

WDM LIBRARY

West Des Moines Public Library Monthly Newsletter



REGULAR HOURS

Labor Day - Memorial Day

Monday - Thursday
9am - 9pm

Friday 9am - 6pm

Saturday 9am - 5pm

Sunday 2pm - 5pm

Community members celebrate Director Darryl Eschete's 11 years at the library. His final day as director is January 4.

Winter Reading Challenge: January 1 - 31

Do you have a stack of good books you've been meaning to dig into? Are you hoping to start the new year with a new book or a fresh reading goal? We invite you to curl up with some good books this January! Readers of all ages may log their reading online during our Winter Reading Challenge that runs January 1-31, 2024. You don't need to log



January 1 - 31, 2024

books or minutes – just log if you read something! Readers who complete 10 days' worth of reading will be entered into a drawing for a gift certificate to Valley Junction that can be used at any business in the district.

You can register at wdmlibrary.beanstack.org/reader365 or via the [Beanstack app](#) for [iOS](#) or [Android](#).

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New Year's

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Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Director Darryl Eschete's Final Day is January 4, 2024

Darryl Eschete, who has served as the director of the West Des Moines Public Library since 2012, has accepted a new position as Director of Oshkosh Public Library in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. The WDM Library Board of Trustees, Friends Foundation, and staff wish him well in his new endeavor as he returns closer to his family in Wisconsin.

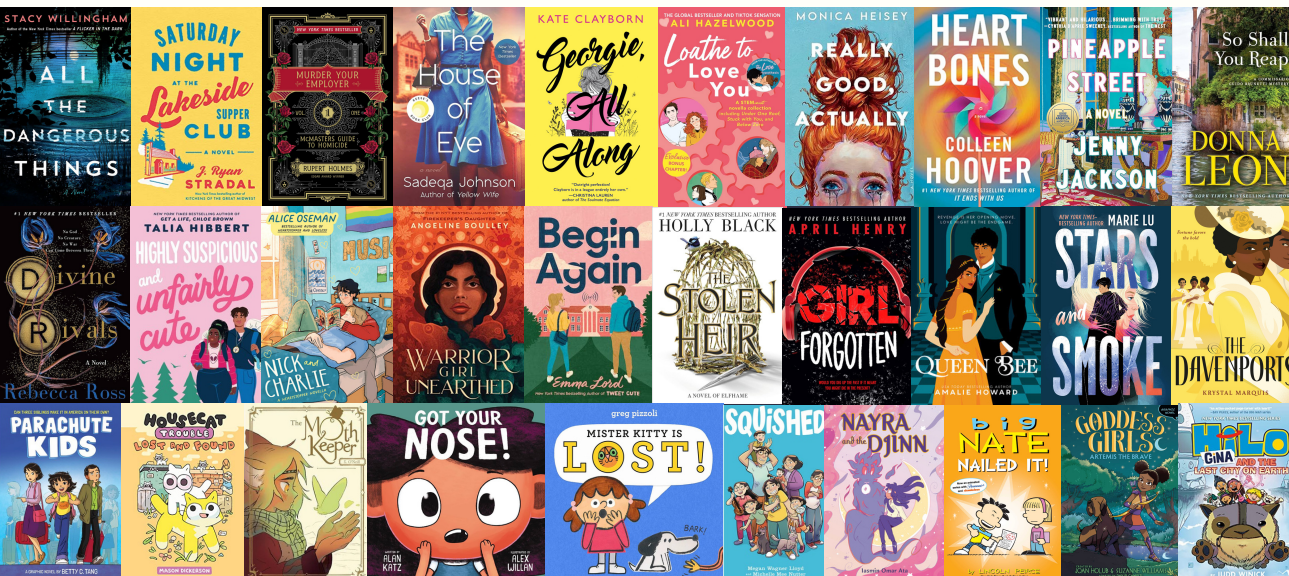
The WDM Library Board of Trustees and the City of West Des Moines' Human Resources team will execute a thorough search for a new director to uphold the library's mission of enriching lives by igniting curiosity, engaging community, and expanding perspectives. The WDM Library Board will name an interim library director at their upcoming meeting on December 19. Any questions about this process can be directed to the WDM Library Board President, Ray Seidelman, at library@wdm.iowa.gov.

Day of Service Project: Memory Care Binders, January 13

The Library is hosting a drop-in program on Saturday, January 13th from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm in the Millie Knee Classroom to help find images to put into memory care binders. Betsy, our Outreach Coordinator, uses these for visits to several facilities and has also created some that facilities keep in their own collections.



Over 66,000 Iowans aged 65 and older have Alzheimer's Disease, and this number is expected to increase. One way to help people with dementia stay engaged and connected is to provide them with materials containing uplifting pictures with simple text. Patrons of all ages are welcome to come in and page through magazines to find pictures (we'll have specific categories) that can be put into these binders.



2023 MOST POPULAR BOOKS



Model Trains Return January 13 & 14

Stop by the West Des Moines Library to see the DesMoiNTrak's N-scale working layout on January 13 from 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM or January 14 from 2:00 - 4:00 PM. This event is open to adults and children of all ages. Make sure to stop by the Children's Department for a fun train craft before you leave! No registration needed.



Found Bibles Reunited with Family Through the Library

Just in time for the holidays, we were able to reunite a family with their Bibles established in 1862. These Bibles were found by the West Des Moines Fire Department in an abandoned home and brought to the library in hopes of finding its owners. Using the power of Ancestry Library Edition and the internet, we were able to connect with the great-great grandson of the original Bible owner who happens to be a professional Santa in California. His family gathered for Christmas and they are delighted to have this piece of family history back in their possession.



January Adult Events at the WDM Library



Winter Reading Challenge

January 1 - 31 - All Day

We invite you to curl up with some good books this January! Readers who complete 10 days' worth of reading will be entered into a drawing for a gift certificate to Valley Junction that can be used at any business in the district. Register at wdmlibrary.org/winter



MLK Day Closure

Monday, January 15 - Closed All Day

The Library is Closed for the Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday. We will reopen at 9:00 AM on Tuesday.

Music from Multi-Award Winning Songwriter Jordan Messerole

Thursday, January 4 - 6:30 - 8:00 PM

Messerole masterfully blends the sounds of his guitars with thoughtful lyrics, an engaging stage presence, and often rack harmonica to tell gritty American tales that are bound to evoke emotion from all of his listeners. No registration.



Adult Craft Night: Reclaimed Wood Owls

Thursday, January 18 - 6:30 - 8:00 PM

Come join us to create a fun craft for the adult crowd! We will have a variety of supplies to make reclaimed wood owls. Registration required.



Tech One-On-One

Saturday, January 6 & 20 - 10:00, 10:30, 11:00 AM

Do you have a specific computer, mobile device, or other technology-related questions? We are here to help! Registration requested.



Step Back in Time: Historical Fiction Book Group

Thursday, January 18 - 7:00 - 8:00 PM

Hosted at the Jordan House (2001 Fuller Rd)

This group discusses titles from a wide variety of time/places/people. Please join us for a discussion of The Huntress by Kate Quinn. Registration required.

Club Read: Hybrid Edition!

Monday, January 8 - 7:00 - 8:45 PM

Join Alana and Amy for a hybrid book club meeting. You may join through Zoom or in person at the library. We will be discussing Born a Crime by Trevor Noah. This title is also available in eBook and eAudio in Bridges Overdrive.



Celina Biniarz: Saved by Schindler's List

Sunday, January 21 - 2:30 - 3:30 PM

Celina Karp Biniarz, one of the last living survivors from Schindler's List—and the only one who graduated from North High School and Grinnell College in Iowa. Sandi Yoder, Director of the Iowa Jewish Historical Society, will share Celina's personal story. No registration required.



YA Not Club Read

Thursday, January 11 - 6:30 - 8:00 PM

YA Not Club Read is our non-traditional book club for "Grown ups" who like to read and talk about Young Adult books. We will be discussing Hollow Fires by Samira Ahmed. Registration required.



Book Club Social: Hybrid Edition!

Monday, January 22 - 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Please join Alana and Amy to discuss what everyone has been reading and watching this month. You may join us in the Millie Knee Classroom upstairs at the library or in Zoom. Registration is required.

WDM Writer's Group

Saturday, January 13 & 27 - 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Open to aspiring authors of all experience levels. Each participant brings an approximately 1500-word excerpt of their work-in-progress to read aloud. Constructive critique follows each writer's turn. No reg.



WDM Library Friends Foundation

Fundraiser: Candle Making with Candle Bar

Thursday, January 25 - 5:30 - 8:00 PM

Raise money for the WDM Library Friends Foundation while making a personally scented candle! A representative from the Candle Bar in Valley Junction will be leading the class. Wine and snacks will be served. Registration required.



CANDLE BAR DSM



Drop-In Project: Memory Care Binders

Saturday, January 13 - 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

The Library is hosting a drop-in program in the Millie Knee Classroom to help find images to put into memory care binders. Betsy, our Outreach Coordinator, uses these for visits to several facilities and has also created some that facilities keep in their own collections. No registration needed.



Great Books Showcase

Wednesday, January 31 - 7:00 - 8:30 PM

"Can you suggest a great book?" This is a question librarians get all the time. Consider this event our answer! Whether you're a mystery fan or want to find out about the hottest cooking trends, you'll find something new and fresh in our book previews. No registration required.

Children & Teen January Events at the WDM Library

Tween Club Read: Bring Your Own Book! Tuesday, January 2 - 4:15 - 5:00 PM

(Ages 11-14)
If you like to talk about books (but you're getting too old for our other book clubs), this club is for you. Join us for discussion and activities related to a book of your choice! Register online or at the Children's Desk.



Saturday Storytime

Saturday, January 13, 20, 27 - 9:30 - 10:00 AM OR 10:30 - 9:30 -
(Ages 0-6 w/ adult)

Drop in and join us in the storyroom for Saturday Storytime! Build a lifetime love of books and reading as we share stories, songs, and interactive rhymes with an early literacy focus. No registration.



Lapsit Storytime

Mondays (1/8 & 1/22) - 9:30 - 10:00 AM OR 10:30 - 11:00 AM

(Ages 1 mo. - 18 mo. w/ adult)
Using puppets, rhymes, songs, and short stories, we will engage baby and caregiver in language-rich activities designed for pre-walking babies. Registration is required.



MLK Day Closure

Monday, January 15 - Closed All Day

The Library is Closed for the Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday. We will reopen at 9:00 AM on Tuesday.

Toddler Storytime

Tuesdays (1/9, 1/16, 1/23) 9:30 - 10:00 AM OR 10:30 - 11:00 AM

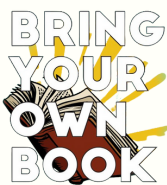
(Ages 6 mo. - 2 yrs w/ adult)
Each week we will incorporate activities that emphasize and reinforce body part identification, counting, rhythm, sensory stimulation, fine and gross motor skills, and animal sounds. Registration is required.



After School Adventures: Lego Club

Wednesday, January 17- 3:45 - 4:30 PM
(Ages 5-12)

Join us in the Community Room after school to embark on an adventure! This month we'll be using everyone's favorite interlocking bricks to have some fun! Registration required.



Kids Club Read: Bring Your Own Book!

Tuesday, January 9 - 4:15 - 5:00 PM

(Ages 7-10)
This month, we want you to bring your own book to talk about! Bring your favorite book. Bring the book you're currently reading. Just bring a book and be ready to tell us a little bit about it! Registration required.



Kids Graphic Novel Club Read: BYOBook!

Thursday, January 18 - 4:15 - 5:00 PM

(Ages 8-12)
This month, we want you to bring your own book to talk about! Bring your favorite book. Bring the book you're currently reading. Just bring a book and be ready to tell us a little bit about it! Registration required.

Baby Doll Storytime

Wednesdays (1/10, 1/17, 1/24) - 9:30 - 10:00 AM OR 10:30 - 11:00 AM

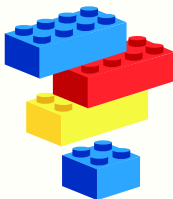
(Ages 18 mo. - 3 yrs w/ adult)
Bring a favorite doll or stuffed animal and join us for Baby Doll Storytime. Children will participate in songs, rhymes, and stories while interacting with their baby doll. Registration required.



Family Night at the Library: Lego Club!

Monday, January 22 - 6:30 - 7:30 PM

(All ages)
Join Nate for a fun family activity! Why should kids get to have all the fun? Join us this month to take on a fun building challenge as a family using the library's Lego. Will your skills stack up or fall flat? For all ages. Please register each person attending (children and adults).



Family Storytime

Wednesdays (6:30 - 7:30 PM) Thursdays (10:30 - 11:30 AM) and Fridays (10:30 - 11:30 AM) Dates: 1/10, 1/11, 1/12, 1/17, 1/18, 1/19, 1/24, 1/25, 1/26

(Ages 0-6 w/ adult)
Join us in the Community Room for this class featuring stories, songs, and rhymes followed by gross and fine motor play all with an early literacy focus! No reg.



Group Service Project (Teens)

Wednesday, January 24 - 3:00 - 5:00 PM

(Grades 9-12)
Are you looking for a few Silver Cord, Community Service, or other volunteer hours? The Library is looking for volunteers to help with a monthly group service project. No experience or training necessary! Registration required.

Model Train Display!

Saturday, January 13, 9:00 - 5:00 PM & Sunday, January 14, 2:00 - 4:00 PM

(All ages)
Stop by the WDM Library to see the DesMoinNTTrak's N-scale working layout. This event is open to adults and children of all ages. Make sure to stop by the Children's Department for a fun train craft before you leave! No registration needed.



Snowflake Crafternoon

Tuesday, January 30 - 4:00 - 5:00 PM

(Ages 4-12)
Drop in anytime between 4PM and 5PM in the Community Room to celebrate winter fun with snowflake-themed craft projects! For ages 4-12, no registration required.

