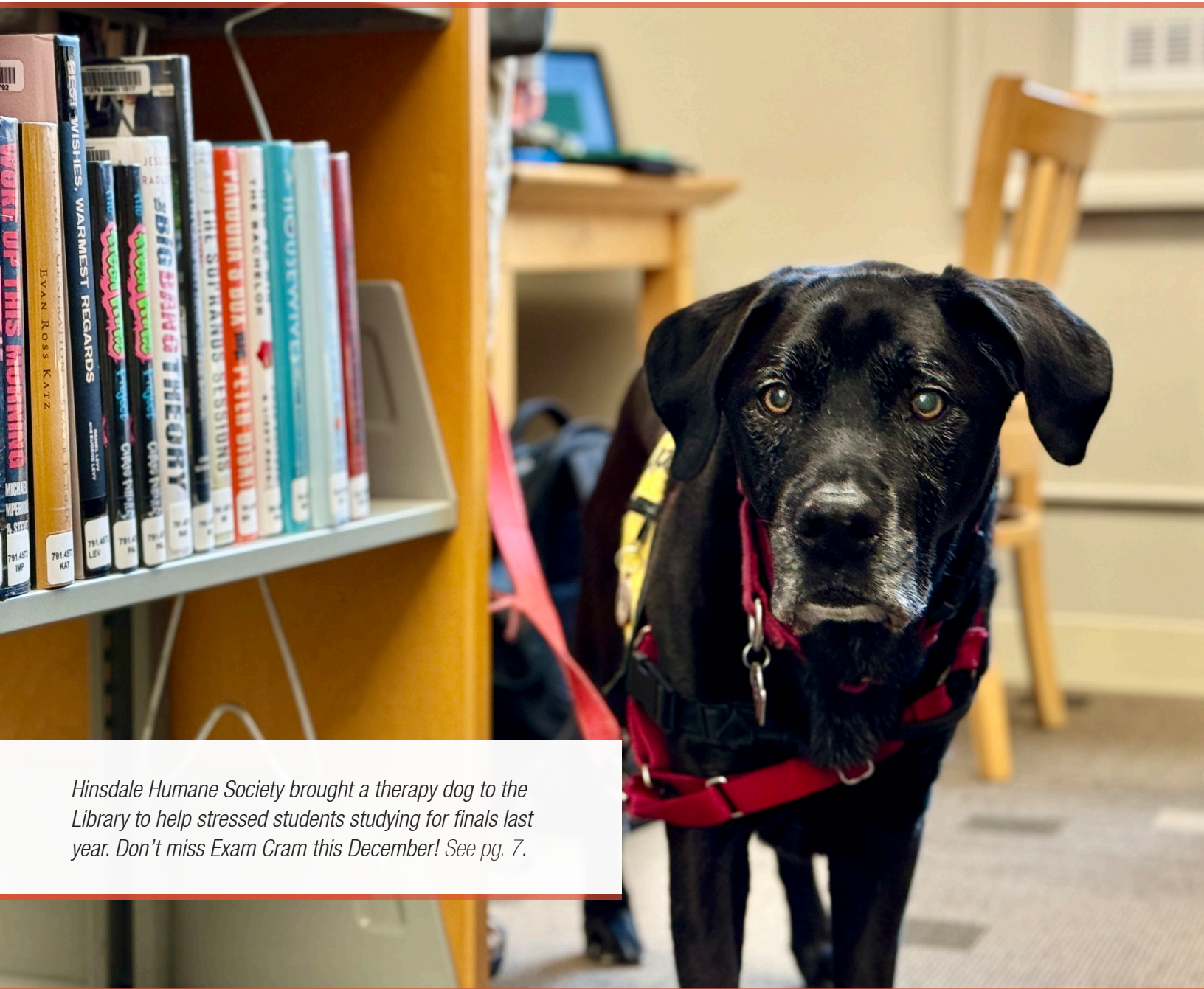


WINTER
2024–
2025

H HINSDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY beyondbooks



Hinsdale Humane Society brought a therapy dog to the Library to help stressed students studying for finals last year. Don't miss Exam Cram this December! See pg. 7.

inside... Homework Helpers Tuesdays & Thursdays | Jazz After Dark Jan. 24 | Lunar New Year Jan. 25

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Library Hours

Mon.–Thurs.	9 a.m. – 9 p.m.
Fri.	9 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Sat.	9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Sun.	1 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Holiday Closings

Tuesday, Dec. 24
 Wednesday, Dec. 25
 Tuesday, Dec. 31 at 1 p.m.
 Wednesday, Jan. 1

Contact Info

630.986.1976
 hinsdalelibrary.info
 20 E. Maple St.
 Hinsdale, IL 60521

Library Board

The Board meets on the fourth Tuesday of most months at 7 p.m. No December meeting. The public is welcome.

John Bloomfield, *President*
 Magda Sokolowski, *Vice President*
 Lucy Zhou, *Secretary*
 Megan Mikhail, *Treasurer*
 Kim Kiyosaki
 Dick Munson
 Chun Ye

Karen Kleckner Keefe, *Executive Director*

Our Mission

To enrich Hinsdaleans' lives with opportunities to learn, engage, discover and connect.



Subscribe to our email newsletters and never miss a program!

Thank You, Friends!

As 2024 comes to a close, Library staff spend some time reflecting on the year's highlights. So many of them were possible because of support from the Friends of the Hinsdale Public Library.

This nonprofit group raises funds through memberships and donations, and these funds enable the Library to take certain events and projects to the next level.

This year, the Friends allowed the Library to host four HPL After Dark events—after-hours programs featuring enriching entertainment, hors d'oeuvres, and drinks that are completely free to the public. They also awarded the Helen O'Neill Scholarship to a student shelter and distributed books to kids at the Fourth of July Parade. Hinsdale Public Library is such a special place because of their work and passion.

If you are interested in learning more about the Friends, joining, or making a donation, visit hinsdalelibrary.info/friends.



TOP TO BOTTOM:

1. Members of our Friends of the Library Board volunteer at our special HPL After Dark events.
2. Last winter's Jazz After Dark featured Julia Danielle Quartet and appetizers from Tommy R's Catering. Catch this year's show on Jan. 24.
3. Our craft beer tasting with Imperial Oak Brewing last spring was a hit!
4. Every year, the Friends of the Library purchase books for Library staff, trustees, and friends to distribute to local kids at the Fourth of July Parade!
5. Our summer concert on the lawn, in partnership with Old Town School of Folk Music, featured Bear Williams Trio playing the blues—our last event on the old Memorial Hall patio.
6. This fall's Tenth Annual Trivia Night was made possible through generous support from Hinsdale Bank and Trust. Additional support from Zazú, Kramer's, Yia-Yia's, and Brasi's was also appreciated.

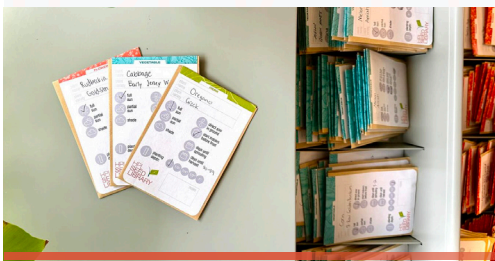
don't miss out:

Seed Library

Launching Feb. 8

The 2025 HPL Seed Library will open for the 2025 season on Feb. 8. It's the perfect time to begin your garden plans—and we have the seeds you need to get started. HPL cardholders are eligible to “check out” up to 10 packets of heirloom vegetable, herb, and flower seeds.

Make sure to attend our Winter Sowing Workshop on Feb. 8 for inspiration (see pg. 5)!



HPL Merch

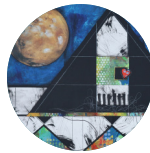
Launching Nov. 29

Looking for the perfect gift for the Hinsdale Public Library lover in your life? We've got you covered!

Our online store launches on Black Friday. It will offer a tote bag, a mug, and a long-sleeve T-shirt. You'll be able to access our Threadless shop online at hinsdalelibrary.info/store beginning Nov. 29.



Adults



Art Reception: Laura Lein-Svencner

Tuesday, Jan. 21, 6:30–7:30 p.m.; see pg. 11

Meet our next featured artist, whose collage exhibit, *Sheltered Ideas, Home*, will be on display this winter in our Quiet Reading Room.



Jazz After Dark: WDCB's Jammin' in the Stacks

Friday, Jan. 24, 7–8:30 p.m.; see pg. 11

WDCB will bring Meghan Stagl Quartet to the Library for our annual after-hours jazz night. Drinks and appetizers will be served thanks to the Friends of the Library.



All-Day Vision Board Workshop

Saturday, Feb. 1, 9:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.; see pg. 5

Local artist Laura Lein-Svencner will lead this vision board workshop meant to spark inspiration and focus on transformation, adventure, interests, and intentions for 2025.



Conversation Group for Mandarin Language Learners

Third Mondays, Jan. 20 and Feb. 17, 7–8 p.m.; see pg. 6

Connect with people looking to practice their Mandarin Chinese. Instructor Yvonne Mao will facilitate, incorporating conversation related to Chinese culture and more.

Kids & teens



Homework Helpers

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4–5 p.m.; will pause Dec. 17–Jan. 2; see pg. 10

Getting homework help from high school students is fun! Students in grades K–8 can drop in for individualized help. Parents sign in their kids and connect with a volunteer.



Grandparent and Me Yoga

Thursday, Dec. 12, 4–5 p.m.; grades K–5; see pg. 8

Bring a mat or towel to practice breathing techniques, mindfulness, and gentle yoga stretches with your grandparent. Chairs will be incorporated into the practice.



High School Money Smarts Lunch & Learn

Saturdays, Jan. 11, Feb. 8, and March 8

Learn about all things money from budgeting to investing. Financial advisors Nora Hernandez and Clare Nawrocki will cover different topics each month.



Lunar New Year Festival

Saturday, Jan. 25, 2–4 p.m.; grades K–5; see pg. 9

Celebrate the Year of the Snake with us! We'll have crafts, games, and performances for kids at our annual Lunar New Year event.

Essential Apps

Try the New HPL App!

Your one-stop shop for Library needs

The HPL App is now better than ever! Search for Hinsdale Public Library in your app store and click update to get all our new features. Don't skip this important update!

With the HPL app, you can easily:

- Register for programs
- Reserve rooms
- Place books on hold
- Read magazines and access our research databases
- See services like notary appointments and 3D printing
- Access and use your library card

Get to Know Libby, Hoopla, and Kanopy

Read and stream for free!

Much like how different TV shows stream on different platforms, different publishers and formats are best accessed through different Library apps. The good news: They're all free with your HPL card.

Three apps will satisfy most of your downloading and streaming needs.

Libby offers the hottest new book and audiobook titles. Sometimes, though, you'll have to wait your turn.

Hoopla boasts on-demand streaming—you always check out instantly—it may take a few months or more for the most popular titles to be added to the platform. Hoopla also offers comics, music, and movies, including MasterClass titles.

Kanopy has a large library of on-demand video streaming. Kanopy users can access the Criterion Collection, Great Courses, and award-winning documentaries.

You can use our website or app to search titles in all these apps (and a few others) at once.



December

Proactive Tax Planning Strategies

Monday, Dec. 2, 7–8 p.m.

Set yourself up to lower your taxes. Learn how to harness different financial tools to proactively reduce your tax burden from Hinsdalean Charlie Russ, President of Russ Financial Group.

Leslie Goddard Presents Christmas on State Street

Wednesday, Dec. 4, 7–8:30 p.m.

For decades, Christmas in Chicago meant a trip to State Street. Join Leslie Goddard to explore the history of Christmas at the big department stores on State Street using photos, ads, and memorabilia.

Holiday Favorites with the Jolly Boys

Saturday, Dec. 7, 3–4 p.m.

It's the most wonderful time of the year! Embrace the season with this annual tradition: a performance of holiday favorites with Hinsdale's own Jolly Boys. Hot chocolate will be provided.

Bring Joy to the Season through Meditation

Monday, Dec. 9, 6:30–7:30 p.m.

Focus on joy this season. Join Umesh Bhatia to learn the positive effects of meditation. You will learn a simple yet powerful meditation technique that can help you cope with seasonal stress and find wellness year-round.

Wrap It Green!

Tuesday, Dec. 10, 7–8 p.m.

Be inspired this gift-giving season! We will learn creative and sustainable ways to wrap gifts for any special occasion.

Successful Aging Holiday Cookies from Around the World

Senior Lunch & Learn: adults 65+
Wednesday, Dec. 18, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

Every culture has its own holiday cookie traditions. We will circle the globe—cookie by cookie—in this fun and delicious presentation. Lunch sponsored by The Birches.

January

Origami: Folding in the New Year

Saturday, Jan. 4, 2–4 p.m.

Learn the basic folds of origami and work up to folding a crane for the new year! Learn how to transform flat paper into 3-D masterpieces from the Chicago Area Origami Society.

Tea Ceremony Experience

Tuesday, Jan. 7, 7–8 p.m.

Do you enjoy drinking tea? Are you interested in tea ceremonies? We'll start by exploring some basic knowledge of tea culture, followed by a traditional Chinese tea ceremony demonstration.

HPL Puzzle Race

Saturday, Jan. 11, 2–4 p.m.

Celebrate National Puzzle Month with our first ever Puzzle Challenge! Create a team of up to 6 and race to complete identical puzzles. Snacks and prizes provided.

Successful Aging Building Your Mental Muscle

Senior Lunch & Learn: adults 65+
Wednesday, Jan. 15, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

In this interactive program, you will learn about brain structure and what you can do to keep your brain healthy. Presented by The Birches.

Sound Meditation

Wednesday, Jan. 15, 7–8 p.m.

Experience meditation using the relaxing sounds of crystal bowls, chimes, flute, and a sound pyramid. Dana Kraszczynski will lead the meditation and then offer a chance to ask questions.

Hear, There, and Everywhere: Finding the Perfect Earbuds or Headphones

Thursday, Jan. 16, 7–8 p.m.

Ready to elevate your audio experience? Learn what makes wireless earbuds and headphones stand out so that you find the perfect match for your audio needs.

A Bite of Chinatown History

Saturday, Jan. 18, 2–3 p.m.

San Francisco's Chinatown was the first in the U.S. Intercultural consultant Yvonne Wolf will discuss the neighborhood's dramatic history.

Jazz After Dark WDCB's Jammin' in the Stacks

Friday, Jan. 24, 7–8:30 p.m.

WDCB will bring Meghan Stagl Quartet to the Library for our annual after-hours jazz night. A vocal and piano artist who has studied under jazz greats and performed at legendary venues, Meghan received the 2020 Luminarts Fellowship. Drinks and appetizers will be served thanks to the Friends of the Library.

PICTURED: Last winter's concert, featuring Julia Danielle Quartet.



ESL Needs for Mandarin Speakers

Monday, Feb. 10, 10–11 a.m.

Looking for help learning English? Help us learn about your needs and plan an English language class!

United Foods of America Regional Breakfasts

Thursday, Feb. 13, 7–8:15 p.m.

Join us for a delicious journey through America's regional breakfast foods! From johnnycakes to shrimp and grits, these flavors and stories will inspire your mornings. Samples will be provided.

Backyard Birdfeeding Basics with the DuPage Birding Club

Saturday, Feb. 15, 2–3 p.m.

For National Birdfeeding Month, learn about local feeder birds, migratory patterns, bird feeder types, and placement. We'll also build a bird feeder.

Lincoln Lore & More Central Illinois Travel

Tuesday, Feb. 18, 7–8 p.m.

Venture beyond the cornstalks to explore the charming towns and award-winning restaurants within the heart of our state—as well as the region's history as Abe's old stomping grounds.

Successful Aging Tips for Your Next Move

Senior Lunch & Learn: adults 65+
Wednesday, Feb. 19, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

Get tips for your next move, including where to live, "rightsizing," and selling your family home. Senior real estate expert Bea Wolfe will discuss the latest trends. Lunch sponsored by The Birches.

Chief Chicagou

Wednesday, Feb. 19, 7–8 p.m.

Learn about Illinois Chief Chicagou's 1725 visit to France that inspired Jean Philippe Rameau's *Les Indes Galantes*, by Andrew Schultze, specialist in early music and opera interpretation.

Intro to Quilting with the Salt Creek Quilters Guild

Saturday, Feb. 22, 10 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

If you are looking to get into quilting, come learn from the masters. We will learn the basics of quilting!

Art Reception Laura Lein-Svencner

Tuesday, Jan. 21, 6:30–7:30 p.m.; see pg. 11

Meet our next featured artist, whose work will be on display this winter.

Watercolor Painting Class Cardinals

Tuesday, Jan. 21, 7–8:15 p.m.

Come in from the cold and learn to paint a cardinal in this step-by-step class taught by watercolor artist Audrey Ra.

Post Election Conversation with WGN-TV Analyst Paul Lisnek

Tuesday, Jan. 28, 7–8 p.m.

Virtual: register to receive Zoom link

Join Paul Lisnek as he speaks about the election results and what to expect over the next four years. Presented with the League of Women Voters of the Palatine Area and Schaumburg Library.

Take Control of Your Paper

Thursday, Jan. 30, 7–8 p.m.

Start the year off right getting your piles of paper under control! Professional organizer M. Colleen Klimczak will tell you what to keep and how to organize it.

February

All-Day Vision Board Workshop

Saturday, Feb. 1, 9:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

Local artist Laura Lein-Svencner will lead this vision board workshop meant to spark inspiration and focus on transformation, adventure, interests, and intentions for 2025. Bring lunch, a photo of yourself, and 2–3 magazines that connect with you.

Genealogy Research Using Fold3

Tuesday, Feb. 4, 7–8 p.m.

Learn how to incorporate the Fold3 database in your genealogy research from expert Debra Dudek. Fold3 provides access to military records, including the stories, photos, and personal documents of the men and women who served.

Winter Sowing Workshop

Saturday, Feb. 8, 2–3 p.m.

Learn how to sow seeds outdoors in the winter, letting the cold kick-start germination and ensuring robust and resilient plants. Taught by Kasey Eaves. We'll also build our own milk jug terrarium for seed starting.

For Book Lovers

Library Edition Book Club

Wednesdays, Dec. 4 and Feb. 5, 7–8 p.m.

Join HPL's signature book club! Copies are available on our Book Club Holds shelf. This winter, we'll discuss:

- **Dec. 4:** *Orbital*, Samantha Harvey
- **Jan. 1:** No meeting
- **Feb. 5:** *The Husbands*, Holly Gramazio
- **March 5:** *Hum*, Helen Phillips

New Moms Book Group

Third Tuesdays, 7–8 p.m.
at The Cube, Standard Market Westmont

Take some time for yourself to read a book and chat with other new moms! This winter, we'll discuss:

- **Dec. 17:** *Funny Story*, Emily Henry
- **Jan. 21:** *Very Bad Company*, Emma Rosenblum
- **Feb. 18:** *Tom Lake*, Ann Patchett

Book Gifts for Everyone on Your List

Thursday, Dec. 12, 7–8 p.m.

Wrap up the perfect gift this holiday season! Discover a curated selection of must-read books that enlighten, entertain, and inspire.

Books and Bites

Monday, Feb. 24, 3–4 p.m.

Join our librarians and other book lovers for an afternoon of socializing, snacking, and sharing your latest favorites.

Book Buzz

Tuesday, March 11, 7–8 p.m.

Get the buzz on new and forthcoming books from Sourcebooks! All attendees will receive a new book to read.

HPL Book Box

Pick up Dec. 14, Jan. 18, and Feb. 12

This fun-to-open book subscription box includes a curated title and bookish swag each month.

Express Checkout

HPL cardholders

Enroll in this service and anything you have waiting on the Holds Shelf will be ready for you to grab and go!

Hinsdale Voices

Hinsdale's many talented authors and illustrators are featured in the Library's Hinsdale Voices section, in the northeast corner of the main level.

Here are titles from the past year that we've seen reviewed and discussed around town:

- *Grand Slam for God*, Fr. Burke Masters
- *All the Makings*, John Silk
- *Bernardine's Shanghai Salon*, Susan Blumberg-Kason
- *The Inspiring Story of Cafe La Fortuna*, Angela Lavelli and Alejandra L. Franco
- *The Great Divide*, Cristina Henríquez
- *Oral*, Jessica Lederhausen
- *Ingenious*, Richard Munson



More Clubs & Meetups

Board Game Night

Tuesdays, Dec. 3, Jan. 14, Feb. 11,
6:30–8:30 p.m.; adults and teens 14+

Make friends and defeat your neighbors! Learn to play an award-winning game with our Game Masters, or bring friends and play any of our other games.

- **Dec. 3:** Azul
- **Jan. 14:** Codenames
- **Feb. 11:** Cascadia

Next Chapter Book Club

Thursdays, Dec. 5 and 19; Jan. 9 and 23;
Feb. 6 and 20; 6:30–7:30 p.m.

This program is for anyone 16 and up with intellectual and developmental disabilities, regardless of verbal and reading skill. We read books together taking turns reading aloud.

Needlecraft Night

Thursdays, Dec. 5 and 19; Jan. 9 and 23;
Feb. 6 and 20, 7–8 p.m.

Bring your needlecraft project to work on and enjoy some pleasant conversation with your fellow crafting enthusiasts!

Drop-In Coffee & Conversation

Wednesdays starting Jan. 8, 10–11 a.m.

Join your friends and neighbors for free coffee and lively conversation.

NEW Mandarin Chinese Conversation Group for Mandarin Language Learners

Third Mondays, Jan. 20 and Feb. 17, 7–8 p.m.;
adults and teens 14+

Connect with people looking to practice their Mandarin Chinese. Instructor Yvonne Mao will facilitate. Participants are expected to know basic Mandarin and should be able to speak at a beginner level.

Hinsdale Memory Café

Fourth Wednesdays, Jan. 22 and Feb. 26, 2–3 p.m.

Socialize together and connect with individuals living with dementia and their care partners using prepared activities. Sponsored by The Birches.

Great Decisions 2025

Wednesdays, Jan. 22 and Feb. 26, 7–8:45 p.m.

Great Decisions is America's largest discussion program on world affairs. Read briefings, watch documentaries, and meet to discuss the issues we face.

HPL Winter Spice Club

Pick up Dec. 9, Jan. 13 and Feb. 10

Register for HPL's Winter Spice Club and receive a spice selection curated just for Hinsdale patrons.

Grades 6–12

Teen Book Boxes

Pick up Dec. 6, Jan. 10, and Feb. 7

Pick your genre and then enjoy a book and other fun bookish treats. Register once to receive boxes each month.

Happy Birthday Taylor Swift!

Friday, Dec. 13, 4:30–5 p.m.

Let's celebrate Taylor Swift's birthday by making friendship bracelets and listening to our favorite songs from the Eras Tour! *Elementary schoolers will have their own party at 4 p.m.; see pg. 8.*

Teen Art Workshop

Mondays, Dec. 16, Jan. 13, and Feb. 10, 5–6 p.m.

Join us for an open art hour and create art with your peers. Each week we will supply various art supplies along with new ideas and techniques to try.

Teen Knitting and Crocheting Club

Mondays, Dec. 2, Jan. 27 and Feb. 24, 5–6 p.m.

Learn how to knit and crochet with guidance or bring your own project to work on with your peers. Join us as we work on our fiber arts projects together!

BELOW LEFT: HMS's Sparty celebrated National Library Card Signup Month with us this September. Teens with a library card can reserve study rooms online at hinsdalelibrary.info.

BELOW RIGHT: High school students studied during last year's Exam Cram, which boasted snacks, hot chocolate, and even therapy dogs!

High Schoolers

High School Volunteering Homework Helpers

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 4–5 p.m.

Are you a high school student looking to volunteer? Become a Homework Helper and help younger students with homework on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school at the Library. Apply at hinsdalelibrary.info/homeworkhelpers.

Peer Tutoring Finals Prep with P.A.S.S.

Dec. 1, 8, 14, 15, 16, and 17

Kick start your finals prep with free help from P.A.S.S. peer tutors. Sessions will be available in calculus, trigonometry, precalculus, algebra, chemistry, biology, physics and Spanish. Register for a time slot at tinyurl.com/peertutorhpl.

P.A.S.S. (Peer Athlete Student Scholars) is a group of HCHS students seeking to bridge the gap between academics and athletics by providing peer study groups and one-to-one academic support. All students can sign up for this program.

High School Exam Cram

Dec. 14–19

Stress less over finals at the Library this winter. You provide the study materials and we'll provide space to study and snacks to keep you going—it's the perfect equation for finals! Watch for daily stress-buster activities and enter our drawing to win time in our coveted Board Room—stocked with gourmet snacks for you and nine friends. Follow [@HPLJAB](https://www.instagram.com/HPLJAB) on Instagram to learn more.

High School Money Smarts Lunch & Learn

Saturdays, Jan. 11, Feb. 8, and March 8, 12:30–1:30 p.m.

Learn about all things money from budgeting to investing. Financial advisors Nora Hernandez and Clare Nawrocki will cover different topics each month. This class will equip you with the essential life skills to make well-informed financial decisions and effectively manage your money throughout your life. A pizza lunch is included.

- **Jan. 11: Budgeting and More**
We'll cover savings and checking accounts, vital financial terms and budgeting.
- **Feb. 11: Timeline Approach to Investing**
We'll cover short- and long-term investing, tax implications and the benefits of compounding interest.
- **March 8: Basics of Credit and Debt**
We'll cover credit cards, student loans, loan terms, and credit scores.

This class is intended for high school students to prepare for financial independence. Parents may attend, too.

High School Trivia Night "Sleepover" Theme

Friday, Jan. 31, 7–8:30 p.m.

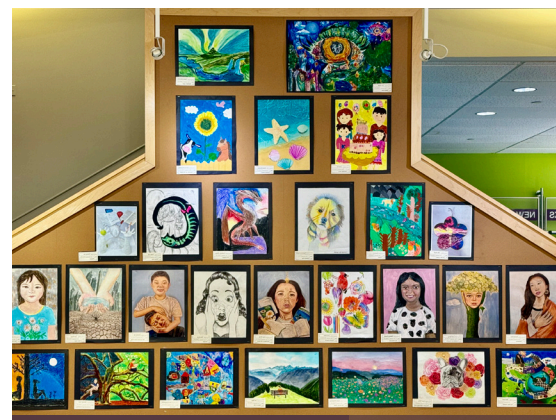
This cozy trivia competition is for high school students only. Enjoy a hot chocolate bar, popcorn, and sleepover-themed trivia as you compete for the Trivia Night Trophy! Sleepover attire optional. Ends promptly at 8:30 p.m.



HPL Winter Reading Club

Program begins Dec. 1;
complete your card by Jan. 7.

It might be cold outside, but the Library is warm and cozy! Complete a Winter Reading Club card to win a prize. Cards have a mix of reading time and fun activities. Pick up your card at the Youth Services Desk beginning in December.



December

Wild Robot Engineering

Tuesday, Dec. 10, 4–5 p.m.; grades K–5

Calling all *Wild Robot* fans! Join us in celebrating our favorite robot Roz with creative building activities.

Gingerbread House Decorating

Monday, Dec. 9, 5–6 p.m.; families

Come make a perfect and tasty abode for a little gingerbread family! Each family can make one house.

Grandparent and Me Yoga

Thursday, Dec. 12, 4–5 p.m.; grades K–5

Bring a mat or towel to practice breathing techniques, mindfulness, and gentle yoga stretches with your grandparent. Chairs will be incorporated into the practice.

Happy Birthday Taylor Swift!

Friday, Dec. 13, 4–4:30 p.m.; grades K–5

Let's celebrate Taylor Swift's birthday by making friendship bracelets and listening to our favorite songs from the Eras Tour!

Drop-in Donuts with Dad

Saturday, Dec. 14, 9:30–11:30 a.m.; all ages

A time for dads to enjoy donuts and coffee at the Library with their children.

Mini Makers: Pinecones

Friday, Dec. 20, 11–11:45 a.m.; toddlers–pre-K

After a reading of *Penguin and Pinecone*, we'll make beautiful pinecone ornaments.

Noon Year's Eve

Tuesday, Dec. 31, 11 a.m.–noon

Count down to noon on New Year's Eve with snacks, activities, and a balloon drop when the clock strikes twelve!

Take-Home Craft Paint a Nutcracker

Pick up Dec. 6; grades K–3

Celebrate the magic of *The Nutcracker* by painting one of your own.

December Scavenger Hunt

All December; all ages

Warm up when you visit the library and complete our winter scavenger hunt!

January

DIY Snow

Monday, Jan. 6, 4–5 p.m.; grades K–5

Tired of waiting for the weather to make a snowman? Create your own snow and build a miniature winter wonderland!

Nature Storytime with the Morton Arboretum

Friday, Jan. 10, 10–10:30 a.m.; ages 2–6

Join us as we share nature stories to notice how weather, trees, and animals change with the season!

Tales as Old as Time with Belle

Monday, Jan. 13, 10–11:30 a.m.; ages 3.5–5

Come for singing, storytelling, and a meet and greet with Belle from *Beauty and the Beast*. Presented with Parties with Character.

Drop-in Donuts with Dad

Saturday, Jan. 18, 9:30–11:30 a.m.; all ages

A time for dads to enjoy donuts and coffee at the Library with their children.

Mini Artists: Snowmen

Friday, Jan. 24, 11–11:45 a.m.; toddlers–pre-K
Warm up with a reading of *All You Need for a Snowman* and create a melting snowman craft that demonstrates the artistic concept of perspective.

Lunar New Year Festival

Saturday, Jan. 25, 2–4 p.m.; grades K–5
Celebrate the Year of the Snake with us! We'll have crafts, games, and performances for kids.

Family LEGO Lab

Wednesday, Jan. 29, 6–7 p.m.; families
Bring the whole family to build an inventive LEGO structure using teamwork and imagination. Then come back to see your creation on display for the month!

Take-Home Craft

Make a Snowflake

Pick up Friday, Jan. 17; grades K-2
Make a snowflake with Q-tips!

January Scavenger Hunt

All January; all ages
Find the woodland animals hiding in the Library and learn fun acts along the way.

OPPOSITE TOP: *Grace was HPL's first-ever "Kid Librarian."*

OPPOSITE BOTTOM: *Pieces from Tianto Art students displayed in November.*

BELOW: *Scenes from last year's Lunar New Year event.*

February

Drop-in Valentines for Seniors

Tuesday, Feb. 4, 5–6 p.m.; all ages
Help us make valentines for seniors who live at The Birches. Our librarians will drop off your finished valentines to spread the love to our neighbors.

Pokémon Club

Friday, Feb. 7, 4–5 p.m.; grades K–5
Bring your own cards to trade, play, and learn with friends. Don't have a deck of your own? Design a Pokémon card and make other fun poké-crafts!

Family Magic Show

Saturday, Feb. 8, 10–10:45 a.m.; families
Join us for a fantastic show of magic tricks and fun with nationally-recognized magician Scott Green!

Tiny Toes Baby Art

Monday, Feb. 10, 10–10:45 a.m.; babies
Create a special keepsake piece of art with your baby's footprint while your baby enjoys music and playtime.

Nature Storytime with the Morton Arboretum

Friday, Feb. 14, 10–10:30 a.m.; Ages 2–6
Join us as we share nature stories to notice how weather, trees, and animals change with the season!

Wings of Fire Party

Monday, Feb. 17, 1:30–2:30 p.m.; grades 3–5
Take flight with the dragons of the *Wings of Fire* series by enjoying fantastical crafts, snacks, and activities.

Mini Scientists: Penguins

Thursday, Feb. 20, 10–10:45 a.m.; toddlers–pre-K
How do penguins stay dry? Let's find out with a story and a science experiment!

Drop-in Donuts with Dad

Saturday, Feb 22, 9:30–11:30 a.m.; all ages
A time for dads to enjoy donuts and coffee at the Library with their children.

A Frozen Celebration

Wednesday, Feb. 26, 4–5 p.m.; grades K–2
Let it snow! Enjoy songs, games, crafts, and treats in celebration of Anna, Elsa, and Olaf.

Take-Home Craft

Heart Pizza

Pick up Friday, Feb. 7, grades K–2
Make a paper plate heart pizza craft to celebrate the month of love!

February Scavenger Hunt

All February; all ages
Celebrate Valentine's Day all month long with our holiday-themed scavenger hunt. many hearts are in our jar! The closest estimate will receive a prize each week.



Storytimes

Storytime sessions run from Dec. 3–Dec. 12 and Jan. 7–Feb. 13. Registration will open for all storytime sessions on Dec. 1. Please register your child using only the child's first and last name.

Baby Storytime

Tuesdays, Dec. 3 and 10; Jan. 7–Feb. 11; 9:30–10 a.m.; babies with caregivers

Snuggle, bounce, and bond with your little one as we share rhymes, songs, and stories to foster language development and a love of reading.

Preschool Storytime

Wednesdays, Dec. 4 and 11; Jan. 8–Feb. 12; 10–10:30 a.m.; pre-K

Join us for stories and songs that will delight your preschooler! Children ages 3.5–5 attend independently while parents and caregivers enjoy the Library.

Toddler Storytime

Thursdays, Dec. 5 and 12; Jan. 9–Feb. 13; 9:30–10 a.m.; toddlers with caregivers

Join us for an interactive storytime with your child that includes early literacy fun with books, songs, and fingerplays.

Saturday Storytime

Saturdays, Jan. 4 and Feb. 15, 10–10:45 a.m.; all ages

Busy during the week? Stop by our Saturday Storytime as we share stories, songs, and crafts!

More Fun

Homework Helpers

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4–5 p.m.; grades K–8
Homework Helpers will pause Dec. 17–Jan. 2

Getting homework help from high school students is fun! Students can drop in for individualized help. Parents simply sign in their kids and connect with a volunteer.

Hinsdale Chamber Christmas Walk

Friday, Dec. 6, 5–7 p.m.

Meet us at this treasured kick-off to the holiday season. Find us downtown, where we'll welcome Santa, enjoy the tree-lighting ceremony, meet Santa, and join our neighbors in passing out treats and playing games!

Book Box Jr.

Pick up Dec 6, Jan 10, and Feb 7; grades 3–5

Enjoy a custom-matched book and other fun bookish treats each month. Choose your preferred genre when you subscribe. Register once to receive boxes all winter.

Beginner Crochet

Tuesdays, Dec. 17, Jan. 21, and Feb. 18; 4–4:45 p.m.; grades 3–5

Learn how to crochet! We will work with different techniques and patterns. Supplies will be provided.

Challenge Yourself with I Spy Cases

All Winter

Search for objects in scenes made by HJWC families. Thanks to the Slavik, Trujillo, Molfese, and Tate families for designing this winter's cases!



ABOVE: High schoolers help younger students every Tuesday and Thursday at Homework Helpers. Drop in from 4–5 p.m. to attend.



ABOVE: HPL's second annual Moon Festival took place this September. It featured music, a food truck, a talent show, and a lantern craft—and hundreds of attendees! Looking forward to next year's festival!



Kaleidoscope of Quilts

Salt Creek Quilters Guild

On display in the Quiet Reading Room all December

About the Artists

Salt Creek Quilters Guild promotes the art of quilt making by providing educational opportunities to both the members of the guild and to the community at large. The Guild hosts nationally known speakers and instructors from the quilting and fiber arts community at their monthly meetings and workshops. The Guild is made up of both experienced and beginner quilters and always welcomes new members. They have partnered with HPL many times on programs and displays.

About the Exhibit

Salt Creek Quilters Guild will present their 2025 Quilt Show and Quilt Auction *Kaleidoscope of Quilts* on April 5 and 6 at Highlands Middle School in La Grange Highlands. HPL patrons get to preview some of these artists' work, which will be on display in the Quiet Reading Room during the month of December.

Intro to Quilting with the Salt Creek Quilters Guild

Saturday, Feb. 22, 10 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

If you like what you see, return to the Library on Feb. 22 to learn about the basics of quilting from the masters.

Sheltered Ideas, Home

Laura Lein-Svencner, Winter Featured Artist

Art on display in the Quiet Reading Room Jan. 4–March 7

Reception Tuesday, Jan. 21, 6:30–7:30 p.m.

Special all-day vision board workshop Saturday, Feb. 1, 9:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. (see pg. 5)

In Her Words

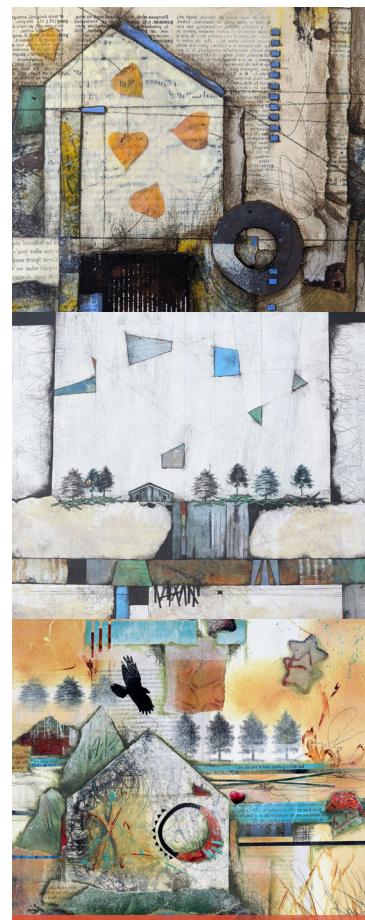
“Over the years, I’ve worked in the shape of a house, a simple square and a triangle on top. The square has a meaning of stability, and the triangle means goals and ideas. I moved a lot when I was younger; my father built houses in his youth and was an avid fixer-upper until one day my parents were able to build their dream home.

“You’ll see small, tiny homes and very large ones throughout this exhibit. What does your home mean to you? And what kind of feeling does your home provide for you?”

About the Artist

Laura Lein-Svencner’s collages are a combination of symbolism, form, meaning and spiritual content. Trusting in the process of intuitive knowing and openness is a huge part of accepting emotional moments. She allows life to move her playful imagination. Laura finds that the edges of the paper—some clean, some raw, and some torn—reflect life itself.

Laura grew up in Downers Grove near her grandfather’s farm and now lives in Darien. She’s married with four grown children, a granddaughter (and two more on the way), and a home full of loving creatures. In addition to making art, she spends time teaching collage as well. She is a signature member of the National Collage Society and a co-founder of the Midwest Collage Society.



Jazz After Dark: WDCB's Jammin' in the Stacks

Friday, Jan. 24, 7–8:30 p.m.

WDCB, Chicago’s Home for Jazz, will bring Meghan Stagl Quartet to the Library for our annual after-hours jazz concert. A vocal and piano artist who has studied under jazz greats and performed at legendary venues, Meghan received the 2020 Luminarts Fellowship for Jazz Voice. In addition to performing, Meghan also teaches at Morton College and offers private lessons in voice and piano.

Drinks and appetizers will be served thanks to support from the Friends of the Library.

LEFT: Meghan Stagl (photo credit Grace Pisula).

ABOVE RIGHT, TOP TO BOTTOM: Leaves in the House, Homestead, and By Water’s Edge, by Laura Lein-Svencner.



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December 2024

Clancy, Tom
Woods, Stuart

Defense Protocol
Golden Hour

January 2025

Feeney, Alice
Patterson, James
Steel, Danielle
Turow, Scott
Yarros, Rebecca

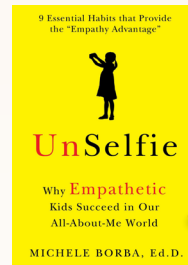
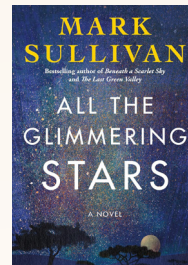
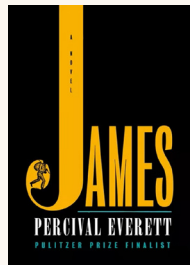
Beautiful Ugly
Texas Murders
Never Say Never
Presumed Guilty
Onyx Storm

February 2025

Benedict, Marie
Box, CJ
Kellerman, Jonathan
Moyes, Jojo
Tyler, Anne

Queens of Crime
Battle Mountain
Open Season
We All Live Here
Three Days in June

staff reads



donations

The Library is beyond grateful for a \$10,000 donation by Janet S. Grisemer in memory of Robert Grisemer.

We're also grateful for donations from Mary Schueren (in memory of Violet), Allen and Beverlee TeBockhorst (in honor of their grandsons' birthdays), Sue Mulcahy, and the 21 Spin Book Club (in memory of Mary Jane Fitzpatrick).

Finally, we are always grateful to the Friends of the Library, whose members and supporters make our special events possible, and area businesses that support the Library and its programming.

MEET AUTHOR MICHELE BORBA FEB. 5-6
Visit D181Foundation.org to learn more!

Information Session for Mandarin Speakers 普通话人群的英语学习 (ESL) 信息收集会

日期：2025年2月10日 (周一)
时间：上午 10~11点
地点：欣斯代尔 公立图书馆 (HPL)

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