

PRISM

A FREE quarterly publication for KPL patrons and community members.

DECEMBER 2019 | JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2020



***NEW YEAR,
NO FINES!***

BEGINNING 01/01/2020



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Dates and times are subject to change.

The standard practice of assessing overdue fines has long been justified as a means to motivate borrowers to return materials in a timely manner. However, research has shown that while many users incur late fees, those who are able to pay will keep visiting and borrowing while those who are unable to pay simply stop using the library – and in many instances fail to return overdue materials.

Kalamazoo Public Library constantly strives to identify ways to increase library access and improve services for everyone in our community. That is why **beginning on January 1, 2020, KPL will be fine-free!**

Event Attendance Details

- R** Registration required; call location.
- T** Ticket required; pick up ticket at host location.

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 as indicated in the event description. Guests who require special accommodations should call (269) 553-7800.

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.

Why Fine-Free?

- It removes a barrier to access: fines for overdue materials disproportionately impacts residents of lower socioeconomic status.
- Late fines are not effective: fines do not impact return rates but do contribute to loss of materials.
- It's fiscally responsible: revenue attributed to fines has fallen steadily the last five years and represents less than 0.5% of the library's operating revenue.
- KPL children's materials have already been fine-free since 1989!

What Does Fine-Free @KPL Mean?

- On December 31, all current overdue fines will be waived (excludes lost or damaged material fees and referral charges).
- No more daily fines for overdue materials.
- Patrons are still responsible for returning items and paying for any lost or damaged materials.
- A series of reminders to return overdue materials will be sent.
- Materials that are more than 10 days overdue will result in your account being blocked until they are returned.
- You will be billed the replacement cost for any items that are damaged or overdue by 30 days. Accounts owing more than \$30 will be sent to collections if the materials are not returned or paid for after 21 days. This information is NOT reported to credit bureaus.



Kalamazoo
Public Library
kpl.gov

Kalamazoo Public Library is proud to join fine-free libraries across the country and we look forward to welcoming back thousands of patrons who have stopped using the library as a result of fines. For more information about Fine-Free @KPL, visit kpl.gov/finefree. 



The Free Library Music Service That You Probably Didn't Know About

Did you know that you can download five free songs PER WEEK from KPL? These songs are not borrowed, they are MP3 files that once downloaded are yours to keep! Did you also know that the same service offers up to five hours of streaming music PER DAY? Think Spotify, but with no ads and free with your KPL card.

All this is possible thanks to a service the library offers called Freegal (free and legal = Freegal). Freegal offers millions of songs and countless genres to explore, everything from Childish Gambino to Dolly Parton deep cuts. Simply go to freegalmusic.com to sign up using your library account information and then use our website, kpl.gov, to search eMusic. Just look for the Freegal Music label on the album you're interested in. ▲

Macmillan eBook Embargo Limits KPL's Ability to Offer Titles

As of November 1, 2019, Macmillan Publishers will embargo sales of new eBooks to libraries for eight weeks. This means eBooks published by Macmillan will not be available for you to check out through KPL until eight weeks after they come out. Once the embargo ends, titles will become available as usual.

During the embargo, libraries may purchase a license for a single copy of an eBook. However, KPL has chosen to wait until the embargo ends so we may purchase licenses for the number of copies we need for each title.

This embargo does not impact KPL's ability to provide Macmillan's titles in other formats, such as print books, audiobooks, and eAudiobooks. The embargo applies only to eBooks published by Macmillan after November 1.

We understand this embargo impacts your ability to access Macmillan eBooks. We are working with the library community, including the American Library Association and the Urban Libraries Council, to advocate for the removal of this barrier to eBook access. ▲

How You Can Help

- Join the more than **150,000 people** who have signed ALA's eBooks for All petition at ebooksforall.org urging Macmillan not to limit access to eBooks to readers like you.
- Speak out on social media using the hashtag **#eBooksForAll**.
- Write directly to Macmillan at feedback@macmillan.com.

2018/19 OneCard Usage Highlights

OneCard, a KPL collaboration with Kalamazoo Public Schools, was launched in 2018 to enrich and support school instruction. Through OneCard, all KPS students automatically receive a KPL card. In addition, The Youth Mobility Fund launched during the summer of 2019 provides all KPS high school students with free, unlimited access to Metro bus service, which improves their ability to get to school, work, and the library by using their student ID/OneCard.

Learn more at kpl.gov/onecard. ▲



OneCard has enjoyed a very successful first year and KPL is excited to share some highlights from the usage report:

13,266

Student OneCards were issued

6,394

Student OneCards were active during the school year

134,817

Items circulated by students using a OneCard during the school year.

13,200

Total computer sessions using a OneCard.



Central Library	Tues: 2-8 pm
Third Floor	Wed: 2-8 pm
315 S. Rose St.	Thurs: 10 am-4 pm
(269) 553-7826	Sat: 10 am-4 pm

Friends of KPL

January Bag-of-Books Sale!

Save the date for the Friends January Bag-of-Books Sale!

We have a giant inventory of books of all varieties for adults, teens, and children. You'll find thousands of books at bargain prices: 25¢ per book or fill a bag for \$3 per bag!

Please bring your own sturdy bags.

CASH or CHECK only.

Here's what you need to know:

DATE: Saturday, January 25

PLACE: Central Library,
Van Deusen Room,
315 S. Rose St.

TIME: 9 am to 3:30 pm

COST: \$3 per bag, or 25¢ per book



OPEN HOURS | CEN/Lower Level:
Wednesday, 12–7 pm
Thursday, 10 am–4 pm
Friday, 10 am–4 pm
Saturday, 10 am–4 pm

Artists in Action:

Darien Burress

Al Harris

Audrey Mills

James Palmore

Tanisha Pyron



Art Hop

Friday, December 6

6–8 pm | CEN/1st Level

Come celebrate the beautiful art made during our five Artists in Action events to celebrate the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts *Black Refractions: Highlights from The Studio in Harlem* exhibit.

Each local artist spent a week in a library location creating art and interacting with patrons. The result was not only amazing art, but also an enriching experience for library patrons. Meet the artists and hear about their work. Refreshments provided. ▲

Mindful Monday: A Women's Event

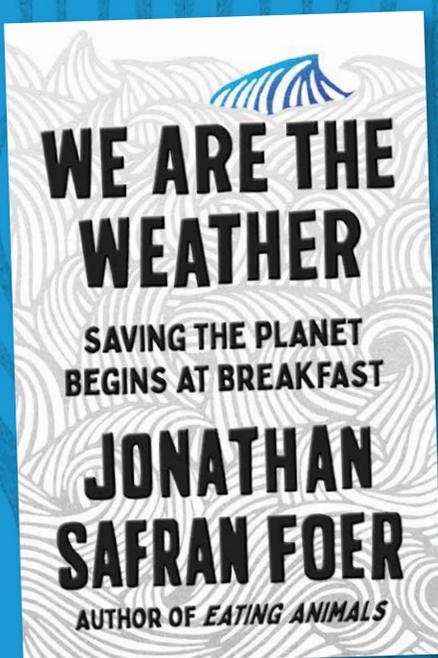
Monday, December 16

4–7:30 pm | EAS

During the holiday season, we are so focused on giving to others that it's easy to neglect ourselves. Come join forces with Kama Mitchell, Tasleem Jamila, Abra Steppes, and Carmen James for a day of treating yourself! This event will help you to unwind, indulge, and try out various forms of self-care that are sure to be fun, relieve stress, and step up your self-care game. We will move from deep breathing meditation and mindful journaling to a healthy eating cooking demo & sampling and a fun twist on moving your body for optimal health and stress relief.

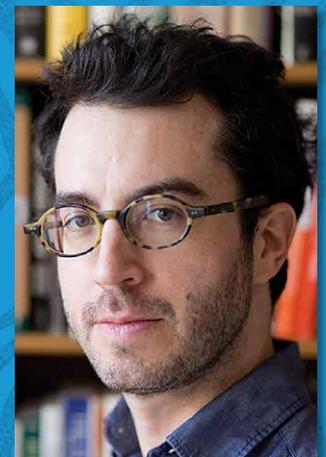
This event is open to adults and teens. ▲

2020 Reading Together



**WE ARE THE WEATHER:
Saving the Planet
Begins at Breakfast**

Jonathan Safran Foer



**SAVE THE DATE!
Tuesday,
March 10, 2020**

Chenery Auditorium

714 S Westnedge Ave. • Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Early Childhood: Birth-to-Preschool



Baby Talk • Birth-1

Wednesdays, 1-2:45 pm | OSH

Talk about the care of babies up to 1 year of age with other caregivers. Carolyn Call, RN, facilitator.



Baby Lapsit • Baby-Walking

Wednesdays, December 4, 11, 18 & February 5, 12, 19, 26 | 10:15 am | OSH

Songs, bounces, and rhymes for babies from birth to walking with their caregivers. Siblings welcome.



Family Storytime • Birth-5

Every Tuesday in January & February 10:30 am | CEN

Every Thursday except January 2 10:30 am | OSH

Every Friday | 10:30 am | CEN

Enjoy stories, activities and special guests. Designed for birth-5 and their families.



Toddler Talk • Ages 1-3

Wednesdays, 3-4:45 pm | OSH

Talk about the care of toddlers up to 3 years of age with other caregivers. Carolyn Call, RN, facilitator.



Baby Steps • Walking-24 Months

Wednesdays, December 4, 11, 18 & February 5, 12, 19, 26 | 11 am | OSH

Rhymes, songs, and books for little ones from walking to 24 months and their caregivers. Siblings welcome.



Little Scientists, PreK

Friday, January 17 | 10:30 am

OSH/Community Room

Thursday, February 6 | 10:30 am | POW

Tinker, create, build, and investigate STEAM concepts together. A different project each time. Best for preschoolers and their caregivers. Please register. 



1, 2, 3 Play with Me • Ages 1-3

Fridays, December 6, 13, 20, 27

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

Wednesdays, January 8, 15, 22, 29

10:30 am | OSH

Wednesdays, February 5, 12, 19, 26

10:30 am | CEN

Spend time together, play, make friends, and talk one-on-one with specialists on child development during this enjoyable one-month workshop. For children 1 to 3 years and their parents and caregivers. Registration required. Infant and preschool siblings may attend with a registered toddler. 



Nightly Night Storytime • Birth-5, Family

Tuesdays, January 7, 14, 21, 28 | 6:30 pm | CEN

End the day with sing-song lullabies and storybooks.



Gilmore Baby Grands • Birth-PreK, Family

Saturday, January 18th | 10:30 am

CEN/Van Deusen

No stage, no seats, no problem! Babies, toddlers, and preschoolers are invited to this piano playtime concert. Kids can move freely around the space while parents, family, and friends sip coffee and enjoy an unconventional piano recital for children, without compromising the music.



Children's & Family Events

December 2019, January & February 2020

Early Childhood *cont.*



Play to Learn • Ages 1-5

Every Thursday | 10:30 am-12 pm | EAS

Every Friday | 10:30 am-12 pm | POW

Engage in play for early learning. Drop in during the posted open times. For children ages 1-5 with caregiver, siblings welcome. Adult caregiver must accompany babies and toddlers.



Tumble Toddlers • Walking-2

Saturdays, December 7, January 25,

February 22 | 10-11 am | EAS

Beginning walkers and caregivers will love this free movement experience in a big open space.

Children: Grades K-5



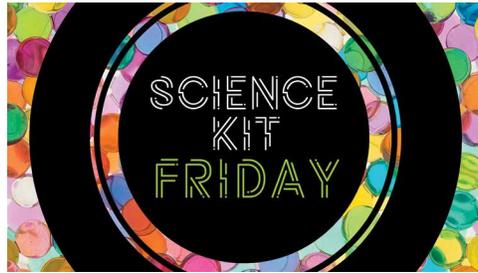
From the Heart • Grades K-5

February 10-14 | Open Hours

CEN, EAS, OSH, POW & WSQ

Make valentines for residents of local nursing homes and make an extra to give to your special someone. Runs the week before Valentine's Day.

Children: Grades K-5 *cont.*



Science Kit Friday • Grades K-5

Every Friday | 3:30-5:30 pm | CEN

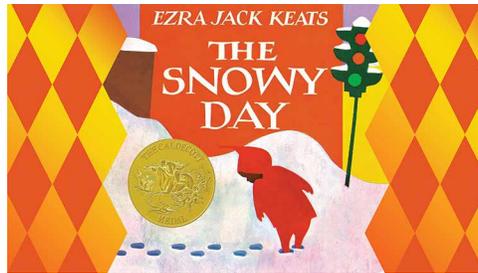
Drop in after school each week to experiment with our science kits at Central.



Sankofa Book Club • Grades 2-4

Tuesdays, December 10, January 14,
February 11 | 4:30-5:30 pm | POW

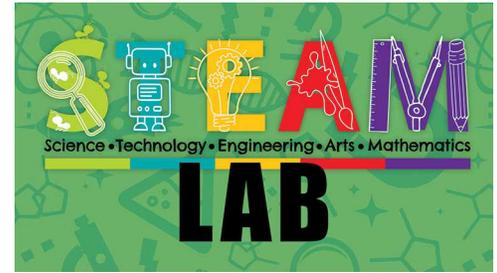
A fun book club for young readers in grades 2-4. We will read together, learn new vocabulary, engage in learning activities, and enjoy nutritious snacks.



The Snowy Day by Ezra Jack Keats, Family

Saturday, January 18 | 2-4 pm | POW

Join us for an afternoon of Winter festivities featuring Ituha Cloud's live presentation of *The Snowy Day*. Make origami snowflakes, listen to warm winter songs, drink delicious hot chocolate, and mingle with some of your favorite winter characters from *Frozen* and *Frosty the Snowman*.



STEAM Lab • Grades 3-5

Thursday, January 16 | 4-5:30 pm

OSH/Community Room

Drop in and tinker, create, build, and investigate STEAM concepts. A different project each time.



LEGO Fest • Family

Saturday, February 15 | 1-4 pm

OSH/Community Room

Celebrate the bricks we all love with games, STEM challenges, crafts, and more.

All Ages: Everyone



Jazz Speaks for Life: Remembering MLK & The Civil Rights Movement, All Ages, Family

Saturday January 25 | 2 pm

Rotunda Central

The Jazz and Creative Institute will be performing big band jazz tunes composed by Black musicians during a time of great protest and change to honor the struggles and triumphs of Martin Luther King, Jr. and other civil rights activists of the day.

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Family: Caregiver + Siblings



LEGO at the Library • Family

Saturdays, December 21, January 11, February 22 | 10:30 am | CEN

Build, create, and imagine with other LEGO fans. Duplo to expert builder bricks provided.



First Saturday @ KPL • Family

Saturdays, December 7 | 2 pm | CEN & February 1 | 1 pm | CEN

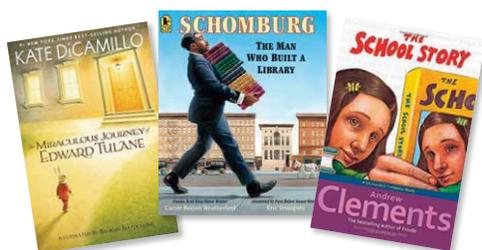
Take your family to the library the first Saturday of each month! Get your library card or pick out some books to check out. Enjoy stories, activities, special guests, and door prizes. Something different each month! First Saturday is a partnership program for KPL and Kalamazoo Public Schools.

December: Family Board Game Day: 2-4 pm
February: Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra Rouh. Formed through the Kalamazoo Symphony, children of refugee families recently settled in our area gather together as an orchestra of hope and spirit (rouh). All are invited to the concert at 1 pm which will be followed by a KSO petting zoo, where various instruments can be explored.



Event Attendance Details

- R** Registration required; call location.
- T** Ticket required; pick up ticket at host location.
- M** Maker program.



Bookworms • Family

Tuesdays, December 10, January 14, February 11 | 6 pm | OSH/Story Room

A book club for kids and their grown-ups. Please pick up your free copy of the book from the location hosting the book club you are planning to attend. Please register. **R**

December: *Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* by Kate DiCamillo

January: *Schomburg: The Man Who Built a Library* by Carole Boston Weatherford

February: *The School Story* by Andrew Clements



Binder Park Zoomobile • Family

Monday, December 30 | 1 pm & 2 pm
OSH/Community Room

Discover all the interesting and varied ways animals survive the cold weather with Binder Park Zoo. With the help of animal artifacts, see what special adaptations and behaviors animals have developed to outlast the winter. Please register. **R**



Drum and Dance with Rooted, Family

Saturday, January 18 | 2:30 pm
OSH/Community Room

Move together with this interactive family drum and dance performance from Rooted.



Stories with Jethro • Family

Thursdays, February 6, 13, 20, 27
4-5:30 pm | OSH/Children's Room

Jethro is a dog who is "pawsitively" excited to hear wonderful stories. Come to the library and read to Jethro! Please register. **R**



National African American Read In 2020: Afrofuturism • Family

Tuesday, February 25 | 4:30-6:30 pm | POW

Read, listen, and share books that highlight African American contributions to science fiction with special guest readers and presentations.



Gingerbread Houses • Family

Wednesday, December 4 | 4:30-5:30 pm
WSQ/Community Room

Create a masterpiece with graham crackers, frosting, and candy. Supplies provided. Please register. **R**

Hot Wheels Racing • Family

Wednesdays, January 8, February 12
6:30-7:30 pm | WSQ/Community Room

Build tracks, race cars, crash into LEGO buildings, jump block towers and whatever else you can think of doing. STEM education has never been so much fun!

Teen Events

December 2019, January & February 2020



Build Your Own Board Game, Gr. 4-8
Saturday, December 7 | 2-3 pm | OSH
Join our friend, Jason Slingerland, and learn how to build your very own board game. Take it home to play or give it as a gift! Please register. 

All Ages: Everyone



Magic: The Gathering All Ages
Mondays, December 30, January 27, February 17 | 5-7 pm | OSH
All ages are welcome! Our friends from Odyssey Games have put together a prize wall for anyone who comes out to play with us! A Magic tournament for teens will be held on the February date.

Teen: Grades 6-12



On the Five • Gr. 6-12
Mondays, December 9, January 29 & February 3 | 4:30-5:30-4 pm | EAS/Community Room
Hop on the #5 and come over to Eastwood for crafts, music, gaming, and delicious snacks
December: Bling-a-Thing with Bedazzling Gems
January: Create a Vision Board
February: Black History Month Poetry Event

Teen: Grades 6-12 *cont.*

Brunch of Information: Teen Financial Literacy
Wednesdays, December 11, January 8, February 12 | 4:30-5:30 pm | POW
Enjoy a delicious brunch while engaging in financial literacy activities. Please register.



DIY Snow Globes
Tuesday, December 10 | 5:30-6:30 pm | OSH
Come make a snow globe and choose from a variety of fun figurines to place within your winter wonderland. Please register. 

Breakfast Club
Saturdays, December 14, January 18, February 15 | 10-11 am | EAS
A hot breakfast meal and engaging activities for teens.



YouTube Crafternoon
Thursdays, December 19, January 23, February 13 | 4-5 pm | POW
You, too, can do YouTube crafting. Watch and make along—a different project each month. All supplies provided. Space is limited, registration required. 

Gift Making
Monday, December 16 | 4:30-5:30 pm | EAS
Tuesday, December 17 | 4-5 pm | WSQ
(Note: time is different due to earlier closing hours)
Wednesday, December 18 | 4:30-5:30 pm, CEN/Teen Studio
Craft a handmade gift for a loved one this winter. Choose from a selection of projects. All supplies provided.

Yoga for Teens
Saturdays, December 21, January 11, February 22 | 2-3 pm | CEN/Teen Studio
Life is stressful. Learn mindfulness and relaxation techniques at the library! A certified yoga instructor from Be Well Studios in Portage will lead class in a yoga flow and teach meditation techniques, followed by a healthy snack. All experience levels are welcome. Please register. 



Winter Warm-Up
Thursday, December 26 & Friday, January 3 | 2-4 pm | CEN/Teen Studio
Come in to The Studio and get out of the cold. We'll have warm drinks, snacks, and relaxing TV.



Silent Disco
Saturday, December 28, 2-4 pm | POW/Douglass Community Room
Teens, are you ready to get your groove on? Come to Alma Powell Branch Library for New Year's Eve fun and music of your choice. Just put on the headphones and pick your tunes.



After Hours: Zombie Apocalypse Scavenger Hunt
Friday, January 3 | 6-7:30 pm | OSH
Join us for an evening of apocalyptic terror! You are trapped in the library and must find resources that will help you survive the night. You never know who may be hiding behind a bookshelf. Please register as a team of two. 

Hand and Neck Warmers
Saturday, January 4 | 2-3:30 pm, CEN/Teen Studio
Create your own microwavable hand or neck warmer with rice and essential oils and learn how to sew a hidden stitch.

Teen: Grades 6-12 *cont.*



Bullet Journal Blast

Monday, January 6 | 4-5 pm | CEN/Teen Studio
Get creative and organized this new year with handwritten fonts, doodles, and stickers in your own bullet journal. All supplies provided. Please register. **R**



Adulting 102

Thursday, January 9 | 5:30-7 pm, CEN/Teen Studio
These informative classes discuss various "life-skill" topics such as basic cooking, job prep, and personal budgeting. Hands-on learning opportunities and snacks provided. Please register. **R**



Teen Task Force Meets CSI Kalamazoo

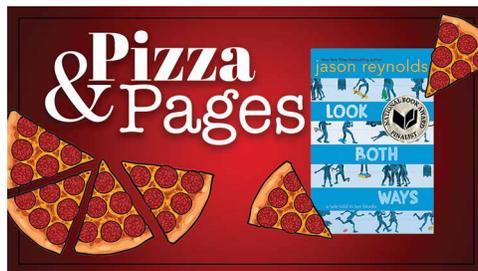
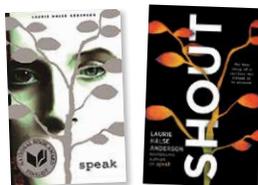
Friday, January 24 | 6-7:30 pm CEN/Teen Studio
A "crime" has been committed at the library! The focus of this innovative and unique event involves solving a mystery utilizing real-world Crime Scene Investigation (CSI) protocols, facilitated by Air Zoo. Young detectives lift and identify finger prints, analyze trace evidence with microscopes, and synthesize evidence from the crime scene to identify a suspect. The event takes place after hours so all registrants must arrive no later than 5:50 pm. Registration required. **R**

Pizza & Pages: Choose Your Own Adventure!

Wednesday, January 29 | 6-7 pm, CEN, Teen Studio
Come in and choose a free-to-keep book from a selection of titles, read it, and then come back to tell us about what you chose over pizza. Please register. **R**

Speak/Shout Book Club

Wednesday, February 12 4:30-5:30 pm | OSH
We will be discussing two books in this session: Laurie Halse Anderson's *Speak* and *Shout*. Both are extremely powerful, which is why we will be having our friend from ReGen Next offer support and insight into the reading. Pick up your free-to-keep copy of both books at the Oshtemo Branch Library up to one month in advance. Please register. **R**



Pizza & Pages: Look Both Ways

Thursday, February 20 | 6-7 pm, CEN/Teen Studio
Call to reserve, or come in and pick up your free to keep copy of *Look Both Ways* by Jason Reynolds. Come back to enjoy pizza and discussion. Please register. **R**



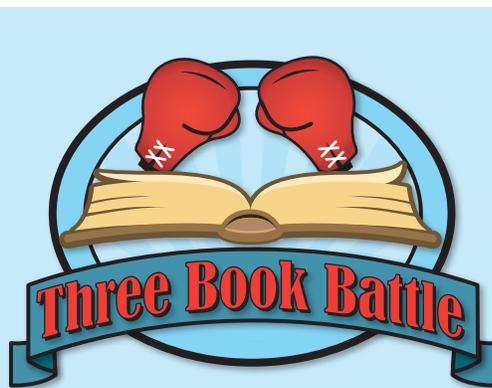
Printmaking: Block Prints

Saturday, February 29 | 11-2 pm, CEN/Teen Studio
Make your own unique block print. Learn how to carve a linoleum block to create your own stamp. Please register. **R**



Let's Talk About Relationships

Mondays, February 10, 17, 24 5-6:30 pm | CEN/Teen Studio
Tuesdays, February 4, 11, 18 5-6:30 pm | OSH
We have many relationships in our lives, whether family, friend, or love interest, healthy relationships are important. What makes a healthy relationship? Let's talk about the foundations that build strong and healthy relationships in all areas of our lives in a relaxed and informal space with friends from ReGen Next. Refreshments provided. Please register and commit to attend all three sessions at your location. Parents/caregivers welcome to attend breakout discussion at 4:45 pm prior to each meeting. **R**



SAVE THE DATE!

Three Book Battle, Gr. 6-8 & 9-12

Saturday, April 18 | 11-1 pm | CEN
The 7th Annual Three Book Battle is coming soon! 3 books, 3 rounds, 3 members on each team. 2020 TBB titles will be announced and available February 3 at all library locations.

For more registration details, and official rules, please visit: kpl.gov/tbb.

BOOKS

Page Turners Book Club

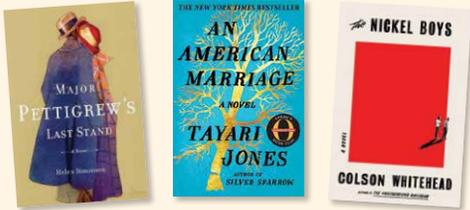
**Mondays, December 2, January 6, February 3
6:30 pm | OSH**

Engage in a thought-provoking conversation about books, exchange perspectives, and get to know your neighbors.

December: *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand* by Helen Simonson

January: *An American Marriage* by Tayari Jones

February: *The Nickel Boys* by Colson Whitehead



Urban Fiction Book Club

Mondays, January 27, February 24 | 6 pm | EAS

Come and join the group for a fun-filled and open-minded discussion of 2 great books. Pick up your books or a Kindle at the Eastwood branch.

All urban readers are welcome!

January: *The Secret Life of Baltimore Girls* by Katt

February: *Never Be the Same* by Silk White



Reading Race Book Group

Tuesday, January 14 | 6:30 pm | CEN

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. In January, we'll discuss *Kindred* by Octavia Butler.



It's Crime We Talk:

A True Crime Book Club

Tuesday, February 11 | 6:30 pm | CEN

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 murderers for this quarterly true crime book club where we'll talk about our favorite books, television series, and podcasts of the genre. At our February meeting, we'll discuss Alex Marzano-Lesnevich's book *The Fact of a Body: A Murder and a Memoir*, and be joined by the author via Skype!



HISTORY & GENEALOGY



Art Deco in Kalamazoo

Tuesday, January 28 | 7 pm | CEN

The Art Deco and Streamline Moderne styles that were popular during the 1920s and 1930s influenced the design of just about everything, including fashion, furniture, household goods, and primarily architecture. Lynn Houghton will introduce these styles and their impact on Kalamazoo.



A Historical Tour of Lake Michigan Islands

Thursday, February 27 | 7 pm | CEN

Lake Michigan is home to more than forty islands. These remote locations have fascinating stories to tell, which include accounts of shipwrecks, religious sects, scientific discoveries, and World War II bombings. This presentation will feature a variety of intriguing histories to be found among these islands.

MUSIC

GLAMA Acoustic Slow Jam

**Tuesdays, December 10, January 14,
February 11 | 6:30 pm | CEN**

We invite you to join the Great Lakes Acoustic Music Association for a fun jam based on simple chord progressions and slow-to-medium-tempo tunes. All acoustic stringed instruments welcome! Basic jamming tips are included.

GLAMA Community Sing

**Tuesdays, December 17, January 21,
February 18 | 6:30 pm | CEN**

Come and sing along with folksinger and songwriter Patricia Pettinga and her GLAMA Community Sing co-hosts. Lyric sheets are provided.

& MORE

KPL ebooks— Anytime, Anywhere, Any Device

Wednesday, January 15 | 2 pm & 6 pm | CEN

Monday, January 20 | 2 pm | OSH

Tuesday, January 28 | 6 pm | POW

Monday, February 24 | 6 pm | EAS

Come to this informational session to learn about KPL's vast collection of ebooks, eaudio-books, ecomics, emagazines, and streaming movies and music. Gain a better understanding of the digital platforms that KPL has to offer, how to access each of them, and what devices work best for each. There will be plenty of time allowed for KPL staff to answer individual questions and troubleshoot issues.



Teleestrellas: Latino Soap Operas

**Mondays, December 2, January 6, February 3
6-7 pm | EAS**

Veá telenovelas hispanas (principalmente mexicanas) en español con subtítulos en inglés. Luego, discuta la película mientras disfruta de refrigerios y bebidas.

Translation: Watch Hispanic Telenovelas (mostly Mexican) in Spanish with English subtitles. Then, discuss the film while enjoying snacks and beverages.



Adult Craft Night

Monday, December 9 | 6 pm | OSH

Monday, January 13 | 6 pm | OSH

Let's get together and make crafts and community. Check www.kpl.gov for this month's craft and reserve your spot. All supplies provided. Please register.



Immigration 101

Wednesday, December 11 | 6 pm | CEN

Learn the basic concepts of immigration law and policy. How has our immigration history influenced our current immigration laws? What do the key categories of immigration benefits—especially family-based immigration and humanitarian relief—provide? What does it mean to be on a temporary visa, become a permanent resident, or be on a pathway to citizenship? We will also cover how immigrant benefits are adjudicated, how our immigration law is enforced, and the consequences of not having a legal status in the U.S. Finally, we will look at the effects of recent policy changes on the immigrant and refugee population in the United States. Presented by Coral Cervantes and Chris Schlegel, Justice For Our Neighbors-Michigan, Kalamazoo Office.

Meet the Author: Rob Shindler

Thursday, December 12, 6 pm | CEN

In his heartwarming and thought-provoking story, *Hot Dogs & Hamburgers: Unlocking Life's Potential by Inspiring Literacy at Any Age*, Rob Shindler tells how he offered his time, unflagging energy, and unconventional teaching techniques to help his son's serious learning differences and adults suffering from low literacy levels. His book demonstrates that literacy issues reside in all neighborhoods and that its victims are committed to finding dignity and life's possibilities through learning to read. Rob Shindler's visit is in partnership with the Kalamazoo Literacy Council.

¡Hola! Hello!

el miércoles, 18 de diciembre, 15 de enero, 19 de febrero

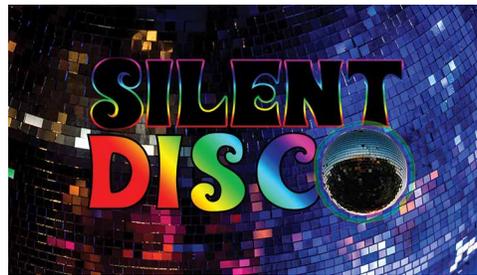
Wednesdays, December 18, January 15, February 19 | 6:30–7:30 pm | WSQ

Ven a conocer a tus vecinos, comparte tu idioma y practica la conversación con amigos. Para hispanohablantes que quieren practicar inglés y hablantes de inglés que quieren practicar español. Translation: Meet your neighbors, share your language, and practice conversation with friends. For English speakers who want to practice Spanish and Spanish speakers who want to practice English.

After Glow Silent Party for Teens & Adults

**Monday, December 30 | 6–9 pm
Black Arts & Cultural Center
359 S. Kalamazoo Mall**

Join us for the pre-NYE celebration of the year with our afterglow host DJ Chuck. Enjoy the sweet sound of the latest of hip hop, and throwback favorites of all time. Wear your light and neon colors to glow in the new year. Light refreshments will be served, and family friendly prize giveaways.



Silent Disco

Saturday, December 28 | 2–4 pm | POW

Are you ready to get your groove on? Come to Powell for some New Year's Eve fun and enjoy music of your choice. You can dance next to your partner to the beat of a different drum. Just put on the headphones and pick your tunes. Teens and Adults are welcome!



Winter Vitality

**Mondays, January 13, February 10
6–7:30 pm | EAS**

Join Kama Mitchell, nutritionist and doula, for a series on staying well all winter. Learn recipes for healing soups, holistic virus prevention and breathing for clear lungs.

Youth Mental Health First Aid: Introduction for Parents and Caregivers

Tuesday, January 14 | 5:30–7 pm | OSH

Parents and caregivers are welcome to attend this overview session of Youth Mental Health First Aid, put on by Integrated Services of Kalamazoo. Mental Health First Aid is a skills-based training course that teaches participants about mental health and substance-use issues. This session will focus on mental health and substance-use issues concerning youth, primarily under the age of 18. Please register.

Educate and Caffeinate

Monday, January 20 | 10:30 am | OSH

Watch a short talk on a large screen and engage in lively discussion about big ideas while drinking coffee. In January, we'll watch and discuss Brené Brown's talk *The Power of Vulnerability*. Brown studies human connection – our ability to empathize, belong, and love. In her poignant, funny talk, she shares a deep insight from her research, one that sent her on a personal quest to know herself as well as to understand humanity.

A Night with the Paranormal

Wednesday, January 22

6:30–7:30 pm | WSQ/Community Room

Carl Wickett from the Michigan Paranormal Research Organization (MiPRO) will share his adventures and the tools he uses to study the paranormal.

Immigration and Human Rights: 2020 Asylum Update

Monday, February 24 | 6 pm | OSH

"Migrant Protection Protocols," "Asylum Ban(s)," Credible Fear Interviews, Third Country Transit restrictions ... Since June 2018, there have been many new attempts to limit asylum protections in the United States. Why? What do these changes mean and what do they imply for individuals seeking protection in the United States from violence and persecution on account of race, religion, political opinion and other protected grounds? This presentation will go beyond the headlines and soundbites to explore the law and regulations regarding asylum, highlight trends in U.S. asylum policy, and provide an overview of the asylum process. This presentation does not presuppose any knowledge of immigration law and all are welcome. Presented by Kathy Purnell, Justice for Our Neighbors-Michigan, Kalamazoo Office.

Free Tax Preparation

Thursday, February 6 | 10 am | CEN

Monday, February 10 | 2 pm | OSH

Monday, February 17 | 2 pm | EAS

Thursday, February 27 | 11 am | WSQ

Free income tax preparation and electronic filing for people who made \$56,000 or less in 2019, prepared by IRS-certified VITA community volunteers. Dial 2-1-1 or 1(800) 563-5432, in January 2020, to make an appointment or for more info.



Director's Note

Ryan Wieber, *KPL Director*

"We must examine how our best intentions as demonstrated through longstanding practices may be creating barriers to service."

New Year, No Fines!

Effective January 1, 2020, Kalamazoo Public Library will become a fine-free library, joining a growing list of libraries in Michigan and across the country. Already in place since 1989, KPL's policy of not charging fines for children's materials has helped pave the way for the forthcoming full removal of an overdue fine structure. We were a leader in improving access and removing obstacles to library usage decades ago, and over the course of the past 30 years, our children's collections have returned on time and patrons have enjoyed the availability of the books they want and expect.

The library has thousands of patrons who are blocked from using the library because of fine thresholds that exceed \$10.00. While patrons of all income levels incur overdue fines, it is remarkably clear that those who can pay their fines will pay them, and those who cannot, choose to stop coming to the library. Our new strategic priorities clearly call for the library to be a place that serves everyone, and in order to truly strive for that, we must examine how our best intentions as demonstrated through longstanding practices may be creating barriers to service. All late fines on all patron accounts will be removed on January 1, 2020. We expect going fine-free will bring back long-missing patrons who once again can enjoy checking out books and utilizing digital and streaming content from KPL's catalog, and that is a very good thing for our community! The library of course still wants its books returned—and in a timely manner—thus, late materials will continue to result in blocked accounts, and repayment is expected if they are not returned.

Creating Community

KPL helps create community in so many ways, beyond books, story times, and book clubs. From the non-profit support training and leadership-building opportunities available through ONEplace@KPL, the legal resources and "Ask a Lawyer" sessions at the law library, free notary services and free faxing, to the no-cost tax prep services available at multiple branches this winter, Kalamazoo Public Library can be counted on for real life and real value services and activities! ▲



Ask a Lawyer

For appointment information, call the Law Library at (269) 553-7920

Free legal clinics for persons of low-to-moderate income with Bar Association lawyers. Get help with most areas of civil law, including landlord-tenant problems, divorce, and family law.

For a free 30-minute appointment, call (269) 553-7920

You may make only one appointment per six months. Clinics do not include follow-up. Further consultation must be negotiated with an individual attorney.

Family-based immigration legal clinics!

Are you a legal permanent resident or US citizen who has questions about immigrating family members to the US?

Inspired by the longstanding model of the Kalamazoo County Bar Association Legal Outreach Clinics at the Kalamazoo Public Library, Justice for Our Neighbors-Michigan will sponsor free monthly family-based immigration legal clinics for low-income individuals. An attorney will be available for 20-30 minute consultations to provide limited advice, additional resources and/or referrals. In no instance is there any charge for the services of the clinic. By appointment only.

These clinics will be monthly and are designed for:

Legal permanent residents (possess a green card) or U.S. citizens who have questions about the immigration of spouses and children to the United States. Same-sex couples/LGBTQ family-based immigration questions are welcome!

For a schedule of family-based immigration clinics, please visit:

kpl.gov/law-library/ask-a-lawyer

Questions? Please call the Law Library at: **(269) 553-7920**

Appointments? Please call Justice for Our Neighbors at: **(269) 743-2501**

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