



PRISM

A FREE quarterly publication for KPL patrons and community members.

March, April, May 2023



Join Ed Genesis and Gabriel Giron from Speak It Forward...

More details on page 7



Guardians of Michigan with Jeff Morrison and Lynn Houghton...

More details on page 11



Form a team of three and register today!

More details on page 8

You and your preschool children will enjoy this very special story hour in Bronson Park with costumed characters, community readers, an early literacy gift with a book and snack for each child included.

26th Annual Celebration!

PARTY IN THE PARK

Wednesday, May 24 | 10–11 am

Bring a blanket to sit on at Bronson Park

Details on page 5...

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KPL Current Hours

Alma Powell Branch (POW)
Monday, 1-6 pm | Tuesday, 1-8 pm
Wednesday, 1-6 pm | Thursday, 10 am-6 pm
Friday, 10 am-5 pm | Saturday, 10 am-2 pm
Sunday, CLOSED

Central Library (CEN)
Monday-Thursday, 9 am-8 pm
Friday, 9 am-6 pm | Saturday, 10 am-5 pm
Sunday, 1-5 pm

Eastwood Branch (EAS)
Monday, 1-8 pm
Tuesday-Wednesday, 1-6 pm
Thursday, 10 am-6 pm | Friday, 10 am-5 pm
Saturday, 10 am-2 pm | Sunday, CLOSED

Oshtemo Branch (OSH)
Monday-Tuesday, 10 am-8 pm
Wednesday-Thursday, 10 am-6 pm
Friday-Saturday, 10 am-5 pm
Sunday, CLOSED

Washington Square Branch (WSQ)
Monday-Tuesday, 1-6 pm
Wednesday, 1-8 pm | Thursday, 10 am-6 pm
Friday, 10 am-5 pm | Saturday, 10 am-2 pm
Sunday, CLOSED

Library Hours are subject to change.
Please visit kpl.gov or call (269) 553-7800
for current information about library service
locations and hours.

Spring Mobile Library Stops

Get your library card and check out materials!

Park Street Market | 512 N. Park St.
March 21, April 18, May 16 | 4-5:30 pm

Ecumenical Senior Center | 702 N. Burdick St.
March 16, April 20, May 18 | 11 am-12 pm

Lodge House | 1211 S. Westnedge Ave.
March 28, April 25, May 23 | 10 am-11 am

Texas Township | 7110 W. Q Ave.
March 17, April 11, May 24 | 10 am-11:30 am
March 30, May 8 | 1:30-3 pm
April 28 | 3-4:30 pm ▲



FRIENDS Bookstore



Best Sellers | Children's Books | History | Cookbooks | Fine Arts | Science | Health | Classics | Religion | Philosophy | Sci-Fi | DVDs | CDs | Audio Books | Gardening | Do It Yourself | Mysteries | Biographies | Arts and Crafts | & More





80% of our offerings are priced at \$2 or less.

As you walk through the doors of this wonderful small store, you will find more than 10,000 gently used books both fiction and non fiction. ▲

🕒 **Wed: Noon – 6:00 p.m.**
Thu – Sat: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

📍 **315 S. Rose St. Kalamazoo, MI 49007**

Women's History Month Series
In celebration of Women's History Month, we are offering a very special line-up of programs that focus on a different woman from history and her contributions to the world.



Excavate with Mary
Thursday, March 2
4-5 pm | OSH/Community Room
Follow in legendary kid paleontologist Mary Anning's footsteps and dig up your own dinosaur fossil! Come learn about Mary and the different dinos she dug up. What will you discover? Best enjoyed by ages 4-10. Registration requested, but not required. **R**



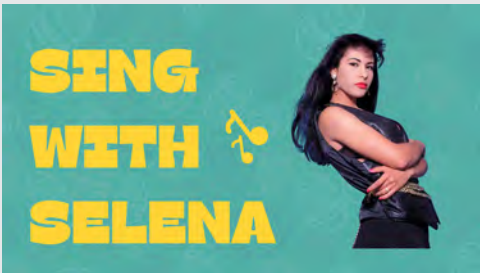
Code with Ada
Tuesday, March 7
4-5 pm | OSH/Community Room
We're celebrating Ada Lovelace, the first computer programmer, with coding activities. Drop in to learn more about Ada and have fun learning how to code. **No registration required.**



Build with Katherine
Tuesday, March 28
4-5 pm | OSH/Community Room
Come celebrate STEAM legend Katherine Johnson by building your own rocketship. Work with a team to assemble your ship and see how high you can get it to fly. The rocket kit is for ages 8-12. **Please register. **R****



Dissent with Ruth
March 27 - March 31
Open Hours | CEN/Children's Room
Stop by the Central Library Children's Room during the week of March 27, and dissent with Ruth! We will have different critical thinking prompts available, as well as activities and books dedicated to the powerful former Supreme Court Justice, Ruth Bader Ginsburg. **No registration required.**



Sing with Selena
March 27 - March 31
Open Hours | CEN/Children's Room
Stop by the Central Library Children's Room during the week of March 27, and sing with Selena! We will have a karaoke machine available for use, as well as activities and books dedicated to the amazing "Queen of Tejano music," Selena Quintanilla Pérez. **No registration required.**



Tween Graphic Novel Club
Wednesdays, March 1, April 5, May 3
4-5 pm | OSH/Community Room
Come to the library each month to discuss the monthly graphic novel selection. Enjoy snacks, an activity, and discussion with fellow comic lovers. Free copies to keep can be picked up at Oshtemo Branch Library one month prior to the discussion date. **Recommended for grades 3-6. No registration required.**
March: *The Okay Witch* by Emma Steinkellner
April: *A Wrinkle in Time: The Graphic Novel* by Madeleine L'Engle
May: *Green Lantern: Legacy* by Minh Le



Very Hungry Caterpillar Day
March 20-March 27
Open Hours | All Locations
Stop by all KPL locations during the week of March 20 and pick up a gift bag celebrating *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. Bags will include a book to keep, activities, and more. Best enjoyed by preschoolers. **While supplies last.**

Science Action Club: Bird Scouts
Thursdays, April 6 - May 11
4:30-5:30 pm | OSH/Community Room
Join us for a 6-week session of KPL's Science Action Club for 2nd - 5th graders! Please register and plan to attend all 6 sessions. Bird Scouts explores feathers, flight, and the features that make birds unique. Using tools and technology, youth identify local species and investigate environmental changes that impact bird behavior. The checklists youth submit to eBird—a citizen science project from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology—help scientists track changes in bird distribution and abundance across the globe. We'll be inside and outside (weather permitting). All supplies provided. **Please register. **R****

Grade School Masterminds
Fridays, March 24, April 28, May 26
4-5:30 pm | CEN/Children's Room
Join us for a STEM club where each month we'll perform fun experiments and learn about new topics! Recommended for children 1st-5th grade. **No registration required.**

Hooray for MerMay!
Saturday, May 13
10:30 am-12 pm | CEN/Children's Room
Calling all mermaids and sea monsters to join us for a splashy splashy storytime under the sea. Stories, snacks, and silly dancing are all part of the fun at our whimsical mermaid party!



Dog Man Release Party
Tuesday, March 28
Open Hours | CEN/Children's Room
Join us as we celebrate the release of the highly anticipated *Dog Man 11: Twenty Thousand Fleas Under the Sea!* Drop in and enjoy a craft, activities, and enter one of our raffles for a free-to-keep copy of the book, a Dog Man keychain, or a plushie. Raffle winners will be contacted by March 31. **No registration required.**



Party in the Park
Wednesday, May 24
10-11 am | Bronson Park
Join Kalamazoo Public Library in the 26th annual celebration of early childhood literacy! You and your preschool children will enjoy this very special story hour in Bronson Park with costumed characters, community readers, an early literacy gift with a book and snack for each child included. Bring a blanket to sit on. Portable toilets will be available at the park. Weather cancellations may apply. This event is **FREE, please register!** Please email R2R@kpl.gov with any questions. Check out special Party in the Park online stories available on www.kpl.gov the day of the event as well! **R**

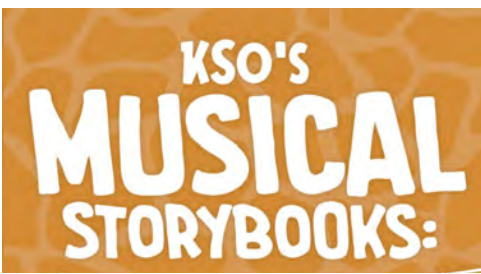


First Saturday at the Alma Powell Library
Saturdays, March 4, April 1, May 6
11:30 am-1 pm | POW/Barnabee Gallery
The First Saturday of each month is happening for children and families at the Alma Powell Branch in KPL's First Saturday collaboration with KCReady4s. Visit with community organizations and enjoy crafts and activities along with storytime guests. Anytime is a great time to visit the Powell Branch Library but First Saturdays are special!



Talk and Draw with Creator Benson Shum
Monday, March 20
6:30-7:45 pm | OSH/Community Room
Join us for a chat and draw session with Benson Shum, the creator of *Anzu, the Great Kaiju*, an adorable picture book about a tiny monster with a big heart trying to follow in his family's footsteps. Shum will join us virtually on the screen in the Oshtemo Community Room. Families will have the chance to talk, ask questions, and draw live in-person. Together, we'll create our own Kaiju!

Benson Shum is a children's book author and illustrator. The idea that an image or painting can evoke emotions and movement is what brought him to the world of picture books and animation. Benson uses watercolor, ink and digital tools to create his illustrations. His book, *Anzu the Great Kaiju* received a starred review from *School Library Journal*. Both *Anzu the Great Kaiju* and *Anzu the Great Listener* were selected for 2022 & 2023 Kid's Indie Next List Recommend by American Booksellers Association. Benson is also an animator at the Walt Disney Animation Studios, where he was a part of such films as *Frozen*, *Big Hero 6*, *Zootopia*, *Moana*, *Frozen 2* and *Encanto*.



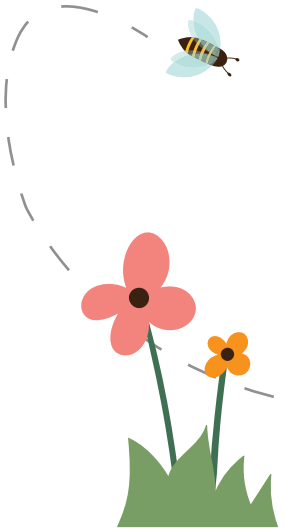
KSO Musical Storybooks: Because
Tuesday, April 11
10:30 am | CEN/Children's Room
11:30 am | CEN/Children's Room

Friday, May 12
10:30 am | POW/Douglass Community Room
11:30 am | POW/Douglass Community Room
Musical Storybooks is created for 3-to 6-year-olds and features a story and music by the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra! This program is performed by the string quartet. The story *Because* by Mo Willems is about a girl who heard a symphony orchestra and was inspired to become a composer herself. **Please register. **R****

KSO Musical Storybooks: Ferdinand
Thursday, April 20
10:30 am | OSH/Community Room
11:30 am | OSH/Community Room

Thursday, May 11
10:30 am | WSQ
11:30 am | WSQ

Thursday, May 25
10:30 am | EAS/Community Room
Musical Storybooks is created for 3-to 6-year-olds and features a story and music by the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra! *Ferdinand the Bull* by Munro Leaf is performed by the string quartet. **Please register. **R****



Events for FAMILIES & ALL AGES

Talk Read Sing Playgroup

"Talking is Teaching: Talk, Read, Sing" is a public awareness and action campaign that helps parents recognize their power to boost their children's early brain and vocabulary development. Come to the library for this drop-in event to connect and play with other caregivers and children in the community. Educational toys will be available. Each month will have a topic and early literacy take-home kit.

Tuesdays

10:30am-12 pm OSH

Come to the OSH Community Room for open playtime and activities. Check KPL's website and social media accounts for notifications about special guest appearances.

Thursdays

10:30am-12 pm WSQ

On a weekly basis, WSQ's playgroup will feature a partnership with Bronson's Baby Talk and Toddler Talk groups. Caregivers will have the opportunity to speak with a registered nurse about any childcare questions and concerns while their children play and interact with each other.

Family Storytime

Thursdays, March 2 through May 25

10:30-11:30 am | OSH/Community Room

Fridays, March 3 through May 26

10:30-11:30 am | CEN/Children's Room

Join us for stories, songs, and fun activities. Check social media and the website for any notifications about guest appearances.



March is Reading Month

March 1 – March 31

Open Hours | All Locations

March is Reading Month! We are celebrating by asking YOU to help us promote our collection. Stop in to any KPL location and fill out a shelf talker. What's a shelf talker, you ask? We will have small paper cut-outs for you to write down the title of a book you love and why! We will then place that paper cut-out on the shelf where that book belongs so another patron can find it and read your recommendation. Shelf talkers will be available at any public service desk.



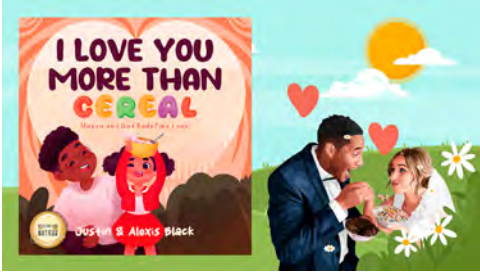
Move with Joy: Yoga for the Family!

Thursday, March 30

5-7 pm | Move with Joy Studios

A special off-campus event for families: come to **Move with Joy Studios** downtown for a free yoga session, followed by healthy snacks. All experience levels welcome. **1103 Portage Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49001. Limited parking available so please plan ahead.**

Please register.



I Love You More Than Cereal

Saturday, April 1

11 am-1 pm | POW/Douglass Community Room

Maeva really loves her cereal! Love can sometimes feel awesome, confusing, humbling, or just plain perfect. Can Maeva learn what it means to love her friends and family even more than she loves cereal? Help us create Kalamazoo's longest ever breakfast cereal table for First Saturday and join Justin and Alexis Black, creators of the new picture book *I Love You More than Cereal*. Get a copy of the book to keep! It's First Saturday at the Alma Powell Library.



Upgrade Your Lunchable

Monday, April 17

4-5 pm | OSH/Community Room

Ever wondered if you could make your Lunchable more interesting? Come learn how to with us at the library. **Please register.**



May the 4th Be with You

Thursday, May 4

Open Hours | CEN/Children's Room

Join us on May 4th as we celebrate the intergalactic phenomena, *Star Wars*! Crafts and activities will be available all day. At 4:30 PM we will have a special reading from an ancient Sith text: *Are You Scared, Darth Vader?* with a special appearance by Lord Vader, himself! So grab your lightsaber and meet us at the library! Costumes welcome!



Washington Square Branch Library Spring Celebration

Wednesday, May 17

5:30-7 pm | WSQ/Outside

Celebrate the return of warmer weather with food, music, face painting, balloon animals, crafts, games, and more. Free fun for everyone.



Events and More for TEENS



Anime in the Afternoon

Tuesday, March 7, 21

Tuesday, April 4, 18

Tuesday, May 2, 16, 30

3-4:30 pm | CEN/Teen Studio

Come hang out with other manga and comic book fans, chat about what we're reading, watch some anime, eat some snacks, and enjoy a craft or activity. Grades 6th through 12th.



Hip Hop Art Performance and History with Speak It Forward

Fridays, March 10, 17, 24

Fridays, April 7, 14, 21

Fridays, May 5, 12 & showcase on Tuesday May 23

3:30-5 pm | POW/Barnabee Gallery

Join Ed Genesis and Gabriel Giron from Speak It Forward for this multi-part deep dive into hip hop at 50. March and April sessions provide background and inspiration for youth to create their own here-and-now hip hop narratives with KPL's in-house music and sound production studios. Celebrate National Poetry Month in March and April by creating with Speak It Forward at KPL! Grades 9 to 12. **Please register.**

Hip Hop: Speak It Forward Showcase

Tuesday, May 23

6:30-8 pm | POW/Douglass Community Room

See and hear the future of hip hop in this open-mic style showcase of pieces created in March and April as part of Hip Hop Art Performance and History with Speak It Forward!



Pinecone Succulents

Wednesday, March 8

4-5 pm | EAS/Community Room

Wednesday, March 15

4-5 pm | CEN/Teen Studio

Wednesday, March 22

4-5 pm | POW/Barnabee Gallery

Wednesday, April 12

4-5 pm | WSQ/Community Room

Create your own little succulent garden using pinecones, paint, and a little creativity! Grades 6th through 12th.

Cool Beans: Making Coffee at the Library!

Thursday, March 23

3-5 pm | CEN/Teen Studio

Love cafe-style drinks but hate waiting in line? Come to the library to learn to make top-quality coffee without the high price tag! The studio will feature a professional drink-making demonstration from a former barista-turned-librarian! We'll have a variety of coffee styles, flavors, and can accommodate lactose- and dairy-free options. Grades 6th through 12th. **Please register.**



Just Write Poetry Workshop

Thursday, April 6, 13, 20, 27

4-5 pm | EAS/Community Room

The world can be a stressful place. Poetry can help. Breathe in, breathe out, and Just Write. Pens, journals, and snacks will be provided for teens and tweens at this weekly poetry workshop focused on the Mental Health and Wellness writing course from The Diatribe. Grades 6th through 12th. **Please register.**

Women's History Month Series

In celebration of Women's History Month, we are offering a very special line-up of programs that focus on a different woman from history and her contributions to the world.



Strawberry Shortcake with Lillian Gilbreth

Thursday, March 16

4-5 pm | OSH/Community Room

Do you know why kitchens are laid out the way they are? It's because of the pioneering inventor Lillian Gilbreth! What does this have to do with strawberry shortcake? Come find out and make your own strawberry shortcake to enjoy. Grades 6th through 12th. Registration is requested, though not required.



Protest Art with Frida

Saturday, March 25

1-3 pm | OSH/Community Room

Got something you want to say? Come create a unique piece of protest art. We'll make protest signs and learn about Frida Kahlo's impact on protest art and how she incorporated her art into advocacy work. All materials will be provided. Grades 6th through 12th. Take it home with you, or leave it for display in the library! **No registration required.**



Events and More for TEENS



Boba DIY

Thursday, May 18

4–5 pm | OSH/Community Room

Come make your own boba tea! Boba, also known as bubble tea, is a Taiwanese drink made with tea infused with milk or fruit and tapioca pearls. Grades 6th through 12th.

Please register.



10th Annual Three Book Battle!

Saturday, April 22

11 am–3 pm | CEN/Van Deusen Room

Attention book lovers! It's time for the 10th annual Three Book Battle, where teams of three compete in three rounds of questions from three books for the championship! Once again, we will have levels for both middle and high school. Teams receive a set of the three books to keep and fabulous prizes for winning. To register and for more info, please visit kpl.gov/tbb. Don't delay. Form a team of three and register today!

Teams of three, of either all 6-8 graders or all 9-12 graders

Name your team and register online at kpl.gov/tbb

Pick up one set of books for your team at any of the KPL locations after March 1.

Refreshments will be served at the competition. Invite your friends and family to watch!

2023 TBB Titles, Grades 6-8:

-*Tidesong* by Wendy Xu
-*Too Bright to See* by Kyle Lukoff
-*Mob Psycho 100 Volume 1* by ONE

2023 TBB Titles, Grades 9-12

-*Lost in the Never Woods* by Aiden Thomas
-*The Daughters of YS* by MT Anderson
-*Komi Can't Communicate Volume 1* by Tomohito Oda



Seed Bombs

Wednesday, April 5

4–5 pm | CEN/Teen Studio

Wednesday, April 19

4–5 pm | OSH/Community Room

Wednesday, April 26

4–5 pm | POW/Barnabee Gallery

Bring a bit of greenery and colorful pollinator habitats to an area near you with these seed bombs. Just in time for Earth Day too! Grades 6th through 12th.



Upgrade Your Lunchable for Teens

Thursday, April 27

4–5 pm | OSH/Community Room

Ever wondered if you could make a Lunchable more interesting? Come learn some tips and tricks for it at the library. Grades 6th through 12th. Please register.



Jar Gardens

Wednesday, March 29

4–5 pm | EAS/Community Room

Monday, May 1

4–5 pm | CEN/Teen Studio

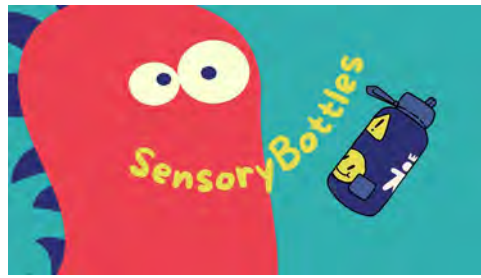
Wednesday, May 3

4–5 pm | POW/Barnabee Gallery

Wednesday, May 24

4–5 pm | WSQ

Create your own garden in a jar. Grades 6th through 12th.



Sensory Bottles

Wednesday, May 10

4–5 pm | CEN/Teen Area

Wednesday, May 17

4–5 pm | OSH/Community Room

Make a colorful (and calming) sensory bottle with us.

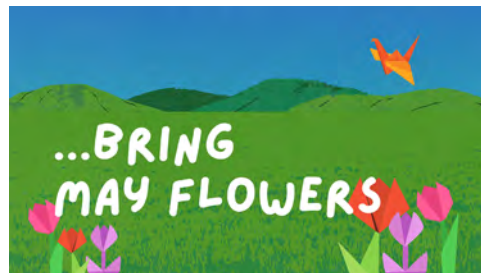


April Showers...

Wednesday, April 12

3–4 pm | POW/Barnabee Gallery

Another session with Aerick, our professional origamian. This time teens will learn how to make origami frogs, after we watercolor some spring-themed puddles. Careful! These frogs jump! All materials provided. Grades 6th through 12th. No registration required.



...Bring May Flowers!

Tuesday, May 16

4–5 pm | EAS/Community Room

Our final spring session with Aerick, a professional origamian, where we'll make origami flowers and "plant" them in cute little pots! All materials provided. Grades 6th through 12th. No registration required.



Events and More for ADULTS



Adult Reading Challenge

March 1 – May 1

Open Hours | All Locations

Join us for the second season of the Adult Reading Challenge! Bookmarks are available at all locations for pickup. The 10 reading prompts are included in the bookmark. Read a book of your choice for 3 of the 10 prompts to earn a prize. Prizes are enamel pins (design shown above), one for each season, and past seasons can be claimed until supplies last. When you've read 3 (or more!) books from the challenge, there are two ways to claim your prize:

1. Fill out the bookmark with your name, the books you've read, email (optional) and demographics information (also optional). Bring it in to any branch and trade it in for your prize.
2. Fill out the online form (same information will be asked). Then, come into any branch to claim your prize. If you need inspiration, visit kpl.gov for suggested reading lists. Prizes can be claimed starting May 1st.

RADFest Screendance Film

Saturday, March 4

3–4:30 pm | CEN/Van Deusen

In partnership with Wellspring/Cori Terry & Dancers and The Midwest RAD Fest, a juried dance event happening in Kalamazoo from March 3-5, this presentation will include screendances from all over the world in a 75-minute curated screening. Come out and see the new trend in dance-making: choreography made specifically for the medium of film/video.



GLAMA Community Sing

Tuesday, March 21, April 18, May 16

6–7:30 pm | CEN/Van Deusen

Come and sing along with Bill Willging, joined by Mike Seigel and invited guest local singers. Lyric sheets provided.

GLAMA Slow Jam

Tuesdays, April 11, May 9

5:30–7:30 pm | CEN/Van Deusen

GLAMA will lead a fun jam based on simple chord progressions and slow- to medium-tempo tunes. All acoustic stringed instruments welcome.



Page Turners Book Club

Mondays, March 6, April 3, May 8

6:30–7:30 pm | OSH/Community Room & Online

Engage in a thought-provoking conversation about books, exchange perspectives, and get to know your neighbors. Meetings will be held simultaneously in-person at Oshtemo and online via Zoom. Book club books available at Oshtemo branch library. Please register!

March: *This Time Tomorrow* by Emma Straub

April: *Now Is Not the Time to Panic* by Kevin Wilson

May: *Fox and I* by Catherine Raven

Classics Revisited

Thursday, March 16

2:30–4 pm | CEN/Board Room

Join local book-lovers for a lively discussion about favorite classic literature. Meet with us in person or join us on Zoom! Registration is required for Zoom.

March: *The Door* by Magda Szabo

April: *Parable of the Sower* by Octavia Butler

May: *Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy* by John le Carre

Music and Memories

Mondays, March 13, April 10, May 8

10:45 am–12 pm | OSH/Community Room

Join board-certified music therapist Caitlyn Bodine, for this special hour of engagement through music for adults. Sing the old songs together, let the music move you, and see what stories and memories the music brings up. Singing along is enthusiastically encouraged but not required. Music selections will be guided by the interests of the group, so don't be shy about suggesting your favorites! Caitlyn's expertise is in using music to help address the social and emotional wellness of older adults as they age, particularly those experiencing dementia or memory loss. Coffee and light refreshments available at 10:45 am. Music at 11 am.



Rose Street Poetry Club

Saturdays, March 11, April 8, May 13

10–11 am | CEN/Board Room

Rose Street Poetry Club is a once a month gathering at Kalamazoo Public Library to share in the reading and writing of poetry along with learning new poetry forms. A program geared towards adults, the Rose Street Poetry Club seeks to promote literacy, inclusion, and friendship in a relaxed poetry sharing setting.



Electric Vehicle Q&A and Car Show

Saturday, May 13

10:30 am–1 pm | OSH/Community Room

Maybe you want to know whether an electric car might save money over owning a gasoline powered vehicle. Or perhaps you wonder how hard it is to find places to charge on a road trip. The EV community is growing larger every day, in Kalamazoo and beyond. Bring your curiosity to this Q&A discussion and electric vehicle show. Local EV owners and members of the Kalamazoo Electric Vehicle Association (KEVA) including research scientists, business owners, service industry workers, will display their cars, share their experiences and answer your real world EV questions. Refreshments, competition, and prizes! No registration required.

Coffee Talk

Wednesdays, March 8, April 12, May 10

10:30–11:30 am | OSH/Community Room

Watch a short talk on a large screen and engage in lively discussion about big ideas while drinking coffee. Each session will present a new video to discuss.

March: *The political power of being a good neighbor* with Michael Tubbs

April: *Do you really need 8 hours of sleep every night?* with Dr. Jen Gunter

May: *Can we feed ourselves without devouring the planet?* with George Monbiot

Events and More for ADULTS

Reading Race Book Group

Tuesdays, March 14 & May 9

6:30–8 pm | CEN/Board Room

This book club, 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 for in-person discussions of *Night of the Living Rez* by Morgan Talty in March and *The Three Mothers: How the Mothers of Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X, and James Baldwin Shaped a Nation* by Anna Malaika Tubbs in May.



Jazz and Sweet Potato Pie

Tuesday, April 25

6:30–7:30 pm | POW/Douglass Community Room

Jazz and Sweet Potato Pie! Kalamazoo Public Library presents the amazing Faith Quashie in an evening of vocal jazz at the Douglass Community Center. Enjoy sweet potato pie while listening to jazz.



Ask a Lawyer Family Law Clinic

CEN/Study Room 1

March 16 | 3 – 5 pm

March 29 | 10 am – 12 pm

April 13 | 3 – 5 pm

April 26 | 10 am – 12 pm

May 11 | 3 – 5 pm

May 24 | 10 am – 12 pm

The Law Library, in partnership with the Kalamazoo County Bar Association, offers free family law clinics at the Central Library. Attorneys address legal questions about divorce, custody, child support, or other family law questions. This clinic is for lower-income persons who cannot afford to hire a lawyer and who earn up to 200% of the annual poverty level. Ask a Lawyer is one private session; it does not include any follow-up appointments.

Please call the Law Library at 269-553-7920 to register or for more information. Registration begins two weeks before each clinic.

Registration is required.



Dungeons and Dragons Game Night

Thursday, March 16

5:30–7:30 pm | CEN/Van Deusen

Wednesday, April 19

5:30–7:30 pm | WSQ

Alright nerds, let's play some Dungeons and Dragons! This is your opportunity to come together with other adults and play a real, live game. Players can choose between Beginners and Experienced tables, so all experience levels are welcome. Players can bring their own Level 5 character (no additional magic items) or use a pre-made character provided by Dungeon Master Amy. All other necessary equipment (character minis, dice, and dice trays) will be available to borrow, but players can bring their own if desired. This program is for adults 18+.

Please register.

Dungeons & Dragons Community DM Event

Thursday, May 11

5:30–7:30 pm | CEN/Van Deusen

Come play Dungeons and Dragons with other community members! This program features the option to play as either the Dungeon Master or a party member. DMs should have a strong understanding of the game, but no previous DM experience is necessary. Party members should have a basic understanding of the game and a willingness to play with DMs and players of varying experience levels. Players can come with their own Level 5 character, or you can borrow a pre-made one. Dice and trays will be available for use. This program is for adults 18+. **Please register.**



Spice It Up for Mother's Day!

Monday, May 8

6–7:30 pm | EAS/Community Room

Come spice it up with Keneisha Darden! She will demonstrate and serve a sumptuous down-home meal. Eat, share and enjoy!

Please register.



A History of Washington Square Branch Library

Wednesday, March 22

6:30–7:30 pm | WSQ/Community Room

As part of the library's 150th anniversary celebration, KPL's Keith Howard will take a close look at the origins of the Washington Square Branch Library and its own 113-year history. From its inception in the basement of the old Portage Street School (later Washington Junior High) to its current home built in 1927, the Washington Square Branch Library – Kalamazoo's first ever branch library – has since grown to become an integral part of the Edison Neighborhood and the KPL system. We'll talk about its architecture and explore the branch through historic photos and patrons' heartwarming stories. Join us!



Public Listening Session - Community Reading Programs

Monday, March 27

6–7:30 pm | OSH/Community Room

Join a conversation about community reading programs that could help influence KPL's Reading Together initiative, currently on hiatus. Share your experiences. Ask questions. Offer suggestions. Listen to others' opinions. Let your voice be heard!



Mama's Family: Finding your Female Ancestors

Monday, May 22

6:30–7:30 pm | EAS/Community Room

Researching your female ancestors can be a challenge and locating historical documents can be difficult since most of these records often focus on the male head-of-household. In this genealogy workshop we will explore some common roadblocks, then take a look at some resources that can help you break through those brick walls. **Please register.**

Events and More for ADULTS



Drink the Wild: Recipes from a Kitchen Witch for the Spirited and Sober Soul

Monday, April 17

6:30–7:30 pm | OSH/Community Room

Get ready for a journey into the wild with Angie Jackson, aka The Traveling Elixir Fixer! Wildcraft cocktails, apothecary elixirs, medicinal mixology, and agriculture alchemy all await you in this workshop. Recipes from "Drink the Wild: Recipes From a Kitchen Witch for the Spirited and Sober Soul" are the headliners in this elixir show. Juniper berries, cardamom pods, apple cider vinegar, bittering agents, and other botanicals are used in creating the recipes. Attendees will sample these zero-proof elixirs and learn the stories behind the recipes. We can drink things that are delicious, good for us, and good for the wild world we are part of. All it takes is the right proportions of culinary mixology, herbalist tradition, and your inner witch.



Gardening with the Cowardly Gardener

Saturday, April 22

12–2 pm | EAS/Community Room

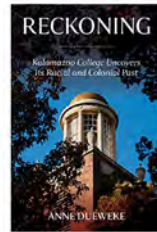
Need help with your gardening plans? On Earth Day, the Cowardly Gardener will join us at Eastwood Branch to give tips and answer questions to get you started with your gardening plans. We will have seeds and seedlings to give away. Also, we have gardening tools, a rototiller, and a wagon in our Library of Things to check out.

Bullet Journal Blast

Saturday, May 27

10:30 am – 12 pm | OSH/Community Room

Come learn the fundamentals of bullet journaling. Bujos are unique for each user and can promote productivity, creativity, and organization. Supplies will be provided, but feel free to bring any tools and materials of your own you would like to use. **Please register.**



Reckoning: Kalamazoo College Uncovers Its Racial and Colonial Past: a Conversation with Anne Deuweke and Donna Odom

Tuesday, April 25

6:30–7:30 pm | OSH/Community Room

Join author Anne Deuweke with advocate and former Executive Director of the Society for History and Racial Equity in Kalamazoo, Donna Odom, for a conversation focused on Deuweke's new book, *Reckoning: Kalamazoo College Uncovers Its Racial and Colonial Past*.



Local Author Spotlight: Ted Vadella

Wednesday, March 29

6:30–7:30 pm | CEN/Van Deusen

Come and hear about the origins of *The Trophy Husband: The Ramblings of a Pub Owner during a Pandemic*, a humorous and insightful look at one local person's experience during the shutdown. Followed by Q&A and book-signing. KPL is committed to promoting local independently-published authors and we hope to feature more at live events in the future.

Michigan Salvage: The Fiction of Bonnie Jo Campbell

Saturday, May 20

2–3:30 pm | CEN/Van Deusen

Michigan Salvage is the first scholarly collection on the work of local writer Bonnie Jo Campbell, author of two novels and three short story collections, including the 2009 National Book Award Finalist *American Salvage*. Enjoy a casual conversation between Bonnie, the editors, and some of the contributors, followed by an audience Q&A and book signings.



Adult Reading Challenge Great Books Discussion

Tuesday, May 16

6–7:30 pm | OSH/Community Room

Did you read a great book and want to share it with others? Or are you interested in hearing about great books you don't want to miss? If so, join us in celebrating the Spring Adult Reading Challenge with a discussion of our favorite books at the Oshtemo Branch. Come ready to share a book, listen to what others are reading, or pick up ideas for our Spring Adult Reading Challenge. Refreshments will be provided.



Guardians of Michigan with Jeff Morrison and Lynn Houghton

Wednesday, May 18

4–7:45 pm | CEN/Van Deusen

The Kalamazoo Historic Preservation Commission, Southwest Michigan Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, and Kalamazoo Public Library have partnered to celebrate National Historic Preservation Month with a pair of presentations you won't want to miss.

At 4 pm on May 18th, Lynn Houghton, Regional History Curator at the WMU Archives and Regional History Collections, will lead a short walking tour from the Central Library that features some of the Kalamazoo architectural sculpture highlighted in historian and author Jeff Morrison's new book, *Guardians of Michigan: Architectural Sculpture of the Pleasant Peninsulas*. Then, at 5 pm in the Library's Van Deusen Room, Mr. Morrison will speak about these and other examples from his book, which features 250 pictures of building sculpture across Michigan. Building types include places of worship, Albert Kahn-designed newspaper buildings, skyscraper bank and academic buildings, county courthouses, and others. The presentation will be followed by a book signing.

Jeff Morrison's first book, *Guardians of Detroit: Architectural Sculpture in the Motor City*, was published in 2019 and named a Michigan Notable Book by the Library of Michigan, received a Midwest Book Award from the Midwest Independent Publishers Association, and received a State History Award from the Historical Society of Michigan.

Note from the Interim Director

KPL engaged the firm Bradbury Miller Associates to conduct a national search for a new library director in November of last year. Applications are in and the Board of Trustees is preparing to begin the interview process. All interviews will take place during Board meetings scheduled as follows:

Semi-final interviews

Tuesday, February 28, 2023 – 3:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Wednesday, March 1, 2023 – 3:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Final interviews

Wednesday, March 22, 2023 – Times to be determined

Thursday, March 23, 2023 – Times to be determined

Check the library's website for updated times and details.

KPL looks forward to having a new director in place later this spring.

It has been an honor to serve as the interim director during this transition period.

Terry New, Interim Director

KPL LOCATIONS:



Central Library (CEN)
315 S. Rose St.



Eastwood Branch Library (EAS)
1112 Gayle Ave.



Oshtemo Branch Library (OSH)
7265 W. Main St.



Alma Powell Branch Library (POW)
1000 W. Paterson St.



Washington Square Branch Library (WSQ)
1244 Portage St.

For more information,
please call our main number,
(269) 553-7800

2022-23 LIBRARY BOARD

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CREDITS

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