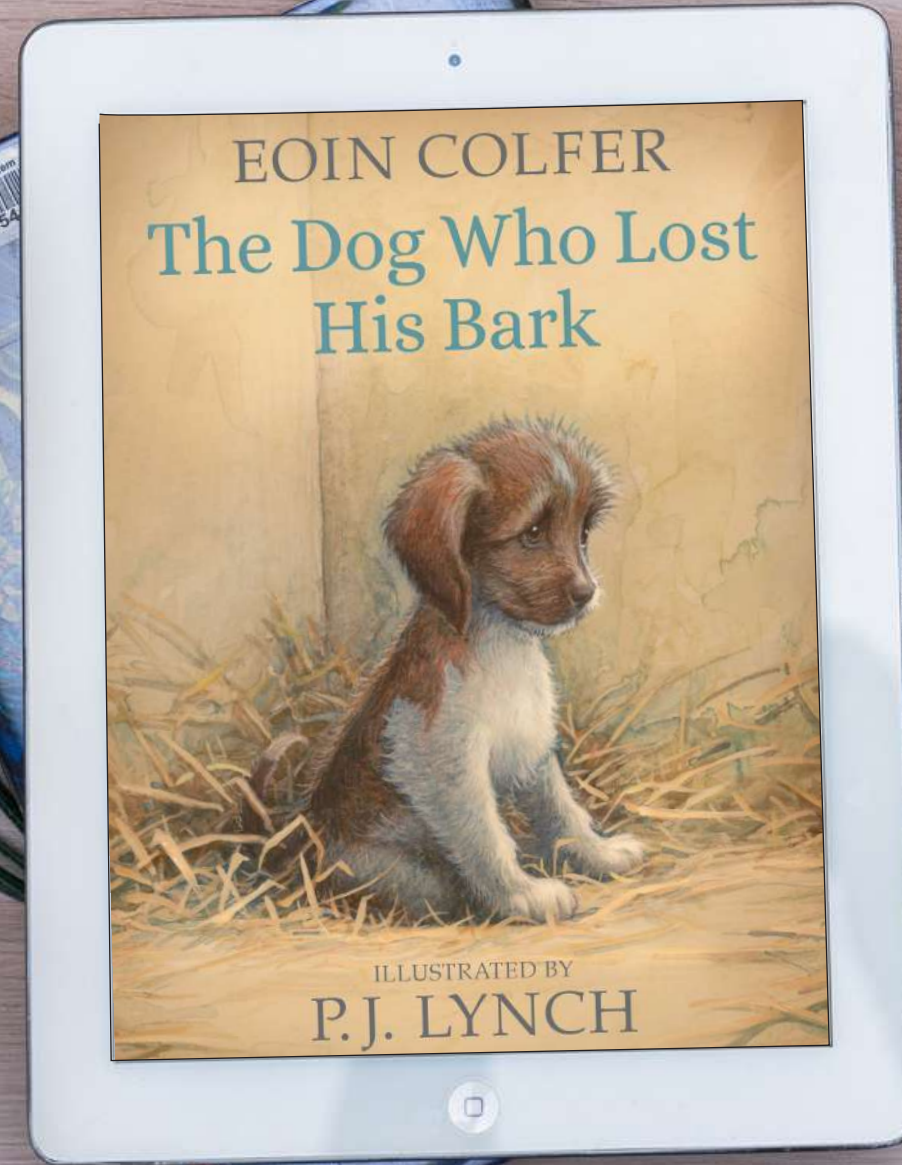
### *The Dog Who Lost His Bark* by Eion Colfer, illustrated by P.J. Lynch

This month in our Read to Understand: Peace & Trust book series we explore a title for young audiences that has lessons for any age.

*The Dog Who Lost His Bark* is an uplifting story of a boy named Patrick who adopts a rescue dog. Oz, as Patrick names the puppy, has had a rough go of it in his short life and Patrick must work to gain his trust, which takes patience, ingenuity and, as it turns out, the healing power of music. Their budding relationship helps Patrick deal with challenges in his own life, as he struggles to understand why his father is distancing himself from the family.

The book is a first-time collaboration between two Irish Children's Laureates. Readers will no doubt recognize Colfer as the best-selling author of the *Artemis Fowl* series. Lynch is perhaps best known for his award-winning illustrations in *The Christmas Miracle of Jonathan Toomey* by Susan Wojciechowski.

*Read to Understand: Peace & Trust* is a year-long series in recognition of the International Year of Peace & Trust as designated by the United Nations.





# 5 Questions with Beverly Jenkins

by Scottie Campbell, Marketing Specialist



Beverly Jenkins is a bestselling author of historical and contemporary romance novels, most often focusing on 19<sup>th</sup> Century African American life. She has received multiple awards including the 2017 Nora Roberts Lifetime Achievement Award from Romance Writers of America – her moving and inspiring acceptance speech can be found on her website. Beverly was also featured in the documentary *Love Between the Covers*, a look into the billion-dollar romance fiction industry, which you can watch on Hoopla.

Orange County Library System is honored to welcome Beverly Jenkins as the opening keynote speaker for this year's African American Read-In.

## Why did you decide to participate in the African American Read-In?

I decided to participate in the OCLS's 2021 African American Read-In because I wouldn't be the author I am today were it not for the Mark Twain Library on Detroit's eastside. It fed my love for reading.

## For readers who might be new to your writing, which book would you recommend starting with and why?

If I were to recommend a book to begin with, I'd pick *Topaz* for those who like historical romance, because there are very few African American centered westerns and it's fun! For a more modern day read, I'd choose *Bring on the Blessings*. It deals with found families, adoption and second chances in a small historic African American town on the plains of Kansas, and has been embraced by readers of all races, ages and genders.

## In your historical fiction, you include a bibliography; what inspired you to include these lists?

I include the bibliography so readers wanting to dig deeper into the subject matter have a place to begin their search.

**I'd tell them to think of their card as a free ticket to travel to far off places ...**

## If you were giving advice to a novice romance writer, what is one thing you would advise them not to do?

I'd advise a new romance writer not to go into the writing with the thought that one, it's easy to write a romance, and two, that all the author has to include are love scenes.

## Libraries have played a significant role in your life, starting with your mom, an avid reader. And you were a librarian at one time. What would you say to a young person who hasn't discovered their library yet?

To a young person who has yet to discover the library, I'd tell them to think of their card as a free ticket to travel to far off places, meet fascinating people and go on amazing adventures, all without leaving home.

To learn more about Beverly Jenkins, visit her website at [beverlyjenkins.net](http://beverlyjenkins.net).

## AFRICAN AMERICAN READ-IN SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2-3:30 P.M.

Celebrate African American literature in poetry, story, and song, performed by local luminaries in conjunction with the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual National African American Read-In. This year's Read-In will be hosted live virtually on the library's Facebook and YouTube pages.

## FEATURED GUEST SPEAKERS



### Closing Keynote Speaker: Dr. Carla Hayden

14<sup>th</sup> Librarian of Congress  
Dr. Carla Hayden is the first woman and the first African American to serve as the Librarian of Congress. She was nominated to the position by President Barack Obama in 2016.

Jazmin Bailey  
Talia Blake  
City Commissioner Bakari Burns  
Jaylen Christie  
Mayor Jerry Demings  
Representative Val Demings  
Ginger Gadsen  
Nkosinathi (Nathi) Gcabashe  
Renita Hunt  
Johnny Magic  
Erika Pulley-Hayes  
Carl Maultsby  
Ricardo Williams

Line-up is subject to change, visit [ocls.info/read-in](http://ocls.info/read-in) for updates.

### CHILDREN & FAMILY EVENTS

**Black History Cards**  
North Orange Branch  
February 1–27

Kids can visit North Orange Branch to pick up fun fact cards. Use research skills to find more facts about each influential Black American and complete the card. For every card returned, you will win a small prize. The more cards you turn in, the more chances you have at winning the raffle at the end of this special event.

**Homeschool Meetup: Scoop!**  
Monday, February 1, 1 p.m.

Get the scoop on African American inventors and discover common household items invented to make our lives easier including Alfred L. Cralle's ice cream scoop. Recommended for ages 6–12.

**Motown Music**  
Wednesday, February 3, 10 a.m.

Bring your family on down to Motown Music! Move and groove together with activities, rhymes and a storytime related to the first Black-owned record company in the U.S. Recommended for ages 18–36 months.

**Little Chef:**  
**Red Light, Green Light**  
Wednesday, February 3, 2 p.m.

Red means stop, green means go! Learn about African American inventor Garrett Morgan and his creation of the traffic light through food. Recommended for ages 3–5.

**Look, I'm a Scientist**  
Thursday, February 4, 2 p.m.

You don't need a white coat and a fancy lab to be a scientist. You already have all you need: your brain and amazing senses. This month we'll learn about Black scientists. Recommended for ages 3–5.

**Homeschool Meetup: 10 Unsung Heroes of Black History**  
Mondays, February 8 & 15, 1 p.m.

Celebrate Black History Month by learning about 10 overlooked, but substantial Black heroes in American history.

**Freedom Quilt**  
Saturday, February 13, 10 a.m.

Learn how quilt patterns became messages that may have helped slaves travel the Underground Railroad and create your own patchwork square. Recommended for families.

**Black History Month Bingo**  
Monday, February 15, 4 p.m.

Celebrate Black History Month with a few rounds of themed bingo. Recommended for families with children ages 6–8.

**Princess and the Frog Storytime**  
Tuesday, February 16, 1 p.m.

Let's go down to New Orleans and celebrate Tianna, Naveen, Louis and Ray with culture-inspired stories, songs and crafts. Recommended for ages 3–5.

**Motown Movin'**  
Tuesday, February 16, 3 p.m.

In honor of Black History Month, bring your family on down to Motown. Move and groove with drop in activities related to the first black-owned record company in the U.S. Recommended for families.

**Kamala Harris: Superheroes Are Everywhere**  
Wednesday, February 17, 11 a.m.

There were superheroes everywhere in Vice President Kamala Harris's life. Can you find them in yours? Recommended for ages 3–5.

**Alma Thomas Art**  
Wednesday, February 17, 2:30 p.m.

Honor African American artist Alma Thomas and create your own colorful abstract work of art. Recommended for ages 9–12.

**Influential Black Poets & Artists**  
Friday, February 19, 4 p.m.

Explore a history of Black poets and artists that have left their mark on today's world and learn how to make your own beautiful art inspired by poetry from books, magazines and more. Recommended for ages 13–18.

**A Trip to Africa**  
Saturday, February 20, 11 a.m.

Celebrate Black History Month through stories, music and activities. Get creative with color as we make paper kente cloth. Recommended for families with children ages 4 and up.

**Basquiat Art**  
Saturday, February 20, 3 p.m.

Learn about artist Jean-Michel Basquiat and create your own piece of modern art in his style. Recommended for families with children ages 6 and up.

**Homeschool Meetup: Masai Animal Masks**  
Monday, February 22, 1 p.m.

Listen to a story and create original artwork based on Masai tribal costume masks. Recommended for ages 6–12.

**Black History Science Smart**  
Tuesday, February 23, 3 p.m.

A celebration of Black scientists and inventors with facts and challenges. Recommended for ages 9–12.

**Get Creative & Learn: Kente Cloths and Zora Neale Hurston**  
Tuesday, February 23, 4 p.m.

Craft your own paper-weaved Kente cloths and discover their history as we learn more about Zora Neale Hurston. Recommended for ages 6–12.

**Black History Jeopardy!**  
Wednesday, February 24, 4:30 p.m.

Put your knowledge to the test in this interactive *Jeopardy!* game where you'll learn who's who in categories such as Civil Rights, Authors, Science and more. Recommended for ages 9–12.

**Art From the Heart**  
Thursday, February 25, 4 p.m.

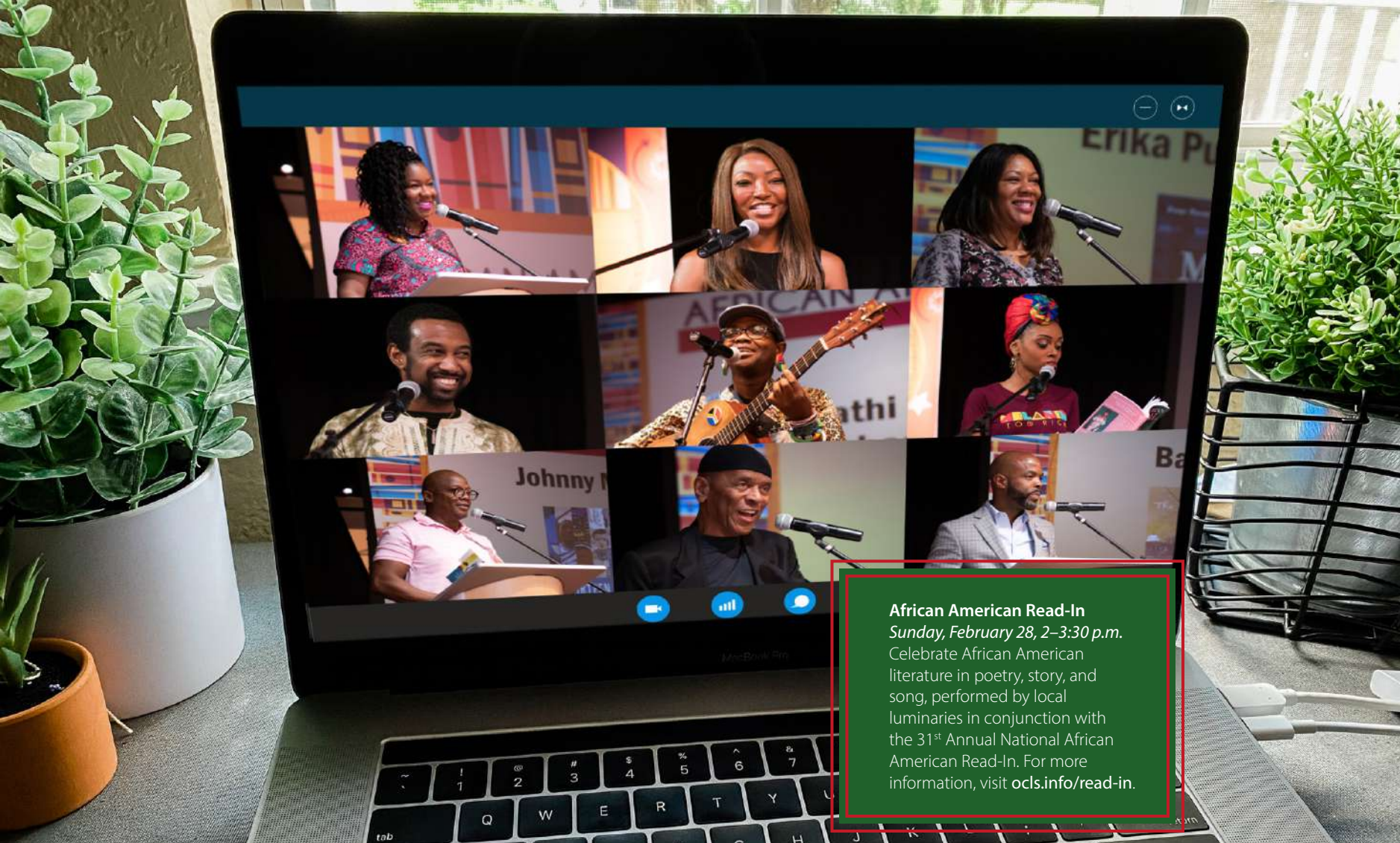
Clementine Hunter was a famous self-talk folk artist whose paintings captured scenes of joyous celebrations. Learn about her inspiring life and create a beautiful art pieces using her techniques. Recommended for families.

**Recycling Bin Rockets**  
Friday, February 26, 4 p.m.

Choose your materials, create your design and build your own rocket while learning about historical Black figures that helped engineer our adventures in space. Recommended for ages 6–8.

**Cuisine Corner Junior: Edna Lewis' Apple Crisp**  
Saturday, February 27, 2 p.m.

Discover the life of Southern chef Edna Lewis and create a no-bake apple crisp inspired by her farm to table recipe. Recommended for ages 6–12.



**African American Read-In**  
Sunday, February 28, 2–3:30 p.m.  
Celebrate African American literature in poetry, story, and song, performed by local luminaries in conjunction with the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual National African American Read-In. For more information, visit [ocls.info/read-in](https://ocls.info/read-in).

# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

### ADULT EVENTS

**Multicultural Hair-Care Management**

*Saturday, February 6, 11 a.m.*  
Explore how to properly detangle tresses with and without hair tools. Also, you will learn about moisturizing 101 for those with curly, coily and kinky tresses.

**Rock The Wrap: Headwrap Styling Workshop**

*Saturday, February 20, 11 a.m.*  
This educational and interactive experience provides step-by-step instruction of headwrap styling techniques. Learn about the significance and history of headwrapping.

**Cuisine Corner: Black-Eyed Pea Salad**

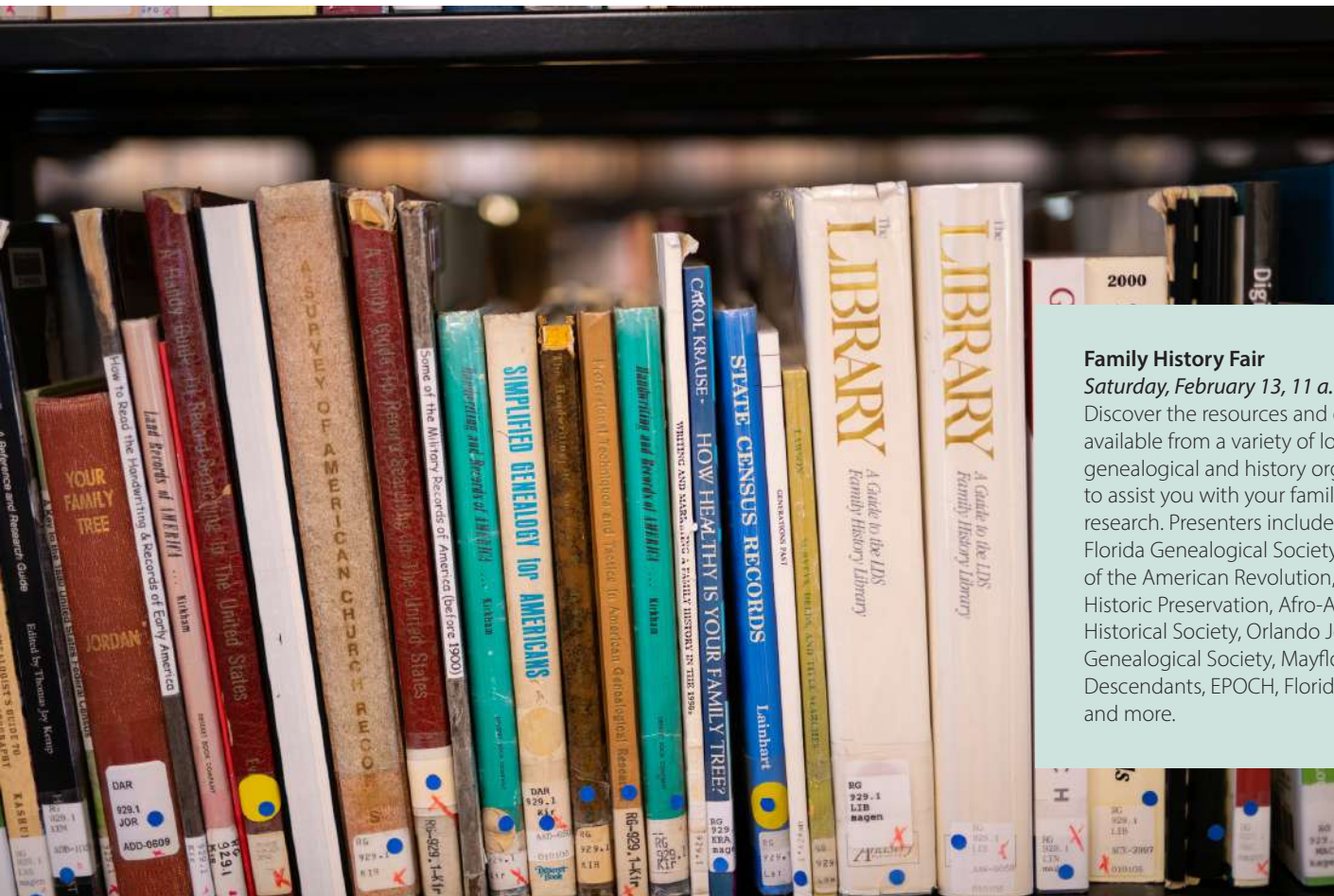
*Monday, February 22, 6:30 p.m.*  
Black-eyed peas have always been a staple throughout Southern cuisine. Hebni Nutrition will demonstrate a new twist on this popular legume.

**Online African American Genealogy Research**

*Wednesday, February 24, 6:30 p.m.*  
Explore and learn about key internet resources and databases for researching your African American ancestors.

**Nathi Gcabashe**  
*Friday, February 12, 7 p.m.*  
Experience a live concert from the comfort of your home. Watch Grammy-nominated musician Nathi Gcabashe perform original music. Nathi is a singer, songwriter, guitarist and record producer from Durban, South Africa.





**Family History Fair**  
*Saturday, February 13, 11 a.m.*  
Discover the resources and events available from a variety of local genealogical and history organizations to assist you with your family history research. Presenters include Central Florida Genealogical Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, Ocoee Historic Preservation, Afro-American Historical Society, Orlando Jewish Genealogical Society, Mayflower Descendants, EPOCH, Florida Memory and more.

## GENEALOGY

### Utilizing the General Register Office Records

*Tuesday, February 2, 1 p.m.*

The GRO oversees civil registration in England and Wales maintaining records of all births, marriages and deaths dating back to 1837. Learn how to utilize this resource in your genealogical research.

### Ancestors' Stories in Newspapers

*Wednesday, February 3, 6:30 p.m.*

Explore how you can use newspapers to expand your family history research and learn more about your ancestors.

### Genealogy Myths and Legends

*Thursday, February 4, Noon*

Family stories that are handed down from generation to generation are a wonderful thing – but beware! Explore common family legends and the nuggets of truth behind them.

### DNA Techniques Leads & McGuire Methods

*Tuesday, February 9, 1 p.m.*

Learn how to utilize these genealogy problem-solving methods and see how they can help you with your DNA analysis.

### Hard to Find Ancestors

*Wednesday, February 10, 6:30 p.m.*

Discuss techniques you can use to find your ancestors even if they didn't leave a large trail of records behind.

### Getting the Most out of Census Records

*Saturday, February 13, 1 p.m.*

Learn about what information is contained in each of the censuses and discover how to use all of the various bits of information from the census as clues to further your research.

### Key Websites for Genealogy Research

*Saturday, February 13, 3 p.m.*

Familiarize yourself with the core genealogical websites and explore the similarities and differences between them.

### Researching in Newfoundland

*Tuesday, February 16, 1 p.m.*

Explore the rich research resources and collections that are held in a variety of archives and repositories in Newfoundland, Canada. Discover what records are available and how to use them.

### Get Your Genealogy Research Organized!

*Wednesday, February 17, 6:30 p.m.*

This program will teach you how to organize your genealogical files so you can ensure success with your family history research.

### Family Tree Guide to DNA Testing Study Group

*Thursdays, February 18 & 25, Noon*

Our genetic genealogy study group will show you how DNA test results can help to confirm, extend and deepen your genealogical research.

### DNA & Genealogy, An Introduction

*Tuesday, February 23, 1 p.m.*

Learn the basics of genetic genealogy and how DNA testing can supplement your traditional genealogical research. Explore the different types of tests that are available.

## JOBSEEKERS

For more jobseeker classes, visit [ocls.info/jobseekers](https://ocls.info/jobseekers).

### Career Academy: Perfecting Your Resume

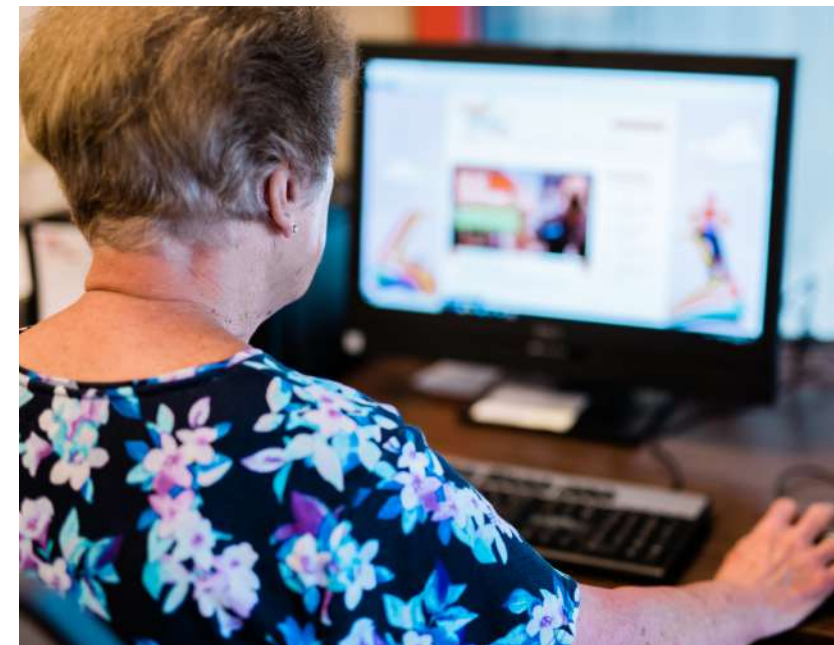
*Tuesdays, February 2, 9 & 23, 1:30 p.m.*

Get noticed! Elevate your job application with best practices in crafting a resume and cover letter.

### Career Academy: Interview Like a Pro

*Tuesday, February 16, 1:30 p.m.*

You've landed an interview! Now what? Get tips that will help you to practice and prepare, and to write a memorable thank you letter.



## NEXT CHAPTER

### Serie de Seminaries Para Personas Mayores:

#### Asuntos Legales

*miércoles, 10 de febrero, 10:30 a.m.*

Esta sesión es para aprender sobre asuntos legales. Temas incluyen: directivas, testamentos y fideicomisos. Este evento se presenta en español.

#### Aging at Home

*Wednesday, February 17, 10:30 a.m.*

Aging in place is a preference for many of us. Experts will discuss home health care and how to prevent falls. Learn valuable information on how to maintain independence.

#### Health and Wellness Gems

*Thursday, February 18, 12:10 p.m.*

Discover the community-oriented educational seminars and series that help you stay healthy through better nutrition, management of chronic diseases and reducing stress. This seminar is part of the monthly LIFE Information for Elders series.

## CITIZENSHIP INSPIRED

### Citizenship Inspired

*Thursdays, February 4–25, 3–4:30 p.m.*

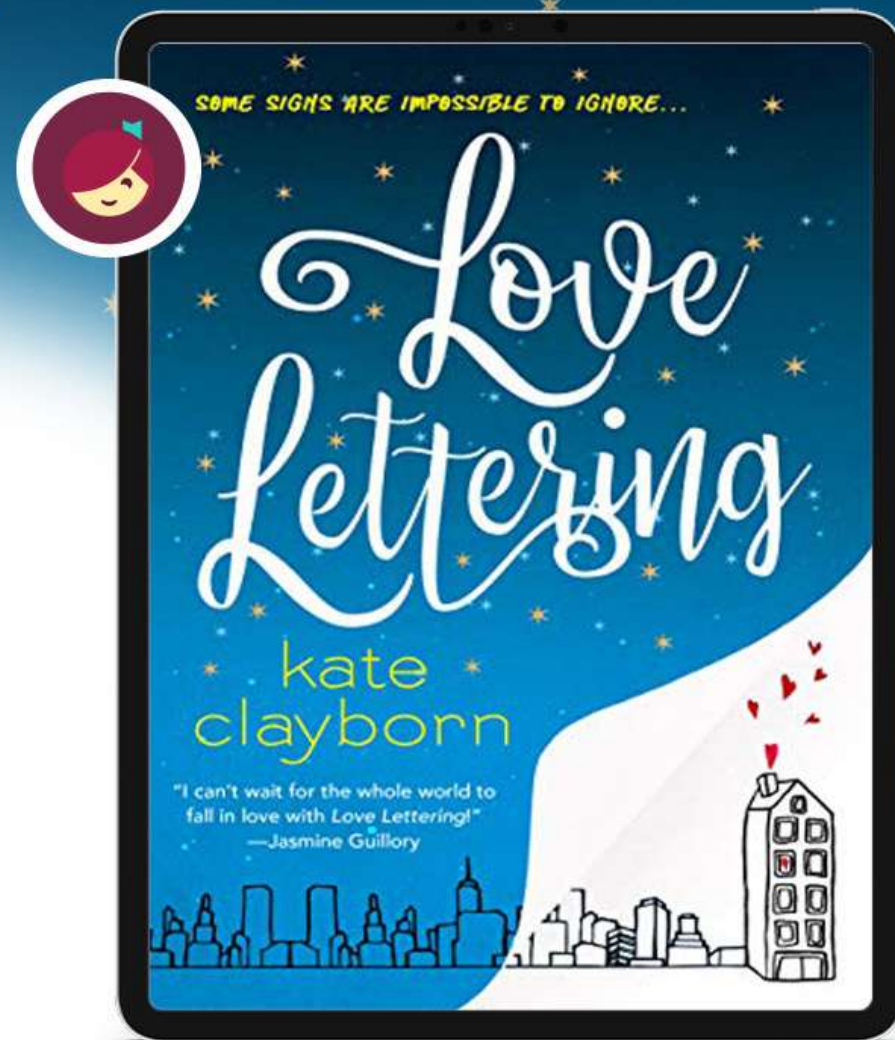
During this four-class program, students will meet to prepare for the U.S. Naturalization Test and Interview.



# Read on Libby.

The one-tap reading app from your local library.

February 10 - 24, 2021



### Genealogy Curriculum Ideas for Homeschoolers

Thursday, February 11, 11 a.m.  
Bring history alive by learning ways that you can incorporate genealogy into your home school curriculum. Recommended for ages 18 and up.

## K-12 LEARNING AT HOME & HOMESCHOOL

### Wild Earth: Our Oceans

Wednesday, February 3, 2 p.m.  
Engage in experiments that test our natural world. Learn about animals, conservation and the sciences about the Earth. Recommended for ages 6-12.

### Homeschool Junior: Red, Yellow, Blue, I Love You

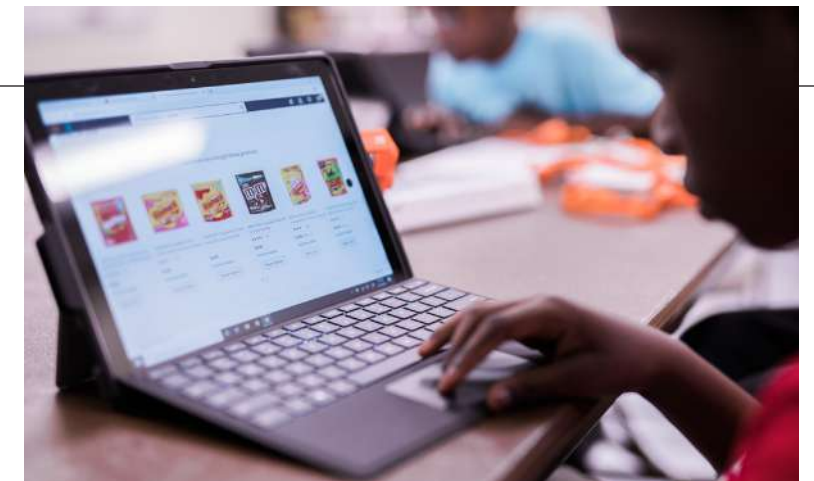
Wednesday, February 10, 11 a.m.  
Kick start your little one's education with Homeschool Junior. Join us for a storytime and activities all about basic concepts. Recommended for homeschoolers ages 3-5.

### Super Science: How Does Slime Work?

Wednesday, February 17, 2 p.m.  
Each month we will conduct awesome experiments, learning all about chemistry, physics and more. Recommended for ages 6-12.

### Homeschool Junior: Going Places

Wednesday, February 24, 11 a.m.  
Kick start your little one's education with Homeschool Junior. Join us for a storytime and activities all about basic concepts. Recommended for homeschoolers ages 3-5.



## BIZKIDS CLUB ONLINE

### BizKids Club Online

Tuesdays & Thursdays, February 9-March 4, 5-6:30 p.m.  
Ready to become an entrepreneur? Join the BizKids Club, an instructor-led virtual program that introduces students ages 9-14 to the world of business and entrepreneurship. Engage in fun interactive activities to create a business plan, design marketing materials and pitch your business idea.

## MODERN PARENTING

### Family Zumba

Saturday, February 13, 11 a.m.

Get your family moving with this energizing workout class! Learn basic Zumba moves to help you dance your way to fitness. Zumba uses dance aerobics to create a fun workout.

### Every Child Ready to Read Caregiver Workshop

Saturday, February 13, 2 p.m.

Learn about five early literacy practices as well as tips, tricks and resources to help your child strengthen important pre-reading skills. Recommended for adults who care for children ages 0-5.

### Happy Drum

Monday, February 15, 6 p.m.

Enjoy a music therapy wellness class that includes improvisation methods, meditative soundscapes and relaxation techniques which bring us to a place of deep connection to mindfulness.



## FAMILY

### Lunar New Year Craft

Friday, February 12, 3:30 p.m.

Learn some traditions and superstitions of the Lunar New Year. Make a lucky fish for a prosperous New Year.

### First Pets

Monday, February 15, 3 p.m.

A funny and furry look at the pets that have lived in the White House. Recommended for families.

### Perseverance Touchdown!

Thursday, February 18, 3 p.m.

The Mars Rover Perseverance will be touching down on Mars at 3:40 p.m., February 18. Join us as we learn about its mission and watch part of the NASA livestream! Recommended for ages 8-18.



## BABY (Ages 0-18 Months)

### Mama Gansa

Mondays, February 1-22, 10 a.m.

A Spanish immersion Mother Goose on the Loose with interactive songs, rhymes and activities to grow your baby's early literacy and Spanish skills.

### Tiny Tales

Tuesdays, February 2 & 16, 10:30 a.m.

Thursdays, February 4-18, 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, February 6-27, 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday, February 9, 10 a.m.

Fridays, February 12-26, 10:30 a.m.

Thursday, February 25, 10 a.m.

The rhythm and repetition of nursery rhymes are used to introduce young children to literature. Hold your child in your lap and enjoy this special time together.

### Mother Goose On The Loose

Wednesdays, February 3-24, 10:30 a.m.

Using rhymes, songs, puppets, musical instruments and more, we will be interacting together to help develop important pre-literacy skills in our littlest ones.

### Baby Bash

Friday, February 5, 10 a.m.

Sing, play and work on developing motor skills during this fun storytime.



### Baby Florida Animals

Tuesday, February 23, 10:30 a.m.

Songs, stories, rhymes and activities about baby Florida animals.



## TODDLER (Ages 18-36 Months)

### Toddler Time

Mondays, February 1-22, 10 a.m.

Friday, February 5, 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, February 6, 20 & 27, 10 a.m.

Wednesday, February 10 & 24, 10 a.m.

Tuesday, February 16, 2 p.m.

Fridays, February 19 & 26, 10 a.m.

The use of picture books, finger plays, songs and flannel board stories will encourage the development of verbal and listening skills for this active age group.

### E-I-E-I-Oh!

Tuesday, February 2, 10 a.m.

Old MacDonald wants to show off his farm. Learn all about farm animals and the sounds they make through stories, songs and crafts.

### Artsy Toddler

Thursdays, February 4 & 11, 10 a.m.

Tuesday, February 23, 10 a.m.

It's time to create! Young children will enjoy stories, songs and exploring an age-appropriate art experience.

### Guitar Sing-A-Long

Monday, February 8, 11 a.m.

Have fun with your little one in this virtual sing-a-long featuring familiar songs with live guitar for you and your toddler.

### Artsy Toddler: Spiders

Thursday, February 18, 10 a.m.

Paint, paste, glue, stamp and create. Young children will enjoy stories, songs and exploring age-appropriate art experiences.

### Potty Time!

Thursday, February 18, 1 p.m.

Using the big kid potty can be scary, so let's celebrate with stories, songs and games.

### Toddlerumpus

Thursday, February 25, 10:30 a.m.

Wiggle, squiggle, dance and clap with stories and songs that invite play and motor movement.





**Be My Neighbor Day!**  
**Tuesday, February 2, 11 a.m.**  
 Welcome to our neighborhood of make-believe! Celebrate Be My Neighbor Day with Daniel Tiger themed stories and activities. Presented in partnership with WUCF. Recommended for ages 3–5.

## PRESCHOOL (Ages 3–5)

**Sesame Street Storytime**  
**Mondays, February 1, 15 & 22, 11 a.m.**  
 Can you tell me how to get, how to get to *Sesame Street*? Let's make it a sunny day with a storytime and craft celebrating our favorite friends.

**Bigfoot Besties**  
**Monday, February 1, 2 p.m.**  
 Do you want a BFF that's legendary? Then join us for an event about the coolest of creatures! We'll have a story time and create our own Bigfoot best friend.

**Pajama Party**  
**Mondays, February 1–22, 7 p.m.**  
 Put on your pajamas and join us virtually for stories, songs and a craft.

**We Love the Library**  
**Wednesday, February 3, 11 a.m.**  
 Celebrate Library Lover's Month with special stories, songs and activities all about the library.

**Countdown to Kindergarten: Motor & Movement**  
**Thursday, February 4, 11 a.m.**  
 Start your engines! Engage in transportation-themed stories, rhymes and activities to strengthen fine and gross motor skills needed for writing and success in kindergarten. Recommended for ages 4–5.

**Cuentame un Cuento**  
**Friday, February 5, 11 a.m.**  
 The library provides a virtual storytime in English and Spanish suitable for preschoolers. The whole family is welcome.

**Zero To Five Storytime**  
**Saturdays, February 6, 13 & 27, 3 p.m.**  
**Sundays, February 7–28, 2 p.m.**  
**Saturday, February 20, 4 p.m.**  
 From the rhythm and repetition of nursery rhymes to the use of picture books, songs and flannel board stories, your child will be encouraged to develop early literacy skills.

**Time For Your Checkup**  
**Tuesday, February 9, 11 a.m.**  
 The doc is in, and she'll fix you up! Enjoy stories, songs and games inspired by *Doc McStuffins*. Don't forget to bring your toy for a checkup.

**Sails and Tales**  
**Wednesday, February 10, 11 a.m.**  
 Ahoy there, mateys! It's time to unfurl your sails, enjoy some tall tales and craft with your little one.

**Countdown to Kindergarten: Play with Your Food**  
**Thursday, February 11, 11 a.m.**  
 Who says you can't play with your food? Strengthen important early literacy skills through food-themed stories, activities and a craft. Recommended for ages 4–5.

**Stories & Stretches**  
**Saturdays, February 13 & 27, 11 a.m.**  
 Calling all little yogis and wiggleworms. Join us for a special movement storytime focusing on motor movement that is filled with stories, songs and fun. Recommended for families with children ages 3–5.

**Purple, Green & Orange**  
**Tuesday, February 16, 10 a.m.**  
 It's time for an adventure in colors as we share stories, songs and activities starring purple, green and orange.

**Growing Up Wild: What's Wild?**  
**Tuesday, February 16, 11 a.m.**  
 Engage in stories and activities to learn the difference between wild and tame animals. Presented as a part of the Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies Project WILD.

**Countdown to Kindergarten: Counting at the Pond**  
**Thursday, February 18, 11 a.m.**  
 Count and quack your way to becoming a good reader through stories, rhymes and activities designed to help preschoolers develop vital skills to succeed in kindergarten. Recommended for ages 4–5.

**Snail Tales Storytime & Craft**  
**Friday, February 19, 11 a.m.**  
 This snail tale storytime leads to shiny, slimy stories and a craft.

**I Spy**  
**Friday, February 19, 1 p.m.**  
 I spy with my little eye friends ready to play! Let's go on a scavenger hunt around our rooms to find different things.



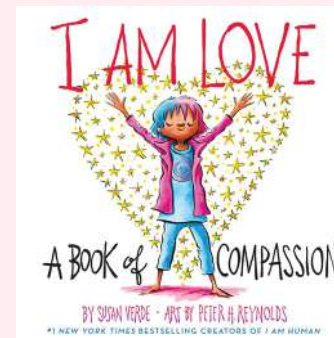
**Little Chef: Mini Pastel de Piña**  
**Tuesday, February 23, 11 a.m.**  
 Eight eager animals are more than happy to help make their perfect cake. Hear their story in English and Spanish and learn how to make a delicious mini upside-down pineapple cake.

**You are My Sunshine**  
**Wednesday, February 24, 11 a.m.**  
 Celebrate a positive mindset and sunny moments by singing songs, reading stories and completing crafts and activities sure to make your little one smile.

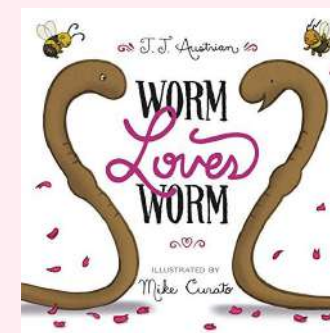
**J is for Jazz**  
**Thursday, February 25, 11 a.m.**  
 Child friendly stories and songs that introduce the lively rhythms and sounds of jazz music.

## BOOKS ABOUT LOVE FOR PRESCHOOLERS

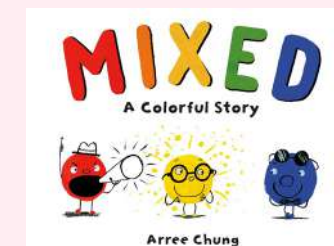
Selected by Lauren Mathur, Alafaya Branch Librarian



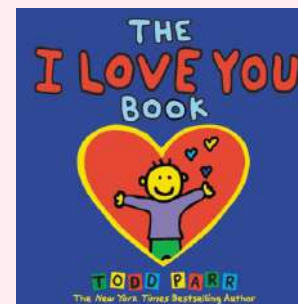
**I Am Love: A Book of Compassion**  
**By Susan Verde**  
**Illustrated by Peter H. Reynolds**  
 A celebration of love in all its forms, this book asks readers to look inward when they feel afraid and to act with compassion and kindness, to live with gratitude, and to take care of themselves by practicing self-love.



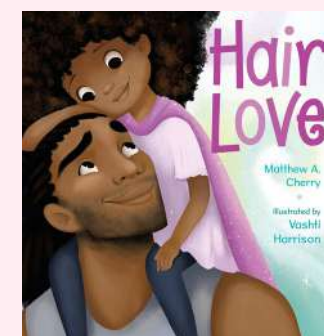
**Worm Loves Worm**  
**By J.J. Austrian**  
**Illustrated by Mike Curato**  
 Selected as one of the "LGBTQ+ books for kids to read during Pride Month" by *Time Out* magazine, this irresistible debut picture book is a celebration of love in all its splendid forms. When a worm meets a special worm and they fall in love, you know what happens next?



**Mixed: A Colorful Story**  
**By Arree Chung**  
 In the beginning, there were three colors . . . Reds, Yellows and Blues. All special in their own ways, all living in harmony – until one day, a Red says, "Reds are the best!" and starts a color kerfuffle. When the colors decide to separate, is there anything that can change their minds?



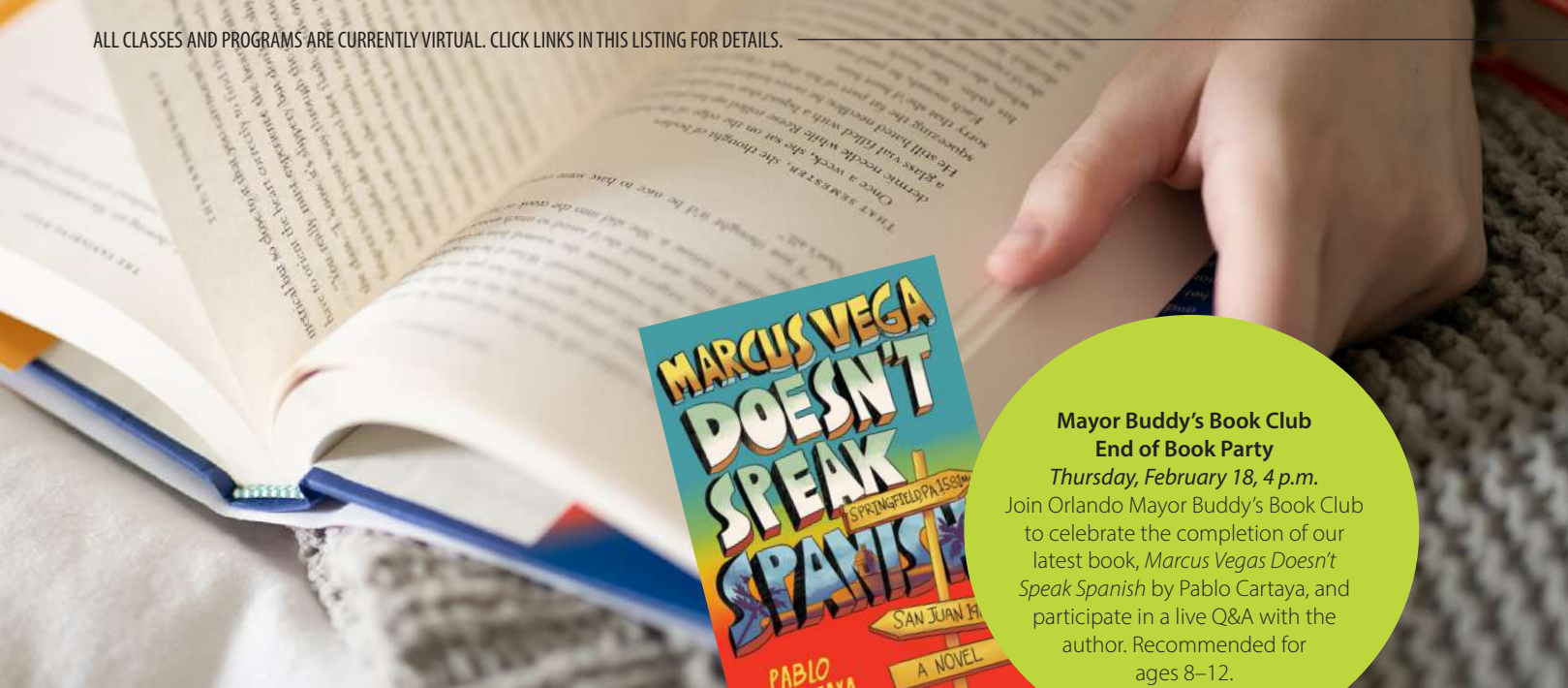
**The I Love You Book**  
**By Todd Parr**  
 This colorful picture book explores the meaning of unconditional love in a heartfelt and playful way. Perfect for Valentine's Day and beyond, parents and caregivers will no doubt be inspired by its tender sentiments and will enjoy sharing it with the little ones they love.



**Hair Love**  
**By Matthew A. Cherry**  
**Illustrated by Vashti Harrison**  
 It's up to Daddy to give his daughter an extra-special hair style in this ode to self-confidence and the love between fathers and daughters, from Academy Award-winning director and former NFL wide receiver Matthew A. Cherry.

"I love that *Hair Love* is highlighting the relationship between a Black father and daughter. Matthew leads the ranks of new creatives who are telling unique stories of the Black experience. We need this."  
 – Jordan Peele, Actor & Filmmaker

For more Preschool Fun recommendations and activities, visit [ocls.info/blog](https://ocls.info/blog).



**Mayor Buddy's Book Club  
End of Book Party**  
*Thursday, February 18, 4 p.m.*  
Join Orlando Mayor Buddy's Book Club to celebrate the completion of our latest book, *Marcus Vegas Doesn't Speak Spanish* by Pablo Cartaya, and participate in a live Q&A with the author. Recommended for ages 8–12.

## CHILDREN'S (Ages 6–12)

### Pajama Tales

*Tuesdays, February 2–23, 7 p.m.*

Get comfy and cozy. Wear your jammies, bring your favorite stuffed animal, and join us for an evening of stories, rhymes and songs. Recommended for families with children ages 4–8.

### Share Your Art

*Wednesday, February 3, 3 p.m.*

Drawings, paintings, sculpture and more. Join our virtual art meetup to share what you're working on, and brag about your masterpiece. Followed by time to create together. Recommended for ages 6–8.

### Rainforest Animals

*Monday, February 8, 4 p.m.*

Travel to the rainforest and meet some of the animals that live there.

### Read to Sydney

*Tuesday, February 9, 2 p.m.*

Read to Sydney is a local therapy dog organization that encourages children to practice their reading skills. All ages are welcome. Attendees will be scheduled for a 10 minute reading session.

### Aquatic WILD: Fashion a Fish

*Tuesday, February 9, 3 p.m.*

Learn how thousands of years of adaptation can be used to design the perfect fish. Recommended for ages 9–12.

### Labors of Hercules

*Tuesday, February 9, 4 p.m.*

Help Greek hero Hercules complete all 12 of his labors by solving riddles and puzzles. Recommended for ages 9–12.

### Stories and Science

*Wednesday, February 10, 3 p.m.*

Learn about the science of simple machines through stories and an interactive activity! Recommended for ages 6–8.

### Fables and Trickster Tales from Around the World

*Tuesday, February 16, 4 p.m.*

What are fables? Examine the art of oral storytelling and discover how stories change over generations and between cultures. Recommended for ages 9–12.

### Sunshine State Jr. Book Club

*Wednesday, February 17, 3 p.m.*

Hear us read aloud one of the Sunshine State Jr. (K–2) books, and then enjoy an activity. This month we're reading *T-Bone the Drone*. Recommended for ages 6–8.

### Quick Minute Science

*Saturday, February 20, 1 p.m.*

Easy and safe science activities for the entire family. Follow along through topics like space, chemistry, physical science and more.

### Candy Experiments

*Monday, February 22, 4 p.m.*

Have fun learning science with experiments using candy.

### Art History for Kids

*Monday, February 22, 4:30 p.m.*

In this series we will explore artists and their styles. We will also create our own masterpieces inspired by their work. Recommended for ages 9–12.

### Cuisine Corner Junior: Moon Cakes!

*Tuesday, February 23, 4:30 p.m.*

Learn how to decorate rice cakes with the phases of the moon. We will make easy moon treats with yogurt, bananas and cereal.

### Afternoon Art

*Wednesday, February 24, 3 p.m.*

Let's go on an art adventure! Learn about a different artist and artistic style, and then create your own masterpiece. Recommended for ages 6–8.

### Local Habitat: Lake Apopka

*Thursday, February 25, 3 p.m.*

Lake Apopka is the fourth largest lake in Florida, and home to diverse groups of animals. Investigate this habitat and all it has gone through. Recommended for ages 9–12.

### All Aboard to Explore

*Thursday, February 25, 4:30 p.m.*

All aboard for stories, science and more as we sail off to explore literary adventures.

## TEENS (Ages 13–18)

### Animanga Club

*Thursday, February 18, 6 p.m.*

Missing conventions? Need an anime/manga fan meet up? Join us for anime/manga trivia, discussion, crafts and showings. Recommended for ages 13 and up.

### Everything is Illuminated

*Wednesday, February 24, 4 p.m.*

Explore the world of art and storytelling as we examine the use of stained glass and illuminated manuscripts throughout the ages and enjoy a craft.

### Teen Cuisine: No Meat Here

*Thursday, February 25, 5 p.m.*

Celebrate Black History month with us by creating celebrity chef Charity Morgan's Green Goddess Wrap. She helped the Tennessee Titans eat plant strong, now you can too.





## LOCATIONS & HOURS

 At this time, all locations closed on Sunday

### Orlando Public Library

101 E. Central Blvd., Orlando, FL 32801  
Hours: Monday–Saturday 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

### Alafaya Branch

12000 E. Colonial Dr., Orlando, FL 32826  
Hours: Monday–Saturday 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

### Chickasaw Branch

870 N. Chickasaw Trail, Orlando, FL 32825  
Hours: Monday–Saturday 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

### Eatonville Branch

200 E. Kennedy Blvd., Eatonville, FL 32751  
Hours: Monday–Saturday 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

### Fairview Shores Branch

902 Lee Road, Suite 26, Orlando, FL 32810  
Hours: Monday–Saturday 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

### Hiawasse Branch

7391 W. Colonial Dr., Orlando, FL 32818  
Hours: Monday–Saturday 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

### North Orange Branch

1211 E. Semoran Blvd., Apopka, FL 32703  
Hours: Monday–Saturday 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

### South Creek Branch

1702 Deerfield Blvd., Orlando, FL 32837  
Hours: Monday–Saturday 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

### South Trail Branch

4600 S. Orange Blossom Tr.,  
Orlando, FL 32839  
Hours: Monday–Saturday 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

### Southeast Branch

5575 S. Semoran Blvd., Orlando, FL 32822  
Hours: Monday–Saturday 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

### Southwest Branch

7255 Della Dr., Orlando, FL 32819  
Hours: Monday–Saturday 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

### Washington Park Branch

5151 Raleigh St., Suite A., Orlando, FL 32811  
Hours: Monday–Saturday 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

### West Oaks Branch & Genealogy Center

1821 E. Silver Star Rd., Ocoee, FL 34761  
Hours: Monday–Saturday 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

### Windermere Branch

530 Main St., Windermere, FL 34786  
Hours: Monday–Saturday 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

### Winter Garden Branch

805 E. Plant St., Winter Garden, FL 34787  
Hours: Monday–Saturday 10 a.m.–6 p.m.



Those needing special accommodations due to a disability may arrange for assistance by contacting the location at least 7 days prior to the event.

### OCLS Renewal Line

Take advantage of renewing your items and checking your account information via the 24/7 Renewal Line at 407.316.0021. Using your bar code number on your library card and on checked out items you can renew all items, or check on holds and fines.

### SOCIAL MEDIA



[ocls.info](http://ocls.info) | 407.835.7323