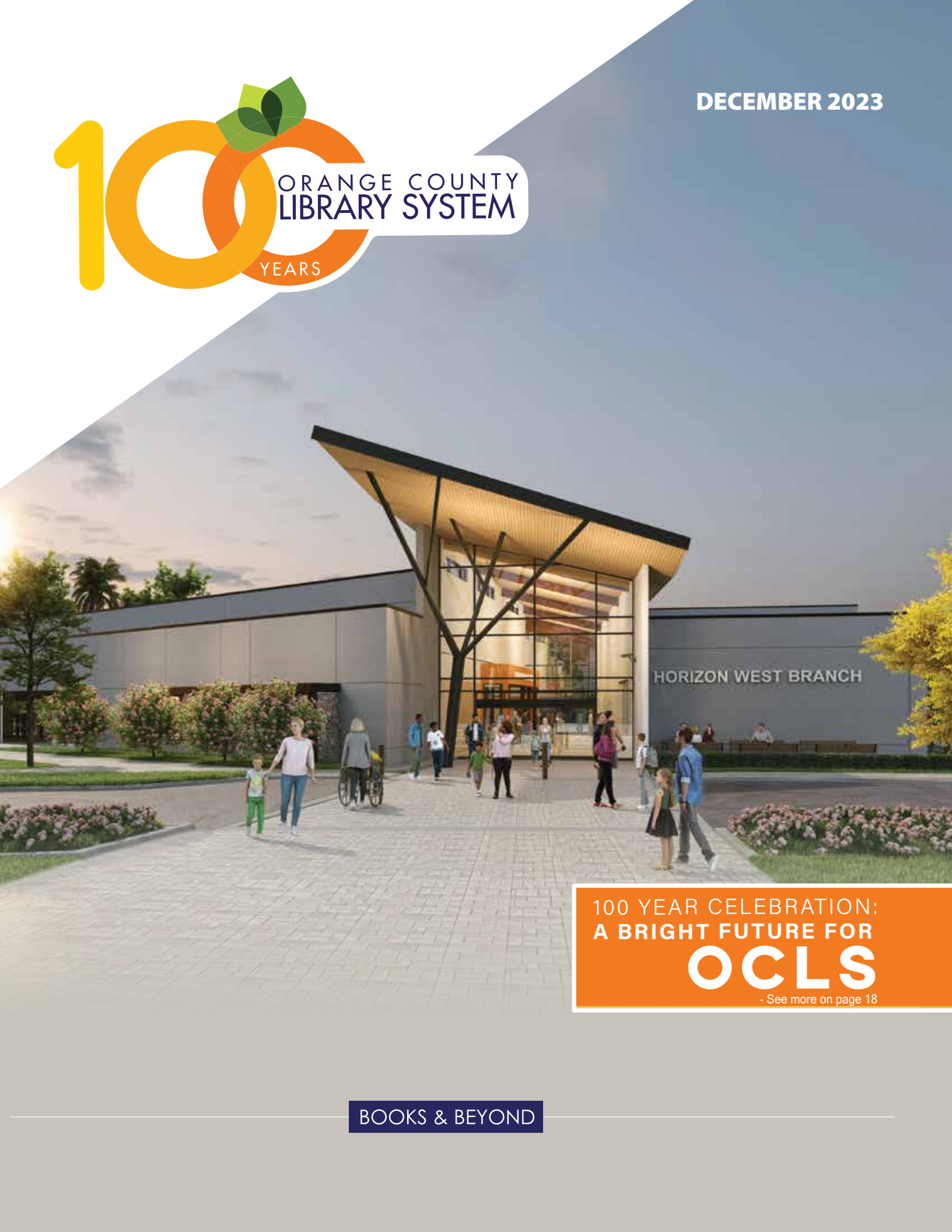


DECEMBER 2023



HORIZON WEST BRANCH

100 YEAR CELEBRATION:
A BRIGHT FUTURE FOR

OCLS

- See more on page 18

BOOKS & BEYOND

Your Library, Your Voice

Let your voice be heard.

Share your story and give your feedback to help shape the future of Orange County Library System.

Take the survey today at:
surveymonkey.com/r/OCLSCommunitySurvey



SCAN ME!



MAYOR'S JOB FAIR



WE INVITE YOU TO PARTAKE IN A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO ENGAGE WITH OVER 100 EMPLOYERS FROM THE CENTRAL FLORIDA REGION.

JANUARY 31, 2024, 12:00 PM TO 4:00 PM.
ORLANDO FAIRGROUNDS EXPO BUILDING
4603 W COLONIAL DR.

- PLEASE DRESS IN INTERVIEW ATTIRE AND BRING COPIES OF YOUR RESUME.
- EMPLOYERS WILL OFFER JOB OPENINGS FOR ENTRY, INTERMEDIATE, AND EXPERIENCED JOB SEEKERS.

LEARN MORE & REGISTER AT WWW.CFEC.ORG

WAIVE FINES *goodbye*

Orange County Library System is fine free!
No fines means no worries about returning your late books!



SPONSORED BY:



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LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President Crockett Bohannon
Vice President Nicole Benjamin
Ashley Cisneros Mejia
Lizannette Tam
Sharon Smoley

Next Board of Trustees Meeting:

Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room
Thursday, December 14, 6 p.m.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Melissa Stillman
Vice President Douglas Richards
Treasurer Irene McNutt
Secretary Almeda Sun

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

Next Friends of the Library Board of Directors Meeting:

Virtual
Wednesday, December 13, Noon

FROM THE DIRECTOR

When we kicked off our 100 Year Celebration on January 7, we promised you that a few good things were on the way: mobile services, programs in the community so people who can't get to a library can still take advantage of what we have to offer, and a commitment to elevating community conversations with fun and fascinating events featuring top-notch authors and speakers.

Nearly a year later, I'm proud to say that we've accomplished what we set out to do. Our two new book bicycles are on the road, bringing literature and library joy into neighborhoods from Winter Garden to Parramore. Our Community Engagement Department is hosting storytimes, crafts and experiences in Head Starts, hospitals and senior centers. We have hosted multiple fascinating authors, from Kwame Onwuache to R.L. Stine to Julia Quinn to Neil Gaiman and Art Spiegelman. And we're just getting started! On page 18–19, you can read more about what we have in store for the future.

In the meantime, we're sharing some photos from our official 100th birthday celebration, held on November 8, where we invited members of the community to enjoy a cookie on us and write a birthday card to OCLS. We have collected literally hundreds of cards, thanking us for our century of service and urging us to continue the work we're doing in the community.

Reading those messages inspires me to keep working to make our library system the best it can possibly be, so I wanted to share a couple of my favorites with you here.

"Thank you, OCLS! From my first chapter book, to college classes, you've always been there, helping me find what I needed. You've helped me share reading, first with my students, and later with my daughter. You make a difference every day."

"Thank you for building bridges and connecting us to opportunities that help impact our future!"



"Thank you for bringing hope, dreams and comfort to people's lives."

St Powell

Steve Powell
Library Director/CEO
Orange County Library System
comments@ocls.info



Orange County Mayor's
Holiday TOY DRIVE
BEGINS MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2023

Please give a new, unwrapped gift for children ages 18 and under.
Donations benefit Orange County Youth and Family Agencies.

TWO WAYS TO GIVE

IN PERSON BY
MONDAY, DEC. 11, 2023

ONLINE BY
MONDAY, DEC. 4, 2023

ORANGE COUNTY GOVERNMENT FLORIDA
ORANGE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
FOX 35 WOFL
FOX35 PLUS WRBW TV

For more information, visit ocfl.net/ToyDrive



**PHANTASMAGORIA
PRESENTS:
A MOST HAUNTED
VICTORIAN HOLIDAY**

**Orlando Public Library,
Library Central**
Sunday, December 3, 2 p.m.
"Gather around the hearth" this holiday season, as you join the critically acclaimed Victorian Performance Troupe PHANTASMAGORIA for a festive journey through whimsical and haunted tales of the holidays.

Altered Books
West Oaks Branch
Saturday, December 2, 2:30–4:30 p.m.
Junk journal, scrapbook, diary? Bring your imagination and join us to discover the possibilities of altered books at this monthly workshop. Registration required. Recommended for ages 18 and up.

Adult Game Time
Windermere Branch
Saturdays, December 2–30, 3–4:30 p.m.
Get your game on! Spend a fun afternoon playing games and meeting new friends. From party games to classic cards, on a team or on your own, enjoy seeing how the dice roll. Recommended for ages 18 and up.

Wrap Up Your Year
Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room
Sunday, December 3, 1:30–3:30 p.m.
Enjoy a short discussion on switching to a new planner year before open planner project time. Bring your own supplies and connect and share ideas with other planners. This is a casual meetup event.

Book Page Ornaments
West Oaks Branch
Sunday, December 3, 3 p.m.
Book lovers, create unique, vintage-inspired ornaments for your holiday decor. All supplies will be provided. Recommended for ages 18 and up. Registration required.

Landlord and Tenant Rental Resources
Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room
Tuesday, December 5, 1 p.m.
Join the Orange County Office of Tenant Services to learn about tools and resources that can help you navigate unexpected rental situations.

Reel Conversations: A Library Film Club
Virtual
Tuesday, December 5, 7–8:30 p.m.
Reel Conversations: A Library Film Club discusses the themes and importance of a different movie each month. All films are available for free on Kanopy to watch beforehand.

Tea Social Hour
North Orange Branch
Wednesdays, December 6 & 20, 5 p.m.
Need to unwind? Listen to music, snag a sweet treat with your cuppa, relax and chat while the library provides a creative art activity.

Winter Mugs
Alafaya Branch
Wednesday, December 6, 5 p.m.
Decorate a festive winter-themed coffee mug while enjoying some hot cocoa. Registration required. Ages 18 and up.

Food 101: The History of Sugar
Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room
Wednesday, December 6, 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. This month, learn about the history of sugar.

Yoga for Adults
North Orange Branch
Thursdays, December 7–28, 1 p.m.
Yoga is for everyone: male & female; young & elderly; non-flexible and active! Attendees are encouraged to dress in comfortable clothing and bring their own mat. Designed for adults and seniors.

Holiday DIY: Sugar Scrubs
North Orange Branch
Thursday, December 7, 3 p.m.
DIY a sugar scrub with seasonal scents. Makes for a perfect gift or keep it as a special treat just for you! Recommend for ages 18 and up.



**REACHING OUT: A COMMUNITY RESOURCE FAIR
RETE BRANCHE: RESOUS POU KOMINOTE A**

South Trail Branch
Monday, December 4, 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Connect with local community services. Various organizations will discuss the services they provide. Participating organizations include: Konekte avek sèvis kominote lokal la. Anpil oganizasyon ap la pou diskite sèvis yo ofri. Oganizasyon kap patisipe yo enklj:

Agency for Persons with Disabilities, CareerSource Central Florida, Florida Legal Services, Homeless Services Network of Central Florida, Housing and Community Development Division from Orange County Government, Mental Health Association of Central Florida, Orange County Medical Clinic of Orange County Health Services, Prosper Law, Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida, U.S. Citizenship, Immigration Services (USCIS), and Vanette Augustin, Esq. Orange County Medical Clinic will be providing health screenings.

Make Your Own Snowflake UV Resin Ornament
Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room
Thursday, December 7, 5:30 p.m.
Create a one-of-a-kind snowflake UV resin ornament to take home with you. Ages 18 and up. Registration required.

Benefits of Eating Proteins
Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room
Friday, December 8, 11 a.m.
Learn about the health benefits of protein and foods with higher amounts of protein. A recipe and sample of a protein-rich breakfast will be provided. Registration required.

Plant Clinic
Winter Garden Branch
Saturday, December 9, 11:30 a.m.–1:30 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.

Rock the Wrap: Headwrap Styling Workshop
Eatonville Branch
Saturday, December 9, 1–2:30 p.m.
This educational and interactive experience provides step-by-step instructions on headwrap styling techniques. Learn about the significance and history of head wrapping. Registration required.

Bollywood Dance
West Oaks Branch
Saturday, December 9, 3 p.m.
Groove to the beat at this special performance by the Bollywood Dance Academy.

Drawing 101: Artist Hour
Winter Garden Branch
Saturday, December 9, 3:30 p.m.
Bring your own drawing project or use our supplies to practice drawing each month! Our teacher will be available to give tips on drawing basics. Recommended for ages 18 and up. Registration required.

DIY Planners
West Oaks Branch
Sunday, December 10, 3 p.m.
Get ready for the new year by creating a custom DIY planner! This event will involve a Japanese book binding technique using a large sewing needle. Ages 13 and up. Registration required.

DIY Decorative Winter Jar
Winter Garden Branch
Thursday, December 14, 6 p.m.
Make your own decorative winter jar. The library will supply everything needed for you to make your own seasonal creation.

Yoga for Holiday Stress
Virtual
Thursday, December 14, 7 p.m.
This all-levels yoga class focuses on combining movement, meditation and breathing to help you minimize your holiday stress. Presented by certified yoga instructor Dana Brady.

Sketching 101
Virtual
Friday, December 15, 11 a.m.
Learn the basics of sketching through use of simple art techniques and observing the world around you. All you need is a no. 2 pencil, colored pencils, paper and paper towels.

Beginner Line Dancing
Southwest Branch
Saturday, December 16, 10:30 a.m.
Learn beginner line dances to all types of music and discover a great way to exercise and have fun. Partners are not needed. Bring water. Non-stick sole shoes are recommended. Ages 18 and up.

Eatonville Weekend Wellness Workshop
Eatonville Branch
Saturday, December 16, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.
Celebrate becoming a better version of yourself! This monthly program series is presented in partnership with the Winter Park Health Foundation.

Adult Art Expressions
Windermere Branch
Saturday, December 16, 1–2:30 p.m.
Follow along with this guided painting session as you create a winter scene. Recommended for ages 18 and up.

Puzzle Swap
South Creek Branch
Saturday, December 16, 2:30 p.m.
Finished with an old puzzle and looking for something new? Stop by and swap an old puzzle for a new-to-you one. Please bring at least one complete puzzle for adults.

Corporate Improv Workshop
With Power2Improv
Orlando Public Library, Library Central
Sunday, December 17, 3–5 p.m.
Take your improv to the business level with tips on how to become a coach. Learn how to teach team building, goal setting and how to bring a group together to think outside of the box.

Chair Yoga
Virtual
Monday, December 18, 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.

World of Watercolor
North Orange Branch
Monday, December 18, 4:30–6 p.m.
Experiment with watercolor techniques in this guided interactive session to create a beautiful floral design. Delve into the technique of gradients and explore the world of watercolor.

Podcast Listening Club: Favorites
Dr. P. Phillips YMCA
7000 Dr. Phillips Blvd., Orlando, FL 32819
Monday, December 18, 6:30–8 p.m.
Join us at Foftail Coffee Co. inside the Dr. P. Phillips YMCA to share with others your favorite podcasts you listen to and love. No pre-selected playlist this month. Ages 18 and up.

CUISINE CORNER

OCLS.INFO/CUISINECORNER



SMOKEY BLACK-EYED PEAS WITH KALE AND GRITS

Virtual

Wednesday, December 6, Noon

Join KeyVion Miller, registered dietitian and culinary nutritionist, as she demonstrates a healthy, delicious way to eat black-eyed peas!



YUCCA STUFFED HAND PIES

Virtual

Wednesday, December 13, 6 p.m.

Yamira Lee Johnson, head chef and founder of Breaking Bread with Mira, will show us how to make savory hand pies. Similar to empanadas but made with cassava dough, stuffed with beef and baked or fried.



SEATTLE-STYLE CLAM CHOWDER

Virtual

Tuesday, December 19, 6:30 p.m.

Join culinary expert Dianne Morin as she demonstrates how to make a delicious, creamy soup for those chilly days.

ART & DISPLAY

OCLS.INFO/ART



MEET THE ARTIST: JONATHAN TYSON

Eatonville Branch

Saturday, December 2, 3–5 p.m.

Join Jonathan Tyson as he takes us on an artistic exploration through the town that freedom built with *The Eatonville Experience*. In this exhibit, he captures the essence of the country's first all-black self-governing municipality through the lens of Eatonville's historic landscape. Come learn about the inspiration behind his artistry.

MUSIC IN THE LIBRARY

OCLS.INFO/MIL



CENTRAL FLORIDA SOUNDS OF FREEDOM

Orlando Public Library,
Library Central

Saturday, December 9, 2 p.m.

Central Florida Sounds of Freedom (CFSOF). CFSOF promotes LGBTQ+ awareness, acceptance and equality through quality entertainment and fellowship.

DICKENS HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

Orlando Public Library,
Library Central

Sunday, December 17, 1:30 p.m.

Enjoy some fun and festive holiday songs performed by the Orlando Dickens Carolers.

TECHNOLOGY

OCLS.INFO/TECHCLASSES

NOW LOADING: CODING EXPERIENCES!

It is never too late to begin coding. Check out our Coding Concepts classes, excellent for learners coming in fresh. We also offer coding fundamentals classes for Python, JavaScript and more!

Coding Concepts Level 1 – Visual Studio Code

Fairview Shores Branch

Monday, December 4, 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, December 13, 10:30 a.m.

Orlando Public Library

Monday, December 4, 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, December 9, 10:30 a.m.

Friday, December 15, 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 27, 4:30 p.m.

South Trail Branch

Thursday, December 14, 3:30 p.m.

Begin your journey into the world of coding. Learn to use the Visual Studio Code editor to write coding languages like HTML, CSS, JavaScript or even Python.

Coding Concepts Level 2 – Terminology

Orlando Public Library

Tuesday, December 5, 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, December 9, 12:30 p.m.

Friday, December 15, 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, December 28, 4:30 p.m.

Fairview Shores Branch

Monday, December 11, 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, December 20, 10:30 a.m.

South Trail Branch

Thursday, December 21, 3:30 p.m.

Explore HTML, CSS, JavaScript and Python using Visual Studio Code. Learn the foundational, universal programming terminology to help you succeed in creating apps, games and other solutions.

Python Programming

Orlando Public Library

Wednesday, December 6, 10:30 a.m.

South Trail Branch

Saturday, December 9, 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, December 30, 3:30 p.m.

Create a program with Python, an easy-to-learn programming language. Assign variables, input data and develop calculations to make an interactive application.

JavaScript Fundamentals

Orlando Public Library

Thursday, December 7, 10:30 a.m.

South Trail Branch

Wednesday, December 13, 4 p.m.

Develop interactive Web pages with rich media content. Students will learn the fundamentals of JavaScript and useful techniques to bring a static webpage to life.



CODE IT UP!

Get ready to code during Winter Break! We are calling all K–12 students to begin their coding journey for Computer Science Education Week beginning Monday, December 4. Explore more learning opportunities for kids ages 5–17 at ocls.info/schoolbreak.

Let's Code an Ocean AI (Ages 7–9)

Orlando Public Library

Tuesday, December 5, 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 27, 10:30 a.m.

Fairview Shores Branch

Wednesday, December 6, 3:30 p.m.

Machines can learn just like us! Explore the ocean while learning how machines can see patterns and predict outcomes.

Code with SpriteBox (Ages 7–9)

Orlando Public Library

Friday, December 8, 11:45 a.m.

Thursday, December 28, 11:45 a.m.

Run and jump into coding with SpriteBox! Play a unique platforming game that combines exploration and coding puzzles. Learn sequencing, parameters, debugging and looping using visual programming.

Code with JavaScript (Ages 10–12)

Orlando Public Library

Monday, December 4, 4:30 p.m.

Virtual

Friday, December 29, 4 p.m.

Write real code. Explore the JavaScript programming language with characters from Star Wars.

Code with SpriteBox (Ages 10–12)

Orlando Public Library

Wednesday, December 27, 11:45 a.m.

South Trail Branch

Wednesday, December 27, Noon

Run and jump into coding with SpriteBox! Play a unique platforming game that combines exploration and coding puzzles. Learn sequencing, parameters, debugging and looping using Swift programming.

Code Sphero with JavaScript (Ages 13–17)

Orlando Public Library

Wednesday, December 6, 4 p.m.

Friday, December 29, 12:30 p.m.

South Trail Branch

Wednesday, December 27, 2 p.m.

Thursday, December 28, 1:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 30, 11 a.m.

Meet Sphero, the cute rolling robot. Use Sphero's LED matrix to display animations and pictures, then code your robot to roll along paths and through mazes.

Build a Website (Ages 13–17)

Orlando Public Library

Thursday, December 7, 4 p.m.

Friday, December 29, 10:30 a.m.

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



USING BUSINESS STRATEGY TO SELECT YOUR NEXT WRITING PROJECT

Virtual
Tuesday, December 12, 7 p.m.

Writers often have a lot of different ideas, but how do you choose which to dedicate time to next? Literary agent Sandra Proudman will discuss how to view the choice through a business lens.

Developing Your Character's Voice

Virtual
Tuesday, December 5, 7 p.m.

Learn how characterization affects descriptions and interactions with the setting. Literary agent Laurie Dennison will discuss how to develop your character's voice when writing fiction.

Revising Your Novel

Virtual
Friday, December 8, 7 p.m.

If you've just finished a first draft or will soon, the next step is revision. Author, editor and book coach Julie Artz will discuss processes and tips for revising your novel.

Writing Workshop: Internal Angst as Character Development

Virtual
Sunday, December 10, 1 p.m.

Internal conflict can forge emotional bonds with readers. Five authors of different genres will discuss how to use angst, fear and reaction to trauma to make those vital connections with an audience.

OCLS Writer's Group

Virtual
Sunday, December 10, 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.

How to Turn Ideas Into Stories, Not Just Premises

Virtual
Monday, December 11, 7 p.m.

Author José Pablo Iriarte will clarify the difference between premise and story, share brainstorming techniques with this difference in mind, and show how to flesh those idea nuggets into story gold.



AUTHOR TALK WITH VICTORIA AVEYARD

Virtual
Tuesday, December 5, 7 p.m.

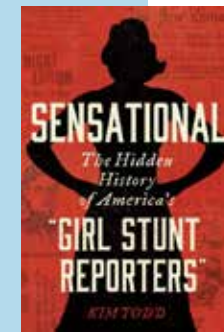
Join us as the instant number one *New York Times* bestselling author of the Red Queen and Realm Breaker series, Victoria Aveyard, chats with us about YA fantasy fiction and her incredible body of work!



AUTHOR TALK WITH STEPHANIE LAND

Virtual
Tuesday, December 12, 2 p.m.

You're invited to an afternoon chat with *New York Times* bestselling author Stephanie Land as she talks to us about her new memoir, *Class: A Memoir of Motherhood, Hunger, and Higher Education*.



Y Read: Book Read Aloud

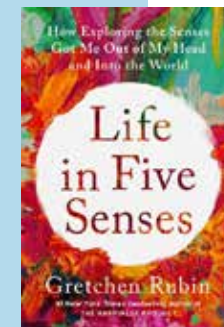
Dr. P. Phillips YMCA
7000 Dr. Phillips Blvd.,
Orlando, FL 32819
Saturdays,
December 2-30, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Experience the joy and camaraderie of reading a book aloud with others at Y Read Book Club, hosted by the Dr. P. Phillips YMCA and Southwest Branch. Meetings will be held in the Dr. P. Phillips YMCA Conference Room. Recommended for ages 18 and up.

Alafaya Book Club

Virtual
Thursday, December 7, 7 p.m.

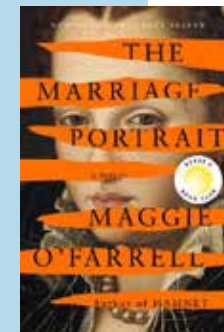
Sensational: The Hidden History of America's Girl Stunt Reporters by Kim Todd
A social history of women journalists of the Gilded Age who went undercover to champion women's rights and expose corruption and abuse in America.



Nature Walk Book Club

Southwest Branch
Monday, December 11, 10 a.m.-Noon

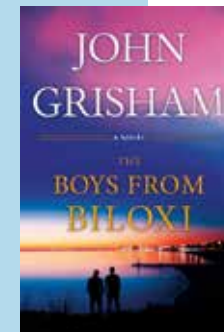
Join Southwest Branch for a walk outdoors at Bill Frederick Park followed by a discussion of *Life in Five Senses* by Gretchen Rubin. Registration required. Recommended for ages 18 and up.



Hiwassee Book Club

Virtual
Monday, December 18, 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

The Marriage Portrait by Maggie O'Farrell
In Florence during the 1550s, captivating young duchess Lucrezia de' Medici, having barely left girlhood behind, marries the ruler of Ferrara, Modena and Reggio, and now, in an unfamiliar court where she has one duty - to provide an heir - fights for her very survival.



Southwest Book Club: Joy of Reading Celebration

Southwest Branch
Friday, December 22, 2-3:30 p.m.

Virtual
Tuesday, December 26, 7-8:45 p.m.
Enjoy an afternoon of sharing a favorite book or author with other readers. Give a toast to a new year of shared reading adventures! Ages 18 and up.

Winter Garden Book Club

Virtual
Thursday, December 28, 6 p.m.

The Boys from Biloxi by John Grisham
The story of two sons of immigrant families who grow up as friends, but ultimately find themselves on opposite sides of the law.



Hanukkah Upside Down

by Elissa Brent Weissman & Omer Hoffman
From their homes in New York and New Zealand, cousins Noah and Nora have a competition to decide who can have the world's best Hanukkah, winter or summer, but as the eight nights of Hanukkah go on, they realize they have more in common than they thought.



This is Christmas, Song by Song

Behind 100 Holiday Hits by Annie Zaleski & Darling Clementine
Celebrate the merriest season of the year with award-winning author and music journalist Annie Zaleski's collection of the 100 most popular and beloved holiday songs of all time.



The Thing in the Snow

by Sean Adams
Three caretakers and a single remaining researcher, who keep the Northern Institute in working order in case research ever resumes, find their work upended by a mysterious object that appears in the snow that soon challenges their every notion of what is normal.



Three Holidays and a Wedding

by Uzma Jalaluddin & Marissa Stapley
Strangers and seatmates Maryam and Anna, confessing their deepest hopes and fears to one another during severe turbulence, find themselves, after an emergency landing, snowbound in a picture-perfect town where Christmas magic and newfound love make these unlikely friends realize there's no place they'd rather be for the holidays.



Eight Nights of Flirting

by Hannah Reynolds
A sixteen-year-old girl is on a mission to find the perfect boyfriend this Hanukkah, but love might not go according to plan, in this charming winter romcom.



Talk Santa to Me

by Linda Urban
A teen girl gets the perfect second try at a first kiss in this hilarious, romp-filled young adult romantic comedy perfect for fans of Jenna Evans Welch and Hallmark Christmas movies.

GENEALOGY IN THE STATES: NEW YORK

Virtual

Tuesday, December 26, 1 p.m.

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

Civil War Pension Files: Union & Confederate

Virtual

Tuesday, December 5, 1 p.m.

Explore the contents of both Union and Confederate Civil War pension files. Discover what types of information are contained in these records.

Exploring FamilySearch.org

Virtual

Wednesday,

December 6, 6:30 p.m.

FamilySearch is a tremendous and free source for family history research. Learn how to navigate this website and how to make the most of the information that it contains.

Using City Directories in Genealogy Research

Virtual

Thursday, December 7, Noon

Learn how historical city directories can supplement your family's genealogical research.

Hathi Trust Digital Library and Genealogy

Virtual

Tuesday, December 12, 1 p.m.

Discover the Hathi Trust Digital Library and learn how you can use this amazing resource to enhance your genealogical research.

Advanced Searching on Ancestry.com

Virtual

Wednesday,

December 13, 6:30 p.m.

Learn how to make the most out of your searches on Ancestry Library Edition and Ancestry.com.

Organizing Your Family History Research

Virtual

Thursday, December 14, Noon

Keep your genealogy research on track by staying organized. Learn how to organize your genealogy documents and do your research in a systematic manner.

Genealogy in the States: Georgia

Virtual

Tuesday, December 19, 1 p.m.

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

Introduction to DNA Testing

Virtual

Wednesday,

December 20, 6:30 p.m.

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

Genealogy Conversations at the Holiday Table

Virtual

Thursday, December 21, Noon

The holidays are the perfect time to jumpstart your genealogy and family tree research. Learn how to discover information while you are sitting around the table with family members.

Exploring DNA Websites

Virtual

Wednesday,

December 27, 6:30 p.m.

Explore four DNA websites: Ancestry DNA, FamilyTreeDNA, MyHeritage and 23andme. Learn the differences between the companies and see how to navigate each company's website.

DNA Techniques Leeds & McGuire Methods

Virtual

Thursday, December 28, Noon

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

NEXT CHAPTER

OCLS.INFO/NEXTCHAPTER



QIGONG MOVEMENT AND BREATHING

Southwest Branch

Friday, December 29, 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.

Medicare and Marketplace Annual Enrollment Help Desk

South Trail Branch

Monday, December 4, 1–5 p.m.

Join Collette Rance, a former teacher and experienced Medicare Scholar to review your 2024 benefits for your existing plan, or look for alternative Medicare options. Registration Required.

Adult Karaoke Night

Fairview Shores Branch

Thursday, December 7, 5–6:30 p.m.

Bring on the night by singing! Come on in and sing your way through the Karaoke Night!

Orange County Sheriff's Office Senior Programs LIFE Information for Elders Branching Out Series

South Trail Branch

Wednesday, December 20, Noon

Join Elvie Armand with Orange County Sheriff's Office as she shares information on the senior programs offered at Orange County Sheriff's Office. To register, email OfficeonAging@ocfl.net or call 407.836.7446.

LIFE Information for Elders' End of Year Celebration

Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room

Thursday, December 21, 12:10 p.m.

Join Orange County Office on Aging and Orange County Library System to celebrate the 2023 Life Information for Elders Series presenters. Learn more about each presenter's resources and ask questions. To register, email OfficeonAging@ocfl.net or call 407.836.7446.

JOBSEEKERS

OCLS.INFO/JOBSEEKERS

LEVEL UP ORANGE NEIGHBORHOOD NAVIGATORS

South Trail Branch

Wednesday, December 6, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.

North Orange Branch

Wednesday, December 20, 1–3 p.m.

Washington Park Branch

Thursday, December 28, 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: INTERVIEW LIKE A PRO

Orlando Public Library, Purple Room

Tuesday, December 5, 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.



ENGLISH FROM ZERO

English from Zero classes are designed for beginning English learners. Each workshop has a specific target topic.

South Trail Branch
Fridays, December 1–29, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.
Wednesdays, December 6–27, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

Alafaya Branch
Saturdays, December 2–30, 10:30 a.m.

Chickasaw Branch
Saturdays, December 2, 16 & 30, 11 a.m.
Mondays, December 4–18, 5:30 p.m.
Thursdays, December 7–28, 11 a.m.
Fridays, December 8 & 22, 11 a.m.

Winter Garden Branch
Tuesdays, December 5–26, Noon–1:30 p.m.

Windermere Branch
Wednesdays, December 6–27, 3:30 p.m.
Wednesdays, December 13–27, 4:45 p.m.
Thursdays, December 7–28, 4:45–6:15 p.m.

West Oaks Branch
Thursdays, December 7–28, 4:30 p.m.

Southeast Branch
Thursdays, December 7–28, 5 p.m.
Tuesdays, December 12 & 19, 10:30 a.m.
Wednesdays, December 13–27, 2:30 p.m.

North Orange Branch
Sunday, December 10, 2–3:30 p.m.

Virtual
Mondays, December 4–18, 3 & 6:45 p.m.
Tuesdays, December 5–19, 3:30 p.m.
Wednesdays, December 6–27, 3–4:30 p.m.

ENGLISH CONVERSATION HOUR

Join us to practice your English speaking skills at the English Conversation Hour. Each session will have specific topics for discussion.

South Trail Branch
Fridays, December 1–29, 2 p.m.

Windermere Branch
Fridays, December 1–29, 3:30 p.m.

Alafaya Branch
Saturdays, December 2–30, Noon

Chickasaw Branch
Saturdays, December 2, 16 & 30, 12:30 p.m.
Thursdays, December 7–28, 12:30 p.m.
Fridays, December 8 & 22, 12:30 p.m.

Southeast Branch
Wednesdays, December 20 & 27, 4 p.m.

Virtual
Fridays, December 1–29, 4:45 p.m.
Wednesdays, December 6–27, Noon
Thursdays, December 7–28, 2 p.m.

ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES (ESOL)

Practice Makes Perfect
Chickasaw Branch
Tuesdays, December 5–19, 2 p.m.
Southeast Branch
Tuesdays, December 5–19, 3:15–4:30 p.m.
Practice Makes Perfect are English conversation classes led by Adult Literacy League volunteers.

Creole Connect
South Trail Branch
Wednesdays, December 6–20, 2 p.m.
Vini aprann pale e pratike anglè w nan kou sa a.

Introducción al Inglés
South Trail Branch
Fridays, December 8–29, 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.

Speaking Clearly Beginners
Southeast Branch
Fridays, December 8 & 22, 10:30 a.m.
Saturday, December 16, 10:30 a.m.
Virtual
Saturdays, December 2–22, 2:30 p.m.
This class is designed to introduce learners to the basics of the sounds of English for pronunciation.

Speaking Clearly Intermediate
Southeast Branch
Tuesdays, December 12 & 19, 2 p.m.
This class for intermediate speakers is designed to introduce learners to the rules of spelling and pronunciation of English words and phrases.

Speaking Clearly Advanced
Virtual
Mondays, December 4–18, 10:30 a.m.
This course is designed for students who want to improve their speaking and presentation skills.

Writing Clearly Beginners
Virtual
Tuesdays, December 5–26, 10:30 a.m.
Join us for a virtual meeting where we'll learn and practice grammar and a variety of writing styles.

Writing Clearly Intermediate
Southeast Branch
Thursdays, December 7–28, 1:30 p.m.
This grammar and writing course focuses on complex grammar ideas, including sentence structures, phrases and vocabulary building.

LANGUAGE CLASSES

Open Lab Learn Spanish with Ms. Brenda
Southeast Branch
Saturdays, December 2 & 16, 11:30 a.m.
Friday, December 8, 11:30 a.m.
This Spanish program is an easy and fast way to learn and develop Spanish comprehension to speak comfortably with Spanish native speakers.

"Hola Amigos" – Spanish from Zero for Kids with Ms. Brenda
Virtual
Mondays, December 4 & 11, 6 p.m.
Learn Spanish in a fun way! Get acquainted with vocabulary, phrases and short sentences that you can use every day.

Spanish from Zero – Basics With Ms. Brenda
Virtual
Tuesdays, December 5–19, 10:30 a.m.
Tuesdays, December 5–19, 4 p.m.
Get an introduction to the basic sounds of Spanish with short lessons.

Adult French
Virtual
Tuesdays, December 5–26, 1 p.m.
Wednesdays, December 6–27, 6 p.m.
Adult French is specifically designed for students with no prior French exposure. It combines face-to-face class time with the flexibility of independent learning. Recommended for ages 18 and up.

Beginner's Spanish For Kids
Fairview Shores Branch
Tuesdays, December 5–19, 4:30 p.m.
Introduce your child to basic Spanish vocabulary through games and activities while having fun. Recommended for ages 6–12.

Bilingual Interactions with Ms. Brenda
Virtual
Tuesdays, December 5 & 12, 5 p.m.
Do you want to get more exposure to Spanish or English? Well, this fun conversational hour is for you! Speak with other students and practice your bilingual speaking skills.

Basic Spanish – Ms. Wilnelia
Virtual
Tuesdays, December 5–19, 6 p.m.
Individuals who speak little to no Spanish will get an introduction to the basic sounds and vocabulary.

Práctica Spanish Conversation
Virtual
Wednesdays, December 6–20, 4–5:30 p.m.
¡Práctica tu español! Develop your Spanish language skills through conversation. Conversation topics and themed vocabulary will be provided. Recommended for ages 18 and up.

Spanish from Zero – Intermediate With Ms. Brenda
Virtual
Thursdays, December 7–21, 4 p.m.
Learn intermediate Spanish grammar by focusing on the parts of speech, the organization of words in sentences, verb conjugation rules, sentence structure, listening comprehension and writing.

Beginner Mandarin Chinese for Adults
Alafaya Branch
Sundays, December 10 & 17, 3 p.m.
In this beginner series for adults, Jenny Forest Lin, principal of the Oviedo Chinese School, Inc., will introduce students to the basics of Mandarin Chinese.

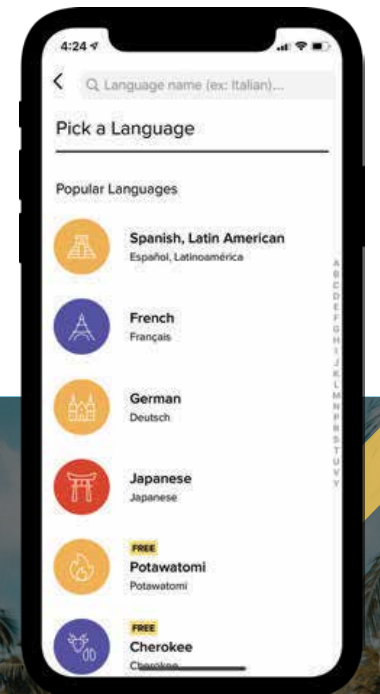
CITIZENSHIP INSPIRED

OCLS.INFO/CITIZENSHIP

Citizenship Inspired
Fairview Shores Branch
Mondays, December 4–18, 5 p.m.
Hiawassee Branch
Thursday, December 7, 10:30 a.m.
Windermere Branch
Thursdays, December 7–28, 3–4:30 p.m.
Virtual
Tuesdays & Wednesdays, December 5, 6, 12 & 13, 3–5 p.m.
Students will meet to prepare for the U.S. Naturalization (Citizenship) Test and Interview.



LANGUAGE IS AN ADVENTURE



Explore a world of language and culture.

Visit mangolanguages.com



SHOW PRODUCTION AT THE MELROSE CENTER

The show begins well before the curtain goes up. Learn what it takes to build a seamless production, from the lights down.



INTRODUCTION TO SHOW PRODUCTION SYSTEMS

Orlando Public Library, Melrose Center
Sunday, December 10, 2–3:30 p.m.
Monday, December 11, 10:30 a.m.–Noon

In this introduction course, we will define live-production components and systems. You will also learn the basic concepts of live-event terminology and technical systems.

Wireless Microphone Techniques

Orlando Public Library, Melrose Center
Wednesday, December 6, 5–6:30 p.m.

Learn the basics of a wireless microphone system to help you on your next production using Shure and GTD Wireless systems.

Stage Lighting Equipment

Orlando Public Library, Melrose Center
Sunday, December 10, 4–5:30 p.m.
Monday, December 11, 12:30–2 p.m.

Learn some lighting instruments commonly used in professional stage lighting. In this class, you will learn about ellipsoidal spotlights by using an ETC Source Four LED Series 2 Lustr.

Video Projection Fundamentals

Orlando Public Library, Melrose Center
Wednesday, December 20, 5–6:30 p.m.

Learn terminology for video projection as well as optimal setup techniques for them, including modes of geometric correction commonly found on projectors.

HOLIDAY CRAFTS: BOOK NOOK

Orlando Public Library, Melrose Center
Saturday, December 9, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Cozy up your bookshelf with an illuminated book nook, built by you in the Melrose Center! You'll layer wooden laser cuts to create depth in a festive scene, complete with holiday lights. Materials Fee: \$10.



Holiday Photo Shoot

Orlando Public Library, Melrose Center
Sundays, December 10 & 17, 2–3:30 p.m.
Saturday, December 16, 3–4:30 p.m.

Have your holiday-themed portraits taken and receive a free digital photo by our Melrose Photography Instructor. Please bring a USB drive or provide an email in person to receive your free photo. Please arrive before Noon to participate. Limit to one photo per group.

Family STEM Saturdays: Guided Lab

Orlando Public Library, Melrose Center
Saturday, December 16, 10:30 a.m.

Countdown to any event of your choice with this hands-on kid-friendly project! Make a laser-cut wooden countdown calendar in our STEM-guided workshop.

CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS

Get your home ready for the winter holiday season. Create holiday quilt panels to decorate your home, sew handmade stockings, knit gift toppers, and crochet ornaments. Great for yourself or to give as gifts.

Hand Sewing Sashiko Patterns Virtual

Thursdays, December 7–21, 10:15 a.m.

Learn to stitch using sashiko hand-sewing techniques in this three-part series. This Japanese hand-sewing technique uses the simple running stitch to form geometric patterns.

Sewing: Gift Card Holder North Orange

Saturday, November 9, 2 p.m.

This gift card holder project is a great way to use up larger scraps. These mini envelopes or gift card holders are easy to make and the perfect way to personalize your gift!

Sewing: Holiday Quilt Panel Orlando Public Library

Monday–Wednesday, December 11–13, 10:30 a.m. & 1 p.m.

In this six-part sewing class, create a quilted picture for decorating your home. Learn to topstitch a beautiful, printed panel and make it pop with dimension. Learn to add batting, backing and binding for a beautiful wall hanging.

Sewing: Soup Bowl Cozy Orlando Public Library

Monday, December 18, 10:30 a.m.
North Orange Branch

Saturday, December 23, 2 p.m.
 Here's an easy-to-make solution to burnt fingers and spilled soup. Protect hands and furniture from hot soup, chili and oatmeal with this easy sewing project. Great for yourself or as a gift.

Sewing: Gift Bags for Every Occasion Orlando Public Library

Monday, December 18, 2 p.m.

Impress that special someone in your life by wrapping their gift in a handmade gift bag! These gift bags can be made for any occasion. They are fast and easy to make and each one is unique.

Sewing: Holiday Stockings Orlando Public Library

Tuesday & Wednesday, December 19 & 20, 2 p.m.

Stockings are a must-have for the holidays. Use a simple pattern to create a custom stocking. Learn some basic lining and cuff sewing techniques.

Let's Crochet Snowflakes Washington Park

Tuesday, December 5, 10 a.m.

Create a fun crochet snowflake! Learn how to crochet in the round while stitching a snowflake worthy of hanging on a tree or create several to string together as a hanging garland piece.



Let's Crochet Mini Stockings Southwest Branch

Tuesday, December 5, 10:15 a.m.

Create timeless mini stockings perfect for ornaments, decorations or gifts. Learn how to crochet granny squares with different colors and how to seam them into cute stocking shapes.

Let's Crochet Corner to Corner – Snowman's Belt Washington Park Branch

Tuesdays, December 12 & 19, Noon

Corner to corner (C2C) crochet is perfect for pillows and blankets. Learn the technique to create textured fabrics in single colors and how to join multiple colors together for interesting patterns.

Let's Knit Gift Toppers Southwest Branch

Tuesday, December 19, 10:15 a.m.

Create mini gift toppers to decorate and gift. Learn and practice knitting techniques while creating a cute gift topper to accent your gifts.

Let's Crochet Mug Cozies Washington Park

Tuesday, December 26, 10 a.m.

Keep your drink warm and your hands comfortable with a custom cozy for your favorite mug. Learn how to sew on buttons while practicing crocheting in the round.

Let's Crochet Poinsettia Flowers Chickasaw Branch

Tuesday, December 26, 3 p.m.

Create a fun crochet project. Learn how to crochet in the round while stitching a poinsettia flower.

ARTES DE FIBRA EN ESPAÑOL

Costura: Porta Tarjetas de Regalo North Orange Branch

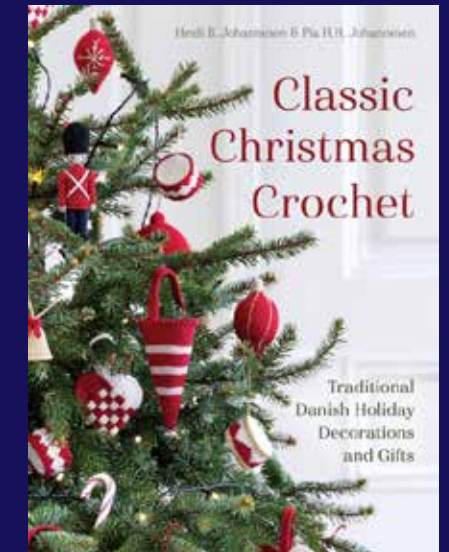
Monday, December 4, 10:30 a.m.

Este proyecto de porta tarjetas de regalo es una excelente manera de utilizar restos de telas. ¡Estos mini sobres o tarjeteros son fáciles de hacer y son la forma perfecta de personalizar tu regalo!

Costura: Funda para tazones North Orange Branch

Monday, December 11, 10:30 a.m.

Aquí tienes una solución fácil para proteger las manos y los muebles de la sopa caliente, el chile y la avena con este sencillo proyecto de costura. Genial para ti o como regalo.



Explore new techniques, get ideas for projects and find helpful patterns in our featured fiber arts book

CLASSIC CHRISTMAS CROCHET by Heidi B. Johannesen & Pia H. H. Johannesen

Gorgeous Christmas decorations brimming with nostalgia, perfect for the tree, windowsills, wreaths, centerpieces, and more. New from Scandinavian knit designers Heidi and Pia Johannesen, this classic selection of holiday designs evokes the spirit of the season with compelling simplicity: red and green, black and white, plus a touch of gold and glitter to bring the magic of the holidays to life. From bells and hearts to elves and stockings, everything you need to crochet yourself a quintessential holiday is right here at the end of your hook.



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 DECEMBER, WE LOOK INTO THE FUTURE.

The 100 Word Challenge

Southeast Branch
Friday, December 1, 4 p.m.
West Oaks Branch
Wednesday, December 13, 4 p.m.

Connect and collaborate with others through games and competitions, while showcasing your storytelling skills at the celebration of the century! Recommended for families with children ages 5 and up.

A Decade in Film: 2020s

Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room
Wednesday, December 13, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.
 Celebrate the history of film with this series which explores film through each of the decades our library has been open!

Cuisine Corner Junior: Century-Old Recipes – Icebox Cakes

Orlando Public Library
Thursday, December 14, 3:30 p.m.
 What did people eat 100 years ago? Celebrate the library's 100th birthday by making a tasty recipe that is just as old! Recommended for families with children ages 6–8.

100 Years of Cinema

Fairview Shores Branch
Friday, December 15, 3–5 p.m.
 Dive on under the sea! This month, we're watching *The Little Mermaid* (2023) to celebrate 100 years of cinema with this new take on a classic!

100 Year Celebration Challenge for Adults

ocls.beanstack.org
January 1–December 31
 It was 100 years ago that the first seeds of Orange County Library System were planted. The library is challenging you to participate in activities all year long in celebration of our centennial anniversary.



Looking Ahead to Our Bright Future

By Erin Sullivan, Chief Marketing and Public Relations Officer

You've heard us say it all year long: At OCLS, we're proud of what we accomplished in the past, and we're looking forward to a bright future for our library system.

Over the past year, we've focused on sharing our story and showing you how the past 100 years have shaped us. As we wind down our year-long celebration, we want to give you a glimpse into what the future holds for Orange County Library System.

New Year, New Strategy: In 2023, we embarked on a process to revisit our Strategic Plan, a document that helps outline our high-level goals for the next three years. Over the coming months, we'll be working with a consultant to hold focus groups, stakeholder meetings and planning sessions to help us prioritize our goals and objectives that ensure we're meeting your needs for years to come. Think of it as a road map to help us stay on track as we navigate the path forward.

Next Stop – Bookmobile: Mobile services are one of the ways we have promised to reduce barriers to service, and in January, we received \$100,000 from Sorosis of Orlando Woman's Club to bring mobile services, including a bookmobile, to Orange County. We recently published a request for written proposals from qualified vendors to design and build one for us. We can't wait for it to hit the road so we can bring books, events and opportunities into the communities we serve.

Branching Out: We've got two new branches in the works, as you already know, but our Horizon West Branch is now starting to take

shape. This is the first time we've shared conceptual images of the branch in *Books & Beyond*, and we're excited to show you our ideas. On the cover of this issue is a rendering of the branch's west entrance, which features a branching archway meant to represent the limbs of a tree. On the branch's east side, we plan to plant a specimen tree, visible from the corridor, that will be a focal point for the location. The branch's interior and exterior design will be themed to complement the natural environment, with native plantings, organic textures and windows that allow views of the beautiful park grounds outside. We hope to see the branch take shape next year, with a projected opening date in 2025. (These images are renderings only, and are subject to change before construction.)

As for our Lake Nona Branch, stay tuned for more details. We're making progress there, too. As soon as we have renderings and details, we'll share them here.

Meet the Authors: You may have noticed that we brought multiple big-name authors to Orlando in 2023 (R.L. Stine, Julia Quinn, Kwame Onwuachi, Neil Gaiman, Art Spiegelman, Jane Green). Well, thanks to a generous bequest from a community member, which we'll reveal more details about at a later date, our Friends of the Orange County Library System plans to underwrite an author series that will allow us to elevate the literary scene with even more fantastic author events. Keep your eye on *Books & Beyond* to learn more as our plan comes together.

We can't do this alone, of course. We're grateful to our community partners who invite us to outreach events at their facilities. We're lucky to have the support of our city and county governments, our schools and our Friends group, all of whom help us share information about library events and programs so we can reach as many people as possible. And last, but certainly not least, we're thankful to have you – our cardholders, library lovers, donors and friends. You're our greatest champions and the biggest reason our future is so bright.



Artwork by Costume & Set Designer Robert Perdziola

questions and answers

Orlando Ballet's *The Nutcracker*

by Wayne Middleton, Marketing Project Coordinator

Founded in 1974, Orlando Ballet is Central Florida's only fully residential professional ballet company. On top of producing world class stage productions, they also promote dance education and training through the Orlando Ballet School and Orlando Ballet II. As part the ballet's 50th anniversary, artistic director Jorden Morris and a world-renowned creative team spent three years reimagining this from-scratch, Broadway-caliber production of *The Nutcracker*. Mr. Morris was kind enough to chat with us about the upcoming production.

***The Nutcracker* has been a keystone of the Orlando Ballet for many years. What makes it such a special part of the Orlando Ballet's repertoire?**

The Nutcracker started over 30 years ago as part of Orlando Ballet's season! What makes *The Nutcracker* special is that it is such a beautiful story of Christmas, dreams and adventures. The fairy tale-type setting is universal and appealing to "children" of all ages.

As part of the Orlando Ballet's 50th Anniversary, you conceived and choreographed a completely original version of *The Nutcracker*. How will it differ from past performances?

The new version of *The Nutcracker* will not differ so much in story, but more in the interpretation of the original story. The addition of puppets, marionettes and life-size snow globes are just a few of the reimagined elements to support the story.

What's it like to prepare for a from-scratch production of this scale?

The preparation of the new production started three years ago, with concept / storyboarding / script development and set / costume / lighting design. It is a massive undertaking and takes several teams working together to bring it all to fruition.

Why do you think *The Nutcracker* has become such an enduring tradition for families across the world?

I think the worldwide success of *The Nutcracker* is in large part due to the wonderful story written by E.T.A Hoffman and then softened by Alexandre Dumas. The characters, the adventure, the sense of magic and imagination are appealing at the best of times – at Christmas, I believe we all want to celebrate the magic of dreams and imagination.

This production is sure to inspire an interest in ballet and theater in young people. What would you say to them and how can they get involved?

I would say to young people who want to get involved in ballet theatre to follow their inspirations – if clothing and fashion appeal to you, look into costume design – if light and the way it can transform a stage or scene appeals to you, then follow that pathway. If you like building things and constructing models/ doll houses etc, then look into scenic arts – if music moves you, go there – if dance and movement inspire you follow that. The human imagination and creative mind are beautiful tools that enrich and color our culture – the world needs art and artists. ■

In an effort to ensure our community can experience this one of a kind production, Orange County Library System has partnered with Orlando Ballet to provide free access for library card holders to select ballet performances through the Local Wanderer culture pass program. Visit ocls.info/wander to learn more.





**HOMESCHOOL MEETUP:
GINGERBREAD HOUSES**

Southwest Branch
Monday, December 4, 1 p.m.
Use scientific thinking and design to create a gingerbread house. Recommended for ages 6–12. Seating is limited. Registration required.

Caregiver Connect: Stay and Play
South Trail Branch
Fridays, December 1–29, 11 a.m.
Winter Garden Branch
Fridays, December 1–29, 11:35 a.m.
Wednesdays, December 6–27, 11 a.m.
Chickasaw Branch
Monday, December 4 & 8, 11 a.m.
Fairview Shores Branch
Monday, December 4–18, 11 a.m.
Orlando Public Library
Monday, December 4–18, 11 a.m.
Southeast Branch
Monday, December 4–18, 11 a.m.
South Creek Branch
Monday, December 4–18, 11:30 a.m.
Southwest Branch
Monday, December 4 & 18, 11:30 a.m.
Windermere Branch
Thursday, December 7–28, 11:35 a.m.
West Oaks Branch
Thursday, December 7–28, 11:45 a.m.
Connect with other caregivers to meet and mingle while your little one explores imaginary play with new and old friends.

Family Zumba
Virtual
Saturday, December 9, 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.

Homeschool: Spanish
Windermere Branch
Tuesdays, December 5 & 19, 2 p.m.
Develop your Spanish skills with us! In this Spanish class, you will learn basic vocabulary, numbers, colors and much more. Recommended for ages 6–17.

Homeschool Jr.
Windermere Branch
Wednesday, December 6, 10:30 a.m.
Kickstart your child's education! Listen to stories and engage in activities about basic concepts. Recommended for ages 3–5.

Homeschool Discovery
Windermere Branch
Thursdays, December 7 & 14, 1 p.m.
Discover the world around us through STEM, geography, the arts, culture, history, literature and library-aligned themes with hands-on activities. Recommended for ages 6–17.

Homeschool: Art Expressions
Windermere Branch
Fridays, December 8 & 22, 2 p.m.
Alafaya Branch
Thursday, December 21, 2 p.m.
Develop and express creativity in a fun art experience. Children will expand their abilities, as they improve their fine motor skills and ingenuity. Recommended for ages 6–17.

Homeschool Meetup:
Cocoa & Construction
Southwest Branch
Monday, December 11, 1 p.m.
Test your marshmallow engineering skills while drinking a hot cup of cocoa! Recommended for ages 6–12. Supplies are limited. Registration required.

Homeschool: French
Windermere Branch
Tuesday, December 12, 2 p.m.
Virtual
Tuesday, December 26, 2 p.m.
Develop your French skills with us! In this French class, you will learn basic vocabulary, numbers, colors and much more. Recommended for ages 6–17.

Homeschool Teen Rec Time
Windermere Branch
Wednesday, December 13, 4:45 p.m.
Socialize, play games, do crafts, learn a life skill or just hang out with friends during this teen-reserved library recreation time. Light snacks provided. Recommended for ages 13–17.

Homeschool Meetup
Southwest Branch
Monday, December 18, 1 p.m.
Inviting all homeschoolers to play games, socialize and share resources. Recommended for ages 6–12.

Homeschool Explorers
North Orange Branch
Tuesday, December 19, 2 p.m.
Explore art and stories while meeting new friends. Support your child's homeschool curriculum with crafts and stories from around the world.

Homeschool Branch Out
Windermere Branch
Thursday, December 21, 1 p.m.
Branch out and develop new skills. Socialize with friends as you expand your horizons during this exploratory recreation time. Recommended for ages 6–17.

Holiday DIY: Paper Gift Bags
North Orange Branch
Saturday, December 2, 3 p.m.
'Tis the season for sustainable choices! We'll create homemade gift bags using recyclable material like old gift wrap, brown paper bags, newspaper and more!

Mindful Start Family Yoga
Winter Garden Branch
Monday, December 4–18, 10:30 a.m.
West Oaks Branch
Wednesdays, December 6–20, 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.

Mini Gingerbread House Painting
Hiawassee Branch
Wednesday, December 6, 4:30 p.m.
Let's get cozy and paint our own mini gingerbread houses. Recommended for ages 6 and up.

Cocoa and Construction
South Trail Branch
Friday, December 8, 4–5:15 p.m.
West Oaks Branch
Saturday, December 9, 2 p.m.
Test your marshmallow engineering skills while drinking a hot cup of cocoa! Supplies are limited. Registration required.

A Grimm Escape
Southeast Branch
Saturday, December 9, 11 a.m.–3:30 p.m.
South Creek Branch
Saturday, December 16, 10:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.
Channel the cleverness of Rumpelstiltskin, the kindness of Snow White and the determination of the Evil Queen to puzzle your way out of a fairytale-themed escape room. Recommended for ages 5 and up.

Holiday DIY: Greeting Cards
North Orange Branch
Monday, December 11, 4:30 p.m.
Design and create a winter greeting card using a simple printmaking technique you can replicate at home. Share your custom creation with friends and family!

Pokémon Party!
Fairview Shores Branch
Monday, December 11, 4:30 p.m.
Calling all trainers big and small: we choose you to party like a Pikachu! Fun, activities and crafts are waiting for you!

It Doesn't Snow in Florida
Winter Garden Branch
Wednesday, December 13, 3:30 p.m.
South Trail Branch
Wednesday, December 13, 4:30 p.m.
Chickasaw Branch
Saturday, December 16, 2 p.m.
It may not snow in Florida, but that doesn't mean we can't make our own winter fun!

Holiday DIY: Perler Beads
North Orange Branch
Thursday, December 14, 4:30–6 p.m.
Create pixelated art with Perler beads. Design and make a pair of earrings or a keychain/magnet with your own flair! Enjoy the winter season with some wintry Perler designs!

Holiday Card Workshop
Winter Garden Branch
Saturday, December 16, 2 p.m.
Use a variety of art supplies to create unique cards for your loved ones this holiday season.

Pokémon Cuisine
Fairview Shores Branch
Monday, December 18, 4:30 p.m.
Do you have a little trainer that's a picky eater? Well, this program is just what you're looking for. Join a Pokémon gym leader to recreate a Pokémon snack for your little trainers to enjoy.

Book Bingo
South Creek Branch
Thursday, December 21, 4:30 p.m.
Celebrate Bingo Month by playing bingo for books.

Gingerbread House Build-Off
Fairview Shores Branch
Saturday, December 23, 3–5 p.m.
Grab your gumdrops and frosting, it's time to construct the gingerbread house of your dreams! Supplies limited.

Kids Craft Fair
North Orange Branch
Thursday, December 28, 11 a.m.
Let your child explore their creativity by using a variety of materials to make craft projects. Craft your own animal picture frame, rocket ship and much more.

Winter Break:
Movie, Cocoa & a Craft
Southeast Branch
Thursday, December 28, 2–4 p.m.
Join us for a little cocoa, a little movie and a little craft. Test your doodling skills for a creative cup of cocoa. Recommended for families with children ages 5 and up.



HOLIDAY DIY CRAFTS

South Creek Branch
Tuesdays, December 5, 4:30 p.m.
Southeast Branch
Friday, December 15, 4 p.m.
South Trail Branch
Tuesdays, December 15, 4:30 p.m.
Washington Park Branch
Wednesday, December 20, 4 p.m.
Create handmade decorations, ornaments or simple gifts for the holiday season.



BABY, IT'S COLD OUTSIDE
 Southeast Branch
 Monday, December 4, 10:15 a.m.
 Explore the wonder of winter by engaging in themed sensory activities with your little one.

Baby Bookworms
 Southwest Branch
 Monday, December 4, 11 a.m.
 Read! Learn! Play! Introduce your baby to important literacy practices that encourage learning and developmental growth.

Mother Goose on the Loose
 Orlando Public Library
 Mondays, December 4-18, 10:30 a.m.
 Fairview Shores Branch
 Thursdays, December 7, 21 & 28, 10:30 a.m.
 Southwest Branch
 Monday, December 11, 11 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! Recommended for ages 0-18 months.

Babies en la Biblioteca
 South Creek Branch
 Friday, December 8, 10:30 a.m.
 Adventures can be had both inside the pages of a book and out. Discover new words and new worlds with your child as we sing, talk and play during storytime to connect and foster a love for reading!



PEPPERMINT PALS

West Oaks Branch
 Tuesday, December 5, 11 a.m.
 Fairview Shores Branch
 Tuesday, December 12, 10:30 a.m.
 They are red and white and sure smell nice! Join us for stories, crafts and activities inspired by sweet peppermint treats. Recommended for ages 2-5.

Guitar Singalong
 Winter Garden Branch
 Tuesday, December 5, 10:30 a.m.
 Join us for a brief singalong to familiar songs along with live guitar for you and your toddler.

Parachute Play
 North Orange Branch
 Tuesday, December 5, 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.

Bubble Playtime
 Alafaya Branch
 Wednesday, December 6, 10:15 a.m.
 North Orange Branch
 Tuesday, December 19, 11 a.m.
 Southwest Branch
 Wednesday, December 20, 11 a.m.
 Help your child with their motor development skills in this interactive bubble class.

Storytime Craft
 North Orange Branch
 Wednesdays, December 6-27, 10:30 a.m.
 Southwest Branch
 Thursdays, December 7-28, 10 a.m.-Noon
 Drop in before and after storytime to create a make-and-take craft. Recommended for ages 2-5.

Artsy Toddler
 Chickasaw Branch
 Wednesday, December 6, 11 a.m.
 Alafaya Branch
 Wednesday, December 13, 10:15 a.m.
 Learn new fine motor skills using paint, paste, glue and stamps to create! Children will enjoy stories, songs and exploring age-appropriate art experiences.

I Spy Winter
 Southwest Branch
 Wednesday, December 6, 11 a.m.
 South Creek Branch
 Tuesday, December 19, 10:30 a.m.
 Explore a winter wonderland through a story and hands-on activities to warm up your little fingers.

Sleepy Bear
 North Orange Branch
 Thursday, December 7, 11 a.m.
 Eatonville Branch
 Friday, December 8, 10:30 a.m.
 Fairview Shores Branch
 Wednesday, December 13, 10:30 a.m.
 Zzzzz ... winter is here and it is time to hibernate! Interact and explore animal patterns as we snuggle into dreamland. Recommended for ages 2-5.

Chilly Critters
 Windermere Branch
 Monday, December 11, 10:30 a.m.
 Southwest Branch
 Wednesday, December 13, 11 a.m.
 Southeast Branch
 Monday, December 18, 10:15 a.m.
 Brrrr! Who is braver enough to live in the cold? Discover chilly animal friends and their snowy homes with fun stories, crafts and activities.

Traffic JAM!
 North Orange Branch
 Tuesday, December 12, 11 a.m.
 It's time for a tough truck party with a celebration of things that go, go, go! Recommended for ages 2-5.

Hibernation Stations
 West Oaks Branch
 Tuesday, December 26, 11 a.m.
 See who's snoozing this season! Join us for crafts and activities about animals who sleep all winter.

Toddler Playground
 Southwest Branch
 Wednesday, December 27, 11 a.m.
 Toddlers use unstructured play to advance their physical and cognitive development and to have FUN!



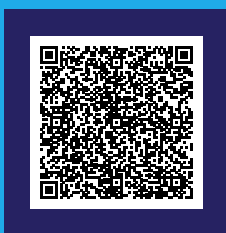
WINTER CRAFT AND A SNACK

Eatonville Branch
 Monday, December 11, 10:30 a.m.
 Join us for a winter-inspired craft and enjoy a small snack while creating. Recommended for ages 2-4.

Little Pim on-the-go!

Attention parents of aspiring bilinguals – Little Pim is now available on mobile! Take the Adventure anywhere you and your little ones go.

Not sure where to begin? OCLS provides Little Pim for FREE through Mango Languages. All you need is a library card to get started today!



PRESCHOOL

AGES 3-5



BABUSHKA'S BOOKS

Fairview Shores Branch

Tuesday, December 5, 10:30 a.m.

West Oaks Branch

Tuesday, December 19, 11 a.m.

Gather round and enjoy Slavic stories straight from your babushka's bookshelf!

Sesame Street Storytime

Virtual

Mondays, December 4-18, 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.

Pajama Party

Virtual

Mondays, December 4-18, 7 p.m.

Put on your pajamas and enjoy an interactive virtual storytime with books, songs, games and a craft.

Mindful Play Learning:

Yoga for Preschoolers

Eatonville Branch

Tuesdays, December 5-26, 10:15 a.m.

Each session is themed and playfully uses yoga and imagination to teach early learners social-emotional skills, support cognitive development and enhance creativity.

Little Chef:

Milk Carton Gingerbread Houses

Southwest Branch

Tuesday, December 5, 11 a.m.

Winter Garden Branch

Tuesday, December 19, 10:30 a.m.

Celebrate the season with your little ones as they build their very own gingerbread house. Adult participation is required.

Snowman Shuffle

Alafaya Branch

Tuesday, December 5, 11 a.m.

Do you want to build a snowman? Come on by for snowman-themed stories, songs and crafts.

Cuéntame un Cuento

Winter Garden Branch

Wednesdays, December 6-27, 10:30 a.m.

Southeast Branch

Monday, December 11, 10:15 a.m.

Virtual

Tuesday, December 12, 11 a.m.

Thursdays, December 7-28, 10 a.m.

Cuéntame un Cuento is an interactive bilingual storytime featuring books and songs in English and Spanish that are suitable for speakers of both languages. Registration required.

Penguin Party

South Creek Branch

Wednesday, December 6, 10:30 a.m.

Southeast Branch

Thursday, December 7, 4:30 p.m.

Alafaya Branch

Tuesday, December 19, 11 a.m.

Chickasaw Branch

Wednesday, December 20, 11 a.m.

Fairview Shores, December 27, 10:30 a.m.

Virtual

Tuesday, December 5, 11 a.m.

Brrr! It's cold out there! Warm up with stories, math, science activities and a craft featuring some icy friends. Registration required.

Snow Science

Virtual

Thursday, December 7, 11 a.m.

Learn about snowflakes and work together to perform frosty experiments. Registration required.

Look, I'm a Scientist:

Iceberg Animal Rescue!

Orlando Public Library

Friday, December 8, 10:30 a.m.

Learn what happens when it gets very cold and interact while rescuing animals from an iceberg.

Little Chef:

Melted Snowman Cookies

Hiawasse Branch

Friday, December 8, 11:15 a.m.

Southwest Branch

Tuesday, December 19, 11 a.m.

South Creek Branch

Wednesday, December 20, 10:30 a.m.

Get cozy as we build a snowman with wintry sweets and enjoy it paired with a cup of apple cider. Adult participation is required. Registration required.

Frozen Storytime

Alafaya Branch

Tuesday, December 12, 11 a.m.

Let it go and join us into the unknown for Frozen songs, stories and activities! Recommended for fans of Anna, Elsa, Kristoff and Olaf.

Little Chef: Winter Cake in a Jar

West Oaks Branch

Tuesday, December 12, 11 a.m.

Assemble a winter treat in a jar! Layer festive cake, sweet frosting and colorful sprinkles to make a delicious gift! Adult participation is required.

Storybook STEAM: Snow

Southwest Branch

Tuesday, December 12, 11 a.m.

Listen to stories and complete a STEAM challenge. Challenges will invite preschoolers to imagine, plan, create and improve upon a story-related project.

Winter Tales

South Creek Branch

Wednesday, December 13, 10:30 a.m.

Virtual

Thursday, December 21, 11 a.m.

Celebrate the changing of the seasons with cozy stories and a wintery craft.

Little Chef: Winter Cake in a Cup

North Orange Branch

Thursday, December 14, 11 a.m.

Get ready to build and decorate a cozy winter cake. Layer cake, icing, sprinkles and snow to make a yummy winter treat.

Little Artist

North Orange Branch

Friday, December 15, 11 a.m.

Get creative with arts and crafts! Explore art techniques, play with bubbles and learn letters, numbers and colors.

Little Readers

Virtual

Saturday, December 16, 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.

Button Up

Eatonville Branch

Wednesday, December 20, 10:15 a.m.

North Orange Branch

Thursday, December 21, 11 a.m.

South Trail Branch

Thursday, December 14, 10:15 a.m.

Winter Garden Branch

Tuesday, December 12, 10:30 a.m.

Brrr ... it's cold outside! Be sure to button up before coming to the library. Join us for stories, crafts, and activities all about buttons.

Move and Play

Alafaya Branch

Wednesday, December 20, 10:15 a.m.

Get ready to move and groove to popular kid songs.

Little Chef: Build a Snowman

Southeast Branch

Thursday, December 21, 4:30 p.m.

Virtual

Tuesday, December 19, 11 a.m.

You're never too young to get your start in the kitchen! Bring your little one to learn cooking skills as you interact with a delicious recipe. Registration required.



STORYTIMES

OCLS.INFO/STORYTIME

TINY TALES (ages 0-18 months)

South Creek Branch, Mondays, 11:15 a.m.
Chickasaw Branch, Tuesdays, 11:15 a.m.
North Orange Branch, Wednesdays, 11:15 a.m.
Southeast Branch, Wednesdays, 11:15 a.m.
West Oaks Branch, Thursdays, 11:15 a.m.
Windermere Branch, Thursdays, 11:15 a.m.
Southwest Branch, Thursdays, 11:30 a.m.
Alafaya Branch, Fridays, 11:15 a.m.
Winter Garden Branch, Fridays, 11:15 a.m.
Orlando Public Library, Saturdays, 11:30 a.m.

TODDLER TIME (ages 18-36 months)

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.
Windermere Branch, Thursdays, 10:45 a.m.
Southwest Branch, Thursdays, 11:00 a.m.
Alafaya Branch, Fridays, 10:45 a.m.
Winter Garden Branch, Fridays, 10:45 a.m.
Orlando Public Library, Saturdays, 11 a.m.

STORYBOOK FUN (ages 3-5)

South Creek Branch, Mondays, 10:15 a.m.
Chickasaw Branch, Tuesdays, 10:15 a.m.
North Orange Branch, Wednesdays, 10:15 a.m.
Southeast Branch, Wednesdays, 10:15 a.m.
West Oaks Branch, Thursdays, 10:15 a.m.
Windermere Branch, Thursdays, 10:15 a.m.
Southwest Branch, Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.
Alafaya Branch, Fridays, 10:15 a.m.
Winter Garden Branch, Fridays, 10:15 a.m.
Orlando Public Library, Saturdays, 10:30 a.m.

ZERO TO FIVE STORYTIME (ages 0-5)

Hiawasse Branch, Mondays, 10:15 a.m.
Fairview Shores Branch, Mondays, 10:30 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 STORYTIME

North Orange Branch, First Sundays, 2 p.m.
Alafaya Branch, Second Sundays, 2 p.m.
South Creek Branch, Third Sundays, 2 p.m.

HAPPY NOON YEAR

South Creek Branch

Saturday, December 30, 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Southwest Branch

Saturday, December 30, 11:30 a.m.

Make some noise and ring in the noon year with your little ones!

Join us for fun and games with an exciting countdown at noon.



WINTER WONDERLAND

South Creek Branch

Saturday, December 2, 10:30 a.m.

Winter Garden Branch

Tuesday, December 19, 4:30 p.m.

Fairview Shores Branch

Wednesday, December 20, 10:30 a.m.

West Oaks Branch

Wednesday, December 27, 4 p.m.

Even though it's not very cold, it really is winter!

Join us for winter-themed stories and crafts to get into the spirit of colder weather.

CUISINE CORNER JUNIOR:
SNOWMAN SNACK

Eatonville Branch

Wednesday, December 27, 3 p.m.

Do you want to build a snowman ... snack? Join us to transform a classic winter icon into a delicious, themed snack! Recommended for ages 8 and up.

Let It Snow

South Trail Branch

Friday, December 1, 4:30 p.m.

Washington Park Branch

Wednesday, December 6, 4 p.m.

West Oaks Branch

Wednesday, December 6, 4 p.m.

Fairview Shores Branch

Saturday, December 30, 3 p.m.

These winter crafts and snacks will brighten the season and keep you cool. Create a variety of snow-themed crafts. Recommended for ages 6-8.

Storytime at Bill Frederick Park

3401 S. Hiwassee Road

Orlando, FL 32835

Saturday, December 2, 10 a.m.

Wednesday, December 6, 10 a.m.

Join us for an outdoor nature storytime hosted near the playground at Bill Frederick Park. A small fee is required to enter the park.

READING Paws

Chickasaw Branch

Saturday, December 2, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Windermere Branch

Saturday, December 9, 11:30 a.m.

Alafaya Branch

Saturday, December 23, 11:30 a.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, December 2, 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.

Snow Science

South Creek Branch

Saturday, December 2, 1:30 p.m.

Learn about snowflakes and work together to perform frosty experiments. Recommended for ages 5 and up. Registration required.

Read to Sydney

Winter Garden Branch

Monday, December 4, 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.

STEM Challenge: Let's Build a Sled!

Eatonville Branch

Tuesday, December 5, 3:30 p.m.

We may be in Florida, but today we are going sledding! Join us for an engineering project to build a mini sled and assess its strength using multiple forms of testing! Recommended for ages 6-10.

Icy Science

Winter Garden Branch

Tuesday, December 5, 4:30 p.m.

Eatonville Branch

Thursday, December 7, 3:15 p.m.

Washington Park Branch

Wednesday, December 13, 4 p.m.

Southeast Branch

Thursday, December 14, 4:30 p.m.

South Trail Branch

Saturday, December 23, 11 a.m.

Combine ice, cold and fun for experiments that will make your teeth chatter!

Windermere LEGO Club

Windermere Branch

Tuesdays, December 5, 12 & 26, 4:30 p.m.

Expand your creativity and imagination with LEGO! Bricks will be provided but cannot go home with you.

Backyard Birds of Prey

Eatonville Branch

Wednesday, December 6, 3:15 p.m.

Meet and learn about the birds of prey that can be found in your own backyard! Presented in partnership with the Audubon Center for Birds of Prey.

Southwest LEGO Club

Southwest Branch

Wednesdays, December 6-27, 4 p.m.

The LEGO Club invites you to use your imagination to build! Bricks will be provided but cannot go home with you.

Holiday Card Workshop

South Creek Branch

Thursday, December 7, 4:30 p.m.

Use a variety of art supplies to create unique cards for your loved ones this holiday season.

Make and Take

Alafaya Branch

Friday, December 8, 2 p.m.

Get ready to build! Make a Home Depot wooden craft to keep. Recommended for ages 6-8. Kits are limited. Registration required.

LEGO Club

South Creek Branch

Saturday, December 9, 10:30 a.m.

Expand your creativity and imagination with LEGO! Bricks will be provided but cannot go home with you.

Crafternoons

Winter Garden Branch

Monday, December 11, 4:30 p.m.

Winter Garden Branch

Monday, December 18, 4:30 p.m.

Get ready for crafting fun with friends! Recommended for ages 6-8. Registration required.

Arctic Animal Exploration

Eatonville Branch

Tuesday, December 12, 3:30 p.m.

What animals live in the Arctic? How do they thrive in such cold weather? Join us to engage in fun activities to introduce animal species that live in that climate! Recommended for ages 5-9.

Bilingual Fun Time Para Niños

North Orange Branch

Wednesday, December 13, 3:30 p.m.

Learn and practice Spanish with us de una manera divertida (in a fun way)! Celebrate the winter season by learning new vocabulary in Spanish and making delicious snacks.

When I Grow Up

South Creek Branch

Wednesday, December 13, 4:30 p.m.

Eatonville Branch

Thursday, December 21, 3:30 p.m.

What do you want to be when you grow up? Learn how income is earned while exploring your interests as they relate to potential careers. Recommended for ages 6-8.

The Evolution of Anime

West Oaks Branch

Friday, December 15, 4 p.m.

Explore the many Japanese art styles that led to the creation of some of today's most beloved anime. Learn to draw anime characters and leave with a personal work of art.

Hearts of Gold Therapy Dogs

South Creek Branch

Saturday, December 16, 10:30 a.m.

Southwest Branch

Saturday, December 23, 10:30 a.m.

Children can improve their reading skills by reading to a therapy dog with Golden Retriever Rescue of Mid-Florida. Practice with a furry friend and build your confidence.

Pajama Jamboree

Windermere Branch

Tuesday, December 19, 4:30 p.m.

Put on your favorite jammies for a fun-filled evening of a story, craft and snack. Seating is limited. Recommended for ages 3-7.

Happy Habitats

Alafaya Branch

Wednesday, December 20, 4 p.m.

Learn about habitats, plants and animals through books and crafts. This month we're learning about the rainforest. Recommended for ages 6-8. Registration required for each child.

Mayor Buddy's Book Club

End of Book Party

Orlando Public Library, Library Central

Wednesday, December 20, 4 p.m.

Orlando Mayor Buddy's Book Club is celebrating the completion of their latest book, *Stuck* by Jennifer Swender! Recommended for ages 8-12.

Magic Tree House Expeditions

Virtual

Wednesday, December 20, 4:30 p.m.

Jack and Annie need your help with their latest voyage in the Magic Tree House. If you love their adventures, now is your chance to be part of their travels through time. Recommended for ages 6-8.

Holiday Cookie Decorating

Windermere Branch

Saturday, December 23, 2 p.m.

Decorate cookies to dazzle everyone! Learn easy ways to dress up holiday cookies for the season. Recommended for ages 6 and up.

Cuisine Corner Junior:

Snowman Dessert Dip

South Trail Branch

Wednesday, December 27, 11 a.m.

Do you want to build a snowman? Come pour, mix and taste a dip that will melt in your mouth this winter. Recommended for ages 8 and up.

Pirates! All Aboard to Denmark

Fairview Shores Branch

Thursday, December 28, 4:30 p.m.

All aboard to explore Denmark with a quirky pirate crew! We'll read *The Snow Queen*, sing Frozen-themed sea shanties and dance our way to new adventures.

Cookie Decorating

Fairview Shores Branch

Friday, December 29, 3 p.m.

Frosting, sprinkles, candy and cookies ... what more could you want!? Stop in and express your creativity by decorating a sugary treat. Then enjoy the best part of all, eating it!

Percy Jackson Week



Cuisine Corner Junior: Blue Foods!

Alafaya Branch
Wednesday, December 13, 4 p.m.
 Celebrate the new show with blue foods, just like Percy's mom used to make! Recommended for ages 6–12. Registration for each child required.

Fantasy Map Making

Alafaya Branch
Thursday, December 14, 4 p.m.
 Use your imagination and art skills to create a map and bring a new fantasy world to life! Recommended for ages 9–12. Registration required for each child.

Percy Jackson Party

Windermere Branch
Saturday, December 16, 10:30 a.m.
 Celebrate your favorite half-blood hero. Enjoy trivia, games and a craft. Recommended for ages 8–14.

Cabin Flags

Alafaya Branch
Saturday, December 16, 11 a.m.
 At Camp Half-Blood, which cabin do you want to stay in? Poseidon? Hera? Make a flag for your cabin of choice! Recommended for ages 8–12.

Camp Half-Blood Necklace Painting

Alafaya Branch
Saturday, December 16, 4 p.m.
 Paint and assemble your very own Camp Half-Blood bead necklace from the Percy Jackson series! Recommended for ages 13–18. Registration required.

Greek Mythology Shrinky Dinks

Alafaya Branch
Sunday, December 17, 1:30 p.m.
 Myths and monsters have never been this cute! Draw, cut and bake a Shrinky Dink keychain featuring your favorite characters from Greek mythology. Recommended for ages 6 and up.

Snack Around the World: Greece

West Oaks Branch
Wednesday, December 20, 4 p.m.
 Treat yourself to tasty snacks from a land far away! Each month we'll learn about a different culture and sample the yummiest snacks it has to offer. Recommended for ages 6–12. Registration required.

D&D December



Let's Play D&D

Hiwassee Branch
Saturdays, December 2 & 16, 1–5 p.m.
 Learn to play Dungeons & Dragons! Step into the exciting world of D&D. Choose your character and work together to face obstacles and defeat monsters. Recommended for ages 13–18.

Dungeons and Dragons

Washington Park Branch
Monday, December 4–18, 5–6:30 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 and up.

Dungeons, Dragons and Libraries: Kids

North Orange Branch
Saturday, December 9, 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.

Dungeons, Dragons and Libraries: Adults

North Orange Branch
Saturday, December 30, 1–3 p.m.
 Would you like to play Dungeons & Dragons? Now's your chance! Join us adventurers on our next quest! Recommended for ages 18 and up.

TEENS

AGES 13–18
 OCLS.INFO/TEENS

HOLIDAY MOVIE AND CRAFTS

South Creek Branch
Tuesday, December 12, 4:30 p.m.
Eatonville Branch
Thursday, December 14, 3 p.m.
South Trail Branch
Tuesday, December 26, 3–5 p.m.

'Tis the season to show us your ugliest holiday sweater during this holiday movie and teen craft spectacular!



Teen Board Game Meetup

South Creek Branch
Friday, December 1, 4 p.m.
 Leave Monopoly at home! Come learn a new board game or revisit some unique favorites. Games will be provided. Registration required.

Paint Party!

Fairview Shores Branch
Saturdays, December 2 & 16, 3–4:30 p.m.
 It's that time again for Paint Party! Create your very own artwork at three different art stations.

DIY Winter Gnome

Fairview Shores Branch
Wednesday, December 6, 4:30 p.m.
 Create an adorable seasonal gnome using a mop head and socks. So much fun, easy and inexpensive to make. Recommended for ages 10 and up.

Paper Pizzazz

Winter Garden Branch
Thursday, December 21, 4:30 p.m.
 Learn to make cool paper decorations to add pizzazz to your own room or to give as a gift.

Art Club

Winter Garden Branch
Friday, December 29, 3:30 p.m.
 Try out new artistic techniques each month and experiment with your fellow artists! Recommended for ages 10 and up. Registration required.

HOW TO SURVIVE WINTER MADNESS AND A BIG FAT YETI

South Creek Branch
Tuesday, December 19, 4:30 p.m.
South Trail Branch
Wednesday, December 20, 4 p.m.
 Is there a big fat yeti lookin' at you a little too close to lunchtime? Do you worry about becoming an abominable snow snack? Is all this worry driving you to winter madness?



Teen Volunteering
Orlando Public Library
Saturday, December 2, 2–4 p.m.
 High school students will earn two hours of community service by assembling craft kits for the library.

Teen Volunteering:
Orange Slice December
Alafaya Branch
Saturday, December 2, 3–5 p.m.
 Earn community service hours by becoming involved in Alafaya's teen literary and creative arts magazine. Registration required.

High School Advisory Board Meeting

Virtual
Wednesday, December 6, 2:30 p.m.
 Earn community service by collaborating with your peers to test out new teen programs, brainstorm new teen services and more! Recommended for students in grades 9–12.

Teen Takeover

South Creek Branch
Wednesday, December 6, 3–5 p.m.
Southeast Branch
Wednesday, December 20, 3–5 p.m.
 High school students earn up to two hours of community service by assembling craft kits and performing other tasks as needed. Registration required.

Middle School Advisory Board Meeting

Virtual
Wednesday, December 6, 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.

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

Christmas

All Locations:
Sunday & Monday, December 24 & 25

New Year's

All Locations:
Sunday & Monday, December 31 & January 1

Día de Navidad

Todos las localidades:
el domingo y lunes, 24 y 25 de diciembre

Año Nuevo

Todos las localidades:
31 de diciembre y 1 de enero



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



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