



library happenings

Anne Arundel County Public Library News and Events • aacpl.net

This library is a Book Sanctuary

THE BOOK
SANCTUARY

THE BOOK
SANCTUARY

THE BOOK
SANCTUARY

Freedom to *Read'em*

Anne Arundel County Public Library

Learn more about book sanctuaries, page 2

LIBRARY INFO

LIBRARY CLOSINGS

Thanksgiving: Sunday, December 1
 Christmas: Sunday, December 22, Tuesday and Wednesday, December 24 and 25
 New Years: Sunday, December 29 and Wednesday, January 1 (All branches will close at 5 PM Tuesday, December 31)
 Martin Luther King Jr.: Sunday, January 19 and Monday, January 20

EQUITY STATEMENT

We advance diversity, inclusion, and belonging for our staff, customers, partners, and the whole community to create an equitable Library and society. We are committed to using our resources and partnerships to improve the lives of people of every race, ethnicity, culture, faith, age, sexual orientation, ability, socio-economic status, and gender.

AACPL is committed to serving all our customers. For information about our accessibility resources, including American Sign Language interpretation, visit: aacpl.net/services/accessibility.

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ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY
 PUBLIC LIBRARY



Skip Auld, Anne Arundel County Public Library Chief Executive Officer

AACPL is Now a Book Sanctuary

On September 25, I was proud to announce that Anne Arundel County Public Library is now a Book Sanctuary, the first one in Maryland. Originating in Chicago in 2022, Book Sanctuaries are dedicated spaces committed to preserving and protecting endangered books, making them widely accessible, hosting book discussions and events, and educating the public on the history of book banning and censorship.

Passed by resolution of the Library's Board of Trustees, this declaration is a powerful statement of our values and redoubles our efforts to educate people on the dangers of censorship to a democracy. We stand firm in our dedication to protecting the rights of all who use our library's resources. A sanctuary is a place of safety, and here in Anne Arundel County, we guarantee that every book, every thought and every perspective is protected.

Book bans and challenges are rising across the country with the American Library Association reporting that in 2023, public libraries saw a **92 percent increase** in the number of titles targeted for censorship over the previous year. In fact, groups and individuals attempted to block access to more than **4,200 unique titles** in 2023 at public libraries and at public schools. In our state alone, more than half of Maryland's public libraries have faced book challenges or far worse. Small groups of people are attempting to tell Marylanders what they can and cannot read and are threatening library staff for providing a diverse collection of materials.

In addition to special programs, several of our libraries have designated book displays to promote our book sanctuary. Additionally, there is *Defend/Celebrate Your Freedom to Read* merchandise available at bonfire.com/store/aacpl.

We hope you'll join us in this effort to protect everyone's freedom to read!



From the Book Sanctuary Launch: (from left) County Executive Stuart Pittman, Hoboken Free Library Director Jennie Pu, State Librarian Morgan Miller, AACPL CEO Skip Auld, Delegate Dana Jones and Mayor Gavin Buckley.

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MORE ITEMS OF INTEREST

<i>Book Club Adults: 4, 5, 10, 14, 18</i>	
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Library STEM Programs Promote Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Skills

STEM education fosters a love of math and science by encouraging learners to engage in inquiry, logical reasoning, collaboration and investigation. In *Library Happenings*, programs that incorporate STEM principles are designated with this icon:



This donor funded icon brings awareness to the many wonderful programs and experiences that are a reality at the library thanks to community donors.

2025
 START THE NEW YEAR OFF RIGHT



Spend Quality Time with Family

Libraries are a fantastic resource for families looking to bond and create lasting memories.

- Events for all ages
- Makerspaces for intergenerational fun
- Discovery Dock children's play spaces



Increase Wellbeing

Seeking better nutrition, physical activity, organization skills or mental wellness? The library offers a wealth of resources to support your journey.

- Books, magazines for health info and recipes
- Yoga, line dancing programs
- Cooking clubs, arts and crafts workshops
- Creativebug online classes



The best part? All these resources are absolutely free! Visit aacpl.net or drop by your local library.

HAPPY
 NEW
 YEAR

POSITIVE CHANGE
 WITH THE LIBRARY'S HELP!

Get Ahead Professionally

Your library believes in your potential for personal growth and success.

- Meeting rooms, computers and free printing
- LinkedIn Learning classes
- Resume workshops
- Interview and test prep

aacpl.net/career



Save Money

The average library user saves a staggering \$1,600 annually, which can be put towards vacations, college or other expenses.

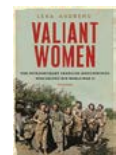
- Free ebooks, digital magazines and streaming movies
- Free Kindergarten readiness programs
- Free tutoring and career assistance
- Free language learning





ADULTS

Arnold Senior Center Book Club



Valiant Women
by Lena S. Andrews
Monday, December 2 at 2 PM



First Lie Wins
by Ashley Elston
Monday, January 6 at 2 PM



The Secret Life of Sunflowers
by Marta Molnar
Monday, February 3 at 2 PM

Introduction to Mindfulness

Tuesday, January 7 at 6 PM
Explore mindfulness and learn easy-to-implement techniques from a licensed mental health therapist.
Presenter: Maria Winters

Estate Planning Essentials

Monday, January 13 at 2 PM
Discover the differences between wills and trusts, powers of attorney, medical directives and more.
Presenter: Nicole Livingston

USNA Museum Ship Model Collection

Thursday, January 30 at 6:30 PM
Learn about the Naval Academy Museum's Rogers Collection of antique ship models.
Presenter: Grant Walker

How to Avoid Fraud, Scams and Identity Theft

Monday, February 17 at 2 PM
An expert will share information to help you protect yourself and your assets.
Presenter: Steven Migdal

TEENS

✓ **After Hours Teen Party**
Friday, February 21 at 6 PM
Teens take over the library in this after-hours party with activities, games, prizes and more! Registration and signed permission slip required.

PRESCHOOL

🧠 **Toddler Tinker Time**
Wednesdays, December 18, January 15 and February 19 at 10:30 AM
Explore imaginative fun with hands-on exploration of different materials and manipulatives.

Winter Solstice Storytime
Saturday, December 21 at 10:30 AM
Enjoy a fun and warm storytime about all things wintery and cold!

Kindergarten Readiness

(Not held December 23 - 31)

Babies in Bloom

Mondays at 10:30 AM

Toddler Time

Mondays at 11:30 AM

Preschool Storytime

Tuesdays at 10:30 and 11:30 AM

Wednesdays at 5:30 PM



ALL

✓ **Everyone Eats Cookbook Club 6th Annual Cookie Exchange**
Saturday, December 14 at 12:30 PM
Join the cookie exchange! Choose a library cookie recipe, bake with a friend at home and bring four dozen cookies to exchange. Details in your registration email!

Holiday Concert with The Annapolis Blend
Tuesday, December 17 at 6 PM
Join us for a fun holiday concert.

ADULTS

Silent Book Club
Thursdays, January 30 and February 27 at 6:30 PM
Bring your current read and enjoy tea or coffee in a peaceful setting. Feel free to bring your own pillow or blanket to get extra cozy!

Introduction to Finding Grants
Wednesday, February 19 at 2 PM
Learn what funders seek in nonprofits and how to identify potential grant opportunities. Discover the top ten essentials for successful grant-seeking in this class.

TEENS

✓ **Sublime Slimes**
Thursday, December 5 at 6 PM
Create and customize your own jar of slime! Add scents, dyes and glitter to a clear or white base for a gooey masterpiece.

✓ **Winter Teen Lock-In**
Friday, January 10 from 5:30 to 7:30 PM
Celebrate the winter season at this after-hours party! Enjoy sweet treats, hot chocolate, games, crafts and more.

✓ **Make BFF Keychains**
Saturday, February 1 at 3 PM
Create and customize your own matching set of keychains using our GlowForge!

KIDS

✓ **Snow and Ice Painting**
Monday, January 6 at 4:30 PM
Create snowmen and snowflakes using various snow and ice painting techniques. Wear mess-friendly clothes.

✓ **If I Fits, I Sits: DIY Cat House**
Tuesday, January 21 at 2 PM
Design a cozy cat house! Feel free to bring a photo of your favorite kitty to share. Supplies provided.

PRESCHOOL

Musical Ensembles and Petting Zoo with the U.S. Naval Academy Band
Mondays, February 3, 10 and 24 at 10:30 AM
Join U.S. Naval Academy musicians for a multi-week series! Start with an instrument petting zoo, then explore ensembles like brass quintets, jazz combos and more!

Kindergarten Readiness

(Not held December 23 - 31)

Babies in Bloom

Thursdays at 10:15 AM

Toddler Time

Tuesdays at 10:15 AM

Preschool Storytime

Wednesdays at 10:15 AM

Family Storytime

Fridays at 10:15 AM and Saturdays, December 21 and February 1 at 10:15 AM

Monday, December 2 at 6 PM: **Celebrate Winter!**
Tuesday, December 31 at 11:30 AM: **Noon Year's Eve Celebration**

Monday, January 6 at 10:30 AM: **Cruz the Traffic Safety Car**

Saturday, January 18 at 10:30 AM: **Preschool LEGO® Build and Play**

Tuesday, January 21 at 6 PM: **Preschool Craft**
Saturday, February 22 at 10:30 AM: **Warm Up With Saturday Fun!**

NEW DRIVING SIMULATOR

A driving simulator, recently launched at Busch Annapolis Library, offers customers an opportunity to take a seat behind the wheel and practice their driving skills in a virtual setting.

Available to new and experienced drivers ages 14 and up, this simulator allows users to practice their driving skills in a risk-free environment. Drivers can choose between manual and automatic transmission and can practice various driving scenarios, including night driving, country driving, driving in low-light areas and navigating the road during difficult weather conditions.

Librarian Gabriella Norton (pictured below) introduced the idea of bringing a driving simulator to AACPL to empower and support people by building their driving confidence.

"It offers members of the community an opportunity to experience challenging situations in a safe and welcoming setting," Norton said. "I'm hoping it will help the community be able to conquer driving fears... and give them the confidence to explore the real world after practicing in the virtual one."

Customers of all ages have been trying it out, including one individual who suffered a stroke last year. He's using the simulator to refresh his driving skills as he prepares to take his driving test again.

Funded by a \$13,000 grant from the Anne Arundel County Public Library Foundation, the simulator is free to use anytime the library is open. No library card is required. We invite you to test your reaction times, improve your driving skills and enjoy a safe, educational experience behind the wheel.



BUILD YOUR FUTURE HERE

Entering the workforce, changing careers, looking to be your own boss or building your workforce, the library is here to help.

- RESUME ASSISTANCE
- INTERVIEW & JOB COACHING
- TEST PREP
- MARKET RESEARCH
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- SKILL-BUILDING COURSES
- LAPTOPS & WI-FI HOTSPOTS
- MEETING ROOMS

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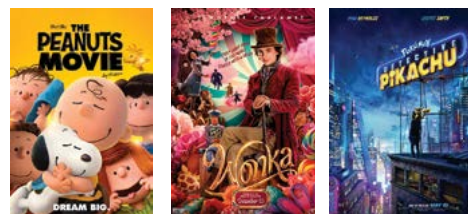
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DISCOVERIES: THE LIBRARY AT THE MALL

← SCAN THIS CODE FOR A COMPLETE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS AT THIS BRANCH →



ALL



Family Movie Night

The Peanuts Movie (G, 2015)

Tuesday, December 17 at 6 PM

Wonka (PG, 2023)

Tuesday, January 21 at 6 PM

Pokémon Detective Pikachu (PG, 2019)

Tuesday, February 18 at 6 PM

Bluey Escape Room

Friday, January 17 from 1 to 3 PM and Saturday,

January 18 from 10 AM to 3 PM

Escape the winter blues with Bluey and friends.

There will be various puzzles, activities and mind games to challenge both kids and adults.

ADULTS

Cardio Drumming For Fun and Fitness

Fridays, December 6, January 3 and February 7 at 11:45 AM

Saturdays, December 28, January 25 and February 22 at 11:45 AM

Stand or sit for this program where we will tap, stretch and move to music while drumming on large fitness balls.

Hallyu Club: Meet Up

Thursdays, December 12 and 19, January 9 and 30 and February 13 and 27 at 6 PM

Explore East Asian shows, music and cultures! All fans of Kpop, Jpop, anime and K-dramas are welcome. Bring a dish to share. Tea and snacks provided!

Jazz Concert: USNA's Superintendent's Combo

Saturday, January 25 at 1 PM

Spend a winter afternoon listening to the jazz stylings of the U.S. Naval Academy's Superintendent's Combo.

TEENS

Anime & Manga Club

Monday, December 16 at 6 PM

Hangout with us to share your favorites, what you are currently watching/reading, artwork and cosplay.

KIDS

Science Saturday: Bioluminescence

Saturday, December 14 at 11 AM

Learn about bioluminescence, animals and plants that naturally glow in the dark with hands on experiments.

Young Historians: Winter Solstice Traditions

Monday, December 16 at 4 PM

Travel back in time! Young historians will have the opportunity to get up close and personal with historical people and cultures.

Maryland Critters-Who Lives Where?

Tuesday, January 21 at 2 PM

Students will learn the four key habitat components and animal adaptations for survival. Discover "who lives where" among fascinating Bay and land animals, with live animals if available.

Presenter: CoreSharkH20

PRESCHOOL

Young Child at Play

Fridays, December 20, January 31 and February 21 at 10:30 AM

Young children will enjoy books, music and developmentally appropriate toys and activities during an hour of unstructured social time.

Love & Kindness Sensory Play

Friday, February 14 at 10:30 AM

Enjoy hands-on exploring and sensory play.

Kindergarten Readiness

(Not held December 23 - 31)

Babies in Bloom

Thursdays at 10:30 AM

Toddler Time

Wednesdays at 10:30 AM

Preschool Storytime

Tuesdays at 10:30 AM

Family Storytime

Thursday, January 23 at 6 PM: *Bedtime Storytime*



New STORYTIME SERIES



FAMILY STORYTIME with ASL Interpretation

Discoveries will present a special storytime for families with ASL interpretation on the second Saturday of each month at 10:30 AM. The Saturday dates for winter are:

December 14 | January 11 | February 8

Find more events for deaf, hard-of-hearing, ASL communities, CODA, interpreters and friends by scanning this code:



ALL

ALL-iday Family Potluck

Tuesday, December 17 at 6 PM

Join our potluck "ALL-iday" celebration! Bring a homemade or store-bought dish with cultural significance for at least 10 people, ready to eat and share!

Birding Bonanza

Saturday, January 4 at 2 PM

Wintertime is perfect for bird watching. Join us for crafts and activities to explore all there is to enjoy about our feathered backyard friends!

ADULTS

How to Avoid Fraud, Scams and Identity Theft

Saturday, January 25 at 2 PM

Join an experienced civil litigator for an informative session on scams and identity theft. Learn prevention tips and crucial steps to take if victimized.

All Abilities Storytime!

Wednesday, February 12 at 11 AM

Join our storytime for neurodivergent adults and caregivers! Enjoy stories, songs, rhymes and movement activities while having fun and making new friends.

TEENS

Fabric DIY

Wednesdays, December 11, January 8 and February 12 at 6 PM

Use basic sewing and other crafting skills to create fun take-home projects of your own design! All supplies provided.

KIDS

Reader's Theater

Thursday, January 16 at 2 PM

Enhance reading, writing, listening and speaking skills through fun group plays. We'll create sock puppets and use props for performances!

Snowy STEM

Saturday, January 18 at 2 PM

Young scientists will explore fun activities like snowflake science and frosty creations! Join us for hands-on experiments and creative challenges!

Early Reader Book Club

Thursdays, January 23 and February 27 at 4 PM

Children in K-2 can practice their reading skills through group reading, activities and games.

Coding Club

Saturday, February 15 at 2 PM

Unleash your creativity by practicing code with Scratch, make friends with amazing robots, and discover new ways to read, write and think in this exciting, hands-on program.

PRESCHOOL

Kwanzaa Tales

Saturday, December 28 at 10:30 AM

In her interactive performance, TAHIRA shares the seven principles of Kwanzaa through storytelling and music.

Lunar New Year Storytime

Friday, January 24 at 10:30 AM

Celebrate the Lunar New Year with a story, songs and crafts! Traditional clothing is encouraged!

Kindergarten Readiness

(Not held December 23 - 31)

Babies in Bloom

Tuesdays at 10:30 AM

Toddler Time

Mondays at 10:30 and 11:30 AM

Preschool Storytime

Thursdays at 10:30 AM

Family Storytime

Saturdays at 10:30 and 11:30 AM

Tuesday, February 18 at 6 PM: *Stuffed Animal Sleepover*

NEW LACTATION POD

A freestanding Mamava lactation pod is now available at Discoveries: The Library at the Mall, providing a clean, quiet, secure place for breastfeeding and pumping caregivers.

The nursing pod features seating, electrical outlets and reading material, allowing users a private space where they can tend to their little ones without leaving the library.

The installation of the Mamava pod, along with the existing Community Pantry, which provides free diapers, wipes and menstrual products to those in need, creates an environment where all visitors feel comfortable and supported.

"The library is intentional in creating spaces that welcome everyone in our community and the lactation pod enhances that experience for caregivers and babies," said Rachel Myers, branch manager at Discoveries.

This pod, the first of its kind in a Maryland library, was made possible by the generosity of donors through a \$31,500 grant from the Library Foundation. It is available when the library is open.



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kids
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EDGEWATER LIBRARY



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ALL

✔ **Second Annual Chili Cook-Off**
Saturday, January 25 at 2 PM
Bring your favorite chili to our cook-off! Crockpots encouraged. Judging starts at 2:30 PM.

ADULTS

✔ **Cookbook Club**
Choose a recipe that fits the monthly theme from a cookbook of your choice. Prepare the recipe at home and bring it to share.
Holiday Mocktail Party with Appetizers
Wednesday, December 11 at 6 PM
Comfort Food Classics
Wednesday, January 8 at 6 PM

Oyster Shell Craft
Thursday, December 12 at 6 PM
Decoupage your own trinket dish or holiday ornament using oyster shells and napkins. All supplies are provided; feel free to bring your own napkins!
Vision Board Collage
Saturday, January 4 at 1 PM
Create a vision board collage to inspire you in the new year. Supplies provided.

✔ **Avoid Fraud, Scams and Identity Theft**
Tuesday, January 7 at 6 PM
Join an experienced civil litigator for an informative session on scams and identity theft. Learn prevention tips and crucial steps to take if victimized.

Coloring with Watercolors
Wednesday, February 5 at 6 PM
Paint a printed image on watercolor paper or create your own original artwork. No experience needed; supplies provided!

TEENS

Teen Hangout
Mondays, December 2 and 16, January 13 and 27 and February 10 and 24 at 4 PM
Drop in for video games, crafts, snacks and more every other Monday afternoon.

KIDS

✔ **Chemistry in the Library**
Saturday, December 14 at 11 AM
Join a chemist from the American Chemical Society for a hands-on program on the chemistry of photography and imaging.

Snowy Day Crafts
Friday, January 17 at 2 PM
Celebrate winter with fun snowy day crafts and a scavenger hunt!

PRESCHOOL

School Skills for Preschoolers
Monday, January 27 at 10:30 AM
Learning disguised as play!
For ages 3-5

Kindergarten Readiness

(Not held December 23 - 31)
Babies in Bloom
Wednesdays at 10 AM
Toddler Time
Thursdays at 10 AM
Preschool Storytime
Tuesdays at 10 AM
Family Storytime
Thursdays, December 5, January 9 and February 6 at 6 PM



ADULTS

How to Avoid Fraud, Scams and Identity Theft
Friday, December 6 at 10:30 AM
Learn from an experienced civil litigator about scams and identity theft. Discover prevention tips and crucial steps to take if victimized.

Grief Circle
Thursdays, December 12, January 9 and February 13 at 1 PM
Join our supportive group in a private setting for those experiencing grief from loss, including loved ones, pets, estrangement or health concerns.
Presenter: Anne Arundel County Department of Aging and Disabilities

Sip and Savor: Mocktail Creations for Dry January
Saturday, January 4 at 2 PM
Kick off the new year with refreshing mocktails! Learn creative recipes and more.

TEENS

Hot Chocolate Chat & Chill
Thursday, December 12 at 6 PM
Make your own hot chocolate with fun mix-ins, chat with friends, enjoy a winter movie and complete a craft.

✔ **After-Hours Lock-In: Mystery at the Museum Escape Room**
Friday, February 21 from 6 to 7:30 PM
Solve puzzles and decode clues to uncover secrets before time runs out. Permission slips required.

KIDS

Slime Day Party
Saturday, December 7 at 2 PM
Celebrate National Slime Day by customizing your own slime. Choose add-ins for a unique creation and vote for the best slime!

Write Your Own Adventure: Creative Writing Workshop
Saturdays, January 18 and February 15 at 10:30 AM
Read a *Choose Your Own Adventure* novel as a group and then write and illustrate your own adventures!

Escape Room: Mystery at the Museum
Friday, February 21 from noon to 5 PM and Saturday, February 22 from 10 AM to 5 PM
Solve puzzles and decode clues to uncover secrets before time runs out! Groups of up to six players can book a 45-minute time slot by calling the library.

PRESCHOOL

Preschool Drive-In Movie
Monday, December 16 at 10:30 AM
Enjoy a special drive-in movie experience! Make cardboard cars and watch short films. Snacks provided.

Little Artists: Process Art
Mondays, January 6 and February 3 at 10:30 AM
Explore open-ended activities and different art techniques with a focus on the creative process. Mess-friendly clothes suggested.

SLIME!



Kindergarten Readiness

(Not held December 23 - 31)
Babies in Bloom
Thursdays at 10:30 AM
Saturdays, December 14, January 11 and February 8 at 10:30 AM
Toddler Time
Tuesdays at 10:30 AM
Preschool Storytime
Wednesdays at 10:30 AM
Family Storytime
Monday, December 16 at 5:30 PM: *Bedtime Stories for Night Owls*
Monday, January 13 at 5:30 PM: *Bedtime Stories for Little Chefs*
Monday, February 10 at 5:30 PM: *Stuffed Animal Sleepover*

Collection Spotlight: Holiday Cookbooks

Staff Favorites
Peanuts Holiday Cookbook: Sweet Treats for Special Occasions All Year Round by Charles M. Schulz
"Love the Peanuts crew, plus the recipes did not disappoint!" - Amy E.
The Official Stardew Valley Cookbook by ConcernedApe & Ryan Novak
"The cookbook is visually delightful and filled with interesting recipes." - Tracy H.
The Cookie Bible by Rose Levy Beranbaum
"The book offers the perfect cookie for every holiday, celebration and person." - Kendall Y.
Midwest Made: Big, Bold Baking from the Heartland by Shauna Sever
"I love this baking guide because it reminds me of the Scandinavian treats I grew up enjoying, especially during the holidays." - Christine F.

New Releases
David Atherton's Christmas Cookbook for Kids by David Atherton
Baking for the Holidays: 50+ Treats for a Festive Season by Sarah Kieffer
The Complete Autumn & Winter Cookbook: 550+ Recipes for Warming Dinners, Holiday Roasts, Seasonal Desserts, Breads, Food Gifts and More by America's Test Kitchen
Good Housekeeping Holiday Cookies: 100 Fun and Festive Treats to Enjoy Throughout the Season by Good Housekeeping



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ALL

Homeschool Lunch & Recess
Mondays, January 13 and February 10 at noon
Bring your lunch and enjoy games and activities with your friends.

Bingo Night
Wednesday, January 22 at 6 PM
Come join us for a night of bingo in the library! All ages welcome. Books and small prizes for winners.

Lunar New Year Celebration
Saturday, January 25 at 2 PM
Celebrate the Lunar New Year with crafts and special activities.
Xin nián kuài lè! 新年快乐!

ADULTS

Chair Yoga for Beginners
Friday, February 7 at 10:30 AM
Join our modified Hatha yoga class to enhance mobility! Enjoy seated or chair-supported postures. Bring a yoga mat or large towel for comfort.

Happily-Ever-After PowerPoint Party
Wednesday, February 12 at 6 PM
Enjoy mocktails and snacks while defending your favorite romance trope with a PowerPoint!

Adult Book Club

Once There Were Wolves
by Charlotte McConaghy
Thursday, February 13 at 2 PM

KIDS

Book Buddies
The Last Comics on Earth Series
by Joshua Pruett and Max Brallier
Thursday, January 16 at 4:15 PM

Norse Mythology
Thursday, February 20 at 4:15 PM

Nature Detectives: Winter Animals
Friday, January 17 at 3 PM
Explore and learn about animal adaptations for the colder weather. Bring a coat!

Bessie Coleman Paper Airplane Rally
Monday, February 17 at 4:30 PM
Make a paper airplane and test your high flying skills in her honor.

PRESCHOOL

Preschool Hangout
Friday, January 24 and Saturday, February 8 at 10:30 AM
Hang out with library friends as we build kindergarten skills!

Cuddles and Cocoa STEM Storytime
Saturday, February 22 at 10:30 AM
Cuddle up to enjoy stories, songs and simple science activities all about cookies and cocoa!



Kindergarten Readiness

(Not held December 23 - 31)
Babies in Bloom
Tuesdays at 10 AM
Toddler Time
Wednesdays at 10 and 11 AM
Preschool Storytime
Thursdays at 10 and 11 AM
Family Storytime
Saturday, January 11 at 10:30 AM



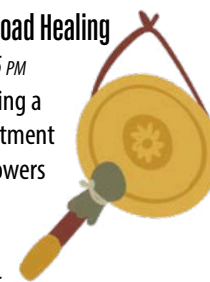
Kids will enjoy a program at Patuxent Research Refuge in Laurel, see below. The refuge was created to conserve and protect wildlife and wildlands and offers 13,000 acres of tranquil forest, meadow and wetlands amid a densely populated urban area.

ADULTS

Beginner Line Dancing Fun
Wednesday, December 11 at 6 PM
Learn some more beginner soul line dances and discover a fun, low impact physical activity!

Sound Bath with Golden Road Healing
Wednesday, January 15 at 6 PM
Start the new year by creating a sense of tranquility, contentment and joy with the healing powers of a sound bath!

Colorful Acrylics
Wednesday, January 22 at 6 PM
Learn the magic of mixing colors to start your painting journey. Make every color with only five starting colors to improve painting skills.
Presenter: Charlotte Mauler Hayes, Shutterbug's Creations



KIDS

Science Saturdays
The second Saturday of each month at 10:30 AM
December 14: **Helicopters and Parachutes**
January 11: **Lava Lamps**
February 8: **Valen-Slime**

Winter Solstice at Patuxent Research Refuge (Offsite program)
Saturday, December 21 at 2 PM
Celebrate the return of light on the shortest day with a story, hike and campfire at Patuxent Research Refuge. (North Tract, 230 Bald Eagle Dr, Laurel)

Artifacts Exploration with a Ranger
Thursday, January 16 from 2 to 5 PM
Enjoy hands-on activities, artifacts and possibly a special visit from a forest friend at an open house with Patuxent Research Refuge.

Kindergarten Readiness

(Not held December 23 - 31)
Babies in Bloom
Mondays at 10:30 AM
Toddler Time
Tuesdays at 10:30 AM
Preschool Storytime
Tuesdays at 11:30 AM
Family Storytime
Saturday, January 25 at 10:30 AM: **I Love Summer Party!**
Wednesday, February 5 at 6:30 PM: **Pre K Process Art**

ONLINE EVENTS

One is the Loneliest Number – Especially During the Holidays
Tuesday, December 3 at 6 PM
Companionship is essential during the holidays. Join us to discuss promoting social well-being.

The Great Movies Discussion
Fridays, December 13, January 3 and 31 at 7 PM
Each session, we will discuss a specific movie from our Kanopy collection. Watch the movie on Kanopy beforehand, then join us for a lively Friday evening discussion on Zoom.

English Conversation Club
Club de conversación en inglés
Thursdays, December 19, January 16 and February 20 at 6:30 PM
Jueves 19 de diciembre, 16 de enero y 20 de febrero a las 6:30 PM

Get together to practice speaking English. All levels and native languages are welcome. Registration is required to receive the Zoom link.
Únase a nosotros para practicar Inglés. Se requiere inscripción para recibir el link de Zoom.

The Mindful Art of Zentangle
Tuesday, January 28 at 6 PM
Join a virtual session led by a certified instructor! Bring a black pen, pencil and paper.

Liven Up Your LinkedIn
Wednesday, January 29 at noon
Ready to boost your career? Join our session to enhance your LinkedIn profile, connect with professionals and explore new job opportunities!

LET'S GET HEALTHY TOGETHER!

Did you know the library offers yoga, cardio and mindfulness classes?

OR

Want to find health information you can trust? We got you!

Find Now

Begin Research



BLACK HISTORY MONTH



CLARENCE WARD III

Experience the vibrant sounds of Clarence Ward III, the heart of Baltimore's jazz scene. Feel the joy in every note!
Glen Burnie
Saturday, February 1 at 2 PM
Maryland City
Wednesday, February 19 at 6:30 PM
For teens and adults

FREEDOM SONGS: THE MUSIC OF BLACK HISTORY

This play explores the role of music in Black American history, from slavery songs to jazz and R&B, featuring icons like Scott Joplin and Billie Holiday.
For kids
Linthicum
Saturday, February 15 at 2 PM
Severna Park
Saturday, February 15 at 11 AM

Eastport-Annapolis Neck

Carly Harvey
Saturday, February 8 at 2 PM
The queen of jazz herself, a powerhouse Blues artist from Washington, DC, lights up the stage with her incredible blend of blues, jazz and soul, with both Indigenous and African American influences.
For adults

Meet Dr. King
Saturday, February 22 at 11 AM
This engaging production highlights Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s life and legacy, from his childhood in Atlanta to his role as a civil rights leader.
For kids

Mountain Road

Paint Like... Alma Thomas
Saturday, January 25 at 2 PM
Learn about the artist Alma Thomas and create art in her style.
For kids

Art Journaling
Wednesday, February 19 at 6 PM

Create a collage in an art journal about an inspirational person!
For teens and adults

Carly Harvey performs at Eastport-Annapolis Neck Library on Saturday, February 8.



THE ABC'S OF HIP HOP

Baba Bomani's program uses rhythm and rhyme to teach reading and math concepts. Kids learn to rap the alphabet backward while enhancing listening skills and exploring Black history.

Brooklyn Park
Friday, February 28 at 11:30 AM
Discoveries: The Library at the Mall
Saturday, February 22 at 2 PM

Glen Burnie
Saturday, February 8 at 10:30 AM
Mountain Road
Saturday, February 15 at 2 PM

Broadneck

Black History Month Tinker Lab
Thursday, February 13 at 4 PM
Learn about Black scientists and inventors with some open-ended, explorative fun!

Busch Annapolis

The State of Black Annapolis: Uplift Annapolis
Tuesdays, February 4, 11, 18 and 25 at 5 PM

Join us and enjoy catered receptions and panel discussions on key topics, available both in-person and virtually at [Facebook.com/CityofAnnapolis](https://www.facebook.com/CityofAnnapolis).
Partner: City of Annapolis



The Magic of Capoeira Angola with Contramestre BabaJan

Saturday, February 8 at 2 PM
Experience Capoeira Angola with Contramestre BabaJan from Brazil! Enjoy a capoeira game, witness traditional music and learn basic movements and instrument playing in this vibrant Afro-Brazilian tradition.
For kids

Crofton

Chesapeake Underground: Presented by Blacks of the Chesapeake

Saturday, February 1 at 11 AM
Join us for a special presentation by Blacks of the Chesapeake founder Vince Leggett, about how the Bay and tributaries were used in the underground railroad.

For adults

Celebrate Black Artists!

Thursday, February 27 at 6 PM
Learn about three famous Black visual artists from the 20th century and make art in their style to take home with you.

For teens

Discoveries: The Library at the Mall

Black Excellence!

Tuesday, February 4 at 2 PM
Learn about talented African American individuals who have made positive impacts. There will be various activities and crafts to complete while learning!

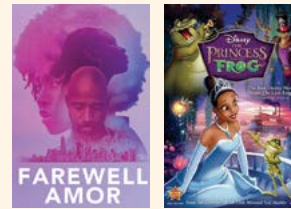
For kids

Soul Dance Party

Friday, February 28 at 10:30 AM
Join us for a morning of storytelling and dancing to music by famous African American artists! Wear your dancing shoes and join our Soul Train line!

For preschoolers

BLACK HISTORY MONTH MOVIES



Fences (PG 13, 2016)

Brooklyn Park
Tuesday, February 4 at 5 PM

Selma (PG 13, 2014)

Brooklyn Park
Tuesday, February 18 at 5 PM

The Little Mermaid (PG, 2023)

Deale
Wednesday, February 5 at 5 PM
Linthicum
Thursday, February 6 at 6 PM

The Color Purple (PG-13, 2023)

Linthicum
Tuesday, February 4 at 2:30 PM
Severna Park
Thursday, February 20 at 5 PM

Farewell, Amor (TV-MA, 2020)

Mountain Road
Monday, February 3 at 10:30 AM
For adults

The Princess and the Frog (G, 2010)

Odenton
Kids "Drive-In" Movie Night
Monday, February 17 at 5 PM
Make a car to park at our theater.

Daughters of the Dust (NR, 1991)

Riviera Beach
Monday, February 10 at 6 PM

LIBRARY HAPPENINGS WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

We want to find out what you think of our updated [Library Happenings](#) quarterly newsletter.

This survey takes less than five minutes.

Please complete by Friday, February 21. Thank you!

SCAN ME



surveys.librarycustomer.org/s3/8077519



Candid. Learning

Now available at all 16 library locations!



Candid.

Research & Find Grants
Helps Nonprofits and Individuals

Scan me

NONPROFIT CENTER
Anne Arundel County's
@ 41 COMMUNITY PLACE

aacpl.info/candid



ALL

20th Anniversary Exhibition

Wednesday, December 4 at 6:30 PM
Join us for a celebration of the 20th anniversary of the Odenton Library! Enjoy light refreshments and stroll down memory lane with staff and friends.


Season's Greetings Potluck & Open Mic


Monday, December 16 at 4:30 PM
Enjoy a night of food, entertainment and shared traditions! Bring a cultural dish or enjoy the show.

ADULTS

The Queer Agenda Book Club

Join our monthly book club to read queer books in a queer- and trans-affirming space. All identities welcome!

 **Laura Dean Keeps Breaking Up With Me** by Mariko Tamaki and Rosemary Valero-O'Connell
Tuesday, December 17 at 6:30 PM

 **The Romantic Agenda** by Claire Kann
Tuesday, January 21 at 6:30 PM

 **Bury Your Gays** by Chuck Tingle
Tuesday, February 18 at 6:30 PM

A Self-Love Journaling Workshop for Caregivers

Saturday, February 8 at 2 PM
Enjoy a transformative workshop on self-love and resilience for caregivers. Prioritize your well-being through reflective journaling this valentine season.

TEENS

Craft for a Cause: Valentines for the Homebound

Monday, January 27 at 5:30 PM
Get creative while serving your community by making homemade valentine's cards for AACPL's homebound Library by Mail customers. Students can earn service-learning hours!




KIDS

Rad Readers Book Club

Each month, we will hold a book discussion and enjoy crafts and activities related to the story!

For third to fifth graders

 **D & D Dungeon Academy: No humans allowed!** by Madeleine Roux
Thursday, December 5 at 4 PM

 **Doodleville** by Chad Sell
Thursday, January 2 at 4 PM

 **Cog** by Greg Van Eekhout
Thursday, February 6 at 4 PM

PRESCHOOL

Career Fair

Tuesday, February 4 at 2 and 5:30 PM
Enjoy early learning and creative play at career-themed activity stations. Dress up for your dream job, explore a sensory bin and more!



Kindergarten Readiness

(Not held December 23 - 31)

Babies in Bloom

Wednesdays at 10:15 AM

Toddler Time

Tuesdays at 10:15 and 11:15 AM

Preschool Storytime

Thursdays at 10:15 and 11:15 AM, except January 2 at 11:15 AM

Family Storytime

Saturdays, December 14, January 11 and February 8 at 10:15 AM

Wednesday, February 12 at 6 PM: Stuffed Animal Sleepover



COMMUNITY QUILT EXHIBIT

Submit your quilted creation to be displayed at the Odenton Library during our **2nd Annual Community Quilt Exhibit** by bringing it to the Information Desk on the second floor and completing an entry form.

Quilt submissions will be accepted from January 21 to February 10.

Exhibit Opening Reception

Saturday, February 15 from 2 to 4 PM

Spend a cozy afternoon sipping hot cocoa and viewing the beautiful, quilted creations shared by artisans in our community.

Quilts will continue to be on display from February 15 to March 30. Call the Odenton Library to find out more about our gallery hours or to schedule your own viewing appointment: 410-222-6277.

Quilters may check out our online calendar to find a variety of quilting programs leading up to the event!



ADULTS

Friend Speed Dating!

Monday, December 9 at 6 PM

We will be connecting through quick chats and fun icebreakers in a fast and fun evening of meeting potential BFFs!

Deaf Social and Game Day

Saturdays, December 14, January 25 and February 15 at 2 PM

Enjoy a silent afternoon of games, ASL practice and socializing!

Learn Scrapbook Journaling

Monday, February 10 at 6 PM

Try your hand at scrapbook journaling and learn to create pages with beautiful calligraphy that are full of visual imagery and inspiration.

KIDS

Early Reader Book Clubs

Thursday, December 12, Wednesday, January 22 and Monday, February 17 at 6 PM

Children in kindergarten through second grade can practice their reading skills through group reading, activities and games based on popular beginner reader books.



Anne Arundel County Public Library (AACPL) is here to support families dealing with trauma and grief by offering **The Healing Library: Death of a Loved One** – a specialized kit designed to guide children through the difficult process of loss. This unique resource is part of AACPL's Library of Things and is a collection of books, activities and resources that provide an age-appropriate framework for young children to explore their emotions and find healthy ways to cope.



Show and Tell!

Monday, December 23 at 2 PM

Elementary schoolers can showcase their interests and share topics they're passionate about with others. We provide a welcoming space for them to connect with kids and families!

STEM Adventures: Winter Edition

Tuesday, January 21 at 2 PM

Enjoy wintery themed STEM activities on your semester break. We will have stations for you to learn new STEM concepts while having fun!

Science of Color

Thursday, February 6 at 6 PM

Explore the science of the colors we see every day. There will be many fun activities and experiments to try!

Browser Game Museum

Monday, February 17 at 3 PM

Learn about and interact with a variety of different games available in internet browsers that explore crafting, creativity and more!

PRESCHOOL

Young Child at Play

Fridays at 10:30 AM

Young children will enjoy books, music and developmentally appropriate toys and activities during an hour of unstructured social time.

Sensory Playtime

Saturdays, December 14, January 4 and February 15 at 10:30 AM

Sensory play stimulates children's senses—touch, smell, taste, sight and hearing. Explore various stations together as caregivers guide children in investigating new sensations!

Yoga Family Storytime!

Monday, January 6 at 6 PM

We will read books as we practice stretching and breathing techniques.

Kindergarten Readiness

(Not held December 23 - 31)

Babies in Bloom

Tuesdays at 10:30 AM

Toddler Time

Thursdays at 10:30 AM

Preschool Storytime

Wednesdays at 10:30 AM

The Healing Library: Death of a Loved One

This toolkit was originally developed by children's librarians Megan Emery and David Moorhead at the Chattanooga and Lewiston public libraries in collaboration with licensed social worker, Bonnie Thomas, and children's literature advocate, Kirsten Cappy of Curious City. After learning about **The Healing Library** during a webinar training, AACPL Librarian Laura Efrom reached out to the developers about replicating it and ultimately advocated for the kit to be added to AACPL's collection. Modified for Anne Arundel County residents, the kit was made possible with funding from the county's Partnership for Children, Youth and Families.

AACPL released **The Healing Library: Death of a Loved One** kits in the summer of 2020 during a

time when many families were struggling with unexpected losses from COVID.

"A family can check it (the kit) out without expending the additional labor of finding appropriate books, vetting them and wondering how to weave their own narrative into the story they are reading," Efrom said. "While there is no kit in existence that can "solve" grief, we hope that this can start families on a path of understanding and processing their own situation."

Suitable for children ages 2-10 years old, the kits can be requested through the library catalog for pick up at any of AACPL's 16 branches and can be checked out for three weeks.



BROOKLYN PARK LIBRARY

← SCAN THIS CODE FOR A COMPLETE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS AT THIS BRANCH →

Language Exchange/Intercambio de Idiomas

Wednesdays, December 18, January 15 and February 19 at 6 PM
Miércoles 18 de diciembre, 15 de enero y 19 de febrero a las 6 PM

Join a group of English and Spanish speakers to practice speaking either language in a fun and informal setting.

Únase a un grupo de hablantes de inglés y español para practicar hablar cualquiera de los dos idiomas en un ambiente divertido e informal.

For adults

ADULTS

Sit and Stitch

Saturdays, December 21, January 18 and February 15 at 2 PM

Sew, knit, needlepoint and crochet while meeting friends to learn from each other.

Bebidas y Pinturas

(Drinks and Paints: Spanish Language Program)

Sabado enero 18 a las 11 AM

Saturday, January 18 at 11 AM

Venga a la biblioteca para pasar tiempo pintando en comunidad! Este programa sera presentado completamente en español.

Spend time painting as a community! This program is presented completely in Spanish.

Paint 'n' Sip

Monday, February 24 at 3:30 PM

Join us for a fun and relaxed afternoon of painting in the style of artist Jacob Lawrence!

Food Resources at the Library

Anne Arundel County Public Library (AACPL) is committed to raising awareness, inspiring action and working with community partners to help end food insecurity in Anne Arundel County.

One of the ways we support this work is through our partnership with food pantries. The **Anne Arundel County Food Bank Mobile Food Pantry** makes visits to the Busch Annapolis and Deale libraries and the **Blessed in Tech Ministries Food Pantry** offers food assistance at Eastport-Annapolis Neck Library.

Additionally, we host **Caring Cupboards** with free pantry items available outside Broadneck, Brooklyn Park, Busch Annapolis, Crofton, Deale, Edgewater, Glen Burnie, Linthicum, Maryland City at Russett, Odenton, Riviera Beach and Severna Park libraries. Community members are welcome

to take what they need and donate what they can.

Another key component in our effort to end hunger is the community garden at Crofton Library. Nonprofit **FarmUnity** created a 4,000 square foot garden and dedicated volunteers contribute their time to plant, water and harvest the produce. The produce is then distributed to Medicaid patients and made available to library customers.

While several AACPL branches serve as food collection sites for local food banks, all library branches accept Similac and Enfamil baby formula for distribution at the **Community Pantry** at Discoveries: The Library at the Mall. Anyone who needs help getting basic baby supplies can stop by the Discoveries Library on the first Tuesday of the month from 6 to 7 PM or the first Saturday of the



TEENS

Super Smash Bros Tournament

Monday, February 17 at 2 PM

Enjoy some friendly competition with Super Smash Bros in the ultimate showdown.

KIDS

Party with Nintendo Switch!

Tuesdays, December 10, January 14 and February 11 at 4 PM

Play games and have fun with fellow fans of the Nintendo Switch video game system!

STEAM and Snacks

Thursdays, December 12, January 9 and February 13 at 4 PM

Join us for STEAM crafts and snacks!

Lunar New Year Celebration

Saturday, February 1 at 2 PM

Listen to a story about the Lunar New Year and watch the Wulin Institute perform the Lion Dance.

PRESCHOOL

Noon Year's Eve

Tuesday, December 31 at 11:30 AM

Help us bring in the New Year 2025 with crafts and music! A countdown and celebration will occur right before noon.

Kindergarten Readiness

(Not held December 23 - 31)

Babies in Bloom

Mondays at 11:30 AM

Toddler Time

Mondays at 10:30 AM

Preschool Storytime

Thursdays at 10:30 AM



Local boy scouts built and installed this Caring Cupboard at the Broadneck Library.

month from 10 AM to noon. For more information, visit aacpl.net/pantry.

For more information contact your local library or visit aacpl.net/food-resources.

GLEN BURNIE LIBRARY



← SCAN THIS CODE FOR A COMPLETE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS AT THIS BRANCH →

TEENS

Tween STEAM

Thursdays, December 12, January 9 and February 13 at 6 PM

Explore chemistry, biology, physics and the arts.

Anti-Valentine's Day Teen Lock-In

Friday, February 7 from 6 to 8 PM

Celebrate yourself and your friends as teens take over the library. We'll have crafts, games, snacks, hot chocolate and lots of cozy fun!

KIDS

Lunar New Year Storytime!

Wednesday, January 29 at 10:30 AM

Celebrate the arrival of spring and the beginning of a new year on the lunisolar calendar with a fun storytime, music, dancing and crafts.

For preschoolers and kids

Book Bingo

Saturday, February 15 at 2 PM

Play bingo for fun and win books!

Early Reader Book Club

Thursday, February 27 at 3 PM

This club will meet monthly to practice reading skills as a group with fun book discussions, activities and games.

ALL

Family & Friends Game Night

Tuesdays, January 28 and February 25 at 5:30 PM

Play one of our games or bring your own!

Art Museum Night

Thursday, January 30 at 6 PM

Contribute to our second annual art museum with family-friendly creations. Submit in person at the Glen Burnie Library from January 1-24. Pick up by February 6.

ADULTS

Sleep Right, Sleep Tight: How to Get a Good Night's Sleep

Monday, January 13 at 6 PM

Discover effective parenting strategies for helping your child with bedtime and sleep for a good night's sleep!

Presenter: *Nina McNealey, school psychologist, AACPS*

Kindergarten Readiness

THE LIBRARY CAN HELP GET YOUR CHILD READY FOR KINDERGARTEN!

- Weekly Every Child Ready to Read Storytimes at all 16 Libraries
- 1000 Books Before Kindergarten reading incentive program
- Special outreach events across the county

Learning Resources

- ABC Mouse preschool curriculum
- Tumblebooks digital collection
- Kanopy Kids streaming service

Community Resources

- Social workers in some locations
- Community Pantries at Discoveries and Brooklyn Park
- Job training and resume help
- Thousands of programs in financial literacy, job skill building, parenting and more

aacpl.net/kindergarten



ALL

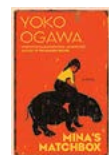
Holiday Songs from Around the World

Monday, December 2 at 6:30 PM

Celebrate the holiday season through live and recorded music from various countries, exploring the sights and sounds of global holiday traditions!

ADULTS

Adult Book Club



Mina's Matchbox

by Yoko Ogawa

Saturday, December 14 at 11 AM



Everyone Who is Gone is Here

by Jonathan Blitzer

Saturday, January 11 at 11 AM



Demon Copperhead

by Barbara Kingsolver

Saturday, February 22 at 11 AM

Post-Holiday Gadget Guidance

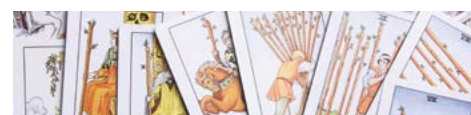
Tuesday, January 7 at 6:30 PM

Did you get a new tablet, e-reader, computer or other gadget for the holidays? Bring it to the library to learn how to get the most out of it and how to use it to access the library's online resources like Libby and Kanopy.

Cook the Book: Soups!

Tuesday, January 14 at 6:30 PM

Join Linthicum's first cookbook club! Make a soup recipe from *America's Test Kitchen Complete Autumn & Winter Cookbook* or bring a favorite of your own. Sample soups, discuss recipes and make new friends!



TEENS

Tarot for Life

Wednesday, January 15 at 6:30 PM

We'll discuss using tarot for self-reflection and guidance by exploring its origins and structure.

For teens and adults

KIDS



Family Movie Night

Garfield (PG, 2024)

Thursday, December 5 at 6 PM

Paws to Read

Saturdays, December 7, January 4 and February 1 at 10 AM

Children in elementary school improve their reading skills while enjoying the rapt attention of canine tutors.

PRESCHOOL

Little Explorers

Fridays as listed below at 10:30 AM

Explore various sensory stations and learn through play. Wear mess-friendly clothes.

December 13: *Sensory Stations*

January 10: *Construction*

February 7: *Art*

Tea Party Storytime

Saturday, January 18 at 10:30 AM

Bring your favorite stuffed friend to have tea, hear stories, sing songs and make a craft.



Kindergarten Readiness

(Not held December 23 - 31)

Babies in Bloom

Wednesdays at 10:30 AM

Toddler Time

Thursdays at 10:30 AM

Preschool Storytime

Tuesdays at 10:30 AM

Family Storytimes

Monday, January 6 at 6:30 PM: *Pirate*

Monday, February at 6:30 PM: *Pajamas*

SCIENCE
TECHNOLOGY
ENGINEERING
MATH

DIVE INTO STEM

LEARNING ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS

aacpl.net/stem

ALL



BYOD (Bring Your Own Dinner) Family Movie Nights

Smallfoot (PG, 2018)

Thursday, December 5 at 6 PM

Inside Out 2 (PG, 2024)

Thursday, January 2 at 6 PM

Despicable Me 4 (PG, 2024)

Thursday, February 6 at 6 PM

Queer, Cocoa & Chill

Saturday, December 21 at 2 PM

Join us for a relaxing holiday gathering for the LGBTQIA+ community! Enjoy crafts, laughter and cocoa while connecting with friends and making new ones.

Valentine's Day Chocolate Bingo

Wednesday, February 12 at 6 PM

Enjoy playing bingo with family and friends and win prizes!



Youth Art Month Community Open Houses

All branches will display artwork Friday, February 28 through Wednesday, April 2 and host receptions Thursday, March 6 from 4:30 to 6 PM.

Celebrate our Anne Arundel County Public School (AACPS) art students and their creative accomplishments. Special guests at receptions include featured student artists, their friends and families. Hosted in partnership with AACPS and AACPL



ADULTS

Tarot New Year Intentions

Wednesday, January 8 at 6:30 PM

Start the new year off on the right foot by learning how to use tarot cards to set and reflect on your intentions and goals for 2025.

How To Avoid Fraud, Scams and Identity Theft

Friday, January 10 at 2 PM

Learn from an experienced civil litigator about scams and identity theft. Discover prevention tips and crucial steps to take if victimized.

TEENS

Winter Pastels

Wednesday, December 4 at 6 PM

Learn how to use oil pastels while creating some fun winter landscapes.

For teens and adults

KIDS

Tree Scouts – League of Young Adventurers

Saturdays, January 4 and February 1 at 2 PM

Join a light-hearted Dungeons and Dragons one-shot adventure! Characters provided.

For ages 8-12

The ABC's of Hip Hop

Saturday, February 15 at 2 PM

Baba Bomani uses rhythm and rhyme to teach reading and math concepts. Students learn to rap the alphabet backward while enhancing listening skills and exploring Black history.

Kindergarten Readiness

(Not held December 23 - 31)

Babies in Bloom

Fridays at 11 AM

Toddler Time

Tuesdays at 11 AM

Preschool Storytime

Wednesdays at 11 AM

Family Storytime

🌀 Saturday, December 7 at 2 PM: *STEM*

Monday, January 27 at 6:30 PM: *Milk and Cookies*

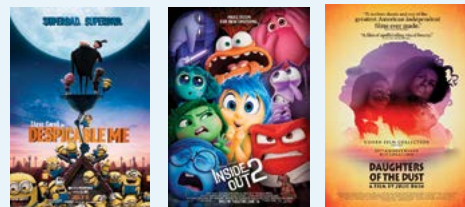
Wednesday, February 26 at 6:30 PM: *Stargazing*



RIVIERA BEACH LIBRARY

← SCAN THIS CODE FOR A COMPLETE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS AT THIS BRANCH →

Movie Nights



Despicable Me (PG, 2010)
Wednesday, December 11 at 5:30 PM
Inside Out 2 (PG, 2024)
Wednesday, January 15 at 6 PM
Daughters of the Dust (NR, 1991)
Monday, February 10 at 6 PM

ALL

✓ Winter Solstice Walk With A Ranger

Saturday, December 21 at 4 PM
Bundle up and join us at Fort Smallwood Park to celebrate the return of light as we take a winter solstice walk with a park ranger.

ADULTS

Senior Hangout

Fridays, December 13, January 17 and February 14 at 10:30 AM
Enjoy puzzles, games and crafts while getting to know other seniors in the community.

Create a Vision Board

Saturday, January 4 at 2 PM
Kick off the new year with a vision board! Reinforce your goals and intentions with provided supplies. Bring your own materials if you'd like!

Self Care Drop In

Monday, January 13 at 6:30 PM
Start the new year with self-care! Drop in for meditation, quiet reading, calming coloring, crafts and more ideas for relaxation throughout the year.



TEENS

Teen Writers' Club

Tuesdays, December 10, January 14 and 28 and February 11 and 25 at 6 PM

Explore the craft of writing with the help of a volunteer from the Maryland Writers' Association.

Afterschool Special

Stop by after school to learn, play and have fun with others. Snacks provided.
Thursday, December 12 at 3:30 PM: **Zines**
Thursday, January 16 at 3:30 PM: **Nintendo Switch Games**
Wednesday, February 12 at 3:30 PM: **Shrinkydinks**

KIDS

Oysters 101

Saturday, February 22 at 2 PM
Explore the Chesapeake Bay's keystone species, the oyster! Learn about its growth, life cycle and habitat, plus enjoy a live dissection and see traditional harvesting tools.



PRESCHOOL

Bedtime Storytimes

Wednesdays, December 4, January 27 and February 12 at 6:30 PM

Kindergarten Readiness

(Not held December 23 - 31)

Babies in Bloom

Mondays at 10:30 AM

Toddler Time

Thursdays at 10:30 AM

Preschool Storytime

Saturdays at 10:30 AM

ALL

Board Game Night

Wednesdays, December 4 and February 5 at 6 PM
Bring your favorite board game or choose from our selection including everything from chess to checkers to modern classics.

Movies at the Library



Home Alone
(PG, 1990)

Saturday, December 14 at 2 PM



Wreck it Ralph
(PG, 2012)

Tuesday, January 21 at 2 PM

ADULTS

Stitchin' in the Stacks

Tuesdays, December 10, January 14 and February 11 at 2 and 6:30 PM
Bring your project for a stitchin' good time. All crafters welcome.



Mindful Making

Tuesdays, December 17, January 21 and February 18 at 6 PM
Practice mindfulness with crafting.

Estate Planning Essentials

Wednesday, February 12 at 6 PM
Attorney Nicole T. Livingston of Council Baradel will discuss the differences between wills and trusts, powers of attorney and medical directives.

TEENS

Homeschool Teen Time

Fridays, December 27, January 24 and February 21 at 11 AM
Hang out with other homeschool teens as we play a variety of games, try out some cool library technology and more!

KIDS

Homeschool Lunch and Hangout

Mondays, December 30, January 27 and February 24 at 11 AM
Bring your own lunch to enjoy with other homeschoolers, followed by games and activities.

STEM Loves Winter

Wednesday, February 19 at 6 PM
We love STEM in winter! What will our mad scientists concoct this time?

PRESCHOOL

Noon Years Eve Storytime

Tuesday, December 31 at 11:30 AM
Help us ring in New Year 2025 with crafts and music!

STEM Storytime

Thursdays, January 16 and February 27 at 6 PM
Saturday, January 18 at 10 AM
Kids explore STEM concepts through fun, hands-on activities in an interactive storytime!

Kindergarten Readiness

(Not held December 23 - 31)

Babies in Bloom

Tuesdays at 10 AM

Toddler Time

Wednesdays at 10 and 11 AM

Preschool Storytime

Thursdays at 10 AM

Family Storytime

Mondays, December 2, January 6 and February 3 at 6 PM: **Pajamas**
Saturdays, December 14, January 11 and February 8 at 10 AM

LIBRARY OF THINGS



CHECK OUT MORE THAN JUST BOOKS AT THE LIBRARY!

MUSEUM PASSES | CHROMEBOOKS | FISHING POLES
BIRDING KITS | UKULELES | AND MORE...

Passes Available: Historic London Town and Gardens, William Paca House and Garden, Museum of Historic Annapolis, Hammond-Harwood House Museum and Annapolis Maritime Museum & Park



aacpl.net/things

*museum schedules may vary seasonally

HOMEBOUND OR KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS? WE CAN DELIVER!

LIBRARY BY MAIL

Free home delivery of library material to any resident of Anne Arundel County who is homebound due to illness, injury or disability.

APPLY AT:

AACPL.INFO/LIBRARY-BY-MAIL

OR CALL

410-222-6270

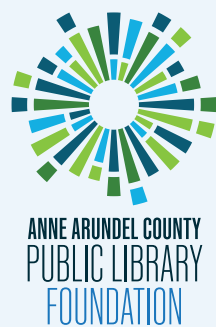
ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION

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- Martha O. Blaxall
Treasurer
- Betsy Bender
Vanessa Carter
- Noah Comet
ex-officio
- Katie Prechtl Cooke
Ishani Gandhi
ex-officio
- Mary S. Hagerty
Anne Hamel
- Stephen R. Holt
Stacy L. Korbelak
- Ian Marchanti
Kris Maslonka
- Don Rau
Diane Rinaldo
- Karen W. Smith
Tim Williams
- Skip Auld
AACPL CEO and ex-officio

FOUNDATION STAFF

- Cathleen Sparrow
Executive Director and ex-officio
- Bethany Kerley
Donor Engagement, Grants & Events Manager
- Julie L. Kizer Ball
Development Manager
- Canela Listz
Administrative Assistant



FOR THE LOVE OF THE LIBRARY

The Library Foundation's annual fundraiser, For the Love of the Library, brought together around 375 community members and library supporters for an evening that celebrated the essential role of the library. Held at the Busch Annapolis Library, the event raised over \$156,000 to support programs and resources not fully covered by public funding.

We are incredibly thankful to Jessica and Michael Beckerman and Barry and Ann McKown for their generous support as gold partners, which has a powerful impact on our programs and service to the community. We are deeply grateful for all our partners (listed below) whose support continues to enrich our community through expanded access to library resources.

Attendees enjoyed interactive engagement stations, which provided a firsthand look into the library's diverse range of services—from educational programs to digital resources—that benefit the entire community. Many left with a renewed appreciation for the library's role in supporting lifelong learning, as well as a reminder that public funding alone is not sufficient to cover all of the library's valuable programs.

Thank you to all of the people who made this event so successful! We look forward to welcoming even more community members to next year's event in 2025.



THANK YOU PARTNERS!

GOLD LEVEL PARTNERS
JESSICA & MICHAEL BECKERMAN • ANNE & BARRY MCKOWN

SILVER LEVEL PARTNERS
Martha O. Blaxall & Joe Dickey • Karen & Doug Smith •
Trish & Greg Strott • C.R. Tony Wheeler

BRONZE LEVEL PARTNERS
 A&G Management Company • Tessie & Joe Ballard • Bayview Builders
 Betsy Bender & Brian Lewbart • Jane Campbell-Chambliss & Peter Chambliss • Vanessa Carter
 James W. Cheevers • Katie & Kevin Cooke • Anna Greenberg • Linda & John Greene
 Mary Hagerty • Anne & Warren Hamel • Hollywood Farm • Stephen Holt/PPG Wealth • Jennifer
 & Bryan Klepper • Karie J. Knightly • Stacy & Matthew Korbelak • Mayer Warner Martin
 Damita & Jerome McDonald • Claire & David McGuinness • Medicine with a Mission
 Joyce C. Miller • John & Hee-Joo Park • Eloise & Chad Patton • Pherm Brewing Company
 Anne S. Potter • Praxis Engineering • Cindy Radovic • Gabriella Radovic • Diane Rinaldo & Adam
 Peterman • In Loving Memory of Deidre Sapp • Shore United Bank • The Snyder-Ervin Group at
 Morgan Stanley • Cathleen & Randy Sparrow • Joann & Bill Vaughan • Wrabyn

IN-KIND PARTNERS

Guests Learn First-Hand How Every \$ Makes a Difference

All who attended the library foundation's annual fundraising event in September were able to experience the impact donor support makes on the library, every day. Guests got a first-hand glimpse at some critical resources that are funded through donors like you such as the new driving simulator and the memory lab. Kindergarten readiness, music and movement and STEM/Makerspace resources were on display as well as the newly opened outdoor play area with benches and musical instruments. The lactation pod, recently installed at Discoveries: The Library at the Mall was shown via a SMART Board. All were donor funded.

Event guests learned that – with their library card – they can receive one-on-one training to learn to use equipment to digitize family photos, slides and home movies at the Odenton and Busch Annapolis branches. Guests delighted in literacy programs and the large-scale engineering building kit. Yes, the library even has sewing machines. (See photo, opposite page.)

Not all items are available at all locations since each branch works to serve their unique community needs when donor funding is available. Your support is needed to ensure your library is the best it can be.

We hope you attend next year's *For the Love of the Library* so you can see library offerings funded through donor support.



"This is such a joy to do — a drop in the bucket compared to the many joys the library provides for my family. Thanks for all you do every day!" — Nancy Patterson

Nancy's support, like every donation, makes a big difference for the Broadneck branch and all 16 library locations. AACPL looks forward to your child or grandchild finding their favorite toys in the Discovery Dock where literacy and learning go hand in hand. Interested in learning how your donation could impact the library? Development Manager Julie Kizer Ball, would be happy to talk about the best opportunity for you. Call 410-222-1199, or email jkizerball@aacpl.net.

Make the Library a Part of your Year-end Giving!
Likely something you or your family loves at the library is only made possible through donations!

This Gift	Provides
\$1,000	Heritage month activities, musical performances and programs Supplies for 1000 Books Before Kindergarten initiative for one branch Annual subscription for <i>Library Happenings</i> online Flipbook
\$500	Supplies for our hugely popular teen lock-in events Discovery Dock educational toy refresh for one branch
\$250	STEM hands-on learning activities, supplies and programs Sewing, mug press, iron and Cricut replenishment supplies in our Makerspaces. Temporary tattoo airbrush kit
\$100	Hotspot data for one year for one device Cricut subscription for a year for one branch Art supplies such as paints, colored pencils, charcoal and paper



Scan the code or visit aacpl.net/donate. Consider a monthly gift! Check the box and help provide supplies for over 6,700 programs per year.

Hands-on Fun at Broadneck Available to All

Nancy Patterson and her grandchildren (Cal and Cora, shown left) love the Broadneck Library. Nancy generously donated to enhance the children's area, funding a dollhouse, multicultural family dolls, animal and dinosaur sets and storage baskets. This gift fulfilled a long-time wish of the branch manager and brought immediate joy to children who now enjoy these new toys. Play is an important tenet of kindergarten readiness, a top priority for AACPL.

UPCOMING Events



Always Ice Cream February 2025

AACPL is teaming up with Always Ice Cream again in February to create a unique library-inspired flavor. This year, Pherm Brewing Company will be getting in on the fun with a special launch party on February 1. Stay tuned for details and find out more at aacpl.net/icecream.

Library Giving Week

April 1-5, 2025
 Funds raised during Library Giving Week primarily support our system-wide Summer @ Your Library program helping to keep kids, teens and adults reading all summer!

For more information scan this code or visit aacpl.net/foundation/events.



KINDERGARTEN READINESS



HORA DEL CUENTO BILINGÜE / BILINGUAL STORYTIME

Young children will enjoy stories, songs, rhymes and activities while building ready to read skills in English and Spanish.

Los niños pequeños disfrutarán de historias, canciones, rimas y actividades mientras desarrollan habilidades de lectura en inglés y en español.

Brooklyn Park

Tuesdays, December 3, January 7 and February 4 at 11:30 AM

Martes 3 de diciembre, 7 de enero y 4 de febrero a las 11:30 AM

Discoveries: The Library at the Mall

Fridays, December 13 and February 21 at 10:30 AM

Viernes 13 de diciembre y 21 de febrero a las 10:30 AM

Kindergarten readiness programs (Babies in Bloom, Toddler Time, Preschool Storytime and Family Storytime), which are listed on individual branch pages, will not be held Monday, December 23 through Tuesday, December 31 .

Eastport-Annapolis Neck

Saturdays, January 18 and February 15 at 10:30 AM

Sábados 18 de enero y 15 de febrero a las 10:30 AM

Glen Burnie

Saturdays, December 7 and 21, January 4 and February 1 and 15 at 10:30 AM

Sábados 7, 21 de diciembre, 4 de enero, 1 y 15 de febrero a las 10:30 AM

MUSIC AND MOVEMENT

Sing, chant, play instruments and dance while exploring sounds, rhythms and patterns that make up our language.



Broadneck

Fridays, December 13, January 10 and February 7 at 10:30 AM

Brooklyn Park

Fridays at 11:30 AM

 Saturday, January 11 at 11:30 AM

Busch Annapolis

Saturday, January 11 at 10:30 AM

Deale

Saturdays, December 28 and February 15 at 10:30 AM

Discoveries: The Library at the Mall

Fridays, December 6 and January 3 at 10:30 and 11:30 AM

Eastport-Annapolis Neck

Saturdays, December 7, January 4 and February 1 at 10 AM

Edgewater

Saturdays, December 7, January 4 and February 1 at 10:30 AM

Glen Burnie

Thursdays at 10 AM

Maryland City at Russett

Monday, December 16 at 5:30 PM

Severn

Saturdays, December 28, January 18 and February 22 at 10:30 AM

Severna Park

Saturdays, December 7, January 4 and February 1 at 10 AM

Thursdays, January 2 and February 6 at 5:30 PM

 Bilingual Program



Anne Arundel County Public Library Branches

All libraries are open Monday through Thursday: 10 AM to 8 PM and Friday and Saturday: 10 AM to 5 PM
Highlighted branches are open on Sundays, September through May only, from 1 to 5 PM

Broadneck

1275 Green Holly Dr., Annapolis, MD 21409
410-222-1905

Brooklyn Park

1 East 11th Ave., Baltimore, MD 21225
410-222-6260

Michael E. Busch Annapolis

1410 West St., Annapolis, MD 21401
410-222-1750

Crofton

1681 Riedel Rd., Crofton, MD 21114
410-222-7915

Deale

5940 Deale-Churchton Rd, Deale, MD 20751
410-222-1925 and 410-867-4164

Discoveries: The Library at the Mall

2550 Annapolis Mall Rd., Annapolis MD 21401
410-222-0133

Eastport-Annapolis Neck

269 Hillsmere Dr., Annapolis, MD 21403
410-222-3700

Edgewater

25 Stepneys Ln., Edgewater, MD 21037
410-222-1538

Glen Burnie (& Library by Mail)

1010 Eastway, Glen Burnie, MD 21060
410-222-6270

Linthicum

400 Shipley Rd., Linthicum, MD 21090
410-222-6265

Maryland City at Russett

3501 Russett Common, Laurel, MD 20724
410-222-1070

Mountain Road

4115 Mountain Rd., Pasadena, MD 21122
410-222-6699

Odenton

1325 Annapolis Rd., Odenton, MD 21113
410-222-6277

Riviera Beach

1130 Duvall Highway, Pasadena, MD 21122
410-222-6285

Severn

2624 Annapolis Rd., Severn, MD 21144
410-222-6280

Severna Park

45 W. McKinsey Rd., Severna Park, MD 21146
410-222-6290



Anyone needing special accommodations should contact the appropriate library branch at least seven days in advance of the event. TTY users, please call via Maryland Relay 7-1-1. All materials are available in an alternative format upon request.