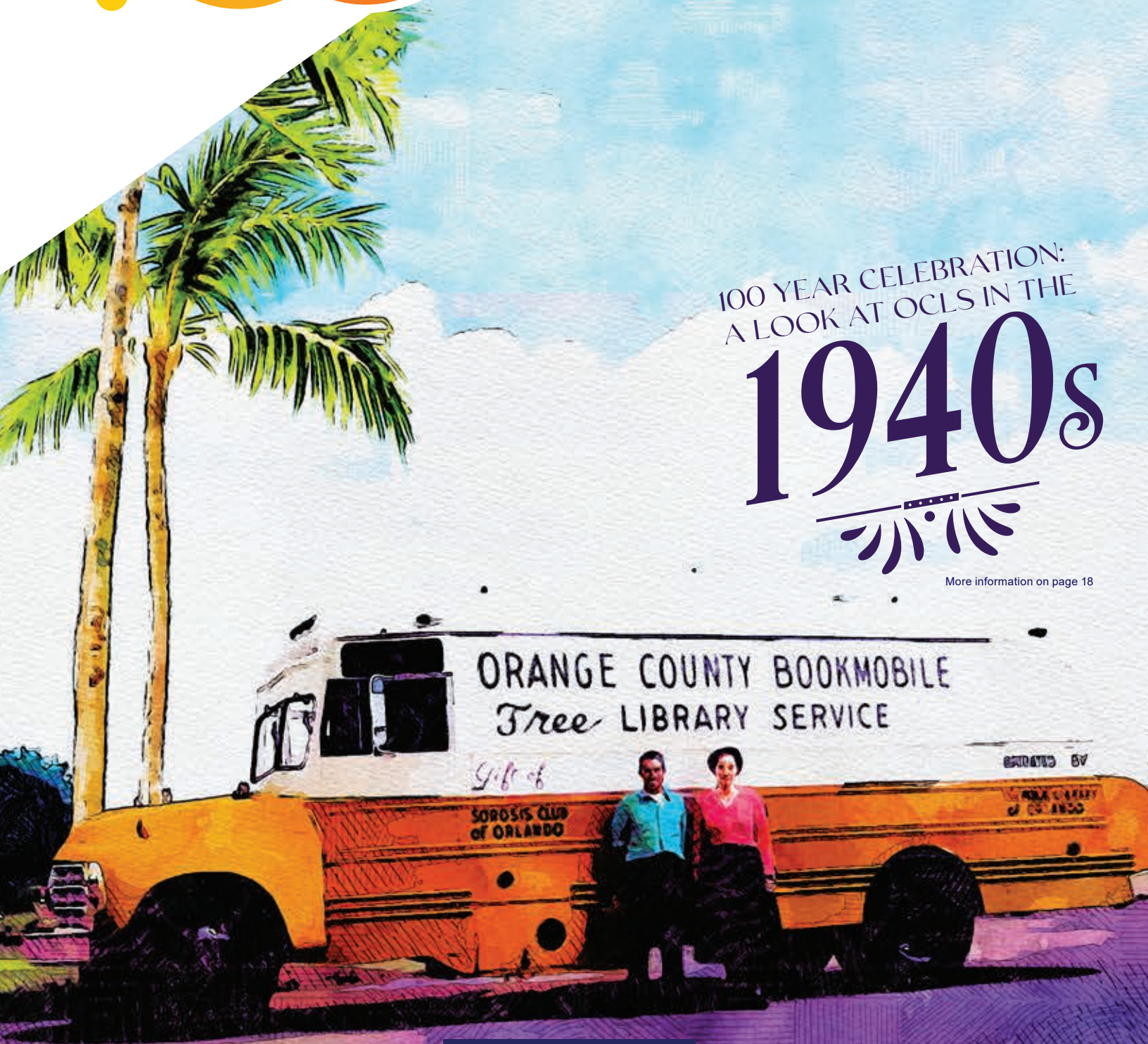


# 100 YEARS

ORANGE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

100 YEAR CELEBRATION:  
A LOOK AT OCLS IN THE  
**1940s**

More information on page 18





# WAIVE FINES *goodbye*

Did you know?

Since going fine free ...

- Accounts now active since fines were waived: **11,906**
- Value of billed items returned (to date): **\$161,440.59**
- Number of billed items returned: **8,044**
- Oldest item returned is from **February 1983**

## PASSPORT

Collect ten stamps by attending any program, event or class at OCLS. Once you fill your passport, fill out the form on the back and turn it into any location of Orange County Library System to be entered to win a prize.



## NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK April 23–29, 2023



### I love my library because ...

#### QUOTE

The book selection and delivery service are top notch!

#### QUOTE

I have been assisted by so many helpful staff while job hunting.

#### QUOTE

They have the latest in technologies when it comes to simulation.



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#### LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**President** Crockett Bohannon  
**Vice President** Nicole Benjamin  
 Danielle Levien  
 Lizannette Tam  
 Sharon Smoley

#### Next Board Of Trustees Meeting:

Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room  
 Thursday, April 13, 6 p.m.

#### FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President** Melissa Stillman  
**Vice President** Erica Lee  
**Treasurer** Irene McNutt  
**Secretary** Almeda Sun

Michael Donohue   Mark Guillette   Thomas R. Kohler  
 Susie Findell   Fred D. Harvey   Dave Lehman  
 Katherine Flury   Cathy Kennedy   Douglas Richards

#### Next Friends Of The Library Board Of Directors Meeting:

Eatonville Branch  
 Wednesday, April 19, Noon

## FROM THE DIRECTOR |

If there's one thing our library system has always excelled at, it's innovation. As we celebrate our 100 years, I've enjoyed taking the time to explore how the library has evolved during each decade we've been in existence.

This month in *Books & Beyond*, we look back at the 1940s. The country was coming out of a financially trying time, and war was raging in Europe. In December 1941, the United States entered World War II after the attack on Pearl Harbor, and the Albertson Public Library served as a War Information Center, an information hub that connected the battlefield and the homefront. The library also supported the community during wartime by offering courses to help people be more prepared for a drawn-out war effort – according to the 1941 annual report, the Albertson Library offered courses on first aid, home hygiene, nurses aid and automobile repair, among other things.

Despite this added responsibility, the library also continued to offer its popular programs, like the Summer Reading Club and Saturday Story Hours. It even branched into radio, offering weekly programs on local stations.

Toward the end of the decade, we can also see the library as we know it today taking shape – in 1948, the Albertson Library was celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> birthday, and it outlined the vision for the future. Among the library's long-term goals: Better service for special groups; an increase in educational programs for adults; expansion of the system to open new branches, introduce a bookmobile and provide service in schools; additional technology, including projectors, a record player and a radio; salaries commensurate with American Library Association standards; a solution to expand the main library, which was growing cramped; and expansion of service beyond the city of Orlando to the entire county.

By 1949, the library had already managed to accomplish two of those long-term goals – it officially became the first county-wide library system in the state of Florida when the Sorosis of Orlando Woman's Club donated \$6,000 to purchase a bookmobile that allowed the Albertson Library to bring the library to the people. In its first year, it made 24 community stops and nine school stops across Orange County.

Seventy five years later, we're still bringing new tools to the table to meet the needs of a changing world. In the 1940s, it was record players and radios. In the 2020s, it's Wi-Fi hotspots and virtual reality stations.

To read more about the library's past, scan the QR code below to visit Orlando Memory, our website dedicated to the history of Orange County.



*St Powell*

Steve Powell  
Director/CEO  
Orange County Library System

comments@ocls.info

**FOLLOW US**

**Tik Tok**

**@OCLSLIBRARY**

SCAN ME

## CHECK OUT EVEN MORE AT THE LIBRARY!

VISIT THE OCLS BLOG FOR EVERYTHING FROM AUTHOR INTERVIEWS TO POP CULTURE DISCUSSIONS

**OCLS.INFO/BLOG**



## Q&A WITH KELLY J. BAPTIST

BY GABRIELLE BACO, YOUTH SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Kelly J. Baptist is the author of several works for young readers. Her published works include the middle-grade novels *The Swag is in the Socks*, *Eb & Flow* and the Isaiah Dunn series. She won the 2015 We Need Diverse Books short story contest with her story, *The Beans and Rice Chronicles of Isaiah Dunn*. In 2022, she won the Sunshine State Young Reader Award for her grade K–2 picture book, *The Electric Slide and Kai*. This month, Kelly will be visiting Alafaya Branch as part of the library's Sunshine State Author Series to host an interactive presentation, storytime and Q&A session in celebration of *The Electric Slide and Kai*.

**Congratulations on all your success with *The Electric Slide and Kai*! What inspired you to want to write your very first picture book?**

Thank you! My middle daughter inspired this story. When she was about four, we attended my cousin's wedding and reception. My cousin had married an AKA (Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc) so she and all her fellow sorors were on the dance floor strolling! So cool! My daughter was off to the side trying to copy their every move and it was super cute! I got the idea of a girl trying to learn a dance before her aunt's wedding, and what better dance to learn than *The Electric Slide*! Also, yes, you read that right ... in the original story, the main character, Cai, was a girl! My daughter's name is Micaiah, and that's her nickname. My editor asked if I would mind changing to a boy because we often don't see that image of Black boys. I agreed!

**What inspired you to become a writer?**

I've been writing since I learned how to write! I think the love of story was my inspiration. My parents read to me from a young age and we always took trips to the library. The freedom and power of creating my own adventures and experiences was what drew me to writing.

**What are some of your favorite children's authors or books?**

Mildred D. Taylor and Walter Dean Myers were my favorite authors growing up, and I devoured all of their work. I also enjoyed reading the Encyclopedia Brown series and the Choose Your Own Adventure series.

**Why do you write books for young readers specifically?**

Because young readers are the best audience ever! They're exciting and open and honest and their sense of the world has not yet been tainted. I think I write for that part of me that's the same way. There's so much joy in writing for a young audience, and interacting with them provides an endless well of inspiration and appreciation. I began writing for young people after reading my oldest daughter *If You Give a Mouse A Cookie* for the HUNDREDTH time! I wanted to write stories that other parents and kids could enjoy over and over.

**Do you and your family members have "dance nicknames" for each other, like Kai's family in the book?**

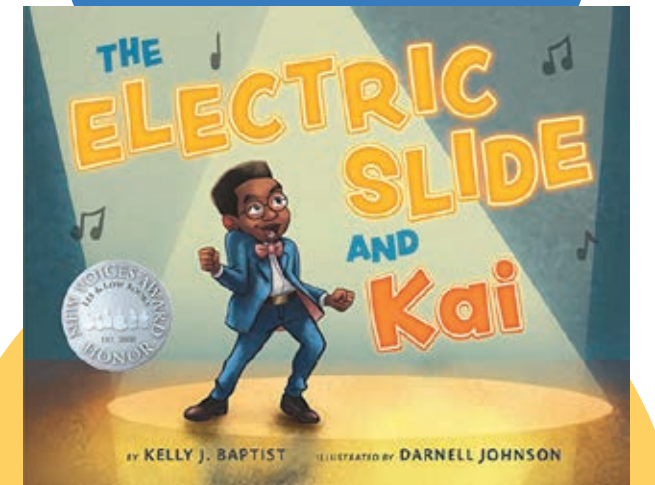
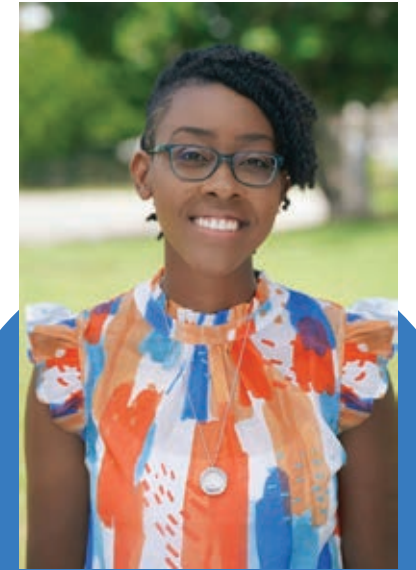
Ironically, we don't! My kids have nicknames, but not pertaining to dance. We do have epic dance parties, though!

**Do you have a favorite dance move?**

I actually really like *The Electric Slide*! Most of my dancing isn't any move in particular, I just do what I feel! Isn't that the best part of dancing anyway?

**What kind of music would you play to get the party started?**

We are a musically eclectic family! We play Gospel, R&B, Pop, Reggae, Afrobeats, Country, Disney soundtracks and original tracks created by my musical kids!



## MEET THE AUTHOR KELLY J. BAPTIST

**Alafaya Branch**  
**Monday, April 10, 2 p.m.**  
Enjoy an interactive presentation, storytime and Q&A with Kelly J. Baptist, author of the Sunshine State Award-winning book *The Electric Slide and Kai*. Recommended for ages 5–8.

This author visit is sponsored by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Arts and Culture, the Florida Council of Arts and Culture, and the National Endowment for the Arts.



# LIBRARY EVENTS

OCLS.INFO/EVENTS



## CENTRAL FLORIDA BALLET PRESENTS ALICE IN WONDERLAND

**Orlando Public Library,  
Library Central**  
*Saturday, April 29, 3 p.m.*  
Join Alice on a nonsensical  
adventure. The Central Florida  
Ballet will perform scenes from their  
presentation of *Alice in Wonderland*.



**Financial Literacy:  
Increase Your Cashflow  
and Manage Debt**  
**South Creek Branch**  
*Saturday, April 1, 10:30 a.m.*  
Understanding your finances is  
the first step to financial freedom.  
This six-part series will help you  
take control of your finances  
and learn it's not how much you  
earn but how much you keep.

**Drawing 101**  
**Winter Garden Branch**  
*Saturday, April 1, 3:30 p.m.*  
Learn drawing techniques and  
participate in guided activities  
each month. Registration required.  
Recommended for ages 18 and up.

**Budgeting Basics:  
It's a Money Thing**  
**West Oaks Branch**  
*Monday, April 3, 6 p.m.*  
Learn important information  
about budgeting, including the six  
principles of budgeting, common  
misconceptions and best practices,  
using what you've learned to  
create your own budget.

**Fair Housing Month  
Presentation**  
**Fairview Shores Branch**  
*Tuesday, April 4, 10–11:30 a.m.*  
The Fair Housing Act, in addition to  
Florida's own housing laws,  
protects against discrimination  
in the rental, sale, financing  
and insuring of housing.

**Southwest Film Club**  
**Virtual**  
*Tuesday, April 4, 7–8:30 p.m.*  
The Southwest Film Club discusses  
the themes and importance of a  
different movie each month. All  
films available for free on Kanopy.

**Beginner Line Dancing**  
**Southwest Branch**  
*Saturday, April 8, 10:30 a.m.*  
Learn beginner line dances and  
discover a great way to exercise  
and have fun. Partners not needed.  
Nonstick sole shoes recommended.  
Recommended for ages 18 and up.

**Plant Clinic**  
**Winter Garden Branch**  
*Saturday,  
April 8, 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.*  
**Alafaya Branch**  
*Thursday, April 13, 2–4 p.m.*  
Bring your plants and ask questions!  
Master Gardener Volunteers  
from the UF/IFAS Orange County  
Extension Office will be available to  
answer your gardening questions.

**Breakdown of a Credit  
Score: It's a Money Thing**  
**West Oaks Branch**  
*Monday, April 10, 6 p.m.*  
In this program, you will learn  
important information about what  
your credit score means, why  
it matters, how it is calculated  
and how to keep track of it.

**Financial Literacy  
101 for Adults**  
**Orlando Public Library**  
*Tuesday, April 11, 5:30 p.m.*  
Get money-wise with Financial  
Literacy 101 for Adults. Learn  
to budget, save money and  
build your financial goals.

**Pathway to Homeownership**  
**Virtual**  
*Tuesday, April 11, 6:30 p.m.*  
Explore each step a home buyer  
will walk through from beginning to  
end. Discover where you currently  
are in the process of home buying  
to help you plan for a successful  
journey to homeownership.

**Zoom Trivia:  
From Soup to Nuts**  
**Virtual**  
*Tuesday, April 11, 7–8:30 p.m.*  
Test your knowledge on an  
assortment of trivia categories  
from soup to nuts! Participants  
play on teams. Prepare for fun and  
laughter! Registration required.  
Recommended for ages 18 and up.

**Paper Possibilities**  
**Virtual**  
*Friday, April 14, 10:30–11:45 a.m.*  
Imagine the possibilities: paper  
structures are not only fun to  
make, but can be customized to  
display art, write stories and more.  
This month we're featuring the  
handmade top close envelope.

**Mindfulness Meditation**  
**Southwest Branch**  
*Friday, April 14, 4:30–5:45 p.m.*  
Practice techniques of mindfulness  
and meditation for well-being  
and vibrancy. Taught by Rev.  
Dr. Viviana Collazo, Luminous  
Holistic Center. All levels welcome.  
Bring own mat. Chairs available.  
Recommended for ages 15 and up.

**Financial Literacy: Preparing  
with Proper Protection**  
**South Creek Branch**  
*Saturday, April 15, 10:30 a.m.*  
Understanding your finances is  
the first step to financial freedom.  
In this six-part series, determine  
how to protect your money and  
take control of your finances.

**Paint Party!**  
**North Orange Branch**  
*Sunday, April 16, 2–3:30 p.m.*  
**Thursday, April 27, 5:30–7 p.m.  
In celebration of Earth Day, you'll be  
guided through painting a tree of life  
on a canvas that you can take home.**

**Gardening in Containers**  
**South Creek Branch**  
*Monday, April 17, 3:30–5 p.m.*  
Join Calvin Gardner, the urban  
residential horticulture extension  
agent in Orange County, to  
learn how to grow vegetables  
and herbs in containers.

**Emergency Fund Boot  
Camp: It's a Money Thing**  
**West Oaks Branch**  
*Monday, April 17, 6 p.m.*  
Learn the importance of preparing  
for the unknown by setting funds  
aside for an emergency, knowing  
how much to have in an emergency  
fund and tips to set money aside.

**Earth Day Tote**  
**North Orange Branch**  
*Tuesday, April 18, 2 p.m.*  
Stand out in a crowd and learn  
how to decorate your very  
own reusable tote bag.

**Hair Braiding**  
**South Trail Branch**  
*Saturday,  
April 22, 10:15–11:45 a.m.*  
Learn how to braid natural hair into  
a protective style. Explore healthy  
braiding techniques and get advice  
on the best hair tools for natural hair.

**Eatonville Weekend  
Wellness Workshop**  
**Eatonville Branch**  
*Saturday, April 22, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.*  
Join Shaunda Thompson, executive  
life coach and image consultant,  
for this empowering workshop  
and learn how to give yourself  
permission to say "no" and set  
boundaries without feeling guilty.

**Altered Books Workshop**  
**Southwest Branch**  
*Saturday, April 22, 2–3:30 p.m.*  
Junk journal, scrapbook, diary?  
Bring your imagination and join  
us to discover the possibilities  
of altered books at this  
workshop. Registration required.  
Recommended for ages 18 and up.

**Dungeons & Dragons  
at the Library!**  
**West Oaks Branch**  
*Saturday, April 22, 2:30–5:30 p.m.*  
Have you heard about D&D and want  
to see what it's all about? Are you an  
experienced player looking for a new  
party? Join us at the library where  
every event is a new adventure!  
Recommended for ages 16 and up.

**Fooling Identity Theft:  
It's a Money Thing**  
**West Oaks Branch**  
*Monday, April 24, 6 p.m.*  
Learn how to safeguard your  
personal information and the warning  
signs to look for to ensure you  
are not a victim of identity theft.

**Food 101:  
The Origins of Dessert**  
**Orlando Public Library,  
Albertson Room**  
*Wednesday, April 26, 5:30 p.m.*  
The Food 101 series introduces  
you to a new topic every month,  
examining the historical and social  
significance of what we eat. In  
April, learn about dessert, and how  
it's consumed around the world.

**Ask a Lawyer**  
**Virtual**  
*Wednesday, April 26, 5:30–7 p.m.*  
The Orange County Bar  
Association will provide an open  
forum for individuals to speak  
with a panel of attorneys to  
get guidance on family law.

**Sketching 101**  
**Virtual**  
*Friday, April 28, 11 a.m.*  
Learn the basics of sketching  
through use of simple art techniques  
and observing the world around  
you. Materials: All you need is  
a No. 2 pencil, colored pencils,  
paper and paper towels.

**Props, Characters and  
Environments with  
Power2Improv**  
**Orlando Public Library,  
Library Central**  
*Sunday, April 30, 3–5 p.m.*  
This skill set makes it easier to  
bring any location or item to life.  
Building a believable environment  
is part of storytelling. Learn to  
use props in unconventional ways  
to share your story on stage.



## SEASONAL ALLERGIES

**Virtual**  
*Wednesday, April 12, 11 a.m.*  
Join Jessica Daly, faculty library and  
assistant professor with Advent Health,  
as she shares free online resources to  
learn more about seasonal allergies.



## ALL THINGS ENERGY: SAVINGS, REDUCTIONS, SOLAR & RENEWABLES

**Virtual**  
*Wednesday, April 19, 7–8:30 p.m.*  
Representatives from Orange County's  
Sustainability Division will discuss ways  
to save energy. Explore sustainability  
through our energy consumption.



## FREE SHREDDING EVENT

**South Trail Branch**  
*Saturday, April 22, Noon–2 p.m.*  
Celebrate Earth Day with a free  
shredding event. We will be hosting the  
Shred-It truck in front of the branch to  
shred your unwanted documents. Please  
limit your shredding to two copy paper  
size boxes. Sponsored by the Orange  
Blossom Trail Development Board.

OBTNEXT

## ART & DISPLAY

OCLS.INFO/ART

### ART IS EVERYWHERE IN EVERYTHING

#### Southwest Branch On Display Through June

A collection of oil paintings and works of colored pencil, graphite and scratchboard by Mary Clarke that share the idea that art is everywhere around us – be it a busy New York street, a ballet dancer feeling the flow and sensation of movement, or a stately tiger in the wild. Every piece is unique in its own right and tells a story. Enjoy this experience and the stories you see.



## CUISINE CORNER

OCLS.INFO/CUISINECORNER

### JAMAICAN HOT PEPPER SHRIMP

Virtual  
Tuesday, April 25, 6:30 p.m.

Join culinary expert Dianne Morin as she demonstrates how to make Jamaican hot pepper shrimp, a mouth-wateringly flavorful appetizer.



### Instant Pot Homemade Dirty Rice

Virtual  
Wednesday, April 5, Noon

Join KeyVion Miller, registered dietician nutritionist, as she demonstrates how to make homemade dirty rice.

## MUSIC IN THE LIBRARY

OCLS.INFO/MIL

### RORY STUART / GLENN WILSON DUO: AN INTIMATE DIALOGUE IN JAZZ

#### Orlando Public Library, Library Central Sunday, April 30, 1:15 p.m.

Explore jazz with composer and jazz guitarist Rory Stuart and baritone saxophonist Glenn Wilson. They will show you how to listen to jazz with interactive exercises and demonstrations.



## STAFF PICKS

OCLS.INFO/STAFFPICKS

STAFF PICKS  
ARE TITLES  
RECOMMENDED  
AND REVIEWED  
BY OCLS STAFF.

#### **Bitter Orange Tree**

by Jokha Alharthi  
translated from the Arabic by Marilyn Booth

Zuhour, a young Omani woman attempting to assimilate in Britain, reflects on the relationships that have been central to her life, including her bond with Bint Aamir, a woman she thought of as her grandmother, who passed away after Zuhour left the Arabian Peninsula.

#### **Arabiyya: Recipes from the Life of an Arab in Diaspora** by Reem Assil with Emily Katz

Written from her point of view as an Arab in diaspora, Reem takes readers on a journey through her Palestinian and Syrian roots, showing how her heritage has inspired her recipes for flatbreads, dips, snacks, platters to share and more.

#### **History of the World in 100 Animals** by Simon Barnes

In *The History of the World in 100 Animals*, award-winning author Simon Barnes selects the 100 animals who have had the greatest impact on humanity and on whom humanity has had the greatest effect.

#### **Conversations with Birds** by Priyanka Kumar

At a time when climate change, habitat loss, and the reckless use of pesticides are causing widespread extinction of species, Kumar's reflections on these messengers from our distant past and harbingers of our future offer luminous evidence of her suggestion that "seeds of transformation lie dormant in all of our hearts. Sometimes it just takes the right bird to awaken us."

#### **Finding Ecohappiness** by Sandi Schwartz

*Finding Ecohappiness* will introduce you to all kinds of engaging nature activities you can do with your kids, from hiking and bike rides to visiting nature centers and science museums to volunteering outdoors to embarking on ecotourism adventures.

#### **50 Hikes in Central Florida** by Sandra Friend & John Keatley

Florida's landscape is a marvel of diversity, and Central Florida is its pinnacle. Explore a new side of Florida, from hidden urban gems like the Circle Bar B Ranch in Lakeland and Ponce Preserve in Daytona Beach, to the quiet rural landscapes of Catfish Creek State Park and Chinsegut Hill.



# BOOK CLUBS

OCLS.INFO/BOOKCLUBS



**Weekly Read Virtual**  
**Tuesdays, April 4–25, 1–2:30 p.m.**  
 Join others in a weekly read of a book selection, short story, essay or poem read aloud to you for your listening pleasure, with pauses for comments and discussion. Recommended for ages 18 and up.



**Hiawassee Book Club Virtual**  
**Monday, April 17, 7–8:30 p.m.**  
 In April the Hiawassee Book Club will discuss *Black Cake* by Charmaine Wilkerson.

**Readers of the Pack Tween Book Club Virtual**  
**Thursday, April 20, 5 p.m.**  
 Engage in a dynamic discussion and a themed activity based on *Coop Knows the Scoop* by Taryn Souders. Recommended for ages 9–12. Registration required.

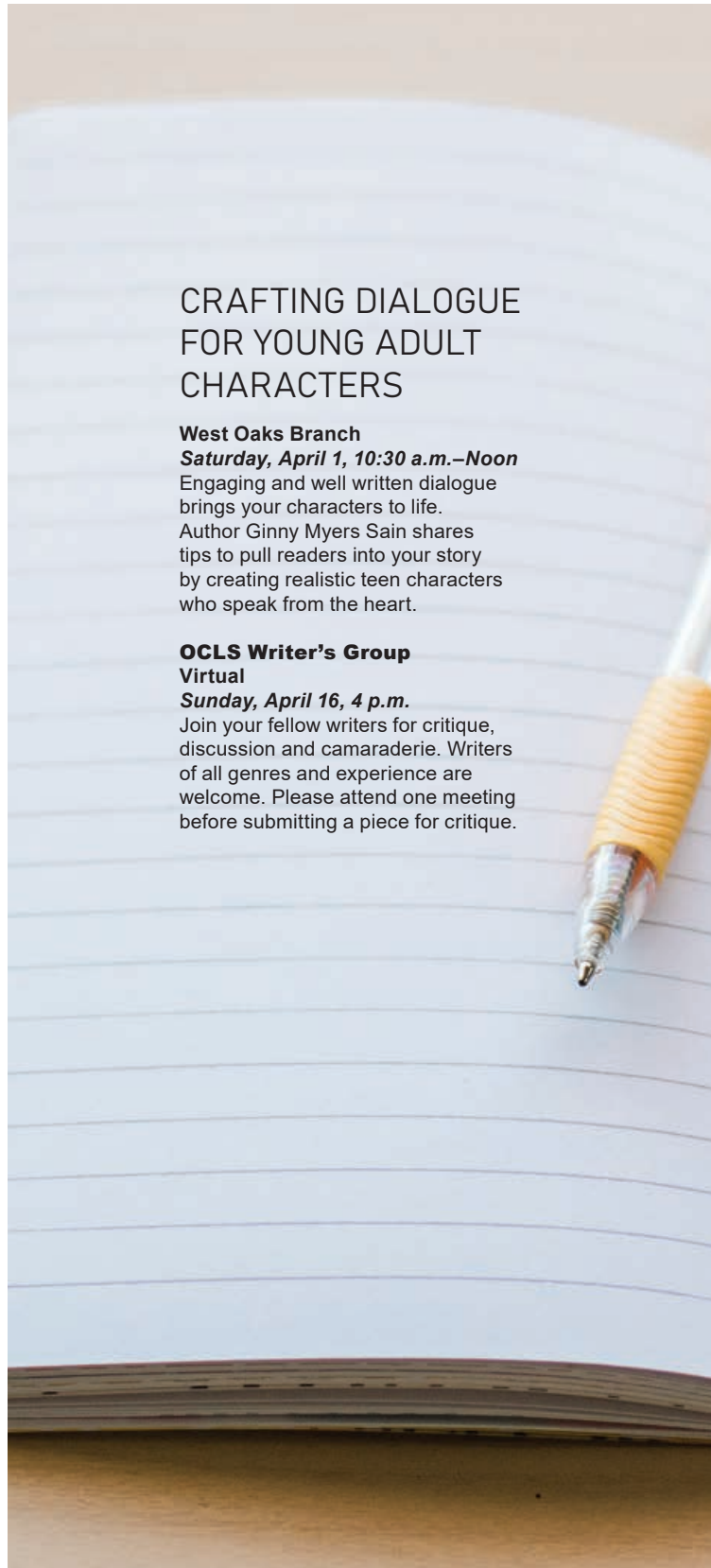


**Southwest Daytime Book Club Southwest Branch**  
**Friday, April 28, 2–3:30 p.m.**  
 Join us to discuss *Sister Stardust* by Jane Green. Inspired by a true story, Green re-imagines the life of troubled icon Talitha Getty in this story from a forgotten chapter of the swinging '60s. Recommended for ages 18 and up.



# WRITERS CORNER

OCLS.INFO/WRITERSCORNER



## CRAFTING DIALOGUE FOR YOUNG ADULT CHARACTERS

**West Oaks Branch**  
**Saturday, April 1, 10:30 a.m.–Noon**  
 Engaging and well written dialogue brings your characters to life. Author Ginny Myers Sain shares tips to pull readers into your story by creating realistic teen characters who speak from the heart.

**OCLS Writer's Group Virtual**  
**Sunday, April 16, 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.

# MEET THE AUTHOR

OCLS.INFO/MEET-THE-AUTHOR



## ORLANDO BOOK FESTIVAL

**Orlando Public Library, Saturday, April 15, 10:30 a.m.–5 p.m.**  
 A day-long celebration of books! Join us for panels and talks from bestselling authors from all over the state, including a keynote from R.L. Stine. Registration required. For more information, visit [ocls.info/obf](http://ocls.info/obf).

Funding for this program was provided through a grant from the Florida Humanities with funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this program do not necessarily represent those of Florida Humanities or the National Endowment for the Humanities.



**Local Author Festival**  
**Orlando Public Library, Library Central**  
**Sunday, April 23, 2–4 p.m.**  
 Meet and greet local authors at our Local Author Festival. Authors from a variety of genres will share their experiences and books. Each author will have books available for purchase and signing.



**Author Talk with Kate Beaton**  
**Virtual**  
**Tuesday, April 4, 7 p.m.**  
 Join us for an enlightening hour online with highly-acclaimed Kate Beaton, the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Hark! A Vagrant!* and *Ducks: Two Years in the Oil Sands*.



**Author Talk with William Kent Krueger**  
**Virtual**  
**Thursday, April 27, 8 p.m.**  
 Join us for a riveting hour online with *New York Times* bestselling author William Kent Krueger. Join us as he discusses his newest book in the Cork O'Connor series, *Fox Creek*, and his other works.



## SOUTHWEST AUTHOR SERIES

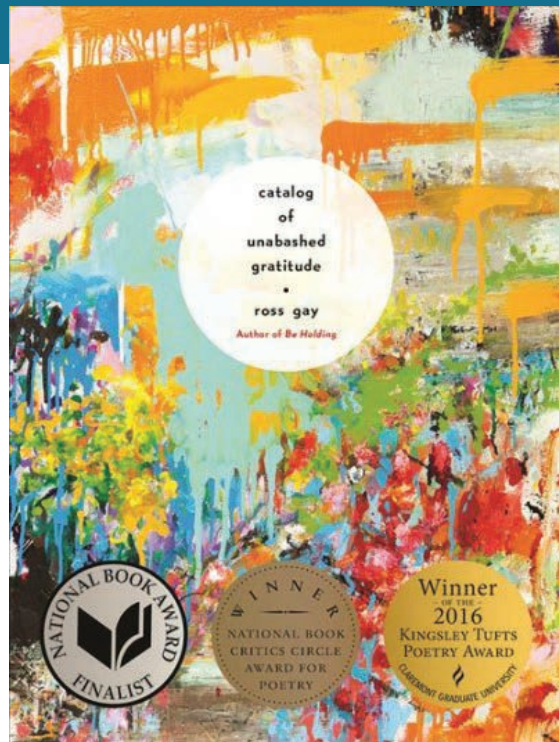
**Southwest Branch**  
**Friday, April 28, 7–9 p.m.**  
 Join us for the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Southwest Author Series, presented in partnership with The Rotary Club of Dr. Phillips, featuring author Jane Green. Registration recommended.

**N**EA Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) designed to broaden our understanding of our world, our communities and ourselves through the joy of sharing a good book. Orange County Library System is one of 62 not-for-profit organizations to receive a grant to host an NEA Big Read project between 2022–2023. Showcasing a diverse range of contemporary titles that reflect many different voices and perspectives, the NEA Big Read aims to inspire conversation and discovery. This year, Orange County Library System, in partnership with Valencia College, celebrates *Catalog of Unabashed Gratitude* by Ross Gay. For an opportunity for a free copy of *Catalog of Unabashed Gratitude*, register to attend the keynote event with author Ross Gay on April 2 or a book discussion at select locations during April.

NEA Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest. El proyecto NEA Big Read es una iniciativa del National Endowment for the Arts (el Fondo Nacional para las Artes de Estados Unidos) en cooperación con Arts Midwest. Sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Arts and Culture, the Florida Council on Arts and Culture, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

NEA  
**BIG READ**  
KEYNOTE WITH  
**ROSS GAY**

**Orlando Public Library, Library Central**  
**Sunday, April 2, 2 p.m.**  
*Catalog of Unabashed Gratitude* is a book that studies the wisdom of the garden and orchard, places where all – death, sorrow, loss – is converted into what might, with patience, nourish us. Registration is not required to attend. Guests that register will receive a copy of the book *Catalog of Unabashed Gratitude*.



**2023 NEA Big Read –**  
***Catalog of Unabashed Gratitude***  
ocls.beanstack.org  
April 2–30

This year, Orange County Library System, in partnership with Valencia College, celebrates *Catalog of Unabashed Gratitude* by author Ross Gay.

**BUTTERFLY AND POLLINATOR GARDENING**

**West Oaks Branch**  
**Monday, April 3, Noon**  
Learn how to attract the butterflies, bees and everything in between to your Florida garden! Attendees will learn the latest and safest methods for growing a garden that is pollinator friendly.



**Florida Friendly Landscaping Workshop to Conserve Water**  
**North Orange Branch**  
**Thursday, April 6, 5:30 p.m.**  
**Winter Garden Branch**  
**Wednesday, April 12, 5:30 p.m.**  
**Alafaya Branch**  
**Tuesday, April 18, 5:30 p.m.**  
UF/IFAS Extension and Orange County Utilities present Florida Friendly Landscaping where attendees will learn easy solutions for a beautiful landscape. Each family will receive seeds and a rain gauge.

**Yoga for Posture**  
**Virtual**  
**Thursday, April 6, 7 p.m.**  
This all-levels yoga class focuses on poses to build posture, body alignment, core strength and better oxygen flow throughout your body. Presented by certified yoga instructor Dana Brady.

**Composting 101 with O-Town Compost**  
**Chickasaw Branch**  
**Friday, April 7, 3:30 p.m.**  
Zak from O-Town Compost will go through the basics of starting your home compost pile. Learn which kinds of foods and additives can get you started off with the right method for your space.

**All-Levels Yoga**  
**Virtual**  
**Monday, April 10, 9 a.m.**  
Get moving with this energizing and relaxing yoga sequence for all levels. Tap into the strength, balance, flexibility and relaxation that your body can provide you.

**Wildlife Gardening**  
**Eatonville Branch**  
**Monday April 10, Noon**  
In this event with Ideas for Us, attendees will learn which plants attract certain animals and how to ensure their gardens are a safe haven for all the native critters Florida has to offer.

**Visual Poetry for Teens**  
**Winter Garden Branch**  
**Wednesday, April 12, 3:30 p.m.**  
Transform words, poems or your favorite song lyrics into visual art. Inspired by the NEA Big Read companion title *The Rose that Grew from Concrete* by Tupac Shakur.

**The Flora and Fauna of Central Florida with Orange County Environmental Protection Division**  
**Virtual**  
**Thursday, April 13, 6:30 p.m.**  
Orange County is filled with beautiful plants, animals and land to explore. Beth Jackson will share information about the environment across the county and what Orange County does to protect it.

**Natural Pest Management**  
**Alafaya Branch**  
**Monday, April 17, Noon**  
In this event with Ideas for Us, attendees will learn natural, non-toxic forms of pest management such as companion planting and other natural remedies.

**Chair Yoga**  
**Virtual**  
**Monday, April 24, 9 a.m.**  
Get moving with this energizing and relaxing chair yoga sequence for all levels. Tap into the strength, balance, flexibility and relaxation that your body can provide you. Requires use of a chair.

**Plant Propagation 101**  
**Orlando Public Library, Cypress Room**  
**Monday, April 24, Noon**  
In this program with Ideas for Us, attendees will learn the basics of plant propagation including grafting, layering, growing from food scraps and more.

**Yoga with PLAYologist**  
**Yolonda**  
**Orlando Public Library**  
**Wednesday, April 26, 2:30 p.m.**  
Fun-filled yoga, meditation and mindfulness with a twist that uses a PLAY-based yoga curriculum.

**DIY Gratitude Journals**  
**Winter Garden Branch**  
**Wednesday, April 26, 6 p.m.**  
Learn about the science of happiness and create your own gratitude journal. Inspired by the NEA Big Read companion title, *The Book of Joy* by the 14<sup>th</sup> Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

**Gratitude Through Meditation and Yoga**  
**Virtual**  
**Thursday, April 27, 7 p.m.**  
Certified meditation and yoga instructor Adam Brady and certified yoga instructor Dana Brady walk us through a guided meditation and yoga session inspired by the book *Catalog of Unabashed Gratitude*.

**Library Pop-up: Lake Nona StoryWalk**  
**Randal Park**  
**8730 Randal Park Blvd.**  
**Saturday, April 29, 10 a.m.**  
StoryWalk is a way to enjoy the benefits of reading and the outdoors at the same time! Exercise your body and mind as you have fun reading the story and enjoying nature along the way.



**Book Discussion**  
**Orlando Public Library**  
**Thursday, April 6, 5:30 p.m.**  
**North Orange Branch**  
**Saturday, April 8, 3–4:30 p.m.**

**Southeast Book Club**  
**Southeast Branch**  
**Monday, April 10, 3 p.m.**  
**Virtual**  
**Monday, April 10, 7 p.m.**

**Central Florida Book Club**  
**Fairview Shores Branch**  
**Tuesday, April 11, 10–11:30 a.m.**

**Poetry Discussion**  
**Chickasaw Branch**  
**Wednesday, April 12, 5:30 p.m.**  
**South Trail Branch**  
**Saturday, April 22, 3–4:30 p.m.**

**Alafaya Book Club**  
**Virtual**  
**Thursday, April 13, 7 p.m.**

**Southwest Book Club**  
**Virtual**  
**Tuesday, April 25, 7–8:45 p.m.**

**Winter Garden Book Club**  
**Virtual**  
**Thursday, April 27, 6 p.m.**

**Windermere Book Chat**  
**Virtual**  
**Saturday, April 29, 6 p.m.**

Celebrate NEA Big Read and National Poetry Month with a thoughtful discussion about the poetry of Ross Gay, collected in his book *Catalog of Unabashed Gratitude*.





FIVE EASY STEPS  
TO DOWNSIZING

**North Orange Branch**  
**Monday, April 17, 1 p.m.**

Let's have a conversation about aging. Discover steps that make downsizing easier to manage. Presented in Spanish and English. Space is limited. Registration required.

**Medicare Monday**  
**South Trail Branch**

**Monday, April 3, 1-3 p.m.**

Join Collette Rance, former teacher and experienced Medicare scholar at a no-pressure, no-sales, strictly educational event about Medicare.

**MyPlate for Older Adults**  
**Fairview Shores Branch**

**Friday, April 7, 10:30 a.m.**

In this session, participants will learn about MyPlate and dietary guidelines for older adults. Learn about the five food groups and making healthy meals at home.

**Keeping Seniors in the Know**  
**About Senior Living**

**Southwest Branch**

**Friday, April 14, 10:30 a.m.**

Learn what is available as you age when the time comes to make a transition from a big footprint to a smaller footprint. Space is limited. Registration required.

**Breath: Your Super Power**  
**Virtual**

**Monday, April 17, 11 a.m.**

Join Firebush fitness instructor Sharon Infante as she shows simple breathing techniques and shares why they work to give you healthier lung function and other physical and mental benefits.

**Medicare Monday**  
**South Trail Branch**

**Monday, April 17, 1-3 p.m.**

Join Collette Rance, former teacher and experienced Medicare scholar for a one-on-one session to discuss your Medicare questions and needs. Registration required.

**Painting for Seniors**

**Alafaya Branch**

**Wednesday, April 19, 11 a.m.**

Explore your creativity through painting. Light refreshments will be provided.

**Dementia and Risk Factors**  
**LIFE Information for Elders**

**Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room**

**Thursday, April 20, 12:10 p.m.**

Join Dr. Sheila Baez-Torres, M.D. Neurologist as she shares dementia risk factors and what to look for, as well as healthy aging. This seminar is part of the monthly LIFE Information for Elders series. To register, email [OfficeonAging@ocfl.net](mailto:OfficeonAging@ocfl.net) or call 407.836.7446.

**Qigong Movement and Breathing**  
**Southwest Branch**

**Friday, April 28, 10:30 a.m.**

Learn ancient qigong practice with modern day instructor Jasmine Win. Using the five elements of life, students will undergo an empowering and uplifting shift to take control of their health and lives.



NCF JOB AND  
RESOURCE FAIR

**Fairview Shores Branch**  
**Thursday, April 13, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.**

Touch up on your interview skills, get help with resume writing, learn best practices for interviewing and sharpen up for that next job.

LEVEL UP ORANGE  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
NAVIGATORS



**South Trail Branch**  
**Wednesday, April 5, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.**

**North Orange Branch**

**Wednesday, April 19, 1-3 p.m.**

**Washington Park Branch**

**Thursday, April 27, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.**

Level Up Orange offers career exploration, training and internships, and job placement to Orange County residents who qualify. Level Up Orange is a program of CareerSource Central Florida.

The program is funded by Orange County government using federal dollars. This project is being supported, in whole or part, by federal award number HR 1319, Title IX, Subtitle M, Section 9901, awarded to Orange County, FL by the Department of Treasury.

**Career Academy:**  
**Perfecting Your Resume**

**Orlando Public Library**

**Tuesday, April 18, 2:30 p.m.**

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

**Career Academy:**  
**Interview Like a Pro**

**Orlando Public Library**

**Tuesday, April 25, 2:30 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.



# LANGUAGE LEARNING

OCLS.INFO/LANGUAGE

## ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES (ESOL)

**English from Zero**  
**Alafaya Branch**  
*Saturdays, April 1–29, 10:30 a.m.*  
**Chickasaw Branch**  
*Mondays, April 3–24, 5:30–6:45 p.m.*  
*Thursdays, April 6–27, 10:30 a.m.*  
*Saturdays, April 8 & 22, 10:30 a.m.*  
*Fridays, April 14 & 18, 10:30 a.m.*  
**Winter Garden Branch**  
*Tuesday, April 4–25, 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m.*  
**Southeast Branch**  
*Wednesdays, April 5, 12 & 26, 2:30 p.m.*  
*Tuesdays, April 4, 11, 25, 10:30 a.m.*  
**West Oaks Branch**  
*Thursdays, April 6–27, 4:30–6 p.m.*  
**Windermere Branch**  
*Thursday, April 6–27, 4:45–6:15 p.m.*  
**Virtual**  
*Mondays, April 3–24, 3 & 6:45 p.m.*  
*Tuesdays, April 4–25, 3:30 p.m.*  
*Thursdays, April 6–27, 12:30 & 6 p.m.*  
 Designed for beginning English learners. Each workshop has a specific target topic.

**English Conversation Hour**  
**Alafaya Branch**  
*Saturdays, April 1–29, Noon*  
**Southeast Branch**  
*Wednesdays, April 5, 12 & 26, 4 p.m.*  
*Saturdays, April 8 & 22, 11:30 a.m.*  
**Chickasaw Branch**  
*Thursdays, April 6–27, 12:30 p.m.*  
*Saturdays, April 8 & 22, 12:30 p.m.*  
*Fridays, April 14 & 28, 12:30 p.m.*  
**Southeast Branch**  
*Fridays, April 14 & 28, 11:30 a.m.*  
 Practice your English speaking skills during the English Conversation Hour. All proficiency levels are welcomed!

**Speaking Clearly Advanced Virtual**  
*Mondays, April 3–24, 10:30 a.m.*  
 This course is designed for students who want to improve their speaking and presentation skills.

**Conversation Hour Virtual**  
*Mondays, April 3–24, 4:15 p.m.*  
*Tuesdays, April 4–25, 6 p.m.*  
*Wednesdays, April 5–26, Noon*  
*Thursdays, April 6–27, 2 p.m.*  
 Join us to practice your English speaking skills in a virtual Conversation Hour. Each session will have specific topics for discussion.

**Creole Connect**  
**South Trail Branch**  
*Mondays, April 3–24, 4:15 p.m.*  
 Vini aprann pale e pratike anglè w nan kou sa.

**Writing Clearly for Beginners Virtual**  
*Tuesdays, April 4–25, 10:30 a.m.*  
 Join us for a virtual meeting where we will review different grammar points in English and basic sentence writing.

**Speaking Clearly Intermediate Southeast Branch**  
*Tuesdays, April 4, 11 & 25, 2 p.m.*  
 This pronunciation class for intermediate speakers is designed to introduce learners to the rules of spelling and pronunciation of English words and phrases.

**Making Cents: Your Money in English Chickasaw Branch**  
*Tuesdays, April 4 & 11, 5 p.m.*  
 In this six-week series, you will learn the English skills needed to manage your money in the USA.

**English Conversation Plus Southwest Branch**  
*Wednesdays, April 5–26, 1 p.m.*  
 Practice speaking and listening in English. Designed for intermediate to advanced adult English learners. Increase fluency, enrich vocabulary and gain confidence. Plus, reading and writing practice.

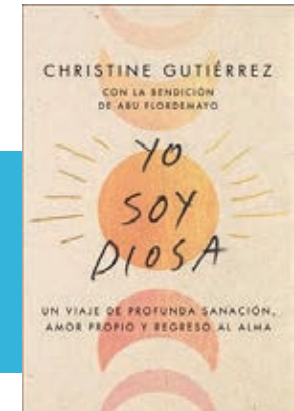
**Practice Makes Perfect Chickasaw Branch**  
*Thursdays, April 6–27, 2–3:30 p.m.*  
 Practice Makes Perfect are English conversation classes that are led by Adult Literacy League volunteers.

**Open Language Lab South Trail Branch**  
*Friday, April 7, 10:30 a.m.*  
 Learn and practice English with other fellow students.

**Speaking Clearly Beginners Southeast Branch**  
*Saturdays, April 8 & 22, 10:30 a.m.*  
*Fridays, April 14 & 28, 10:30 a.m.*  
**Virtual**  
*Fridays, April 14 & 28, 2:30 p.m.*  
*Saturdays, April 8 & 22, 2:30 p.m.*  
 Designed to introduce learners to the basic sounds of English for pronunciation.

**Introducción al Inglés South Trail Branch**  
*Fridays, April 17–28, 4–5:30 p.m.*  
 Introducción al Inglés está diseñada y enfocada en Hispanohablantes interesados en aprender el idioma del Inglés comenzando desde lo más básico y desarrollando vocabulario, gramática, y conversación.

# NUEVO EN LA BIBLIOTECA



**Sangre azul**  
 por Danielle Steel  
 traducción de José Serra Marín  
 Una historia inolvidable sobre familia, realeza, una mujer extraordinaria que descubre su legado y el hombre que la devuelve al lugar que le corresponde.

**La herencia de Orquídea Divina**  
 por Zoraida Córdova  
 traducción de Natalia Navarro Díaz  
 Alternando entre el pasado de Orquídea y el presente de sus descendientes, *La herencia de Orquídea Divina* es una novela fascinante sobre lo que heredamos de nuestros antepasados consciente e inconscientemente, los lazos que nos unen.

**Aprender a silenciar la mente**  
 por Osho  
 Uno de los maestros espirituales más importantes del siglo XX nos enseña a calmar la mente y a alejarnos de pensamientos negativos.

**La otra chica negra**  
 por Zakiya Dalila Harris  
 traducción de Eva Gonzáles  
 Provocador e inteligente, *La otra chica negra* es un debut electrizante sobre la tensión que se crea cuando dos jóvenes negras se encuentran cara a cara en el mundo editorial neoyorkino, predominantemente blanco.

**Yo soy diosa**  
 por Christine Gutiérrez  
 traducción de Yvette Torres  
 En este libro intensamente inspirador, la psicoterapeuta Christine Gutiérrez invita a las mujeres a unirse para sanar heridas de traumas o golpes del pasado con el fin de reclamar su valor y regresar al hogar que es su auténtico yo y su verdadera alma.



## LANGUAGE CLASSES

**Spanish from Zero: Basic with Ms. Brenda**  
**Virtual**  
*Tuesday, April 4, 4 p.m.*  
 Designed to introduce learners to the basics sounds of Spanish.

**Spanish Pronunciation with Ms. Brenda**  
**Virtual**  
*Tuesdays, April 4 & 11, 5 p.m.*  
 Learn all about Spanish pronunciation with Ms. Brenda.

**Basic Spanish with Ms. Wilnelia**  
**Virtual**  
*Tuesday, April 4, 6 p.m.*  
 This class is designed to introduce learners to the basic sounds and vocabulary of Spanish.

**Spanish Conversation Hour Chickasaw Branch**  
*Wednesdays, April 5 & 19, 5:30 p.m.*  
 Develop your Spanish language skills through conversation. Conversational topics and themed vocabulary will be provided. Recommended for ages 18 and up.

**Intermediate Spanish Virtual**  
*Wednesdays, April 12–26, 10:30 a.m.*  
 Designed to introduce learners to Spanish grammar by focusing on the parts of speech, verb conjugations, sentence structure and vocabulary building.

## CITIZENSHIP INSPIRED

OCLS.INFO/CITIZENSHIP

**Citizenship Inspired Virtual**  
*Tuesdays & Wednesdays, April 4, 5, 11 & 12, 3–5 p.m.*  
*Thursdays, April 6–27, 3–4:30 p.m.*  
*Tuesdays & Wednesdays, April 18, 19, 25 & 26, 3–5 p.m.*  
 During this program, students will meet via Zoom to prepare for the U.S. Naturalization (Citizenship) Test and Interview.





## 100 YEAR CELEBRATION

OCLS.INFO/100

Every month during 2023, we celebrate 100 years of service to the community by highlighting each decade the library has been open with special events and programs that illuminate our history and enhance our present. In April, we look back at the 1940s.

### OCLS IN THE 1940s

#### December 1940

There are 20,250 registered library borrowers

#### December 1941

As the U.S. enters World War II, the Albertson Public Library is designated as a War Information Center

#### January 1943

Head Librarian Olive Brumbaugh retires

#### February 1943

Clara Wendel is hired as library director

#### April 1946

Library staff begin the Children's Radio Hour series, sharing stories on local radio station WDBO

#### June 1946

Linda Reddick begins as librarian of the Booker T. Washington branch

#### February 1947

With a collection of 50 albums, the library's new service allows registered borrowers to check out music

#### November 1948

The Albertson Public Library celebrates its silver anniversary, marking 25 years of public service

#### February 1949

The newly established Friends of the Library convenes its first meeting

#### December 1949

The library's new bookmobile makes its inaugural run to serve Orange County residents



### THE HISTORY OF ORANGE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM: FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOOKMOBILE

BY NATHALY RUIZ,  
COMMUNITY OUTREACH COORDINATOR

In 1949, the Albertson Public Library board received a proposal for a bookmobile that would reach residents in outlying areas of the county. Believing that no other service would be a greater benefit to the community, Sorosis of Orlando Woman's Club raised \$6,000 to purchase a school bus and convert it into a mobile library that would make scheduled stops and distribute library materials across Orange County. To maintain the vehicle's staff, collection and upkeep, the Friends of the Library sponsored a bill in the state legislature that would allow funds to be appropriated for the operation of the bookmobile, and with help from Sorosis members, the passage was secured. When asked why the bookmobile was so important to the club, Susan Piner, current First Vice President of Sorosis, said, "The city of Orlando was always rather spread out and transportation wasn't easy back in those days. To get the books into the hands of people that wanted them but didn't have access was very important."

The bookmobile made its inaugural run on December 1, 1949, launching the first county-wide library service provided in Florida. A schedule was established stating when and where the bookmobile would be located throughout the week to ensure the entire community was being reached. These bookmobile stops would later inspire branch locations including the Alafaya, North Orange, Hiwassee and Windermere branches and gave rise to Books by MAYL (Materials Access from Your Library), a service still in operation today that delivers library materials directly to customers throughout Orange County. After receiving an anonymous donation in 1959, Traveling Libraries were added to the library's extension division, further expanding its county-wide reach. As branch locations were created and home delivery services proved to be successful, bookmobile services were reduced and eventually discontinued in 1979.

Orange County Library System has since expanded to 15 locations across the county, but the need for mobile services remains. Thankfully, the library recently received a timely and generous gift from a familiar group of women. On January 7, 2023, Sorosis of Orlando Woman's Club announced their donation of \$100,000 at the 100 Year Celebration Kickoff event held at Orlando Public Library. "It's very exciting to see that we might have the ability to check out books in a park or in a parking lot or in the extended areas of the county that don't have a branch," Piner remarked. In honor of their 1949 bookmobile donation to the library, Sorosis of Orlando's endowment will be used to bring back mobile services to Orange County Library System, making a lasting impact on the library's next 100 years of service to county residents.



ORLANDO, FLORIDA

### 100 YEAR CELEBRATION CHALLENGE FOR ADULTS

January 1– December 31

It was 100 years ago that the first seeds of the Orange County Library System were planted. The library is challenging you to participate in activities all year long in celebration of our centennial anniversary.

#### Cuisine Corner Junior: Century-Old Recipes – Icebox Cakes

**Southeast Branch**  
**Saturday, April 1, 10:30 a.m.**  
What did people eat 100 years ago? Celebrate the library's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday by making a tasty recipe that is just as old! Recommended for families with children ages 5 and up.

#### A Decade in Film: 1940s Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room

**Wednesdays,**  
**April 5 & 19, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.**  
This series explores film through each of the decades our library has been open! Celebrate the history of film every month in 2023.

#### Book Page Necklaces

**Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room**  
**Friday, April 7, 11 a.m.**  
Be inspired by your favorite book and design your own unique necklace using recycled books and jewelry pieces. All supplies provided.

#### 100 Years of Art

**West Oaks Branch**  
**Saturday, April 15, 3 p.m.**  
Explore art styles through the decades as we celebrate the library's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday! Recommended for families with children ages 6 and up. Registration required.

#### 100 Years of Cinema: Saturday Morning Cartoons

**Fairview Shores Branch**  
**Saturday, April 29, 3 p.m.**  
Bugs Bunny, Tom and Jerry, Superman and more beloved characters appeared in the 1940s on Saturday mornings. Watch these classics and enjoy some snacks from the '40s! Recommended for families.



## SECOND SATURDAY IMPROV SHOW: THE MUSICAL!

**Orlando Public Library, Melrose Center**  
**Saturday, April 8, 4 p.m.**  
Performers from the Orlando Improv Community will create a fully improvised musical! This fun, family friendly show is a part of the 100-year anniversary celebration of Orlando Public Library.

## FOAMSMITHING WORKSHOP: 1940S WONDER WOMAN ACCESSORIES

**Orlando Public Library, Melrose Center**  
**Tuesdays, April 18 & 25, 5:30 p.m.**  
Use EVA foam to construct cosplay/costume worthy props! Our instructor will show how to construct Wonder Woman's iconic tiara and bracers.

**Glowforge Workshop: 1940s Captain America Shield Decoration**  
**Orlando Public Library, Melrose Center**  
**Saturday, April 22, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.**  
Assemble a Captain America shield décor to celebrate OCLS's 100 years of service. Our instructor will lead honorary sidekicks in creating the iconic shield for display.



**Global Genealogy: Ireland**  
**Virtual**  
**Tuesday, April 4, 1 p.m.**  
Explore resources, tips and tricks for finding records in the home countries of your ancestors. This session focuses on Ireland.

**Genealogy Research Report Writing & Numbering**  
**Virtual**  
**Wednesday, April 5, 6:30 p.m.**  
Learn about the different types of genealogy reports and numbering systems.

**Conducting Family History Interviews**  
**Virtual**  
**Thursday, April 6, Noon**  
Oral history is an important part of genealogical research. Learn how to get the most information from the family members you interview.

**Global Genealogy: England & Wales**  
**Virtual**  
**Tuesday, April 11, 1 p.m.**  
Explore resources, tips and tricks for finding records in the home countries of your ancestors. This session focuses on England and Wales.

**Genealogy Research Question Workshop**  
**Virtual**  
**Wednesday, April 12, 6:30 p.m.**  
Sharpen your genealogy skills and learn about resources by sharing your research questions.

**Genealogy in the States: Pennsylvania**  
**Virtual**  
**Thursday, April 13, Noon**  
Explore the rich research resources and collections that are held in a variety of archives and repositories in Pennsylvania. Discover what records are available and how to use them.

**Global Genealogy: Germany**  
**Virtual**  
**Thursday, April 18, 1 p.m.**  
Explore resources, tips and tricks for finding records in the home countries of your ancestors. This session focuses on Germany.

**Building Your Family Tree on Ancestry.com**  
**Virtual**  
**Wednesday, April 19, 6:30 p.m.**  
Discover all of the tools and resources Ancestry.com has to help you build your family tree online.

**Genealogy Research Project Start-to-Finish**  
**Virtual**  
**Thursday, April 20, Noon**  
Get your genealogy research on track. Learn how to organize information at the beginning of your genealogy research project in order to help you develop and implement an effective research plan.

**Global Genealogy: Sweden**  
**Virtual**  
**Tuesday, April 25, 1 p.m.**  
Explore resources, tips and tricks for finding records in the home countries of your ancestors. This session focuses on Sweden.

**Genealogy 101**  
**Virtual**  
**Wednesday, April 26, 6:30 p.m.**  
Are you interested in learning about your family history but don't know where to begin? This program will help you get started by introducing you to genealogical terms, techniques and resources.

**Key Websites for Genealogy Research**  
**Virtual**  
**Thursday, April 27, Noon**  
Familiarize yourself with the core genealogical websites and explore the similarities and differences between them.

APRIL SHOWERS

It's raining fiber arts at the library. Celebrate the arrival of spring with cute projects featuring umbrellas, clouds and rainbows designed for every skill level.



SEWING – RAINY DAY  
CROCHET HOOK CASE

**Orlando Public Library**  
*Saturdays, April 1 & 8, 10 a.m.–Noon*  
*Fridays, April 14 & 21, 10 a.m.–Noon*  
This umbrella-shaped case is easily constructed and can fit any hook or needle sizes. You'll be prepared for any weather with a case that protects your tools.

**Let's Knit a Head in the Clouds Pillow**  
**Virtual**  
*Mondays, April 3–24, 10:30 a.m.–Noon*  
Celebrate OCLS's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday by knitting the decades with us. This month's featured pattern is the Bernat Head in the Clouds Pillow.

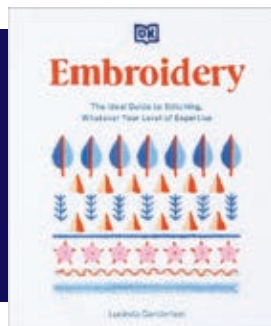
**Let's Crochet Cloudy with a Chance of Rainbows Scarf**  
**Virtual**  
*Thursdays, April 13–27, 4:30–6:30 p.m.*  
Learn to create beautiful rainbow scarves that are sure to keep things bright. This delightfully whimsical wearable combines working in rows along with rounds.

**Let's Embroider April Showers**  
**Virtual**  
*Friday, April 28, 4–5:30 p.m.*  
Learn some new stitches and techniques while crafting a cute mini April Showers design.

**Sewing: Headband**  
**South Trail Branch**  
*Saturday, April 29, 3–5 p.m.*  
Get ready for windy days ahead with an adorable and easy-to-sew head scarf.

YARNFITI: GARDENS OF BOOKS  
NEA BIG READ: *CATALOG OF UNABASHED GRATITUDE*

**Orlando Public Library**  
*Wednesdays, April 5–26, 10 a.m.–Noon*  
Help create mini-garden dioramas to delight visitors to the library. Contribute your fiber arts skills to make garden themed dioramas. Dioramas will be placed within the library as a cute surprise for guests.

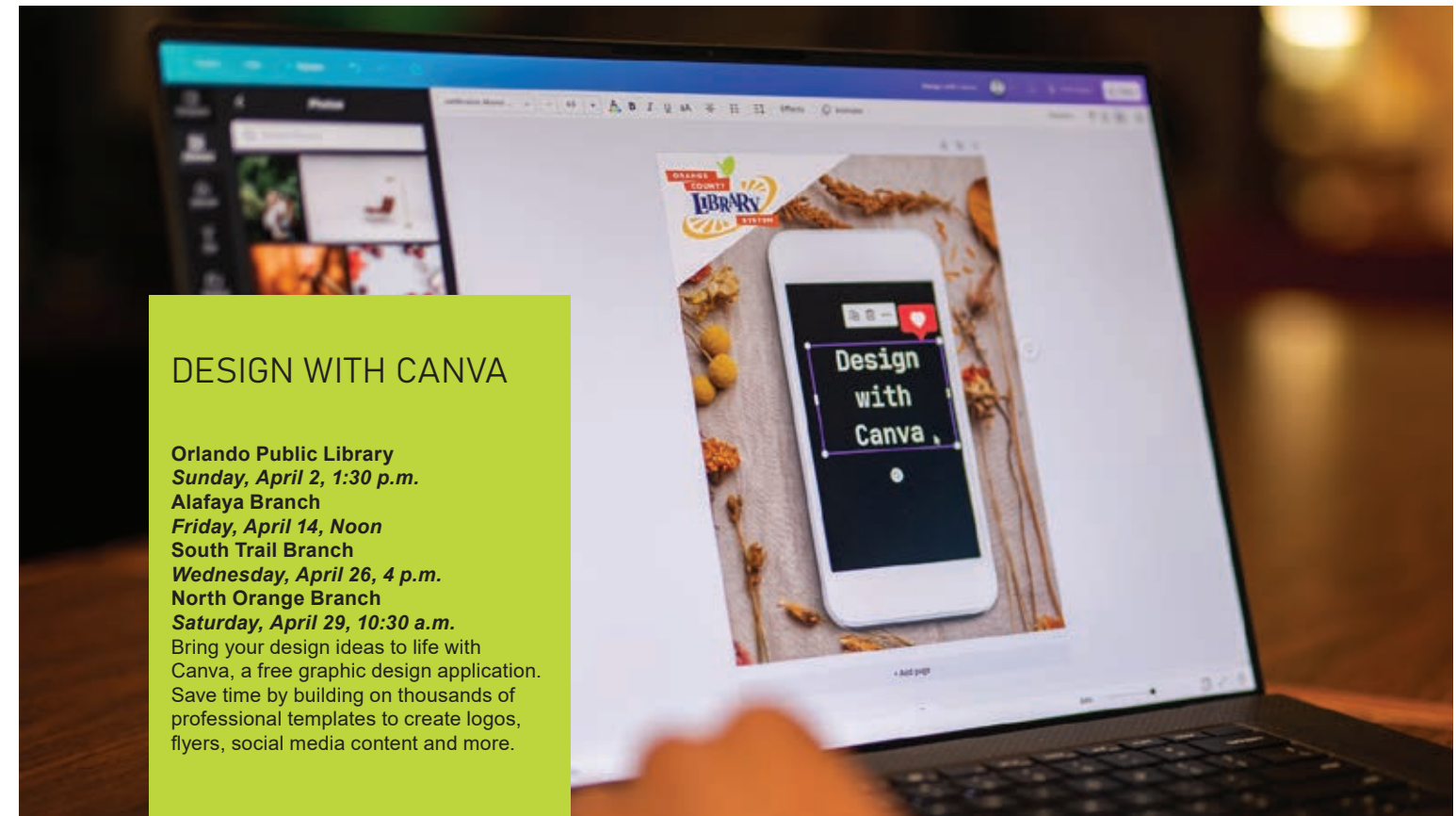


EMBROIDERY

by **Lucinda Ganderton**  
Whether you are an embroidery beginner wanting to learn the basics or an accomplished crafter seeking to perfect your technique, this all-encompassing embroidery stitch book has something for everyone to love!

GET CREATIVE

Use Canva and Photoshop to unleash your creativity in the month of April.



DESIGN WITH CANVA

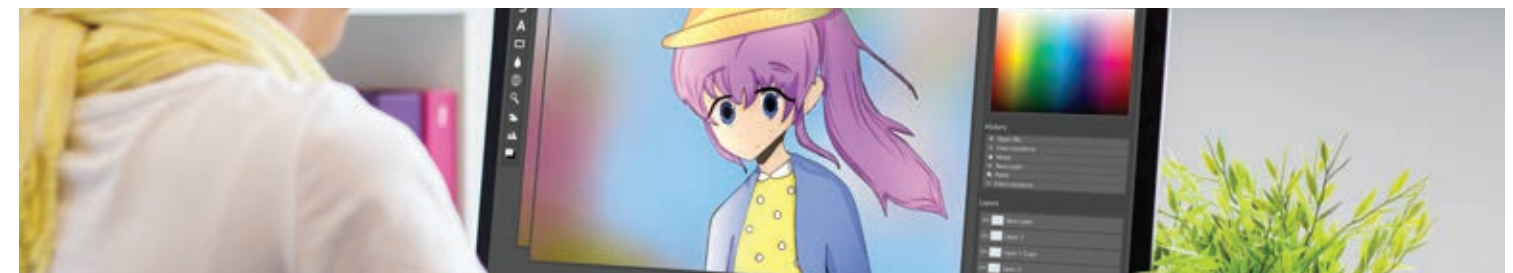
**Orlando Public Library**  
*Sunday, April 2, 1:30 p.m.*  
**Alafaya Branch**  
*Friday, April 14, Noon*  
**South Trail Branch**  
*Wednesday, April 26, 4 p.m.*  
**North Orange Branch**  
*Saturday, April 29, 10:30 a.m.*  
Bring your design ideas to life with Canva, a free graphic design application. Save time by building on thousands of professional templates to create logos, flyers, social media content and more.

**Adobe Photoshop Level 1**  
**Hiawasee Branch**  
*Saturday, April 1, 11 a.m.*  
**South Trail Branch**  
*Thursday, April 13, 2 p.m.*  
**Orlando Public Library**  
*Sunday, April 16, 1:30 p.m.*  
**Alafaya Branch**  
*Friday, April 21, 11 a.m.*  
Learn about the functionality of Photoshop and explore the environment. Become familiar with using selection and editing tools.

**Adobe Photoshop Level 2**  
**Hiawasee Branch**  
*Saturday, April 1, 1:30 p.m.*  
**South Trail Branch**  
*Friday, April 14, 2 p.m.*  
**Orlando Public Library**  
*Sunday, April 16, 3:15 p.m.*  
**South Trail Branch**  
*Friday, April 28, 11 a.m.*  
Learn how to use layers, layer masks, free transform tools and text tools. Become familiar with adding basic effects to images.

**Adobe Photoshop Layer Blending Modes**  
**Orlando Public Library**  
*Sunday, April 23, 1:30 p.m.*  
**South Trail Branch**  
*Thursday, April 27, 2 p.m.*  
**Hiawasee Branch**  
*Saturday, April 29, 11 a.m.*  
**Virtual**  
*Thursday, April 27, 7 p.m.*  
Apply blending modes to image layers to quickly fix problems with exposure, shadows and highlights. Learn to use blending modes to generate artistic and creative effects on photos.

**Adobe Photoshop Black and White Effects**  
**Orlando Public Library**  
*Sunday, April 23, 2:45 p.m.*  
**Hiawasee Branch**  
*Saturday, April 29, 1:30 p.m.*  
**Virtual**  
*Thursday, April 20, 7 p.m.*  
Make photos pop with black and white effects. Learn multiple ways to convert photos to black and white, apply adjustment layers and create enhancing effects.



BABY

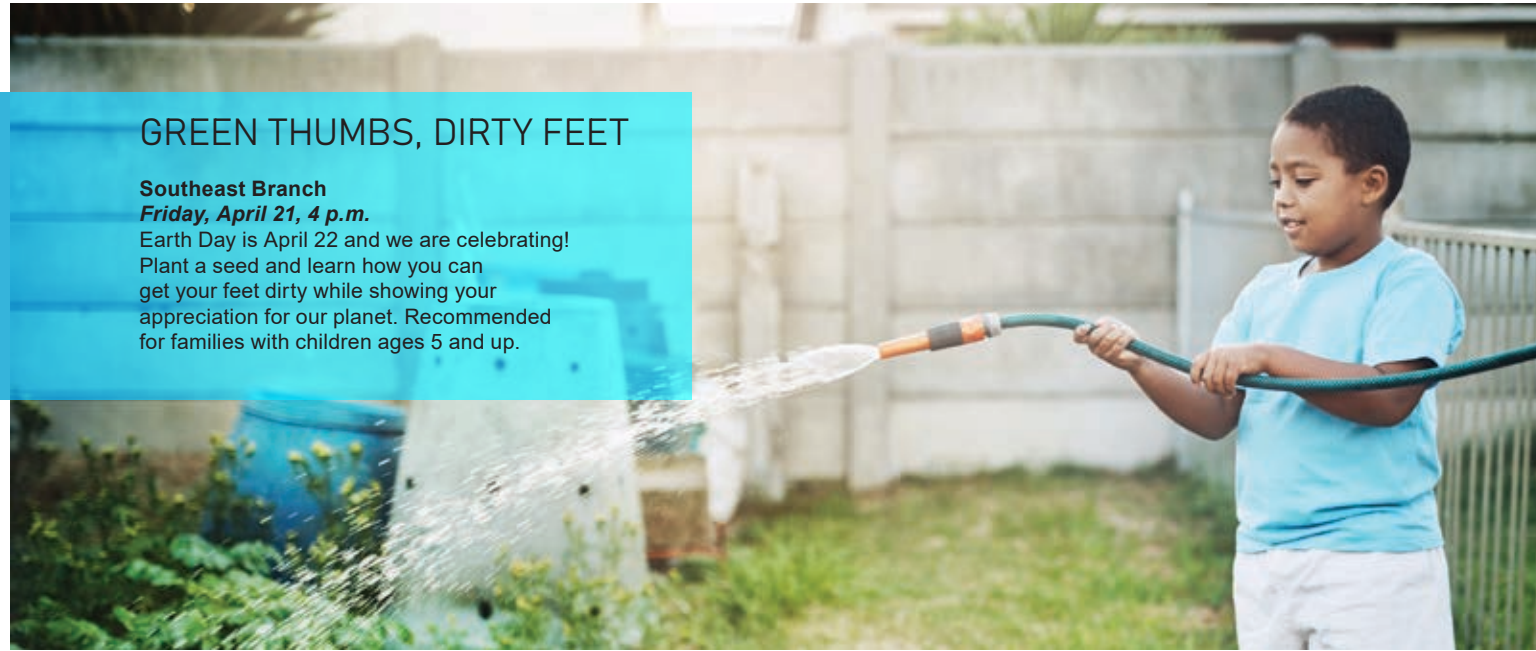
AGES 0-18 MONTHS

TODDLER

AGES 18-36 MONTHS

GREEN THUMBS, DIRTY FEET

**Southeast Branch**  
**Friday, April 21, 4 p.m.**  
 Earth Day is April 22 and we are celebrating! Plant a seed and learn how you can get your feet dirty while showing your appreciation for our planet. Recommended for families with children ages 5 and up.



**ArtMazing**  
**South Creek Branch**  
**Saturday, April 1, 2 p.m.**  
 Unleash your inner artist and discover your creative side in this all-ages art exploration. Inspiration is a must! Recommended for families with children ages 6 and up.

**Fun Family Film**  
**South Trail Branch**  
**Saturdays, April 1-29, 2-4 p.m.**  
 Join us for a movie that's fun for the whole family.

**Kids Yoga & Meditation**  
**North Orange Branch**  
**Mondays, April 3-24, 10:15 a.m.**  
**Fairview Shores Branch**  
**Tuesdays, April 4-25, 2 p.m.**  
 Practice yoga, meditation and mindfulness in a fun way by integrating music with movement. Families can wiggle together and learn ways to calm down. Recommended for families with children ages 3-10.

**Mindful Start Family Yoga**  
**Winter Garden Branch**  
**Mondays, April 3-24, 10:30 a.m.**  
**West Oaks Branch**  
**Wednesday, April 5-26, 10 a.m.**  
 Silly and fun yoga poses designed for kids. Flow-through an imaginative journey filled with puppets, parachute games and relaxing rest time. Recommended for families with children ages 0-7.

**STEAM Free Play**  
**South Trail Branch**  
**Mondays, April 3 & 17, 3:30-5 p.m.**  
 Explore and play as we have fun with STEAM-related toys. Kits such as LEGO and K'NEX are available for anyone to play.

**Yoga with PLAYologist**  
**Yolonda**  
**Eatonville Branch**  
**Tuesdays, April 4-25, 10:15 a.m.**  
**Orlando Public Library**  
**Sunday, April 30, 3 p.m.**  
 Fun-filled yoga, meditation and mindfulness sessions with a twist that uses a PLAY-based yoga curriculum that is trauma-informed conscious.

**Cuisine Corner Junior: Lemon Shortbread Cookies**  
**Virtual**  
**Thursday, April 6, 4 p.m.**  
 This lemon shortbread recipe is a simple sugar cookie that family members of all ages can enjoy making to celebrate the spring season. Learn how you and your main squeeze can make this at home.

**Prime Time Family Reading Time**  
**Southeast Branch**  
**Thursdays,**  
**April 6-27, 5:30-7:30 p.m.**  
 Join us for a six-week reading and discussion program that inspires thought and conversation between children and families. Meals will be provided. Registration required.

**You're a Poet and You Don't Even Know It**  
**Southeast Branch**  
**Friday, April 7, 4 p.m.**  
 There is so much more to poetry than rhymes. Explore selections from the greats and try to recreate some of your own. Recommended for families with children ages 5 and up.

**Cuisine Corner Junior: Fruit Nachos**  
**South Creek Branch**  
**Saturday, April 8, 10:30 a.m.**  
 Celebrate spring by preparing a fun and edible fruit rainbow! Recommended for families with children ages 3-8.

**Eggs-treme Egg Hunt**  
**North Orange Branch**  
**Saturday, April 8, Noon-6 p.m.**  
 Join us for an egg-tastic egg hunt. Stop by the front desk to grab a bag and enjoy an egg-cellent scavenger hunt throughout our branch. While supplies last.

**Movie and a Craft**  
**West Oaks Branch**  
**Saturday, April 8, 3-5 p.m.**  
 Sit back and relax during a family-friendly movie while working on a craft or coloring sheets.

**DIY Paper Cacti**  
**South Creek Branch**  
**Friday, April 14, 4 p.m.**  
 Craft your own 3D cactus that lives forever, doesn't need sun or water and won't poke you!

**Party for the Planet**  
**Eatonville Branch**  
**Wednesday, April 19, 3 p.m.**  
 Celebrate Earth Day by learning about birds with the Audubon Center for Birds of Prey. Play a fun bird game and meet a real live bird of prey as we party for the planet this Earth Day.

**Hair Braiding**  
**South Trail Branch**  
**Saturday,**  
**April 22, 10:15-11:45 a.m.**  
 Learn how to braid natural hair into a protective style. Explore healthy braiding techniques and get advice on the best hair tools for natural hair.

**Dungeons, Dragons & Libraries**  
**North Orange Branch**  
**Saturday, April 22, 1-3 p.m.**  
 Have you ever wanted to play Dungeons & Dragons? Now's your chance! Join us adventurers on our next quest! Recommended for families with children ages 9-15.

**Tabletop Thursday**  
**South Trail Branch**  
**Thursday, April 27, 3:30-5 p.m.**  
 Go toe-to-toe and test your wits against your fellow kids with a variety of strategy, card and multi-player party games. Games will be provided.

**Book Games**  
**Southeast Branch**  
**Saturday, April 29, 10:30 a.m.**  
 Reading books is important, but have you ever played book dominoes or built a tower of books? Let the book games begin! Recommended for families with children ages 5 and up.

MOTHER GOOSE ON THE LOOSE

**Fairview Shores Branch**  
**Thursdays, April 6-27, 10:30 a.m.**  
**Southwest Branch**  
**Mondays, April 10 & 24, 10:30 a.m.**  
**North Orange Branch**  
**Tuesday, April 25, 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.

MAMA GANSA

**Orlando Public Library**  
**Mondays, April 10 & 24, 10:30 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.



**Shake, Rattle & Roll**  
**Southeast Branch**  
**Monday, April 3, 10:15 a.m.**  
 Encourage your baby's movement and hand-eye coordination by exploring shapes, shakers and sounds.

**Baby Boogie**  
**Southwest Branch**  
**Monday, April 3, 10:30 a.m.**  
 Introduce your baby to music and stimulate cognitive development, language learning and motor coordination.

**Caregiver Coffee and a Craft**  
**Southeast Branch**  
**Monday, April 3, 11 a.m.**  
 Connect with other caregivers while sipping a hot beverage and making a craft. Your child will explore play with friends.

**Bounce Into Books**  
**Southwest Branch**  
**Monday, April 17, 10:30 a.m.**  
 Introduce your baby to important early literacy skills through movement, music, rhymes and stories.

**Springtime Sprouts**  
**Alafaya Branch**  
**Wednesday, April 26, 10:15 a.m.**  
 It's baby's first spring! Discover new ways to play and interact with sensory activities for your little one.

**Teddy Bear Storytime**  
**Fairview Shores Branch**  
**Tuesday, April 4, 10:30 a.m.**  
 Bring your teddy bear to the library! Interact with your teddy through stories, songs and rhymes for a one-of-a-kind story time. Recommended for ages 2-5.

**Parachute Play**  
**North Orange Branch**  
**Tuesday, April 4, 11 a.m.**  
 Play, explore and learn about the world. Put thoughts into words by talking about what your child is doing and building positive social interactions with others.

**Storytime Craft**  
**North Orange Branch**  
**Wednesdays,**  
**April 5-26, 10:30 a.m.**  
**Southwest Branch**  
**Thursdays,**  
**April 6-27, 10 a.m.-Noon**  
 Drop-in before and after storytime to create a make-and-take craft. Recommended for ages 2-5.

**Toddler Playground**  
**Southwest Branch**  
**Wednesday, April 5, 10:30 a.m.**  
 Toddlers use unstructured play to advance their physical and cognitive development and to have fun!

**Green Grass Grows All Around**  
**North Orange Branch**  
**Thursday, April 6, 11 a.m.**  
 There once was a tree, a pretty little tree, the prettiest little tree that you ever did see! Join us for stories, songs and activities about the greenery growing all around us.

**Big Fish, Little Fish**  
**Winter Garden Branch**  
**Tuesday, April 11, 10:30 a.m.**  
 Splish, splash, splosh! Fish and his friends are ready to play. Play strengthens fine and gross motor skills and develops problem solving skills.

**Bubble Playtime**  
**Fairview Shores Branch**  
**Tuesdays, April 11 & 25, 10:30 a.m.**  
**North Orange Branch**  
**Tuesday, April 18, 11 a.m.**  
 Help your child with their motor development skills in this interactive bubble class. Recommended for ages 2-5.

**Move Like the Animals**  
**North Orange Branch**  
**Tuesday, April 11, 11 a.m.**  
 Can you hop like a frog? Waddle like a penguin? Run like a cheetah? See if you can move like the animals do! Recommended for ages 2-5.

**Artsy Toddler**  
**Alafaya Branch**  
**Wednesday, April 12, 10:15 a.m.**  
**Southwest Branch**  
**Wednesday, April 26, 10:30 a.m.**  
 Paint, paste, glue, stamp and create! Young children will enjoy stories, songs and exploring age-appropriate art experiences.

**Earth Day, Hooray!**  
**Southwest Branch**  
**Wednesday, April 12, 10:30 a.m.**  
**West Oaks Branch**  
**Tuesday, April 18, 11 a.m.**  
**Chickasaw Branch**  
**Saturday, April 22, 3:30 p.m.**  
 It's never too early to start learning about protecting our planet! Enjoy nature-friendly stories, crafts and activities with your little one. Recommended for ages 2-5.

**Jumpin' Jubilee**  
**Winter Garden Branch**  
**Thursday, April 13, 10:30 a.m.**  
 Celebrate with stories, songs, dancing and crafts in honor of the library's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday!

**Little Lit Classics**  
**Southeast Branch**  
**Monday, April 17, 10:15 a.m.**  
**Fairview Shores Branch**  
**Tuesday, April 18, 10:30 a.m.**  
 Introduce your toddler to classic literature through basic concepts by exploring colors from *Alice in Wonderland*, shapes from *Treasure Island* and more.

**Caregiver Coffee and a Craft**  
**Southeast Branch**  
**Monday, April 17, 11 a.m.**  
 Connect with other caregivers while sipping a hot beverage and making a craft. Your child will explore play with friends.

**Pom Pom Party**  
**Southwest Branch**  
**Wednesday, April 19, 10:30 a.m.**  
 What can you do with a pom pom? Come party with us and discover all kinds of ways to use those fluffy, puffy pom poms!



## BELLA'S LITTLE FARM

**Orlando Public Library, Under the Sea**  
**Saturday, April 1, 11:30 a.m.**  
 Meet friendly farm animals such as guinea pigs, piglets and bunnies. Learn about how to handle small animals with gentle care. Discover what small animals eat. Recommended for children ages 0-8.

**Pajama Party**  
**Virtual**  
**Mondays, April 3-24, 7 p.m.**  
 Put on your pajamas and enjoy an interactive virtual storytime with book, songs, games and a craft.

**Little Chef: Strawberry Yogurt Parfait**  
**South Creek Branch**  
**Tuesday, April 4, 10:30 a.m.**  
 You're never too young to get your start in the kitchen! What can you make with strawberries, graham crackers and yogurt? Adult participation is required. Registration required.

**Sesame Street Storytime**  
**Southwest Branch**  
**Tuesday, April 4, 10:30 a.m.**  
**Virtual**  
**Monday, April 3-24, 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 virtual storytime and craft celebrating our favorite friends.

**Alphabet Adventures**  
**Alafaya Branch**  
**Tuesday, April 4, 11 a.m.**  
 Learn the alphabet with exciting stories and fun activities.

**Little Chef: Peep Pudding Cups**  
**West Oaks Branch**  
**Tuesday, April 4, 11 a.m.**  
 Create your own peep cup with pudding, cookies and other yummy treats. Registration required.

**Cúentame un Cuento**  
**Orlando Public Library**  
**Wednesdays,**  
**April 5 & 19, 10:30 a.m.**  
**South Trail Branch**  
**Thursdays, April 13 & 27, 4 p.m.**  
**Southeast Branch**  
**Monday, April 24, 10:15 a.m.**  
**West Oaks Branch**  
**Tuesday, April 25, 11 a.m.**  
**Chickasaw Branch**  
**Wednesday, April 26, 11 a.m.**  
**Virtual**  
**Tuesdays, April 4-25, 10 a.m.**  
**Tuesday, April 25, 11 a.m.**  
 Cúentame un Cuento is an interactive bilingual storytime featuring books and songs in English and Spanish that are suitable for speakers of either language.

**Countdown to Kindergarten**  
**Chickasaw Branch**  
**Wednesdays, April 5 & 12, 11 a.m.**  
**North Orange Branch**  
**Thursday, April 27, 11 a.m.**  
 Learn about pets through stories, rhymes and activities designed to help preschoolers develop the necessary skills to become readers and succeed in kindergarten. Recommended for ages 4-5.

**Sailing Down the Nile**  
**Virtual**  
**Wednesday, April 5, 11 a.m.**  
 Preschoolers will take a trip down the Nile through stories and songs to learn about Egypt.

**It's All Groovy**  
**South Trail Branch**  
**Thursday, April 6, 4 p.m.**  
 Who's the cool cat on the street? Learn basic concepts with sing-along stories and activities inspired by Pete the Cat. Come dressed with your groovy buttons for a good time!

**Little Artist**  
**North Orange Branch**  
**Friday, April 7, 11 a.m.**  
 Get creative with arts and crafts! Preschoolers will enjoy age-appropriate stories and crafts.

**Little Readers**  
**Virtual**  
**Saturdays, April 8 & 22, 10 a.m.**  
 Start your child's reading journey with engaging activities focused on phonics and sight words. Emergent readers should be able to recognize all alphabetical letters. Recommended for ages 4-6.

**Peter Rabbit's Garden Party**  
**Chickasaw Branch**  
**Saturday, April 8, 11 a.m.**  
 Peter Rabbit loves Mr. McGregor's garden and you will too at this wonderful garden party. Hop into the library for stories, crafts and a bunny good time!

**How Does a Seed Grow?**  
**Southeast Branch**  
**Monday, April 10, 10:15 a.m.**  
**South Creek Branch**  
**Tuesday, April 11, 10:30 a.m.**  
**Winter Garden Branch**  
**Tuesday, April 25, 10:30 a.m.**  
**Virtual**  
**Thursday, April 6, 11 a.m.**  
**Tuesday, April 11, 11 a.m.**  
**Wednesday, April 12, 11 a.m.**  
 With our little hands we can make a difference and care for our environment. Let's read, learn and play through a fun celebration for Earth Day!

**Rescue Patrol**  
**West Oaks Branch**  
**Tuesday, April 11, 11 a.m.**  
 All paws on deck! No job is too big; no kid is too small. We are off on a mission to learn, laugh and play with stories and activities inspired by the Nick Jr. series, *Paw Patrol*.

**Paw Patrol Storytime**  
**Alafaya Branch**  
**Tuesday, April 11, 11 a.m.**  
 Calling all pups! Help the *Paw Patrol* save the day through stories, games and crafts. Registration required.

**Children Around the World**  
**Virtual**  
**Wednesday, April 12, 11 a.m.**  
 Preschoolers will discover how much they have in common with children from other countries through stories, songs and a craft.

**Little Chef: Banana Split Pudding Parfaits**  
**North Orange Branch**  
**Thursday, April 13, 11 a.m.**  
 Go bananas and learn how to make your very own banana pudding cups!

**Earth Day Birthday**  
**Hiwassee Branch**  
**Monday, April 17, 11 a.m.**  
**Eatonville Branch**  
**Wednesday, April 19, 10:15 a.m.**  
**North Orange Branch**  
**Thursday, April 20, 11 a.m.**  
**South Creek Branch**  
**Saturday, April 22, 10:30 a.m.**  
 Happy Birthday, Earth! Honor our planet on her special day with stories, games and activities about keeping her clean.

**Little Chef: Fluffy Bunny Cakes**  
**South Creek Branch**  
**Tuesday, April 18, 10:30 a.m.**  
 What better way to welcome in the spring sunshine than with a bunnyrific cupcake! Turn a plain ol' cupcake into an animal work of art. Registration required.

**New Home, New Neighbor**  
**Winter Garden Branch**  
**Tuesday, April 18, 10:30 a.m.**  
**Virtual**  
**Thursday, April 20, 11 a.m.**  
 Welcome, neighbor! Say "hello" in Arabic and other languages, learn about your neighborhood and welcome new friends through activities based on Every Child Ready to Read.

**STEM 100**  
**Southwest Branch**  
**Tuesday, April 18, 10:30 a.m.**  
 What does 100 look like? How can we use 100 of something? Celebrate 100 years of the library in STEM stations completing different activities using up to 100 items!

**Hello, Spring!**  
**Alafaya Branch**  
**Tuesday, April 18, 11 a.m.**  
 Do you see the blooming flowers, smell the fresh cut grass or hear the baby chick peep? Learn, explore and play with all the things this season brings.

**I Love Earth**  
**Virtual**  
**Wednesday, April 19, 11 a.m.**  
 Listen to stories and celebrate Earth Day with your preschooler while engaging in fun activities and a craft.

**Teddy Bear Picnic**  
**South Creek Branch**  
**Tuesday, April 25, 10:30 a.m.**  
**Virtual**  
**Tuesday, April 18, 11 a.m.**  
 Bring your teddy bear! Interact with your teddy bear through stories, songs and rhymes for a one-of-a-kind storytime. Registration required.

## ZOO ZEN

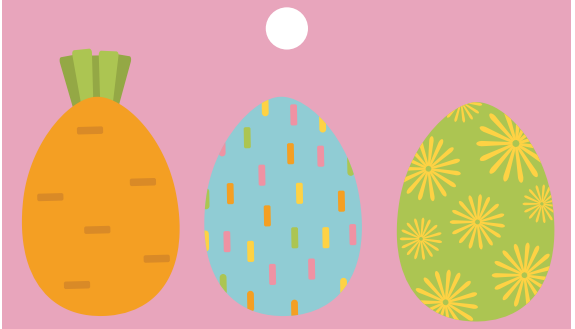
**Virtual**  
**Friday, April 21, 11 a.m.**  
 It's time for an introduction to yoga with zoo animals and friends! Learn fun movements as you go on a wild and magical journey full of movement and stories.

**Pizza Storytime**  
**Alafaya Branch**  
**Tuesday, April 25, 11 a.m.**  
 Everyone loves pizza! Celebrate our favorite food with stories, songs and crafts.

**What's for Dinner?**  
**Virtual**  
**Wednesday, April 26, 11 a.m.**  
 Ever wonder what children on the other side of the world eat for dinner? Find out as we explore international foods through stories and activities for preschoolers.

**Little Chef: Fancy Grilled Cheese Sandwiches**  
**Virtual**  
**Thursday, April 27, 11 a.m.**  
 Dress up your grilled cheese with a few extra ingredients!

**Arabic Storytime**  
**Alafaya Branch**  
**Sunday, April 30, 4:30 p.m.**  
 Listen to storytime in Arabic. Connect with friends and sing the Arabic alphabet song. Participate in circletime, interactive songs, play and craft time.



## STORYTIMES

OCLS.INFO/STORYTIME

### TINY TALES

(ages birth-18 months)  
 South Creek Branch, Mondays, 11:15 a.m.  
 Chickasaw Branch, Tuesdays, 10:15 a.m.  
 North Orange Branch, Wednesdays, 10:15 a.m.  
 Southeast Branch, Wednesdays, 11:15 a.m.  
 West Oaks Branch, Thursdays, 10:15 a.m.  
 Southwest Branch, Thursdays, 11:30 a.m.  
 Alafaya Branch, Fridays, 10:15 a.m.  
 Winter Garden Branch, Wednesdays, 11:15 a.m.  
 Winter Garden Branch, Fridays, 11:15 a.m.

### TODDLER TIME

(ages 18 months-3 years)  
 South Creek Branch, Mondays, 10:45 a.m.  
 Chickasaw Branch, Tuesdays, 10:45 a.m.  
 North Orange Branch, Wednesdays, 10:45 a.m.  
 Southeast Branch, Wednesdays, 10:45 a.m.  
 West Oaks Branch, Thursdays, 10:45 a.m.  
 Southwest Branch, Thursdays, 11 a.m.  
 Alafaya Branch, Fridays, 10:45 a.m.  
 Winter Garden Branch, Wednesdays, 10:45 a.m.  
 Winter Garden Branch, Fridays, 10:45 a.m.

### STORYBOOK FUN

(ages 3-5 years)  
 South Creek Branch, Mondays, 10:15 a.m.  
 Chickasaw Branch, Tuesdays, 11:15 a.m.  
 Southeast Branch, Wednesdays, 10:15 a.m.  
 Southwest Branch, Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.  
 West Oaks Branch, Thursdays, 11:15 a.m.  
 Winter Garden Branch, Wednesdays, 10:15 a.m.  
 Winter Garden Branch, Fridays, 10:15 a.m.  
 Alafaya Branch, Fridays, 11:15 a.m.

### Zero to Five Storytime

(ages 0-5 years)  
 Fairview Shores Branch, Mondays, 10:15 a.m.  
 Hiwassee Branch, Mondays, 10:15 a.m.  
 Washington Park Branch, Tuesdays, 10:15 a.m.  
 Eatonville Branch, Thursdays, 10:15 a.m.  
 South Trail Branch, Fridays, 10:15 a.m.

### Family Storytimes

Hiwassee Branch, Fridays, 10:30 a.m.  
 Orlando Public Library, Saturdays, 11 a.m.  
 North Orange Branch, First Sundays, 2 p.m.  
 Alafaya Branch, Second Sundays, 2 p.m.  
 South Creek Branch, Third Sundays, 2 p.m.  
 West Oaks Branch, Fourth Sundays, 2 p.m.

## ARAB AMERICAN HERITAGE

**Washington Park Branch**  
*Wednesday, April 5, 4 p.m.*  
**Eatonville Branch**  
*Thursday, April 13, 3:45 p.m.*  
**Southeast Branch**  
*Saturday, April 15, 10:30 a.m.*  
**West Oaks Branch**  
*Wednesday, April 26, 4 p.m.*

Children will explore stories and activities that introduce them to the Arabic language and teach them about understanding and celebrating cultures outside of their own. Recommended for ages 6–8.



## READING PAWS

**Chickasaw Branch**  
*Saturday, April 1, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.*  
**North Orange Branch**  
*Saturday, April 22, 11 a.m.*  
**Alafaya Branch**  
*Saturday, April 22, 11:30 a.m.*  
**West Oaks Branch**  
*Saturday, April 22, 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.*  
 The Reading Education Assistance Dogs (R.E.A.D.) program improves children's reading and communication skills by employing a powerful method: reading to a therapy dog.



**LEGO One Scoop**  
**Alafaya Branch**  
*Saturday, April 1, 1:30 p.m.*  
 Create greatness with one single scoop! The challenge is on so let's see what you can build! Bricks will be provided but cannot go home with you. Registration required.

**Read to Sydney**  
**Winter Garden Branch**  
*Monday, April 3, 4 p.m.*  
 Read to Sydney is a local therapy dog organization that encourages children to practice their reading skills with an attentive furry listener.

**Brain Games**  
**Fairview Shores Branch**  
*Mondays, April 3–24, 4:30 p.m.*  
 Use your critical thinking and creativity skills to participate in STEM-based experiments and games!

**Cookies & Milk with a Cop**  
**South Trail Branch**  
*Tuesday, April 4, 4 p.m.*  
**North Orange Branch**  
*Saturday, April 15, 11 a.m.*  
 Bring your kids to meet our local police officers and enjoy a story, cookies and milk. This series will be a great chance to interact with officers in a fun and informative environment.

**Beginner's Spanish for Kids**  
**Fairview Shores Branch**  
*Tuesdays, April 4–25, 4:30 p.m.*  
 Introduce your child to basic Spanish vocabulary through games and activities while having fun.

**Kids Play & Create**  
**Orlando Public Library**  
*Wednesdays, April 5, 12 & 19, 2:30 p.m.*  
 Choose your own adventure with a variety of board games and DIY crafts. Challenge your friends to a fun game or let your creativity fly with provided craft supplies.

**Art Club**  
**Alafaya Branch**  
*Wednesday, April 5, 4 p.m.*  
**Winter Garden Branch**  
*Saturday, April 15, 3:30 p.m.*  
 Try out new artistic techniques each month and experiment with your fellow artists! Recommended for ages 9–12. Registration required for each child.

**Help! I'm Endangered!**  
**West Oaks Branch**  
*Wednesday, April 5, 4 p.m.*  
**Washington Park Branch**  
*Wednesday, April 12, 4 p.m.*  
 What do giant pandas, gorillas and Brazilian three-toed sloths have in common? They are all endangered, and many more species are dwindling each day.

**Southwest LEGO Club**  
**Southwest Branch**  
*Wednesdays, April 5–26, 4 p.m.*  
 The LEGO Club invites you to come use your imaginations to build! Bricks will be provided but cannot go home with you.

**Passport to Russia**  
**Virtual**  
*Thursday, April 6, 4 p.m.*  
 Learn about the lives of kids around the world through hands-on activities.

**LEGO Block Party**  
**Winter Garden Branch**  
*Thursday, April 6, 4:30 p.m.*  
 Is there anything you can't build with LEGO? The challenge is on so let's see what you can build! Bricks for play will be provided but cannot go home with you.

**Snack Around the World: Austria**  
**West Oaks Branch**  
*Friday, April 7, 4 p.m.*  
 Treat yourself to tasty snacks from a land far away! Each month we will learn about a different culture while we sample the yummiest snacks it has to offer.

**Wild Earth: Volcanoes**  
**Chickasaw Branch**  
*Monday, April 10, 3:30 p.m.*  
**West Oaks Branch**  
*Wednesday, April 19, 4 p.m.*  
 Did you know that every week we have at least one volcano erupt on planet Earth? Together we will experiment and learn more fun facts about volcanoes!

**Botanical Collages**  
**South Trail Branch**  
*Monday, April 10, 4 p.m.*  
 Design, cut and paste to create beautiful collages inspired by nature.

**Secret Life of Trees**  
**South Trail Branch**  
*Tuesday, April 11, 4 p.m.*  
**Washington Park Branch**  
*Wednesday, April 19, 4 p.m.*  
 Trees are the oldest living things in the world. Join us for an Earth Day celebration of trees and discover their vital role in our environment.

**Happy Habitats**  
**Alafaya Branch**  
*Wednesday, April 12, 4 p.m.*  
 Learn about habitats, plants and animals through books and crafts. This month we're learning about the ocean. Registration required for each child. Recommended for ages 6–8.

**The Red Pyramid**  
**West Oaks Branch**  
*Wednesday, April 12, 4 p.m.*  
 Dive into Egyptology and explore hieroglyphics, pyramids, amulets and ancient Egyptian history. Based on *The Kane Chronicles* by Rick Riordan. Recommended for ages 6–12. Registration required.

**Gardening for Wildlife**  
**Winter Garden Branch**  
*Tuesday, April 18, 4:30 p.m.*  
 Celebrate spring by learning how to build backyards that encourage conservation and coexistence with our wild companions. Recommended for families with children ages 9 and up.

**One Hundred Years of Picture Books**  
**Hiwassee Branch**  
*Tuesday, April 18, 4:30 p.m.*  
**Washington Park Branch**  
*Wednesday, April 26, 4 p.m.*  
**Orlando Public Library**  
*Saturday, April 29, 2 p.m.*  
 Travel back in time through picture books. We will share stories from the past 100 years and children will have the opportunity to become picture book illustrators. Recommended for ages 6–8.

**Science Stars**  
**North Orange Branch**  
*Wednesday, April 19, 3:30 p.m.*  
 An hour of science experiments, crafts and trivia covering topics like space, dinosaurs and chemistry.

**Mayor Buddy's Book Club**  
**Virtual**  
*Wednesday, April 19, 4 p.m.*  
 Engage in a lively discussion and fun activities with Mayor Buddy's Book Club. Recommended for ages 8–12.

**The 100 Word Challenge**  
**South Trail Branch**  
*Wednesday, April 19, 4:30 p.m.*  
 Connect and collaborate with others through games and competitions, while showcasing your storytelling skills at the celebration of the century! Registration is required. Recommended for ages 9–12.

**An Intro to Banned Books**  
**Eatonville Branch**  
*Thursday, April 20, 3:45 p.m.*  
 Learn about the history of the banned books movement and the impactful importance of diverse storytelling through interactive activities.

**Passport to Samoa**  
**Virtual**  
*Thursday, April 20, 4 p.m.*  
 Learn about the lives of kids around the world through hands-on activities.

**Make a Dreamhouse!**  
**Alafaya Branch**  
*Saturday, April 22, 2 p.m.*  
 Let's go on a dreamhouse adventure! Cut, glue and color to design your own doll-sized dreamhouse.

**Crafternoon**  
**South Trail Branch**  
*Monday, April 24, 4 p.m.*  
 Get ready for an hour of crafting fun with friends.

**Feeling Good**  
**South Trail Branch**  
*Tuesday, April 25, 4 p.m.*  
 Learn some chill skills with self calming techniques, tips and tricks.

**Paper Pals**  
**Alafaya Branch**  
*Wednesday, April 26, 4 p.m.*  
 Create fun paper creations inspired by your favorite characters. Learn basic paper engineering techniques while making pop-up cards and papercrafts. Registration required. Recommended for ages 8–12.

**Pirates! All Aboard to Egypt**  
**Fairview Shores Branch**  
*Thursday, April 27, 4:30 p.m.*  
 Explore stories and myths with our quirky pirate crew as we sail to Ancient Egypt! Join us as we share local information, experiment with science and learn a new dance.

## SMARTIES

**Southwest Branch**  
*Saturday, April 29, 3 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.



## CAREGIVER CONNECT: STAY AND PLAY

Orlando Public Library,  
Mondays, April 3–24, 11 a.m.  
Fairview Shores Branch  
Mondays, April 3–24, 11 a.m.  
Southwest Branch  
Mondays, April 3–24, 11 a.m.  
Winter Garden Branch  
Wednesdays, April 5–26, 11:35 a.m.  
Fridays, April 7–28, 11:35 a.m.  
West Oaks Branch  
Thursdays, April 6–27, 11:45 a.m.  
Southeast Branch  
Mondays, April 10 & 24, 11 a.m.  
Connect with other caregivers to meet and mingle while your little one explores imaginary play with new and old friends.



## HOMESCHOOL

### HOMESCHOOL: READING RANGERS

**Alafaya Branch**  
Thursdays, April 27, 2 p.m.  
Who's ready to read? Discuss a different fun chapter book each month and do an activity inspired by it. This month we're reading *Game Over, Super Rabbit Boy!* by Thomas Flintham. Recommended for ages 6–8.



**Homeschool Meetup**  
Southwest Branch  
Mondays, April 3–24, 1 p.m.  
Participate in math, science, history, art and literature-based learning to support your child's homeschool curriculum. Recommended for ages 6–12.

**Homeschool Teen Board Game Meetup**  
Winter Garden Branch  
Thursdays, April 13, 1–3 p.m.  
Inviting all teen homeschoolers to play games, socialize and share resources. Games will be provided or bring one to share! Recommended for ages 12–17.

**Homeschool: Art Expressions**  
Alafaya Branch  
Thursdays, April 13, 2 p.m.  
Be creative as you learn various art techniques. Recommended for ages 6–12. Registration required for each child.

**Southwest Homeschool Club**  
Southwest Branch  
Monday, April 17, 1 p.m.  
Join us for math, science, history, art and literature-based learning to support your homeschool curriculum. Recommended for ages 8–12.

**Homeschool Explorers**  
North Orange Branch  
Thursdays, April 20, 2:30 p.m.  
Explore art and stories while meeting new friends. Support your child's homeschool curriculum with crafts and stories from around the world.

**Car Seat Safety**  
Alafaya Branch  
Friday, April 28, 10 a.m.–Noon  
Many car seats are installed and used incorrectly. Certified technicians from Safe Kids Orange County will be available to check your car seat on a first come, first served basis.

**Every Child Ready to Read Caregiver Workshop**  
South Creek Branch  
Saturday, April 29, 11 a.m.  
Learn about the 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.

**Family Zumba**  
Virtual  
Saturday, April 29, 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.



## ACRYLIC PAINT POURING

Orlando Public Library, Club Central  
Thursdays, April 20, 3 p.m.  
Participants will learn the essentials of flow art. Utilize an innovative new approach for creating and transporting your very own masterpiece: The Gravity Easel!



## TEEN BOOK CLUB

**Alafaya Branch**  
Sunday, April 30, 1:30 p.m.  
Discuss a monthly novel and talk about your favorite books in Teen Book Club! This month we're reading *Children of Ragnarok* by Cinda Williams Chima.

**Teen Volunteering: Orange Slice**  
Alafaya Branch  
Saturday, April 1, 3–5 p.m.  
Earn community service hours by becoming involved in Alafaya's teen literary and creative arts magazine. Registration required.

**Teens Play & Create**  
Orlando Public Library, Club Central  
Tuesdays, April 4, 18 & 25, 3 p.m.  
Thursdays, April 6 & 27, 3 p.m.  
Choose your own adventure with a variety of tabletop board games and DIY crafts. Challenge your friends to a fun game or let your creativity fly with provided craft supplies.

**Middle School Advisory Board Meeting**  
Virtual  
Wednesdays, April 5, 4 p.m.  
Earn community service by collaborating with your peers to test out new tween and teen programs, brainstorm new teen services and more! Recommended for students in grades 6–8.

**Wood You? DIY**  
Fairview Shores Branch  
Friday, April 7, 4:30 p.m.  
Journey through the woods and enjoy a therapeutic painting hour. Learn how to make birch trees from tape and paint.

**Teen Volunteering**  
Orlando Public Library  
Saturday, April 8, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.  
Hiwassee Branch  
Saturday, April 15, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.  
High school students will earn two hours of community service by assembling craft kits for the library.

**Paint Party!**  
Fairview Shores Branch  
Saturdays, April 8 & 22, 3–4:30 p.m.  
It's that time again for Paint Party! Create your very own rock painting, make a keychain and paint splat Earth!

**Happiness Rocks**  
Orlando Public Library, Club Central  
Thursdays, April 13, 3:30 p.m.  
Spread happiness by painting a rock and adding a positive message. NEA Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest.

**Bad Art Time**  
Hiwassee Branch  
Thursdays, April 13, 4:30–6 p.m.  
Leave your talent at the door because it is time to make some truly dreadful art. Prizes will be given to the worst masterpiece.

**Teen Board Game Meetup**  
West Oaks Branch  
Friday, April 14, 4 p.m.  
Leave Monopoly at home! Come learn a new board game or revisit some unique favorites. Games and snacks will be provided. Registration required.

**Happy Little Trees**  
Chickasaw Branch  
Wednesdays, April 19, 3 p.m.  
Grab a brush, mellow out and paint some happy little trees the Bob Ross way. Remember, there are no mistakes, only happy accidents.

**Teen Takeover**  
Southeast Branch  
Wednesdays, April 19, 3–5 p.m.  
High school students will earn up to two hours of community service by assembling craft kits, testing new projects for future programs and performing other tasks as needed.

**Visual Poetry for Teens**  
South Creek Branch  
Wednesdays, April 19, 4:30 p.m.  
Transform words and rhyme into intellectual art. Try your hand at poetry that sounds good and looks even better.

**Notorious Villains**  
South Trail Branch  
Thursdays, April 20, 4 p.m.  
Venture to the dark side as we explore the villains of our favorite books and movies!

**Tie-Dye Madness**  
Fairview Shores Branch  
Thursdays, April 20, 4:30 p.m.  
Celebrate the era of tie-dyeing! Enjoy the style, sights and sounds of the '60s. You are welcome to bring your own item to tie-dye. We will supply 10x10 fabric squares for tie-dyeing.

**Teen Art Adventures: Plastic Bag Print Making**  
South Creek Branch  
Wednesdays, April 26, 4:30 p.m.  
Let your imagination soar as we create unpredictable and expressive pieces of art by painting with plastic bags.



## LIBRARY LOCATIONS

### Orlando Public Library

101 E. Central Blvd., Orlando, FL 32801  
Monday–Thursday: 10 a.m.–7 p.m.  
Friday–Saturday: 10 a.m.–6 p.m.  
Sunday: 1–6 p.m. 🕒

### Alafaya Branch

12000 E. Colonial Drive, Orlando, FL 32826  
Monday–Thursday: 10 a.m.–7 p.m.  
Friday–Saturday: 10 a.m.–6 p.m.  
Sunday: 1–6 p.m. 🕒

### Chickasaw Branch

870 N. Chickasaw Trail, Orlando, FL 32825  
Monday–Thursday: 10 a.m.–7 p.m.  
Friday–Saturday: 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

### Eatonville Branch

200 E. Kennedy Blvd., Eatonville, FL 32751  
Monday–Thursday: 10 a.m.–7 p.m.  
Friday–Saturday: 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

### Fairview Shores Branch

902 Lee Road, Suite 26, Orlando, FL 32810  
Monday–Thursday: 10 a.m.–7 p.m.  
Friday–Saturday: 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

### Hiawassee Branch

7391 W. Colonial Drive, Orlando, FL 32818  
Monday–Thursday: 10 a.m.–7 p.m.  
Friday–Saturday: 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

### North Orange Branch

1211 E. Semoran Blvd., Apopka, FL 32703  
Monday–Thursday: 10 a.m.–7 p.m.  
Friday–Saturday: 10 a.m.–6 p.m.  
Sunday: 1–6 p.m. 🕒

### South Creek Branch

1702 Deerfield Blvd., Orlando, FL 32837  
Monday–Thursday: 10 a.m.–7 p.m.  
Friday–Saturday: 10 a.m.–6 p.m.  
Sunday: 1–6 p.m. 🕒

## Sunday Hours: 🕒

### South Trail Branch

4600 S. Orange Blossom Tr.,  
Orlando, FL 32839  
Monday–Thursday: 10 a.m.–7 p.m.  
Friday–Saturday: 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

### Southeast Branch

5575 S. Semoran Blvd.,  
Orlando, FL 32822  
Monday–Thursday: 10 a.m.–7 p.m.  
Friday–Saturday: 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

### Southwest Branch

7255 Della Drive, Orlando, FL 32819  
Monday–Thursday: 10 a.m.–7 p.m.  
Friday–Saturday: 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

### Washington Park Branch

5151 Raleigh St., Suite A., Orlando, FL 32811  
Monday–Thursday: 10 a.m.–7 p.m.  
Friday–Saturday: 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

### West Oaks Branch & Genealogy Center

1821 E. Silver Star Road, Ocoee, FL 34761  
Monday–Thursday: 10 a.m.–7 p.m.  
Friday–Saturday: 10 a.m.–6 p.m.  
Sunday: 1–6 p.m. 🕒

### Windermere Branch

530 Main St., Windermere, FL 34786  
Monday–Thursday: 10 a.m.–7 p.m.  
Friday–Saturday: 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

### Winter Garden Branch

805 E. Plant St., Winter Garden, FL 34787  
Monday–Thursday: 10 a.m.–7 p.m.  
Friday–Saturday: 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

## BOOK DROP LOCATIONS

### Horizon West Book Drop

Hamlin Town Center  
14416 Shoreside Way,  
Winter Garden, FL 34787

### Lake Nona Book Drop

Valencia College Lake Nona Campus  
12350 Narcoossee Rd.,  
Orlando, FL 32832

Materials placed in book drops are  
picked up and returned to the  
library Monday–Saturday.

## CLOSURES

### Easter

All Branches:  
Sunday, April 9

### Día de Pascua

Todos las localidades:  
el domingo, 9 de abril



**LEARN. GROW. CONNECT.**



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

Using the bar code on the back of your library card, take advantage of renewing your items early and check your account for holds via the 24/7 Renewal Line at 407.316.0021.

### SOCIAL MEDIA



ocls.info | 407.835.7323