



A FREE quarterly publication for KPL patrons and community members.

SEP, OCT & NOV 2020

It's Time to Go Back to School, Kalamazoo!

Your library has many resources and services available to assist teachers, caretakers, and students of all ages.

See inside for details.

We're Open

Central Library

Monday–Friday 10 am–6 pm,
Saturday 10 am–2 pm

Oshtemo Branch Library

Monday–Thursday 11 am–6pm,
Friday 11 am–5 pm,
Saturday 10 am–2 pm

Alma Powell Branch Library, Eastwood Branch Library & Washington Square Branch Library

Monday–Thursday 1–6 pm,
Friday 1–5 pm,
Saturday closed

***All locations are closed
on Sundays.**

**Learn more about what
to expect at your next visit
at kpl.gov**





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For many years, PRISM (formerly known as LINK) primarily served as a program guide that provided our patrons with a detailed list of KPL events. While our events are important, we felt that we were missing a prime opportunity to tell you not just about our new services, but also about the impact KPL is making in the community through our partnerships and innovation.

So, we redesigned it! Each new issue of PRISM will feature information about new services, recommend books, music and movies for all ages, share stories about how KPL is making a difference in your community, highlight some of our upcoming events and much more. We hope you enjoy the new PRISM! If you have feedback, please send it to mac@kpl.gov.

September Is Library Card Sign-up Month

Since 1987, *Library Card Sign-up Month* has been observed each September to mark the beginning of the school year. During the month, the American Library Association and libraries unite in a national effort to ensure every child signs up for their own library card.

Throughout the school year, public librarians and library staff assist parents and caregivers with saving hundreds of dollars on educational resources and services for students.

From free access to STEAM programs/activities, educational apps, virtual homework help, technology workshops, and the expertise of librarians, a library card is one of the most cost effective back-to-school supplies available.

If you don't currently have a KPL card, you can sign up for one at any KPL location or online at kpl.gov/getcarded. ▲



NEW and Updated Services



Back to School Resources

This fall, many students will be attending virtual classes instead of in-person classes. KPL offers many educational resources that can be accessed from home by teachers, students of all ages, and their parents/caregivers. Below are a few examples. Visit kpl.gov/homeworkhelp for a complete list of available databases.

- **PebbleGo:** a curricular content hub specifically designed for K-3. Includes informational articles, ready-made activities, and literacy support for students of all abilities.
- **Britannica School:** resources at four levels—Learning Zone, Elementary, Middle, and High School. Contains resources for subjects such as people, countries, science, animals, current events, and biographies.
- **LearningExpress Library:** Support for students and professionals in skill-building, test prep, and career certification. Includes GED prep.
- **Explora for Elementary, Middle School & High School:** features relevant and reliable content and easy-to-use functionality to help students of all ages successfully complete their research.
- **Opposing Viewpoints in Context:** Contextual information and opinions on today's hottest social issues.

Teachers, students and caregivers can also find instructional videos on Lynda.com and *Hoopla*. Also available on *Hoopla* are movies, music and television shows. Music lovers can find even more to jam to by browsing our collection on *Freegal*. All of these great resources can be found at kpl.gov. ▲

KPL TV

What are you watching these days, Hulu? Netflix? KPL TV?



Wait, what? You haven't heard of KPL TV?

KPL TV offers programming for all ages at every time of day. Book talks, read alouds, how to do it, craft videos, interactive community gatherings, storytimes and an archive of past KPL programming! Tune in at kpl.gov/videos. ▲

OnePlace@KPL offers webinars, virtual peer learning groups, and online videos including sessions on grant writing, equity, sustainability, and more! Visit kpl.gov/venue/oneplacekpl-webinar/ for a list of upcoming virtual programs. ▲



NEW and Updated Services



Welcome Back, MeLCat

MeLCat is back! The MeL (Michigan Electronic Library) Catalogue (MeLCat) is ready to serve patrons who are looking for something that KPL may not have in our collection. MeLCat users can browse the collections of 170+ libraries across the state to find books, CDs, DVDs, musical scores, manuscripts, and other materials that can be sent to your preferred KPL Location! Visit kpl.gov/patron-support/reference/melcat to learn about eligibility and how to borrow materials through MeLCat. ▲



Creativebug is the award-winning destination for high-quality online art and craft video classes. Now available on KPL's digital catalog, makers can find more than 1000+ award-winning HD instructional videos on drawing, painting, sewing, knitting, crochet, quilting, baking, and more. All classes are taught by experts with new classes added daily! Learn more at kpl.gov/elearn. ▲

ViaMail

If you are unable to travel to KPL, you may still borrow materials from the library with ViaMail. Library staff will help you find materials including books, CDs, and DVDs, then mail them to your home with a free return envelope. To qualify for this service, you must be a resident card holder and unable to come to the library due to mobility limitations, illness, or other disabilities. To access this service, please visit kpl.gov/viamail. ▲

eBook Requests

Searching for an eBook but can't find what you are looking for? We can order it for you! Please visit kpl.gov/itemrequest to complete our online form. ▲

The Friends Bookstore Is Now Open!

The news you have all been waiting for: The Friends Bookstore is open! Hours are Thursday & Friday, 10 am-4 pm and Saturday, 10 am-2 pm. Please note that due to concerns regarding COVID-19 contamination, we are not accepting book donations until further notice. Stay updated on Friends news and book sales at kpl.gov/friends. ▲



Lynda.com

Learn more at: kpl.gov/elearn

Lynda.com is a premier online learning resource offering more than 4,000 courses covering technical skills, creative techniques, business strategies, and more. Now available on KPL's digital catalog, patrons can access instructional videos on numerous topics including:

- Art, graphic design, and music classes, teaching everything from 3D animation to engineering sound to the Adobe Creative Suite (Photoshop, InDesign, and more).
- Help with computer programs, including videos on how to use Microsoft Office.
- Courses that can help you in your career—everything from public speaking to marketing to dealing with workplace issues.
- Computer programming, IT management (Windows, Linux, and Mac OS X), and web design.
- Photography, videography, and more! ▲



DAFA Partnership Provides Internet Access to Hundreds of Kalamazoo Households

By Farrell Howe, KPL Marketing & Communications Manager

KPL is partnering with Kalamazoo Public Schools, The Kalamazoo Promise, the Kalamazoo Community Foundation, and the City of Kalamazoo, to provide Wi-Fi hotspots with unlimited internet service for one year to hundreds of households in Kalamazoo.

The partnership, known as Digital Access for All (DAFA) was quickly formed to address internet access inequities in Kalamazoo, an issue that became more exacerbated during the executive order that closed schools, libraries, and many local businesses that used to serve as Wi-Fi providers for many families.

“Access to the internet is more of a necessity than a luxury, even without a pandemic,” stated KPL Director Ryan Wieber. “It is essential for learning, research, banking, collaborating, and a critical part of education in itself.”

Eligible Kalamazoo Public School (KPS) students were able to check out a hotspot for one year using their OneCard, a KPL & KPS partnership that also allows students to borrow books, movies, music and more from the library and provides high school students free Metro bus transportation. Learn more about OneCard and the DAFA partnership at kpl.gov/dafa. ▲



KPL's staff preparing hot spots for Kalamazoo residents.

Covering Kalamazoo, One Mask at a Time

By Ruth Wilson, KPL Library Assistant

Ruth Wilson donated her time and talent to create cloth masks for the Kalamazoo Community and KPL staff.

It's not often that sewing skills are called for to help in a national emergency! Fortunately, we sewists tend to have vast reserves of fabric and thread we can devote to it. I like to make my face masks out of quilting cottons because they come in nice colors and prints, and they go through the laundry beautifully. About 80 of my masks have gone to friends, co-workers and family; right now, they're going to the Gospel Mission.

I use a streamlined, speedy pattern that takes about ten minutes start to finish, but it's more efficient to do them in assembly-line style in batches. I use two sewing machines, one with light thread and one with dark so I never have to change colors, and I make the ties on a serger. After you've made your first few, you start thinking of ways to improve the process so you can get more done.

Here's a link to my favorite free "quick and easy" mask tutorial. Take a look and maybe give it a try! ▲

pinsandneedles.com/maskchallenge



More Than 1,500 Books Were Donated to Local Children Thanks to KPL Partnership with Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes

By Jill Lansky, KPL Youth Outreach Coordinator

When Kalamazoo Public Library's buildings closed, we quickly had to pivot our planning and continue to find ways to access our community. We looked to places like Loaves & Fishes that were open and providing much-needed services to our community. KPL donated more than 1,500 books that Loaves & Fishes distributed to school-age children during April, May, and June.

We all know that learning during COVID-19 has looked different and access to materials and technology has become crucial. Providing print books during this time has been an exciting new partnership and one that we hope to continue and grow into our post-pandemic planning.

From Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes:

Providing food to families in need is our primary mission, but over the past few months, we've been able to do so much more. By partnering with the KPL, we've been able to distribute books to kids, too! Hearing the words of appreciation from moms and dads who were happy to know books were an option is incredible, but seeing the excitement in a child's eyes is an electric jolt of optimism and energy.

From the middle school-aged brothers who were excited to learn more about American history to the 1st grader who was excited to learn about jungle habitats or even a teenager who was thrilled to receive a book that was new and relevant and hers to keep. These books have provided a glimmer of hope during a chaotic time and we're honored to be able to fill cupboards and minds. ▲



PFC's Change for Change Program Raised \$1,681 for KPL's Ready to Read Program in March

By Jill Lansky, KPL Youth Outreach Coordinator

KPL was selected to be PFC's (People's Food Co-op) March Change for Change program, where shoppers are asked to round up their purchase to the nearest dollar and the "change" is donated to the featured nonprofit of the month. Huge thank you to PFC and the Kalamazoo community for supporting Ready to Read and helping us raise \$1,681!

For more than 20 years, KPL has led a county-wide early literacy initiative called Ready to Read which encourages parents and caregivers to share books with children from birth to five years of age. Educational research shows that reading aloud to children is the best way to prepare them for learning to read. We know that children who start kindergarten being familiar with books are more likely to become good readers and achieve academic success. Also, a recent study shows strong evidence that effective book giveaway programs require a 2-generational approach that both supports the parent's skills and provides the book for the child. Learn more about this study at reachoutandread.org.

Ready to Read collaborates with pediatricians, prenatal and family educators, and many community partners who serve children and families. In 2020, we are expanding this partnership to include six new family practice locations and the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Bronson Methodist Hospital.

In addition to providing gift books through community partners, Ready to Read celebrates early literacy annually through an event called Party in the Park. Although we will not be able to host our in-person events this year, we will provide books this fall at two neighboring libraries. See the Children's section of this issue of Prism for more details on the Fall Party in the Park packet pickup. To learn more about Ready to Read, please visit kpl.gov/children/ready-to-read. ▲





Aerial photo by Fritz Klug. Photos by Natalie Isham.

When KPL Library Assistant Jermaine Jackson saw the coverage of the massive Black Lives Matter street mural in Washington, D.C. he wondered, “Can we do something like this in Kalamazoo?” It was June 12th, and he knew the best, most impactful day to unite the Kalamazoo community through a project like this would be June 19th, also known as *Juneteenth*. *Juneteenth* is the oldest, nationally-celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States. Dating back to 1865, it was on June 19th that Union soldiers landed in Galveston, Texas with news that the war had ended and that the enslaved were now free. With less than 1 week to pull this project together, Jermaine first reached out to Kalamazoo Mayor David Anderson for permission to paint a Black Lives Matter mural on Rose Street between Lovell and South Street. The Mayor readily agreed and Jermaine immediately reached out to local artists, businesses, community partners, and Kalamazoo Public Library to put a plan together. The project began with commissioning printing company KalBlue who would print and place the stencil on Rose Street for painting. Jermaine then reached out to local artists Paul Sizer, Lesley Serri, Darien Burrell, Gerald King and

Jamari Taylor to collaborate with each other on design. With direction from Jermaine and other community members, the artists incorporated various impactful words, symbols and themes into the design to visually tell the story of Black Lives Matter and the impact of the movement in Kalamazoo. Kalamazoo Public Library offered Central’s parking lot for supplies and water and the Facilities Management Department provided electricity and set up tents for the volunteers. Staff from KPL’s Community Engagement Department, Youth and Teen Services volunteered to assist the painters and provided supplies including chalk that would be used to fill the sidewalk next to the library with supportive messages from the community. Kalamazoo businesses and downtown churches also stepped up and sent volunteers as well as donated supplies and money that were used to pay for the paint supplies, a DJ, photographers and even provided a stipend for the participating artists. Juneteenth was a scorching hot day. Hundreds of volunteers from all demographics came from Kalamazoo, Portage, Battle Creek, and beyond to work on painting the stenciled design. Jermaine recalls, “People from all walks of life, (continued on page 7 ...)



black, white, Latinx and others, all economic levels, they all came together. We had a person in a wheelchair who painted and we also were able to assist a blind teenager with painting.” Hundreds more came to watch the process as the mural blossomed from stenciled words to a brightly colored, highly impactful work of art. DJ Chuck kept the party going all day while local photographers and media staff used drones to capture the mural coming to life. Volunteers passed out water and refreshed paint supplies. Despite the heat, the artists, volunteers, painters, and community participants stayed all day to witness the mural come to life and to clean up afterwards. Long after the paint has dried, local businesses have continued the work of spreading the BLM message. Fritz Klug expertly turned the final street mural design into a graphic that would be printed on t-shirts for sale by local business owner Michael Beyene of Kalamagonia. A local mother/daughter Theresa & Savannah team designed buttons and masks featuring the design. Posters and other promotional items are also in production. Local independent bookstore Bookbug | this is a bookstore provided space in their store to purchase these items. 100% of the proceeds benefits local black-owned businesses. These items sold out quickly but Bookbug is expecting more in the coming weeks. The Kalamazoo Black Lives Matter street mural is not just a beautiful work of art. It is a statement, a testament, a commitment from the Kalamazoo community and beyond that we will stand with our Black brothers and sisters in unity and will walk with them, arm in arm, fists raised in the air and tell the world in one voice that Black Lives Matter and we won’t stop until that statement is no longer needed. Jermaine summed up the efforts of that historical day perfectly. “The power of love is greater than the power of hate any day. That’s what this day was all about. Love.” ▲



Fall Recommended Books, Movies and Music for All Ages



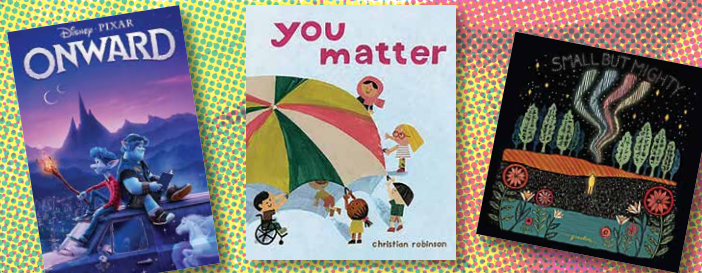
ADULT

For more recommendations, visit kpl.gov and click on the Collections tab.



TEEN

For more recommendations, visit kpl.gov/teen



CHILDREN

For more recommendations, visit kpl.gov/children/read-watch-listen/

KPL Events

In order to mitigate the risk of spreading COVID-19, KPL **will not be offering in-person programming until further notice**. We are, however, always adding new online events for all ages. Some highlights are featured on the following pages. Visit kpl.gov to view the complete and up-to-date list of programs scheduled this fall.

KPL LOCATION INFO:

CEN **553-7800**
Central Library
315 S. Rose St.



EAS **553-7810**
Eastwood Branch Library
1112 Gayle Ave.



OSH **553-7980**
Oshtemo Branch Library
7265 W. Main St.

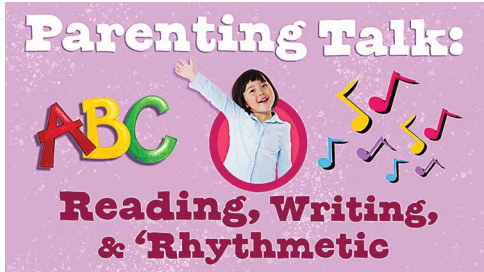


POW **553-7960**
Alma Powell Branch Library
1000 W. Paterson St.



WSQ **553-7970**
Washington Square Branch Library
1244 Portage St.

Parenting and Birth-5



Parenting Talk:
ABC Reading, Writing, & 'Rhythmic'


Parenting Talk: Reading, Writing, and 'Rhythmic'
Tuesdays, September 15, October 13 & November 17 | 10:30 am | Online
Parenting Talk connects community resource specialists with preschool children and their adults in an online environment that's informative and lots of fun! Everyday child-led play with books and music is great fun for growing brains! Join in with interactive Zoom meetings the first Tuesday in September, October, and November at 10:30 am with Melissa Ludwa, early childhood music educator. Music learning supports ALL learning—so come sing, dance, and play your way to a healthy brain!



It's Storytime!

It's Storytime!
Wednesdays | 10:30 am | Online
September 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
October 7, 14, 21, 28
November 4, 11, 18, 25
Saturdays | 10:30 am | Online
September 5, 12, 19, 26
October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
November 7, 14, 21, 28
Songs and rhymes, stories and fun for babies and preschoolers and their caregivers.

KPL @ Home
Pick up a craft bag at any KPL location to make at home. New content each month September, October, November.

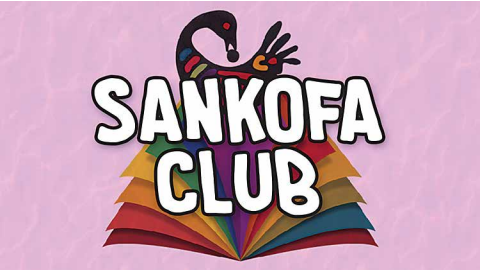


Ready to Read

Ready to Read
Week of September 14
Vicksburg District Library, vicksburglibrary.org, 215 S. Michigan, Vicksburg
Week of October 5
Galesburg-Charleston Memorial District Library, galesburglibrary.org, 188 E. Michigan, Galesburg
Ready to Read hosts several events each year to celebrate early literacy in Kalamazoo County. We love our signature event Party in the Park and have taken it on the road to Vicksburg and Galesburg in recent years. We are unable to host our in-person parties this fall, but we are still able to provide our gift bags! Stop by the Vicksburg District Library during the week of September 14 and the Galesburg-Charleston Memorial District Library the week of October 5. Each bag contains a snack and a book to keep. Ages 0-5. While supplies last. Check each location for updated hours.

Virtual Events for CHILDREN & FAMILY

Grades K-5



SANKOFA CLUB

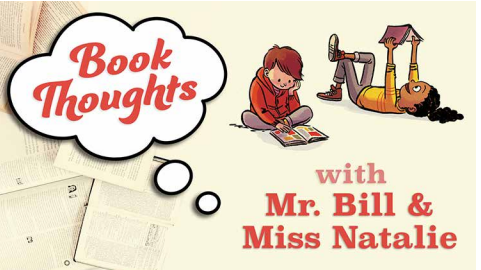
Sankofa Club
Tuesdays, October 27 & November 24 4:30-5:30 pm | Online
A virtually engaging club for kids in 2nd to 4th grade. We will read together, do science experiments, make creative artworks, and challenge our coding & math skills. All materials and books will be provided. **Call the Alma Powell Branch at (269) 553-7960 for more information.**



AIR ZOO
Aerospace & Science Experience
SCIENCE STORIES in the Stars

Air Zoo Science Stories in the Stars
Tuesday, October 13th | 6 pm | Online
Description: Before the internet, before television, before even radio, people entertained each other with stories. People from Ancient Greeks and Indigenous people to Americans escaping slavery on the Underground Railroad used the stars to navigate and to tell stories. They made pictures out of the shapes in the night sky that we call constellations today. Visit our portable STARLAB planetarium to learn about some of these stories and view the constellations that are the same as they were from time immemorial. Then come up with your own stories for familiar star groupings, make a constellation telescope to view the stars, and communicate secret messages as in *Follow the Drinking Gourd*. Registrations online at kpl.gov and the Air Zoo will provide each registrant a unique password to attend the live Zoom program.

Family



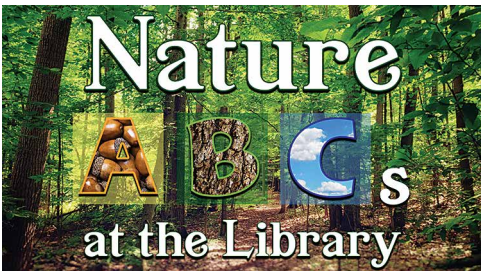
Book Thoughts
with **Mr. Bill & Miss Natalie**

Book Thoughts with Mr. Bill and Miss Natalie
Tuesday, September 1, Thursday, October 1 & Monday, November 2 | 7 pm | Online
Listen in for a conversation with Mr. Bill and Miss Natalie about exciting new books for all ages in KPL's Children's and Teen collections.



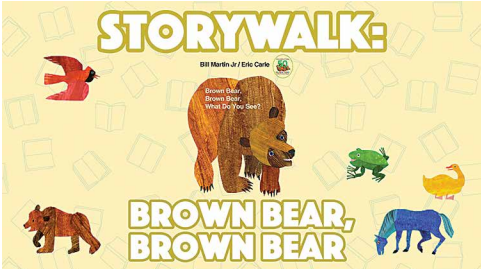
Bookworms

Bookworms
Tuesdays, September 8, October 13 & November 10 | 6-7pm | Online
A book club for families! Pick up your copy of the book at any KPL location or provide your address to have it mailed. Register in advance to receive the Zoom invite.
September: *The Season of Styx Malone* by Kekla Magoon
October: *Blended* by Sharon Draper
November: *Me and Sam-Sam Handle the Apocalypse* by Susan Vaught



Nature ABCs at the Library

Nature ABCs at the Library
Months of October & November | Open Hours Outside at the Oshtemo Branch Library
Find Acorns, Birds, Caterpillars and more as you explore outside at the Oshtemo Branch Library. Stop inside to get your clues and then head outside to stretch your legs and find the whole alphabet together. ABC search available anytime. Activity kits available while supplies last.



STORYWALK:
BROWN BEAR, BROWN BEAR

Storywalk: Brown Bear, Brown Bear
Months of September & October | Open Hours Outside at the Oshtemo Branch Library
"Brown Bear, Brown Bear, what do you see? We see stories at the Library." Visit the Oshtemo Branch Library grounds to experience a Storywalk®. Build early literacy and observation skills as you move together from sign to sign. Complete interactive activities and see what you can see through the familiar pages of *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* by Bill Martin, Jr.

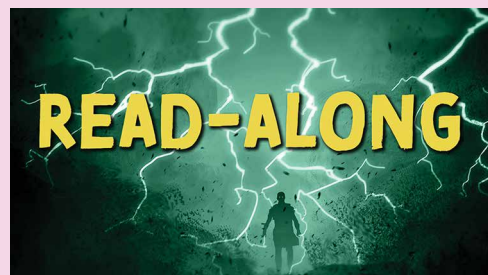
Event Registration

All Kalamazoo Public Library events are free and open to the public unless otherwise indicated in the event description. A library card is not required to attend. Events where space is limited may require prior registration or a free ticket to attend. **Registration** and ticket requirements are indicated in the event description. Patrons who require special accommodations can submit their request to the event coordinator by calling (269) 553-7800 or emailing events@kpl.gov.



Virtual Events for TEENS

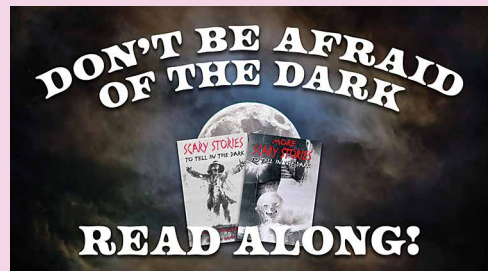
All Ages



Read-Along!

Monday–Friday, September, October & November | 3 pm | Online

Visit our YouTube channel to listen and read family favorites with librarians from KPL! Upcoming videos to include *Percy Jackson and the Olympians*, *Sea Queens: Women Pirates from around the World*, the *Artemis Fowl* series, and many more.



Don't Be Afraid of the Dark Read-Along!
Saturdays, October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 | 8 pm | Online

A special edition of our Read Along! program featuring scary stories befitting the Halloween season. A wide variety of stories, some scarier than others, to be read by librarians including *Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark!*

Grades 6–12

Creative Writing Wednesday

Every Wednesday, September, October & November | 1 pm | Online

KPL is hosting a creative writing program on Wednesdays for Teens. Teen writers need to visit *BookRix* and create their own free account, then search for KPL-Creative Writing Wednesdays and request to join. Once they have an account, participants can upload their submissions. Each Wednesday will feature a different writing prompt.

KPL@Home: Teens!

September, October, November | Open Hours CEN, EAS, OSH & WSQ

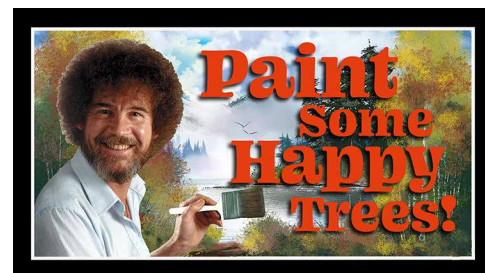
Pick up and activity bag at a participating location. New activities each month while supplies last.

Zombie Apocalypse Supply Hunt

Months of September & October

Open Hours | OSH

Stagger into the Oshtemo Library for a list of clues and a map that will lead you to your supplies. The supplies will be hidden throughout the Oshtemo Township Park. Next to each supply will be a word that you may write down to form a sentence. Bring the completed sentence back to the library for a prize!



Paint Some Happy Trees!

Tuesdays, September 8, October 6, & November 10 | Open Hours | CEN & OSH ^R

Let's get creative and paint some trees, in true Bob Ross fashion. Each month will feature a different theme but will always include trees in some way. Stop by the Teen Area to pick up your supplies. Instructional video will be posted online. No previous painting experience required; the goal is to have some fun and make some art, as Bob Ross always said, "We don't make mistakes, just happy little accidents." Pick up at a participating location. Registration required.

Wellness Wednesdays for Teens!

Wednesdays, September 16, October 14 & November 18 | 2 pm | Online

These videos will feature health and wellness tips from yoga instructor Gena, a certified nutritionist. Videos will include instructions for stretching, good sleep hygiene, and the importance of taking care of yourself.



Jar Gardens, Gr. 6–12

Monday, October 12 | Open Hours CEN, OSH & WSQ ^R

Looking to create your own garden? Come to OSH, WSQ, or the Teen Desk as CEN to get your own DIY home garden kit. Registration required.



Meet the Author: Alicia D. Williams

Wednesday, October 28 | TIME TBA | Online

Join Kalamazoo Public Library and Kalamazoo Public Schools for an exciting interview with award-winning author Alicia D. Williams! Williams is the author of *Genesis Begins Again*, which received a Newbery and Kirkus Prize honors, was a William C. Morris Award finalist, and for which she won the Coretta Scott King—John Steptoe Award for New Talent. A graduate of the MFA program at Hamline University, and an oral storyteller in the African American tradition, she is also a teacher in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Hear Williams development process for writing her books, including the acclaimed *Genesis Begins Again*. Copies are available while supplies last via pickup or mailed. **Contact Jill Lansky at (269) 553-7885 or email JillL@kpl.gov for more details or to request a book.**

Bullet Journaling

Monday, November 16 | Open Hours CEN & OSH ^R

Explore your creative side with our take-home bullet journaling kits, to keep! Comes with your own journal, and pouch filled with neat goodies like pens, stickers, and washi tape. Pick up at a participating location. Registration required.



Pet Parade

November 16–20 | Online

Want to share a cute picture of your pet with the KPL community, and enter for a chance to win a cool prize? Post your entries on Instagram using the **#kplpets**. KPL Teen Staff will then announce the winners on the 23rd and will contact the winners directly. Categories are Cutest, Weirdest, and Best Cosplay. No registration required, but entries must be posted on Instagram and properly tagged to be considered.



Virtual Events for ADULTS

Reading Race Book Group

Tuesday, September 8 | 6:30–8pm | Online ^R
Tuesday, November 10 | 6:30–8pm | Online ^R

This book group, co-sponsored by the Society for History and Racial Equity (SHARE) and KPL's Antiracism Transformation Team, focuses on race and racism in American society. Join us virtually for a discussion of *Thick* by Tressie McMillan Cottom in September, and *Sabrina & Corina* by Kali Fajardo-Anstine in November. Registration required.

Meet the Author: Michael Zadoorian

Monday, September 14 | 7 pm | Online ^R

Best-selling Detroit author Micahel Zadoorian, author of *The Leisure Seeker* and *Beautiful Music* talks about his latest book, *The Narcissism of Small Differences*. Set in bottomed-out 2009 Detroit, a once-great American city now in transition, part decaying and part striving to be reborn, *The Narcissism of Small Differences* is the story of an aging creative class, doomed to ask the questions: Is it possible to outgrow irony? Does not having children make you one? Is there even such a thing as selling out anymore? This program is online. Please register to receive a link to attend.

Baseball Book Discussion League

Thursday, September 17 | 6:30 pm | Online ^R
Thursday, October 15 | 6:30 pm | Online ^R

Baseball has inspired hundreds of amazing books on players, teams, seasons, and games. No sport can evoke seemingly endless hours of conversation as well as baseball. Fans of both reading and baseball now have an outlet to share their love of America's Pastime! *The Baseball Book Discussion League* (or BBDL) meets each month to discuss one of the many different topics in baseball literature. Step up to the plate and share where your baseball loyalties lie. Discussion take place online, until further notice. Please register.

September 17: Era/Season (Read a book about a specific era or season.)

October 15: Black Baseball (Read a book about players, teams or the Negro Leagues.)

For Colored Girls Book Club

Monday, September 28 | 6:30 pm | Online ^R

Named after the 1970s Ntozake Shange play, this book club celebrates the beauty, strength, and power of Black, Indigenous, and phenomenal women of color around the world through literature. Join us for a virtual discussion of *Dominicana* by Angie Cruz. Registration required. This program is open to people of all genders, races, and nationalities.

Page Turners Book Club

Mondays, October 5 & November 2 | 6:30–7:30 pm | Online ^R

Engage in a thought-provoking conversation about books, exchange perspectives, and get to know your neighbors—virtually! Due to the COVID-19 shutdown, we'll be holding the meetings online. Please register so we can contact you with information on when and how to connect online!

October 5—Fruit of the Drunken Tree by Ingrid Rojas Contreras

November 2—There There by Tommy Orange

It's Crime We Talk:

A True Crime Book Club

Tuesday, October 13 | 6:30–7:30 pm | Online ^R

Have you watched every episode of *Forensic Files*, or listened to every episode of *Serial* or *My Favorite Murder*? Then join your fellow true crime enthusiasts and murderinos for this true crime book club where we'll talk about our favorite books, television series, and podcasts of the genre. Join us virtually for a discussion of *The Road to Jonestown: Jim Jones and Peoples Temple* by Jeff Guinn. Registration required.

43rd Annual Youth Literature Seminar

Friday, November 13 | 8:30 am–3:30 pm Online

Join us virtually for our 43rd Annual Youth Literature Seminar featuring award-winning authors, illustrators, educators, and special guest speakers! Participants can also join breakout sessions to discuss various topics inspired by this year's theme which focuses on trauma-informed teaching of history and how that history shapes our lives today.

KPL is honored to welcome our featured author/speaker Candace Fleming! Candace is the versatile and acclaimed author of more than forty books for children and young adults, including the Los Angeles Times Book Prize honored *The Family Romanov: Murder, Rebellion, and the Fall of the Russian Empire*; Boston Globe/Horn Book Award-winning biography, *The Lincolns*; the bestselling picture book, *Muncha! Muncha! Muncha!*; the Sibert-Award-winning *Giant Squid*; and the beloved *Boxes for Katje*. She also contributed the chapter on Katharine of Aragon for the book *Fatal Throne*.

Additional YLS speaker information, registration information, and guidelines can be found at kpl.gov/yls.

Old House Owners Workshop (OHOW) Video Series

OHOW is a program of the City of Kalamazoo's Historic Preservation Commission. OHOW seeks to create educational programs that help old house owners understand their buildings - how and when they were built, and how to keep them in good repair. Whether owners plan to do work themselves or be educated in talking with craftspeople and contractors about needed repairs, OHOW can help!

Most houses constructed before 1950 were built with "double hung" wood windows, which are not only beautiful, functional and "Green" but also pretty simple to understand and maintain. In these three short sessions, North Coast Window Works owner Peter Carroll joins Kalamazoo's Historic Preservation Coordinator Sharon Ferraro and OHOW planning committee member Lenae Powell-Wilson to answer common window questions.

The following videos will air on KPL TV, located on KPL's website at kpl.gov/videos

How to Understand Your Window

Thursday, September 10 | 6 pm | KPL TV

Learn about window anatomy, and how stiles, meeting rails and other parts work together to make your windows function.

How to Install Spring Bronze Weatherstripping

Thursday, October 8 | 6 pm | KPL TV

Bronze? On my windows? Yes! But where and why?

How to Unstick a Painted Window

Thursday, November 12 | 6 pm | KPL TV

Has anyone with an old house NOT run into this? Learn how to free your sash for optimum window performance.

Inside the Artist's Studio

Thursdays, September 3, 10 & 17 | 4:30 PM | Online ^R

Join us for a special online tour of a local artists' studio! In September, we'll get the inside scoop on what it's like being a professional artist and see how some of their work gets made. We'll visit with 3 different artists, who produce a variety of amazing and beautiful work—comics and illustrations, murals, and jewelry! Please register to receive the link to attend the event.



Note from the Director



Ryan Wieber
KPL Director

Since reopening its doors for library service on June 22, KPL has been providing basic library services to residents at all five library locations, albeit with reduced hours and reduced activities. Adhering to capacity restrictions, safety protocols, 4-day quarantining of all returned materials, and increased cleaning of high-touch areas, we are focused on providing a safe environment for patrons and staff.

Reduced hours, seating, and computer usage will continue through the fall, and all onsite and outreach visiting programs are off the calendar. Popular events like *1st Grade Visits*, *First Saturdays*, *Global Reading Challenge*, *GeekFest*, and the *Great Grown Up Spelling Bee*—and many others—are either postponed, canceled, or “virtually” modified. Instead, the library is developing an increased offering of online programming for patrons.

Students, families, and educators adapting to changes in education brought on by the pandemic can count on digital resources available through the library to supplement online learning. Educational databases and reference resources abound for all grade levels at kpl.gov/databases. These include encyclopedias, magazines and scholarly journals, newspapers, and *Michigan eLibrary* (MeL). *Rocket Languages*

is an interactive language learning system accessible for home use. The library’s collection of ebooks is accessed by searching the online catalog, and additional titles can be requested at kpl.gov/itemrequest. A rich and growing collection of educational videos, story times, author visits, local history presentations and more can be found at *KPL TV* on the library’s website. Visit *eLearn* on the site and discover *Lynda.com* and its wealth of online courses covering education, business, design, software and technology. This is an incredible resource, and it can also be searched and accessed through the online catalog.

ONEplace@KPL is the center for nonprofit support in Kalamazoo, and during the COVID-19 crisis it remained busy meeting the needs of individuals and local organizations by providing board training, peer learning group opportunities, professional development, and capacity-building sessions for nonprofits. Staff conducted 45 programs, attended by 1,076 virtual attendees. Visit kpl.gov/oneplace for the latest calendar of offerings.

Lastly, KPL’s new Mobile Library recently arrived! Its intended use for popup and drop-in outreach events, neighborhood centers, and school visits has been delayed because of the current health situation, however you may encounter it on the road as it travels between branches making deliveries. Stay tuned for news on its future outreach use. ▲



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