A Community Beyond Books

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THE GUIDE
Winter 2023/24 | December, January, February
Changes in Store for 2024!

The library’s mission to serve the community means that we are always changing and evolving to meet the community’s needs.

Inside the Library Building
In January, you may notice some shifting of the spaces on the 2nd floor of the library. The highly-anticipated makerspace will be created in the area that is currently the High School Room, and the Internet Lab will become the new High School Room. The 2nd Floor Information Desk will also be reconfigured to better serve visitors using the library’s passport services. We hope that the disruption caused by the reconfiguration will be minimal, and that all of the areas will be ready for use in April 2024.

Later in 2024, we will add three additional 2nd floor study spaces and update some of the 2nd floor lighting and furniture.

Anywhere
Outside of the building, staff have been using the outreach van to take storytime to the parks, complete with music, scarves, and shakers! Some storytime sessions include up to 150 attendees—many more than would fit into the program rooms at the library!

Staff are also out in the van at Little Free Library locations and visiting schools and assisted living facilities. The Short Story Dispenser is currently “on tour,” and staff use the van to deliver the machine to schools where it dispenses curated stories and short-story contest-winning student writing!

Several times each week, staff deliver materials to the 65 S Park Lockers located at the Glen Ellyn Police Department for 24/7 pickup. You may also see the outreach van collecting and delivering items like welcome bags for the Festival of the Arts.

Inside the library building or out in Glen Ellyn, library staff are always looking for new ways to help meet the community’s needs.

—Dawn Bussey, Executive Director
director@gepl.org | 630-790-6760

USING MAKER EQUIPMENT

Laser Cutter: Beeswax Candle
Thursday, December 21 • 2:30-4:30 pm
North and South Meeting Rooms
Create and decorate a beeswax candle to light the darkness of the winter solstice during the winter celebration of many cultures. Supplies provided. For adults and high school students.

Embroidery Machine: Decorated Beanie
Tuesday, January 16 • 3:30-5:30 pm
North and South Meeting Rooms
Learn how to use embroidery software and the embroidery machine with a premade design to decorate a library-provided warm winter hat to keep. Supplies provided. Fine motor skills required. For adults and high school students.

Cricut: Valentine’s Day Card
Monday, February 12 • 2-4 pm
North and South Meeting Rooms
Learn the basics of card creation with the Cricut and create a personalized Valentine’s Day card. Supplies provided. For adults and high school students.
HOLIDAY THEMED

Create Cards for the Holidays 🎄
Sunday, December 3 • 2-4 pm
North and South Meeting Rooms
Card-making artist Kathy Donofrio will provide supplies and demonstrate how to create greeting cards. For adults and high school students.

Holiday Movie Mondays
Mondays • December 4, 11, 18 • 2:30-4:30 pm
North and South Meeting Rooms
Light refreshments will be provided.
December 4: Christmas Vacation (1989) PG-13
December 18: Elf (2003) PG

Holiday Treats to Wow Your Guests 🍫
Tuesday, December 5 • 2-3 pm
Virtual Program
The Cafe’s own Chef Rob will demonstrate how to prepare some items for entertaining season that anyone can cook! Holiday Chocolate Bark with choice of toppings; Holiday Bundt Cake flavored to make your tastebuds sing; and Hot Chocolate Jar, a perfect gift! For adults and high school students.

‘Tis the Season: Holiday Traditions from Radio’s Golden Age 🎄
Wednesday, December 6 • 11 am-Noon
2nd Floor Atrium East
Steve Darnall will spur your imagination and share a bit of Yuletide spirit with this theater of the mind. Listen to classic seasonal sounds from the golden age of radio like Jack Benny’s annual shopping trips and Lionel Barrymore’s portrayal of Ebeneezer Scrooge. For adults and high school students.

Illinois Libraries Present
Surviving the Holidays with Lori Gottlieb 📚
Wednesday, December 6 • 7-8 pm
Virtual Program
Lori Gottlieb, New York Times bestselling author of Maybe You Should Talk to Someone, and co-host of the “Dear Therapists” podcast joins us for a thought-provoking conversation about mental health in anticipation of the winter holiday season. Gottlieb will share tools to help in everyday life and especially as you prepare for the holidays. For adults and high school students.

Illinois Libraries Present
The Royal Ballet Performance of The Nutcracker 🎵
Saturday, December 16, Sunday December 17
Virtual Program
Get in the spirit of the season by watching a recorded performance of Tchaikovsky’s The Nutcracker performed by The Royal Ballet. The ballet, a holiday staple for all ages, can be viewed Saturday, December 16, and Sunday, December 17. Registrants will receive an email with a link to the performance. For adults and kids of all ages.

FOR ADULTS AND KIDS OF ALL AGES

Blues 101: History and Performance 🎸
Saturday, February 17 • 2-3 pm
North and South Meeting Rooms
Explore the origins of blues music from its early beginnings with Fruteland Jackson. Learn the history of Blues music through songs, stories, and discussions while listening to instrumental examples played on the guitar. Available to the first 80 participants.

Illinois Libraries Present
A Conversation with Jerry Craft: From Mama’s Boyz to New Kid and Beyond 🎨
Tuesday, February 6 • 7-8 pm
Virtual Program
Learn about life, art, and telling your story with bestselling author, illustrator, and syndicated cartoonist, Jerry Craft. Join us for a conversation about his works and journey to success, including a drawing demo that will be fun for the whole family!

Seed Library: Seedling Startup 🌱
Thursday, February 29 • 1-2 pm, 5-6 pm
North and South Meeting Rooms
Prepare flower and vegetable seedlings so that they are ready for planting in the spring.

Community Conversation:
WTTW/PBS Presents Gospel 🎵
Sunday, February 18 • 3-4:30 pm
2nd Floor Atrium East
PBS Books National Director and local resident Heather-Marie Montilla will show excerpts from the new WTTW/PBS docuseries, Gospel, and facilitate a discussion about how Black culture and gospel music, including its influence on pop music and society, have impacted the Glen Ellyn community. Montilla will provide behind-the-scenes insights into this docuseries produced, hosted, and written by Professor Henry Louis Gates, Jr.
GET SOCIAL

Senior Social Hour
Wednesdays • December-February • 2:30-3:45 pm
North and South Meeting Rooms
Join neighbors to socialize while completing puzzles, playing card games, or working on coloring crafts. Light refreshments will be provided. For adults 50+.

Trivia Night
Thursdays • December 7-February 8 • 7-9 pm
The Beer Cellar, 488 Crescent Blvd.
Grab some friends or head out by yourself to The Beer Cellar Glen Ellyn for live trivia! For age 21 and up. Please arrive by 6:45 pm to secure space. Teams of four or less are encouraged.

Donuts and BINGO
Thursdays • December 14, January 11, February 8
10:30-11:30 am
Main Street Recreation Center, 501 Hill Ave.
Visit with friends over coffee and donuts while playing everyone’s favorite game. BINGO is free to play, with games starting at 10:30 am. One BINGO card per participant. Coffee, donuts, and BINGO cards will be provided, and prizes will be awarded to winners. Offered in partnership with the Glen Ellyn Park District.

No Shush Salon: Open Mic with Guest Performers
Thursdays • January 25, February 29 • 6:30-9 pm
2nd Floor Round Window Area
Local creative types gather to discuss creative things. Share your works-in-progress or finished endeavors at an open mic! Use your 10 minutes to sing, dance, read, recite—whatever you choose. Spectators are welcome and appreciated. Light refreshments will be provided. For adults and high school students.

January 25: (Virtual Program also) This Girls Story (TGS), a non-profit organization, is a quarterly girl-led magazine that showcases contributions from all who identify as girls, ages 13-19. Contributions can include stories, essays, poetry, drawings, comics, photographs, video, and audio.

February 29: (In Person only) No guest performer, just open mic.

Journaling for Mental Health
Sundays • December 10, February 11 • 2-4 pm
Shakespeare Room and Virtual Program
Discuss things on your mind and heart, participate in a guided visualization, then journal. There will be prompts, snacks, and a chance to share your words, if you feel so moved. You do not have to be a writer to participate, just willing to journal. While this experience may be therapeutic, the facilitators are not licensed therapists. Journals will be provided for in-person attendees. For adults and high school students.

Vitalant Blood Drive
Monday, January 15 • 2-6:30 pm
North and South Meeting Rooms
Schedule your donation appointment at vitalant.org or call 877-25-VITAL. Walk-ins are welcome, but appointments are recommended.

How to Make a Family Documentary
Thursday, January 18 • 6:30-7:30 pm
North and South Meeting Rooms
Have you ever wished you could capture your parent or grandparent’s stories on video before they pass? Or were you able to capture them but you still don’t know what to do with them? Michael Rataj of Creative Family Memories will discuss and answer questions about the basics of digitizing, lighting, capturing audio, filming, and editing to capture stories you can cherish for years to come.

Managing Money: A Caregiver’s Guide to Finances
Saturday, February 10 • 10-11:30 am
North and South Meeting Rooms
James Sullivan, a community educator for the Alzheimer’s Association, will provide information to help navigate Medicaid, Medicare, Social Security, VA Benefits, Private Insurance, Family Assets, and Private Charities to budget and fund care for those with Alzheimer’s disease and dementia. Coffee and donuts will be provided.

Job Search in the 21st Century
Thursday, February 22 • 6:30-7:30 pm
North and South Meeting Rooms
Volunteer job coaches from People’s Resource Center will discuss how to network, build skills, create resumes and cover letters, prepare for interviews, and plan for job searches.

Tech Help One-on-One
Appointments available at calendar.gepl.org or by calling Beth Clower at 630-790-6750
Get hands-on instruction with your tablet, smartphone, or laptop to learn how to operate your device or get Microsoft, Apple, or Google platform software help in a 45-minute one-on-one appointment with library staff.
Pre-Civil War Quilts: Secret Codes to Freedom on the Underground Railroad

Saturday, February 3 • 2-3 pm
North and South Meeting Rooms
Listen to Connie Martin tell stories passed down to her great grandmother, Lizzie, of how her family survived the antebellum period. Lizzie’s Story: A Slave Family’s Journey to Freedom, a book written by Connie’s mother, Dr. Clarice Boswell, also recounts the family’s story. See eighteen different quilt patterns in replica quilts that contain hidden codes and secret messages that helped abolitionists guide slaves to freedom through the Underground Railroad to Canada.

Illinois Libraries Present
These events made possible by Illinois Libraries Present, a statewide collaboration among public libraries offering high-quality events.

Speculating Our AI Future Panel with Corry Doctorow, Ken Liu, and Martha Wells
Thursday, January 11 • 7-8 pm
Virtual Program
Join us for a panel discussion featuring three best selling science fiction writers: Cory Doctorow, Ken Liu, and Martha Wells. They will discuss the promise, perils, and possible impacts that AI will have on our future, as well as AI in contemporary and future science fiction writing. For adults and high school students.

Bridgerton Series Bestselling Author Julia Quinn
Tuesday, February 20 • 7-8 pm
Virtual Program
#1 New York Times bestselling author Julia Quinn helps us feel the romance all month with a discussion about Bridgerton and all things romance. For adults and high school students.

Snowy Days

Recommendations from Adult Dept. Assistant Director and Readers’ Advisory Librarian Sarah Kovac.

Wintering: The Power of Rest and Retreat in Difficult Times by Katherine May
In this memoir, journalist Katherine May faces illness, job loss, and parenting issues all at once. Her pain leads her to explore how difficult phases of life can offer unexpected opportunities. This lyrical and thoughtful book explores the transformative power of rest.

In the Midst of Winter by Isabel Allende
A minor accident during a snowstorm sets in motion a series of events that intertwines the lives of two professors and a nanny. A revelation that there is a body in the trunk of the nanny’s car sends the trio on a madcap adventure. Heartfelt and character-driven, this literary novel explores issues of race and the immigrant experience.

The Snow Child by Eowyn Ivey
In the unforgiving terrain of 1920 Alaska, a couple without children stumbles upon a young girl dwelling in the wilderness alongside a faithful red fox. Over time, they begin to love this peculiar, otherworldly child, embracing her as if she were their own. Based on a Russian fairy tale, The Snow Child is bittersweet and haunting.

Icebreaker by Hannah Grace
Romantic tensions rise when figure skater Hannah Grace and hockey player Nathan Hawkins are forced to share a rink. Fans of the ’80s movie The Cutting Edge will enjoy this enemies-to-lovers sports romance.

The Frozen River by Ariel Lawhon
This suspenseful historical mystery tells the story of real-life frontier midwife Martha Ballard, who is pulled into an investigation of a shocking murder. Readers interested in early American history will revel in being transported to the post-Revolutionary era.

Registration required
Find all programs and events at calendar.gepl.org
Adult Dept. Assistant Director and Readers’ Advisory Librarian
Sarah Kovac

Why and when did you choose to become a librarian?

After college, I worked for several years as a copy editor at The Daily Herald. Although it was an exciting and interesting experience, it was also a high-stress environment with terrible hours. The shifts were 4 pm to 1 am and included weekends and holidays. I knew long-term I wanted something with a better work-life balance, so I decided to make a career change. A large part of journalism is connecting people to information, and as an English major, I have had a lifelong love of literature. I was drawn to librarianship because of the way it combines these two things. Early on in library school, I knew I wanted a job that focused on readers’ advisory, which is all about bringing readers and books together.

Do you have any fun childhood memories at the library?

I was the kid who always had their nose in a book. Several times a week, I would ride my bike to the library to check out armfuls of The Baby-Sitters Club and R.L. Stine books. At the time, it didn’t occur to me that the library was a place where you could have a career. My kid brain just thought the librarians lived in the library!

What do you wish people knew about GEPL?

I wish more people knew that libraries are not silent spaces full of dusty old books. They are vibrant spaces where there is always something going on. We have a diverse collection full of new and popular books, movies, and video games. If it’s been a long time since you’ve been to a library, I encourage you to come in to see all we have to offer.

What is your favorite genre of book?

The genres I read the most are realistic fiction, graphic novels, speculative fiction, and memoirs. I enjoy almost any book with strong character development and compelling writing.

If a movie/show comes out that was based on a book, do you watch first to see if you’d like the book, or do you read the book first?

I tend to enjoy the movie/show more if I watched it before reading the book. If I’ve read the book first, the movie never quite aligns with the picture I had in my head. Although I try to view them as two separate things because I know the author and director both bring their own visions.

If you could choose a fictional character to be your best friend, who would you choose?

Anne Shirley from Anne of Green Gables. She has a great sense of humor and always sees the best in people. With her adventurous spirit, spending time with her would be full of memorable moments.

Do you have a favorite hobby?

Up until recently, I was in a roller derby rec league. Sadly, the roller rink we skated at closed. Also, I enjoy camping (yes, in a tent) and traveling to new places. We’re planning on taking a family trip to Portugal soon.

What’s your favorite ‘90s jam?

In high school, I listened to a lot of alternative music like Nirvana, Pearl Jam, REM, and Counting Crows.

BOOK DISCUSSION

Copies of book discussion titles are available on the 2nd floor near the study rooms, or you can request a copy for pickup at the drive-up window by calling the 2nd Floor Information Desk at 630-790-6630 or emailing reference@gepl.org.

Glenbard Parent Series: Community Read
Bittersweet: How Sorrow and Longing Make Us Whole by Susan Cain
Thursday, January 18 • Noon-1 pm, 7-8 pm • Virtual Program
Members of the Glen Ellyn community are encouraged to read Bittersweet: How Sorrow and Longing Make Us Whole by Susan Cain. Then join Dan Pink, author of five New York Times bestsellers as he discusses Bittersweet with the author. For adults and high school students.

Thursday Evening Book Club
 Thursdays • December 14, January 11, February 8
7-8 pm • North and South Meeting Rooms
December 14
The Authenticity Project by Clare Pooley
January 11
Our Missing Hearts by Celeste Ng
February 8
The Underground Railroad by Colson Whitehead
**HIGH SCHOOL**

**Brainfuse HelpNow: Study and Test-Prep Help for High School Students**

*By Josh O’Shea, Young Adult Librarian*

As finals approach, look to the library for help with tutoring, study support, and test prep! Brainfuse HelpNow, a digital resource available through gepl.org, has free resources for high school students and learners of all ages with a library card. Please ask library staff if you would like help accessing the Brainfuse HelpNow tools listed below.

**Live Tutoring**
Tutors are available from 2-11 pm, seven days a week. Chat with a tutor in real time using the Brainfuse Whiteboard or use the Send Question feature for help outside the live help hours. All tutors are vetted and have at least four-year degrees, and 79 percent have master’s degrees.

**Writing Lab**
Sign up to use the Writing Lab to submit documents to be reviewed by writing experts, usually within one business day. Some examples of documents students have submitted include valedictorian speeches and graduate school applications!

**SkillSurfer**
Access text and video lessons on topics like high school geometry, world history, and AP calculus. In addition to elementary, middle, high school, and college-level lessons, SkillSurfer has lessons on the following, as well as lessons for adults and parents:
- Life Skills
- College Entrance Test Prep
- Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB)
- Computers and Technology
- English Language Learning (ELL)

**Featured Services – Chess Tutoring and FAFSA Help**
Learn chess strategies and improve your cognitive thinking with a live chess coach or with help from online resources and get live help with FAFSA application questions.

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**Healthy Mind-Body Connection**

*Monday, January 29 • 5-7 pm*

**North and South Meeting Rooms**
Gather with youth from around DuPage county and members of Reality DuPage Teen Leadership Volunteering to discuss how to have healthy thought patterns and live a healthy lifestyle. At the end of the program, yoga instructor Karin Steinbeck will lead a yoga session.

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**For Middle School and High School**

**Game-Play Thursday**

*Thursdays • 4-5:30 pm*

**North and South Meeting Rooms**
Experts from Dungeon Cat Gaming will provide tabletop games like *The Quacks of Quedlinburg*, *Codenames*, and *Flamecraft* and facilitate game play. *For grades 6-12.*

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**Study Haven**

*Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday*

*December 19, 20, 21 • 4-9 pm*

**2nd Floor Atrium East**
Enjoy light refreshments and de-stress with therapy animals during the area’s high school finals week.

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**For Middle School and High School**

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**Registration required**
Shining Star Theaters

Librarian Melissa Hilt recently talked to Shining Star Theaters Directors/Organizers Bridget M., Henry M., and Martin M. about Shining Star Theaters and their Steal the Show performance on August 3 at the library.

Why was Shining Star Theaters formed?
We wanted to give kids a safe environment to be themselves.

How did you come to work with Glen Ellyn Public Library?
We originally walked in asking if they knew of any venues to perform at. But that is when we met the great staff at the Glen Ellyn Public Library including Christina Keasler, Melissa Hilt, and Beth Kirchenberg. They offered doing it at the library, and we were so excited.

What did you learn from this experience?
How to teach the cast how to dance and sing, how to handle business, and how to build props backgrounds.

Anything else you’d like to share?
We would like to give a big thank you to our choreographer, Olive Z., and supervisor, Annika W. The times we had with everyone were so much fun. If that meant joking around with Josie at the Youth Desk, or running around with Morgan looking for something. All these great times will be remembered, and Steal the Show will be missed. Thank you to everyone for supporting us, can’t wait for Halloween.

Members of Shining Star Theaters continued their performances at the library with a skit in the Youth Department at the Haunted Library event on October 20.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Middle School Volunteering
Earn volunteer hours by learning and helping your community on your own schedule! Learn about the topic of the month through self-paced investigation, and complete projects to help you, your family, and your community. Stop by the Youth Desk or visit gepl.beanstack.org to participate. For grades 6-8.

- December: Food Security
- January: Community Leadership
- February: Financial Awareness

Friday Rewind: ‘80s, ‘90s, and ‘00s
Fridays • December 1, January 12, February 2 • 4-5 pm
Youth Program Room
Celebrate a decade by enjoying some treats, games, and TV shows that made it special, and test your knowledge with decade-specific trivia. For grades 6-8.

- December: ‘80s
- January: ‘90s
- February: ‘00s

Global Taste Test
Thursdays • December 21, January 18, February 22 • 4-5 pm
Youth Program Room
Each month, taste and rate snacks provided by Universal Yums from countries around the world! The library cannot guarantee that food served at this program has not come into contact with tree nuts, soy, or other allergens. For grades 6-8.

BITS, BYTES, AND 3D DELIGHTS

Coding with Scratch
Thursdays • December 7, January 4, February 1 • 4-5 pm
Youth Program Room
Explore the world of Scratch coding with a project that teaches coding fundamentals and creative thinking. Please register for each month separately. Prior month’s attendance is not necessary. For grades 3-5.

- December: Create Your Own Story
- January: Character Dress Up
- February: Chase Game

3D Printing
Wednesdays • December 13, January 10, February 14 • 4-5 pm
Youth Program Room
Create a custom design using Tinkercad and 3D print the item you design to keep! Please register for each month separately. Prior month’s attendance is not necessary. For grades 3-8.

- December 13: Snowflake
- January 10: Dragon
- February 14: Treasure Box
**Homeschool Hangout**
**Wednesdays • December 6, January 17, February 7 • 1-2 pm**
Youth Program Room
Use design thinking to solve different building and engineering challenges. Staff will be available to discuss homeschool services. **For grades k-8.**

**The Artist in You**
**Wednesdays • December 6, January 3, February 7 • 5-6 pm**
Youth Program Room
Make your own one-of-a-kind art inspired by famous artists, the world around you, and your creative spirit! **For grades k-2.**

**Hanukkah Hangout**
**Monday, December 11 • 5-6 pm**
Youth Program Room
Celebrate the Festival of Lights with a story from 5-5:30 pm. Then, learn how to play the classic Hanukkah game of dreidel. Twenty name tags (children only). Name tags will be available at the Youth Desk beginning 30 minutes prior to the program start time. Children with their grownups can pick up name tags on a first-come, first-served basis. **For grades 3-5.**

**Bluestem Book Club**
**Tuesdays • December 19, January 16, February 20**
Noon-1 pm, 6-7 pm • Youth Program Room
Discuss a Bluestem book each month while eating pizza supplied by the library. Copies of the monthly title will be available to check out at the Youth Desk. Please register for each month separately. Prior month’s attendance is not necessary. Best for **grades 3-5.**

**Craftopia**
**Wednesdays • December 20, January 17, February 21 • 5-6 pm**
Youth Program Room
Stamp, weave, glue, and paint through a winter of amazing crafts. **For grades 3-5.**

**LEGO® Challenge: Wind Racers**
**December 22-January 5**
Youth Department
Drop in and use LEGO® bricks to build creations and measure how far they travel. **For grades k-5.**

**Let’s Upcycle: Snow Globes**
**Friday, January 5 • 10-11 am**
Youth Program Room
Reuse found objects to create glittery winter wonderlands. **For grades k-5.**

**OneInMath**
**Sundays • January 28-April 21 (excl. March 24, 31)**
2:30-3:30 pm • North and South Meeting Rooms
OneInMath is a free program run by high school volunteers to empower the love of math in students in **grades k-3.** Register or sign up to volunteer at oneinmath.com.

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**Short Story Travels**

This winter, the Short Story Dispenser is continuing its tour of Glen Ellyn with visits to Churchill Elementary, Arbor View Elementary, Glen Crest Middle School, and Glenbard South! Its first stop was Forest Glen Elementary, where it dispensed 1,151 short stories while in the school library!

The dispenser was a gift to the library from the Foundation in 2019 and was upgraded by the Foundation in 2020 to include touchless controls. It dispenses programmable content for one-, three-, and five-minute stories in three categories, including other languages.

School Liaison Alexa Moffat, who worked with the schools to coordinate the school visits, explained "Students are so excited to interact with the Short Story Dispenser, and the feedback from teachers and school librarians has been very positive.” Mrs. Marcie Callicoat, Digital Literacy Specialist and School Librarian at Forest Glen said, “Our students loved the instant gratification of printing a story!”

Moffat began her new role as School Liaison this school year. As school liaison, she works with organizations and school districts serving grades k-5 and helps make library offerings available to children in k-5 Glen Ellyn schools. At the library, she hosts programs for school-age children, including the Bluestem Book Club and Homeschool Hangouts. During summer months, she also coordinates programs like Bus to Books that brings students to the library, and the Willow Lakes program, which uses the library’s Anywhere van to take the library to students!
Book Club Playgroup
Thursday, January 11 • 9:30-10 am
Youth Program Room
Bring baby for rhymes and playtime and discuss The Midnight Library by Matt Haig. Copies of The Midnight Library will be available at the Youth Desk beginning Saturday, November 24. For birth-24 months and their grownups.

Smart Starts
February 20-March 14
Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays • 10-11 am
Wednesdays • 2-3 pm
Youth Program Room
Weekly STEM-based crafts, play, and exploration. For pre-k.

FOR PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS

Preschool Fair
Wednesday, January 17 • 5-7 pm
North and South Meeting Rooms
Talk to local organizations about preschool learning opportunities and enrollment.

Sticker Club is a great way for kids in grades k-8 to earn stickers for reading! Between October and April each year, kids can sign up at the Youth Desk to receive a Sticker Album and a Sticker Club Log. Keep track of the days you read and earn a sticker for every seven days logged!

STICKER CLUB
GLEN ELLYN PUBLIC LIBRARY

STORYTIME

Winter Storytime
January 8-February 14
The Glen Ellyn Public Library offers a variety of storytimes for children starting at birth. During staff-led programs that incorporate stories, songs, movement, rhymes, and other activities, your child will learn to love reading and the library. Visit gepl.org/storytime for details.

Snow Storytime and Craft
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday • December 12, 13, 14
10:30-11 am • Youth Program Room
Listen to Goodbye Autumn, Hello Winter by Kenard Pak and create a snow scene craft. Twenty name tags (children only). Name tags will be available at the Youth Desk beginning 30 minutes prior to the program start time. Children with their grownups can pick up name tags on a first-come, first-served basis. For age 2-6 and their grownups.

Nature Storytime
Fridays • January 19, February 9 • 10:30-11 am
Youth Program Room
A guest presenter from The Morton Arboretum will share fun nature stories that highlight how weather, trees, and animals change with the seasons. Twenty name tags (children only). Name tags will be available at the Youth Desk beginning 30 minutes prior to the program start time. Children with their grownups can pick up name tags on a first-come, first-served basis. For age 2-6 and their grownups.

Stuffed Animal Sleepover
Saturday, February 3 • 10-10:30 am
Youth Program Room
Drop off your stuffed animal on Friday, February 2 any time before 4 pm. Come back on Saturday, February 3 to pick-up your stuffed animal and stay for a storytime and a special surprise! For pre-k.
Book Besties

Recommendations for great graphic novels with best friends in all shapes, sizes, and species from Middle School Librarian Beth Kirchenberg.

**Bird & Squirrel on the Run** by James Burks
Bird and Squirrel outwit Cat and become best friends in this zany adventure.

**Sanity & Tallulah** by Molly Brooks
Sanity and Tallulah live in a space station at the end of the galaxy. When Sanity’s illegally created three-headed kitten escapes, the girls have to turn their home upside down to find her.

**Crab & Snail: The Invisible Whale** by Beth Ferry
Join Crab and Snail in the surf zone, where they think deep thoughts and have unforgettable seaside adventures.

**Beak & Ally: Unlikely Friends** by Norman Feuti
Ally the alligator is perfectly happy being alone — until one day a noisy bird named Beak lands on her snout.

**Arlo & Pips: King of the Birds** by Elise Gravel
Like most crows, Arlo has a big brain. But Arlo has something else: a little pal who’s not afraid to tell him when he’s insufferable!

**Gustav & Henri: Space Time Cake!** by Andy Matthews
Meet Gustav and Henri. This is their book. It’s a bit about friendship and a lot about snacks (especially Nachos!).

**Rover and Speck: This Planet Rocks!** by Jonathan Roth
Two mismatched rovers alone on a distant planet — what could possibly go wrong?

**Laser Moose and Rabbit Boy** by Doug Savage
Superheroes Laser Moose and Rabbit Boy use superpowers — laser vision and sense of optimism, respectively — to defend their forest home against aliens, mutants and cyborgs.

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**Kids’ Music Concert with Little Miss Ann**

*Thursday, December 28 • 10:30-11:15 am*  
North and South Meeting Rooms

Jump, clap, sing, and dance with Little Miss Ann at a fun, energetic, and interactive concert for all ages. Listen and let your light shine within yourself, with your friends and family, and in your community! Available to the first 80 participants. **For kids up to age 8 and their grownups.**

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**The Guide**
Winter 2023/24 | Vol. 35 | No. 1

Glen Ellyn Public Library  
400 Duane Street, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137  
630-469-0879 | gep.org

**Direct Dial**
2nd Floor Information Desk: 630-790-6630  
Youth Desk: 630-790-6620  
Library Services Desk: 630-469-0879 ext 4  
Cafe: 630-790-6772

**Hours**
Monday-Thursday: 9 am-9 pm  
Friday: 9 am-6 pm  
Saturday: 9 am-5 pm  
Sunday: 1-5 pm

**Winter Closures**
Sunday, December 24: Christmas Eve  
Monday, December 25: Christmas Day  
Sunday, December 31: New Year’s Eve  
Monday, January 1: New Year’s Day

**Executive Director**
Dawn Bussey  
630-790-6760 or director@gepl.org

**Board of Trustees**
Karen Volk, President  
Erin Micklo, Vice President  
Susan Stott, Secretary  
Maryanne Deaton, Treasurer  
Mary Sue Brown, Trustee  
Richard Jones, Trustee  
Kathy Slovick, Trustee

**Accessibility**
The Glen Ellyn Public Library encourages persons with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities. If you anticipate needing any type of accommodation or have questions about the physical access provided, please call 630-469-0879 in advance of your participation or visit. Learn more at gep.org/accessibility.

**Promotion**
Adults and children may be photographed and videotaped by library staff or their representatives in the course of library activities. The images may be used, without accompanying personal identification, in library publicity. If you have a concern about this policy, please contact library staff.
FOUNDATION

Glen Ellyn Public Library has become a community beyond books and provides a welcoming space for families, students, and businesses to gather for activities, school, and work. The mission of the Glen Ellyn Library Foundation is to grow its endowment to ensure that residents continue to enjoy high-quality library services in a state-of-the-art facility, and to fund projects that foster innovation and outreach.

Please consider making a gift this holiday season in exchange for naming a piece of the library for yourself or a loved one. Nameable items range from the end panel of a bookshelf to the library building itself.

Learn more about Naming Opportunities at gepl.org/foundation or email foundation@gepl.org.

FRIENDS

Used Book Sales
Bimonthly in the basement of the library.
Saturday, January 20 • 9 am to 2 pm
Saturday, March 16 • 9 am to 2 pm
Sunday, March 17 • 1 to 4 pm (most items $10 a bag)
Visit the Used Book Nook in the lobby next to The Cafe.
Most items are $2 for adult books and $1 for children’s books.

Book Donations
Book donations for used-book sales are accepted at the Library Services Desk at any time. If you have a large donation, please contact Dennis McCarthy, Building Engineer, at 630-790-6765 to schedule a drop-off appointment. We prefer quality adult and children’s books in good condition and cannot accept encyclopedias, magazines, or damaged, musty, or outdated materials.

For more information on Friends activities, visit gepl.org/friends.

CAFE

Get Help Locating Free and Low-Cost Services

Did you know that you can get help locating child care, training, food assistance, housing, medical care, legal advice, and specialized support for all ages and languages at the library?

Glen Ellyn Youth and Family Counseling Service (GEYFCS Outreach Program Coordinator Jessica Gul is available Monday-Friday on the 2nd floor to provide referrals for housing and employment services and schedule appointments for mental health services with a clinician at GEYFCS.

Contact Jessica Gul at 630-469-3040 ext. 3045 or jessicagul@geyfcs.org.