

Meet you
There



SEE MORE ON PAGE 18



ORLANDO MUSEUM°ART

To learn more and plan your visit, **check out: omart.org**



HOUSE DISTRICT 35 SPECIAL ELECTION EARLY VOTING

ALAFAYA BRANCH
Saturday, January 6 – Sunday, January 14

SPONSORED BY:



CONTENTS

- 4 From the Director
- 5 ZORA! Fest
- 6 Library Events
- 7 Cuisine Corner
- 9 Art & Display, Music in the Library
- 10 Meet the Author, Writers Corner
- 11 Book Clubs, Staff Picks
- 12 Genealogy
- 13 Next Chapter, Jobseekers
- 14 Language Learning
- 15 Citizenship Inspired
- 16 Melrose Center
- 18 Meet You There
- 20 Fiber Arts
- 21 Technology
- 22 Family
- 23 Early Learning
- 27 Children's
- 30 Teens

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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

Next Board of Trustees Meeting:

Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room
Thursday, January 18, 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:

Orlando Public Library
Thursday, January 11, Noon

Your Library, Your Voice

Let your voice be heard.

Help shape your library's strategic plan by joining a focus group discussion. We'll talk about what you want for your community, and discuss what needs to change for the library to reach these goals. Food will be provided for in-person focus groups.

In-Person

Your Library, Your Voice: A Library Focus Group

South Creek Branch
Tuesday, January 9, 3:30–4:30 p.m.

Chickasaw Branch
Wednesday, January 10, 2–3 p.m.

North Orange Branch
Wednesday, January 10, 5:30–6:30 p.m.

West Oaks Branch
Thursday, January 11, 3–4 p.m.

Su Biblioteca, Su Voz: Un Grupo Focal

Chickasaw Branch
Miércoles, 10 de enero, 4–5 p.m.

Bibliyotèk Ou, Vwa Ou: Yon Group Konsantrasyon Bibliyotèk

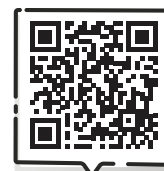
South Trail Branch
Vandredi, 12 Janvyè, 1–2 p.m.

Virtual

Su Biblioteca, Su Voz: Un Grupo Focal
Martes, 16 de enero 16, 7–8 p.m.

Your Library, Your Voice: A Library Focus Group
Wednesday, January 17, 7–8 p.m.

To register, visit ocls.info/communitysurvey.



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

FROM THE DIRECTOR |

When Alice Walker published her story “In Search of Zora Neale Hurston” for *Ms. Magazine* in 1975, the author we currently consider to be a prominent voice of the Harlem Renaissance and one of the most brilliant authors in Black literature was all but forgotten. Walker describes the day she first walked into the Eatonville town hall in the 1960s and asked a woman sitting at a desk what she knew about Hurston. The woman told Walker that Hurston was her aunt, but nobody in the town talked about her much. Walker asked if the local schools teach kids about Hurston’s books, and the response was a flat no. “I don’t think most people know anything about Zora Neale Hurston,” the young woman said.

Although today Hurston is world renowned as an author and anthropologist who documented Black folklore and life in the South, she died impoverished and alone in the St. Lucie County Welfare Home in Fort Pierce in 1960. Walker helped bring her work back into the public consciousness with her essay about her visit to Eatonville, and she is now celebrated and often referred to as the “Genius of the South.”

I think that makes it even more poignant that, more than 60 years after her death, we continue to honor her legacy and contributions today. We kick off January with a month of events that highlight Hurston and her work. In conjunction with the town of Eatonville’s ZORA! Festival, we’ll host a series of events at our Eatonville Branch and Orlando Public Library to help populate an entire month of appreciation for the author. You can see our schedule of events on the opposite page, but pay special attention to the events taking place at Eatonville Branch on Friday, January 26, also known as Zora Festival Education Day. We’ll start the day with a Meet the Author event with children’s author Alicia D. Williams, whose title *Jump at the Sun* was inspired by Hurston’s life. Later that day, we’ll also host an artistic freestyle show that will pay homage to Eatonville’s history, followed by a viewing of the movie *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, based on Hurston’s book of the same name.



St Powell

Steve Powell
Library Director/CEO
Orange County Library System

comments@ocls.info

Hurston had been practically forgotten for nearly 30 years after her death, and I hate to think that her contribution to arts and literature could have been buried with her had it not been for Walker’s investigation into her life. It’s up to us – the library and the community – to make sure she’s never forgotten again. Happy birthday, Zora. We’re glad we can celebrate you.

HALF OFF BOOK SALE



THURSDAY–SUNDAY JANUARY 18–21

Orlando Public Library | 101 E. Central Blvd.

Shop our large selection of gently used books, DVDs, CDs, collectible items and more and enjoy 50% off all marked prices!

Thursday: Friends Member Preview 4–6 p.m.
Friday & Saturday: 10:30 a.m.–5 p.m.
Sunday: 1:30–5 p.m.

Southwest Branch Sidewalk Sale
Saturday, January 27, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Winter Garden Sidewalk Sale
Saturday, February 10, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

For more information, visit oclsfriends.info.

ZORA! FEST |



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, ZORA

Orlando Public Library, Library Central
Sunday, January 7, 2–4 p.m.

In partnership with the ZORA! Festival we celebrate the life and work of Zora Neale Hurston with music, poetry and a lecture on Zora Neale Hurston and Black women’s self-definition.

Zora Zines

Eatonville Branch

Thursday, January 4, 3:30 p.m.

Learn about Zora Neale Hurston and some of her nature-inspired folktale collections. Recommended for ages 9–12.

Zora’s Butterfly Garden

Eatonville Branch

Wednesday, January 17, 10:15 a.m.

Celebrate Zora Neale Hurston and her history by learning about folklore through singing, talking, playing, writing and reading.

Eatonville Branch Kids Film Club:

The Story of Ruby Bridges

Eatonville Branch

Thursday, January 18, 3:30–5:45 p.m.

Calling all kids! Are you a movie fan? Enjoy a film with fellow movie enthusiasts!

Zora Neale Hurston: Amazing Anthropology!

Eatonville Branch

Monday, January 22, 3:30 p.m.

Do you have what it takes to dive into a culture like Zora Neale Hurston? Explore the field of anthropology and create an anthropological study. Recommended for families with children ages 10 and up.

ZORA! FESTIVAL EDUCATION DAY 2024

Meet the Author Alicia D. Williams
Eatonville Branch
Friday, January 26, 10:30 a.m.
Celebrate Zora’s legacy with Alicia D. Williams, award-winning children’s author of *Jump at the Sun*, *Genesis Begins Again* and *The Talk*. Recommended for families with children ages 5 and up. This event is funded in part by the South Arts in partnership with the National Endowment of the Arts and the Florida Department of State Division of Arts and Culture.

Eatonville Comes Alive!
Eatonville Branch
Friday, January 26, Noon–2 p.m.
Come alive during Jonathan Tyson’s signature “Freestyle Bold” show as he creates an original piece of art to honor Eatonville’s historic essence. This artistic performance will be accompanied by music.

Movie Viewing: *Their Eyes Were Watching God*
Eatonville Branch
Friday, January 26, 3–5 p.m.
Join us for the viewing of *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, based on the novel by Zora Neale Hurston. Rated TV-14.

DIY CHINESE NEW YEAR COUPLET WORKSHOP

Virtual
Tuesday, January 9, 11 a.m.

Celebrate the Year of the Dragon! In this workshop presented by Jojo Liu, you will learn some basic Chinese calligraphy and create a pair of Chinese couplets that you can use for Chinese New Year decoration.



What is a Chinese Couplet?

A Chinese couplet or duilian (對聯) is a type of traditional poetry that has been a significant part of Chinese culture for centuries. They consist of two lines with an equal number of characters and a parallel tone pattern. Written with a brush and calligraphy skills, they are considered a form of art, valued for their ability to convey deep meaning in a concise and elegant manner.

A type of couplet called a chunlian (春聯), or spring couplet, is often displayed on doorways with messages for the coming year during Chinese New Year celebrations.



EATING WELL

Virtual
Wednesday, January 10, 6 p.m.

Yamira Lee Johnson, head chef and founder of Breaking Bread with Mira, will discuss balancing protein, carbs, fat and fiber while showing us how to make an easy nutritious meal.

Cornish Pasty

Virtual
Monday, January 29, 6:30 p.m.

Join culinary expert Dianne Morin as she teaches how to make a traditional British Cornish pasty. This traditional dish features a savory, flaky pastry filled with beef and vegetables.

Caregiver Connect: Stay and Play
Windermere Branch
Thursdays,
January 4–25, 11:45 a.m.
South Trail Branch
Fridays, January 5–26, 11 a.m.
Winter Garden Branch
Fridays, January 5–26, 11:35 a.m.
Chickasaw Branch
Monday, January 8, 11 a.m.
Orlando Public Library
Mondays,
January 8, 22 & 29, 11 a.m.
Fairview Shores Branch
Mondays, January 8–29, 11:30 a.m.
South Creek Branch
Mondays,
January 8, 22 & 29, 11:30 a.m.
Southwest Branch
Mondays,
January 8 & 29, 11:30 a.m.
Connect with other caregivers to meet and mingle while your little one explores imaginary play with new and old friends.

Yoga for Adults
North Orange Branch
Thursdays, January 4–25, 1 p.m.
Yoga is for everyone: male and female; young and elderly; non-flexible and active! Attendees are encouraged to dress in comfortable clothing and bring their own mats. Designed for adults and seniors.

Sketching 101
Virtual
Friday, January 5, 11 a.m.
Learn the basics of sketching through the 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.

TTRPG Academy: Honey Heist
West Oaks Branch
Saturday,
January 6, 2:30–5:30 p.m.
Explore a new tabletop role-playing game every month as we play through a multitude of new releases and long-standing favorites. Ages 16 and up. Registration required.

Adult Game Time
Windermere Branch
Saturdays,
January 6–27, 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.

Drawing 101: Artist Hour
Winter Garden Branch
Saturday, January 6, 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.

Puzzle Swap
Alafaya Branch
Saturday, January 6, 3:30 p.m.
North Orange Branch
Saturday, January 20, 3–4:30 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.

Altered Books
West Oaks Branch
Sunday, January 7, 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. Recommended for ages 18 and up. Registration required.

All-Levels Yoga
Virtual
Monday, January 8, 8 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.

Organizing 101
Virtual
Monday, January 8, 11 a.m.
Join Jane Cole, certified professional organizer, as she discusses the steps to tackle your organizing projects and reduce the clutter, chaos and stress in your life. Registration required.

DIY Scrapbook Page
Winter Garden Branch
Tuesday, January 9, 4:30 p.m.
Reminisce on 2023 by creating your own scrapbook page! Attendees will create a one-page scrapbook page using personal photos and provided materials. Recommended for ages 18 and up.

Art 101: Starry Florida Night
Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room
Tuesday, January 9, 5:30 p.m.
Learn to create a piece of art inspired by Vincent Van Gogh's *Starry Night* that you can display in your home.

Pathfinder Drop-in Adventures
Virtual
Tuesdays,
January 9–30, 5:30–8:30 p.m.
Welcome to Pathfinder Second Edition. Each event hosts a one-night adventure inside an ongoing global fantasy role playing campaign known as Pathfinder Society Scenarios. Ages 18 and up.

Plant Clinic
Chickasaw Branch
Thursday,
January 11, 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
West Oaks Branch
Saturday,
January 13, 10:15 a.m.–12:15 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.

Beginner Line Dancing
Southwest Branch
Saturday, January 13, 10:30 a.m.
Learn beginner line dances to all types of music and discover a great way to exercise your body and mind, and have fun. Partners are not needed. Bring water. Non-stick sole shoes are recommended. Ages 18 and up.

Let's Play Dungeons and Dragons
Winter Garden Branch
Saturdays,
January 13 & 27, 2:30–5:30 p.m.
Join us in the tabletop sensation known as D&D. Embody a hero of myth and legend: conquer evil and find treasure in the deepest depths. Great for new players and veteran players alike. Ages 16 and up.

Every Child Ready to Read Caregiver Workshop
South Creek Branch
Tuesdays,
January 16 & 22, 5:30 p.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.

Best-Tea Mugs
Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room
Tuesday, January 16, 5:30 p.m.
Bring your bestie and decorate your very own friendship mugs. Registration required.

Semamori Paper Stitched Patterns
Virtual
Friday, January 19, 10:30 a.m.
Semamori are traditional Japanese auspicious patterns. Learn about the meaning and history of the featured semamori pattern. Pierce and stitch the pattern on paper.

Southwest Art Meet-Up
Southwest Branch
Friday,
January 19, 10:30 a.m.–Noon
Bring your own art or craft projects with supplies to work on or create something new with provided supplies. Meet others and share the joy of creating art! Ages 18 and up.

New Year, New Wallet
Alafaya Branch
Saturday, January 20, 4 p.m.
Kick off 2024 by learning to create your own fun, colorful wallet out of duct tape! Ages 18 and up. Registration required.

Bad Art Afternoon
West Oaks Branch
Sunday, January 21, 2 p.m.
Who says art has to be good to be fun? Let loose, get creative and make some terrible art. Choose from a wide selection of crafts to create a truly awful masterpiece. Recommended for ages 18 and up.



LIVING A LIFE OF GRATITUDE

Virtual

Wednesday, January 24, 6:30 p.m.

Join Jessica Daly, faculty librarian with Advent Health University, as she discusses the multitude of mental and physical health benefits of having a gratitude mindset.

Chair Yoga

Virtual

Monday, January 22, 8 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.

Achieve Your Goals with Vision Boards

Chickasaw Branch

Monday, January 22, 11 a.m.

Learn how to focus on your goals by creating a visual representation of what you hope to achieve in your life. Recommended for ages 18 and up.

World of Watercolor

North Orange Branch

Monday, January 22, 4:30–6 p.m.

Experiment with watercolor techniques in this guided session to create a marvelous jellyfish design. Delve into the technique of masking and explore the world of watercolor. Recommended for ages 18 and up.

Orange Slice Felt Coasters

Winter Garden Branch

Monday, January 22, 5:30 p.m.

Learn how to assemble cute orange slice felt coasters.

Podcast Listening Club: Gathering

Dr. P. Phillips YMCA

7000 Dr. Phillips, Orlando, FL 32819

Monday, January 22, 6:30–7:45 p.m.

Join us at Foxtail Coffee Co. inside the Dr. Phillips YMCA to discuss this month's listening list that explores how to create meaningful social and professional gatherings in our lives. Ages 18 and up.

Build a Vision Board

Winter Garden Branch

Tuesday, January 23, 5:30 p.m.

Start the new year strong by creating a visual road map of your 2024 goals. Use magazine pages, pictures and stickers to assemble a vision board that will help you visualize your goals.

Yoga for Setting Intentions

Virtual

Thursday, January 25, 7 p.m.

Give your New Year's resolutions a twist. Join Dana for a yoga flow to help you focus on your intentions for the year, and cultivate ways to infuse your year with positive change.

Intro to Foundation Center & Grant Resources

Orlando Public Library

Saturday, January 27, 10:30 a.m.

Looking for funding? Get the 101 on using this comprehensive directory to win grants and make a difference.

Ask a Lawyer

Virtual

Tuesday, January 30, 5:30–7 p.m.

The Orange County Bar Association will host an open forum for individuals to speak with a panel of attorneys to get guidance on HOA issues for homeowners, guardianship and consumer law/small claims.



Dungeons, Dragons and Libraries: Adults

North Orange Branch

Saturday, January 27, 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.



Dungeons and Dragons at the Library!

West Oaks Branch

Saturday, January 27, 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! Ages 16 and up.



Financial Literacy 101 for Adults

Orlando Public Library

Sunday, January 28, 3 p.m.

Get money wise with Financial Literacy 101. Learn to make a budget, save some money and build your financial goals.

ART & DISPLAY

OCLS.INFO/ART



THE GARDEN OF TITANIUM FLOWERS

Southwest Branch

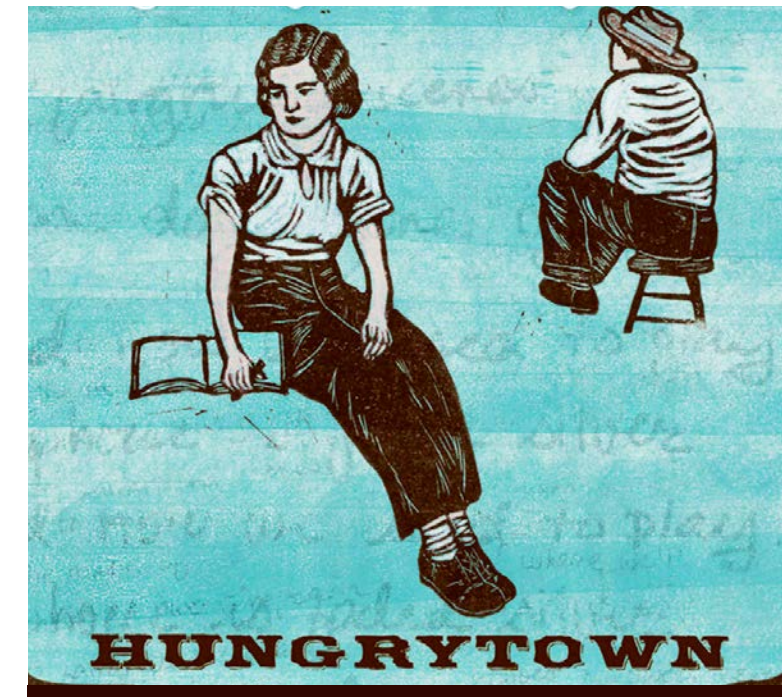
On Display Through March

An exhibit of watercolor paintings by artist Milkos Cruz commemorating and celebrating 90 years of the science of radio astronomy. Radio astronomy is a subfield of astronomy that studies celestial objects at radio frequencies. The first detection of radio waves from an astronomical object was in 1933 when Karl Jansky at Bell Telephone Laboratories reported radiation coming from the Milky Way.



MUSIC IN THE LIBRARY

OCLS.INFO/MIL



HUNGRYTOWN

Orlando Public Library, Library Central

Saturday, January 27, 11 a.m.

Vermont-based folk duo Hungrytown will perform original songs featuring close harmony singing, as well as accompaniment on a variety of instruments.



Jazz and the Civil Rights Movement

Eatonville Branch

Saturday, January 20, 1 p.m.

Flutist Galen Abdur-Razzaq infuses his musical talent with a lecture to highlight various artists and their influence on the evolution of jazz during the Civil Rights Movement.

West African Kora Presented by Sean Gaskell

Chickasaw Branch

Saturday, January 20, 11 a.m.

Orlando Public Library, Library Central

Sunday, January 21, 2 p.m.

Sean Gaskell will give a performance on the kora, an ancient 21-stringed harp from West Africa. Gaskell's performance will feature traditional songs and some of his own personal compositions.

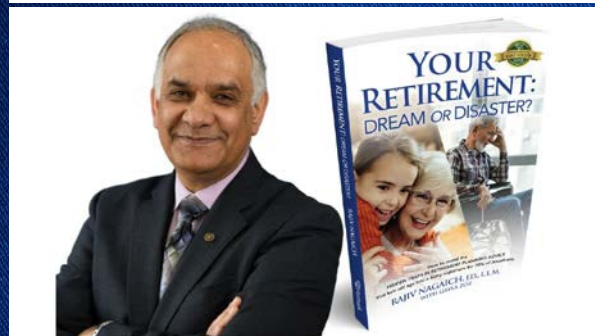
AUTHOR TALKS ONLINE

Enjoy a range of live online talks from bestselling authors and thought leaders every month.

AUTHOR TALK WITH REBECCA SERLE

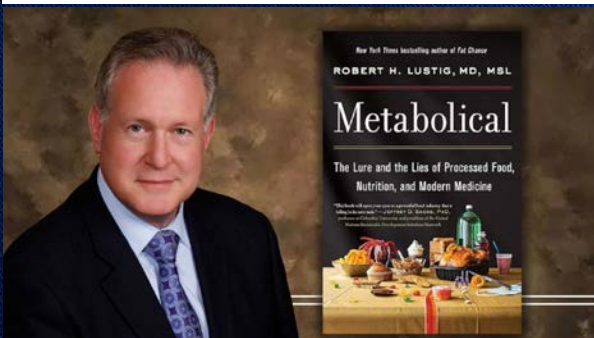


AUTHOR TALK WITH RAJIV NAGAICH



Scan for details or visit ocls.info/meet-the-author

AUTHOR TALK WITH ROBERT LUSTIG



Author Rebecca Serle

Virtual

Wednesday, January 10, 8 p.m.

Join us for a conversation with Rebecca Serle, author of the *New York Times* bestselling novels *One Italian Summer*, *In Five Years*, *The Dinner List* and more.

Author Rajiv Nagaich

Virtual

Tuesday, January 23, 2 p.m.

Join us for a talk with elder law attorney and bestselling author Rajiv Nagaich as he discusses his book, *Your Retirement: Dream or Disaster?*

Author Dr. Robert Lustig

Virtual

Tuesday, January 30, 2 p.m.

Join us for a conversation with Dr. Robert Lustig, a pediatric neuroendocrinologist, as he talks about his book, *Metabological: The Lure and the Lies of Processed Food, Nutrition and Modern Medicine*.

WRITERS CORNER

[OCLS.INFO/WRITERSCORNER](https://ocls.info/writerscorner)



OCLS WRITERS CONFERENCE

Virtual

Friday, January 19, 4–8 p.m.

Saturday, January 20, 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

Make 2024 the year you finish and publish a novel. The OCLS Writers Conference will provide the tools and knowledge you need to reach your writing and publishing goals. For more information, visit ocls.info/writersconference.

Crafting Compelling Narratives

West Oaks Branch

Saturday, January 6, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

All genres benefit from strong narratives. Award-winning children's book author, art lover and magic seeker Sophia Gholz shares techniques to help your reader follow the path of your story.

Writing About Trauma and Taboo Topics

Virtual

Thursday, January 11, 7 p.m.

Writing about trauma and taboo topics can be healing and important, but difficult. Essayist, novelist and educator Sheree L. Greer will discuss how to navigate writing about these topics.

OCLS Writer's Group

Virtual

Sunday, January 21, 4 p.m.

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

Writing Workshop: Understanding Genre

Virtual

Friday, January 26, 7 p.m.

What genre do you write? Literary agent Sam Farkas will break down several popular book genres – including science fiction, fantasy, romance and suspense – to explore conventions and reader expectations.

Writer's Meetup

Winter Garden Branch

Saturday, January 27, 3:30 p.m.

Join your fellow writers for critique, discussion and camaraderie. Writers of all genres and experience are welcome. Recommended for ages 18 and up.

Best Science Fiction & Fantasy Books of 2023

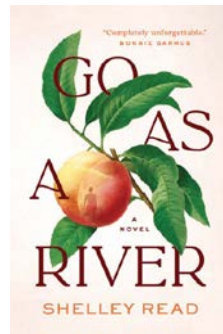
Virtual

Sunday, January 28, 1:30 p.m.

What were the standout science fiction and fantasy books of 2023? Join the Orlando Area Science Fiction Society (OASFIS) for a discussion of last year's best books.

BOOK CLUBS

[OCLS.INFO/BOOKCLUBS](https://ocls.info/bookclubs)



Y Read: Book Read Aloud

Dr. P. Phillips YMCA

7000 Dr. Phillips Blvd, Orlando, FL 32819

Saturdays, January 6–27, 1:30–3:30 p.m.

Experience the joy and camaraderie of reading aloud a book with others each week. Facilitator-led in partnership with the Dr. P. Phillips YMCA and Southwest Branch. Recommended for ages 18 and up.

Nature Walk Book Club

Nehrling Gardens

2267 Hempel Ave., Gotha, FL 34734

Monday, January 8, 10 a.m.–Noon

Join the Southwest Branch for a walk outdoors at Nehrling Gardens followed by a discussion of *Go as a River* by Shelly Read. Registration required. Recommended for ages 18 and up.

Southeast Book Club

Southeast Branch

Monday, January 8, 3 p.m.

Virtual

Monday, January 8, 7 p.m.

Join the Southeast Book Club to discuss our January book selection.

Winter Garden Book Club

Winter Garden Branch

Thursday, January 11, 6 p.m.

Virtual

Thursday, January 25, 6 p.m.

All Good People Here by Ashley Flowers
Twenty years after a fellow 6-year-old was abducted and murdered, Margot returns to Wakarusa, Indiana, and is shocked when another child similarly goes missing, in the debut novel from the host of the popular true-crime podcast, *Crime Junky*.

Alafaya Book Club

Virtual

Thursday, January 11, 7 p.m.

All the Light We Cannot See

by Anthony Doerr

A blind French girl on the run from the German occupation and a German orphan-turned-resistance tracker struggle with their respective beliefs after meeting on the Brittany coast.

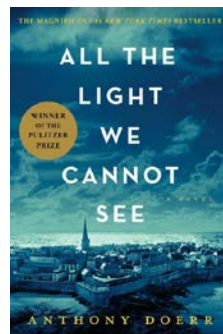
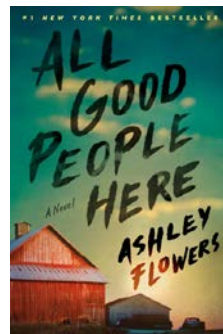
Hiwassee Book Club

Virtual

Monday, January 22, 7–8:30 p.m.

A Woman is No Man by Etaf Rum

Three generations of Palestinian-American women in contemporary Brooklyn are torn by individual desire, educational ambitions, a devastating tragedy, and the strict mores of traditional Arab culture.



STAFF PICKS

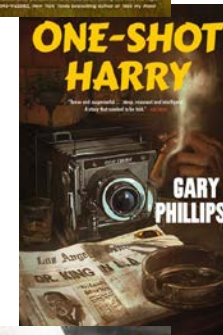
[OCLS.INFO/STAFFPICKS](https://ocls.info/staffpicks)



The First Ladies

by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray

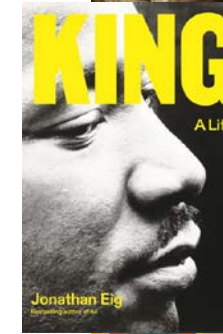
This is the story of two different, yet equally formidable, passionate, and committed women, and the way in which their singular friendship helped form the foundation for the modern civil rights movement.



One-Shot Harry

by Gary Phillips

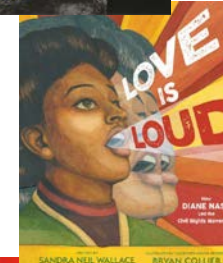
Korean War veteran Harry Ingram earns a living as a news photographer and occasional process server: chasing police radio calls and dodging baseball bats. With racial tensions running high on the eve of Martin Luther King's Freedom Rally, Ingram risks becoming a victim at every crime scene he photographs.



King: A Life

by Jonathan Eig

The first full biography in decades, *King* mixes revelatory and exhaustive new research with brisk and accessible storytelling to forge the definitive life for our times.



Love is Loud: How Diane Nash Led the Civil Rights Movement

by Sandra Neil Wallace; illustrated by Bryan Collier

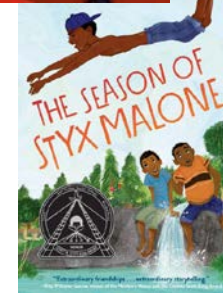
A picture book biography of Diane Nash, a Civil Rights Movement leader at the side of Martin Luther King and John Lewis. Born in the 1940s in Chicago, Diane went on to take command of the Nashville Movement, leading lunch counter sit-ins and peaceful marches. Diane decides to fight not with anger or violence, but with love. With her strong words of truth and actions, she works to stop segregation.



I Am Every Good Thing

by Derrick Barnes & Gordon C. James

The confident Black narrator of this book is proud of everything that makes him who he is. He's got big plans, and no doubt he'll see them through – as he's creative, adventurous, smart, funny and a good friend. Sometimes he falls, but he always gets back up. An upbeat, empowering, important picture book from the team that created the award-winning *Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut*.



The Season of Styx Malone

by Kekla Magoon

Meet Caleb and Bobby Gene, two brothers embarking on a madcap, heartwarming, one-thing-leads-to-another adventure in which friendships are forged, loyalties are tested ... and miracles just might happen.

FINDING YOUR ROOTS

This series will cover the core elements needed to build a strong foundation for your genealogical research.



GENEALOGY 101

West Oaks Branch Virtual
Friday, January 26, 3 p.m. Tuesday, January 2, 1 p.m.

This week will cover an introduction to genealogical research, techniques and resources.

Census Records

Virtual
Tuesday, January 9, 1 p.m.
Discover how to use the information from the census in your research.

Vital Records

Virtual
Tuesday, January 16, 1 p.m.
This week will focus on vital records, which are important pieces of information for your family history.

Land Records

Virtual
Tuesday, January 23, 1 p.m.
This week will focus on land records. Learn about deeds, mortgages, platting and surveys.

Probate Records

Virtual
Tuesday, January 30, 1 p.m.
Learn how to locate and use probate records in your family history research.



West Oaks Branch & Genealogy Center Overview

Virtual
Wednesday, January 3, 6:30 p.m.
Learn about the services and resources that are offered by the library to help you with your genealogical research.

Exploring FamilySearch.org

Virtual
Thursday, January 4, Noon
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 it contains.

Searching on Ancestry.com

Virtual
Wednesday, January 10, 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, January 11, 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.

Sunday Morning Genealogy

Virtual
Sunday, January 14, 11 a.m.
Grab a cup of coffee (or tea) and join us for this Sunday morning genealogy hangout. Feel free to ask any type of genealogy question or propose a genealogy discussion topic.

Building Your Family Tree on Ancestry.com

Virtual
Wednesday, January 17, 6:30 p.m.
Discover all of the tools and resources Ancestry.com has to help you build your family tree online.

Facts vs. Stories Writing for Genealogy

Virtual
Thursday, January 18, Noon
Learn how to turn your family history facts into engaging stories that your relatives will want to read.

Exploring DNA Tools on Ancestry.com

Virtual
Wednesday, January 24, 6:30 p.m.
Learn about the latest tools Ancestry.com has developed to assist you in working with your DNA matches.

Key Websites for Genealogy Research

Virtual
Thursday, January 25, Noon
Familiarize yourself with the core genealogical websites and explore the similarities and differences between them.

Genealogy Book Club

Virtual
Wednesday, January 31, 6:30 p.m.
Join in the conversation as we discuss and learn from the genealogy techniques and sources used in *The Chester Creek Murders* by Nathan Dylan Goodwin.



AT HOME IN HOME: THRIVING IN PLACE

Southwest Branch
Saturday, January 27, 10:30 a.m.
Join interior designer Rebecca Hubler for an informative discussion on how seniors can continue to live at home safely, independently and comfortably, regardless of age or ability level. Registration required.

Medicare Monday

Washington Park Branch
Mondays, January 8 & 22, 1–2:30 p.m.
Sabrina Ramos and Sandra Sims are experienced Medicare educators. Join them for this Medicare educational event, no sales and no pressure.

Senior Living and Aging at Home:

Keeping Seniors in the Know
Hiawassee Branch
Wednesday, January 10, 10:30 a.m.–Noon
Understand your options with senior living and aging at home. Discuss independent, assisted, memory care, CCRC, 55+ active adult, and 55+ rental communities. Space is limited. Registration required.

How to Maintain a Healthy Brain:

LIFE Information for Elders
Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room
Thursday, January 18, 12:10 p.m.
Join Dr. Kirk I. Erickson with AdventHealth Orlando as he discusses current research on how to maintain and optimize brain health and reduce the risk for Alzheimer's disease. To register, email OfficeonAging@ocfl.net or call 407.836.7446. Registration required.

Qigong Movement and Breathing

Southwest Branch
Friday, January 26, 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.

JOBSEEKERS

Get the tools you need to step forward in your career. Whether you are looking for a new job or hoping to advance, the library can help you prepare with resume writing, interview preparation and job search classes.



Career Academy: Perfecting Your Resume
Orlando Public Library
Tuesday, January 2, 2:30 p.m.
Get noticed! Elevate your job application with best practices in crafting a resume and cover letter.



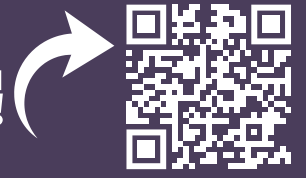
Career Academy: Interview Like a Pro
Orlando Public Library
Tuesday, January 16, 2:30 p.m.
You've landed an interview! Now what? Get tips that will help you to practice and prepare, and to write a memorable thank you letter.



Learn, protect and grow your finances with Weiss Financial Ratings. Get powerful tools and information on stocks, banks, insurance companies, Medigap plans and so much more. Start or strengthen your financial literacy today!



SCAN ME!



Scan for Details or visit ocls.info/jobseekers



CITIZENSHIP
INSPIRED

OCLS.INFO/CITIZENSHIP

Citizenship Inspired

Hiwassee Branch

Thursdays, January 4–25, 10:30 a.m.

Southeast Branch

Saturdays, January 20 & 27, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.

Virtual

Tuesdays & Wednesdays, January 9, 10, 16 & 17, 3–5 p.m.

Tuesdays & Wednesdays, January 23, 24, 30, 31, 3–5 p.m.

During this program, students will meet to prepare for the U.S. Naturalization (Citizenship) Test and Interview.

ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS
OF OTHER LANGUAGES (ESOL)

ENGLISH FROM ZERO

Recommended for ages 18 and up.

English from Zero classes are designed for beginning English learners. Each workshop has a specific target vocabulary, grammar structure, and conversation practices based on specific topics.

Ingles desde cero son talleres de vocabulario en inglés están diseñados para los estudiantes de inglés Cada taller tiene un tema específico cual incluye vocabulario, estructura gramatica, e practicas del habla.

Southeast Branch
Tuesdays, January 2–30, 10:30 a.m.
Wednesdays, January 3–31, 2:30 p.m.

Winter Garden Branch
Tuesdays, January 2–30, Noon–1:30 p.m.

South Trail Branch
Wednesdays, January 3–31, 11:30 a.m.
Fridays, January 5–26, 11:30 a.m.

Windermere Branch
Thursdays, January 4–25, 4:45 p.m.

West Oaks Branch
Saturday, January 20, 4:30 p.m.

North Orange Branch
Sunday, January 28, 2–3:30 p.m.

Virtual
Tuesdays, January 2–30, 3:30 p.m.
Wednesdays, January 3–31, 3 p.m.
Mondays, January 8–29, 3 p.m.

English from Zero: Level 1
South Creek Branch
Tuesdays, January 2–16, 10:30 a.m.
Thursdays, January 4–18, 10:30 a.m.
Windermere Branch
Wednesdays, January 3–31, 3:30 p.m.
English from Zero: Level 1 is designed for beginning English learners. Each workshop consists of phonics learning, new vocabulary, reading and comprehension.

English from Zero: Level 2
South Creek Branch
Tuesdays, January 2–16, Noon
Thursdays, January 4–18, Noon
Windermere Branch
Wednesdays, January 3–31, 4:45 p.m.
English from Zero: Level 2 is designed for beginning English learners. Each workshop consists of phonics learning, reading and comprehension, grammar, and speaking skills.

ENGLISH CONVERSATION HOUR

Come practice your English speaking skills during the English Conversation Hour. All proficiency levels are welcome!

South Creek Branch
Tuesdays, January 2–16, 1:30 p.m.
Thursdays, January 4–18, 1:30 p.m.

Chickasaw Branch
Thursdays, January 4–18, 12:30 p.m.

Fairview Shores Branch
Thursdays, January 4–25, 4:45 p.m.

South Trail Branch
Fridays, January 5–26, 2 p.m.

Windermere Branch
Fridays, January 5–26, 3:30 p.m.

West Oaks Branch
Monday, January 22, 4:30 p.m.

Virtual
Fridays, January 5,–26 4:45 p.m.
Wednesdays, January 3–31, Noon
Thursdays, January 4–25, 2 p.m.

Writing Clearly Part 1
Virtual
Tuesdays, January 2–16, 10:30 a.m.
Learn and practice grammar and a variety of writing styles.

Speaking Clearly Intermediate
Southeast Branch
Tuesdays, January 2–30, 2 p.m.
This class is designed to introduce learners to the rules of spelling and pronunciation of English words and phrases.

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

Writing Clearly Part 2
Virtual
Wednesday, January 3–17, 10:30 a.m.
Join us to practice different writing styles.

Basic English 1
Chickasaw Branch
Thursdays, January 4–18, 11 a.m.
This class is designed for students with a beginner's level knowledge of English.

Writing Clearly Intermediate
Southeast Branch
Thursdays, January 4–25, 1:30 p.m.
Focuses on complex grammar, including sentence structures, phrases and vocabulary building.

Introductory English Course
Chickasaw Branch
Fridays, January 5 & 19, 11 a.m.
Saturday, January 13, 11 a.m.
This course is designed for students who have very little or no English experience.

Introducción al Inglés
South Trail Branch
Fridays, January 5–26, 4–5:30 p.m.
Introducción al Inglés está diseñada y enfocada en Hispanohablantes interesados en aprender el idioma del Inglés comenzando desde lo mas básico y desarrollando vocabulario, gramática y conversación.

Creole Connect
South Trail Branch
Mondays, January 8, 22 & 29, 2–4 p.m.
Vini aprann pale e pratike anglè w nan kou sa.

LANGUAGE CLASSES

Adult French
Virtual
Tuesdays, January 2–30, 1 p.m.
Wednesdays, January 3–31, 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.

Homeschool: Spanish
Windermere Branch
Tuesdays, January 2 & 16, 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.

Beginner's Spanish for Kids
Fairview Shores Branch
Tuesday, January 2, 4:30 p.m.
Introduce your child to basic Spanish vocabulary through games and activities while having fun.

Práctica Spanish Conversation
Virtual
Wednesdays, January 3–31, 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.



Improv Two
Orlando Public Library, Melrose Center
Wednesdays,
January 10–February 28, 6:30–8:30 p.m.
In Improv Two we learn how to tell stories, create environments and evoke real emotions for our characters over the seven-week series.

Improv Three
Orlando Public Library, Melrose Center
Sundays,
January 21–March 10, 2–5 p.m.
This eight-week course explores scene elements and introduces students to short-form improv games. Build necessary performance skills to elevate scenes, characters and storytelling.



Information Session:
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 4-7 P.M.

Resource Availability Window:
FEBRUARY 23-24, 10 A.M.-10 P.M.
FEBRUARY 25, 10 A.M.-NOON

ORLANDO PUBLIC LIBRARY, MELROSE CENTER

1ST PLACE: \$500
2ND PLACE: \$300
3RD PLACE: \$200

Sponsored by the Friends of the Orange County Library System

CHALLENGE: CREATE A VIDEO GAME FROM SCRATCH

Join the information session to learn about the secret theme and special challenges, form a team, and plan how to create a video game over the weekend. Your game will be showcased for play and public voting at the **Orlando Gaming Expo**.

For rules and to register, visit ocls.info/orlando-game-jam.



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1-5:30 P.M.

ORLANDO PUBLIC LIBRARY, MELROSE CENTER

LOOKING FOR A FUN WAY TO SPEND YOUR SUNDAY?

Play, give feedback and vote on games created during the **Orlando Game Jam**. Find out which teams will be crowned the winners! Mingle with local video game studios, educators and developers to learn about the amazing things being developed in your town.

Exhibitor Registration: ocls.info/orlando-gaming-expo.

Meet you There

BY ANDREA JACKSON, MARKETING SPECIALIST

As you've read in *Books & Beyond* over the past year, Orange County Library System is committed to breaking down barriers to access, so everyone can take part in what our libraries have to offer. That commitment extends far beyond library walls. In 2024, our goal is to plant deeper roots in the community by bringing library access to those who may not be able to come through our doors physically. We want to meet people where they are. Our newly launched Community Engagement Department plays a big role in this initiative, sending staff to present programs at schools, expos, fairs and community events around the county. They're also bringing library resources on the road with two book bikes, sponsored by the Sorosis of Orlando Woman's Club and OUC. In the future, a bookmobile will be unveiled to bring mobile library resources to even more locations. To our current and future customers: We want to meet you there.

It's no secret that Orange County is growing at a rapid pace, and to meet the needs of residents, OCLS is expanding. The highly anticipated Horizon West Branch is expected to break ground in early 2024, and we look forward to opening a location in Lake Nona too. In the meantime, our Community Engagement Department is hosting pop-up library events in Horizon West, Lake Nona and other neighborhoods across the county. Because no matter how far away you live from your nearest library location, we want to meet you there.

Libraries are a cornerstone of the community and should reflect the populations they serve. Orange County is culturally rich and diverse, and so are OCLS customers. People from every walk of life should see themselves in library programming and materials, and our staff is committed to making sure our libraries are welcoming to all. Because, no matter what your background is, we want to meet you there.

Whether you are getting a passport for an upcoming trip, meeting with a social worker to connect with resources to improve your life, discovering a new hobby in one of our many programs, seeking training to develop skills for a new job, or learning more about your roots in a genealogy program, Orange County Library System wants to be there for you, every step of the way.

On the facing page, meet one of our new Community Engagement Department Branch Outreach Specialists, Arthur Ugalde, and take a look at some of the upcoming outreach events we have on the calendar for January. Find an event happening at a location near you. We'll meet you there!



OUTREACH EVENTS

Storytime on the Porch

Thursday, January 4, 10-11 a.m.
Healthy West Orange Arts and Heritage Center at the Town of Oakland
126 W. Petris Ave., Oakland, FL, 34760

Three Kings Day Celebration with the National Latino Peace Officers Association, Central Florida Chapter

Saturday, January 6, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Azalea Park Elementary School
1 Carol Ave., Orlando, FL, 32807

Horizon West Arts and Crafts Storytime

Wednesdays, January 10 & 24, 11 a.m.-Noon
Waterleigh Community Clubhouse
15572 Marina Bay Drive, Winter Garden, FL, 34787

South Orlando YMCA Open House

Saturday, January 20, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
South Orlando YMCA Family Center
814 W. Oak Ridge Road, Orlando, FL, 32809

Happy Lunar New Year! DIY Lunar New Year Lanterns

Saturday, January 20, 10:30-11 a.m.
Waterleigh Community Clubhouse
16150 Pebble Bluff Loop, Winter Garden, FL, 34787

BOOK BIKE EVENTS

Oakland Farmer's Market

Thursday, January 25, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Healthy West Orange Arts & Heritage Center
126 W. Petris Ave., Oakland, FL, 34760



Meet Arthur Ugalde, Branch Outreach Specialist

Greetings! My name is Arthur, and I am a proud member of the Community Engagement Department here at OCLS. As your friendly neighborhood outreach specialist, I wanted you to know more about me. I'm a huge science nerd with a love of horror movies and video games. When I am not hosting library events around town, I can be found sipping an iced coffee at Stardust Café, playing my Switch and reading the newest celebrity memoir. I have been teaching science and providing outreach throughout our community for a decade and currently work out of South Trail Branch to bring services all over the county.

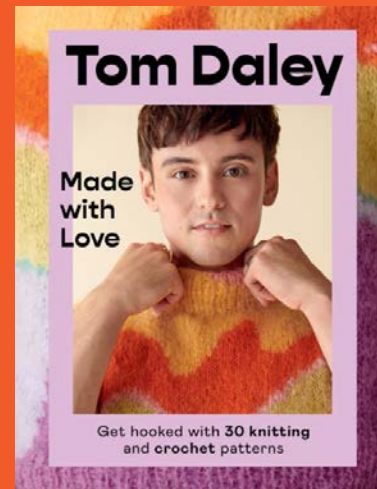
Some of my proudest outreach moments include the creation of "Library Take Over Day" at Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children, where every three months library staff provide activities, storytimes and educational fun to all patients and their families for an entire day! I provide a literacy series to the youth at Orange County Homeless Coalition, monthly technology classes at the L. Claudia Allen Senior Center, library trivia nights for the Orlando Youth Alliance, and I can often be found representing the library at events around town. As an outreach specialist, I get to bring everything OCLS has to offer and more to help make our community the best it can be. I wear my library swag with pride! Contact your nearest library to find out how to access your nearest outreach specialist! It might even be me.





NEW YEAR, NEW CRAFT

Embark on a transformative adventure with "Crafting Beginnings," where the pursuit of learning a new craft becomes a captivating exploration of creativity. Join us for a celebration of the joy found in the process of creation. Explore the therapeutic benefits of learning a new craft, from the meditative focus required in mastering each stitch to the pride that comes with bringing your unique vision to life through your hands.



Featured Book

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

MADE WITH LOVE: GET HOOKED WITH 30 KNITTING AND CROCHET PATTERNS

by Tom Daley

A British Olympic gold medal-winning diver and beloved LGBTQ icon has created 30 original projects for this book, sharing his joy of knitting and crocheting as a calming and creative outlet alongside his charming, witty personality. These projects run the gamut from toys to clothing for adults and kids to home décor. Full of color, full of joy and Made with Love.

Let's Knit Level 1
Southwest Branch
Tuesday, January 2, 10:30 a.m.
Orlando Public Library
Friday, January 5, 10:30 a.m.
Start knitting today! Learn basic techniques while creating your first project, a bookmark for your favorite read. Techniques include casting on, the knit stitch and binding off.

Let's Knit Level 2
Orlando Public Library
Friday, January 12, 10:30 a.m.
Level up your knitting. Learn how to combine knit and purl stitches to create smooth fabric. Techniques include the purl stitch, counting stitches and rows, using stitch markers and fabric sides.

Let's Knit Ribbing
Orlando Public Library
Friday, January 19, 10:30 a.m.
Ribbing is perfect for hats, scarves, socks and sweaters. Learn how to cast on with the long tail method, knit ribbing and use a stretchy bind-off in this class.

Let's Crochet Level 1
North Orange Branch
Tuesday, January 2, 5 p.m.
Orlando Public Library
Saturday, January 6, 2 p.m.
Start crocheting today! Learn basic techniques while creating your first project, a bookmark for your favorite read. Techniques include creating a slip knot, chaining and single crochet stitches.

Let's Crochet Level 2
Orlando Public Library
Saturday, January 13, 2 p.m.
Level up your crocheting. Learn how to create more open fabric with new stitches. Techniques include chaining up rows, as well as double and half double crochet stitches.

Let's Crochet in the Round
Orlando Public Library
Saturday, January 20, 2 p.m.
Add to your project possibilities by crocheting in the round! Create amigurumi, hats, bowls and more. Learn how to create circles with increase stitches and use stitch markers to track your work.

Hand Sewing Sashiko Patterns: Hydrangea
Virtual
Thursday, January 4, 10:15 a.m.
Learn the basics of sashiko hand sewing. Create beautiful designs layer-by-layer while learning to mark and sew these geometric designs.

Hand Sewing Basics
Southwest Branch
Tuesday, January 9, 10:15 a.m.
Basic hand-sewing skills are essential skills needed in everyday life. Learn the basic techniques to get started, including how to make a quilter's knot, thread a needle and sew a running stitch.

Let's Embroider Level 1
Southwest Branch
Saturday, January 13, 10:30 a.m.
Virtual
Friday, January 5, 4 p.m.
Start hand embroidery today. Learn the basics of using a hoop and needles to create running, back and cross stitches to create a beautiful sampler.

Let's Embroider Level 2
Southwest Branch
Saturday, January 20, 10:30 a.m.
Virtual
Friday, January 12, 4 p.m.
Start hand embroidery today. Learn the basics of using a hoop and needles to create running, back and cross stitches to create a beautiful sampler.

Sewing: Grocery Bag Dispenser
North Orange Branch
Saturday, January 27, 2 p.m.
Keep plastic grocery bags tidy and ready to reuse with this easy-to-make bag dispenser. Coordinate colors with your kitchen decor or make them as gifts for friends and family.

Introduction to the Sewing Machine
Multiple Locations
Ever wanted to make your own custom clothes, home decor, costumes or accessories? Join us in this basic sewing class and learn about sewing safety, basic sewing machine skills and stitching seams.

ARTES DE FIBRA EN ESPAÑOL

Tejido en Croché Nivel 1
North Orange Branch
Tuesday, January 16, 5 p.m.

¡Comienza a tejer hoy! Aprenda técnicas básicas mientras crea su primer proyecto, un marcador de páginas. Las técnicas incluidas son crear un nudo corredizo, encadenar y punto bajo.

Tejido en Croché Nivel 2
North Orange Branch
Tuesday, January 23, 5 p.m.

Mejore sus destrezas de croché. Aprenda a crear telas más abiertas con puntadas nuevas. Las técnicas a utilizar incluyen encadenar filas, así como puntadas de punto medio alto y punto alto.

Costura: Dispensador de Bolsas
North Orange Branch
Monday, January 22, 10:30 a.m.

Mantenga las bolsas de plástico ordenadas y listas para reutilizar con este dispensador de bolsas fácil de hacer. Coordine los colores con la decoración de su cocina o prepárelos como un regalo. Alto.



SEWING: PATTERNS AND FABRIC

Multiple Locations

Reading the hieroglyphics on a sewing pattern can be quite intimidating. Learn how to read a professional sewing pattern, layout fabric and prepare material for a project.

WE'VE GOT THE BASICS COVERED

Pick up some new skills in 2024. Learn how to use a computer or mobile device with our basics classes! Don't drop the ball this New Year's. Start your technology journey today!

Introduction to Computers

South Trail Branch

Wednesday, January 3, 1 p.m.

Tuesday, January 16, 1 p.m.

Orlando Public Library

Monday, January 8, Noon

Wednesday, January 17, 4 p.m.

Windermere Branch

Tuesday, January 9, 10:30 a.m.

Southwest Branch

Thursday, January 11, 10:15 a.m.

Take your first steps into the world of computing. Discover the essential parts of and types of computers, as well as the basics of using a computer for the first time.

How to Use the Mouse and Keyboard

South Trail Branch

Wednesday, January 3, 2:15 p.m.

Tuesday, January 16, 2:15 p.m.

North Orange Branch

Thursday, January 4, 10:15 a.m.

Orlando Public Library

Saturday, January 6, 11 a.m.

Thursday, January 18, 4 p.m.

Monday, January 22, 1 p.m.

Windermere Branch

Thursday, January 9, 11:45 a.m.

Fairview Shores Branch

Thursdays,

January 11 & 25, 10:15 a.m.

Southwest Branch

Thursday, January 11, 11:30 a.m.

Learn how to use the mouse and keyboard to navigate within the computer's interface. Practice using these two devices with hands-on exercises and online resources.

Computer Basics Level 1

Orlando Public Library

Tuesday, January 2, 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, January 13, 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday, January 24, 4 p.m.

Fairview Shores Branch

Thursdays, January 4 & 18, 10:15 a.m.

North Orange Branch

Thursday, January 11, 10:15 a.m.

Windermere Branch

Tuesday, January 16, 10:30 a.m.

Southwest Branch

Thursday, January 18, 10:15 a.m.

South Trail Branch

Tuesday, January 23, 1 p.m.

Get up and running with computers. Learn how to navigate the computer desktop and how to perform various techniques in manipulating windows using basic mouse and keyboard techniques.

Computer Basics Level 2

Orlando Public Library

Tuesday, January 2, 11:45 a.m.

Saturday, January 13, 3:45 p.m.

Wednesday, January 24, 5:15 p.m.

Fairview Shores Branch

Thursdays, January 4 & 18, 11:30 a.m.

Windermere Branch

Tuesday, January 16, 11:45 a.m.

North Orange Branch

Thursday, January 18, 10:15 a.m.

Southwest Branch

Thursday, January 18, 11:30 a.m.

South Trail Branch

Tuesday, January 23, 2:15 p.m.

Get your computer skills racing.

Learn how to create, rename, delete and organize files and folders on your computer.

iPad and iPhone: Basics

Washington Park Branch

Thursday, January 4, 10 a.m.

South Trail Branch

Thursday, January 4, 1 p.m.

Orlando Public Library

Friday, January 5, 3:30 p.m.

North Orange Branch

Friday, January 12, 10:30 a.m.

Get up and running with your new iPad or iPhone. Learn how to navigate an iPad and iPhone using gestures, install and organize apps, modify general and privacy settings and more.



IPAD AND IPHONE: ORGANIZE AND EDIT PHOTOS

Orlando Public Library

Tuesday, January 9, 3:30 p.m.

Washington Park Branch

Thursday, January 11, 11 a.m.

South Trail Branch

Thursday, January 11, 1 p.m.

North Orange Branch

Friday, January 26, 10:30 a.m.

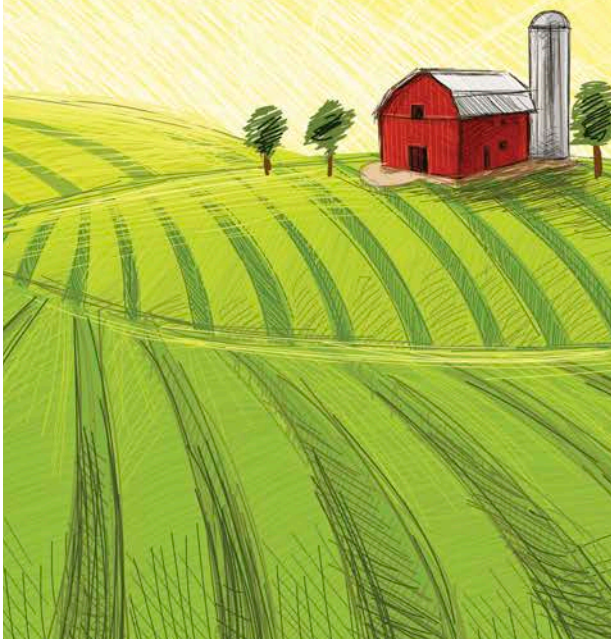
Make finding your photos easy with your iPad or iPhone. Learn to organize photos into albums, moments and collections. Edit photos with filters and exposure tools to enhance your images.



TALES FROM THE FARM PRESENTED BY THE CENTRAL FLORIDA FAIR

Alafaya Branch
Saturday, January 6, 11 a.m.
Chickasaw Branch
Fridays, January 19 & 26, 11 a.m.
Southeast Branch
Saturday, January 20, 10:30 a.m.
South Trail Branch
Saturday, January 27, 10:15 a.m.
Winter Garden Branch
Saturday, January 27, 11 a.m.

Join us for a tale from the farm followed by an animal meet and greet! Animals will vary by location. Attend to receive a free general admission student ticket to the Central Florida Fair.



Box Engineers

South Creek Branch
Tuesday, January 2, 5:30 p.m.
Fuel your creativity with a cardboard box! Families will work together to design and construct an architectural marvel. Recommended for families with children ages 5 and up.

Mindful Start Family Yoga

West Oaks Branch
Wednesdays, January 3–31, 10 a.m.
Winter Garden Branch
Mondays, January 8, 22 & 29, 10:30 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.

Karaoke: New Year, New You

Fairview Shores Branch
Thursday, January 4, 5–6:30 p.m.
Start the year off by getting out of your comfort zone and trying something new! All skill levels are welcome to this friendly, no judgment environment.

Fun Family Film

South Trail Branch
Saturdays, January 6–27, 10:15 a.m.
Join us for a movie that's fun for the whole family!

Family Game Time

South Trail Branch
Saturday, January 6, 11 a.m.
Fairview Shores Branch
Saturdays, January 13 & 27, 10:30 a.m.
Alafaya Branch
Sunday, January 28, 2 p.m.
It's time for Saturday morning game time fun! We'll have family-friendly games and activities for all ages.

Crafternoons

South Trail Branch
Wednesday, January 10, 4:30 p.m.
Alafaya Branch
Wednesday, January 17, 4 p.m.
Winter Garden Branch
Mondays, January 22 & 29, 4:30 p.m.
Get ready for crafting fun with friends! Recommended for ages 6–8. Registration required.

Fantastic Family Fitness Fiasco

West Oaks Branch
Saturday, January 13, 3 p.m.
Get moving and work together with your family to complete challenges and have fun. Recommended for families with children ages 4 and up.

Cocoa and Construction

Winter Garden Branch
Tuesday, January 16, 4:30 p.m.
South Trail Branch
Wednesday, January 17, 4:30 p.m.
Test your marshmallow engineering skills while drinking a hot cup of cocoa! Supplies are limited. Registration required.

Perler Bead Accessories & More

North Orange Branch
Thursday, January 18, 4:30–6 p.m.
Create pixelated art with Perler beads! Design and make a pair of earrings, a keychain or a magnet with your own flair. It's a new year to try something creative and new.

Family Art Adventures

Alafaya Branch
Saturday, January 20, 11 a.m.
Create artwork as a family! Listen to a story, and then paint a picture inspired by it. Recommended for families with children 5 and up. Registration required.

ArtMazing

South Creek Branch
Saturday, January 20, 2:30 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 a child 6 years or older.

Snowman Paper Bag Puppet

South Trail Branch
Thursday, January 25, 10:15 a.m.
Celebrate snowmen with this family reading event. Together, families will create a snowman puppet and build narrative skills by reading to each other. Recommended for families with children ages 6–8.

Bad Art Time

Windermere Branch
Saturday, January 27, 11 a.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.

Pokémon Cuisine

Fairview Shores Branch
Monday, January 29, 4:30 p.m.
Do you have a little trainer who is 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.



BABY

AGES 0-18 MONTHS

BABY ANIMALS: IN THE SNOW

Winter Garden Branch
Tuesday, January 30, 10:30 a.m.
Explore baby animals in the winter with your little one. Listen to a story and learn through sensory play all while warming up to new friends.

Mother Goose on the Loose
Orlando Public Library
Mondays, January 8, 22 & 29, 10:30 a.m.
Southwest Branch
Monday, January 29, 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!

Bounce Into Books
Southwest Branch
Monday, January 8, 11 a.m.
Introduce your baby to important early literacy skills through movement, music, rhymes and stories.

Bilingual Baby Time
Alafaya Branch
Wednesday, January 17, 10:15 a.m.
Grow your baby's language skills with this English/Spanish storytime featuring songs, rhymes and more.

¡Cantemos, Cantemos!
South Creek Branch
Friday, January 19, 10:30 a.m.
Celebrate with nursery rhymes a shared love of Hispanic culture, language and traditional music.

Baby Games
North Orange Branch
Tuesday, January 23, 11 a.m.
Support your baby's physical, social and emotional learning through play and build thinking, communication and language skills.

TODDLER

AGES 18-36 MONTHS



HIBERNATION STATIONS

Winter Garden Branch
Tuesday, January 16, 10:30 a.m.

See who's snoozing this season! Join us for crafts and activities about animals who sleep all winter. Recommended for ages 2-5.

SLEEPY BEAR

Southwest Branch
Wednesday, January 31, 11 a.m.

Zzz ... Winter is here and it is time to hibernate! Toddlers will have fun exploring stories, rhymes and songs about bears and their hibernating friends.

Storytime Craft
North Orange Branch
Wednesday, January 3-31, 10:30 a.m.
Southwest Branch
Thursdays, January 4-25, 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, January 3, 11 a.m.
Fairview Shores Branch
Tuesday, January 9, 10:30 a.m.
Alafaya Branch
Wednesday, January 10, 10:15 a.m.
Learn new fine motor skills using paint, paste, glue and stamps to create! Young children will enjoy stories, songs and exploring age-appropriate art experiences.

Parachute Play
Southwest Branch
Wednesday, January 3, 11 a.m.
Join us with your toddlers for a special parachute playtime. Enjoy rhymes, songs and tons of parachute fun.

Good Morning, Farm!
Windermere Branch
Monday, January 8, 10:30 a.m.
Say hello to all your farm friends with stories and fun hands-on learning.

Bilingual Storytime
Winter Garden Branch
Wednesdays, January 10-31, 10:30 a.m.
Celebrate through nursery rhymes, stories and songs in this bilingual storytime featuring books and songs in English and Spanish. Recommended for ages 2-5.

Bubble Playtime
Southwest Branch
Wednesdays, January 10 & 24, 11 a.m.
Winter Garden Branch
Wednesdays, January 10 & 24, 11 a.m.
North Orange Branch
Tuesday, January 16, 11 a.m.
Help your child with their motor development skills in this interactive bubble class.

Toddler Playground
Southwest Branch
Wednesday, January 17, 11 a.m.
Toddlers use unstructured play to advance their physical and cognitive development and to have fun!

Painting With Nature
Winter Garden Branch
Tuesday, January 23, 10:30 a.m.
Let nature be the inspiration for your toddler! We will create art using tools from the environment to explore the textures and patterns of the great outdoors.

Bubble, Bubble Pop!
Chickasaw Branch
Wednesday, January 24, 11 a.m.
Blow, pop and explore with bubbles! Your toddler will have a blast hearing stories and creating their very own sudsy fun.

I Spy Winter
North Orange Branch
Thursday, January 25, 11 a.m.
Explore a winter wonderland through a story and hands-on activities to warm up your little fingers.

PRESCHOOL

AGES 3-5



MINDFUL PLAY LEARNING: YOGA FOR PRESCHOOLERS

Eatonville Branch
Tuesdays, January 2-30, 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. Recommended for ages 3-5.

Alphabet Adventures
Alafaya Branch
Tuesday, January 2, 11 a.m.
Learn the alphabet with exciting stories and fun activities.

Amusing Arctic Animals
Southwest Branch
Tuesday, January 2, 11 a.m.
Preschoolers will discover how arctic animals survive in the cold while practicing early literacy skills through stories, songs and a craft.

Penguin Party
West Oaks Branch
Tuesday, January 2, 11 a.m.
Winter Garden Branch
Tuesday, January 9, 10:30 a.m.
North Orange Branch
Tuesday, January 9, 11 a.m.
Brrr! It's cold out there! Warm up with stories, math, science activities and a craft featuring some icy friends.

Countdown to Kindergarten
South Creek Branch
Wednesdays, January 3-31, 10:30 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.

Stories & Stretches
Orlando Public Library
Wednesday, January 3, 10:30 a.m.
Chickasaw Branch
Wednesday, January 17, 11 a.m.
Southeast Branch
Monday, January 22, 10:15 a.m.
Wiggle and stretch to stories, songs and rhymes focusing on motor development.

Money Smart: What is Money?
Hiawasse Branch
Wednesday, January 3, 11 a.m.
Eatonville Branch
Tuesday, January 23, 3:30 p.m.
Can you tell a dime from a dollar? Attendees will learn about the importance of money through identification games, role playing and hands-on activities.

Dance Party
North Orange Branch
Thursday, January 4, 11 a.m.
Southeast Branch
Monday, January 8, 10:15 a.m.
Boogie along with us as we share songs and stories that will get you up off the floor and dancing along to the music. Just say the magic words, "Dance Party!"

Imagine You're Casting a Spell
West Oaks Branch
Tuesday, January 9, 11 a.m.
Creating magic is as easy as abracadabra or alakazam! Explore spells with mesmerizing stories, magical crafts and enchanting activities.

Money Smart: Let's Go Shopping
Hiawasse Branch
Tuesday, January 9, 11 a.m.
What should we buy? Help your child learn about needs and wants while improving their decision-making skills through stories, songs and activities.

Rutti-Tutti-Frutti Fun!
Southwest Branch
Tuesday, January 9, 11 a.m.
Have a berry good time celebrating fruits with stories and activities!

Yeti Storytime
Alafaya Branch
Tuesday, January 9, 11 a.m.
Befriend a yeti! Explore yetis and their environment through storytime and crafts.

Little Chef: Fruit Pizza
North Orange Branch
Thursday, January 11, 11 a.m.
Become a pizza chef and make a delicious fruit pizza with cream cheese.

Cuéntame un Cuento
South Creek Branch
Friday, January 12, 10:30 a.m.
Southeast Branch
Monday, January 29, 10:15 a.m.
Chickasaw Branch
Wednesday, January 31, 11 a.m.
Virtual
Thursdays, January 11-25, 10 a.m.
Fridays, January 12 & 26, 11 a.m.
Cuéntame un Cuento is an interactive bilingual storytime featuring books and songs in English and Spanish that are suitable for speakers of either language.

Little Artist
North Orange Branch
Friday, January 12, 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, January 13, 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.



LITTLE CHEF: P IS FOR POLAR BEAR

Hiwassee Branch

Friday, January 19, 11:15 a.m.

When there is a chill in the air, this fun polar bear snack is sure to get the kids smiling! Adult participation is required. Space is limited. Registration required.

Little Chef: Winter Cake in a Jar Chickasaw Branch

Saturday, January 13, 2 p.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.

Button Up

West Oaks Branch

Tuesday, January 16, 11 a.m.

Fairview Shores Branch

Wednesday, January 24, 10:30 a.m.

South Creek Branch

Thursday, January 25, 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.

Look, I'm a Scientist: Let It Snow!

Alafaya Branch

Tuesday, January 16, 11 & 11:30 a.m.

Learn about what makes snow and get your hands messy as we combine ingredients to build a snowman!

Storybook STEAM: Leaves

Southwest Branch

Tuesday, January 16, 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.

Pajama Jamboree

Windermere Branch

Tuesday, January 16, 4:30 p.m.

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

Homeschool Jr.

Windermere Branch

Wednesday, January 17, 10:30 a.m.

Kick start your child's education! Listen to stories and engage in activities about basic concepts. Recommended for ages 3–5.

Little Chef: Rainbow Fruit Pizza

Orlando Public Library

Wednesday, January 17, 11 a.m.

You're never too young to start cooking! Learn about fruits to get inspired and create a special cookie treat featuring fruits of all colors!

Money Smart: Three Little Piggy Banks

Hiwassee Branch

Wednesday, January 17, 11 a.m.

It can be hard to wait for what we want but saving money can be fun. Let's build on our early money management skills and learn how to save money.

Parachute Play

Winter Garden Branch

Wednesdays, January 17 & 31, 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.

All Aboard the Train!

North Orange Branch

Thursday, January 18, 11 a.m.

Chugga-chugga, choo-choo, all aboard! Become a conductor and join us for trainloads of stories and crafts.

Little Chef: Funfetti Sugar Cookies

West Oaks Branch

Tuesday, January 23, 11 a.m.

Pour, mix and repeat! Learn how to make delicious sugar cookie dough to take home and bake. Registration required.

Pete's Groovy Storytime

Alafaya Branch

Tuesday, January 23, 11 a.m.

Who's the cool cat on the street? Learn basic concepts with sing-along stories and activities inspired by Pete the Cat.

Teddy Bear Storytime

Southwest Branch

Tuesday, January 23, 11 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!

Mad Hatter's Tea Party

West Oaks Branch

Tuesday, January 30, 11 a.m.

Dress in your best for the Mad Hatter's tea party. Make crafts, eat snacks and enjoy your own wonderland!

Stretch Across the Universe

Southwest Branch

Tuesday, January 30, 11 a.m.

Transform into a meteor, a shooting star or even the moon! Gather the family for a space-themed introduction to yoga.

Tinker Tots

Alafaya Branch

Tuesday, January 30, 11 & 11:35 a.m.

Are you an expert builder? Explore our different building sets to see what you can make!

While You Sleep

North Orange Branch

Tuesday, January 30, 11 a.m.

Night frog sings, owls hoot and trains rumble. Discover what happens at night while you sleep.

Move and Play

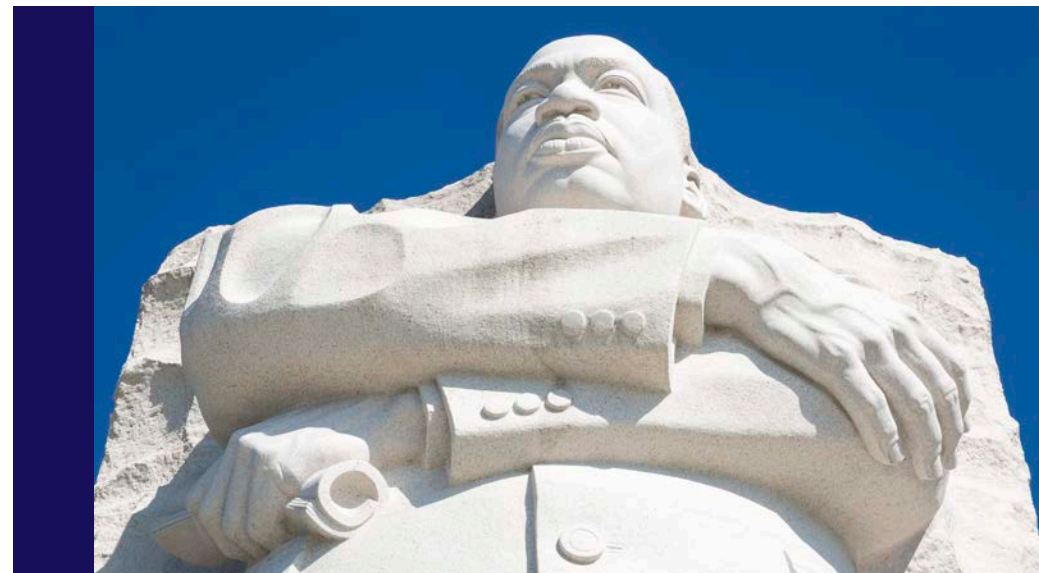
Alafaya Branch

Wednesday, January 31, 10:15 a.m.

Get ready to move and groove to popular kid songs.

CHILDREN'S

AGES 6-12
OCLS.INFO/KIDS



I HAVE A DREAM

Windermere Branch

Saturday, January 6, 11 a.m.

Chickasaw Branch

Wednesday, January 10, 11 a.m.

Washington Park Branch

Wednesday, January 10, 4 p.m.

Eatonville Branch

Thursday, January 11, 3 p.m.

Celebrate the life and dreams of Martin Luther King, Jr. by making crafts inspired by your own dreams, the importance of peace and togetherness.

Neo-Plastic Art

Washington Park Branch

Wednesday, January 3, 4 p.m.

Learn to create your own art using the neo-plastic style of Dutch painter Piet Mondrian.

Southwest LEGO Club

Southwest Branch

Wednesdays, January 3–31, 4 p.m.

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

Sparkle Like a Unicorn

West Oaks Branch

Wednesday, January 3, 4 p.m.

Fantastical fun awaits with stories and crafts. Celebrate the unique, magical and mystical unicorn!

When I Grow Up

South Trail Branch

Wednesday, January 3, 4:30 p.m.

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

Homeschool Discovery

Windermere Branch

Thursdays, January 4–18, 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.

Icy Science

South Creek Branch

Thursday, January 4, 4:30 p.m.

Windermere Branch

Saturday, January 20, 10:30 a.m.

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

Homeschool: Art Expressions

Windermere Branch

Fridays, January 5 & 19, 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.

LEGO One Scoop

Alafaya Branch

Saturday, January 6, 1:30 p.m.

North Orange Branch

Saturday, January 6, 3:30 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.

Homeschool Art: "My Year" Collage

West Oaks Branch

Monday, January 8, 11 a.m.

Let's think ahead to create a vision board for 2024. Recommended for ages 6–15. Registration required.

Homeschool Meetup:

Beaded Wire Sculpture

Southwest Branch

Monday, January 8, 1 p.m.

Come participate in math, science, history, art and literature-based learning to support your child's homeschool curriculum. Recommended for ages 6–12.

Read to Sydney

Winter Garden Branch

Monday, January 8, 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. All ages are welcome.

South Trail Chess Club

South Trail Branch

Mondays, January 8, 22 & 29, 4–5:30 p.m.

Capture your opponent's pieces and checkmate their king. Each week we will have some free play chess and a mini lesson. Recommended for ages 8 and up. Registration required.

Homeschool Explorers

North Orange Branch

Tuesday, January 9, 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. Recommended for ages 6–12.

STEM Challenge:

Design Your Dream Home

Eatonville Branch

Tuesday, January 9, 3:30 p.m.

Have you ever thought of what your dream home would look like? Join us for a building challenge where you plan and design your own home based on personal taste!

Windermere LEGO Contest

Windermere Branch

Tuesdays, January 9–30, 4:30 p.m.

Ready, Set, Build! Recreate your favorite scene from a book or graphic novel using LEGO! Registration required.

He Had a Dream

South Creek Branch

Tuesday, January 9, 5:30 p.m.

Celebrate the legacy of civil rights leader, philosopher and minister Martin Luther King Jr. by creating a stained glass window using tissue paper.

YEAR OF THE DRAGON

Eatonville Branch

Tuesday, January 2, 3:30 p.m.

Fairview Shores Branch

Saturday, January 20, 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday, January 30, 10:30 a.m.

2024 is the Year of the Dragon! Join us to ring in the new year by setting goals, engaging in themed crafts and learning about the Chinese zodiac!



ELEMENTARY MATH TUTORING HELP

South Trail Branch

Saturday, January 20, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.

Practice your math skills and seek help, math wizards. Our five volunteers will help you with your math homework and problems.



MAYOR BUDDY'S BOOK CLUB

Virtual

Wednesday, January 24, 4 p.m.

Engage in a lively discussion and fun activities with Mayor Buddy's Book Club's latest read, *Swim Team* by Johnnie Christmas. Recommended for ages 8–12.

Where Does My Water Go?

West Oaks Branch

Wednesday, January 10, 4 p.m.

Explore the life cycle of water and discover the answer to the big question, "Where does our water go once we use it?" Presented by the City of Ocoee.

Seed Art

Fairview Shores Branch

Wednesday, January 10, 4:30 p.m.

Make a beautiful and relaxing project using a variety of seeds in different shapes, colors and sizes. Recommended for ages 7 and up.

Origami Club

Orlando Public Library

Thursday, January 11, 3:30 p.m.

Fold paper stars and unravel the fun of this ancient craft! Go on a fun and educational journey into the world of paper folding. Recommend for ages 8–12.

Dungeons, Dragons and Libraries: Kids

North Orange Branch

Saturday, January 13, 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.

A Series of Unfortunate Activities

South Creek Branch

Saturday, January 13, 1:30 p.m.

Dive into the dismal history of the Baudelaires and the ruthless Count Olaf with trivia, engineering challenges and crafts.

Cuisine Corner Junior:

Snowman Dessert Dip

South Creek Branch

Saturday, January 13, 4 p.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.

Afternoon Art

Washington Park Branch

Wednesday, January 17, 4 p.m.

Discover an art adventure! Learn about a different artist and artistic style each time and then create your own masterpiece.

Way Back When the Samurai

Were Draped in Silk

West Oaks Branch

Wednesday, January 17, 4 p.m.

Dive into Japan's Edo period and explore Japanese culture, mythology and history. Recommended for ages 9–12.

Magic Tree House Expeditions

Virtual

Wednesday, January 17, 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.

Winter Wonderland

Fairview Shores Branch

Wednesday, January 17, 4:30 p.m.

Even though it's not very cold, it really is winter! Let's make a snow globe and have some snowman donuts. Get into the spirit of colder weather.

Snack Around the World:

The Czech Republic

West Oaks Branch

Friday, January 19, 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. Registration required.

LEGO Block Party

North Orange Branch

Friday, January 19, 4:30 p.m.

Is there anything you can't build with LEGO? Let's find out! Join us for lots of building fun. We provide the LEGO, you provide the creativity. Bricks will be provided but cannot go home with you.

Hearts of Gold Therapy Dogs

South Creek Branch

Saturday, January 20, 10:30 a.m.

Southwest Branch

Saturday, January 27, 10:30 a.m.

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

LEGO Club

South Creek Branch

Saturday, January 20, 10:30 a.m.

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

Homeschool Meetup: Greek Monsters!

Southwest Branch

Monday, January 22, 1 p.m.

Come participate in math, science, history, art and literature-based learning to support your child's homeschool curriculum. Recommended for ages 6–12.

Macaroni Mania

Windermere Branch

Monday, January 22, 4:30 p.m.

Create a macaroni masterpiece! Macaroni Mania explores the versatility of using pasta to create one-of-a-kind crafts.

Dig in the Florida Sand

Fairview Shores Branch

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

Florida has plenty of sand and the library has plenty of beach stories and crabby crafts. Don't miss the fun!

Pirates! All Aboard to France

Fairview Shores Branch

Tuesday, January 23, 4:30 p.m.

All aboard to explore the Louvre with a band of merry pirates! We'll read a French tale, create a craft and play trivia with everyone's favorite parrot, Petey!

Storm the Castle!

South Creek Branch

Tuesday, January 23, 5:30 p.m.

Learn about life in the medieval ages before constructing castles and marshmallow catapults. Recommended for ages 5 and up.

Bilingual Fun Time Para Niños

North Orange Branch

Wednesday, January 24, 3:30 p.m.

Learn and practice Spanish with us de una manera divertida (in a fun way)! Celebrate Valentine's Day by learning vocabulary about friendship and creating a gift for a friend. Recommended for ages 5–9.

Avengers Academy

West Oaks Branch

Wednesday, January 24, 4 p.m.

Young comic fans, unite and celebrate Earth's mightiest of heroes. Marvel at our stories, crafts and activities.

Happy Habitats

Alafaya Branch

Wednesday, January 24, 4 p.m.

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

It's All Greek (Pottery) to Me!

South Trail Branch

Wednesday, January 24, 4:30 p.m.

Use your artistic skills to sculpt pottery to tell a story like the Ancient Greeks.

Movie and a Craft

Fairview Shores Branch

Wednesday, January 24, 4:30–6 p.m.

Join us for some fun crafts and snacks while we watch Everest the Yeti try to find his family!

Homeschool Branch Out

Windermere Branch

Thursday, January 25, 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.

Homeschool: Simple Machines

Alafaya Branch

Thursday, January 25, 2 p.m.

Learn the science behind simple machines, and then make your own! Recommended for ages 6–8.

Cuisine Corner Junior:

Mini Edible Arrangements

Orlando Public Library

Thursday, January 25, 3:30 p.m.

Learn how to make a mini sweet and delicious gift for your special friend. We will pick, cut and arrange colorful treats to make a masterpiece. Recommended for ages 8 and up.

What's on the Inside?

Southeast Branch

Thursday, January 25, 4:30 p.m.

How many hairs are on your head? What happens when you eat pizza? By exploring the human body we can find out the answers to these questions and more! Recommended for ages 8–12.

Homeschool Meetup: Pinch Pots

Southwest Branch

Monday, January 29, 1 p.m.

Come and participate in math, science, history, art and literature-based learning to support your child's homeschool curriculum. Recommended for ages 6–12.

Mini Maker: DIY Toys

Eatonville Branch

Tuesday, January 30, 3:30 p.m.

Become a mini-maker and create your own toys using simple household materials!

Robots on the Loose

South Creek Branch

Tuesday, January 30, 5:30 p.m.

Navigate a maze with Sphero, design a race track for Ozobot and play coding games. Recommended for ages 5 and up. Registration required.

A World of Pausabilities

West Oaks Branch

Wednesday, January 31, 4 p.m.

Take a moment to pause. Teach your child how to identify their emotions and use meditation to control them. Use and create fun tools to help your children meditate! Recommended for ages 6–8.

High Five: Handprint Art

Washington Park Branch

Wednesday, January 31, 4 p.m.

Explore ways to turn your hand into a work of art! Recommended for ages 11 and up.

Make and Take

Alafaya Branch

Wednesday, January 31, 4 p.m.

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

Wild Earth: Volcanoes

Fairview Shores Branch

Wednesday, January 31, 4:30–6:30 p.m.

Did you know that there is roughly one volcano eruption per week on planet Earth? Together we will learn more fun science facts and build our own mini volcanoes!



FANDOM FRIDAY

South Creek Branch
Fridays, January 5 & 19, 4:30 p.m.
Play games, watch movies and anime, discuss your favorite manga, and socialize with new friends who are equally obsessed with your favorite fandoms. Ages 8 and up.



BOOKEND PAINTING

Alafaya Branch
Sunday, January 21, 2 p.m.
Join us in decorating our library! Grab some paint and a brush and decorate a bookend to be permanently displayed in our juvenile and teen sections. Recommended for ages 13 and up.



Washington Park's Animanga Club
Washington Park Branch
Tuesdays, January 2, 16 & 30, 5 p.m.
Love manga and anime? Join us for manga recommendations, crafts, anime and more!

Teen Art: Mood Boards
West Oaks Branch
Friday, January 5, 4:30 p.m.
Set the tone for 2024! We'll supply the snacks and materials – you supply the intent!

Kindness Counts!
South Creek Branch
Saturday, January 6, 1:30 p.m.
Even a small act can change the world! Find out how random acts of kindness can make a difference as we show our appreciation and pay it forward.

Teen Board Game Meetup
South Creek Branch
Saturday, January 6, 4 p.m.
West Oaks Branch
Friday, January 12, 4:30 p.m.
Leave Monopoly at home! Come learn a new board game or revisit some unique favorites. Games will be provided. Registration required.

Teen Volunteering: Orange Slice
Alafaya Branch
Sunday, January 7, 3 p.m.
Earn community service hours by becoming involved in Alafaya's teen literary and creative arts magazine, *Orange Slice*. Registration required.

Happy Little Trees
Winter Garden Branch
Monday, January 8, 4:30 p.m.
South Creek Branch
Thursday, January 18, 4:30 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.

High School Advisory Board Meeting
Virtual
Tuesday, January 9, 4 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.

Middle School Advisory Board Meeting
Virtual
Wednesday, January 10, 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.

Homeschool Teen Rec Time
Windermere Branch
Wednesday, January 10, 4:45 p.m.
Virtual
Wednesday, January 24, 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.

Let's Play D&D
Hiawasse Branch
Saturdays, January 13 & 27, 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.

Paint Party!
Fairview Shores Branch
Saturdays, January 13 & 27, 3–4:30 p.m.
It's that time again for Paint Party! Create your very own artwork at three different art stations.

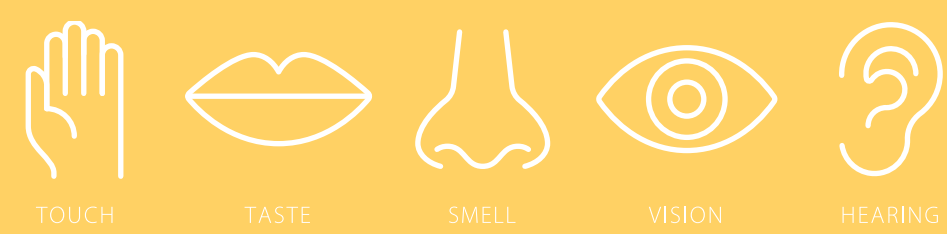
Teen Takeover
Southeast Branch
Wednesday, January 17, 3–5 p.m.
South Creek Branch
Wednesday, January 24, 3–5 p.m.
High school students earn up to two hours of community service by assembling craft kits and performing other tasks as needed. Registration required.

Imagine That: Teens of the Future
South Trail Branch
Thursday, January 18, 4:30 p.m.
What does the future hold for you? Where will you be 5, 10 and 20 years from now? Take a peek into the future with crafts and activities that go beyond the imagination.

Art Club
Winter Garden Branch
Saturday, January 20, 3:30 p.m.
Try out new artistic techniques each month and experiment with your fellow artists.

Coloring Time!
South Creek Branch
Saturday, January 27, 4 p.m.
Dust off your crayons and markers and see if you can stay in the lines as we channel our inner child and color!

AESTHETICALLY PLEASING
Winter Garden Branch
Tuesday, January 30, 4:30 p.m.
Relax, relate and release your stresses away with an exploration of all things pleasing to the senses. Your eyes and ears will thank you!



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

New Year's

All Locations:
Monday, January 1

Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday

All Locations:
Sunday & Monday, January 14 & 15

ZORA! Festival

Eatonville Branch
Saturday, January 27

Año Nuevo

Todos las localidades:
el lunes, 1 de enero

Conmemoración del cumpleaños de Martin Luther King Jr.

Todos las localidades:
el domingo y lunes, 14 y 15 de enero

ZORA! Festival

Eatonville Branch
el sábado, 27 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



ocls.info | 407.835.7323