



**BLACK
HISTORY
MONTH**
AT YOUR LIBRARY

**Black History Month
at Your Library**
Details on page 3

THE ROTUNDA



POUGHKEEPSIE PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT

January & February 2024 | Vol. 24, Issue 2 | poklib.org

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Registration Opens December 18!

Registration starts at 10 am. Most programs require registration.

Please register at poklib.org/events or (845) 485-3445, x3707 for adult, x3320 for youth, x3321 para español.

🎥 Program is recorded 🚫 Program is not recorded

🐾 Rover stop **BHM** Part of Black History Month at Your Library

Upcoming Closures

New Year's Day, Monday, January 1

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day,
Monday, January 15

Presidents' Day, Monday, February 19



Cancellation Notifications

There are times when the Library District needs to close, cancel, or postpone a program due to weather or presenter/room conflicts. The Library District will post building closures at cancellations.com, where patrons can register for immediate email notifications. Program cancellations and postponements will be posted on EventKeeper at poklib.org/Events. Patrons who are registered for affected programs will be notified of changes by email.



New Registration Policy Effective September 1:

Due to the number of no-shows at our events, which prevent people from participating, you must respond to the email that you will receive one week before the program in question to confirm your intent to attend. Your registration is not complete or valid without this verification. If your plans change after that verification, please deregister.

Photography Policy

The Library often photographs or videotapes programs for use in publicity materials. By being present during these activities, you consent to use of your appearance or likeness by the Library, and its licensees, designees, or assignees, in all media, worldwide, in perpetuity. To ensure the privacy of individuals and children, images will not be identified using names or personal identifying information without written approval from the photographed subject, parent or legal guardian.

On the Cover: A groovy moment from Baby Disco, held on October 21 at Boardman Road. Photo by the programmer, Librarian Kayleigh Hartnett.

Above: A dreamy winter view of the Trevor Zoo by Library Assistant Jinay Senecal. Go to poklib.org/map-pass to learn how PPLD resident cardholders can get their own MAP Pass to the Trevor Zoo and over 45 other great Museums, Attractions, and Parks!

About

Adriance Memorial Library (ADR)

93 Market Street
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
Mon–Thu: 9 am – 8:30 pm
Fri & Sat: 9 am – 5 pm Sun: 2–5 pm
Free parking and easy access off Noxon Street
GPS locator: 22 Noxon Street

Boardman Road Branch Library (BRD)

141 Boardman Road
Poughkeepsie, NY 12603
Mon–Thu: 9 am – 8:30 pm
Fri & Sat: 9 am – 5 pm Sun: Closed

Sadie Peterson Delaney African Roots

Branch Library (SPD), Family Partnership Center
29 N. Hamilton Street, Room 224
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

We are open during FPC construction!

Mon, Wed, Fri: 9–5 pm

Tue & Thu: 1–5 pm

Sat & Sun: Closed

Hours may be liable to change; we suggest checking our website before a visit if you're not sure.

**New hours
at SPD!**

Friends' Book Store x3423

141 Boardman Road, at rear of Library
Tue, Thu, Sat: 10 am – 4 pm

poklib.org

Giving poklib.org ▶ Your Library

Email administration@poklib.org

f Poughkeepsie Public Library District

@PokLibNY **@PokLib**

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Vision

The Poughkeepsie Public Library District will have vibrant libraries where people want to be. It will meet the needs of a diverse and growing constituency by providing services and partnering with other community organizations. The Board of Trustees and the staff will work together to serve the public and to respond to the changing nature of library services.

Black History Month

BHM For more Black History events and exhibits, look out for this stamp.



In Concert: Souls United Choir

Saturday, February 3, 2:30 pm,
Cunneen-Hackett Art Center

Souls United of the Hudson Valley is an interfaith gospel choir of the Mid-Hudson Region. Their

repertoire consists of music from Christian, Bahá'í, and other faith traditions, as reflected by the choir's membership. **No registration required.**



International Demands for Educational Reparations: Memory Laws and Black Histories

Thursday, February 8, 6:30 pm, ADR

In the struggle against erasures of Black history, how do we demand reparations in the educational setting? Michael Reyes Salas, an Assistant Professor of

Africana Studies at Vassar College, explores how elected officials have manipulated programming of Black Studies curricula to suit their political agendas. New regulations in Florida and France mandate how to teach histories of slavery. With the resurgence of the far-right across France and the US, educators often face hostility when discussing race in educational settings. **Registration required.**



Meet the Curator Exhibit Tour: Black Americans, Civil Rights, and the Roosevelts

Thursday, February 8, 10:30 am or 2:30 pm,
FDR Presidential Library & Museum

View the special exhibit *Black Americans, Civil Rights, and the Roosevelts* with the Curator of the FDR Museum. Developed in collaboration with a distinguished committee of scholars, it centers the historical voices of many Black community leaders, wartime service members, and ordinary citizens who engaged the Roosevelt administration directly and pushed for progress. **Please register for only one of the two tours.** Groups will meet at the Henry A. Wallace Center.



The Tuskegee Airmen

Tuesday, February 13,
7 pm, Virtual

Jeffrey Urbin, Educational Outreach Specialist of the FDR Presidential Library & Museum, explores the story of the Black pilots

who, though once devalued by the World War II war effort, proved they could take down enemy aircraft abroad and racial barriers at home. **Registration required.**



Root Doctors & Hoodoo Medicine

Thursday, February 15,
6:30 pm, Virtual

Stories of Hoodoo medicine, illnesses,

and healing traditions abound in black history. These stories reveal the knowledge and ancestral wisdom of Black people in poignant and powerful ways. Dr. Yvonne Chireau will share historical accounts of Hoodoo and rootworking as forms of traditional healing that were utilized to give meaning to bodily suffering for African American people with rituals, material formulations, and the skilled repertoire of practitioners in enslaved communities. **Registration required.**

Black Inventors Scavenger Hunt

January 6 - February 29,
SPD **For kids!**

Find the nine innovations created and/or improved upon by Black inventors that are hidden in SPD, then flip over your sheet to learn the names of those inventors. **No registration required – just grab a sheet!**



Library Life

Try the new catalog search!



Explore Vega, the new online catalog for all Mid-Hudson Library System member libraries. Visit poklib.org ► Books & More ► Try the New Catalog Search! There, you'll be able to see the listing for your desired title in all of its formats (Large Print, audio, digital), languages, adaptations, and related titles, including other installments in a series, and generate recommendations based on your selection. You can place holds and renewals, check reading levels, create and share lists, opt to save your reading history, and more.



New to the Children's Floor at Adriance: Bilingual Early Learning Tablets!

The Youth Services Department at Adriance Memorial Library now has three bilingual early literacy tablets available for checkout. Each tablet is loaded with early learning activities including science, technology, reading, engineering, art, music, and math. Most activities are in English and Spanish. Several are in a variety of languages including French, Italian, German, Russian, and Chinese. The tablets are easy to use and ideal for all learning styles. Auditory, visual, tactile, and kinesthetic learners will benefit. The content of the games is aligned with academic standards and accessible in a fun and engaging format.

Tablets are available at the Children's Checkout Desk at Adriance Memorial Library to resident Library District card holders. Patrons must return tablets to the same place after a three-week borrowing period. They cannot be renewed. Please note that tablets cannot be returned to any other PPLD branch location and cannot be left in the book drop.

— **Alison Francis,**
Youth Services Librarian & Outreach Coordinator

Tax Help & Tax Help Volunteers

To make an appointment for tax prep assistance with an AARP Foundation Tax-Aide at any tax site in Dutchess, Putnam, or Orange County, please call the United Way helpline 211 or 1-800-899-1479 after January 17.

Make a difference!

Volunteer positions are available with free training, including tax preparers, client check-in, tech support, and more. Contact Linda Eddy at (845) 475-7500 or leddy@dutchesscap.org.

Staff Spotlight: Tammy Myers

How would you describe your position?

My position as a Supervising Library Clerk involves working with the department head and my fellow supervising clerk to oversee the scheduling and performance of the Borrower Services department, and to assist patrons with any complex issues that may arise and which cannot easily be handled at the circulation desk.

What do you like the most about your job?

The part I love most about my job is helping people, and that it will never be the same thing two days in a row. Whether it's working the circulation desk, helping a patron find a book, or assisting someone at the computers, it keeps you on your toes and makes each day exciting!

Can you share a personal fact about yourself?

I love to get out for walks – whether it's in a park or the woods, or even just around my neighborhood with my cat Benji (yes, he goes on a harness and a leash just like a dog). I love to take pictures, even though I just use my iPhone. There are so many small, beautiful things to see if you just slow down and stop long enough to notice them. I also like to do fundraisers for the American Cancer Society. I currently have Stage 4 cancer, so I like to try to do a few fundraisers a year to raise money to help others who are not doing as well as I am.



Atsuko from the Mid-Hudson Japanese Community Association (MHJCA) at 2023's International Food Festival.



La Guelaguetza Proclamation

“WHEREAS, THE CITY OF POUGHKEEPSIE IS ANIMATED...
BY THE BEAUTY AND RICHNESS BORN OF CULTURAL
DIVERSITY AND ARTISTRY OF THE PEOPLES COMPRISING
THIS GREAT CITY... THE FIRST SUNDAY OF AUGUST SHALL
HENCE BE KNOWN AS LA GUELAGUETZA DAY.”

— *Excerpt from the La Guelaguetza Proclamation,
signed by Mayor Marc Nelson on November 1, 2023*

Poughkeepsie’s annual La Guelaguetza event has grown vastly from its original 200 visitors in 2008 to over 7,500 at the 2023 event, thanks in no small part to the tremendous efforts of Library District staff members Elva Margarita Corbatón and Jessica Sherman. The beloved cultural celebration now also coincides with Poughkeepsie’s popular annual Oaxaca Week. **We hope to see you at La Guelaguetza on August 3, 2024!**

Pictured above from left to right: Gabriela Vega-Matthews, Felipe Santos, Mayor Marc S. Nelson, Elva Margarita Corbatón, and Jessica Sherman.

Library adds on-demand, live phone interpretation service available in 100+ languages

LanguageLink allows library staff and patrons who speak different languages to communicate with the assistance of an interpreter, ensuring greater access to the library’s collections, programs, and services.

The Reference Desk on the Main Floor at Adriance is now equipped with a phone that has two handsets. After identifying their language from a chart, patrons can have a three-way communication with a library staff member and an interpreter. The library’s LanguageLink service is expected to expand in the upcoming months.

Reference desks at all three PPLD locations are now equipped with Language Link handsets.

Translating the Library Website

PPLD is improving our website with particular attention to the Spanish-speaking community, as part of an ongoing commitment to provide inclusive and accessible resources.

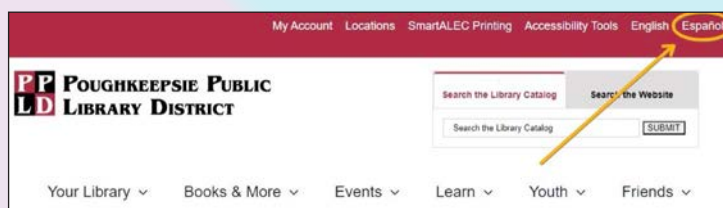
Previously, users could translate the website using the ReciteMe Accessibility Toolbar. However, ReciteMe’s main purpose is to provide accessibility to disabled users.

The new Spanish Translation Tool uses AI software to generate translated text, connecting Spanish language users to the website’s most up-to-date information. Interns from Marist College’s Department of World Languages and Culture assist by reviewing the translations for accuracy, under the direction of Dr. Patricia Ferrer-Medina, Assistant Professor of Spanish at Marist College and member of the PPLD Board of Trustees.

“It’s a challenge to make sure it’s the most universally comprehensible,” said intern Chloe Aznar, a senior at Marist. “There are different dialects, and people from all over are reading the website, and we want to make sure that it’s understandable to as many people as possible.”

Litzy Ayala, an intern who grew up speaking Spanish, takes a holistic view, considering family dynamics. “Translating is important because otherwise, the kids have to [interpret],” Litzy said. “That can be difficult because the kids don’t always know the big words. The translation is important because it takes the pressure off the children, and gives the adults some freedom.”

The interns have found it rewarding to help the local community. “I can be involved in the Poughkeepsie Library and help out with the community in Poughkeepsie,” said Victoria Buck, an intern double-majoring in Spanish and Italian. She has been auditing the website to determine which online resources from the e-library, such as Gale, Hoopla, or Libby, are accessible in Spanish. Many resources available on the website offer the ability to set Spanish as the preferred language. Victoria creates step-by-step guides on how to access and set the language preferences.



Although the majority of the Library District website has been translated and reviewed, as content is updated, translations will be added. To view the translated site, click on the word “Español” located in the upper-right corner of any page.

Books, Writing, & More

For Writers

Exercise Your Writing

Sundays, January 7, February 4, 2 pm, ADR

Exercise your writing in this workshop where you receive prompts, write, and then share with the group. Facilitated by Billy Herman. *No registration required.*



An Evening of Poetry

Thursdays, 7 pm, ADR

Featured poet followed by an open mic. *No registration required.*

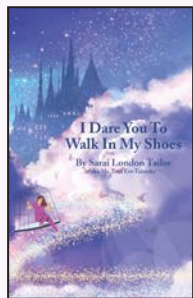
January 18: **Greg Miller**

February 15: **James Weissman**

Write, Write, and Rewrite

Saturdays, January 20, February 17, 10 am - 12 pm, Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center, Vassar College

Bring copies of your work(s) in progress and receive feedback from your peers. All genres welcome. *No registration required.*



Meet the Author: Sarai London Tailor

Saturday, February 17, 2:30 pm, ADR

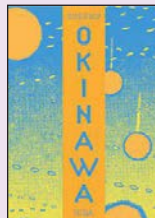
The author will read excerpts from her book, *I Dare You to Walk in My Shoes*, which is a throttling and compelling

memoir about her battle with mental disease and food addiction. It also discusses the transition from childhood to adulthood, loss and gain by coming to faith. *Registration required.*

Graphic Novel Book Club

Select Thursdays, 7 pm, Virtual 📺

Teens and adults welcome! *Registration required.*



January 11: **Okinawa by Susumu Higa**

This heartbreaking manga examines the history of Okinawa and its military occupation. An essential manga classic presented in English for the first time.



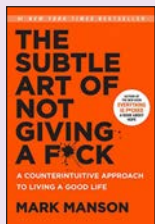
February 8: **Hot Comb by Ebony Flowers** BHM

A poignant glimpse into Black women's lives and coming of age stories as seen across a crowded, ammonia-scented hair salon while ladies gossip and bond over the burn.

Books & Brews Book Club

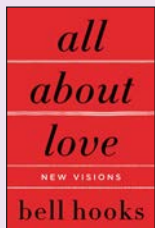
Select Wednesdays, 7 pm, Juan Murphy's Pub (796 Main Street)

Contact Kira Thompson at x3350 or kthompson@poklib.org for details. *No registration required.*



January 17: **The Subtle Art of Not Giving a F*ck by Mark Manson**

In this generation-defining self-help guide, a superstar blogger cuts through the crap to show us how to stop trying to be "positive" all the time so that we can truly become better, happier people.



February 21: **All About Love: New Visions by bell hooks** BHM

"The word 'love' is most often defined as a noun, yet... we would all love better if we used it as a verb," writes bell hooks. Here, at her most provocative and intensely personal, bell hooks (renowned scholar, cultural critic, and feminist) skewers our view of love as romance.



**POUGHKEEPSIE
BOOK FESTIVAL**

Children's authors, illustrators, characters, and more!

Coming Spring 2024

Arts & Entertainment

Gallery Exhibits

MARY WOJTECKI ROTUNDA
GALLERY, ADRIANCE

Stephen Connelly

November 8 - January 29



GROUND FLOOR, ADRIANCE



**Black History
Month Exhibit** BHM

February 1 - 29

BOARDMAN GALLERY

**Ivars Sprogis:
A Beautiful Life**

January 10 - April 9



**Reception: Saturday, January 13,
2:30-4:30 pm, BRD**

No registration required.

Local creators, email exhibits@poklib.org with a few samples of your work in any medium.



**DIY Away the
Winter Blahs**

*Mondays,
January 29,
February 26,
6:30 pm, ADR*

Pamper away the winter blues by making simple spa potions and lotions for relaxation. **No registration required.** Drop in any time between the designated start and end times!

**January 29: Refreshing Coconut Lime
Sugar Scrub**

**February 26: Rejuvenating Body Salt
Scrub**

Open Mic

Wednesdays, January 10, February 14, 7 pm, ADR

Share your talent – poetry, music, comedy – or just come and watch! Your hosts are Mary Pazienza and Debora Shon. **No registration.**


Tie Dye Workshop for Adults

Saturday, January 13, 2:30 pm, ADR

Have you ever heard of ice tie-dye? In this workshop, you will learn how to tie-dye with ice and powder color. This non-traditional technique is a fun spin on the old fashioned tie-dye we've most commonly seen over the past several decades. By using the ice technique it gives you more control over where the colors are placed, how rich the colors can be and how detailed you want your designs to be. **Registration required.**



The Great British Baking Tour

Wednesday, January 17, 7 pm, Virtual 

Join Claire Evans for a delightful culinary tour of the UK, inspired by *The Great British Baking Show* television series. Learn about making a proper cup of tea, regional specialties, their origins, and the particular parts of the UK they hail from. She'll translate the trickiest parts of British recipes for Americans so you can try them in your own kitchen. Claire Evans is an author, former journalist, attorney, and college lecturer who started her love of most things British as she and her mother watched countless Britcoms on PBS. **Registration required.**

Winter Book Stack Craft (for Adults)

Thursday, January 18, 6:30 pm, BRD

Brighten your home with a winter-themed book stack! All materials provided. **Registration required.**



The Art of Zentangle

*Wednesday, February 7, 7 pm, ADR
or Tuesday, February 13, 2 pm, BRD*

Zentangle is an easy-to-learn, relaxing and fun way to create beautiful images by drawing structured patterns. All patterns are created using just a few basic strokes. Each image is an unplanned delightful surprise. The library will provide a take home supply kit for each student. Please register for only one session, as each class will be the same. Instructor: Karen Abramson, Certified Zentangle Teacher (CZT). **Registration required.**

History & Current Events



Exploring Your Family Tree

Friday, January 12,
3 pm, ADR

This is the beginner's guide to genealogy. In

this class you will learn the basics of creating a family tree. We will show you how to stay organized, where to find free online sources, and also explain what materials are available to you here at the library.

Registration required.

For more historical programming, see page 3 (Black History Month).

Solar Eclipse Day

Prepare for The Great American Eclipse!

Wednesday, January 24
6:30 pm, Virtual



Mark Monday, April 8, 2024, on your calendar as "Solar Eclipse Day," for if the weather is fair, you should have no difficulty observing a partial or even total eclipse of the sun from much of North America. Eclipses of the sun and moon are dramatic natural events which have been described in records going back for centuries in many civilizations. In this presentation we'll examine the mechanics of what causes eclipses, and how you can safely observe and enjoy this amazing astronomical event. **Registration required.**

Adventures of an Eclipse Chaser

Thursday, February 22, 6:30 pm, Virtual

To witness a total eclipse of the Sun is a privilege that comes to few people. Many live and die without ever beholding one. Once seen, it is a phenomenon never to be forgotten. But on April 8, 2024, those who live in Eastern North America will have one delivered to their doors. Over the last 50 years, Joe Rao has chased 13 eclipses around the globe. His PowerPoint talk, "The Adventures of an Eclipse Chaser," details the interesting, funny, and poignant occurrences that he has experienced in his efforts to briefly "bask in the shadow of the Moon." **Registration required.**



Riverside Moguls: Robber Barons of the Hudson Valley

Tuesday, February 27,
6:30 pm, ADR

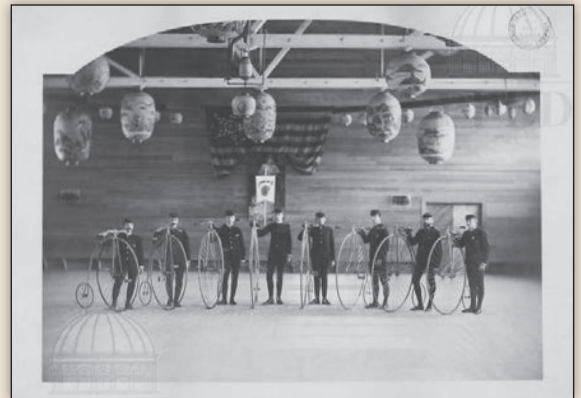
Alex Prizgintas shares the stories of ten "riverside

moguls" from the Hudson Valley and the transformation of their estates through time. A graduate of Marist College with degrees in Hudson River Valley History and Public Administration, Alex has been published in the *Hudson River Valley Review*, *New York Archives Magazine*, and *Orange County Historical Society Journal*. **Registration required.**

Neighborhood Nostalgia



291 Main Street, Blizzard of 1888



League of American Wheelmen, pictured with their penny farthing bicycles, circa 1892

More historic images on mainandmarket.poklib.org!

Health & Wellness



Free Tai Chi

Fridays, 9:15 am or 10:30 am, BRD

Free Tai Chi is a public outreach class offered by Complete Reality Tai Chi to promote the health and spiritual benefits of our practice to our community. Taught

by Karen Abramson, Certified Free Tai Chi Instructor. Space is limited; first come, first served. **No registration required.**

Rajyoga Meditation

Thursdays, January, 4, 11, 18, 25, 1:30 pm, ADR

Rajyoga meditation is an easy and natural way of meditation without rituals or mantras or postures and can be practiced anywhere and anytime with 'open eyes,' which makes it a versatile and universal practice. Sessions will be facilitated by Champa Patel featuring a different topic every week. **No registration required.**



How to Make a Preparedness Pantry

Tuesday, January 9, 7 pm, Virtual

Being prepared for the unexpected is an investment in your well being.

Whether it is an unexpected illness, loss of income, supply chain and distribution issues, severe weather, a natural disaster or anything else, it is important to have food, water and basic supplies available. Join us to learn how to safely store food and supplies, what to store, how to find storage space and how to manage your supplies. **Registration required.**

Virtual Narcan Training

Tuesday, January 9, February 6, 6 pm, Virtual

The Dutchess County Department of Behavioral & Community Health online training session explains how/when to administer Narcan. While there is no age minimum for the training, only those 18 years of age and older are eligible to receive a free Narcan kit post-training. Kits will be available from Krista Miller at Adriance Memorial Library. **Registration with birth date required. A link will be emailed prior to the training.**

Recognizing Alzheimer's **Series!**

Thursdays, 11:30 am, various locations.

Offered by the Alzheimer's Association.

Registration required.

January 18, BRD: Dementia Conversations

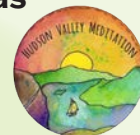
February 1, BRD: Communication Strategies

February 8, SPD: Spanish / Español:

Manejo de comportamientos asociados con demencia: consulta la página 14.

A Journey through the Chakras

Wednesday, January 31, February 28, 6:30 pm, ADR



Join Ann Byrne from Hudson Valley Meditation and Reiki for a workshop that will explore the Chakra System. Learn about the different sound, color, element, physical, and emotional representation of each. Bring a mat/blanket as we conclude with a guided meditation and Reiki touch with essential oil for each participant. **Registration required; please register for only one session.**

Defensive Driving

Saturday, February 3, 9:30 am - 3:30 pm, BRD

Completing the course may provide a 10% discount on your auto insurance as well as the elimination of up to four points from your NYS license. Cost: \$30/person, cash only (exact change). **New: no credit cards or checks accepted.** Bring your own lunch and pen. Pay the day of the class. The instructor is Staci Cussick. **Registration required. Each person must register separately.**

Life Lessons from the Happiest People on Earth

Tuesday, February 6, 7 pm, Virtual

Every year, the World Happiness Report is dominated by the same countries. What is it about these Scandinavian countries that makes living there so pleasant? Learn to improve your own life by embracing the practices of *hygge* and *lykke* (Danish, coziness and happiness); *lagom* (Swedish, balance); *sisu* (Finnish, determination); *stille* (Dutch, quietude); and *friluftsliv* (Norwegian, outdoor life). **Registration required.**



Connecting

Drop In!

Board Games

Mondays, 1-4 pm, BRD

Bring a friend and play games like SCRABBLE®, Mah-Jongg, or cards!

Brain Games

Fridays, January 5, 12,

February 2, 9, 10 am, ADR

An hour of assorted thinking games in a group setting. No judgment; just socialization and fun challenges!



Chess Club for All Ages

Mondays, January 8, 22, 29,

February 5, 12, 5-7 pm, BRD

Play with and learn from others in our community. Bring your own board, or play on one of ours!

Stitch Your Heart Out

Fridays, 10 am - 12 pm, BRD

Pick Up Stitches

Saturdays, 10 am - 12 pm, BRD

Brain Games for Seniors

Work that muscle in your noggin with us! Enjoy memory games, trivia, learn something, share something, maybe even a song!

Office For the Aging (OFA)

Thursdays, January 18, February 15,

12:30-2 pm

Located at 114 Delafield Street. To reserve a free lunch (served at 11:30 am), please call Cindy at the Office For the Aging at (845) 486- 2564 at least 24 hours notice is required (Seniors 60+).

Town of Poughkeepsie Senior Center (TOP)

Tuesdays, January 23, February 20,

10:30 am - 12 pm

Located at 14 Abe's Way, Poughkeepsie. Seniors 55+.

Jam Sessions



Guitar Circle **New!**

Tuesday, January 9, February 13, 10 am - 12 pm, BRD

Strum and sing songs with other guitar enthusiasts in a fun and relaxed environment! Bring some favorite songs to share; players of all abilities are welcome. Please bring your own guitar. *No registration required.*

Ukulele Strumalong

Tuesdays, January 23, February 27, 6 pm, BRD

Come and strum songs with other ukulele enthusiasts in a fun and relaxed environment! Music will be projected on a big screen. Players of all abilities are welcome. Please bring your own ukulele. *No registration required.*

Paper Crafting

Thursdays, January 25, February 29,

6:30-8:30 pm, ADR

Work on your paper craft with other paper lovers. You can bring your own project and materials and/or use materials the library will provide. *No registration required.*



Rover stopped for a festive Thanksgiving celebration with some of our senior patrons and Rep. Pat Ryan at the Office For the Aging on November 21. Photo by Veronica Martin-Follette of Extension Services.

Rover Pupdates!

Rover, the Roaming Library bookmobile, has added new stops, setting up at local grocery stores to make library access easy and convenient **for all ages!** Step into Rover, our convenient library of bestsellers, DVDs, children's books, and more while you're picking up groceries. Our mobile library will accept book and media returns as well.

The mobile library brings books and media to locations convenient for the community, such as where they run their errands. The new stops are at the most popular grocery stores, which are located along bus routes in the Town and City of Poughkeepsie.

"We have a regular rotation for your convenience," said Beth Vredenburg, Branch Manager. "People notice us on their way into the stores and their way out. Shoppers are becoming aware that these Rover appearances will be ongoing at their local market. If you happen to be shopping at one of these locations, please stop by!"



Photo: Supervising Library Clerk Kate Merry

Grocery Store Visits **New!**

Thursdays, 10 am - 12 pm; all are in Poughkeepsie.

Stop & Shop at 44 Plaza

First Thursdays, 59 Burnett Boulevard

Stop & Shop at Post Road Plaza

Second Thursdays, 2540 South Road

ShopRite of North Poughkeepsie

Third Thursdays, 10 Winslow Gate Road

Adams Fairacre Farms

Fourth Thursdays, 765 Dutchess Turnpike



Senior Center Visits

Rover the Roaming Library Bookmobile will visit these locations so you can sign up for a library card, borrow books, movies, and audiobooks, or learn about any number of services and programs the Library District has to offer. Anyone can visit Rover during these stops. *No registration required.*

Office For the Aging (OFA)

*Tuesdays, January 9, February 6, 10:30 am - 12 pm,
114 Delafield Street, Poughkeepsie*

Town of Poughkeepsie Senior Center (TOP)

*Tuesdays, January 16, February 13, 10:30 am - 12 pm,
14 Abe's Way, Poughkeepsie*





Public Computer Center

The Public Computer Center offers drop-in lab time and free classes to address all your technology needs. *All events are at Adriance and are 90 minutes unless otherwise noted. Registration is required for all classes.*

Personal Assistance *Drop-in; no registration.*

Computer Lab

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 11 am - 1 pm

Receive individualized help addressing your computer-based needs. Specific tasks staff can help with include: learning basic computer skills, creating email accounts, performing job searches, filling out job applications, formatting resumes, filing for unemployment, and creating and editing Microsoft Office documents.

Teen Tech Helpers

Saturdays, 9 am - 1 pm

Students are available to answer tech questions and help you feel more comfortable with your device.



Technology

**Prerequisite: Internet 101 or equiv; other prerequisites noted as applicable.*

Introduction to Ancestry.com

Monday, January 8, 3 pm

Learn what this popular database has to offer for genealogical research. We will be using the library's edition of Ancestry.com.

eBook Help Hour

Thursdays, January 11, 3 pm, or February 8, 3 pm, BRD

Bring in your device (Kindle, smart phone, iPad, or tablet) to learn how to download free e-books and stream videos and music.

Introduction to Google Drive & Docs

Saturday, February 24, 11 am

Learn the basics of using Google Drive, including free Google Docs.

Testimonials

"Very informative and useful instruction. It's very valuable for multiple uses and applications." (*Microsoft Word 101*)

"Another great class to help us expand on our basic knowledge of Microsoft Word." (*Microsoft Word 102*)

"Great and fun workshop. Very informative." (*DIY with Microsoft Publisher*)

Tech from Home

Virtual programs. Prerequisite: Internet 101 or equiv; other prerequisites noted as applicable.

Social Media

Thursday, January 4, 4:30 pm

Learn how to use Twitter, Instagram and Facebook.

Daily Applications

Thursday, January 11, 4:30 pm

Explore Uber Eats, Instacart, Amazon Whole Foods, Duolingo & Amazon Kindle.

Entertainment

Thursday, January 18, 4:30 pm

Music: Learn how to use Spotify, Amazon Music and Apple Music.

Video: Learn how to use YouTube, Netflix, Amazon Prime Video, Hulu, and Disney Plus.

Family Communications

Thursday, January 25, 4:30 pm

Learn how to use Facetime and Skype.



MICROSOFT OFFICE

All classes are 90 minutes at Adriance; prerequisites apply.



Access: Database management

Microsoft Access 101

Wednesday, January 10, 6:15 pm

Work with tables, add and sort records, create a data entry form, run a query, and create a report. *Prerequisite: Basic computer skills.*



Publisher: Layout design

DIY with Microsoft Publisher

Saturday, January 20, 11 am

Learn how to create basic publications such as flyers, business cards, and brochures. *Prerequisite: Microsoft Word 101 or equivalent experience.*



Word: Word processor

Microsoft Word 101

Monday, January 22, 3 pm

Wednesday, January 24, 6:15 pm

Learn how to create, edit, and format simple documents such as flyers, business cards, and brochures. *Prerequisite: Basic computer skills.*

Microsoft Word 102

Monday, January 29, 3 pm

Wednesday, January 31, 6:15 pm

Learn to work with paragraphs, tabs, tables, styles, spelling tools, and more. *Prerequisite: Word 101 or equivalent experience.*

Microsoft Word 103

Monday, February 5, 3 pm

Wednesday, February 7, 6:15 pm

Learn to work with columns, headers & footers, and create a table of contents. *Prerequisite: Word 101 & 102 or equivalent experience.*

Microsoft Word 104 **New!**

Monday, February 12, 3 pm

Wednesday, February 14, 6:15 pm

Learn advanced formatting techniques, Quick Parts, how to create your own templates, and secure your documents. *Prerequisite: Word 101, 102, & 103 or equivalent experience.*



PowerPoint: Presentations

PowerPoint 101

Monday, February 26, 3 pm

Prerequisite: Basic computer skills.

Give Libby a Go!

what's new?

what's popular?

what's available?

Libby by Overdrive is an online resource for ebooks, audiobooks, and magazines

available to library patrons. It

allows a cardholder to check out and read or listen to digital books and magazines for 21 days.

Many popular titles are available from authors like Colleen Hoover, Laura Dave, Jennifer Egan, and James Patterson. Available magazine titles include *Women's Health*, *Marie Claire*, *GQ*, and *Esquire*. The service is free to all Mid-Hudson Library System patrons, with additional premium titles available to Poughkeepsie Public Library District resident cardholders.

Books and magazines can be read through the Libby by Overdrive app or sent to a kindle for ease of reading.



Find Libby at poklib.org ► Books & More ► e-Library, or by scanning the QR code with your smartphone.



Bill Davies' *Brief History of Rowing*, which was part of the 2023 Big Read.

Programas en español

Información e inscripciones con Elva Margarita al (845) 485-3445 x3321 o ecorbaton@poklib.org.

Asistencia Tecnológica Individual

Martes y jueves, del 9 al 16 de enero y del 30 de enero al 29 de febrero, 9-10:30 am, ADR

Espacio de apoyo para dudas sobre correo electrónico, llenado de formatos en línea, envío de documentos electrónicos, envío de fax, escaneo de documentos y aplicaciones de trabajo. Acceso gratuito al equipo del Centro de cómputo. *No se requiere cita ni inscripción.*

Plaza Comunitaria Poughkeepsie

Del 9 de enero al 29 de febrero

Alfabetización: *Martes, 10 am-12 pm y 6-8 pm*

Primaria: *Jueves, 6-8 pm*

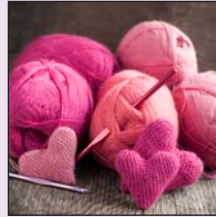
Secundaria: *Martes, 6-8 pm, ADR*

Ofrecemos clases de alfabetización, primaria y secundaria para personas de 15 años o más. Para inscribirte en las clases de alfabetización, visítanos y pregunta por el período de inscripción. Para las clases de primaria y secundaria, las inscripciones están abiertas. Programa dirigido a hispanohablantes. *Clases y material gratuitos. Inscripción en persona: Presentar acta de nacimiento de su país de origen y una identificación con fotografía.*

Plaza Comunitaria Poughkeepsie

¡Se buscan voluntarios!

El programa Plaza Comunitaria dedicado a proveer educación básica de alfabetización, primaria y secundaria a todas las personas de habla hispana requiere voluntarios para enseñanza. Te invitamos a unirte a nosotros y agregues tu granito de área. Enseña a adultos y ayúdalos a cumplir sus sueños de aprender. Tú puedes hacer la diferencia en alguien. Informes con Elva Margarita Corbatón al (845) 485-3445 x3321.



Crocheteras en sesión

Sábado, 13 de enero y 10 y 24 de febrero, 2-4 pm, ADR

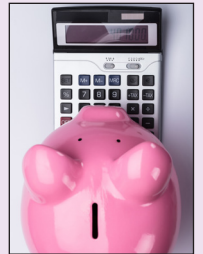
Grupo informal de adultos que elaboran proyectos personales de tejido. Otras manualidades son también bienvenidas.

¡Explora tu creatividad, toma ideas y haz nuevas amistades! **No requiere inscripción.** Spanish only.

Cómo prepararte para tus impuestos

Sábado, 13 de enero, 10 am - 12 pm, ADR

El período de impuestos se acerca, hayas hecho tus impuestos antes o nunca los hayas presentado, te saltan preguntas como: ¿Qué son los impuestos?, ¿cuáles son sus beneficios?, ¿cuáles son los documentos requeridos para preparar sus impuestos?, ¿qué es el ITIN?, ¿cuáles son sus beneficios y cuáles son los documentos requeridos para aplicar al ITIN?, ¿cómo elegir un contador? Todo esto te lo explica Mauricio Martínez, contador certificado. **Requiere inscripción.** *Las inscripciones están abiertas todo el mes de enero.*



La abuela escondida en el armario

Sábado, 10 de febrero, 11 am - 12:30 pm, ADR

Más de 10.5 millones de esclavos fueron transportados al Caribe y Latino América. En esta charla, el profesor Manuel Sanchez hace un recorrido por la herencia africana en México, la cual se ve reflejada en la Lotería Mexicana, las caricaturas de Memín Pinguín, las Pinturas Castas, el baile Fandango, la libertad de la esclavitud lograda por el famoso Gaspar Yanga, y el presidente de México, Vicente Guerrero. **No requiere inscripción.**



La Guelaguetza. 6 de agosto de 2023 en Waryas Park.



Computación inicial

Jueves, del 1 al 29 de febrero, 5-6 pm, ADR

¿No tienes conocimientos de computación?

Esta es tu oportunidad para iniciarte y aprender a usar la computadora y el internet. Clases básicas de tecnología para adultos. **Requiere inscripción por separado para asistir a cada sesión.**

1 de febrero: Uso del ratón y el teclado

8 de febrero: Uso básico de la computadora

15 de febrero: Conociendo el internet

22 de febrero: Cómo navegar y hacer búsquedas por internet

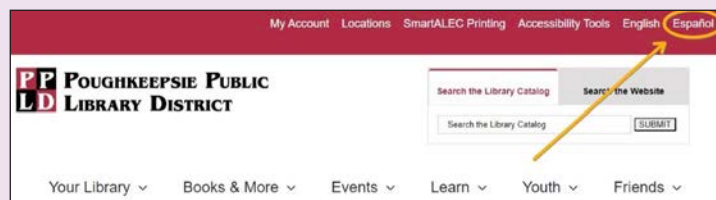
29 de febrero: Llenando formatos en internet



Proclamación de La Guelaguetza

El evento anual La Guelaguetza de Poughkeepsie ha crecido enormemente de sus 200 visitantes originales en 2008 a más de 7,500 en el evento de 2023, gracias en gran parte a los tremendos esfuerzos de las miembros del personal del Distrito de Bibliotecario, Elva Margarita Corbatón y Jessica Sherman. La querida celebración cultural ahora también coincide con la anual popular Semana Oaxaqueña de Poughkeepsie. **Esperamos verte en ¡La Guelaguetza el 3 de agosto de 2024!**

En la foto: Gabriela Vega-Matthews, Felipe Santos, Mayor Marc S. Nelson, Elva Margarita Corbatón, y Jessica Sherman.



Language Link “Nuevo Servicio de Interpretación”

Ahora en la biblioteca contamos con un servicio de interpretación realizado a través del teléfono. Si requieres algún servicio, buscas un material, o deseas información, solo tienes que acercarte a cualquiera de los mostradores y el personal, conectándose con el servicio de interpretación, te podrá atender. Es gratuito. Disponible a cualquier hora y día de la semana. La asistencia de interpretación se hace en más de 100 idiomas. ¡Ven, y comunícate con nosotros!

Traduciendo el sitio web de la biblioteca

PPLD está mejorando nuestro sitio web con especial atención a la comunidad de habla hispana, como parte de un compromiso continuo de brindar recursos inclusivos y accesibles.

La nueva herramienta de traducción al español utiliza software de inteligencia artificial para generar texto traducido, conectando a los usuarios de habla hispana con la información más actualizada del sitio web. Estudiantes universitarios del Departamento de Idiomas y Culturas Mundiales de Marist College ayudan revisando la precisión de las traducciones, bajo la dirección de la Dra. Patricia Ferrer-Medina, profesora asistente de español en Marist College y miembro de la Junta Directiva del PPLD.

El proyecto incluye determinar qué recursos en línea de la biblioteca electrónica, como Gale, Hoopla o Libby, son accesibles en español. Muchos recursos disponibles en el sitio web ofrecen la posibilidad de elegir el español como idioma preferido. Ellos crean guías paso a paso sobre cómo acceder y configurar las preferencias de idioma.

Aunque la mayor parte del sitio web del Distrito Bibliotecario ha sido traducido y revisado, a medida que se actualice el contenido, se agregarán traducciones. Para ver el sitio traducido, haga clic en la palabra “Español” ubicada en la esquina superior derecha de cualquier página.

Teen

For ages 12-18. *Registration is required unless otherwise noted.* Register at poklib.org or call (845) 485-3445 x3320.

Anime / Manga Book Club

Wednesday, January 10, 24, February 7, 5 pm, ADR

Select a popular manga title to read and discuss, then watch an anime episode together. *Register once to attend all.*

Dungeons & Dragons Club

*Saturdays, January 13, 20, 27,
February 3, 10, 2-4:30 pm, ADR*

Seeking adventure? Meet weekly on Saturdays to play some DnD and enjoy light refreshments. Players of all skill levels are welcome. *No registration*

Video Gaming

Weekly, Mondays and Thursdays, 3-5 pm, ADR

Challenge your friends to some *Super Smash Bros* on our Nintendo Switch! *No registration required.*



Chess Club

*Tuesdays, January 16, 30, February 13,
6-7 pm, ADR*

Learn the basics and play with friends. Play on our chess sets, or bring your own! No formal instruction provided. *Register once to attend all.*

Teen Tuesdays

*Select Tuesdays at Adriance; times vary.
Registration required unless indicated.*



3D Printing

January 9, 3:30 pm

You design it, we'll print it.

Teen LEGO Builders

*January 9, February 6,
5-6 pm*



Each month, we'll meet to build LEGO sets or create our own builds. Try out Technic, Creator Expert, and LEGO Idea sets. *Register once to attend both programs.*

Manga Drawing

Tuesday, January 16 3:30 pm

Draw some manga while watching an anime video.



Virtual Reality Gaming

Tuesday, January 23, 3:30 pm

Meet other movie enthusiasts and join us for an entertaining evening filled with great movies. *No registration required.*

Metal Stamp Jewelry

Tuesday, January 30, 3:30 pm

Create a unique necklace or bracelet for yourself or to give as a gift.

Movie Nights See titles online!

Tuesdays, 5:30-7 pm

Meet other movie enthusiasts and join us for an entertaining evening filled with great movies. *No registration required.*

Volunteer Opportunities for Community Service Credit

Teen Room Volunteers: *Monday-Thursday, 3-5 pm, ADR*

Teens 13-18 help with book displays, craft activities, and keeping our collection organized. Contact Angela Panzer x3309.

Homework Helpers: Help younger kids with homework and reading during the school year! For teens ages 14 and up. Contact Liz at lasta@poklib.org.

Teen Café Bloggers: Write a book review, create a video, share a skill, write a story, or something else! For information, contact Anne Messley at x3359 or teencafe@poklib.org.

Teen Readers' Board (TAB): Work closely with library staff to develop activities and programs for the teen community.



Scan the QR code to view more details about our volunteer positions for community service credit and how to apply.

Required Certificate: All library volunteers must be certified in NYS Sexual Harassment Prevention Training. Contact Angela Panzer x3309 or x3320 for more information.

Early Childhood

The Library District supports early literacy through high-quality programs and resources. We'll help you find the answers you need as you raise the next generation of citizens. For these programs, children must be accompanied by an adult caregiver. *Registration is not required, except where noted. Closed January 15, February 19.*

At Adriance

PLC: Preschool Learning Center Story Time

Mondays, January 8 - February 12, 10-11:15 am

Tuesdays, January 9 - February 13, 10-11:15 am

Weekly themed stories, music 'n' movement, sensory art activities, and developmentally open-ended play in our PLC classroom. For ages 3-5. *Registration required. Please register your child for either a Monday or Tuesday session.*

Toddler Time

Tuesdays, January 9 - February 13, 10-10:50 am

A story time for 2-year-olds with books, rhymes, flannel board stories, and music followed by play time.

Baby Time

Wednesday, January 17 - February 14, 10-10:50 am

We'll play, sing, read, listen to music, and move our bodies to help support the development of your baby's pre-literacy, social, and motor skills. Come early or stay late to play and socialize with other babies and caregivers! Siblings are welcome. For 0-24 months.

Music & Movement

Thursdays, January 18 - February 15, 10-10:50 am

Get ready for a wigglin', gigglin', toe-tappin', hand clappin' time! We'll dance, sing, play instruments, and end with interactive play. For ages 2-5.

Sensory Lab

Friday, January 12 - February 16, 10-11 am

Enhance fine motor skills through sensory exploration and play. For children aged 18 months to 5 years. Dress for the mess!

Learn about our new bilingual early learning tablets on page 4, and about our Black Inventors Scavenger Hunt on page 3!

At Boardman Road

Preschool Story Time

Mondays, January 8 - February 12, 10-10:30 am

Stories, songs, action rhymes, and small craft for ages 3-5. Parents and siblings welcome.

Baby Rhyme & Play Time

Mondays, January 8 - February 12, 11-11:45 am

Features songs, rhymes, finger plays, and stories. For 0-18 months.

Music & Movement

Tuesdays, January 16 - February 13, 2-2:45 pm

Get ready for a wigglin', gigglin', toe-tappin', hand clappin' time! We'll dance, sing, play instruments, and end with interactive play. For children ages 2-5.

Walk & Wiggle

Wednesdays, January 10 - February 14, 10-10:50 am

This language enrichment program serves as a transitional story time for walkers as they prepare for toddler story times. The program features, songs, rhymes, fingerplays, and stories. For 18-24 months.

Toddler Time

Thursdays, January 11 - February 15, 10-10:30 am

A story time for 2-year-olds featuring books, rhymes, flannel board stories, and music.

Toot & Scoot & Play

Thursdays, January 11 - February 15, 10:40-11:30 am

Movement and music program featuring songs, instruments, rhymes, and interactive play for children, walkers to age 5.



Children

At Adriance

These programs require registration unless otherwise noted.

Register at poklib.org/Events or call (845) 485-3445 x3320.

Please check age appropriateness before registering.

Chess Club **Series!**

*Tuesdays, January 16, 30,
February 13, 6-7 pm*

Learn the basics of the game of chess and play against other kids to practice your skills and pick up tricks of the trade. Play on our chess sets, or bring your own! No formal instruction will be provided. Ages 17 and under. *No registration is required.*



Homeschool Social Hour

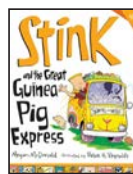
Fridays, January 19, February 2, 16, 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

Meet other families and spend time at the library. Play games, read books, do crafts, ask questions! Recommended for families with children aged 4-11. *No registration required.*

Little STEAM-ers for Homeschoolers **Series!**

Wednesdays, 11 am - 12 pm

Homeschoolers in grades 1-5 who love the library, come in and have fun completing different STEAM challenges related to some great stories! *Register once to attend all programs.*



*January 10: **STINK and the Great Guinea Pig Express** by Megan McDonald*

Project: Squeals on Wheels Challenge

*January 24: **Sona Sharma, Very Best Big Sister?** by Chitra Soundar*

Project: Baby Rescue Mission! Design a Lifejacket for a Baby!

*February 7: **Title TBA***

Project: The Pizza Carrying Bot Challenge



Kids' Open Art Studio

Tuesday, January 16, 4-4:50 pm

Join us for an unstructured open art studio! Choose an art project to work on from a selection of materials. This is a drop off program but parents are welcome to wait in the children's room. Recommended for grades 3-6.



Winter Pancake Art Challenge

Tuesday, January 30, 4-4:50 pm

Create, compete and best of all... eat some delicious wintery pancakes! Recommended for grades 2-6.



Comics Collage

Tuesday, February 6, 4-4:50 pm

Write a story or make a collage using comic book illustrations! Recommended for grades 2-5.

You Make My Heart Pop! Paint 'n' Sip

*Wednesday, February 14,
4:30-5:30 pm*

Send a heartfelt message to that special person in your life with some pop heart art! Recommended for grades 2-5.



Bluey Day

*Thursday, February 15,
4-5:15 pm*

Join us as we celebrate the Heelers! Recommended for grades K- 4.

New Registration Policy Effective September 1:

Due to the number of no-shows at our events, which prevent people from participating, you must respond to the email that you will receive one week before the program in question to confirm your intent to attend. Your registration is not complete or valid without this verification. If your plans change after that verification, please deregister.

Stories in the Story Nook

Mondays, January 8 - February 12, 4-4:30 pm

Join us for a storytime in the Story Nook! Recommended for grades K-4.

At Boardman Road

Registration is required unless otherwise indicated.

Chess Club **Series!**

*Mondays, January 8, 22, 29,
February 5, 12, 5-7 pm*

Learn the basics of the game of chess and play against other kids to practice your skills and pick up tricks of the trade. Play on our chess sets, or bring your own! No formal instruction will be provided. Ages 17 and under. **No registration is required.**



K-2 Stories & Crafts

Wednesday, January 17, 4-4:50 pm

Join us as we share some of our favorite picture books and make a special craft afterwards. Recommended for grades K-2.

Doodle Box

Thursday, January 18, 4-5 pm

Learn to draw some cute doodles, step by step. Then create your very own unique doodle box. Recommended for grades 1-6.



LEGO and More: Brick Building

Monday, January 22, February 12, 4-5:30 pm



Build creations out of the library's LEGO collection. Your project will be photographed and displayed on the library's social media! All ages welcome, best for ages 5+. **No registration required.**

Art & Stuff

Tuesday, January 23, 4-4:50 pm

Come make art! Use our art supplies to express your creativity. Recommended for grades K-3.

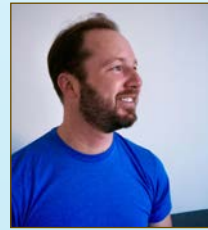


Hot Cocoa Science!

Monday, February 5, 4-4:50 pm

Do marshmallows sink or float in hot cocoa? Let's use our science skills to find out. Recommended for grades K-5.

Learn about our new bilingual early learning tablets on page 4, and about our Black Inventors Scavenger Hunt on page 3!



Author Talk: Adam Gidwitz

*Thursday, February 15,
6-7 pm, BRD*

Adam Gidwitz is an acclaimed storyteller and the bestselling author of *Max in the House of Spies*, the first in a duology and a thought-provoking WWII story. He is also the bestselling author of *A Tale Dark and Grimm* and its companions; *The Empire Strikes Back: So You Want to Be a Jedi*; and *The Unicorn Rescue Society* adventure series. His newest book, *Max in the House of Spies*, debuts February 27. **Registration required.**



Operation: The Board Game

Thursday, February 8, 4-4:50 pm

Remove the funny bone without making the buzzer buzz or Sam's nose will light up. Then learn about electric circuits and how the game works. Recommended for grades 1-6.

Valentine's Day Crafts

Tuesday, February 13, 4-4:50 pm

Love is in the air! Join us for some lovely Valentine's Day crafts. Recommended for grades 1-6.



**2024 POUGHKEEPSIE
BOOK FESTIVAL**

*Authors, illustrators, meetable
characters, and more!*

Coming Spring 2024

POUGHKEEPSIE PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT



Friends News

www.poklib.org/about-the-friends

The Friends of PPLD is an independent entity organized to support the Library District. Visit the Friends' Book Store: Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday 10 am – 4 pm. (845) 485-3445 x3423 or on Facebook at PoughkeepsieLibraryBookStore.

Mystery Mondays Book Club

Monthly, select Mondays, 11 am,
BRD. Registration required.



January 29: **Strange Affair** by Peter Robinson

Two plot lines intersect as Yorkshire DCI Alan Banks receives a cry for help from his estranged brother Roy in London and his colleague Annie Cabbot investigates the murder of a 27-year-old woman found dead in her car with Banks' address in her pocket.



February 26: **Victims** by Jonathan Kellerman

Psychologist Alex Delaware helps the Los Angeles Police Department search for a serial killer whose victims have no apparent connection. His investigation leads him to the secretive world of mental health treatment.

Please donate! We are looking for comic books, graphic novels, record albums, and TV series in DVD format.

Join us! Visit the bookstore or call for a volunteer application form at (845) 485-3445 ext 3423.

Acceptance Speech by Cecile Lindstedt at Adriance Honors, Monday, October 16, 2023



Thank you, Senator Rolison. I am honored to be recognized by the Friends of the Library. The Friends' Book Store is a wonderful place to work.

We, the volunteers, are a hard-working, eccentric bunch of bibliophiles, and WE are not afraid of the boxes... and boxes, and boxes, and boxes, and boxes, and boxes, and boxes of books...

My husband, Steve, calls the Book Store "The Holy Disorder of Books." Gail Brittan is our Mother Superior, with Frank Van Zanten our Bishop of Boxes. I guess that makes me a disciple.

I perform my devotions sorting and shelving the children's books.

Francis Bacon said, "Some books are to be tasted, others swallowed, and some to be chewed and digested."

I think some children take him literally.

I call what I do "Book Wrestling." My worthy opponents arrive a little careworn, a bent corner here, a dog ear there, chocolate fingerprint... (*I hope it's chocolate.*)

But I love them all and struggle to find a place on the shelf for each and every one.

I am grateful to Wendy Preston, who diligently sees to the young adult books and holds my hand on difficult days. And to Robert Brady, my hardworking but always cheerful Book Wrestling coach.

Also, I want to say a BIG thank you to all the Friends who sit through meetings and make the tough decisions that make this place possible.

Lastly, a few words of wisdom from the Cheshire Cat in *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*... "Never let anyone drive you crazy; it is nearby anyway and the walk is good for you."