GLEN ELLYN PUBLIC LIBRARY

THE GUIDE

Winter 2026–2027 | December, January, February



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RESOURCES

Digital Resources
gepl.org/digital-library
Access eBooks and audiobooks, movie streaming, training, news, health and consumer information, and language learning 24/7.

Library of Things
gepl.org/library-of-things
Borrow equipment, educational tools, games, and toys.

Museum Adventure Pass
museumadventure.org
Visit participating area cultural destinations for free or receive a discount with a pass from the library.

USE THE LIBRARY

65 S Park Lockers
gepl.org/65-s-park-lockers
Pick up holds 24/7 from lockers inside Glen Ellyn Police Department at 65 S Park Boulevard.

SPACES

Meeting and Conference Rooms
gepl.org/space • 630-790-6727
Reserve rooms beginning in January, April, July, and October for the quarter that begins two months later.

The Studio
gepl.org/the-studio
Record voice overs, podcasts, vocals, webinars, and Zoom presentations or produce music. For adults and high school students.

SERVICES

Flight Simulator
gepl.org/flight-simulator
Fly an airplane at the library! Learn how to start up, taxi, fly, and land single- and twin-engine propeller planes.

For Businesses, Nonprofits, and Civic Entities
gepl.org/for-businesses
Train your staff, check out technology, access research and consumer databases, and request Book Bins for your business. Not a cardholder yet? Request a Glen Ellyn Public Library business card.

Passports
gepl.org/passports • 630-790-6630
Apply for a passport in person using a DS-11 application with the required documentation for Proof of U.S. Citizenship and checks for all applicable fees. The library is an official Passport Acceptance Facility. Passport services, including passport photos, are available **by appointment only.**

Glen Ellyn Public Library Executive Director Dawn Bussey to Retire After 20 Years

Longtime leader guided the library through renovations, a flood, and COVID-19, and made the library a hub of community life



After 20 years leading Glen Ellyn Public Library, Executive Director Dawn Bussey will retire on Monday, May 3, 2027.

"Dawn has been the heart and soul of this library for two decades," said Karen Volk, President of the Board of Trustees. "Her vision, dedication, and genuine love for this community have elevated the Glen Ellyn Public Library. The programs she built, the staff she mentored, and the trust she earned from our residents will be her lasting legacy. We are deeply grateful for everything she has given to this library and to Glen Ellyn."

Bringing the library to the community

With Dawn's help, the library expanded beyond its brick walls, with the outreach van, lockers inside the Glen Ellyn Police Department, and the drive-up window. Other additions include a digital sign in front of the library, a multi-language welcome wall, The Workshop, The Cafe, and The Studio to give the community fun new ways to learn, create, and belong.

Under her leadership, popular programs for all ages included the Ice Cream Social, summer reading, passport services, Haunted Library, World on the Move, and Study Haven. Dawn looked after the building itself, overseeing renovations and refreshes and guiding the library through a flood. When COVID-19 hit, the library found creative ways to keep everyone connected, from offering internet access in the parking lot to delivering resources to patrons and expanding e-materials. She had a knack for making the most of every inch of space, always with the community in mind.

In 2023, Glen Ellyn residents voted the library the Chamber of Commerce Service Industry Business of the Year, a recognition that speaks to the trust Dawn helped build.

Dawn is a past president of the Rotary Club of Glen Ellyn and has served on the boards of the Glen Ellyn Chamber and the Glen Ellyn Downtown Alliance. She has also given her time to the library profession, including serving as Treasurer of both the Illinois Library Association Board and the SWAN Board.

The Board describes her partnerships with local schools and organizations, and her collaboration with the Library Trustees, the Glen Ellyn Library Foundation Board, and the Friends of the Library, as a model for leadership in public service.

The journey—and what happens next

When asked what she's proudest of, Dawn pointed to how much the library's place in town has grown. "I am so proud of Glen Ellyn Public Library's place in the community! When I started, I reached out to organizations in Glen Ellyn and people asked, 'Why would the library be involved with that?'" Bussey said. "Now, people from Glen Ellyn and beyond contact the library to participate in all kinds of events. Glen Ellyn Public Library is a prominent part of the community, and people look to us as a place that reflects the culture and values of Glen Ellyn."

The Board of Trustees will begin a national search for a new Executive Director in November 2026 and plans to make the transition a thoughtful one that honors everything Dawn has built. The Board also wanted to say a big thank-you for all she's done and wish her the very best in whatever comes next.



RIGHT: Executive Director Dawn Bussey (far left) at the grand opening of the Teen Scene in 2008

Social Services now available at the library

The Milton Township Community Mental Health Board (also known as the 708 Board after House Bill 708) is dedicated to the strategic planning and funding of mental health, intellectual/developmental disability, and substance abuse services. In June of 2025, the 708 Board approved the Municipal Library Social Worker Intern Pilot Project.

The Municipal Library Social Worker Intern Pilot Project provides funds for two social work interns from the School of Social Work at Dominican University to provide services at Glen Ellyn Public Library through the end of April 2027. Welcome, Vesryn and Nastaphia!

Social Services Hours

Monday	12:15–5:30 pm	**Thursday**	5–8 pm
Wednesday	3–8 pm	**Friday**	Noon–5:30 pm

The library is excited to have staff available to provide social services for the community. Adults and high school students can drop in at the Adult Desk or book 45-minute appointments online at https://qrs.ly/slhiaez for

- Accessibility assistance
- Referral assistance
- Emotional support
- Resource recommendations
- Assistance completing forms
- General social services



Nastaphia Tomlinson



Vez Grey

Meet the Social Work Interns

Nastaphia Tomlinson

What drew you to work in libraries?

The library is more than just a place for books, it's a place where people from different backgrounds come for support, resources, and a sense of community. As a social work intern, I want to learn how to connect people to different resources such as housing, mental health services, and food services. I also think the library will help me grow as a social worker because it will teach me how to meet people where they are and better understand the needs of the community.

What have you enjoyed about previous roles?

Before starting my internship, I worked with children in childcare and school settings. What I enjoyed most was building relationships with children and families and being someone they could trust and feel comfortable with. I really value being able to support them and make a positive difference in their lives.

What are you most excited about in this role?

I'm most excited about learning more about library social work and getting to know the community.

When you're not at the library, how do you like to spend your time?

When I'm not at the library, I enjoy spending time with my daughter and family. Since I'm currently in a social work program, school keeps me pretty busy. When I do have free time, I like going to the gym, relaxing, watching shows, and spending quality time with my family.

Vesryn (Vez) Grey

What drew you to work in libraries?

I've loved public libraries since I was a kid! They were my safe space and still are to this day. In addition to that, they were a source of not-exactly-traditional learning: I deeply struggled with school as a kid, so libraries were where I would come to either continue learning in my own time, in my own way. Libraries were where I discovered my passion for reading (particularly fantasy and science fiction!) as well as writing. I just feel so at home in libraries. As I got older and began to feel unsure of my career, eventually I moved to Chicago. I worked at the Adler Planetarium and started to realize that (despite my childhood struggles with traditional learning) I could still enjoy learning and teaching especially in non-traditional formats—and that there might be something to that! I followed that feeling, which lead me to my first library job at the Skokie Public Library and I've never looked back.

Is there a library program or project you've worked on that you're especially proud of?

Yes! One of the library programs I'm proud to have started was an LGBTQIA+ teen mental health book club. It was particularly noteworthy because it took a lot of work to come to fruition, and there was no program like it (and never had been!).

When you're not at the library, how do you like to spend your time?

In addition to earning both my Master's Degree in Social Work and in Library and Information Science, I'm also a Graduate Assistant with Residence Life at Dominican! Which really means—when I'm not here—I'm usually either working, or I'm in class. But when I have *true* free time, I immensely enjoy playing D&D, both reading and writing, playing video games, kickboxing, trivia, hiking, hanging out with my cat Pickles, doing puzzles, trying new foods or coffee creations, and sleeping—big fan of sleeping! I'm bad at seeing new movies or TV shows. In September, I re-watched *The X-Files*. October, which is my favorite time of year, included a re-watch of *Twin Peaks*. These are two of my favorite shows.

Toy Swap

Sustainability-focused.

Toy Donations Accepted: Get Your Vouchers

Monday, December 7–Friday, December 11
Youth Desk
Receive a voucher for each toy donated. Toys will be accepted at staff discretion. Toys will not be checked for recalls.

Shop the Swap: Redeem Your Vouchers

Saturday, December 12 • 10 am–Noon
Youth Program Room
No toys will be accepted on the day of the swap.

Free Unclaimed Toys: No Vouchers Required

Saturday, December 12 • Noon–1 pm
Youth Program Room
After 1 pm, unclaimed toys will be donated.







Accepted toys:

- complete puzzles
- games
- wooden toys
- toy sets
- action figures
- construction toys
- educational toys
- physical activity toys

The library cannot accept:

- cloth toys (no stuffed animals)
- teething toys
- little toys (e.g. Happy Meal toys)
- large toys like playhouses

Glenbard Parent Series

Visit gpsparentseries.org for a full schedule.

Love the Teen You Have: It's Never Too Late to Transform Conflict into Connection

Thursday, December 10
Noon and 7 pm
Virtual on Zoom

Nurturing Money-Smart and Independent Teens

Tuesday, December 15
Noon and 7 pm
Virtual on Zoom

10 Rules for Raising Kids in a High-Tech World

Wednesday, January 13
Noon and 7 pm
Virtual on Zoom



Marshall Field's at Christmas

Tuesday, December 8 • 7–8 pm
2nd Floor Atrium East

Leslie Goddard's illustrated talk traces Marshall Field's beloved holiday traditions, including the Walnut Room Christmas tree, the holiday window displays, the toy department, Cozy Cloud Cottage, and the Christmas catalog.

LEFT: "Inside the Old Marshall Field's" (2000), photo by Señor Codo (Flickr), CC BY-SA 2.0

RIGHT: "Marshall Field Company Store" (2012), photo by Victorgrigas (Wikimedia Commons), CC BY-SA 3.0



Reuse and Repair Fair

Saturday, February 13 • 10 am–Noon
North and South Meeting Rooms

Throw it away? No way! Local vendors and repair services will be on hand to mend broken items like lamps, small appliances, clocks, and clothing!

Bring up to three broken items to repair or stop by to learn about basic DIY repairs. We'll fix what we are able! *Sustainability-focused.*

Puzzle Share

Sunday, December 6 • 2–4 pm
2nd Floor Atrium East

Browse, donate, and take home gently-used puzzles. Donations encouraged, but not required. Light refreshments provided. *Sustainability-focused.* **For adults and kids of all ages.**

Puzzle Race

Thursday • February 25 • 6–8 pm
North and South Meeting Rooms

Test your puzzle speed in a timed competition! Complete a 500-piece jigsaw puzzle as a team of two to four people, or get closest within two hours to win!

Register alone or with a team. Registrations with fewer than two people may be combined to form a team. Light refreshments provided. **For adults and kids age 8 and up with a grownup.**

Sustainable Libraries Initiative

Glen Ellyn Public Library is a member of the Sustainable Libraries Initiative, enabling libraries and their communities to become more environmentally sound, socially equitable, and economically feasible.

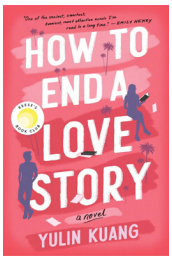
Adult Recommendations

New Year, New Skills



by Elaine Waite, Readers' Advisory and Collection Development Librarian

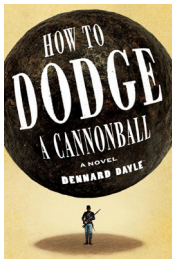
Make good on your New Year's Resolution of learning a new skill with the help of these fiction titles.



How to End a Love Story by Yulin Kuang

Helen Zhang hasn't seen Grant Shepard once in the thirteen years since the tragic accident that bound their lives together forever. Now a bestselling author, Helen has even scored a coveted spot in the writers' room of the TV adaptation of her popular young adult novels.

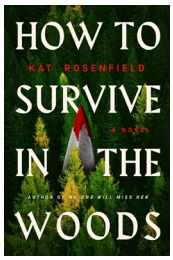
Grant has done everything possible to move on from the past. He knows he shouldn't have taken the job on Helen's show, but it will open doors that he just can't pass up. When secrets come to light, they must reckon with the fact that theirs was never meant to be any kind of love story. And yet...the key to making peace with their past—and themselves—might just lie in holding on to each other in the present.



How to Dodge a Cannonball by Dennard Dayle

How to Dodge a Cannonball is funnier than the Civil War should ever be. It follows Anders, a teenage idealist who enlists and reenlists to shape the American Future—as soon as he figures out what that is, who it includes, and why everyone wants him to die for it. Escaping his violently insane mother is a bonus.

Anders finds honor as a proud Union flag twirler—until he's captured. Then he tries life as a diehard Confederate—until fate asks him to die hard for the Confederacy at Gettysburg. Barely alive, Anders limps into a Black Union regiment in a stolen uniform. While visibly white, he claims to be an octoroon, and they claim to believe him. Only then does his life get truly strange.



How to Survive in the Woods by Kat Rosenfield

Raised by a doomsday prepper and hardened by the startup world, Emma Sharp has learned how to endure—especially in her marriage to Logan Grant, a charismatic tyrant who keeps her under tight control. To Emma, her marriage is a cage: it keeps you in, but it also keeps you safe. Until it doesn't.

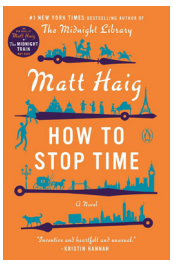
When Emma forms an unexpected bond with Logan's former girlfriend, the two women form a plan to help Emma take her life back. Destination: the punishing final stretch of the Appalachian Trail known as the Hundred Mile Wilderness.



How to Sell a Romance by Alexa Martin

Emerson loves everything about being a kindergarten teacher except the salary, which is why she signs up with Petunia Lemon to sell makeup products, make some extra money, and meet other skin-care aficionados. Sure, it sounds a little too good to be true, but what's the worst that could happen?

Investigative reporter Lucas Miller didn't always have a chip on his shoulder... until his wife joined Petunia Lemon, drained their savings, and filed for divorce. Now he's a little bitter, a lot single, and determined to expose the company. After infiltrating their largest convention yet, the last thing he expects is to lose sight of his mission for one night with the gorgeous woman at the bar.



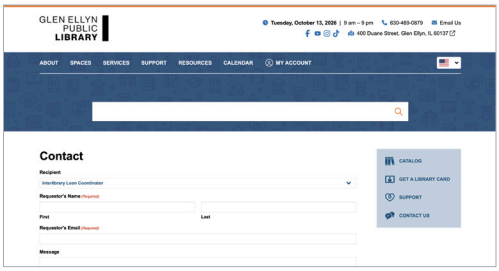
How to Stop Time by Matt Haig

Introducing: Tom Hazard, who is centuries old—but appears to be only in his 40s. Now, he's in danger—he's falling in love, and that is expressly forbidden by the shadowy group that "protects" people like him. Read it for the rich details of the different eras that Tom lives through, the purpose that Tom's search for his daughter gives to his lonely existence, and the quirky rom-com nature of the novel.

Your library card provides access to the catalogs of over 10,000 libraries worldwide!

If you have ever searched the library catalog for a favorite title from your childhood, academic materials like textbooks or reference works, or niche titles in other languages, you may not have found them in the local collection. The library has limited space and prioritizes popular materials of interest to most cardholders, but don't despair, there are options to expand your search!

- WorldCat allows you to search for items in Illinois and worldwide libraries. You can access WorldCat online in the Digital Library on gepl.org.
- The Interlibrary Loan Coordinator can help you find items outside of the standard library catalog. Just call 630-790-6746 or use the Contact Us form online with the recipient "Interlibrary Loan Coordinator" for assistance finding a title.



Contact page at gepl.org/contact



"The library provides Interlibrary Loan Service for Glen Ellyn Public Library cardholders for free," explains Interlibrary Loan Coordinator Amy Sheneman. "Most libraries will send the items for free, and shipping times can be as fast as a week, but sometimes it's longer. If an item is coming from outside Illinois, it goes through the mail. Each library has its own timeframe for requests, so wait time varies widely."

*WorldCat is the world's largest library catalog, a database of bibliographic records that shows which libraries hold a given book, DVD, article, or other item. It's run by OCLC (Online Computer Library Center), a nonprofit library cooperative based in Dublin, Ohio.



Adult Programs

Tech Help Drop-In

Saturdays • December 12, January 9, February 13 • 1–3 pm
Tuesdays • January 26, February 23 • 6–7:30 pm
2nd Floor of the Library
Stop in with your questions or to troubleshoot an app or device issue on your laptop, tablet, or phone.

Social Hour for Adults 50+

Wednesdays • December 2–February 24 • 2:30–4 pm
North and South Meeting Rooms
Join neighbors to socialize while playing card and board games. Light refreshments provided.

Donuts and Bingo

Thursdays • December 10, January 14, February 11 • 10:30–11:30 am
Main Street Recreation Center, 501 Hill Ave.
One bingo card per participant. Coffee, donuts, and bingo cards are provided, and prizes will be awarded to the winners. This free drop-in activity is offered in partnership with Glen Ellyn Park District. **For age 55 and up.**

Thursday Evening Book Club

Thursdays • 7–8 pm • Shakespeare Room

December 10	*The White Octopus Hotel* by Alexandra Bell
January 14	*Vampire Weekend* by Mike Chen
February 11	*Black in Blues* by Imani Perry

Copies of book discussion titles are available at the Adult Desk, or you can request a copy for pick up at the drive-up window by calling the Adult Desk at 630-790-6630 or emailing reference@gepl.org.

Craft Night

Thursdays • 6:30–8 pm • 2nd Floor West Window
Work on your current project with other crafters or start a new project! Guest facilitators will provide a limited number of craft starter-kits. Light refreshments provided.

December 17	Mini-Rug Weaving Workshop
January 21	Macramé Key Chain by Create with Erin
February 18	Candle-Making Workshop with Get Lit Provisions

Create Your Own Dungeons & Dragons Character

Tuesday, January 12 • 6–7:30 pm • North and South Meeting Rooms
Learn to create your own character for playing Dungeons & Dragons 5th Edition (2024). No prior knowledge is necessary. Every participant should leave with a character ready to play at Level 1.

Learn to Play Dungeons & Dragons

Tuesday, February 16 • 6–7:30 pm • North and South Meeting Rooms
Learn to play Dungeons & Dragons 5th Edition (2024). Participants should bring a Level 1 character, but ready-to-play characters and dice will be available for use.

Beginner American Mahjong

Wednesdays • January 20, February 3, February 17 • 10 am–Noon
South Meeting Room
Soul Mahjong on The Move will teach the basics of American Mahjong in this three-class series.

Smartphone Photos and Sharing

Wednesday, January 27 • 12:30–2 pm • South Meeting Room
A representative from Wright to Learn will explain the ins and outs of the built-in camera on your smartphone and suggest apps for safely storing, sharing, and getting creative with your pics.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Series

Saturdays • 1–2 pm • South Meeting Room

January 9	**AI Prompt Engineering** Learn how to structure queries and submit them to various AI tools.
January 16	**AI for Productivity** Learn how to use AI to draft emails, improve your resume, and get answers to questions.
January 23	**Ethics of AI** Reflect on topics like bias in AI answers to prompts, AI's effect on the environment, and how AI may imitate copyrighted work.

The Basics of AI

Wednesday, February 24 • 12:30–2 pm • South Meeting Room
Learn how AI works, what it's being used for, and how to structure your own queries and submit them to AI tools.

Passport Acceptance Fair

Saturday, January 9 • 9:30 am–3:30 pm
Youth Program Room

Glen Ellyn Public Library is an official Passport Acceptance Facility. During this event, four passport agents will accept, on behalf of the U.S. Department of State, walk in DS-11 applications for new passports for all ages and passport renewals for children under age 18 on a first-come, first-served basis. Passport photos will be available for an additional fee.

Note: **DS-11 applications require Proof of Citizenship. Please review the required documentation on page 2 of the DS-11 application** and bring the following with you to this event to apply for a passport: application completed in black ink, applicant, certified citizenship documents, photo identifications, and checkbook or money orders in the exact amount payable to the US Department of State. Blank applications are available at travel.state.gov.

Dementia-Friendly Support and Education

Dementia Caregiver Support Group

Tuesdays • December 1, January 5, February 2 • 3:30–4:30 pm
South Meeting Room
LaVon K. Lenaway, Dementia Care Educator, will lead an open support group for caregivers to connect with others and share experiences about providing care for someone with memory impairment. Sponsored by Arden Courts Memory Care Glen Ellyn.

Memory Cafe

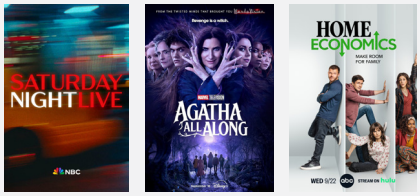
Tuesdays • December 8, January 12, February 9 • 1–2 pm
North and South Meeting Rooms
Memory Cafes are welcoming social gatherings for people living with changes in their memory or thinking, and the people who care about them. A representative from Teresa's Place Adult Daycare Center will facilitate having fun together, talking with others who understand what you're going through, and trying something new!

Author Events with Illinois Libraries Present

Virtual discussions with award-winning authors of popular titles!

- Participate comfortably from anywhere
- Submit questions ahead of time or in the chat
- Watch the recording at your convenience within 30 days
- Enjoy select authors' and interviewers' local connections





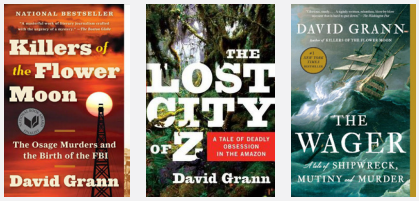
Funny on Purpose with Sasheer Zamata

Tuesday, January 19 • 7 pm • Virtual on Zoom

Comedy has the power to challenge, connect, and bring people together, and few voices do that as effortlessly as Sasheer Zamata. Best known for her four seasons on *Saturday Night Live,* Zamata has built a career defined by sharp humor, thoughtful storytelling, and memorable performances across television, film, and stand-up comedy. Audiences may recognize her from *Agatha All Along, Home Economics, Woke,* and *Spree.*

Beyond the screen, she co-hosts the hit podcast *Best Friends* with Nicole Byer and serves as the ACLU's Celebrity Ambassador for Women's Rights. Zamata will discuss her creative journey, the evolving landscape of comedy, and how humor can create space for connection and conversation.





Navigating Hallowed Ground with David Grann

Thursday, February 18 • 7 pm • Virtual on Zoom

David Grann is an author and journalist whose bestselling titles include *The Lost City of Z: A Tale of Deadly Obsession* (2009), *Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI* (2017), and *The Wager: A Tale of Shipwreck, Mutiny and Murder* (2023). In Grann's most recent book, *The Wager,* the wreck of a British warship in the 1740s is retold by two different groups of survivors: one group is hailed as heroes who survived against the odds, while the other finds themselves painted as conniving mutineers.

Grann's work navigates bizarre, often violent historical episodes, to which Grann lends an immediacy that freshens their intrigue while considering them within their respective historical contexts.

High School

Global Taste Test*

Tuesdays • January 12, February 9 • 3:30–4:30 pm
Shakespeare Room

Taste and rate snacks provided by Universal Yums from countries around the world! **For grades 9–12.**

Microwave Chef*

Tuesday, January 19 • 3:30–4:30 pm
North and South Meeting Rooms

Learn to make vegan microwave chili and customize it with your own preferred toppings. **For grades 9–12.**

College Planning Workshop for High School Juniors

Thursday, February 11 • 7–8 pm
Toni Morrison Room

Build a clear, robust list of college sightseeing visit ideas. Bring your Chromebook or iPad, an active application email address, and active accounts with act.org and the College Board. Dr. Richard Jones, a former teacher and administrator with experience navigating the Common App, will also discuss ACT/SAT preparation strategies for the April 2027 test. **For high school juniors and their caregivers.**

Middle and High School

Let's Play Dungeons & Dragons

Thursdays • December 10, January 7, February 11 • 4–5 pm
Shakespeare Room

For beginner and seasoned adventurers who are middle or high school students. **For grades 6–12.**

Middle School

Lo-Fi Crafts

Thursdays • December 3, January 7, February 4 • 4–4:45 pm
Youth Program Room

Leave your screens behind and step into the ultimate cozy crafting zone at the library! Come chill with your friends, listen to music, and create whatever you want—no pressure, just good vibes. **For grades 6–8.**

Creative Junk Journaling

Thursdays • 6:30–7:30 pm • Youth Program Room

Love crafting, collecting, and keeping memories? Learn how to build your own junk journal with photos, recyclables, and stickers. Gather to chat, snack, and design a brand-new page with school year goals, favorite things, and self-portraits. Basic journals provided. **For grades 6–8.**

December 17	**Winter Wonderland** Snowflakes, holiday memories, and cozy cabin vibes
January 21	**Future Vision** Collages of dreams, goals, and bucket lists for the new year
February 18	**Fandom and Fiction** Dedicated pages for favorite books, movies, or games

Roll for Ramen*

Wednesday, February 10 • 4–4:45 pm • Youth Program Room

Will you roll a culinary masterpiece or a chaotic creation? Roll the dice to determine your ultimate noodle bowl! **For grades 6–8.**

* The library cannot guarantee that food served at these programs has not come into contact with tree nuts, soy, or other allergens.

Programs in The Workshop

Supplies provided. Please see *Helpful Computer Skills for Maker Projects* below for technology skills that are often needed in The Workshop. Registration begins at Noon 30 days prior to the event.

If you have any questions about The Workshop, please call 630-790-6742 or email makerspace@gepl.org.

For Adults and High School Students

Monthly Make

Reserve a kit that includes supplies and instructions for a self-guided maker project.

January 5–30	Magnetic Kitchen Conversions Chart with the Laser
February 10–27	Picture Frame with the Embroidery Machine

Equipment Basics

Staff-led program to learn basic skills using a piece of equipment by working on a beginner-level project.

Saturday, December 5 • 10–11:30 am	Sublimation Printer and Heat Press
Tuesday, December 8 • 6–7:30 pm	Cricut
Saturday, January 9 • 10–11:30 am	Sewing Machine
Tuesday, January 12 • 6–7:30 pm	Laser
Saturday, February 6 • 10–11:30 am	Embroidery Machine
Tuesday, February 9 • 6–7:30 pm	3D Printer

Make and Take

Mondays • 3–5 pm, 6–8 pm

Staff-led program to use makerspace equipment to make a specific item.

January 25	Custom Tabletop Mirror with the Cricut
February 22	Decorative Nightlight Cover with the 3D Printer

For Kids

Create Your Own...

Mondays and Tuesdays • 4–5 pm

Create a design and then use maker equipment to complete a project. **For grades 3–8.**

Tuesday, December 8	Ornament with the Laser
Monday, December 14	Ornament with the Laser
Monday, January 11	Hat Decoration with the Embroidery Machine
Tuesday, January 12	Hat Decoration with the Embroidery Machine
Monday, February 8	Felt Keychain with the Sublimation Printer and Flat Heat Press
Tuesday, February 9	Felt Keychain with the Sublimation Printer and Flat Heat Press

Using The Workshop in December

Beginning **December 15,** to accommodate as many users as possible and limit crowding, equipment will be available with an equipment booking only. Book equipment online at **gepl.org/book-maker-equipment**.

The Workshop Open Hours

Tuesday*, Wednesday, Thursday	10 am–8 pm
Saturday	Noon–4 pm

*Closed the 2nd Tuesday of every month and on library holidays.

Make an Appointment

Equipment use is free for adults and high school students who are Glen Ellyn Public Library or reciprocal cardholders, but you might need to purchase materials. Some limitations apply. Visit **gepl.org/makerspace,** call The Workshop at 730-790-6742, or stop by the library to ask questions or make an appointment.



Helpful Computer Skills for Maker Projects

Most maker projects require using a computer. For this reason, the following skills are very helpful:

- using a keyboard to copy and paste
- using a mouse to double-click and left-click, click-and-drag and highlight text, and scroll
- navigating file directories
- opening, renaming, and editing files
- using a flash drive
- patience to use a computer for up to an hour

The library recommends Tech Help Drop-In (listed in Adult Programs) and digitallearn.org for anyone who would like to enhance their computer skills.

Youth Programs

Beginner 3D Printing

Wednesdays • December 2, January 6, February 3 • 4–5 pm
Youth Program Room
Learn how to use Tinkercad to design the project of the month and 3D print the item to keep! Please register for each month separately. Prior month's attendance is not necessary. Registration begins at Noon 30 days prior to this event. **For grades 3–8.**

Intermediate 3D Printing

Wednesdays • December 2, January 6, February 3 • 5:30–6:30 pm
Youth Program Room
If you have already attended Beginner 3D Printing and are confident using Tinkercad, create your own design and then 3D print the item to keep! Please register for each month separately. Prior month's attendance is not necessary. Registration begins at Noon 30 days prior to this event. **For grades 3–8.**

Sphero Lab

Wednesdays • December 1, January 5, February 2 • 4–5 pm
Youth Program Room
Learn how to code, drive, and explore Sphero robots through fun challenges and activities. Prior month's attendance is not necessary. **For grades 3–8.**

Tech Learn 'n Play

Wednesday, January 13 • 4–5 pm
Youth Program Room
Drop in to explore robotics and coding with technology like Cubelets, Sphero, and Snap Circuits! Try all of the options or spend extra time with your favorites. **For 3–12 years. Kids under 7, please bring your grownup.**

Pokémon Club

Thursdays • January 28, February 25 • 4–4:45 pm
Youth Program Room
Gotta catch 'em all at the library! Trade, learn to play the card game, or make cool Pokémon crafts. **For grades 3–5.**

Winter Melty Beads

Sunday, December 13 • 2–3 pm
Youth Program Room
Make a winter ornament or decoration using Perler beads and your imagination. **For grades 3–5.**

Craft Collective

Wednesdays • December 16, January 20, February 17 • 4–5 pm
Youth Program Room
Work on a collaborative art project that will be displayed in the Youth department all month! **For grades 3–5.**

Artsy Fartsy

Wednesdays • December 16, January 20, February 17 • 6–7 pm
Youth Program Room
Explore found and recycled materials to make one-of-a-kind upcycled pieces. **For grades k–2.**

Family Craft Night

Mondays • December 14, January 11, February 22 • 6–7 pm
Youth Program Room
Drop in to create a masterpiece together as a family. **For adults and kids of all ages.**

El Mago Magic Show

Saturday, January 23 • 10–11 am
North and South Meeting Rooms
Enjoy the magical feats of "El Mago" in this family-friendly show! **Best for preschool–grade 5 and their grownups.**



The Daisy Davenport Happy Campers Party

Saturday, December 19 • 2–3 pm
Youth Program Room
Bring your favorite American Girl Doll for an afternoon of camping-inspired music, crafts, snacks, and stories to celebrate the new Doll of the Year for 2027 and meet the local voice actress, Scarlet Martin, who plays her on the commercials! **For grades 1–5.**





Bluestem Book Club

Tuesdays • December 8, January 19, February 16 • 6–7 pm
Youth Program Room
Preview a Bluestem book each month while eating pizza supplied by the library. Listen to the first chapter of the book and then participate in a fun activity. Please register for each month separately. **Best for grades 3–5.**

Books and Cooks: Sweet Treats

Tuesdays • January 19, February 16 • 4–5 pm
Youth Program Room
Work together to make seasonal sweet treats inspired by a book. **For grades 3–5.**

Books and Bricks

Thursdays • January 28, February 18 • 2–2:30 pm
Youth Program Room
Listen to a story and build a story-inspired LEGO challenge. Twenty name tags (kids only). **For 3–6 years.**

Story Rug Read and Make

Tuesday, February 23 • 4–5 pm
Youth Program Room
Read *Story Rug* by Sophie Blackall together, then learn about the process of creating a braided rug and practice braiding as a group. **For grades k–3.**

OneInMath

Sundays • January 24–April 18 (no March 28, April 4) • 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.

Play and Grow Playgroup

Fridays • January 15, January 29, February 19 • 10–11 am
Youth Program Room
Did you know a child's brain grows faster between birth and age 5 than at any other time in life? Learn how everyday moments build powerful thinking skills through a hands-on series inspired by Zero to Three's The Growing Brain training. Offered in partnership with Glenbard Early Childhood Collaborative and Glenbard Parents as Teachers. Twenty name tags (kids only). **For birth–5 years and their grownups.**

Music. Movement. Spanish. Fun!

Thursdays • January 28, February 25 • 10–10:45 am
Youth Program Room
Learn Spanish through singing, listening, and repetition. Build confidence speaking Spanish from day one with no experience needed with MLTOONS. Eighteen name tags (kids only). **For 2–6 years and their grownups.**

Wiggles and Giggles Playtime

Friday, December 18 • 9:30–10:30 am
Friday, January 15 • 2–3 pm
Friday, February 19 • 2–3 pm
Youth Program Room
Explore toys, books, and crafts while you get to know other families. **For birth–23 months and their grownups.**

Free Developmental Screenings for Children

Friday, December 4 • 9:30 am–1 pm
Youth Program Room
The Glenbard Early Childhood Collaborative will offer free developmental screenings of children two months to 5 years and their grownups. Learn how your child is growing and developing! Screenings will focus on Communication, Gross and Fine Motor, Person-Social Skills, and Problem Solving. **For 2 months–5 years and their grownups.**



Storytimes

gepl.org/storytime

All storytimes are in the Youth Program Room unless noted otherwise.

Drop-in Storytimes

Adaptive Storytime

Mondays • December 7, January 4, February 1 • 7–7:30 pm
Enjoy books, songs, and rhymes with a visual schedule and a modified environment. **For kids of all ages and their grownups.**

Hora del cuento bilingüe: Español • Bilingual Storytime: Spanish

Friday, February 5 • 9:30–10 am
Disfruta de libros y canciones en inglés y español. Para niños de todas las edades y sus acompañantes. Stories and songs in English and Spanish! **For kids of all ages and their grownups.**

バイリンガルおはなし会: 日本語 • Bilingual Storytime: Japanese

Thursdays • January 14, February 11 • 10:30–11 am
英語と日本語で楽しむ、おはなしと歌の時間! 赤ちゃんから大人まで、どなたでも大歓迎です。Stories and songs in English and Japanese! **For kids of all ages and their grownups.**

Registration Storytimes

STEAM Storytime

Wednesdays • December 30, January 27, February 24 • 4:30–5 pm
Solve problems and work through challenges with hands-on STEAM activities based on favorite picture books. **For 2–6 years.**

Name Tag Storytimes

Name tags (kids only) available at the Youth Desk beginning 30 minutes prior to the program start. Kids with their grownups can pick up name tags on a first-come, first-served basis.

Together Time and Saturday Together Time

Saturdays • December 5, January 2, February 13 • 10:30–11 am
Tuesdays and Wednesdays • January 5–February 24 • 9:30–10 am, 10:30–11 am
Dynamic session promoting child and grownup bonding through creating, singing, playing, and sharing stories together. Twenty name tags (kids only). **For kids of all ages and their grownups.**

Milk and Cookies Storytime

Wednesdays • December 9, January 13, February 10 • 6–7 pm
Dynamic session promoting child and grownup bonding through creating, singing, playing, and sharing stories together. After the story session, enjoy milk and cookies followed by open play. Twenty name tags (kids only). **For kids of all ages and their grownups.**

'Tis the Season Storytime

Tuesday, December 15 • Wednesday, December 16 • Thursday, December 17 • 10:30–11 am
Get ready for winter with a snowy story and craft. Twenty name tags (kids only). **For kids of all ages and their grownups.**

Book Babies

Mondays • January 4–February 22 • 9:30–10 am, 10:30–11 am
Bring baby for rhymes, songs, and playtime with other babies. Fifteen name tags (kids only). **For birth–23 months and their grownups.**

Nature Storytime

Fridays • January 8, February 12 • 10:30–11 am
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 (kids only). **For 2–6 years and their grownups.**

Polar Babies

Tuesday, January 26 • 2:30–3 pm, 3:30–4 pm
Wednesday, January 27 • 6–6:30 pm
Bundle your polar baby up nice and tight as we celebrate the coldest months of the year with seasonal songs, stories, and activities! Sixteen name tags (kids only). **For birth–23 months and their grownups.**

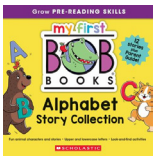
Youth Recommendations

More Than Seuss: Books for New Readers

by Kate Easley, Youth Librarian

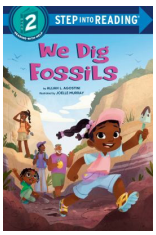


Early Readers are perfect for new readers and have a limited vocabulary, bigger text, and fun stories to keep them interested.



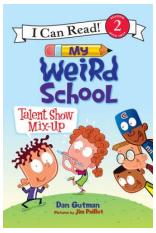
My First Bob Books: Alphabet Story Collection
by Lynn Maslen Kertell, illustrated by Karen Wall

Introduce children to the 26 letters of the alphabet and their sounds through 12 silly read-aloud stories!



We Dig Fossils
by Alliah L. Agostini, illustrated by Joelle Murray

Ava and her family are on a mission to dig up some fossils. They dig in their backyard, in the park, and by the creek but still no fossils. But Ava will not give up! The family head out to the beach for one more fossil hunting adventure! Will Ava finally be able to dig up her very own fossil?



My Weird School: Talent Show Mix-Up
by Dan Gutman, illustrated by Jim Paillot

A.J. is in a panic because he has no idea what to do for his class's upcoming talent show—but he may discover some unexpected gifts.



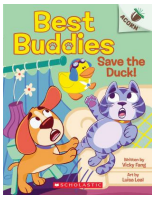
Fairylight Friends: Time to Shine
by Jessica Young, illustrated by Marie Vanderbemden

Join best friends Ruby, Iris, and Pip as they zoom around a winter wonderland! Across five magical stories, these fairy friends enjoy snowflake tea, help their neighbors stay warm, plant seeds, and make cozy fun out of chilly days.



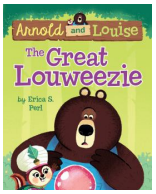
PAW Patrol: Rubble & Crew: On the Job
by Elle Stephens, illustrated by Dave Aikins

Rubble knows that teamwork can get any job done. So, when city hall needs a new roof, he calls on Mix, Charger, Wheeler, and the rest of his pup family for help.



Best Buddies #2: Save the Duck!
by Vicky Fang, illustrated by Luisa Leal

Best friends Sniff and Scratch love to play together! Across three giggle-inducing short stories, Sniff and Scratch have fun with toilet paper, they enjoy chasing each other's tails, and they snuggle with Sniff's stuffed duck.



The Great Louweezie
by Erica Perl, illustrated by Chris Chatterton

Arnold is a large black bear. His best friend, Louise, is a small chipmunk. But one day, Louise insists she is NOT Louise—she's the Great Louweezie, and she can predict the future! But when the Great Louweezie's demands begin to test Arnold's patience, the game feels much less fun. What will happen if friendship isn't in their future?



Emma Every Day: Tap Dance Troubles
by C.L. Reid, illustrated by Elena Aiello

Click. Clack. Tap, tap, tap. Emma just started dance lessons and is determined to learn the routine perfectly. But dance isn't as easy as she had hoped. Thankfully Emma doesn't give up easily! Emma proves that hard work and practice will take those tap dance troubles away in this early chapter book from the *Emma Every Day* series. Emma is Deaf and often uses sign language to communicate, and each book includes an ASL fingerspelling chart, a sign language guide, a glossary, and content-related questions.

The Guide
Winter 2026–2027 | Vol. 38 | No. 1

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

Direct Dial
Adult Desk: 630-790-6630
Youth Desk: 630-790-6620
Library Services Desk: 630-469-0879 option 4
The 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 2026–2027 Building Closures

December 24	Closed for Christmas Eve
December 25	Closed for Christmas Day
December 31	1 pm closure for New Year's Eve
January 1	Closed for New Year's Day

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

Board of Trustees
Karen Volk, President
Kathy Slovick, Vice President
Richard Jones, Secretary
Andrew Savikas, Treasurer
Chris Crawford, Trustee
Kay Fillingham, Trustee
Beth Murin, Trustee

Accessibility • gepl.org/accessibility
The library's goal is for programs to be enjoyed by all. If you have any concerns about accessibility or need to request specific accommodations, please contact the library.

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 any concerns about the photography and video policy, please contact the library.

Follow Glen Ellyn Public Library on
Facebook, YouTube, Instagram, and TikTok

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FOUNDATION

gepl.org/foundation

Pave the way this holiday season

Looking for a meaningful holiday gift? Glen Ellyn Library Foundation invites you to honor someone special, celebrate an occasion, or leave a lasting legacy with a personalized engraved brick.

Your brick includes

- up to three lines of custom text
- an optional gift acknowledgement
- placement as part of the library's landscape

For just $250, your engraved brick becomes part of Glen Ellyn Public Library's story—helping fund projects and programs beyond taxpayer support. These projects empower visitors to build new skills, explore passions, and embrace lifelong learning.

Order today at gepl.org/foundation/#brick. This holiday season, give the gift that paves the way for generations to come.

To learn more about how you can sustain the library through Glen Ellyn Library Foundation, please email foundation@gepl.org or visit gepl.org/foundation.

GIVE. GROW. INSPIRE.



FRIENDS

gepl.org/friends

Friends of the Library is a volunteer organization dedicated to raising funds to supplement the library's annual budget for materials, programs, and literacy initiatives in the community through an annual giving campaign, used book sales, and the Used Book Nook at the library.

Used Book Sales	**Held in the Basement Friends Area**
Saturday, January 23	**9 am–2 pm**

Used Book Nook — **Located on the 1st floor next to The Cafe**

Most items are $2 for adult books and $1 for kids books.

Book Donations

Book donations are accepted at the Library Services Desk at any time. Donations of quality adult and children's books, media, puzzles, and games are appreciated. We cannot accept encyclopedias, magazines, or damaged, outdated materials. If you have a large donation, please contact the Building Engineer at 630-790-6765 to schedule a drop-off appointment.

CAFE

Monday–Thursday	9 am–8:30 pm
Friday–Saturday	9 am–4:30 pm
Sunday	1–4:30 pm

The Cafe serves an array of beverages, food, and treats. The menu changes frequently depending on seasonal ingredients on hand or on-trend flavors.

630-790-6772 • gepl.org/cafe

CAFE MENU

630-469-0879