

SPRING  
2025

# H HINSDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY beyondbooks

## Grow with us this spring!

Check out heirloom seeds  
from HPL's Seed Library.

*We also check out spices, devices, and  
tools for your new hobbies. Learn about  
our Library of Things on pg. 5.*



Don't miss out:  
**Get your  
card today!**

[hinsdalelibrary.info/get-a-card](https://hinsdalelibrary.info/get-a-card)

*inside... Puppet Show April 19 | Sake Tasting May 9 | Visit from Mark Twain May 13*

## Contents

News & Highlights	2–3
Adults	4–6
Teens	7
Kids	8–10
Art & Culture	11
Books & Gifts	12

## 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

Friday, March 21 (staff training)  
 Sunday, April 20 (Easter)  
 Monday, May 26 (Memorial Day)

## 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. The public is welcome to attend.

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!

## Closing the Book on 2024

2024 was a record-breaking year for Hinsdale Public Library. Thanks to our innovative staff, dedicated volunteers, and most of all, our patrons—the people of Hinsdale—we held more events, engaged with more kids, and served you better than ever before.

Insights from our board and residents were central to the development of our Strategic Plan. This document has guided our growth since 2023, and the results below speak for themselves. You can learn more about our strategic plan at [hinsdalelibrary.info/plan](https://hinsdalelibrary.info/plan).



**175,198**  
 Visits to HPL



**9,184**  
 Reference Questions



**330,360** up 3%  
 Items Circulated

**88,211** up 3%  
 Items in Collection

*Digital item use has grown **18%** (while print circulation continues to grow)*



**692**  
 Programs & Meetups

**12,538**  
 Program Attendees

*Attendance at meetups\* **more than doubled.***  
\*Clubs, game nights, etc.



**409** up 18%  
 Meeting Room Uses

**1,060** up 33%  
 Volunteer Hours

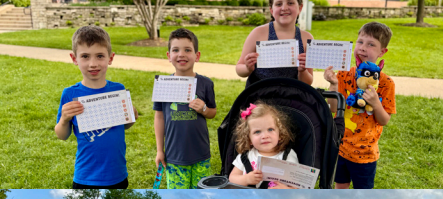
**394** up 35%  
 Homebound Deliveries

## You Asked, We Delivered!

Some of our strategic goals for the year included:

- **More daytime, weekend, and off-site programs for adults:** We now offer a robust daytime program schedule in addition to evening events—since Fall 2023, we've hosted 136 daytime programs and 54 weekend and off-site programs!
- **More school partnerships:** Our librarians reached 3,679 children in classes over the last school year.
- **Explore outdoor space improvements:** We were proud to partner with the Village to refresh Memorial Hall's plaza space.

# spring highlights



## Adults



### Six Chicago Women Who Changed the World

Wednesday, March 19, 7–8:15 p.m.; see pg. 4

In recognition of Women's History Month, Clarence Goodman returns to Hinsdale to share the stories of six amazing Chicago women who helped shape history.



### Jane Austen Visits Hinsdale

Monday, March 24, 7–8 p.m.; see pg. 4

Learn about the life of one of the most beloved and intriguing novelists of the 19th century in this dramatic portrayal. Presented by Debra Miller.



### HPL After Dark: Sake 101

Friday, May 9, 7–8:15 p.m.; see pg. 11

Stella Miller, beverage director at Chef Paul Virant's Gaijin, will be on hand to discuss the Japanese spirit and lead HPL's annual free guided tasting!



### Between Two Comets: The Life of Mark Twain

Tuesday, May 13, 7–8 p.m.; see pg. 9

Mark Twain will discuss his life, his writings, and his struggle to be accepted by society and support his family with his work. Presented by actor Terry Lynch.

## Kids & teens



### Tournament of Books

All March; all ages; drop-in; see pg. 8

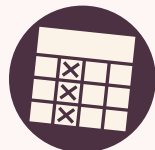
Let the tournament begin! Each week, stop by the Library to vote for your favorite book in the tournament. Come back to see which books advance into the next round.



### The Kindness Garden with Firefly Family Theatre

Saturday, April 19, 10–10:40 a.m.; families; see pg. 9

Join Spark the Firefly and all her friends for stories and songs all about spring and the power of kindness.



### Grandparent & Me Bingo

Wednesday, April 23, 4–4:45 p.m.; grades K–5; see pg. 8

Moooo! Farm animals have taken over our bingo boards. Come and play this classic game with a farm twist. Grandparents can join in on the fun!



### Summer Reading Kickoff Party

Monday, June 2, 2–4 p.m.; families; see pg. 9

Summer Reading begins in June! Join us on our new patio for an afternoon of fun, games, and treats, including a performance by storyteller and comedian Chris Fascione.



## Download HPL's iPhone App today!

It's the easiest way to register for the programs below (and to reserve study rooms, access your card digitally, and more).

## March

### Natural Soap-Making for Beginners

Monday, March 10, 7–8 p.m.

Craft your own natural soap using botanicals and essential oils while learning about soap making throughout history. This beginner class is presented by Soapy Roads of Lombard.

### Ten Practical Uses for AI

Thursday, March 13, 7–8 p.m.

Discover how to use artificial intelligence to enhance your life and boost productivity. We will showcase ten practical applications.

### Intro to Quilting

with the Salt Creek Quilters Guild

Saturday, March 15, 10 a.m.–noon

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

### Six Chicago Women Who Changed the World

Wednesday, March 19, 7–8:15 p.m.

In recognition of Women's History Month, Clarence Goodman returns to Hinsdale to share the stories of six amazing Chicago women who helped shape history.

### Successful Aging: Senior Lunch & Learn What You Need to Know About Hospice and Palliative Care

Wednesday, March 19, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

Learn about palliative and hospice care, the difference between the two, and the myths and barriers around hospice and end of life care from residential health consultant Kate Borkowicz. Lunch provided by The Birches.

### Jane Austen Visits Hinsdale

Monday, March 24, 7–8 p.m.

Learn about the life of one of the most beloved and intriguing novelists of the 19th century in this dramatic portrayal. Presented by Debra Miller.

## April

### Leslie Goddard Presents

#### Chocolate Kings: Hershey vs. Mars

Monday, April 7, 7–8 p.m.

In chocolate history, few names are better known than Hershey and Mars. Join Leslie Goddard to explore how these legendary companies began and how their rivalry changed chocolate forever.

#### Take a Tour of the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition

Tuesday, April 8, 7–8 p.m.

Step back in time and take a tour of the spectacular 1893 World's Fair in Chicago using vintage photographs, maps, and artwork with author Cindy Angell Keeling.

#### Spring Awakening through Meditation

Wednesday, April 9, 6:30–7:30 p.m.

Tap into your inner peace this spring using meditation techniques taught by Umesh Bhatia. Learn how meditation can enrich your life and lead to fulfillment.

#### How the World Eats: Dumplings

Thursday, April 10, 7–8:15 p.m.

Whether steamed, fried, or boiled, dumplings are always delicious. Join us to discover a diverse array of dumplings from every corner of the world. Samples will be provided.

#### The Basics of Cut Flower Gardening

Monday, April 14, 7–8 p.m.

Learn how to grow a beautiful garden of cut flowers from the Green Garden Mama, Carrie Khoury. Learn about plant categories, plant selection, timing, and bouquet building.

#### Publishing Demystified

Tuesday, April 15, 7–8 p.m.

Chicago-based literary agent Danielle Egan-Miller will discuss the traditional book publishing landscape, from finding an agent to landing a deal.

### Successful Aging: Senior Lunch & Learn Your Home, Your Haven: Monthly Maintenance Tips

Wednesday, April 16, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

Take the stress out of home maintenance. Bea Wolfe, senior real estate specialist, will share an easy-to-follow checklist to keep your home in great shape. Lunch provided by The Birches.

### Poetry & Music

#### Celebrating National Poetry Month

Wednesday, April 16, 7–8 p.m.

Delve into the connections between poetry and music with Hinsdale musician Alvin McGovern. Through song and verse, he will weave their common threads together.

#### Needle Felting Craft: Book Birds

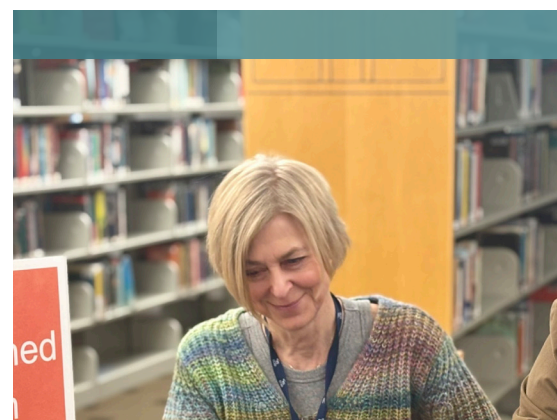
Monday, April 21, 7–8 p.m.

Join Natasha Lehrer Lewis of Esther's Place as she teaches a fun class on needle felting! We'll make an adorable book-loving bird.

#### Time Traveling through Illinois

Tuesday, April 29, 7–8 p.m.

For Historic Preservation Month, Illinois traveler John Kokoris will discuss sites from every part of the state and every era of our history—and the stories that have been preserved along with them.



#### Seasoned Tech

Thursdays, March 6, April 3, and May 1, 3–4 p.m.

Stop in to get tech help from experienced experts from Hinsdale Public Library and the Indian Prairie Computer Club.



# May

## Forest Bathing

### A Walk Through Fullersburg Woods

Friday, May 2, 10 a.m.–noon

Meet at the Nature Center at Fullersburg Woods

Beth Bengtson will lead a walk through Fullersburg Woods to practice shinrin-yoku, or forest bathing, which promotes well-being.

## Smart Retirement Strategies

Tuesday, May 6, 7–8 p.m.

Learn about some of the lesser-known financial strategies that might be beneficial in retirement. Financial advisor Charlie Russ will outline a variety of safe alternatives worth considering.

## Chicago Revealed Neighborhood by Neighborhood

Thursday, May 8, 7–8 p.m.

We'll explore the rich history and culture of two vibrant Chicago neighborhoods, Pilsen and Andersonville—and enjoy treats inspired by their past and present.

## Hinsdale's Crime Trends with Chief of Police Brian King

Monday, May 12, 7–8 p.m.

Meet Hinsdale's Police Chief Brian King to learn about crime trends in Hinsdale and how to avoid being a victim.

## Between Two Comets: The Life of Mark Twain

Tuesday, May 13, 7–8 p.m.

Having lived between two Halley's Comets, Mark Twain will discuss his life, his writings, and his struggle to be accepted by society and support his family. Presented by actor Terry Lynch.

## Interior Design Trends: What's New is Old!

Thursday, May 15, 7–8:15 p.m.

Learn about the latest trends in color and furnishings for 2025, including mid-century styles that are enjoying renewed appreciation. Presented by Janie Petkus.

## Hokusai & Ukiyo-e Curator Visit

Tuesday, May 20, 7–8 p.m.

Join Justin Witte, Curator of the Cleve Carney Art Gallery, to hear about this summer's *Hokusai and Ukiyo-E: The Floating World* exhibit.

## Successful Aging: Senior Lunch & Learn How to Stay Healthy as You Age

Wednesday, May 21, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.

Take charge of your health as you age! Join Dr. Beata I. Styka, Hinsdale resident and geriatric specialist, to learn how to prevent age-related illnesses, boost energy, and maintain independence. Lunch provided by The Birches.



# Library of Things

## More Than Just Books!

[hinsdalelibrary.info/things](https://hinsdalelibrary.info/things)

Hinsdale Public Library checks out more than books, movies, CDs, magazines, and newspapers.

We also have a Library of Things, a collection of nontraditional items—like devices, kits, and tools—you can borrow if you want to explore a new hobby or save space in your house.

Our Wi-Fi hotspots and Roku fly off the shelves, and we've recently expanded our collection:

- Karaoke machine
- GoPro Hero 12
- Vinyl record washer
- Portable film/slide digitizer
- VHS to DVD converter kit
- Birding kit
- Metal detector
- Ukulele
- Portable recording studio
- Nintendo Switch

You can browse these items—and Curiosity Kits for kids—at [hinsdalelibrary.info/things](https://hinsdalelibrary.info/things).

## Spice Club

Pickup March 10, April 14, May 12

HPL cardholders can register to receive a different spice each month.

## Seed Library

Behind the Reference Desk

HPL cardholders can “check out” up to 10 packets of heirloom vegetable, herb, and flower seeds. Now's the perfect time to start your seeds!

## Summer Puzzle Race

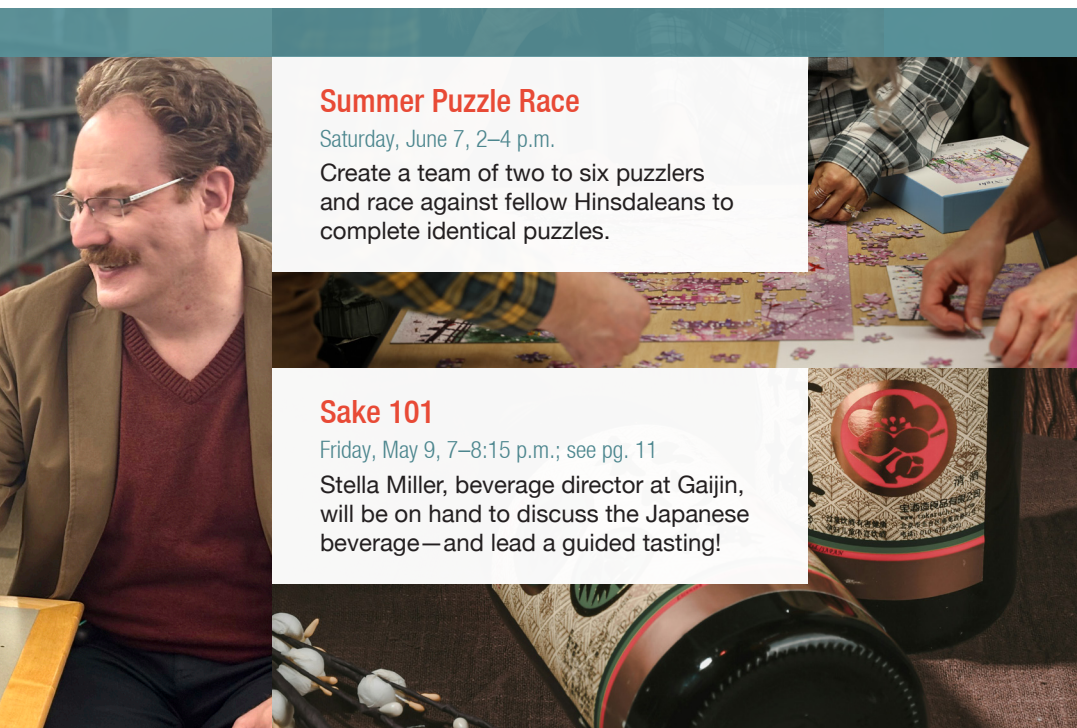
Saturday, June 7, 2–4 p.m.

Create a team of two to six puzzlers and race against fellow Hinsdaleans to complete identical puzzles.

## Sake 101

Friday, May 9, 7–8:15 p.m.; see pg. 11

Stella Miller, beverage director at Gaijin, will be on hand to discuss the Japanese beverage—and lead a guided tasting!



## For Book Lovers

### Library Edition Book Club

First Wednesdays, 7–8 p.m.

Join our signature book club! Copies can be found on the Book Club Holds shelf.

- **March 5:** *Hum*, Helen Phillips
- **April 2:** *How to Read a Book*, Monica Wood
- **May 7:** *The Cliffs*, J. Courtney Sullivan

### Moms' Book Group

#### Under 5 Edition

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!

- **March 18:** *The Husbands*, Holly Gramazio
- **April 15:** *The Women*, Kristin Hannah
- **May 20:** *Here One Moment*, Liane Moriarty

### Book Buzz with Sourcebooks

Tuesday, March 11, 7–8 p.m.

Get the buzz on new and upcoming books—and receive a new book, too!

### HPL Book Box

Pickup March 22, April 15, and May 13

This fun-to-open book subscription box for HPL cardholders only includes a curated title and bookish swag.

### One Stop West of Hinsdale:

#### A Visit with Author Valerie Reid

Thursday, April 10, 7–8 p.m.

Joint program at Clarendon Hills Public Library

Join author Valerie Reid to hear about her latest novel, *One Stop West of Hinsdale: Love Derailed in a Sixties Suburb*.

### Books & Bites

Monday, May 5, 3–4 p.m.

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

### How to Use the eLibrary

Thursday, May 29, 7–8 p.m.

Borrow books while you're on vacation with our digital library! This hands-on class will help you master checking out books, audiobooks, magazines, and streaming media using HPL's apps.



## Online Learning

The “Learning” menu on our homepage is your portal to dozens of tools to aid you in lifelong learning.

These include:

- **Creativebug** offers hundreds of online video workshops covering arts and crafts.
- **Mango Languages** lets you learn and practice new languages using an award-winning app. The “Little Pim” feature even offers language learning for kids.
- **Peterson's Test Prep:** Access practice tests and more for more than 100 academic and professional exams.
- **Udemy:** Thousands of courses on a vast array of subjects and professional skills will help you master any topic! Learn Python, Canva, public speaking, mindfulness, and more.

Our digital learning resources require an HPL card to log in. Find them all at [hinsdalelibrary.info/digital-resources](https://hinsdalelibrary.info/digital-resources).

This page also links to our genealogy tools, business resources, academic databases, newspapers, and more.

## More Clubs & Meetups

### Next Chapter Book Club

Thursdays, March 6 and 20; April 3 and 17;  
May 1 and 22; 6:30–7:30 p.m.

Anyone 16+ with intellectual or developmental disabilities can join us as we read books aloud and talk together.

### Needlecraft Night

Thursdays, March 6 and 20; April 3 and 17;  
May 1, 15, and 22; 6:30–7:30 p.m.

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

### Intermediate Crochet Classes

Saturdays, March 8, April 12, and May 17, 2–3 p.m.

Know a little about crochet and want to move on to harder projects? Join us this spring to learn some new skills.

### Mandarin Chinese Conversation

Third Mondays, March 17, April 21, and May 19;  
7–8 p.m.; adults and teens 14+

Connect with people looking to practice their Mandarin Chinese with facilitator Yvonne Mao. Participants are expected to be able to speak at a beginner level.

### Board Game Night

Tuesdays, March 18, April 15, May 20  
6:30–8 p.m.; adults and teens 14+

Make friends and defeat your neighbors! Come alone or bring friends or family to play board games together at the library; we'll provide the games and some instruction if needed.

### Great Decisions 2025

Wednesdays, March 26, April 23, and May 28;  
7–8:45 p.m.

Great Decisions is America's largest discussion program on world affairs.

### Hinsdale Memory Café

Fourth Wednesdays, March 26, April 23,  
and May 27; 2–3 p.m.

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

### Drop-In Coffee & Conversation

Wednesdays, 10–11 a.m.

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

## Grades 6–12

### Teen Book Boxes

Pickup March 7, April 11, and May 9

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

### Take-Home Craft Pressed Flower Glass Jars

Pickup March 7–14

Decorate glass jars with dried flowers to brighten up your room or give as a gift.

### Teen Game Night

Monday, March 24, 5–6 p.m.

Listen to music while playing board games and enjoying snacks.

### Take-Home Craft Spring Break Busy Bags for Teens

Pickup March 28–April 4

Stay busy with a kit full of crafts and activities to fill up your break.

### Spring Still Life Paint & Snack

Thursday, April 10, 4–5 p.m.

Practice your still life painting skills or freestyle a bouquet to welcome spring.

### Take-Home Craft Mandala Rock Painting

Pickup April 11–18

Use stencils to paint mandalas, or repeating geometric patterns, on rocks.

### Teen Book Club

Monday, April 14, 5–6 p.m.

For this teen book club, we will be reading *Darkly* by Marisha Pessl. Join your friends as we discuss the book. A snack will be provided. Books will be available for checkout on the book club holds shelf.

### Take-Home Craft Clay Mushrooms

Pickup May 9–16

Use clay to make a mushroom sculpture.

### Teen Yoga

Wednesday, May 21, 4–5 p.m.; meet on the patio

We will practice an all-levels yoga class outside. Whether you've never taken a class before, or you're a seasoned yogi, enjoy some time to stretch and relax with your friends. Please bring a mat or towel. We'll meet indoors if it rains.

## High School

### High School Peer Tutoring with P.A.S.S.

March 2, 13, 16, 17, and 23, 1–5 p.m.

Stay on top of your work this semester with help from P.A.S.S. peer tutors. Register online for math, science, AP Euro, world history and Spanish sessions.

### Money Smarts Lunch & Learn Credit & Debt

Saturday, March 8, 12:30–1:30 p.m.

Financial advisors Nora Hernandez and Clare Nawrocki will cover credit cards, student loans, loan terms, and credit scores. Pizza will be served. This class is intended for high school students to prepare them for financial independence.

### High School Lunch & Learn Designing Your Future: A Guide to College and Beyond

Saturday, April 12, 12:30–1:30 p.m.

In this workshop, you will learn how to create a blueprint for your future. College admission counselor Sonia Lal will provide tools and answer your questions about the admission process. Pizza will be served.

### High School After Dark Board Game Battle

Friday, April 11, 7–8:30 p.m.

Get your game on at our Board Game Battle! Teams of 3–6 will compete to be crowned Board Game Champions.



## Exam Cram

### Free for HPL cardholders: Peterson's Test Prep

Take online practice tests for free! This resource will prepare you for the SAT, the ACT, AP exams, civil service and licensing, law enforcement and military entrance, medical school, and more.

### Stressbusters & Study Snacks

Saturday, May 24–Wednesday, May 28  
(Library closed Monday, May 26)

Stress less over finals at the Library this spring. You provide the study materials and we'll provide space to study and snacks to keep you going.

## March

### Baby & Toddler Playdate

Friday, March 7, 10–10:45 a.m.; babies & toddlers

Bring your baby or toddler in for a fun time to play. Caregivers will have the chance to socialize.

### Take-Home Craft Spring Wind Chime

Pickup March 7–14; grades K–2

Paint a wooden wind chime to enjoy in the fresh spring breeze!

### Saturday Stories & Crafts

Saturday, March 8, 10–10:45 a.m.; all ages

Busy during the week? Join us for a fun morning of stories and crafts that will be fun for the whole family!

### Mini Scientists Colors

Friday March 14 11–11:45 a.m.; toddlers–pre-K

Join us for a story, craft, and magical experiment with colors!

### Pokémon Pals

Friday, March 14, 4–4:45 p.m.; grades K–5

Enjoy fun Pokémon activities and bring your own cards to trade, play, and learn.

### Beginner Crochet

Tuesday, March 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.

### Drop-in Donuts with Dad

Saturday, March 22, 9:30–11:30 a.m.; families

A time for dads to enjoy donuts, coffee, and fun activities with their children.

### Take-Home Craft Spring Break Busy Bags

Pickup March 28–April 4; grades K–2

Stay busy with a kit full of crafts and activities to keep the boredom away.

### Drop-in Scavenger Hunt Mythical Creatures

All March; all ages

What's that shadow? A unicorn? A dragon? Identify the hidden mythical creatures and earn a sticker!

## Registration begins March 1

Registration is required for all programs and crafts unless otherwise noted.

Visit [hinsdalelibrary.info/events](https://hinsdalelibrary.info/events) beginning March 1 at 9 a.m. to register for all spring programs.



*Note that weekday storytimes are switching to a “first come, first served” ticketing system.*



*A few of our programs are “drop-in” events. If you see this symbol, you don't have to register.*



*Belle visited the Library in January.*

## April

### Saturday Stories & Crafts

Saturday, April 5, 10–10:45 a.m.; all ages

Busy during the week? Join us for a fun morning of stories and crafts.

### Drop-in Donuts with Dad

Saturday, April 12, 9:30–11:30 a.m.; families

A time for dads to enjoy donuts, coffee, and fun activities with their children.

### Baby & Toddler Playdate

Friday, April 18, 10–10:45 a.m.; babies & toddlers

Snuggle, bounce, and bond with your baby as we foster language development and a love of reading.

### Take-Home Craft Cupcake Liner Caterpillar

Pickup April 18–25; grades K–2

Create your own caterpillar using cupcake liners, googly eyes, and paper!

### The Kindness Garden with Firefly Family Theatre

Saturday, April 19, 10–10:40 a.m.; families

Join Spark the Firefly and all her friends for stories and songs all about spring and the power of kindness.

### Mini Makers Play-Doh Party!

Tuesday, April 22, 10–10:45 a.m.; toddlers–pre-K

Practice sensory and motor skills while playing with Play-Doh! We'll begin this hands-on program with a reading of *Monsters Love Colors* by Mike Austen.

### Beginner Crochet

Tuesday, April 22, 4–4:45 p.m.; grades 3–5

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

### Grandparent & Me Bingo

Wednesday, April 23, 4–4:45 p.m.; grades K–5

Moooo! Farm animals have taken over our bingo boards. Come and play this classic game with a farm twist. Grandparents can join in on the fun!

### Drop-in Scavenger Hunt What's the Weather Today?

All April; all ages

Do you wear rainboots to the beach? How about a swimsuit to play in the snow? Find and match clothing to weather to earn a sticker!



# MARCH BOOK MADNESS @ HINSDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY

## Tournament of Books

All March; all ages; drop-in

Let the tournament begin! Each week, stop by the Library to vote for your favorite book in the tournament. Come back to see which books advance into the next round.



## The Kindness Garden with Firefly Family Theatre

Saturday, April 19, 10–10:40 a.m.; families

Join Spark the Firefly and all her friends for stories and songs all about spring and the power of kindness. The performance includes puppets, original music, interactive movement, and lots of springtime fun!

## May

### Saturday Stories & Crafts

Saturday, May 3, 10–10:45 a.m.; all ages

Busy during the week? Join us for a fun morning of stories and crafts.

### Paint a Birdhouse

Thursday, May 8, 4–4:45 p.m.; grades K–2

Customize a colorful sanctuary for neighborhood birds to enjoy.

### Drop-in Donuts with Dad

Saturday, May 10, 9:30–11:30 a.m.; families

A time for dads to enjoy donuts, coffee, and fun activities with their children.

### Beginner Crochet

Tuesday, May 13, 4–4:45 p.m.; grades 3–5

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

### Mini Artists Suncatchers

Friday, May 16, 11–11:45 a.m.; toddlers–pre-K

Celebrate the return of spring and sunny days! We'll read a book about spring and then make suncatchers using tissue and contact paper.

### Baby & Toddler Playdate

Friday, May 23, 10–10:45 a.m.; babies & toddlers

Bring your baby or toddler in for a fun time of play. Caregivers will have the chance to socialize.

### Take-Home Craft Colorful Coffee Filter Butterflies

Pickup May 23–30; grades K–2

Make colorful butterflies using coffee filters, pipe cleaners, and other supplies.

### Drop-in Scavenger Hunt Flowers are in Bloom!

All May; all ages

Search for flowers and identify their colors to receive a sticker as a prize!

### Save the Date: Summer Reading Kickoff Party

Monday, June 2, 2–4 p.m.; families

Summer Reading begins in June! Join us on our new patio for an afternoon full of fun, games, and treats. Storyteller and comedian Chris Fascione will perform from 2–2:45 p.m. and activities will continue afterwards.

## Storytimes

**\*New registration process:** Registration is no longer required, but space is limited. Drop by the Youth Services desk for your tickets up to 30 minutes prior to the start of each program. Tickets are available on a first come, first served basis.

Storytime runs from March 4–May 22, except for the weeks of April 13 and 20.

### Baby Storytime\*

Tuesdays, 9:30–10 a.m.; babies with caregiver

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

### Preschool Storytime\*

Wednesdays, 9:30–10 a.m.; ages 3.5–5

Our stories and songs will delight your preschooler! To practice independence, children will attend without an adult; a caregiver should remain in the Youth Department during the program.

### Toddler Storytime\*

Thursdays, 9:30–10 a.m.; toddlers with caregiver

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

## More Fun

### Book Box Jr.

Pickup March 7, April 11, and May 9; 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.



### Challenge Yourself with I Spy Cases

All spring

Search for objects in scenes made by HJWC families. Thanks to the Lake-Wickham, Bashir, and Benjelloun families for designing this spring's cases!

### Meet Our Kid Librarians

Winter 2025

Next to the fish tank, you may have noticed book displays curated by Hinsdale's "Kid Librarians."

Last summer, these readers applied to share the books they love most with their community. Now, all year long, they have that chance. A big thank-you to HPL's most recent Kid Librarians:



#### Elexandra

Plays the piano; loves art, fashion, and film; loves classics, like Anne Frank's diary, *A Christmas Carol*, and Greek myths.



#### Caleb

Likes math and puzzles; is a LEGO master; reads series like *Harry Potter*, *Dog Man*, and *Mighty Robot*.



#### Ethan

Is left-handed; plays travel soccer; enjoys board games; likes *Frog and Toad*, *The Lorax*, and the *Kingdom of Wrenly* series.



#### Maryam

Also a lefty; loves theater, oysters, and the *I Survived* series. She also enjoys *The Baby-Sitters Club* and *Click* series.



#### Madison

Listens to imagine Dragons; plays basketball; loves to read AND write. Enjoys *Harry Potter*, *I Survived*, and *Cat Kid Comic Club*.



## Craft Time

There are plenty of opportunities to get crafty at the Library this Spring.

On pp. 8–9, note our monthly Saturday Stories & Crafts sessions for all ages, monthly Beginner Crochet classes for older elementary schoolers, and our Mini Scientists program in March for younger kids. We also offer Take-Home Crafts every month (with an extra kit in March for spring break).

If that is not enough to satisfy your budding crafter, check out **Creativebug** on our website's Learning menu. This database has thousands of high-quality videos that will help kids, teens, and adults alike get creative.

*LEFT: Over the winter, children made robots inspired by Wild Robot and friendship bracelets inspired by Taylor Swift.*

## Curiosity Kits

Spark curiosity in science, technology, art, math, reading, music, and nature with our Curiosity Kits for children. Animal lovers will love our backyard **Birding and Dog Trainer Kit**. Our **Game Night Pack** and **Karaoke Kit** provides fun for the whole family. Enjoy a scavenger hunt complete with walkie talkies and a metal detector with the **Explorer's Kit**. From marble runs to magic tricks to microscopes, we have plenty of things to pique your curiosity!



## DGAG Member Showcase

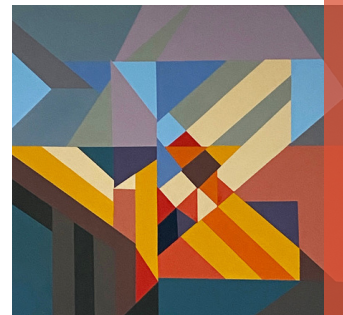
Art on display in the Quiet Reading Room May 1–July 25  
Reception Wednesday, May 7, 6:30–7:30 p.m.

### About Downers Grove Artists' Guild

1941, Tressa Emerson Benson spearheaded a group exhibit of local artists in Downers Grove that became the Downers Grove Artists' Guild (DGAG), which now meets monthly at Downers Grove Public Library. The DGAG encourages artists to explore their talents through participation in a variety of presentations and exhibitions. They also encourage membership of non-artists who love art, providing artist demonstrations and learning experiences for members and the community.

### About the Exhibit

DGAG members express themselves through a variety of concepts and mediums, from fully representational to completely abstract. Their unifying force is a drive to be a community of local artists and art lovers who support each others' creative endeavors and instincts to learn and grow artistically.



## HCHS Spring Art Show

Exhibit March 24–April 28

Reception Monday, April 8, 6:30–7:30 p.m.

This month-long exhibit in the Library's Quiet Reading Room will feature work by Hinsdale Central High School artists in Ceramics 1 and Ceramics Advanced, Jewelry, Drawing 1 and Drawing Advanced, Painting Advanced, Digital Art, and AP Studio Art. Be sure to support these young artists and see their work at their reception; refreshments will be provided.



HPL After Dark

## Sake 101:

Exploring Japan's National Drink

Friday, May 9, 7–8:30 p.m.

In this interactive tasting seminar, attendees will learn about the history and production process of sake. We'll enjoy a guided tasting of three different classifications of sake from the Hakutsuru brewery, with emphasis on how the production style affects the flavors and textures of the beverage, as well as suggested pairings for each style.

**ABOUT THE PRESENTER:** Stella Miller is the current Beverage Director for Chef Paul Virant's Gaijin, a Japanese restaurant specializing in Okonomiyaki, Japanese whisky, and sake. (You may know Paul from his Hinsdale restaurant, Vistro Prime.) A beverage professional with over ten years of experience at Chicago's world-class restaurants (Alinea, Boka, El Ideas, Yugen), Stella has also spearheaded beverage programming for Michelin-starred restaurants with a concentration in Japanese dining.

*Sponsored by the Friends of the Hinsdale Public Library with support from Gaijin Restaurant in Chicago.*



## Hokusai & Ukiyo-e

The Floating World

Exhibit May 31–Sept. 21

Cleve Carney Museum of Art, College of DuPage

The Cleve Carney Museum of Art will host an immersive exhibit this summer, featuring 60 pieces of art, 13 artifacts, and several interactive areas, including a multi-media historical display, peaceful Japanese garden, anime exhibit, children's area, and other experiences focusing on Japan's Edo period.

Postal Customer

## coming soon

Place a hold using your online account or call us at 630.570.4213.

### March

Bohjalian, Chris	<i>Jackal's Mistress</i>
Coben, Harlan	<i>Nobody's Fool</i>
Sandford, John	<i>Lethal Prey</i>
Score, Lucy	<i>Story of My Life</i>

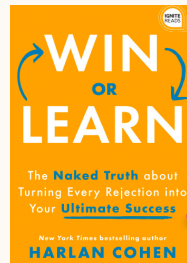
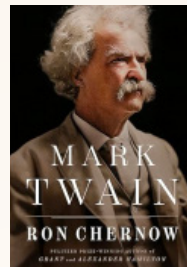
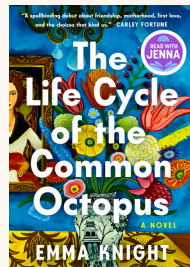
### April

Feeney, Alice	<i>Beautiful Ugly</i>
Patterson, James	<i>Texas Murders</i>
Steel, Danielle	<i>Never Say Never</i>
Yarros, Rebecca	<i>Onyx Storm</i>

### May

Backman, Fredrik	<i>My Friends</i>
Connelly, Michael	<i>Nightshade</i>
Fortune, Carly	<i>One Golden Summer</i>
Horowitz, Anthony	<i>Marble Hall Murders</i>

## staff reads



## donations

The Library is once again grateful for a \$2,500 donation by the **Grisemer Family Charitable Fund**.

We're also grateful for a donation from Kimberly Ochenschlager in memory of Peggy Schultz and Katie Ebert, as well as a donation from Mary Landis in honor of Linnea Wilson.

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. Join the Friends at [hinsdalelibrary.info/friends](http://hinsdalelibrary.info/friends).

**MEET AUTHOR HARLAN COHEN APRIL 29-30**  
Visit [D181Foundation.org](http://D181Foundation.org) to learn more.

## What Will You Make Today?



### Creativebug

Creativebug offers arts and crafts workshops and techniques through online, professionally-shot videos; use it to learn how to paint, knit, crochet, sew, screen print, and more.

Access Creativebug through our website's "learning" menu or by visiting [hinsdalelibrary.info/digital-resources](http://hinsdalelibrary.info/digital-resources).



Subscribe to our **email newsletters** and never miss a program!

## follow us



Programs can be added after the newsletter is printed. Check our online calendar for up-to-date programming information and subscribe to our email newsletters.

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