



Thomas Ford
MEMORIAL LIBRARY

THE
Ford
Connection

WINTER 2024-25

*Winter
Reading
Challenge*

January 6–February 28

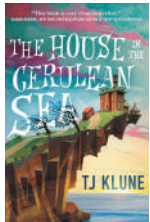
Whether you're looking to embrace or escape the winter, our annual Winter Reading Challenge is for you! Everyone who registers will receive a cocoa holiday gift, and everyone who reads 3 or more books will also receive a cozy blanket. The challenge is open to Grades 5 & up, so be sure to register starting Monday, January 6 either online or in person!

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

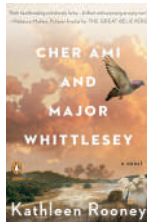
books

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



Wednesday,
December 4
**The House in the
Cerulean Sea**
by TJ Klune
Fiction



Wednesday,
February 5
**Cher Ami &
Major Whittlesey**
by Kathleen Rooney
Historical Fiction



Wednesday,
February 26
**American Indian
Stories**
by Zitkála-Šá
The Village Read



Wednesday,
March 5
**Behind the
Beautiful Forevers**
by Katherine Boo
Non-Fiction



Monday,
February 3
Solaris
by Stanislaw Lem
*Sci-Fi & Fantasy
Book Club Pick*



Monday,
January 27
The Talented Mr. Ripley
by Patricia Highsmith
*The Monday Murder
Club Pick*

Book Boxes for Adults*

December 1-31

Eager to read more in 2025? Fill out the form on our website to tell us what you like to read, and each month you'll get 2 curated books and some other goodies. Return the books and the box to receive your next month's recommendations, but keep the other items. First boxes are anticipated to be ready during the month of January.

The Winter Village Read

Copies available Monday, January 6;
Discussion on Wednesday, February 26
7:30 p.m.

Twice a year, Thomas Ford selects a book for the whole community to enjoy, with free copies and a book discussion. This winter, we're proud to share "American Indian Stories" by Zitkála-Šá, the origin story of an activist and a remarkable woman whose extraordinary career deserves wider recognition.

NEW!

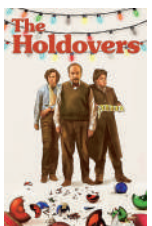
The Monday Murder Club

Join us for the first meeting of our new book discussion group devoted exclusively to mystery and suspense! The club will meet quarterly on the last Mondays of January, April, July, and October. To kick things off in style, we'll be discussing Patricia Highsmith's sleek noir masterpiece.

films

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

6 p.m. start



Thursday, December 12

The Holdovers*

Dir. Alex Payne

Comedy & Drama

A cranky instructor stays on campus for Christmas break with a brainy troublemaker and a female cook who just lost a son in the Vietnam War.



Thursday, January 9

The Zone of Interest*

Dir. Kathleen Rooney

Period Drama

Auschwitz commandant Rudolf Höss and his wife Hedwig strive to build a dream life for their family in a house and garden beside the camp.



Thursday, February 13

20 Days in Mariupol*

Dir. Katherine Boo

Documentary

Ukrainian journalists become trapped during the Russian invasion and struggle to continue capturing the war's atrocities.

crafts

First preference will be given to Western Springs residents. Please have your library card ready.

Monday, December 9

3:30-5 p.m. OR 7-8:30 p.m.

Winter Centerpiece*

Create a standout seasonal gem! Materials will be provided, but please bring garden gloves and pruners as limited extras will be provided. Session is repeated to allow additional registrants; only register for one.

Monday, December 16

7-8:30 p.m.

DIY Hat Ornaments*

Use yarn, fishing line, and pom-poms to create mini winter hats perfect for your tree or home decoration! All supplies will be provided.

Monday, January 13

7-8:30 p.m.

Valentine's String Art*

Create shapes perfect for Valentine's Day using string, felt boards and pins. All materials and a variety of designs will be provided.

Monday, February 4

Valentine's Bookmark Kit

Create a cute and functional felt heart bookmark! While supplies last.

Monday, February 10

7-8 p.m.

Paint (by Numbers) & Sip*

Create a fun canvas masterpiece! All materials and a non-alcoholic drink will be provided, but please wear an apron or clothes you can get dirty!

food

Our virtual Classroom Kitchen series hosted by 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!

6:30 p.m. start

Wednesday,

December 11

Holiday Cookies*

This class will cover how to bake the perfect sugar cookie, followed by detailed, step-by-step guidance to use royal icing in decorating.

Wednesday,

January 15

Vegan Comfort Food*

This class will explore satisfying plant-based alternatives and show you how to create rich flavors and textures without any animal products.

Wednesday

February 12

Chocolate Lovers Workshop*

This class will teach techniques for tempering chocolate, making ganache, and crafting chocolate desserts to enchant your special someone.



THOMAS FORD LIBRARY FOUNDATION

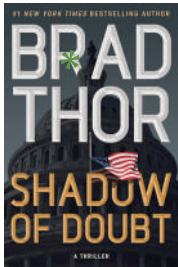
Donor Spotlight: The Capone Family

Jason and Amy Capone actively show their support for Thomas Ford Memorial Library by integrating it into their daily lives. The Library has a special place in their hearts, as it combines their love of reading with their passion for family and community bonding.

Together with their children, CeCe and Mia, the Capones regularly attend Lapsit Storytimes and Therapaws events, participate in the Library's annual summer reading program, stock up on DVDs for family movie nights, borrow cookbooks to try new recipes, and download audiobooks for their family road trips.

The Foundation sincerely thanks the Capone Family for their continued support and extends congratulations to Jason and Amy for becoming the newest members of the Oak Leaf Society. Your alignment of personal values with your to commitment to mindful giving is creating a major positive impact on the Library, its patrons, and in turn, our vibrant Western Springs community.

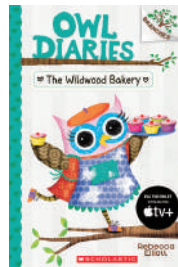
Be sure to check out the Capones' book recommendations below!



Jason's Pick
Any thriller book
by Brad Thor



Amy's Pick
Daisy Jones & The Six
by Taylor Jenkins Reid



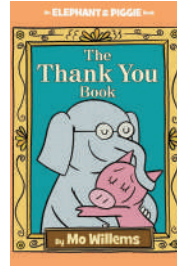
CeCe's Pick
The Owl Diaries Series
by Rebecca Elliott



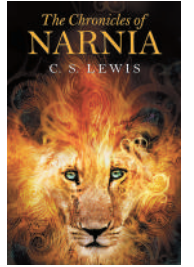
CeCe's Pick
The Press Start! Series
by Thomas Flintham



Mia's Pick
Pete the Cat Series
by Kimberly & James Dean



Mia's Pick
Elephant & Piggie Series
by Mo Willems



Family Pick
The Chronicles of Narnia
by C.S. Lewis

Every new year brings great energy, reflection, and opportunity to support the causes and organizations that matter most to you. If you love and find value in the resources that the Library provides, consider including Thomas Ford in your 2024 holiday giving by donating to the Library Foundation's Annual Appeal at fordlibrary.org.

Gifts of any amount help the Foundation pursue relevant projects and fulfill critical improvements beyond the Library's regular budget. Your tax-exempt contribution will financially fuel the collective expectation of excellence—as well as the future and full potential—of Thomas Ford Memorial Library.

Recent donations permitted the Foundation to underwrite a total redesign of the Library's website in 2024. Now, Library resources are even easier to navigate, more reliable, and more accessible to all; programs and events have been fully integrated to make registration more seamless; and the Library's new logo that has been updated to better reflect the vibrancy and dimensionality of our local community.

We see you, we hear you, and we hope you feel valued—because you belong here.

On behalf of the Foundation, Board, and entire Library leadership and staff, we deeply appreciate every individual who continues to share their enthusiasm and support for Thomas Ford through their patronage, thoughtful donations, and endless positivity. We wish you a wonderful start to 2025, and we are always excited to see you sooner than later!

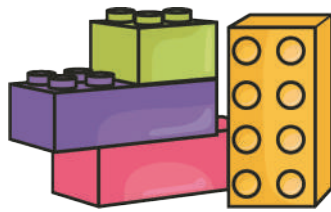


Nature Storytime with the Morton Arboretum*

Recommended ages 2-6 w/ adult

Thursday, January 9 AND
Thursday, February 27
10-10:30 a.m.

A guest presenter from The Morton Arboretum will join us to share fun nature stories that help us notice how weather, trees, and animals change with the seasons! Please register for each month individually.



LEGO Family Night*

Families Welcome!

Thursday, January 23 AND
Thursday, February 20
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.

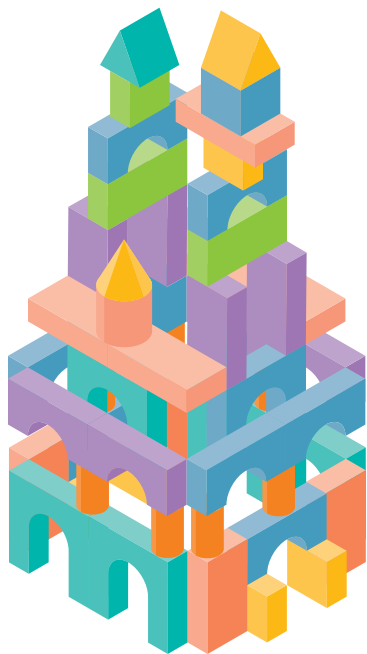


Family Fun Magic Show*

Families Welcome!

Tuesday, January 28
4:30-5:15 p.m.

Trent James adds a fresh spin on an art form that's been around for centuries. Instead of dramatic spotlights and rabbits in top hats, Trent combines sleight of hand magic with humor and genuine connection to ensure an enjoyable experience for all!

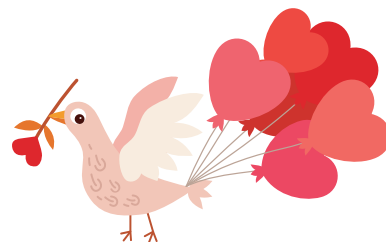


Rigamajig Builders*

Grades K-4

Tuesday, January 16
4:30-5 p.m.

Rigamajig Builders is a large-scale building kit that sparks STEM/STEAM learning through collaborative and open-ended play. Join us and explore building with new friends!



I Love BINGO*

Families Welcome!

Thursday, February 6
4:30-5 p.m.

Celebrate the season of love by playing the game we all know and love, BINGO!, featuring a special Valentine's Day theme.

Evergreen Programs

December-February



Elf Scavenger Hunt

December 1-23

Visit the the Youth Services Department to try and find Tinsel the Magic Elf! He will be hiding among the books and shelves in a different location every day. Find Tinsel and receive a sticker!



Gnome's Woodland Friends Scavenger Hunt

January 1-31

Gnome has many animal friends that help him survive winter in the woods. Find what animal is helping Gnome for the day and get a sticker from the Youth Services Desk!



February Scavenger Hunt

February 1-28

Stop by the Youth Services Department to see what special surprise we have in store for you this month! Once you find it, you will earn a sticker.

**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
1 p.m - 5 p.m.

Library Closings

The Library will be closed on:

- Thursday, November 28 for Thanksgiving
- Friday, December 6 for Staff In-Service
- Tuesday, December 24 for Christmas Eve
- Wednesday, December 25 for Christmas
- Tuesday, December 31 for New Year's Eve
- Wednesday, January 1 for New Year's Day

Board of Trustees Meeting Dates

The Board meets on the last Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.
Winter 2024 dates: January 28, February 25

Ted Bodewes, Library Director

Library Board of Trustees

Margaret Fahrenbach, President: margaretfahrenbach@fordlibrary.org
Jean Carroll, Treasurer: jeancarroll@fordlibrary.org
Carol Foster, Secretary: carolfoster@fordlibrary.org
Stephen Baker: stephenbaker@fordlibrary.org
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!

Ongoing Groups

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

Investment Discussion Group

Second Tuesdays: December 10, January 14, February 11
7:15 p.m.
Amateur investors meet to discuss financial insights, trends, stocks, etc.

Western Springs Writers' Society

Second & Fourth Thursdays: December 12; January 9, 23; February 13, 27
7 p.m.
Discuss and hone your craft with other writers of all levels and genres! Contact Jim Swinehart at jrswinehart10@gmail.com with any questions.

Knitting Circle

Every other Thursday: December 12; January 2, 16, 30; February 13, 27
1 p.m.
Join us for knitting, conversation, and light refreshments.



you
belong
here