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Play On!
The Kids Room play area is back and fully reopened! The Play Cafe, located in the southwest corner of the room, has gone under a refurbishment which includes new paint, new wall designs, the addition of a play sink, and a refreshment of all play food and dish items.

A shining star of the play area is the new light wall, located by the Kids Program room. Designed and built in-house by our Building Operations Director Ian Knorr, the light wall is a great way to build hand-eye coordination and gross motor skills. It’s also a lot of fun! Find other play experiences in the Kids Room, including a costume center, puppet stage, and train table. For our youngest visitors, visit the northwest corner to find wall activities and toys designed for babies and toddlers. No matter your age, stop by to play today!

Make a S'more!
Through August 7

Local downtown Downers Grove businesses have partnered with the library for a Summer Reading scavenger hunt! S’mores supplies can be found in the business windows. Fill out the scavenger hunt form to enter the raffle. Winners will be announced the week of August 8.

Prizes:

• **Adults/Teens:** three winners will receive a $50 Downtown Dollar Gift Certificate
• **Kids:** five winners will receive a book bundle and a $10 Downtown Dollar Gift Certificate

Pick up a form at the Ask Us Desk or Kids Room Desk, or download one from the library’s website at dglibrary.org/src.

Program and service information is current as of the print date. Visit dglibrary.org for more details.
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.

July: The Great Outdoors

August: It Ain’t Easy Being Teen

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.

Director’s Note
After a long two-plus years of the pandemic, things are finally settling back into something approaching normal: Pandemic policies ended this spring; Summer Reading Club programs are back at pre-pandemic levels; Kids Room play areas are open; In-person programming of all kinds is ramping up. While things are feeling more like our pre-pandemic library, some of the changes made are here to stay.

The addition of the Holds Lockers is one popular change. After trying curbside service, patrons were reluctant to give up that means of picking up items quickly and conveniently. The lockers allow for easy, 24/7 access to library materials.

Pickup programs continue to be well-loved. Discovery Bags for preschoolers through Grade 5 and Pickup Programs for teens contain a craft or activity. Supplies and instructions are included. Discovery Bags are a great activity for the whole family.

Virtual programs are here to stay. The new Illinois Libraries Present cooperative allows us to offer events with big name authors without the big price tag. Look for the next event in September with Academy-award-winner, activist, and author Marlee Matlin.

Other changes brought about by the pandemic include increased outdoor programming, Anything Emporium items, and downloadable collections.

As we settle into our new normal, we’re incorporating our pandemic successes into the ongoing services you enjoy.

Tree Donation
Davey Tree Experts donated an American Hornbeam tree to the library. Planted in the bed adjacent to the Forest South parking lot, this native tree, also called a blue beech, could grow up to 30 feet. The new tree is surrounded by a bed of native plantings done by local Girl Scout Troop 55101 in 2021.
View from Behind the Lens

Thursdays 6:30 — 8:30 p.m.
September 22 — November 10
Grades 7 – 12. Teens are invited to learn professional camera skills in this eight-week workshop. Selected participants will learn camera basics, engage in fun photo walking tours, and how to edit photos with Lightroom software. A gallery exhibit in December will display their finished photographs. All skill levels are welcome to apply. Teens must live in Downers Grove or attend a Downers Grove school. Applications and details are available at dglibrary.org/just-for-teens. Apply August 1 — 31.

DIY Baseball Hat Patch*

Wednesday, July 6, 1 — 2:30 p.m.
Meeting Room
Grades 7 – 12. Add personality to a hat with a DIY patch. All supplies provided.

Paint and Sip

Saturday, July 9, 2 — 4 p.m.
Meeting Room
Grades 7 – 12. Sip on drinks while Asma from Amatullah Innovation leads you through a relaxed-paced painting. All supplies provided.

Felting Mushroom

Tuesday, July 19, 3 — 4 p.m.
Meeting Room
Grades 7 – 12. Create a cute felted mushroom. All supplies provided.
Kids Programming Highlights

Registration opens two weeks prior to event date unless otherwise noted.
To register and learn more, go to dglibrary.org/events.

Find more programs in the Program Flyer in the Kids Room!
Programs can also be found at dglibrary.org/events.

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.

**July: Scuba Diving**
Thursday, July 7, 7 – 8 p.m.

**August: Vacation**
Thursday, August 4, 7 – 8 p.m.

Storytimes
Children attending storytimes must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

**Preschool Storytime**
Mondays, July 25; August 22, 9:30 — 10 a.m.
Tuesdays, July 5, 19; August 9, 9:30 — 10 a.m.
Thursdays, July 7, 21; August 18, 3 – 3:30 p.m.
Featuring picture books, songs, and activities designed for preschoolers to promote early literacy and vocabulary skills.

**Toddler Storytime**
Wednesdays, July 6, 20; August 3, 17, 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, July 13, 27; August 10, 24, 9:30 a.m.
Non-walkers. Snuggle up with your baby for songs, rhymes, and a little bouncing.

**Weekend Storytime**
Saturdays, July 2 — August 27, 10 a.m.
Join us for picture books, songs, and activities designed for preschoolers to promote early literacy and vocabulary skills.

**Language Lab Storytimes**
Language Labs is coming to the Downers Grove Library to present bilingual storytimes throughout the summer. During these half-hour storytimes, children interact with instruments, sing songs, and listen to stories.

**Spanish Storytime**
Thursday, July 21, 10 — 10:30 a.m.
Thursday, August 11, 10 — 10:30 am.

**Arabic Storytime**
Friday, July 8, 10 — 10:30 a.m.

**Polish Storytime**
Friday, August 19, 2:30 — 3 p.m.

**Family Movies**
Bring a blanket, a snack, and pillow to enjoy a movie on our giant screen. Closed captioning provided.

**Encanto (PG)**
Saturday, July 9, 2 p.m.

**Sing 2 (PG)**
Saturday, July 23, 2 p.m.

**Soul (PG)**
Saturday, August 6, 2 p.m.

**Star Wars: Episode I (PG)**
Saturday, August 20, 2 p.m.

**Lyman Woods in the Kids Room**
Lyman Woods will be here monthly to share with us all sorts of fun facts about the outdoors.

**Discovering Habitats**
Thursday, July 14, 10 — 10:30 a.m.

**Songbirds**
Tuesday, July 26, 2 — 2:30 p.m.

**All about Bees**
Monday, August 8, 10 — 10:30 a.m.

**Mammals 'R' Us**
Tuesday, August 23, 10 — 10:30 a.m.
Programs at the Park — Fishel Park
Join us at Fishel Park’s bandstand in downtown Downers Grove. There are no rain dates for Fishel Park programs.

Sun Powered Art in the Park
Wednesday, July 6, 9:30 – 10 a.m.
Grades 5 – 8. With the sun’s help, craft beautiful silhouette masterpieces.

Jiggle Jams
Monday July 18, 9:30 – 10 a.m.
Preschool. Wiggle, JIGGLE, & giggle as you sing & dance along with Jodi.

Parachute at the Park
Ages 2 – 3: Wednesday, August 3, 9:30 – 10 a.m.
Ages 4 – 5: Wednesday, August 3, 10:15 – 11:15 a.m.
Lift, shake, and hide under our big playground parachute.

How do you do Peek-a-Book
Friday, July 22, 10 – 10:30 a.m.
Ages 6 – 24 months. Join us for more rhymes and songs to add to your baby playtime repertoire.

Firework Fun
Monday, July 11, 10 – 10:30 a.m.
Ages 2 – 3. Let’s celebrate the summer with painted fork fireworks, and have a poppin’ good time with bubble wrap!

Pulled String Art
Wednesday, July 13, 10:30 – 11 a.m.
Ages 3 – 5. Create something beautiful and bright with string, paint, and a little tugging!

Go Global: Grenada
Friday, July 29, 10 – 10:30 a.m.
Ages 3 – 5. Learn about this Caribbean country, which is known as the “Spice Island” of this region.

Mission Space
Friday, July 22, 2 – 2:30 p.m.
Ages 3 – 5. Come explore space from right here in the library and build your very own mini galaxy to take home.

How Does Your Garden Grow
Thursday, August 4, 10 – 10:30 a.m.
Ages 3 – 5. Have you seen vegetables at the farmer’s market? Let’s play with them.

Visit dglibrary.org/events to register and to see a full list of upcoming programs.
Adult Programming Highlights

Programs are held in the Meeting Room unless otherwise noted. Many virtual programs are recorded and will be available to view after the event date.

**A Matter of Balance** 📈
Fridays, July 8, 15, 22, 29; August 5, 12, 19, 26, 10 a.m.
Many older adults experience concerns about falling and restricting their activities. A Matter of Balance is an award-winning program designed to manage falls and increase activity levels. This eight-week class is intended for adults 60 and older. Please plan to attend all sessions.

**Writer’s Workshop** ⚽
Mondays, July 11, 25; August 8, 22, 7 p.m.
Novice to professional writers meet to read, discuss, and enjoy each other’s work. All genres, styles, and writers are welcome.

**Next Chapter Book Club** 📚
Tuesdays, July 12, 26; August 9, 23; September 13, 27, 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.

**Yard Games** ⚽
Wednesday, July 13, 11 a.m.
Fishel Park
Drop by the park and play yard games like giant Jenga, cornhole tosses, and more!

**Introduction to Jewish Genealogy** 🌳
Wednesday, July 13, 7 p.m.
After understanding the personal value of connecting with our roots, explore what is unique about Jewish genealogy, what information to look for, and how to get started.

**Magazine Giveaway** ⚽
Saturday, July 16, All Day
Help us reuse and recycle the library’s old magazines! Bring your own bag and help yourself to these free magazines; while supplies last.

**4Ever4: 60th Anniversary of the Beatles Exhibit** 📚
With partner Republic Bank of Chicago
July 18 — July 31

**Museum of Science and Industry: The Ships Gallery** 🌳
Wednesday, July 20, 7 p.m.
Margaret Schlesinger gives a behind-the-scenes look at the creation of and recent renovation to the gallery, including restoring, interpreting, and commissioning new models of historic ships.

**60 Years of the Beatles** 🌳
With partner Republic Bank of Chicago
Thursday, July 28, 7 pm
Using music, video, and many unseen photographs from the 1960s, this highly entertaining presentation reveals untold stories of the Beatles’ visits to Chicago. Join us at 6:30 p.m. for complimentary tea and scones.

**Basic Backyard Chicken Keeping** 🌳
Wednesday, August 10, 6:30 pm
Curious about raising chickens? Do you already have your own birds? Learn how to find local laws, choose and raise chicks, and care for adult birds.

**Modern Calligraphy: Brush Pen** 🌳
Thursday, August 18, 7 pm
Revive the art of calligraphy with a modern twist. Learn how to write with a brush pen by practicing basic strokes and the lowercase alphabet. Supplies provided.

**D&D Adventurers League** 🌳
Novice to Intermediate: Saturday July 16, 1 p.m.
Experienced: Saturday, July 30, 12:30 p.m.
All Experience Levels: Saturday, August 13, 27 12:30 p.m.
Play one-off adventures with characters and materials provided. This League is open to everyone, from new players who have yet to learn, to seasoned veterans looking for a new campaign.
Computer Classes

Programs are held in the Training Room unless otherwise noted.

**LinkedIn Basics**  ⚪️
Friday, July 8, 7 p.m.

**Email Workshop**  ⚪️
Sponsored by the Downers Grove Park District
Monday, July 11, noon
Registration in-person at the Lincoln Center or
Downers Grove Recreation Center, Monday — Friday,
9 a.m. — 12:20 p.m. and 1 — 4 p.m. OR online at
dgparks.org/registration-information.

**Word 2016 Intro**  ⚪️
Tuesday, July 12, 11 a.m.

**Virtual Facebook Marketplace & Garage Sale Groups**  ⚪️
Thursday, July 14, 1 p.m.

**Things to Do at DGPL**  ⚪️
Thursday, July 28, 10:30 a.m.

**Word 2016 Intermediate**  ⚪️
P Tuesday, August 2, 11 a.m.

**Excel 2016 Intro**  ⚪️
Friday, August 5, 2 p.m.

**Lunch & Learn: How to Use Your iPad**  ⚪️
Sponsored by the Downers Grove Park District
Wednesday, August 10, noon
4340 Prince Street, Downers Grove
Registration in-person at the Lincoln Center or
Downers Grove Recreation Center, Monday — Friday,
9 a.m. — 12:20 p.m. and 1 — 4 p.m. OR online at
dgparks.org/registration-information.

**Windows Fundamentals**  ⚪️
Sponsored by People’s Resource Center
Mondays, August 15 — October 3, 6:30 p.m.
Contact PRC’s Computer Training team ct@peoplesrc.org
or 630-682-5402 ext. 218 to register.

**Excel 2016 Intermediate**  ⚪️
Friday, August 19, 2 p.m.

**Excel Intro**  ⚪️
Sponsored by People’s Resource Center
Saturdays, August 20 — October 1, 9:30 a.m.
Contact PRC’s Computer Training team ct@peoplesrc.org
or 630-682-5402 ext. 218 to register.

**Virtual Publisher 2016 Basics**  ⚪️
Tuesday, August 30, 2 p.m.

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**Organization of the Month:**

**July**

**TEACH**

Tutoring English to Advance Change (TEACH) offers free individualized tutoring and mentoring sessions to increase language and cultural proficiency. Their services empower limited-English-speaking immigrants who may feel powerless, due to language barriers and cultural differences, to improve their quality of life. TEACH approaches English literacy not as an end, but as a means to achieving life goals. They emphasize goal achievement through setting personal goals for each student to guide instruction. Through learning English in pursuit of meaningful goals, overall language proficiency naturally improves. TEACH has many programs available to assist with citizenship test prep, workplace literacy, health literacy, parents of children with special needs, and domestic violence survivors. Volunteer tutoring is a great way to get involved! To learn more about their services and volunteer opportunities, visit teachempowers.org.

**August**

**Literacy DuPage**

Literacy DuPage recruits and trains tutors to help DuPage County adults achieve their life skill goals by improving their English language skills through one-to-one, customized tutoring. Annually, Literacy DuPage’s 325 active volunteers tutor more than 360 learners, who are primarily immigrants, refugees, and low-income adults. The program’s impact is a proven, long-term solution, bridging the gap between residents having limited opportunities and thriving in their workplaces and communities. Learners represent over 30 languages and nearly 50 countries! Change a life by volunteering. Training is required and provided virtually. Learn more and get involved at literacydupage.org or 331-472-7160.

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**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.

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

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

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

Board of Library Trustees
Swapna S. Gigani, President
David Humphreys
Carissa Dougherty
Barnali Khuntia
William Nienburg

The Board of Library Trustees meets Wednesdays, July 27 and August 24 at 7:30 p.m. Agendas, complete meeting information, and recordings of past meetings are available online.

New Cover to Cover Podcasts

July – Interview with the President of the Board of Library Trustees, Swapna Gigani.

August – Interview with Library Director, Julie Milavec.

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.

Funding Extraordinary Gifts
Donations consistently transform into extraordinary gifts. Recently, those gifts have included a soon to be installed play wall in the children’s room, support of Illinois Libraries Presents programming drawing in high-profile authors like Nick Offerman and Michelle Zauner, and a vital social work program.

Whether you purchase a garden walk brick, or submit a monthly recurring donation, every dollar transforms the library you love into a place for everyone. Visit dgplfoundation.org.

Accessibility Disruption Ahead!
The library’s elevator upgrade will begin in mid to late August. During this five-week project, the elevator will be out of service. Reference, readers advisory, public computers, and computer help will be available on the first floor while the second floor is inaccessible to those who cannot use the stairs. Look for news and updates about this project on our website, and social media, and in our eNews.

Out and About
Visit the library’s booth at local community events! We’re giving away books, frisbees, and Summer Reading Club registration forms.

• Summer Concert Series at Fishel Park: 7/12, 7/19, 7/26, 8/9, 8/16
• Downers Grove Farmers Market at the train station: 7/23, 8/27

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