In This Issue

Staff Picks ...................... pg. 2
Future Best Sellers........ pg. 2
Celebrations at DGPL .................. pg. 2
Author Events: Jenny Lawson and Nick Offerman ............ pg. 2
Programming .......... pg. 3 – 6
Director's Note......... pg. 7

Teddy, the self-proclaimed "craft-lete," showing off his snow day pickup program project!

Library Hours

Monday – Friday  9 a.m. – 9 p.m.
Saturday        9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Sunday         1 – 5 p.m.

Library Closings

Sunday, April 17

Program and service information is current as of the print date. Programs and services may change based on community transmission levels and guidance from the CDC and IDPH. Please visit dglibrary.org/updates for the most up-to-date information.

Popular Picks: Most Checked Out Titles

Fiction

- The Four Winds by Kristin Hannah

Mystery

- Ocean Prey by John Sandford

Romance

- People We Meet on Vacation by Emily Henry

Non-Fiction

- Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents by Isabel Wilkerson

Graphic Novel

- Dawn of X by Jonathan Hickman

Sci-Fi/Fantasy

- The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue by V.E. Schwab

Teen

- The Firekeeper's Daughter by Angeline Boulley

Picture Book

- I Want to Sleep Under the Stars! by Mo Willems

CD

- Evermore by Taylor Swift

Audiobook

- The Midnight Library by Matt Haig

Budget Breakdown

- Personnel
- Building
- Collection/Library Materials
- Programs & Supplies
- Software
- Other

DGPL 2021 Annual Report

over ONE MILLION materials borrowed

For more information, go to: dglibrary.org/transparency
STAFF PICKS

Find your next title with the library’s Staff Picks collection. Staff members from all departments share their favorite books, movies, music, and video games. Look for Staff Picks in the library and online. Follow and use the hashtag #DGPLreads to keep up with the freshest picks.

March: Game On!

April: Tickle Your Funny Bone

Future Bestsellers

These titles are sure to be hot when they arrive in the coming months! Contact the Ask Us Desk to place a hold.

Celebrations at DGPL

Gnome Place Like DGPL: 🗓️
Gnome Scavenger Hunt
April 3 – 9
All Ages. Search high and low for gnomes to complete a phrase. Once you find them all, turn in your sheet and pick up a prize at the Ask Us Desk or Kids Desk.

Book Bundle: Arab American Heritage Month 🗓️
Sunday, April 17 – Sunday, April 24
All Ages. Enter online to win a curated Book Bundle! Find details and the entry form on the events calendar.

National Poetry Month: Pocket Poems 🗓️
April 1 – 30
All Ages. Stop by any service desk to get a pocket poem bookmark all month long.

Book Discussions

An Evening with Jenny Lawson 🗓️
In association with Illinois Libraries Present
Wednesday, March 30, 7 p.m.
Award-winning humorist Jenny Lawson discusses her most recent bestseller, Broken (in the Best Possible Way) and her brilliantly funny body of work.

An Evening with Nick Offerman 🗓️
In association with Illinois Libraries Present
Wednesday, April 27, 7 p.m.
Join us for a hilarious evening with actor, writer, comedian, producer, and professional carpenter, Nick Offerman. He is best known for his role as Ron Swanson in the NBC sitcom Parks and Recreation. Nick will be discussing his newest book and latest projects.

Next Chapter 🗓️
Book Club
Tuesdays, April 12, 26; May 10, 24; June 14, 28
6:30 p.m.
Join the next session of our literacy program for adults 18+ with intellectual and developmental disabilities! All are welcome, regardless of the ability to read. This program is part of a series; please plan to attend all sessions. Call 630-960-1200 or email askus@dglibrary.org for more information.
Virtual Computer Classes:

Excel 2016 Intro
Tuesday, March 1, 2 p.m.

Word 2016: Tables
Thursday, March 10, 2 p.m.

Excel 2016 Intermediate
Tuesday, March 22, 2 p.m.

Canva Basics
Wednesday, March 30, 7 p.m.

Word 2016 Intro
Friday, April 8, 11 a.m.

Google Docs
Wednesday, April 13, 7 p.m.

All This Tech—How Do I Maintain My Privacy?
Thursday, April 14, 7 p.m.

Word 2016 Intermediate
Friday, April 22, 11 a.m.

Google Sheets
Thursday, April 28, 2 p.m.

Job Workshops:

Resume vs. Robots
Thursday, March 3, 10 a.m.

How to Master the Phone and Video Interview
Thursday, March 17, 10 a.m.

Job Search in the 21st Century
Thursday, April 7, 10 a.m.

Career Change: Plan and Prepare for a Successful Transition
Thursday, April 21, 10 a.m.

Great Decisions
March 8, 22; April 5, 19, 10:30 a.m.
Join your neighbors in discussing foreign policy issues. Great Decisions is a national program designed by the Foreign Policy Institute.

Genealogy: The 1950 US Census: Are You Ready?
Wednesday, March 9, 6:30 p.m.
Get up to speed on the history of the 1950 US Census, why the 1950 US Census form is radically different from previous forms, and how the data will be accessed.

Self-Care for Busy People
Saturday, March 12, 11 a.m.
Bring balance to the busyness with uplifting self-care practices from award-winning author, yoga teacher, and busy mom Julie M. Gentile.

The Journey of Mollie’s War: WACS and WWII
Sunday, March 20, 2 p.m.
Members of the Women’s Army Corps were the first women other than nurses to serve overseas in World War II. Learn about women in combat during WWII and Mollie’s life through her letters.

SCORE: Do You Love Your Website?
Thursday, March 24, 10 a.m.
Kim LeClair demonstrates how well-designed websites work for you and your customers.

Conversation with Your Chiropractor
Saturday, April 9, 11 a.m.
Learn about the natural, holistic therapies of chiropractic and acupuncture, what they are, the benefits, and how they can help a wide range of issues.

One Hundred and Sixty Minutes: The Race to Save the RMS Titanic
Wednesday, April 13, 7 p.m.
On the 100th anniversary, author William Hazelgrove relates the events, heroism, and mistakes during the crucial 160 minutes before the Titanic sank.

Concert: Celebrate Spring!
With partner DG Music Club
Friday, April 24, 2 p.m.
Kids Programming Highlights

All programs are held in the Meeting Room unless otherwise noted. Masks are required for all indoor programs. Registration opens two weeks prior to event date unless otherwise noted. To register and learn more, go to dglibrary.org/events.

**Storytimes**

Registration and the number of people attending is required ahead of time. Registration opens **one week** before storytime. Children attending storytimes must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

**Preschool Storytime**
Mondays, March 14, 28; April 11, 25; Tuesdays, March 8, 22, April 5, 19, 9:30 a.m.
Featuring picture books, songs, and activities designed for preschoolers to promote early literacy and vocabulary skills.

**Toddler Storytime**
Wednesdays, March 2, 16, 30; April 13, 27, 9:30 a.m.
Up to 36 months. This storytime is filled with songs, stories, and bubbles. Perfect for wiggly toddlers—followed by playtime.

**Infant Storytime**
Wednesdays, March 9, 23, April 6, 20, 9:30 a.m.
Non-walkers. Snuggle up with your baby for songs, rhymes, and a little bouncing.

**Weekend Storytime**
Saturdays, March 5 - April 30, 9:30 – 10 a.m. & 10:30 – 11 a.m.
**There will be no 10:30 a.m. storytime on March 12.**
Join us for picture books, songs, and activities designed for preschoolers to promote early literacy and vocabulary skills.

Early Childhood Continued...

**Cherry Blossom Creations**
Friday, March 18, 10 — 10:30 a.m.
Ages 3 – 5. Come create cherry blossom inspired crafts and learn about these beautiful blooms.

**Happy Bird Day**
Monday, March 21, 10 — 10:30 a.m.
Ages 3 – 5. Bring in the spring with bird-themed activities and music. You’ll make a take-home treat for those who tweet!

**Go Global: Egypt**
Tuesday, March 22, 4 — 4:30 p.m.
Ages 3 – 5. Learn about this Northern African country and do some crafting!

**Earth to Infants**
Monday, April 4, 10 — 10:30 a.m.
Ages 6 – 24 months. Get your baby’s attention with these Earth-inspired, sensory-focused activities.

**Poetry for Preschoolers**
Tuesday, April 12, 10 — 10:30 a.m.
Ages 3 – 5. Poetry is all around us, we just have to learn how to listen for it. After reading some poems, pull words out of a bag to create your own.

**Very Hungry Caterpillar**
Monday, April 18, 10 — 10:30 a.m.
Ages 2 – 3. Watch The Very Hungry Caterpillar turn into a beautiful butterfly! We will spend time together reading the book and making some fun crafts!

**Save the Truffula Trees**
Friday, April 22, 10 — 10:30 a.m.
Ages 3 – 5. We’ll read all about the Lorax who speaks for the trees and then make our very own Truffulas, if you please. It will be more fun than you ever thought and show we care a whole awful lot!

**Beautiful Butterflies**
Thursday, April 28, 10 — 10:30 a.m.
Ages 3 – 5. Learn about these transformative insects through colorful crafts.

**Early Childhood**

Children attending early childhood programs must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

**Owl Babies**
Friday, March 4, 10 — 10:30 a.m.
Ages 3 – 5. Hear a story about three adorable owl babies and then bring them to life with paint!

**Shoot for the Stars**
Thursday, March 10, 10 — 10:30 a.m.
Ages 3 – 5. Learn about Mae Jemison, a woman who made history in space, and make a craft to take home!

**Language Labs Presents: Spanish Storytime**
Tuesday, March 15, 10 — 10:30 a.m.
Ages 3 – 5. ¡Hola! Please join The Language Labs for a fun, engaging, and educational Spanish Storytime and craft.
For Families: Lego Build
What can you make with our Legos, a theme, and your imagination? We’ll display your creations in the Kids Room. For children of all ages accompanied by an adult.

March: Bridges
Thursday, March 3, 7 – 8 p.m.

April: Gnome House
Thursday, April 7, 7 – 8 p.m.

Read to the Dogs
Thursday, March 10, 7 – 8 p.m.
Thursday, April 14, 7 – 8 p.m.

Reading to dogs can improve children’s reading and communication skills while also being fun! Schedule a 15-minute time slot by calling the Kids Room Desk. No online registration.

Frozen Snowglobe
Tuesday, March 8, 4 – 4:30 p.m.
Grades K – 2. Go into the unknown (at the library) and create some snow globes with our favorite Frozen 2 characters.

Sew What: Basic Skills
Tuesday, March 15, 11 – 11:30 a.m.
Grades 5 – 8. Let’s learn to sew. Basic skills include sewing a straight line, pivoting, threading the machine, and creating a pincushion.

Go Global: Egypt
Tuesday, March 22, 4 – 4:30 p.m.
Grades K – 2. Learn about this Northern African country and do some crafting!

Pokémon Fun
Saturdays, March 26 & April 23, 3 – 3:45 p.m.
Trade cards, show off favorites, and possibly win a new pack!

Colored Jar Lanterns
Tuesday, March 29, 4 – 4:30 p.m.
Grades K – 2. Make your own lantern out of a jar to shine brightly in your home.

Pendulum Picassos
Wednesday, March 30, 1 – 3 p.m.
Grades 5 – 8. We’ll see gravity and motion come to life on paper through this unique painting technique. Every participant will leave with their own pendulum painting project.

Pool Noodle Rockets
Thursday, March 31, 10 – 10:35 a.m.
Grades 3 – 5. Have highflying fun over spring break by transforming a pool noodle into a flying machine.

Teen Movie: Jungle Cruise (PG-13)
Thursday, March 31, 1 – 3 p.m.
Grades 6 – 8. Join us on this two-hour Jungle Cruise adventure.

Shooting Star
Wednesday, April 13, 4 – 4:30 p.m.
Grades 3 – 5. No batteries required! Make a star spin with kinetic energy.

Blackout Poetry
Thursday, April 21, 4 – 4:30 p.m.
Grades 5 – 8. Celebrate National Poetry Month by creating your own poems using pages from books and newspapers. By redacting or “blacking out” these written pages, we will create unique and visual poetry works.

Catch 'Em All Fun
Friday, April 29, 4 – 4:30 p.m.
Grades K – 2. Join us for some Pokémon Fun. We will make a STEM activity using a Pokémon character and a straw, and other fun things to do!
Watercolor Coasters*  
Tuesday, March 1, 4 — 5 p.m.  
Grades 7 – 12. Use watercolor paint to create coasters.

SAT Practice Test  
Saturdays, March 5 & 19, 1 — 5 p.m.  
Meeting Room  
Grades 9 – 12. Bring #2 pencils, a calculator, and a snack for halfway.

Maker Mondays  
3 — 4:30 p.m.  
Grades 7 – 12. Drop in after school to hang out and create something! Check the online events calendar for details.  
March 7: Tissue Paper Stained Glass  
March 14: St. Patrick’s Day Perler Beads  
March 21: DIY Paper Journal  
April 4: Fairy Garden  
April 11: Money Smart Piggy Bank  
April 18: Moon Phase Wall Hanging  
April 25: Storybook Paper Roses

Make & Take Crafts  
All Day  
Stop by and pick up a craft to complete in Teen Central or take home. Available while supplies last.  
Create Like: Bridget Riley  
Wednesday, March 16

Air Clay Bunny Trinket Bowl  
Monday, March 28

Salt Dough Magnets  
Wednesday, March 30

Create Like Anna Berry (Paper Wreath)  
Friday, April 1

Upcycled Magazine Wall Art  
Wednesday, April 20

Service Project:  
Paper Bridges: Letters to Orphans  
March 28 — April 10, All Day

Paper Succulents*  
Tuesday, March 29, 2 — 3 p.m.  
Meeting Room  
Grades 6 – 12. Make a potted succulent using cardstock and crayons.

Movie Showing: Jungle Cruise (PG-13)  
Wednesday, March 30, 1 — 3 p.m.  
Meeting Room  
Grades 6 – 12. Join us on this two-hour Jungle Cruise adventure.

Canvas Dot Art*  
Thursday, March 31, 2 — 3 p.m.  
Meeting Room  
Grades 6 – 12. Using homemade dotting tools and a pattern, participants will create a piece of neon art.

Library Gnome*  
Wednesday, April 6, 4 — 5 p.m.  
Meeting Room  
Grades 7 – 12. Create a library-themed gnome, complete with a mini book.

American Red Cross  
Babysitter’s Training Class  
Friday, April 15, 9:45 a.m. — 5:30 p.m.  
Meeting Room  
Ages 11 – 16. A certified Red Cross trainer will teach this 7.5-hour babysitting training class. This class will develop leadership skills and teach participants how to keep themselves and others safe. It is designed for young people to gain knowledge and skills necessary to safely and responsibly give care to infants and children in a residential setting. Participants will learn about basic child care and first aid and will receive a certificate of completion. This program will NOT cover CPR training. This class will have breaks scheduled throughout the day. Participants will need to bring a bagged lunch. Limited space is available. A brief online application will available beginning March 21. Applicants will be contacted on April 1, if selected.

ACT Practice Test  
Saturday, April 23, 1 — 5 p.m.  
Meeting Room  
Grades 9 – 12. Bring #2 pencils, a calculator, and a snack for halfway.
Director’s Note

What Library Patrons Don’t See During a Pandemic

Pandemic living has not been for the faint of heart. For the past two years, we have needed to make countless swift and difficult decisions behind-the-scenes, while striving to maintain a friendly, safe, and service-oriented environment where everyone feels welcome. Abrupt changes to information about the COVID-19 virus led to rapid (sometimes daily!) changes to library policies, procedures, services, and programs. In truth, we did not know what to expect from one day to the next and still don’t. It hasn’t been easy not letting you see us sweat.

During this time, we have had to navigate spontaneous building closures and develop a phased reopening plan, detailing step-by-step how we respond to the ever-changing and unpredictable landscape of the pandemic. We’ve set up remote work for a staff of over 100 employees, transitioned library services and programs to virtual formats, developed an efficient curbside model, and introduced holds lockers. We needed to swiftly distribute information on our website, social media platforms, and building signage. On top of that, we needed to obtain sufficient personal protective equipment (PPE) and cleaning supplies, and create safety measures throughout the building that we had never imagined before including capacity limits, quarantining materials, changing service hours, and evolving floorplans. Amazingly, we’re still standing.

In spite of the hardships, we have continued excellent stewardship of library resources and make our patrons our top priority. We have been able to adopt a fine-free service model and recuperate $42,255 in awarded federal grant money to cover nearly all costs of PPE, cleaning supplies, and disinfectant services.

We will continue to do our best in making DGPL a place for everyone to discover, grow, play, and learn, even in these uncertain times. Thank you so much for your support and hanging in there with us.

Organization of the Month

March
DuPage Foundation
DuPage Foundation seeks to raise the quality of life throughout DuPage County by fostering philanthropy, connecting donors to area needs, and building community partnerships. As a publicly-supported 501(c)(3) charity, the Foundation strives to help area residents and organizations realize their unique charitable goals; provides impactful support to the community’s not-for-profits; and fosters key partnerships to address critical issues affecting the community. The Foundation provides personalized charitable services to donors, expertise in charitable giving strategies and advice for professional advisors, and assistance to not-for-profits in building and administering endowments. Nonprofits, donors, and professional advisors are encouraged to learn more at dupagefoundation.org.

April
DuPage Health Coalition
The mission of the DuPage Health Coalition is to develop and sustain a system for effectively and efficiently managing the health of low-income populations across the continuum of care in DuPage County. Addressing health inequities since their inception, 60,000 DuPage residents have been provided comprehensive and coordinated low-cost health access through the Access DuPage (AD) program alone. Newer initiatives include Silver Access ACA Premium Assistance and the DuPage Dispensary of Hope, a free pharmacy for the uninsured. Unfortunately, addressing the COVID-19 pandemic in DuPage County highlights what has always been known: affordable access to healthcare is essential, and those with compromised access to care are at increased risk of disease and serious health outcomes. Medical providers are encouraged to volunteer services at community clinics and private offices. Learn more about how to volunteer services or find services at accessdupage.org.

Sign Up to Be an Organization of the Month!

Do you know an organization that should be featured for our monthly organization spotlight? Visit the following link, fill out an application, and let us know! dgpl.fyi/orgofthemonth.

Youth Vision Day

With partner Downers Grove Lions
Saturday, March 12, 9 a.m. — 2 p.m.
Conference Room B
Free vision screening for community members! While a vision screening is not an equivalent of an eye exam performed by an optometrist, it does test for major vision issues.
For information please call Aris Troncoso at 773-756-8404.

Visit dglibrary.org/events to register and to see a full list of upcoming programs.
New Cover to Cover Podcasts

March – Book Discussion with Kids Room Library Assistant, Gracie Ruyle: The Golden Hour by Niki Smith. Find it in the library.

April – Book Discussion: Please Don’t Sit on My Bed in Your Outside Clothes by Phoebe Robinson. Find it in the library and on Libby by Overdrive.

Cover to Cover is produced in the library’s Media Lab. Listen on Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, or on the library’s website at dglibrary.org/cover-to-cover-podcast.

Land Acknowledgment
We acknowledge that the Downers Grove Public Library sits on the unceded, traditional, and ancestral homelands of Native peoples. We honor with gratitude the land itself and the Indigenous peoples who have been caretakers of the land throughout generations, past and present. We invite you to learn more about the genocide and forced displacement by non-Native settlers, and the ongoing injustices against Native peoples.

Learn more: dglibrary.org/land

Include the Library You Love in Planned Giving
Looking to reduce the burden of estate or income tax for yourself or a loved one? The Downers Grove Public Library Foundation has made it easy to include the library in your planned giving thanks to DGFL Foundation's new website that helps donors shape their legacy through bequests, charitable IRA rollover, appreciated securities, and more. Visit dgplfoundation.planned.gifts to secure your contribution and make a lasting difference for years to come.

FOL Programs
With partner DGFL Friends of the Library

Adventures in Travel: Searching for South America D
Friday, March 18, 7 p.m.
Brian Michalski, an educator of budding global nomads, will regale attendees with stories of South America.

Adventures in Travel: Up a Lazy River by the New Maelstrom D
Friday, April 15, 7 p.m.
Paul Clement Jr. takes the audience on his journey along the Mississippi River.

Writer’s Workshop D
Mondays, March 14, 28, April 11, 25, 7 p.m.
Meeting Room North
Novice to professional writers meet to read, discuss, and enjoy each other’s work. All genres, styles, and writers are welcome.

Register: dglibrary.org/events

R Advanced registration required  |  D Drop-in program

Discoveries brings news of services and activities at the Downers Grove Public Library
Julie M. Milavec, Library Director
Brian Ruane, Editor
Grace Goodwyn, Graphic Designer

Questions or comments? Email us at publicrelations@dglibrary.org

Board of Library Trustees
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Barnali Khuntia

The Board of Library Trustees meets Wednesdays, March 23 and April 27 at 7:30 p.m. Agendas, complete meeting information, and recordings of past meetings are available online.