

The Ford Connection

The Thomas Ford Memorial Library

SUMMER 2024

ADVENTURE — BEGINS AT — YOUR LIBRARY™

Youth (Birth - Grade 4)
Summer Library Challenge
June 3 - July 31

Get ready for a summer full of adventure, fun, and prizes! Sign up in person at the Youth Services Desk to pick up a registration packet for each child. Prize distribution will begin Monday, June 17 and end on Wednesday, July 31.



© CSLP



READ
RENEW
REPEAT

Adults & Teen/Tween | *Summer Reading Challenge* | June 3 - August 16

This summer, the Library will be your source for thinking globally and acting locally! Discover books that inspire you to make a positive impact on the environment while also renewing your own spirit. Participants will receive a recycled tire bookmark and a free cookie from Kirschbaums. Read five books this summer and you can earn a ceramic planter and seed kit. Teens and Tweens will have their choice of a planter or a set of reusable water balloons. Every book you read will also count toward our end of summer raffle!

800 Chestnut Street | fordlibrary.org | (708) 246-0520

ADULT

Registration opens on **Friday, May 24** for all Adult programs.

Registration is required for all programs unless otherwise noted. Register online, in person, or by calling (708) 246-0520.

📌 Registration required

Seed Drive

June 1–30

Have extra seeds from your garden or ones you never got around to planting? Bring them to the Library in the month of June to help us start a seed library! Drop any labeled seeds off to the Reference Desk in the month of June.

Introduction to Mah-jongg 📌

Tuesday, June 11, 1:30 p.m.

Learn how to get started with Mah-jongg, an engaging game of skill and chance played by millions of people around the world. Instructor Christine Hunt will go over the basic rules and strategy for new players interested in a fun, social gaming experience.

Biomimicry: Looking to Nature to Solve Today's Problems 📌

Wednesday, June 12, 7 p.m.

How did a Kingfisher improve a high-speed train? How has a gecko helped astronauts? Hedgehogs are helping reduce the chances of concussions. Join Naturalist Kim White and her animal ambassadors to find out how science and technology are looking to nature to solve complex problems.

Rachel Carson: A Living History Portrayal 📌

Monday, June 24, 7 p.m.

Biologist and author Rachel Carson warned the world of the potentially dire environmental impact of chemical pesticides in her best-selling 1962 book, *Silent Spring*. In this living history program set in 1963, actress and historian Leslie Goddard portrays Carson as she discusses her childhood love for the living world, her passion for writing, and her work to awaken the world to the beauty and fragility of nature.



Painting by Archibald Motley

The Black Chicago Renaissance

Wednesday, June 26 | 7 p.m. 📌

Dr. Amira Millicent Davis will explore the Black Chicago Renaissance, the early to mid-20th century migration of Southern Blacks to Chicago and the cultural revolution they trailblazed in their new home. The presentation will include a Q&A and an opportunity for attendees to share their family migration stories.

Plant-Based Cuisine 📌

Wednesday, July 10, 7 p.m.

Learn how to easily make the switch to a whole food plant-based diet with Chef Susan's friendly step-by-step approach to home cooked vegetarian dishes and her tips on how to make them vegan.

Native Wildflowers 📌

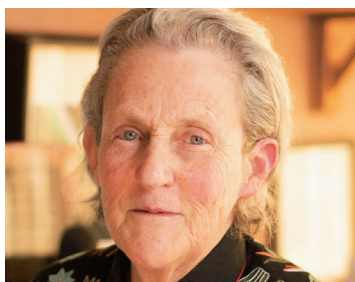
Monday, July 15, 7 p.m.

This program by Sharon Yiesla Horticulture Services will cover a short introduction on using native plants in the landscape and then focus on familiarizing the audience with a variety of wildflowers.



Summer Virtual Programming

The following virtual event is made possible by Illinois Libraries Present, a statewide collaboration between public libraries offering high-quality events. ILP is committed to inclusion and accessibility. To request accommodations, please email illinoislibrariespresent@gmail.com.



The Hidden Gifts of Visual Thinkers with Dr. Temple Grandin 📌

Tuesday, June 4, 7 p.m.

Learn about the hidden gifts of neurodiversity from one of the world's most accomplished and well-known adult activists with autism.

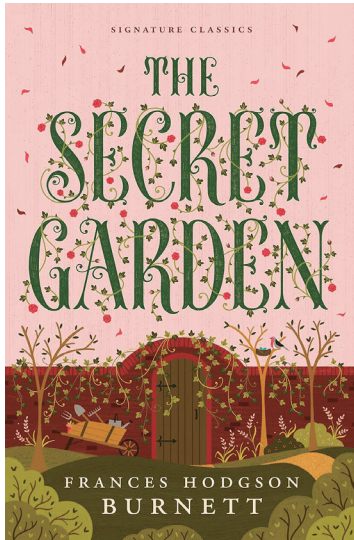
books

Library book club discussion groups are open to anyone who enjoys good books! Extra copies are available at the Library one month before the discussion.

7:30 p.m. start time for all

The Village Read

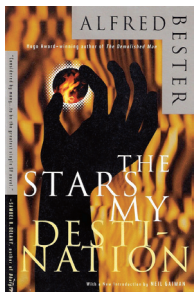
Monday, August 12



The Secret Garden
by Frances Hodgson Burnett

Great books bring people together! Join us for an informal discussion of this cherished classic. Free copies of the book will be available starting Monday, June 3rd.

Science Fiction & Fantasy Book Club



Monday, August 5

The Stars My Destination
by Alfred Bester
Sci-Fi & Fantasy



Looking for our Summer Crafts?
You can find them on the back cover!

JOIN THE CLUB!

Spice of the Month

Feeling inspired by flavor? Pick up a Spice of the Month kit! Each kit will come with the necessary spice, a recipe to try, and cookbook recommendations that feature more meals with each month's theme. While supplies last.

- June 25: Chili Powder
- July 30: Honey
- August 27: Turmeric

Classroom Kitchen

Virtual Programs with Kristyn Slick

A recording will be emailed to all registrants after each program. Even if you are unable to attend the live event, please register if you would like to receive the recording to watch on your own time!

Tropical Treats ^R

Wednesday, June 26

6:30 p.m.

Create yummy desserts featuring fresh pineapple, coconut, mango, and banana to share—or not!

Mastering Grilling Basics ^R

Wednesday, July 17

6:30 p.m.

Learn classic grilling techniques with vegetarian and omnivore options.

Focaccia Art ^R

Wednesday, August 14

6:30 p.m.

From vegetable bouquets to herb-infused designs, discover how to turn your dough into delicious works of bread art.

films

A series of independent, foreign, and documentary films with optional discussion after each screening. Registration required.

6 p.m. start time for all

Documentary Series

This conservation and wildlife focused documentary series is the perfect companion for our Read Renew Repeat summer reading challenge. Earn an extra raffle ticket for attending each movie!

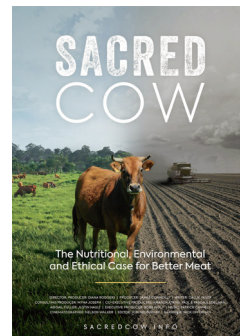
My Octopus Teacher



Thursday, June 13 ^R

A filmmaker forges an unusual friendship with an octopus living in a South African kelp forest, learning as the animal shares the mysteries of her world. 2021 Oscar Winner for Best Documentary Feature.

Sacred Cow



Thursday, July 11 ^R

Narrated by Nick Offerman, *Sacred Cow* explores the current debate on eating and raising cattle for food, and how animal-sourced foods can be raised in a way that is beneficial for the environment.

An Inconvenient Sequel: Truth to Power



Thursday, August 8 ^R

A decade after *An Inconvenient Truth* brought climate change to the heart of popular culture, this follow-up shows just how close we are to a real energy revolution.

TEEN/TWEEN

Registration opens on **Friday, May 24** for all Teen & Tween programs. *Registration is required for all programs unless otherwise noted. Teen programs are open to those in grades 5–12.*

Ⓜ Registration required

Pizza & Books

Monday, June 3 Ⓜ
3:30–4:30 p.m.

Not sure where to start with your summer reading? Join us for pizza as we play book Jenga and share our favorite books!



Pixel Art

June 3–August 16

What's the picture? Come to the Library and help us find out! Check in with a librarian and get your own set of pixel stickers, then stick them on the poster in the Teen/Tween Room to complete the image!

Scavenger Hunt

June 3–August 16

Complete a scavenger hunt in the Teen/Tween Room and collect a prize at the Reference Desk!

Crochet Rainbow Flag Pencil Topper

 Ⓜ

Wednesday, June 12

Create a cute crochet rainbow flag pencil topper to celebrate Pride Month! Crochet experience is helpful but not necessary.

Nintendo Switch Open Play

 Ⓜ

Friday, June 21 AND Wednesday, July 24; 3:30–4:30 p.m.

Join the multiplayer fun and choose which games to play! Snacks will be provided.

Coke Bottle Terrarium Kit

Tuesday, June 25

Reuse and renew by making a terrarium from a 2 liter Coke bottle! Available in the Teen/Tween Room. While supplies last.

Reused Materials Boat Race

 Ⓜ

Monday, July 1

Design your own boat made out of reused and recycled materials, then put it to the test in a race to see whose boat is the fastest! The winner will receive a prize.

Tie Dye: Reused & Renewed

 Ⓜ

Wednesday, July 10, 3:30–4:30 p.m.

Reuse old clothes and update your style at the same time with tie dye! Bring a white cotton clothing item of your choice to transform. We will have white t-shirts available as well. It'll be to dye for!

Recycled Magazine Collage Kit

 Ⓜ

Thursday, July 18

Make new art out of old magazines! Each kit will include some magazines and other supplies to make a collage. Available in the Teen/Tween Room. While supplies last.

K Cup Bath Bombs Kit

Monday, August 5

Reduce waste by reusing K Cups as molds for handmade bath bombs! Available in the Teen/Tween Room. While supplies last.

DIY Rice Krispies Treats

 Ⓜ

Wednesday, August 14, 3:30–4:30 p.m.

Everyone loves Rice Krispies Treats! Learn how to make your own, and customize them with mix-ins and decorations.

Back to School Care Packages

Tuesday, August 20

It's time to head back to school! We've got you covered with goodies to guarantee a great first week. Available in the Teen/Tween Room. While supplies last.

Super Smash Bros Tournament

 Ⓜ

Monday, August 26, 3:30–5 p.m.

Who will be the next Smash Bros champion? Join us to find out! Snacks will be provided.

LIBRARY

Battle *OF THE* Books!

Grades 5-8 [®]

Registration:

June 1-30

Competition:

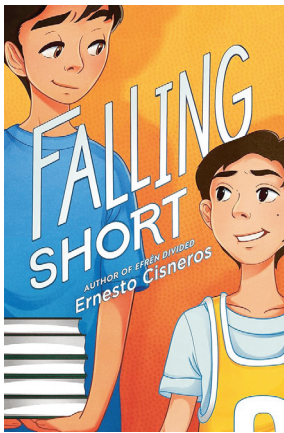
Wednesday, July 31 | 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

at Linda Sokol Francis Brookfield

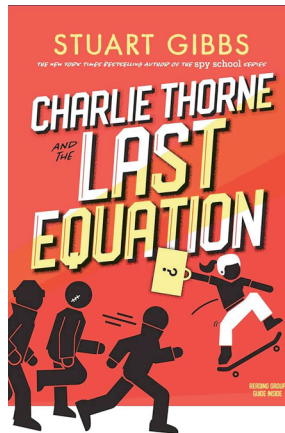
Join us for the fifth annual Library Battle of the Books between the La Grange, La Grange Park, Linda Sokol Francis Brookfield, and Thomas Ford Memorial libraries.

Register at your preferred library and we will place you in a team of 5. If you want to make sure you're placed in a team with friends, include a team name in parentheses after your name.

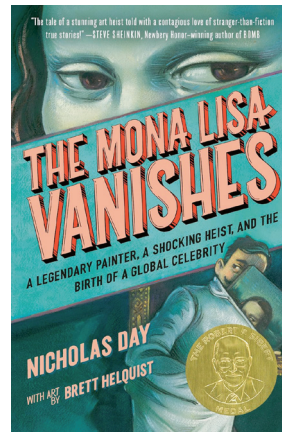
Register, read the books listed below before July 31, then compete against your peers!



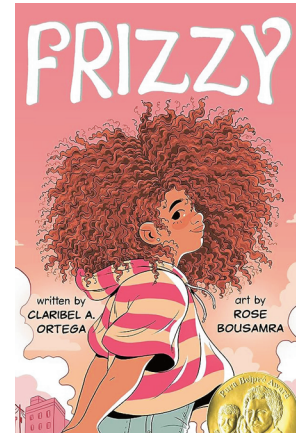
Falling Short
by Ernesto Cisneros



*Charlie Thorne and
the Last Equation*
by Stuart Gibbs



Mona Lisa Vanishes
by Nicholas Day



Frizzy
by Claribel A. Ortega

Teen Volunteers Wanted!

If you need volunteer hours, consider joining our Teen Board! The Teen Board implements programming suggestions, recommends books, and gives input for ways to entice other teens to visit the Library. We do a fun craft or activity every meeting!

Open to students in grades 5-12. Meet in the Teen/Tween Room.

Summer Schedule

Third Thursdays: June 20, July 18, August 15; 7 p.m.

YOUTH

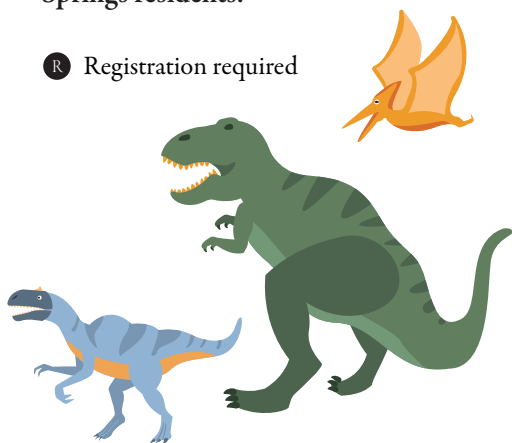
Registration is required for ALL programs unless otherwise noted.

Storytime Registration begins on Tuesday, May 28 at 9:30 a.m. for Lapsit, Toddler Time, and Preschool Pals only. For all other programs, Youth Services Program Registration begins on Wednesday, May 29 at 9:30 a.m.

Register online at fordlibrary.org. Have your library card ready to register online, in person, or by calling (708) 246-0520.

First preference will be given to Western Springs residents.

Ⓜ Registration required



Dinosaur Discoveries T-Rexplorers!

Thursday, June 6 Ⓜ
6–7 p.m.
Families Welcome!

Discover the clues that prove the existence of dinosaurs! T-Rexplorers will take you on an adventure straight from the Cretaceous period with a peek into the world of dinosaur science and paleontology. See fossil types from numerous species including favorites like Triceratops and T-Rex, while getting a glimpse into what it's like to go on a paleontological dig.

R.E.A.D. to a Therapaws Pet Ⓜ

Grades K-3
Tuesdays: June 11 OR July 9
6:30–7:30 p.m.

Beginning or independent readers can practice reading aloud to one of the dogs from Hinsdale Humane Society's Therapaws Program. Each child will have a 10-minute slot during the hour. We will advise you of your time slot via email prior to the session, which is allotted on a first come, first served basis. *Due to the popularity of this program, we request that you register your child on one day only.*

Bird Bingo Ⓜ

Grades K-4
Thursday, June 20
2–2:45 p.m.

Tweet tweet, birds have taken over our bingo game! Instead of numbers, players will search their board for various birds. Come and play while also learning fun facts about the birds in your neighborhood.

Rigamajig Builders Ⓜ

Grades 1-4
Tuesday, June 25
2–3 p.m.

Rigamajig Builder is a large-scale building kit that sparks STEM/STEAM learning through collaborative and open-ended play. Come and explore building with friends and embark on a fun adventure at the Library.

Read & Create: How to Find an Elephant Ⓜ

Grades K-4
Wednesday, June 26
11–11:30 a.m.

Join us on an elephant adventure as we read *How to Find an Elephant* by Kate Banks. Following the story, you will make your very own set of binoculars!

Family Puzzle Challenge Ⓜ

Families Welcome
Wednesday, July 17
6–7 p.m.

Calling all puzzle lovers or anyone who loves a good challenge: it's a race against the clock! Work as a team with your family to finish puzzles before the buzzer goes off. There will be several tables of puzzles for families to complete.

Read & Create: Leapin Lizards Ⓜ

Grades K-4
Tuesday, July 23
11–11:30 a.m.

Come and listen to Leo Lionni's classic *A Color of His Own*. Afterwards, create a lizard of your own with watercolor paints and paper!

LEGO Family Night Ⓜ

Families Welcome
Thursdays: June 27 & July 25
6–7 p.m.

Families of LEGO enthusiasts are invited to join us each month to practice and learn LEGO building techniques. Using teamwork and your imagination, build a creation that will be on display in the Youth Services Department for one month. LEGOs will be provided by the Library for this program.

LEGO Inventors Ⓜ

Grades K-4
Monday, July 29
2–2:45 p.m.

Bring your ideas and imagination to the Library to create a model invention that we will put on display! LEGOs will be provided by the Library for this program.

Play-dough Party!

Monday, July 1 Ⓜ
6–7 p.m.

Pre-K–Kindergarten w/ Adult

We'll bring the play-dough if you bring your imagination! Take home an adventure playmat and leave the mess here.



Miss Jamie's Farm Music Show!



Tuesday, July 2 ^R
10:30–11:15 a.m.
Families Welcome!

Sing, dance, laugh, and learn about life down on the farm with Miss Jamie and her puppet animal friends! Kids use the power of their imagination to help with chores, plant and harvest crops, and pretend to be pollinators.

CAPTAIN ZORK'S OUTER SPACE ADVENTURE

Wednesday, July 31 ^R
10:30–11:15 a.m.
Families Welcome!

Join Captain Zork and the crew of the Starship Puppetron as they blast off to entertain the entire galaxy with an out of this world musical marionette variety show! Full of warp powered fun, laughs, and music, the entire family will enjoy award-winning marionette master Dave Herzog's puppetry.

Scavenger Hunt: I Spy in My Library

June 1–30

How well do you know the Youth Services department?! Come to the Youth Services Desk for a sheet of clues and then try to solve them all. Once you complete the task, earn a fun adventure sticker!

Choose Your Own Summer Adventure

^R

June 1–July 31

Vote for a new *Would You Rather...* adventure each week and watch them compete to be "Fan Favorite."

Decoding Challenge

June 1–July 31

Come learn about America's national parks when you solve this year's cryptogram! Each week there will be a new fun fact about one of our country's national parks written in code. Use the decoder to reveal the secret message and earn a prize.

Guessing Jar

June 10–July 27

Stop by the Youth Services Desk to be adventurous and try our guessing jar! A winner with the closest guess will get a prize each week.

Madeline's Zoo Adventure Scavenger Hunt

July 1–31

In a library in Western Springs all covered with vines, full of books, and adventure lives a doll named Madeline. Small but mighty and never afraid at the Zoo, Madeline wants to bring you along too! Find and report what animal she's visiting and your efforts will be rewarded with a prize worth exhibiting.

Danny the Dump Truck Scavenger Hunt

August 1–31

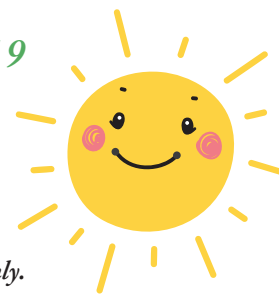
Danny the Dump Truck will be hiding somewhere in the Youth Services Department. Tell us what he is carrying and win a prize!



Storytimes! *June 10–21 OR July 8–19*

Registration is required for all storytimes and begins on **Tuesday, May 28 at 9:30 a.m.** online at fordlibrary.org. First preference will be given to Western Springs residents.

Due to the popularity of our storytimes, we request that you register your child for one session only.



Lapsit Storytime

^R

Birth-23 months w/ adult

**Wednesdays or Thursdays or Fridays
10–10:30 a.m.**

Help your baby grow up to love books! Share stories, songs, and rhymes with your little one in this lapsit program and introduce them to a lifetime of reading and language enjoyment.

Toddler Time

^R

2-3.5 years w/ adult

**Mondays: 10–10:30 a.m.
or Mondays: 11–11:30 a.m.
or Tuesdays: 10–10:30 a.m.**

Introduce your toddler to early literacy and help build a foundation of reading. We pair short books with songs and rhymes to engage them. Toddlers love to wander and listen during our time together.

Preschool Pals

^R

3.5-5 years

**Mondays or Tuesdays
1–1:30 p.m.**

Hear stories, sing songs, and have fun with your friends! Storytime will highlight early literacy skills that children need to learn before they can read independently. Children attend this storytime **without** their grown-ups so that they can practice being independent.

Thomas Ford Memorial Library

800 Chestnut Street
Western Springs, IL 60558
(708) 246-0520
fordlibrary.org

Library Hours

Monday - Thursday

9:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Friday & Saturday

9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday

CLOSED from Memorial Day through Labor Day

Library Closings

The Library will be closed on Monday, May 27 for Memorial Day, Thursday, July 4 for Independence Day, and Friday, August 23 for Staff In Service.

Board of Trustee Meeting Dates

The Board meets on the last Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.
Summer 2024 dates: June 25, July 23, August 27.

*****ECRWSSDDM****

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Adam Fuelleman: adamfuelleman@fordlibrary.org

Ann Marie Kartsounes: annmariekartsounes@fordlibrary.org

Daniel Montgomery: danielmontgomery@fordlibrary.org

Everyday Resources

Thomas Ford Memorial Library offers so much more beyond books and community programming!

From high-speed internet, computer, and printing access to meeting room reservations and more, we're here to be your convenient one-stop destination for all things learning, connecting, and growing. Ask us about our services any time to take advantage of everything!

Library of Things

We have a variety of cool and useful tools available for checkout in our Library of Things collection, including:

- Roku with Apple TV, Disney +, etc.
- LED Therapy Lamp
- GoPro Camera
- Travel Accessories
- Metal Detector
- Collapsible Projection Screen
- Memory Kits for Dementia

...and so much more!

GROUPS & DISCUSSIONS

These ongoing Library groups are free for all to attend. No registration required.

Knitting Circle

Every other Thursday: June 6, 20; July 11, 25; August 8, 22

1 p.m.

Join us for knitting, conversation, and light refreshments.

Western Springs Writers' Society

Second & Fourth Thursdays: June 13, 27; July 11, 25; August 8, 22

7 p.m.

Discuss and hone your craft with other writers from the community! Whether this is your career or hobby, writers of all levels and genres are invited. Questions in advance? Please contact Jim Swinehart at jrswinehart10@gmail.com.

Investment Discussion Group

Second Tuesdays: June 11, July 9, August 13; 7:15 p.m.

Amateur investors meet to discuss trends in stocks, bonds, and more.



Adult Crafts

First preference will be given to Western Springs residents. Please enter your Library card number when registering. Otherwise, you will be put on a waitlist.

Rainbow Wreath [®]

Monday, June 10, 7 p.m.

Add a pop of color to your door this summer. All materials will be provided.

Father's Day Card Kit

Tuesday, June 4

Create a card worthy of dad this June. Most materials will be provided, but a glue stick is needed to complete the project. While supplies last.

Paint a Pot

Monday, July 8, 7 p.m.

Celebrate Thomas Ford's new seed library by painting a terracotta pot! All materials will be provided. While supplies last.

DIY Book Nook [®]

Tuesday, August 20, 7 p.m.

Create a mini scene to nestle between books on your shelves! An assortment of materials will be provided, but feel free to bring items from home to incorporate.