

Contents

4 Books, Writing, & More

5 Local History

6 Arts & Entertainment

8 Health & Wellness

10 Connecting

11 Laurie Halse Anderson **School Author Visits**

12 Public Computer Center

14 Programas en español

16 Teen

17 Early Childhood

18 Children

20 Friends

Registration Opens Monday, December 15!

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.

Please note that leaving a telephone message for a staff member does not guarantee admission to a program. Please be aware that registration may not be valid without email confirmation. Speak to a staff member if you do not receive a confirmation email.

Get yourself registered!

Self-registration is simple, guick, and won't have you waiting and potentially losing a seat for a popular program. On our online calendar, you can sign up at 10 am on registration day. We often experience higher call volume than we are able to easily accommodate, so don't wait on the phone - register online.



Browse and register for upcoming programs from our new library calendar, still accessible at **poklib.org** Events Calendar of Events & Programs.

Program is recorded N Program is not recorded R Rover stop



Upcoming Closures

• New Year's Eve: Closing at noon Wednesday, December 31

• New Year's Day: Thursday, January 1

• Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day: Monday, January 19

• Presidents' Day: Monday, February 16

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: Henry at an Open Mic. Photo: Tina Jaafar.

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

29 N. Hamilton Street, Room 224,

Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 Mon. Wed. Fri: 9-5 pm

Tue & Thu: 1-5 pm

Sat & Sun: Closed

Hours may be liable to change; please check our website before a visit if you're not sure.

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

Poughkeepsie Public Library District

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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.



Library Life

Black History Month

His-Story... A Panel Discussion about Health Saturday February 21, 2 pm, SPD

Join us to discover how four men found pathways to wellness, resilience, and power. In honor of Black History Month, the panel will focus on his-story of inspiration and strength. The program includes Q&A. In partnership with the Brain and Body Coalition. *Registration required.*

In Concert: Souls United Choir

Saturday, February 28, 2:30, Lateef Islam Auditorium, Family Partnership Center (29 N. Hamilton Street)

Souls United of the Hudson Valley, founded in 2010, is an interfaith gospel choir composed of members from the Mid-Hudson Region. Their repertoire consists mostly of music from Christian, Baha'i, and other faith traditions, as reflected by the choir's membership. *No registration required.*

PPLD Wins WMHT Prize



In October 2025, PPLD won a \$200 prize in an initiative by WMHT, a PBS and NPR member station, for a twopart display about the American Revolution.

Patrons could view

recommended titles and learn about PPLD's 2025 Big Read (Eve of Revolution) on the Ground Floor of the Adriance Memorial Library, as well as view original Revolutionary-period documents from PPLD's collection, and coinage and paper currency on loan from PPLD Historian Shannon Butler's personal collection.

A video interview with Shannon Butler and graphic designer Charlotte Tramontana, who collaborated on this exhibit, can be viewed on WMHT's Instagram



page. Scan the QR code to view the video! Thank you to our friends at WMHT for selecting our entry.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Launch Party

Saturday, January 10, 1:30 - 3:30 pm, ADR

Join us for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library launch party! Register your child to receive free books mailed monthly to your home (birth to fifth birthday), be dazzled by Marco

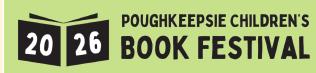


the Magician's tricks, grab a party favor, and there will be a drawing for Dolly-themed door prizes. *Must be a resident of the City or Town* of *Poughkeepsie to qualify*.

> Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Launch Party Saturday, January 24, 1:30-3:30 pm, ADR

Missed January 10? Then join us on January 24 for the second Dolly Parton Imagination

Library launch day! Register your child to receive free books mailed monthly to your home (birth to 5th birthday). Grab a party favor, and there will be a drawing for Dollythemed door prizes. Must be a resident of the City or Town of Poughkeepsie to qualify.



Saturday, March 28, 10-3, Falcon Hall, DCC

Meet more than 100 authors, illustrators, and storybook characters; check out the books for sale, and more!

Visitors to the Book Festival under the age of 17 will be able to receive a voucher, valued at \$15.

poklib.org/bookfestival



Books, Writing, & More

Join a book club! =

Graphic Novel Book Club

Select Thursdays, 7 pm, Virtual

Join our virtual graphic novel book club for adults! **Registration required.**



January 8: Roaming by Jillian & Mariko Tamaki

Over the course of a much-anticipated trip to New York, an unexpected fling blossoms between casual acquaintances and throws a long-term friendship off-balance.



February 12: **The Reddest Rose: Romantic Love from the Ancient Greeks to Reality TV** by Liv Stromquist

The deceptively simple through-line is the question: Why does Leonardo DiCaprio date an endless string of 20-something models? Her answer — in the form of this collection of well-researched, humorous essays — tracks how philosophers and artists, from the Ancient Greeks to Beyoncé, conceptualized romantic love.



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

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



January 21: **The Redemption of Wolf 302: from Renegade to Yellowstone Alpha Males** by Rick McIntyre

A lover, not a fighter, that was wolf 302. A loner with an eye for the ladies, 302 was anything but Yellowstone's perfect alpha wolf. However, this is not the story of 302's failures, but his dramatic transformation. A powerful coming-of-age tale that will strike a chord with anyone who has struggled to make a change, big or small.



February 18: **Kindred: A Graphic Novel Adaptation** by Octavia Butler & Jonathan Jennings

Butler's most celebrated, critically acclaimed work tells the story of Dana, a young Black woman who is suddenly and inexplicably transported from her home in 1970s California to the pre-Civil War South. Adapted by celebrated academics and comics artists Damian Duffy and John Jennings, this graphic novel powerfully renders Butler's mysterious and moving story, which spans racial and gender divides in the antebellum South through the 20th century.



Exercise Your WritingSundays, January 4, February 1, 2 pm, ADR

Exercise your writing in this workshop where you receive prompts, write, and then share what you wrote with the group. Please bring a notebook and preferred writing implement. Facilitated by Billy Herman. *No registration required.*

Write, Write, and Rewrite Saturdays, January 17, February 21, 10 am - 12 pm, Lehman Loeb Museum, Vassar College

Bring copies of your work(s) in progress and receive feedback from your peers. All genres. We are now meeting at the Lehman Loeb Art Center at Vassar College, upstairs. There is an elevator on the ground floor. *No registration required.*

Meet the Author: Rosalee Blooston

Saturday, January 24, 2:30 pm, BRD

Award-winning author Roselee Blooston will speak about her fifth book, *Including the Periphery*, a collection of loosely-linked personal essays on change, perspective, and renewal. The essays explore the inner and outer landscape of her move to New York's Hudson Valley, mining the author's evolving priorities and self-awareness as time becomes more precious. The past informs the present, with youth and age in a dialogue that will resonate with readers of any generation. Books will be available for purchase and signing. *Registration required*.

History

A Look Back at the Big Read



Photo: Yvonne Laube

2025's Big Read,
"Eve of Revolution,"
initiated a two-year
commemoration
of the 250th
anniversary of
the signing of the
Declaration of
Independence with
the events leading to
and eventuating in
the Revolutionary
War. The Big Read

is an annual series intended to encourage the community to read, discuss, and participate in thematic events.

Jeff Shaara, author of 2025's flagship title *Rise to Rebellion: A Novel of the American Revolution* spoke to an audience of about 200 people on his vivid account of the events leading up to the American Revolution from the Boston Massacre in 1770 to the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. Youth titles included graphic novel *Alexander Hamilton: The Graphic History of an American Founding Father* by Jonathan Hennessey and Justin Greenwood; *Rebellion 1776, Chains* (part of her Seeds of America trilogy), and *Independent Dames* by Laurie Halse Anderson. *To learn more about Anderson's dynamic school visits*, see page 11.

The Hidden History of Slavery in New York Saturday, January 10, 2–3:30 pm, SPD Snow date: January 17

With a debate raging in the US about what should and shouldn't be taught about slavery in schools, high school student Richard French IV wanted to learn more about New York City's prominent and largely untold role in the transatlantic slave trade. The Hidden History of Slavery in New York is a 30-minute documentary for broadcast television that digs deeply into an infamous chapter in our country that largely hasn't made its way into the history books. A Q&A with the producer Larry Epstein follows the film. Epstein is a two-time Emmy Award—winning documentary and news producer, journalist, writer, and anchor. Registration required.

Open House at the Local History Room *Wednesday, January 14, 5:30 pm, ADR*

Come into the Local History Room and view some of our interesting archives and objects in person. Chat with the historian and local history librarians about all things Poughkeepsie! *No registration required.*



Students at a Laurie Halse Anderson author appearance. Video: Abigail Gwardschaladse

We also held thirteen other thematic programs where both adult and youth audiences had the opportunity to dive deeper into the Revolutionary period with authors, historians, artists, and more.

"That was great," a patron stated of a November 13 presentation on the local history of tea with Sarah Wassberg Johnson of the Philipse Manor Hall State Historical Site. "I learned so much about the history and types of tea. I am a tea aficionado and thought I knew a lot... But one can always learn something new."

PPLD also partners each year with The Art Effect for professional development for schoolteachers who participate and want more background on the topic and expanded teaching resources. The 2025 workshop, held in August, was attended by 35 area teachers. Additionally, through the support of the Friends of the Poughkeepsie Public Library District (FPPLD), the library provides schools within the district a curated selection of books for teen, middle and elementary students, free of charge.

Arts & Entertainment

GALLERY EXHIBITS

GROUND FLOOR CASES, ADRIANCE



Celebrating the African Spirit

February 1-28

BOARDMAN ART WALL



Jen Radicone (detail) January 13 – March 31

SADIE PETERSON DELANEY



Regina Gelfer (detail)

January 3 – February 28



Interested in exhibiting? Visit **poklib.org/art-in-the-library** and scroll down to apply.

Open Mic As seen on the cover!



Second Wednesdays, January 14, February 11, 7 pm, ADR

Come out and share your talent: spoken word, singing, playing an instrument, comedy with the community, or just come and watch the impromptu show! Your hosts this evening are Tina Jaafar and Debora Shon. No registration required.



Nosh and a Good Book

Matching Minds with Sondheim Thursday, January 8, 6:30 pm, BRD



Join us to discover Stephen Sondheim's hidden world beyond the stage with author Barry Joseph. Matching Minds with Sondheim uncovers Sondheim's little-known passion for puzzles and games, inviting readers to experience his playful genius through rare creations, interviews, and interactive challenges. Books will be available for purchase at the event. Presented in partnership with the Jewish Federation of Dutchess County and the Jewish Book Council. Registration required — registration open now!

Gursha: Timeless Recipes for Modern Kitchens Thursday, February 5, 6:30 pm, BRD

Discover the global flavors of Jewish cuisine from Ethiopia to Harlem with **Beejhy Barhany**, founder and executive chef of Harlem's Tsion Café and the BINA Cultural Foundation. *Gursha: Timeless Recipes for Modern Kitchens* blends Barhany's personal journey with vibrant recipes that celebrate the international tastes of Jewish food. Presented in partnership with the Jewish Federation of Dutchess County, the Dutchess County African-American Clergy Association, and the Jewish Book Council. *Registration required — registration open now!*

Board game enthusiasts unite!

Strategy Board Game Night *Thursdays, January 8,*

February 12, 5-7:30 pm, BRD





do not fit on the kitchen table. Bring your own games or play from our collection. *No registration required.*

Swap It Up: Board Games

Tuesday, January 13, 6:30-7:30 pm, ADR

Bring a board game in good condition with all of its pieces and leave with a different game to try! No registration required. Drop in anytime between the designated start and end times. Limit of two games per person. *No registration required.*

Drop-In Sketch Sessions

Third Wednesdays, January 21, February 18, 10 am, BRD

Want to work on your drawing skills? Join us on the third Wednesday of each month for a relaxed sketch session. Bring your favorite drawing materials and enjoy working from an arranged still life. This is a self-guided practice session — no formal instruction, just shared creativity. We'll wrap up with a friendly group critique. *No registration required.*

From Carson to Oprah: A History of the TV Talk Show Tuesday, January 27, 7 pm, Virtual

From its start in the early 1950s, the talk show has been one of television's most versatile and durable formats. Whether it was the sophisticated wit of Dick Cavett, the magnetic empathy of Oprah Winfrey, the innovative comedy of David Letterman, or the sharp political satire of Jon Stewart, the talk show has continued to provide viewers with a lively mix of entertainment, information, and compelling conversation. This presentation will look at the fascinating history of the television talk show and examine its changing appeal from decade to decade. Presenter **Brian Rose** is a professor emeritus at Fordham University. **Registration required.**

Beer: The Brew That Was True in the Middle East *Tuesday, February 3, 7 pm, Virtual, Recorded*

"Enkidu drank the beer—seven jugs! And became expansive and sang with joy!" (from the epic poem *Gilgamesh*, ca. 2000 B.C.E.). Discover the alcoholic beverages that arose in ancient communities from the Caucasus Mountains into Mesopotamia, through their art and archaeology—as well as through Victorian pictures depicting those worlds. Learn about the customs and artworks that evolved surrounding the drinks, and the impact they had on religion and culture. Presenter **Michael Norris** spent 20 years at the Cloisters Museum and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. **Registration required.**

Textile Design Class for Adults Using Watercolors Saturday, February 21, 1:30 pm, Poughkeepsie Underwear Factory (PUF) Studio, 8 North Cherry Street

We will learn textile terms and discuss different textile paint mediums, and the repetition of patterns. You will create a textile pattern with watercolors on paper. Bring an image you would like to use as your inspiration. All supplies will be provided. Randi Chalfin is a visual artist, textile designer, and creative art therapist. She maintains a studio At PUF in Poughkeepsie. Chalfin has shown nationally and internationally. *Registration required*.

Staff Spotlight: Gary E. Killmer, Jr.

Meet our Network Analyst who became the head of our IT department in 2025.

Describe your position in your own words!

I manage the network and IT systems for all of our library branches, which means I spend a lot of time making sure everything stays connected from staff computers to public Wi-Fi to phones and security cameras. If it plugs in, pings, or needs troubleshooting, it usually ends up on my radar.

What are your goals for your department and/or position? Or what you like most about your job.

My goal is to keep our technology reliable and up to date so staff and patrons can focus on what they came to the library for and not on tech issues. I really enjoy problem solving and seeing how a small technical fix can make a big difference in how smoothly things run.

What's a personal fun fact(s) that people might not know about you?

When I'm not at the library, I love exploring the outdoors with



Health & Wellness

Free Tai Chi

Fridays, 9:15-10:15 am OR 10:30-11:30 am, OR 1 pm, 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*.

Buddhist Meditation

Tuesdays, 10-11 am, ADR

Join a guided meditation with **Gerry Brooks**, Zen Buddhist practitioner. The session will include a 30-minute guided meditation and a 20-minute non-guided meditation. **No** *registration required*.

Central Hudson Presents: Energy Assistance Programs

Tuesday, January 6, 6:30-8 pm, ADR

Central Hudson is here to help! Learn about payment assistance and special programs available to incomeeligible customers, ensuring everyone has access to affordable energy. **Registration required.**

Garden Enthusiasts' Meetup

Tuesdays, January 13, February 10, 6-8 pm, BRD

Come and spend an evening every month with fellow gardening enthusiasts in a casual, laid-back atmosphere! You'll be able to exchange ideas, share experiences, and promote the joy of gardening. Whether you are experienced, a beginner, or just love to garden, all are welcome! *No registration required.*

Stop Procrastinating: How to Sort Out Your Home in 2026

Wednesday, January 21, 7 pm, Virtual ■

Don't leave it until later; log on and learn where to begin and what to tackle in which order. From bigger items like furniture to small greeting cards, now is the time to pare down to what you use and love. Gain strategies for getting a fresh start in 2026 when expert organizer and author of Keep This Toss That, Jamie Novak, guides you through a tiny live tidy-up. Be sure to visit JamieNovak.com to find out the toss-it item of the day. *Registration required*.

Take Control of Your Money: Budgeting 101 Workshop

Monday, January 26, 6:30 pm, ADR

Does your budget feel like a tangled mess of numbers, bills, and "Where did my money go?" moments? You're not alone, and it doesn't have to be that way! Join Rosemary DaCruz, certified non-profit bookkeeper and passionate budgeting enthusiast, for an empowering budgeting 101 workshop designed to help you feel confident in your finances. We'll walk through the essentials of building a budget you can actually stick to, mastering your monthly expenses without stress, and creating an emergency fund that gives you peace of mind. Whether you're a budgeting beginner or just need a reset, this session will give you the clarity and confidence to finally take control of your money. Registration required.

Defensive Driving

Saturday, February 7, 9:30 am, 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: \$40/person, cash only (exact change) – 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.

The Garden Tourist's Hudson River Valley

Tuesday, February 10, 7 pm, Virtual

The Hudson River Valley is rich with historic mansions, presidents' summer retreats, and stunning botanical gardens. Visit Kykuit, Clermont, Stonecrop, Vanderbilt Estate, Untermyer Gardens, Wave Hill, Springwood, and more in this virtual tour. Jana Milbocker is the principal of Enchanted Gardens, a lecturer, and author. She combines horticulture, design, and travel tips to educate, inspire, and delight both new and seasoned gardeners. She has written four garden travel guides. *Registration required*.

Introduction to iNaturalist Tuesday, February 17, 6:30 pm, ADR

Join Mohonk Preserve's staff for an introduction to becoming a naturalist! In this hands-on session, you'll learn how to use the iNaturalist app to practice plant, animal, and fungi identification while contributing to long-term monitoring efforts of Mohonk Preserve's flora and fauna (or create your own project!). To get the most out of this program, participants are encouraged to download the iNaturalist app prior to attending. *Registration required*.

His-Story... A Panel Discussion about Health Saturday February 21, 2 pm, SPD

Join us to discover how four men found pathways to wellness, resilience, and power. In honor of Black History Month, the panel will focus on his-story of inspiration and strength. The program includes Q&A. In partnership with the Brain and Body Coalition. *Registration required.*



Library of Things

You can borrow science kits, musical

instruments, and more! Visit poklib.org/library-of-things

Two New Memorial Book Funds

Two new memorial book funds have been opened in honor of individuals whom Poughkeepsie book clubs lost in 2025. Titles with these new bookplates are a part of this initiative.



The Stonebridge Book Club started a memorial book fund honoring their late member Virginia "Ginny" Marcus, a member since 2011. Ginny was a dedicated teacher for 34 years at Myers Corners. As a member of the Stonebridge Book Club, she prepared each month's meeting, volunteered at picnics, and helped choose

each year's selection of titles. Ginny also worked at the FDR Presidential Library for many years, was an active member of AAUW, and belonged to the Mid-Hudson Wine & Food Society. She was an organ donor whose gift helped three people.

"We miss her deeply & think of her often," Stonebridge Book Club member Beth Mostransky stated, "especially at Book Club time."



The Mystery Mondays Book Club, run by the Friends of PPLD, opened a memorial book fund honoring the club's co-founder **Suzanne Christiansen.** Suzanne was a regular facilitator of meetings, a former President of FPPLD, and staff member of PPLD. She was a big fan of Agatha

Christie and other classic mystery authors, Mystery Mondays co-founder Ellie Charwat stated. She was also an active member of the Friends of the PPLD and Literacy Volunteers of America.

Memorial book funds are a long-lasting and far-reaching way to honor a loved one. PPLD serves a population of about 75,000 people, and the Mid-Hudson Library System (MHLS) has over 300,000 registered cardholders, all of whom would

be able to access your gift free of charge. To learn about how you can start a memorial book fund in honor of a loved one or contribute to either of these, please contact administration@poklib.org.



Donated by the Stonebridge Book Club

Virginia Marcus





PPLD Tool Library PPLD now has tools available

to check out! Scan the QR code, call the Reference Desk at x3702 or visit

poklib.libguides.com/ppldtoollibrary

Connecting

Drop In!

Board Games

Mondays, Closed January 19, February 16, 1-4 pm, BRD

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

All-Ages Chess Club

Mondays, January 5 - February 9, 5-7 pm, BRD

Explore the enigmatic world of chess by playing against and learning from others in our community. Bring your own board, or play on one of ours! All ages welcome.

Brain Games

Fridays, January 2, 9, February 6, 13, 10-11 am, ADR

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

Come Play Modern American Canasta Fridays, 1-4 pm, BRD

Come play Canasta with other Canasta enthusiasts. Beginners welcome but must know how to play. *No registration required.*

Knitting Circles

Bring your knitting and/or crocheting projects to the library and share your tricks and tips with others. *No registration required.*

Stitch Your Heart Out

Fridays, 10 am - 12 pm, BRD

Pick Up Stitches

Saturdays, 10 am - 12 pm, BRD

Paper Crafting

Thursdays, January 22, February 26, 6:30-8:30 pm, ADR

You can bring your own project and materials and/or use materials the library will provide. *No registration required.*

Rover Pupdate

Borrow books, learn about the library, or sign up for a Library Card, borrow 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.*

Senior Center Visits

Office for the Aging (OFA) (114 Delafield Street)
Bilingual services onsite!

Tuesdays, 10:30 am - 12 pm, January 6, February 3

Town of Poughkeepsie Senior Center (TOP)

(14 Abe's Way) Tuesdays, 10:30 am - 12 pm, January 13 with Pop-up Computer Lab with Scoob! February 10

Brain Games for Seniors

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

Office for the Aging Friendship Center (OFA) (114 Delafield Street)

Thursdays, January 15, February 19, 12:30-2 pm

Please call Cindy at the Office for the Aging at (845) 486-2564 for registration and lunch information.

Town of Poughkeepsie Senior Center (TOP)

(14 Abe's Way) Tuesdays, January 20, February 17, 10:30 am - 12 pm

Seniors 55+. Sign-up sheet at the Senior Center. *No registration required*.

Jam Sessions

Strum and sing songs together in a fun and relaxed environment! Players of all abilities are welcome. Bring some favorite songs to share. Please bring your own instrument. *No registration required.*

Guitar Circle

Select Tuesdays, 1-3 pm, BRD, January 13, February 10

Ukulele Strumalong

Select Tuesdays, 6-8 pm, BRD, January 27, February 24

Laurie Halse Anderson Visits Schools



Photo: Susanne Kronholm

PPLD hosted bestselling author **Laurie Halse Anderson** for the 2025 Poughkeepsie Big Read, where she visited students in local schools to discuss her historical adventure novels. The Big Read is an annual program intended to encourage the community to read, discuss, and participate in thematic events. The theme this year was "Eve of the Revolution."

Anderson visited Clinton Elementary School, Holy Trinity Elementary School, Todd Middle School, Arlington High School, Van Wyck Junior High School, and Haviland Middle School.

She talked to students about the writing process and the experience of the real people during the American Revolution, which her books *Independent Dames*, *Chains*, and *Revolution 1776* (all 2025 Big Read youth titles) are about. Students received free copies of the books, courtesy of the Friends of the Poughkeepsie Library District (FPPLD).

"Did you know that you are the smartest generation?" the author asked students. "I think you guys are going to be the ones that make this country what it was always meant to be."

She also talked about the impact of smallpox, touching on the obvious health threat, but also on the economic impact of the disease on children and families of the period.

Anderson ended the presentation by taking questions from the students, who wanted to know about her writing process in addition to the numerous questions about history and the revolutionary period.





Public Computer Center

The PCC offers drop-in lab time and free classes to address all your technology needs. All events are in the Marcotte Computer Lab on the Main Floor at Adriance, and are 90 minutes, unless otherwise noted. Registration is required for all classes. Closing early on Wednesday, December 31; closed Thursday, January 1; Monday, January 19; and Monday, February 16.

Personal Assistance

Drop-in; no registration.

Computer Lab

Monday - Friday, 11 am - 1 pm, ADR Monday, 6:15-8:15 pm, ADR Thursday, 11 am -1 pm, BRD

Sadie Peterson Delaney Computer Lab

Tuesdays, January 6, February 3, 1:30-3:30 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.

Basics

PC Basics B

Thursday, January 8, 1:30 pm

Learn how to start up and shut down a PC: how to open, close, and resize windows; use the taskbar to move between windows. Includes practice time.

Mouse & Keyboard (B)

Thursday, January 22, 1:30 pm

Explore the keyboard and practice with the mouse. Learn about special key functions and shortcuts. Practice correcting typing mistakes and entering text into online forms. Prereg: basic computer skills.

Basic Email (B) Thursday, February 5, 1:30 pm

Learn how to organize your account, send email messages and attach documents such as your resume and cover letter. We will create a Gmail account in class. Prereq: basic computer skills.

Microsoft Office Courses

All are 90 minutes at Adriance; preregs apply.



Microsoft Word: Word processor Word 101 **B**

Monday, January 5, 3 pm Wednesday, January 7, 6:15 pm

Learn how to create, edit, format and save documents. Prerequisite: basic computer skills.

Word 102 (B)

Monday, January 12, 3 pm Wednesday, January 14, 6:15 pm

Learn to format with styles, use the navigation pane, align content with tabs, create and utilize tables, work with spelling tools and more. *Prerequisite:* Word 101 or equivalent experience.

Word 103 (1)



Monday, January 26, 3 pm Wednesday, January 28, 6:15 pm

Learn to work with templates, add columns to a document, insert headers & footers and create a table of contents that can be updated. Prerequisite: Word 102 or equivalent experience.

Word 104 (1)



Monday, February 2, 3 pm Wednesday, February 4, 6:15 pm

Learn advanced formatting techniques, Quick Parts, and how to secure your documents. Prerequisite: Word 103 or equivalent experience.



Microsoft PowerPoint: Slideshows PowerPoint 101 B

Saturday, February 28, 11 am

Design beginner level presentations: Create new slides, apply slide design, add transitions, insert objects and set up animations. Prereq: Basic skills.

Technology

Monday, Jan 12, 11 am, BRD Tuesday, Feb 10, 9:30 am, ADR

We will help you understand the difference between Medicare Prescription Drug Plans and Medicare Advantage Plans, and figure out which one is best for your situation. We will also help you figure out how to navigate the website so you can find the answers you need, and show you where to submit your information and sign up for your plan.

Windows 11 (B)

Monday, January 12, 1 pm

Learn how to navigate the Windows 11 operating system, perform basic work-related tasks, and personalize certain Windows 11 features to meet your needs. Prerequisite: basic computer skills.

Introduction to 3D Printing Services (1) Friday, January 16, 2 pm



Introduction to 3D Printing and how you can submit projects to our 3D Printing Service. Prerequisite: Basic computer skills.

Tinkercad 3D Printing Workshop (I) Friday, January 23, 2 pm



Learn how to design your own models using Tinkercad.com. Tinkercad is an online 3D design application we will use during the workshop to create a model to print. Prerequisite: Introduction to 3D printing services.

Online Security & Common Scams (B) Monday, January 26, 1 pm



The Internet can be informative and entertaining, but it also presents certain risks. Learn about various security threats and ways to make your online searches more secure. We will also identify some common internet scams. Prerequisite: basic computer skills.

Using an Android 🕒 Friday, January 30, 2 pm or Saturday, February 14, 2 pm

This introductory class covers basic navigation features and functions of Androids. You are welcome to bring your Android. Prerequisite: Basic computer skills.

Using an iPhone (B) Saturday, January 31, 2 pm or Friday, February 20, 2 pm

This introductory class covers basic navigation features and functions of iPhones. You are welcome to bring your iPhone. Prerequisite: Basic computer skills.

Introduction to Google Drive & Docs (1) Saturday, January 31, 11 am





Internet 101 🖪



Friday, February 6, 2 pm

Grasp the basics of internet surfing, such as opening Google Chrome, using the minimize, restore, and close buttons, resizing windows, using the address bar, and learning how to search with Google. We will also go over how you can be safe online so you can enjoy being on the internet. Prerequisite: basic computer skills.

Internet 102 📵 Friday, February 13, 2 pm

Learn more about the Internet...What exactly is the World Wide Web? What do those different domain names (.com, .net, .org) mean? What is the difference between http and https? Also, discover great sites for practicing your new skills! Prerequisite: Internet 101 or equivalent experience.

Computer & Tablet Buying: Help & Tips B Monday, February 9, 1 pm



Learn about the different types of personal computers and understand the different specifications to help you be an educated shopper. Note: we will not cover Apple computers. Prerequisite: Basic computer skills.

New! Mac Basics (B) Thursday, February 19, 1:30 pm

Learn Mac basics, navigation and tips on laptops and iPad. You are welcome to bring an Apple device if you have one. Prerequisite: PC Basics or equivalent.

Blockchain & Crypto Basics Part 1: The Blockchain (A)

Wednesday, February 11, 6:15 pm

We will discuss what the blockchain is and how it works. Concepts such as keys, wallets, consensus, and hashing will be explained in preparation for the second class where we talk about cryptocurrency. Note: No financial advice will be given. Prerequisite: Intermediate computer skills.

Blockchain & Crypto Basics Part 2: Cryptocurrency (A)

Wednesday, February 18, 6:15 pm

After learning about the blockchain we will apply our knowledge to the most popular cryptocurrencies: Bitcoin and Ethereum. Additionally, we will cover smart contracts and decentralized apps. Note: No financial advice will be given. Prerequisite: Blockchain & Crypto Basics Part 1: The Blockchain.

Recommended Experience



Beginner



Intermediate



Advanced



E Expert

Programas en español

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

PLAZA COMUNITARIA POUGHKEEPSIE

Es un programa de educación básica para migrantes que hablan español, de cualquier nacionalidad, y son mayores de 18 años. Si deseas finalizar tu estudios, acércate a la biblioteca los martes y jueves de 6-8 pm y solicita más información.

Clases de primaria para adultos

13 de enero al 24 de febrero, 6 – 8 pm, ADR

Clases de secundaria para adultos

13 de enero al 24 de febrero, 6 – 8 pm, ADR

Alfabetización 1 & 2: Clases para adultos de lectura v escritura

8 de enero al 26 de febrero, 6 – 8 pm, ADR

Alfabetización tecnológica

5 al 26 de febrero, 5:30 - 7:00 pm, ADR

Clases y materiales gratuitos. Los estudiantes que terminan la primaria y secundaria recibirán el certificado de estudios de la Secretaria de Educación Pública del Gobierno de México, el cual es válido el país de origen del educando, así como en los Estados Unidos.

Tu biblioteca en el teléfono *Miércoles, 10 am - 12 pm, ADR*

Te enseñamos a usar las apps de la biblioteca, a las que puedes acceder con tu tarjeta de la biblioteca. Si no tienes tarjeta, te ayudamos a obtenerla. Te ayudamos a descargar la app en tu teléfono y te mostramos cómo iniciar sesión para que disfrutes de materiales en formato electrónico. No requiere cita. Solo visítanos en el mostrador de atención en español.

28 de enero: **Kanopy** 11 de febrero: **Hoopla** 25 de febrero: **Libby**

Entre hilos y pan

Viernes, 23 de enero, y 13 y 27 de febrero, 6 – 8:30 pm, Panera Bread (712 Dutchess Turnpike)

La reunión es en un espacio cálido y comunitario para aprender a tejer, compartir proyectos y disfrutar de una buena conversación acompañada de café y pan fresco.

Mas que una clase, es un refugio de compañía, creatividad y cultura. Aquí, cada puntada une historias,

cada ovillo abre puertas, y cada encuentro ayuda a combatir la soledad con hilos de amistad.

No importa si nunca has tejido o si tienes años de experiencia: lo importante es venir, compartir, y dejar que el tejido nos conecte. **No requiere inscripción.**

Cine en conversación: historias que nos hablan, voces que se encuentran Lunes, 6:00 pm, Virtual

26 de enero: **Milagro en la celda 7** (Netflix) 23 de febrero: **Historias cruzadas** (YouTube)

Es un espacio mensual para ver, sentir y dialogar sobre películas que despiertan emociones, preguntas y memorias. Cada encuentro invita a explorar temas como la justicia, el duelo, la resiliencia y la dignidad humana, a través de historias conmovedoras y personajes inolvidables. Las películas seleccionadas se encuentran en las plataformas de Netflix y YouTube. Para participar debes registrarte para recibir en enlace a Zoom para la reunión; además, las preguntas que te pueden servir de guía para reflexionar mientras ves la película, la cual veras en tu tiempo.

Palabras que nos unen

Lunes, 9 de febrero, 6:00 pm, virtual

Espacio de encuentro, reflexión y aprendizaje para inmigrantes hispanohablantes que desean reconectar con el idioma a través de la lectura. Cada texto que leemos se convierte en puente entre culturas, memorias y voces. Libro seleccionado para este mes: A través del bosque. Escrito por Laura Alcoba. Requiere inscripción para obtener una copia prestada del libro. Recoger la copia a partir del 2 de enero.

Cultivando sabores: yogurt casero con corazón

Sábado, 7 de febrero, de 10:30 am, ADR

Aprende a preparar yogurt casero utilizando búlgaros (cultivos vivos), leche en polvo y yogurt natural como iniciador. Exploramos técnicas sencillas, consejos de conservación y formas creativas de incorporar el yogurt en recetas dulces y saladas. Ideal para quienes buscan opciones saludables, económicas y llenas de vida. *Requiere inscripción*.

Mostrador de atención en español Martes y jueves, 1 – 3 pm, ADR Miércoles, 10 – 12 pm

¿Necesitas ayuda para llenar formularios, buscar información o inscribirte en programas de la biblioteca? Ofrecemos atención en español tres veces por semana para apoyarte con:

- Búsqueda de información general en línea o en la biblioteca.
- Inscripción a programas y actividades de la biblioteca
- · Apoyo con solicitudes de empleo en línea
- Ayuda para llenar formularios sencillos (digitales o escritos)
- •Orientación sobre recursos y servicios disponibles en la biblioteca

No necesitas cita previa. Solo acércate al mostrador durante los horarios marcados.

Este servicio es gratuito y está diseñado para brindar apoyo practico, respetuoso y accesible a nuestra comunidad hispanohablante.

La biblioteca es tu espacio. Estamos aquí para ayudarte.

Decir mucho con poco

Sábado, 24 de enero y 7 de febrero, 2-4 pm, ADR

Sé parte de este grupo de lectura compartida, y acércate a nuestra rica cultura literaria a través de la pluma de uno de los mayores exponentes de nuestro idioma.

Antes de publicar la obra maestra por la que es mundialmente conocido, Gabriel García Márquez escribió una de las novelas más conmovedoras jamás creadas. El coronel no tiene quien le escriba es una exploración desgarradora de la injusticia y la violencia a la que es sometido un hombre que entregó su vida al servicio de su país, pero a quien su país parece haber olvidado.

La lectura de esta novela se dividirá en dos sesiones. Se proporciona el material de lectura en las sesiones. *Requiere inscripción*.



Sábado, 28 de marzo, 10-3, Falcon Hall, DCC



Teen

Registration is required except where noted. Programs are held in the Teen Room at Adriance Memorial Library unless otherwise noted and are for ages 12-18. Closing early on Wednesday, December 31; closed Thursday, January 1; Monday, January 19; and Monday, February 16.

Young Adventurers Guild: D&D Club Saturday, every week, 1-4:30 pm, BRD

Want to play D&D or learn how? Join the club and have fun with D&D! We have everything you need: a Dungeon Master, adventures, maps, and minis. Snacks, drinks, and dice are provided. Roll up a new character or play a pre-generated one. All you need is your imagination! For ages 12-18. *No registration required.*

All-Ages Chess Club

Mondays, January 5 - February 9, 5-7 pm, BRD

Explore the enigmatic world of chess by playing against and learning from others in our community. Bring your own board, or play on one of ours! All ages and skill levels welcome. *No registration required.*

Drop-In Teen Gaming

Mondays, January 5 - February 9, 5-8 pm, ADR

Visit the Teen Room to play games on our Nintendo Switch! Up to four players at a time; please bring positivity and kindness to our gaming community. *No registration required.*

Anime Movie Nights

Tuesdays, January 6 – February 10, 5-7 pm, ADR No registration required.

Puppet Show: Error Code: A Mystery of Bolts, Bytes, and Betrayal

Saturday, January 17, 2 pm, BRD

Paper Heart Puppets presents a world of aliens and robots. Something is very wrong at the robot factory. Robots have been exploding and nobody seems to know why. It's up to the audience to figure it out in time to save everyone. This show has been generously funded by grants from The Jim Henson Foundation, ArtsWestchester and Arts Mid-Hudson.

Teen LEGO Builders

Tuesday, January 20, 5-6 pm, ADR

This month we'll meet to build LEGO sets and/or create our own LEGO builds. Try out LEGOTechnic Creator Expert, and LEGO Idea sets.

College Scholarship Workshop Series Wednesday, January 21, February 11, 5-6 pm, ADR

Create a personal scholarship eligibility profile, learn how to research scholarship opportunities and begin drafting scholarship essays. *Register once to attend both programs*.

Anime / Manga Club

Wednesday, January 28, February 11, 5-6 pm, ADR

Watch a couple of episodes of a selected anime series and then discuss its corresponding manga. It's a great way to connect with fellow fans, share recommendations, and enjoy some fantastic stories together. Everyone is welcome.

Teen Painting

Thursday, January 29, 4-6 pm, ADR

Unwind and paint a beautiful landscape that will be on display, while exploring a few fun techniques along the way. No experience is needed. For ages 12-18.

Fabric Scrap Bracelet Workshop Thursday, February 19, 4-5 pm, ADR

Learn how to turn colorful fabric scraps into unique, stylish bracelets while exploring basic crafting techniques. All materials will be provided, and no previous experience is needed.

Teen Cooking

Thursday, January 15, February 12, 4-6 pm, ADR

We'll make simple, delicious dishes you can easily recreate at home for yourself, your family, or your friends. Why not pick up some new cooking skills along the way? For ages 12-18.

January 15: Cheese Quesadilla February 12: Chicken Noodle Soup

Early Childhood

PPLD 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*. Closing early on Wednesday, December 31; closed Thursday, January 1; Monday, January 19; and Monday, February 16.

At Adriance

PLC: Preschool Learning Center Story Time Mondays, January 5 – February 9, 10-11:15 am Tuesdays, January 6 – February 10, 10-11:15 am

Weekly themed stories, music 'n' movement, sensory art activities, and open-ended play in the several centers in our Preschool Learning Center classroom. For ages 3-5. *Registration required*. Please register for either a Monday or Tuesday session.

Toddler Time

Tuesdays, January 6 - February 10, 10-11 am

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

Baby and Me

Wednesdays, January 7 – February 11, 10-11 am

Join us weekly for Baby and Me! We will explore the joys of songs, rhymes and movement you can practice at home to keep building early literacy and motor skills. Come early or stay late to play and socialize with other babies and caregivers! For children who are pre-walkers or crawlers. Siblings are welcome. For 0-24 months.

Music & Movement

Thursdays, January 8 – February 12, 10:00-11 am

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.

Sensory Lab

Fridays, January 9 - February 13, 10-11 am

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

At Boardman Road

Preschool Story Time

Mondays, January 5 - February 9, 10-10:30 am

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

Baby Rhyme & Play Time

Mondays, January 5 - February 9, 11-11:45 am

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

Walk & Wiggle

Wednesdays, January 7 – February 11, 10-10:45 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, finger plays, and stories. For ages 18-24 months.

Toddler Time for Two-Year-Olds

Thursdays, January 8 – February 12, 10-10:30 am

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

Toot & Scoot & Play

Thursdays, January 8 – February 12, 10:45-11:30 am

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

Bilingual Family Story Time

Thursdays, January 22, February 5, 1:30–2:30 pm, ADR

Join us for an interactive session in English and Spanish with stories, songs, and crafts! This program will provide a fun and educational cultural exchange regardless of fluency. For families with children aged 1-5 years old. *No registration required.*

Children

At Adriance

These programs require registration unless otherwise noted. Register at poklib.org/Events or (845) 485-3445 X 3320. Please check age appropriateness before you register.

Drop-In Storytime

Wednesdays, January 7 – February 11, 4-4:30 pm

Snuggle up in the Story Nook and listen for your next favorite story! Recommended for ages 4 and up. *No registration required.*

Little STEAMers for Homeschoolers Series

Wednesdays, January 7, 14, 11:30 am - 12:30 pm Thursdays, January 8, 15, 1:30-2:30 pm

Are you a homeschooler looking to connect with other homeschoolers? Then come complete various STEAM challenges while making some new friends. Aligned with NYS standards. Recommended for ages 6-11.

January 7 & 8: Marble Run Master's Challenge January 14 & 15: Growing Hydroponic Vegetables

Registration required. Register for only one session.

Wicked Crafts

Tuesday, January 13, 4-5 pm

Follow the yellow brick road to the library where we will do crafts and activities inspired by the Land of Oz! Recommended for children ages 4-11.

Stories, Science, & Art!

Wednesdays, January 21, 28, 4:30-5:30 pm

If you love reading stories and making art, but are also a budding scientist, then this series is for you! Recommended for ages 5-8.

January 21: Fortune Teller Sharks?!

January 28: Who's Afraid of the Big, Bad Wolf?

See page 11 for a look back at bestselling author Laurie Halse

Anderson's visits to local schools!

Bob Ross Family Paint Night!

Tuesday, January 27, 4-5 pm

Paint a serene winter scene while enjoying some cozy down time that will create a sweet family memory. Hot cocoa and cookies available. Recommended for children 7-11 years old. *Registration required for all adults and children attending*. Dress for a mess!

Art & Stuff

Tuesday, February 3, 4-5 pm

Come make art! Use our arts and crafts supplies to express your creativity. Recommended for ages 4-7.

Create a Huggable Monstrosity

Tuesday, February 10, 4-5 pm

Surprise your loved ones this Valentine's Day with a homemade huggable monster to give as a gift. Ages 3–5.

Friendly Book Swap

Thursday, February 12, 3-4:30 pm

What's better than a book? A book and a cookie! Join us for a fun afternoon of swapping stories, sampling delicious cookies, and connecting with other families in the community. Bring up to 5 pre-loved gently used picture books per family and trade them for new-to-you stories. Ages 3-11.



At Boardman Road —

Registration is required unless otherwise indicated.

All-Ages Chess Club

Mondays, January 5 - February 9, 5-7 pm, BRD

Chess is an easy game to learn, but a harder game to master. Join us biweekly for meetings — the more you attend, the more your chess skills will improve! From beginners to advanced players, all are welcome to join us in the fun! Semi-formal instruction provided when available. *No registration required.*

Snow Monster Painting

Monday, January 12, 4-5 pm

Paint an adorable snow monster to take home. Dress for the mess. Recommended for ages 5-11.

K-2 Stories & Crafts

Wednesday, January 14, 4-5 pm

Join us as we share some of our favorite picture books and make a special craft afterwards.

Bird Seed Valentines

Wednesday, February 4, 4-5 pm

Make a bird seed Valentine ornament to give to a friend or give to the birds. Ages 6-11.

Cardboard Foosball

Thursday, February 5, 4-5 pm

Learn how to make a foosball game out of cardboard and simple everyday materials. Ages 6-11.

Make a Pizza

Monday, February 9, 4-5 pm

Celebrate National Pizza Day at the library.

Make your own little pizza with toppings.

Recommended for ages 6- 11.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Launch Party Saturday, January 10, 1:30 - 3:30 pm, ADR

For more details, see page 3!

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Launch Party

Saturday, January 24, 1:30-3:30 pm, ADR

For more details, see page 3!





Saturday, March 28, 10-3, Falcon Hall, DCC

Meet more than 100 authors, illustrators, and storybook characters; check out the books for sale, and more!

Visitors to the Book Festival under the age of 17 will be able to receive a voucher, valued at \$15.



poklib.org/bookfestival



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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, Saturday, 10 am - 4 pm

Get in touch: (845) 485-3445 x3423 **Facebook:** PoughkeepsieLibraryBookStore



Mystery Mondays Book Club Mondays, 11 am, BRD

January 26: **Spirit Crossing** by William Kent Krueger



February 23: **State of Terror** by Hillary Clinton and Louise Penny (Ruth Kava)

Book Store Volunteers Needed

The Friends of PPLD are seeking volunteer help in our Book Store, located at the Boardman Road Branch in Poughkeepsie. Help is needed in the store and in the book sorting room. We will train!

Shifts are for two hours Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday (Saturday help needed most). The Book Store is open from 10 am - 4 pm, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Visit the Book Store to learn more!



The Mystery Mondays Book Club has started a memorial book fund in honor of Book Club facilitator and Friends volunteer Suzanne Christiansen. *To learn more*, see page 9.

