



The Ford Connection

The Thomas Ford Memorial Library

SUMMER 2023



Summer Reading Challenge

Youth: June 1 - July 31

Adult & Teen/Tween: June 1 - August 14

This Summer, the Library is where you'll find your voice! We'll help you discover books that inspire you to share your story, express yourself, or spark change. Sign up online or in-person.

Youth: Pick up your reading log at the Youth Services desk after registering. Participants will win a variety of prizes for reaching their goals! Prize distribution will begin Monday, June 12 and end on July 31.

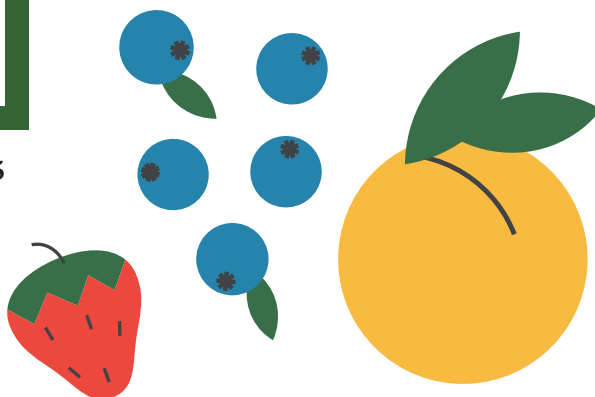
Tweens, Teens, and Adults: Sign up and receive a magnetic poetry set and a free cookie from Kirschbaum's! Teens and tweens who read five books will earn an art or journaling kit. Adults who read five books will earn a reading journal and bookplate kit. Each book you read will be entered into a raffle for other awesome prizes!

ADULT

Registration opens on **Thursday, May 25** at **9:30 a.m.** for all Adult programs.

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

R Registration required



Composting 101 **R**

Tuesday, August 15, 7 p.m.
Learn how to compost in your own backyard with Sharon Yiesla as we clear up the misconceptions that may be keeping you from composting.

Flavors of Summer

Classroom Kitchen Series (CKS) with Kristyn Slick | Virtual Cooking Classes | Registration Required

CKS Summer Eats **R**

Wednesday, June 14, 6:30 p.m.

A sun-inspired class focused on fresh seasonal fruits and veggies, whether from the produce aisle or your own summer garden. Enjoy easy recipes that are perfect for entertaining!



Julia Child: A Living History Portrayal **R**

Thursday, June 15, 7 p.m.

In the 1960's, thousands tuned in every week to watch Julia Child demonstrate the art of French Cooking on television. Actress and scholar Leslie Goddard, Ph.D., brings the iconic French chef to life in this portrayal, where Child discusses everything from her relationship with her husband Paul Child to the mishaps of cooking on television. Bon Appetit!

Spice of the Month Club

Interested in trying new recipes or experimenting with different spices? Stop by each month to 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 recipes with that month's theme. While supplies last.

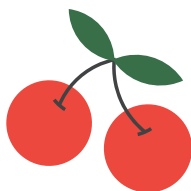
June 27: Lavender | **July 25:** Mint | **August 29:** Cumin



The History of Motown Records **R**

Monday, July 10, 7 p.m.

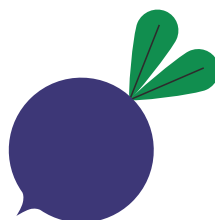
In Detroit in the 1960's Motown Records produced hits as efficiently as the Ford Motor Company produced automobiles. It was the "Sound of Young America" sung by performers like The Supremes, The Temptations, Marvin Gaye and Stevie Wonder. Music historian Gary Wenstrup will trace Motown's amazing musical journey using audio and video clips of timeless songs like "Dancing in The Streets," "I Heard it Through the Grapevine," "What's Going On," and much more.



The House on Mango Street in Latinx Literature **R**

Wednesday, July 12, 7 p.m.

Explore all the joy and heartbreak of Sandra Cisneros' coming-of-age classic about a young Latina girl growing up in Chicago. Angelica Davila, from UIC's Center for Latinx Literature of the Americas will discuss key themes in the book and its importance within Chicano and Latinx literature.



Tenacious Tour du Mont Blanc **R**

Wednesday, July 26, 7 p.m.

Trek 105 miles through the Alps as Brian Michalski guides us along Europe's world-famous Tour du Mont Blanc. As we journey through France, Italy, and Switzerland, gain insight into practical planning tips, cultural tidbits, challenges along the trail, accommodation logistics, and more all seen through the lens of Michalski's gorgeous original photography and entertainingly adventurous retellings.



books

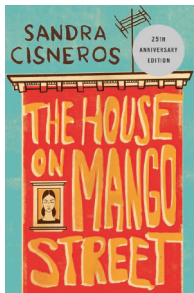
Library book club discussion groups are open to anyone who enjoys good books! Extra copies are available at the Library one month before the discussion.

Reader's Night In

Wednesday, June 7
7:30–9 p.m.

Need some reading inspiration or want to share some reading inspiration? Socialize with other readers and share favorite titles or recent reads. Light refreshments will be provided.

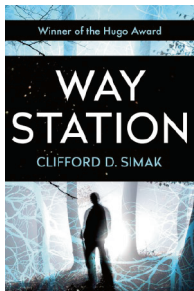
The Village Read [®]



Wednesday,
July 5
7:30–9 p.m.

The House on Mango Street
by Sandra Cisneros
Fiction

Science Fiction & Fantasy Book Club



Monday,
August 21
7:30–9 p.m.

Way Station
by Clifford D. Simak
Sci-Fi & Fantasy

where
people
and
ideas
connect

GROUPS & DISCUSSIONS

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

Knitting Circle

Every other Thursday: June 8, 22;
July 6, 20; August 10, 24; 1 p.m.
Join us for knitting, conversation, and light refreshments.

Western Springs Writers' Society

Second & Fourth Thursdays: June 8, 15
(June 15 is our Open Mic event!);
July 13, 27; August 10, 24
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 Marie Gerken at marie@gerken.org or Jim Swinehart at jrswinehart10@gmail.com.

Investment Discussion Group

Second Tuesdays: June 13, July 11,
August 8; 7:15 p.m.
Amateur investors meet to discuss trends in stocks, bonds, and more.

films

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

NOTE: NEW TIME! 6 p.m.



Thursday,
June 8 [®]
6 p.m.

Till (2022)
Dir. Chinonye Chukwu
Historical Drama



Thursday,
July 13 [®]
6 p.m.

Women Talking
(2022)
Dir. Sara Polley
Drama



Thursday,
August 10 [®]
6 p.m.

The Fabelmans (2022)
Dir. Steven Spielberg
Coming of Age



CRAFTS!



For Adult Craft Programs: First preference will be given to Western Springs residents. If you are a Thomas Ford cardholder, please be sure to enter your library card number when registering. If you do not enter your card number, you will be put on a pending waitlist and are not guaranteed a spot in the program.

Independence Day Wreath [®]

Monday, June 12, 7 p.m.
Celebrate the 4th of July with some homemade decor. Using the provided materials, participants will create a festive wreath for the upcoming holiday.

Summer Paint & Sip [®]

Monday, July 10 & August 14, 7 p.m.
Create a painting in this instructor-led art class. All materials and a non-alcoholic beverage will be provided. Session repeats to allow for additional participants, so only sign up for one.

TEEN/TWEEN

Registration opens on **Thursday, May 25 at 9:30 a.m.** 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

Community Weaving

Begins June 1

Add your "voice" to our community weaving project, located in the Teen/Tween Room!

Book Bingo

June 1–August 14

Drop by the Teen/Tween Room to pick up a Book Bingo card to fill out as you read! When you have 5 in a row, bring your card to the Reference desk to pick out a prize.

Teen Board

Third Thursdays: June 15, July 20, August 17; 7 p.m.

Teen Board can be a great way to earn volunteer hours! If you have ideas for how the Library can better serve teens and tweens, come join us! 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.

Rainbow Wall Hanging Kit

Saturday, June 3

Celebrate Pride Month with a handwoven rainbow decoration! Pick up a kit in the Teen/Tween Room. While supplies last.

Metal Stamped Jewelry & Bookmarks

Monday, June 12, 3–4 p.m.

Make functional art with metal stamps! Create your own designs and words on a bookmark, keychain, or jewelry.

Paint Pouring

Friday, June 30, 3–4 p.m.

Pour your heart out... onto a canvas! Learn to make an abstract work of art using the technique of paint pouring.

Seed Bombs Kit

Thursday, July 6

Spread the love with wildflower seed bombs! Pick up a kit in the Teen/Tween Room. While supplies last.

Library Battle of the Books!



Registration: June 1-30 📌

Competition: Wednesday, August 2 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
at La Grange Public Library

Community members in Grade 5-8 are invited to join us for the third 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. 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 listed books, and then in August you'll compete against your peers!



Ophie's Ghosts by Justina Ireland
City Spies by James Ponti
Creepy Cat by Cotton Valent
Escape at 10,000 Feet by Tom Sullivan

Button Making

Wednesday, July 12, 3–4 p.m.

Design your own pin-back buttons using our button maker! We'll help you turn anything you can write or draw on paper into a wearable button.

Super Smash Bros Tournament

Monday, July 17, 3–4:30 p.m.

Test your Super Smash Bros skills in our tournament! Snacks will be provided.

Mod Podge Flower Pot Kit

Thursday, July 27

Transform an ordinary clay pot into a work of art! Makes a great gift or decoration. Pick up a kit in the Teen/Tween Room. While supplies last.

Paper Bag Photo Album

Tuesday, August 1, 3–4 p.m.

Save your summer memories in a handmade scrapbook made from paper bags! Scrapbooking supplies will be provided.

Cake Pop Creations

Friday, August 11, 3–4 p.m.

Come make and decorate some delicious cake pops with us! Please list any food allergies in the notes when registering.

Random Rocks of Kindness Kit

Wednesday, August 16

Spread positivity with a hand painted rock! Add an inspiring quote or cheery image and leave it for another person to find with the help of Geocaching. Pick up a kit in the Teen/Tween Room. While supplies last.

Smartphone Holograms Kit

Monday, August 21

We're bringing holograms to the (very) small screen—again! Pick up a kit in the Teen/Tween Room. While supplies last.

New School Year Snacks

Wednesday, August 23, 3:30–5:30 p.m.

Drop by the Teen/Tween Room after school for snacks to celebrate the beginning of a new school year! While supplies last.



Special Summer Programming

The following virtual events are 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.



Navigate Your Stars: A Conversation with Author Jesmyn Ward [®]

Tuesday, June 6
7 p.m.

Join us for an evening with two-time National Book Award winner Jesmyn Ward. Hailed as “the new Toni Morrison” by the American Booksellers Association, Jesmyn will discuss her life, her literary vision, and her unique perspectives on love and loss. Tracie D. Hall, Executive Director of American Library Association, will join her in conversation.

Braiding Sweetgrass: A Conversation with Robin Wall Kimmerer [®]

Wednesday, June 21
7 p.m.

Join us for an evening with the award-winning author of “Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants.” In this insightful and inspiring talk, Robin Wall Kimmerer will share her unique perspective on the interconnectedness of humans and nature and the importance of recognizing and respecting the gifts of the earth.

Thomas Ford Memorial Library invites you to...

Open Mic Night!

Thursday, June 22 | 6:30 p.m. | All Ages

Add your voice to the creative community at our open mic night co-hosted by the Western Springs Writers’ Society. All ages and genres are invited to read or perform a piece of their own original work that is no longer than five minutes, and anyone is welcome to attend as part of the audience.



YOUTH

Registration is required and begins on **Thursday, June 1 at 9:30 a.m.** online at fordlibrary.org for ALL programs unless otherwise noted.

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

Look & Find Your Voice

June 1–30

Search the Youth Services department for hidden 'Find Your Voice' badges each day in June. Be inspired to express and find your voice as you discover them all. A prize awaits your efforts!

Morse Code Challenge

June 1–July 31

.... . -.. -.- --- -.-.- Means "hello!" in Morse code. Visit the Youth Services department and decode a new message each week. Learn a new way to use your voice and earn a prize!

Guessing Jar Challenge

June 5–July 30

Stop by the Youth Services desk, voice your vote, and make it count! A winner with the closest guess will get a prize each week.

Family Magic Show Ⓡ

Families Welcome

Friday, June 9

10:30–11:15 a.m.

See the magic show that the world's largest magicians' magazine called "gloriously goofy!" Scott Green has been on TV more times than he can count. All ages will love Scott's show, because every moment is packed with amazing magic, audience participation, and hysterical humor. No matter how many magic shows you've seen, Scott's is fresh, new, and different, so expect a fantastically fun time!

Creative Kids Art Workshop Ⓡ

Grades K-2: Wednesday, June 14

3–3:30 p.m.

Grades 3-4: Wednesday, July 12

3–3:30 p.m.

Learn about famous artists and express yourself by practicing a new artistic technique. Participants will take home their own masterpieces!

Find Your Creative Voice with ScribbleMonster Ⓡ

Families Welcome

Wednesday, June 21

10:30–11:15 a.m.

Bring your thinking cap, dancing shoes, and wild imagination to the Library for the award-winning music and play of Jim from ScribbleMonster and PBS children's show Wimee's Words! Using a mix of kindness, music, and humor, ScribbleMonster's presentation encourages children to participate and think in creative ways.

R.E.A.D. to a Therapaws Pet Ⓡ

Recommended Grades K-3

Mondays: June 19 OR July 17

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. We will advise you of your time slot via email prior to the session, which are on a first-come, first-serve basis. *Due to the popularity of this program, we request that you register your child on one day only.*

LEGO Family Nights Ⓡ

Families Welcome

Thursdays: June 29 & July 27

6–7 p.m.

Families of LEGO enthusiasts are welcome to join us to learn LEGO building techniques and complete a variety of creative challenges. Legos will be provided by the Library for this program.

Candy Bingo

Grades 3-4: Thursday, June 22

2–2:30 p.m.

Grades K-2: Wednesday, June 28

2–2:30 p.m.

Join us for a game of bingo with candy as the prize! Candy will be nut free, but please let us know if there are any food allergies.

Musical Bingo Scavenger Hunt

July 1–31

Pick up a bingo card at the Youth Services desk and learn what different musical instruments look like as you search the department. Find a complete row of instruments and receive a fun musical prize!

Rigamajig Builders Ⓡ

Grades 1-4

Thursday, July 6

2–2:45 p.m.

Are you a budding engineer or just love to build? Our Rigamajig building set will inspire creativity and collaboration through hands-on play!

Tall Tales and Silly Songs Ⓡ

Families Welcome

Wednesday, July 19

10:30–11:30 a.m.

With his guitar, puppets, and unexpected quips, Todd Downing has kids singing, dancing, and jumping to some of the wittiest and entertaining tunes ever heard east of the Mississippi! Todd covers a wide range of topics such as family, animals, spies, and nature.

LEGO Inventors Ⓡ

Grades K-4

Thursday, July 20

3–3:45 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.

What Will You Make? Ⓡ

Grades K-2

Monday, July 24

2–2:30 p.m.

You are invited to the Library for a making challenge with KEVA planks. You will be given a challenge and your building skills will be put to the test in this fun program.

Game On! UNO Ⓡ

Grades 3-4

Wednesday, July 26

2–2:30 p.m.

Learn how to play the card game UNO. Part matching, part strategy, and ALL fun!

Danny the Dump Truck Scavenger Hunt

August 1–31

For the entire month of August, Danny the Dump Truck will be hiding somewhere in the Youth Services department. Tell us what he is carrying and you can win a prize!



Youth Summer Storytimes

June 12-23 OR July 10-21

📍 Registration required

Registration is required for all storytimes and begins on **Wednesday, May 31 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 📍

3-23 months w/ adult

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 📍

2-3.5 years w/ adult

Mondays: 10-10:30 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 📍

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 independence.

**Thomas Ford
Memorial Library**

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

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Library Hours

Monday - Thursday
9:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Friday & Saturday
9:30 a.m - 5 p.m.
Sunday
CLOSED (Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day)

Library Closings

The Library is closed on Sundays from May 28 through September 3. The Library will also be closed on Monday, May 29 for Memorial Day, Tuesday, July 4 for Independence Day, Friday, August 25 for Staff In-Service, and Monday, September 4 for Labor Day.

Board of Trustee Meeting Dates

The Board meets on the last Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.
Summer 2023 Dates: June 27, August 22.

Ted Bodewes, Library Director

Library Board of Trustees

Margaret Fahrenbach, President: margaretfahrenbach@fordlibrary.org
Carol Foster, Treasurer: carolfoster@fordlibrary.org
Jean Carroll, Secretary: jeancarroll@fordlibrary.org
Stephen Baker: stephenbaker@fordlibrary.org
Adam Fuelleman: adamfuelleman@fordlibrary.org
Ann Marie Kartsounes: annmariekartsounes@fordlibrary.org
Daniel Montgomery: danielmontgomery@fordlibrary.org

Evergreen Opportunities

Teen Volunteers Wanted!

If you're a teen and need volunteer hours, consider joining our Teen Board! We meet on the third Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. in the Teen/Tween Room. You can sign up to volunteer on our website or by sending an email to Lily@fordlibrary.org. We have lots of volunteer opportunities available, so reach out to learn more!

Support the Library!

The Thomas Ford Library Foundation is dedicated to making a great library even better through gifts from the community. A meaningful, tax-exempt donation supports special Library initiatives and helps build an endowment for the Library's future. To learn more about giving, email foundation@fordlibrary.org.

Everyday Resources

Access thousands of magazines and books at your fingertips through the **Libby app** or the **Media on Demand** website!

A friendly reminder that 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 to make sure you're taking advantage of every resource you need.

Learn a new skill with unlimited access to video classes taught by recognized design experts and artists on **CreativeBug.com!**