



The Ford Connection

The Thomas Ford Memorial Library

FALL 2023

PHENOMENAL

Fall

Youth & Families
Eclipse Viewing Party
October 14

Teen & Tween
Art Contest
November 15-30

Adults
Paper & Ink
Writing Workshop
September 5-October 10

ADULT

Registration opens on **Wednesday, August 30** at **9:30 a.m.** for all Adult programs.

Registration is required for all programs unless otherwise noted. Register online, in person, or by calling (708) 246-0520.

Ⓡ Registration required

Goodreads 101 Presentation

Tuesday, September 5, 7 p.m.

Looking for a way to log and keep track of all the books you've read? Whether you have an account or are looking to create a free account, this presentation will show you the ins and outs of the free online program Goodreads.

The Voyage of Marquette and Joliet

Wednesday, September 13, 7 p.m.

350 years ago, Jacques Marquette and Louis Joliet set off on a four month voyage to traverse the path of the Mississippi River. Historian E. J. Neafsey will explore who these men were and describe their journey through the heart of North America.

Skywatching Using Your Eyes

Monday, September 25, 7 p.m.

So much observation of our daytime and nighttime skies can be done without a telescope. This presentation will focus on an overview of celestial observations you can do with just your eyes, including moon phases, eclipses, planets, stars, and much more in this session suited for an astronomy novice.

Paranormal Illinois: Tales of Ghosts, UFOs, and Mysterious Creatures

Wednesday, October 25, 7 p.m.

Author and researcher Chad Lewis takes you on a ghostly journey to some of the most bizarre places in Illinois. From a bloody cemetery in Rockford to a haunted hotel in Chicago, from phantom creatures prowling the woods to UFOs hovering in the sky, no place in Illinois is without its own haunting! Complete with photos, case history, eyewitness accounts, ghost lore, and directions, this unique presentation encourages you to visit these places for your own ghost story.

Easy as Pie

Wednesday, November 8, 7 p.m.

Learn the techniques for making a delicious pie crust and the many ways it can be used. Chef Cherise Slattery will cover mixing methods, rolling, shaping, blind baking, filling, and decorating your pie. In addition to traditional pie, Chef Slattery will explain how to use your pie crust to make quiche, crostata, and hand pies. Recipes and hand pies will be shared.

JFK Assassination Conspiracy

Thursday, November 16, 7 p.m.

Join historian Tim Wilsey as he takes us back inside the most discussed conspiracy theory in history: The Kennedy Assassination. Tim will revisit the potential individuals, countries, and organizations who had motive to kill the President and how they are connected. He will bring us inside what some of the individuals closest to the case have thought on what really happened and discuss whose deathbed confession may shed light on who really was involved in the assassination and who was aware of the plan.

Eclipse Viewing Party!

Saturday, October 14 | 10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. | Families Welcome

Experience the annular eclipse with us at McClure Junior High! Visit our tent on McClure's field to pick up free eclipse viewing glasses, find out how you can safely view the eclipse, and learn how to make a pinhole viewer. Eclipse glasses are first come, first served. While supplies last.

Free Eclipse Glasses

Starts September 25

Pick up a free pair of eclipse glasses to safely view the upcoming eclipse! Glasses will be available at the Reference Desk on a first come, first served basis. One per person. While supplies last.

Paper & Ink Writing Workshop!

Tuesdays, September 5 – October 10 | 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

A six-week generative writing workshop where we will explore the five senses and practice bringing them into story. Whether you are a seasoned writer or just beginning, the goal of this workshop is to add excitement into your writing practice while experiencing a supportive community.

Classroom Kitchen

Virtual Programs with Kristyn Slick

Tailgating

Wednesday, September 13, 6:30 p.m.

The modern tailgate is rooted in college football and is said to have started in 1869. Learn how to make fun and unique tailgating foods to enjoy the game!

Oktoberfest

Tuesday, October 3, 6:30 p.m.

Pretzels, polka, and parades! It's Oktoberfest, the largest festival in the world, where Bavarian culture is celebrated in style. Learn how to prepare classic German cuisine and create your own Oktoberfest party!

Sweet & Savory Streusel

Tuesday, November 14, 6:30 p.m.

Sweet, crunchy, and buttery are the hallmarks of streusel toppings, but they can also have a savory side! In this program, you'll learn how to make different versions of these scrumptious finishing touches.

books

Library book club discussion groups are open to anyone who enjoys good books! Extra copies are available at the Library one month before the discussion.



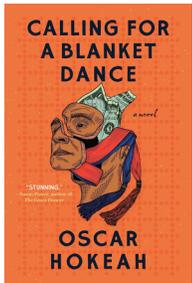
Wednesday, October 4
7:30–9 p.m.

The Reading List
by Sara Nisha Adams
Fiction



Wednesday, November 1
7:30–9 p.m.

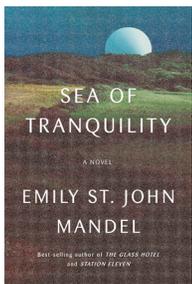
Counting Lost Stars
by Kim van Alkemade
Historical Fiction



Wednesday, December 6
7:30–9 p.m.

Calling for a Blanket Dance
by Oscar Hokeah
Fiction

Science Fiction & Fantasy Book Club



Monday, October 16
7:30–9 p.m.

Sea of Tranquility
by Emily St. John Mandel
Sci-Fi & Fantasy

where
people
and
ideas
connect

GROUPS & DISCUSSIONS

These ongoing Library groups are free for all to attend. No registration required.

Knitting Circle

Every other Thursday: September 7, 21; October 5, 19; November 2, 16, 30;
1 p.m.
Join us for knitting, conversation, and light refreshments.

Western Springs Writers' Society

Second & Fourth Thursdays: September 14, 28; October 12, 26; November 9;
7 p.m.
Discuss and hone your craft with other writers from the community! Whether this is your career or hobby, writers of all levels and genres are invited. Questions in advance? Please contact Jim Swinehart at jrswinehart10@gmail.com.

Investment Discussion Group

Second Tuesdays: September 12, October 10, November 14; 7:15 p.m.
Amateur investors meet to discuss trends in stocks, bonds, and more.

Spice of the Month Club

Interested in trying new recipes or experimenting with different spices? Stop by each month to pick up a Spice of the Month kit! Each kit will come with the necessary spice, a recipe to try, and cookbook recommendations that feature recipes with that month's theme. While supplies last.

September 26: Nutmeg | October 31: Cardamom | November 28: Curry Powder

films

A series of independent, foreign, and documentary films with optional discussion after each screening. Registration required.



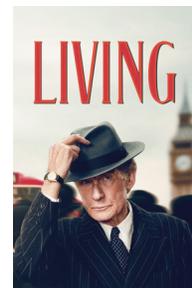
Thursday, September 14^R
6 p.m.

Return to Seoul (2022)
Dir. David Chou
Drama



Thursday, October 12^R
6 p.m.

Emily (2022)
Dir. Frances O'Connor
Biographical Drama



Thursday, November 9^R
6 p.m.

Living (2022)
Dir. Oliver Hermanus
Drama

CRAFTS!

For Adult Craft Programs: First preference will be given to Western Springs residents. If you are a Thomas Ford cardholder, please be sure to enter your library card number when registering. If you do not enter your card number, you will be put on a pending waitlist and are not guaranteed a spot in the program. View full program details online at fordlibrary.org.

Bookmark Craft^R
Monday, September 11, 7 p.m.

Adult Paint & Sip^R
Monday, October 9, 7 p.m.

Napkin Ring Craft^R
Monday, November 13, 7 p.m.



TEEN/TWEEN

Registration opens on **Wednesday, August 30 at 9:30 a.m.** for all Teen & Tween programs. *Registration is required for all programs unless otherwise noted. Teen programs are open to those in grades 5–12.*

Ⓜ Registration required

Teen Board

Third Thursdays: September 21, October 19, November 16; 7 p.m.
Teen Board can be a great way to earn volunteer hours! If you have ideas for how the Library can better serve teens and tweens, come join us! The Teen Board implements programming suggestions, recommends books, and gives input for ways to entice other teens to visit the Library. We do a fun craft or activity every meeting! Open to students in grades 5-12. Meet in the Teen/Tween Room.

Super Smash Bros. Tournament Part II Ⓜ

Wednesday, September 6, 3:30–5 p.m.
Test your Super Smash Bros. skills in our tournament, again! Snacks will be provided.

Fall Leaf Candle Ⓜ

Friday, September 15, 3:30–4:30 p.m.
Light up the autumn season with a cozy DIY candle!

Pinecone Bird Feeder Kit

Monday, September 18
Feed the birds with this fun homemade bird feeder! This kit includes peanut butter, so please use caution for those with allergies. Available in the Teen/Tween Room. While supplies last.

Need-to-Know Changes to the College Search with Heidi King Ⓜ

Thursday, September 21, 7p.m.
Join us for this virtual event to learn about admission trends, SAT changes, FAFSA updates, school selection, and where to find the best scholarships! If you are the parent or grandparent of a high school student in grades 9-11, this is essential info you will not want to miss.

Writers Workshop!

Second Thursdays, 4:30–5:30 p.m. Ⓜ

September 14 at La Grange, October 12 at Thomas Ford, November 9 at Brookfield

Love to write, but want audience feedback? Share your talent and comments with peers in this writing and critique style program. We meet once per month and rotate between the La Grange, Thomas Ford Memorial, Linda Sokol Francis Brookfield, and La Grange Park Libraries. Registration is encouraged, but drop-ins are welcome!

Art Contest! Drop Off: November 15–30 Ⓜ

Put your talents on display and compete for a prize! Drop off handmade artwork, sculptures, or crafts for an art display during the month of December. The winner will receive a gift card!

DIY Touchscreen Gloves Ⓜ

Wednesday, September 27, 3:30–4:30 p.m.
Fall is upon us, but with these gloves, you can keep your hands toasty while still being able to use your device!

Eclipse Viewer Ⓜ

Monday, October 2, 3:30–4:30 p.m.
Get ready for the upcoming eclipse on October 14 by making your own viewer!

Handmade Keychains Ⓜ

Wednesday, October 11, 3:30–4:30 p.m.
Update your swag with personalized keychains using Perler beads and Scrabble tiles!

Spooky Spider Soap Kit

Tuesday, October 17
Creep out your arachnophobe friends with spider-filled handmade soap! Pick up in the Teen/Tween Room. While supplies last.

Luigi's Mansion 3 Game Night Ⓜ

Monday, October 23, 3:30–5 p.m.
Team up for a spooky, ghost-hunting adventure! Snacks will be provided.

MarioKart Tournament Ⓜ

Tuesday, November 7, 3:30–5 p.m.
Show off your driving skills in our Mario Kart Tournament! Snacks will be provided.

Beaded Corn Craft Ⓜ

Friday, November 10, 3:30–4 p.m.
Create a festive decoration for your Thanksgiving celebration!

Iron Chef Kit

Monday, November 20
Test your culinary skills in our Iron Chef competition! Pick up your bag of mystery ingredients on November 20, then send us a picture of your creation via email to Lily@fordlibrary.org by November 27. Staff will vote and the winner will receive a gift card! Every ingredient must be used, but you can add any other ingredients you have on hand. Available at the Reference Desk. While supplies last.

Gang Beasts Game Night Ⓜ

Monday, November 27, 3:30–5 p.m.
Join us for a silly multiplayer gaming night of attempting to defeat fellow gelatinous foes. Snacks will be provided.





Special Fall Programming

The following virtual events are made possible by Illinois Libraries Present, a statewide collaboration between public libraries offering high-quality events. ILP is committed to inclusion and accessibility. To request accommodations, please email illinoislibrariespresent@gmail.com. View full program details at fordlibrary.org.



The Power of Story with Colson Whitehead [®]

Wednesday, September 6
7 p.m.

Two-time Pulitzer Prize winning author of *The Underground Railroad* and *The Nickel Boys*, Colson Whitehead, discusses his latest book, *Crook Manifesto*.



Chills & Thrills with Stephen Graham Jones [®]

Wednesday, October 4
7 p.m.

The New York Times bestselling author of *The Only Good Indians* and *Don't Fear the Reaper*, Stephen Graham Jones, talks all things horror.



Food, Family, and Folktales with Grace Lin [®]

Tuesday, October 17
7 p.m.

Award-winning children's author and illustrator Grace Lin shares the whimsical history of your favorite American Chinese dishes and shows you how to draw your own stories.



A Taste of Love with Maya-Camille Broussard [®]

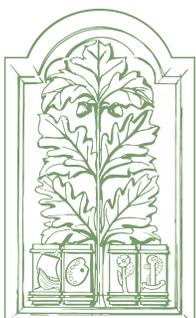
Wednesday, November 8
7 p.m.

Netflix's *Bake Squad* star and owner of Chicago-based bakery Justice of the Pies, Maya Camille Broussard, gives us a baking demo right from her own kitchen.

Friends of the Library's Fall Book Sale!

Saturday, November 4 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. & Sunday, November 5 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Mark your calendars! The Western Springs Library Friends' Annual Fall Book Sale is back this November at Thomas Ford. All proceeds go directly to support Thomas Ford Memorial Library, so be sure to stop by with the entire family to stock up on some great reads while giving back to your favorite neighborhood library!



Coming Soon to Mailboxes: The 2023 Annual Appeal

The Library Foundation's Annual Appeal is anticipated to reach Western Springs residents and businesses by mid-October. In collaboration with the Library staff and Board, the Foundation helps fund key improvements that keep Thomas Ford up-to-date and a pleasure to visit. Our most recent project was the new interior signage system installed in 2022 for a more seamless and accessible Library experience. Please consider donating by check or giving online at fordlibrary.org. Every donation truly helps the Foundation provide for our Library's future. Thank you for your consideration and support!

YOUTH

Registration is required for ALL programs unless otherwise noted.

Storytime Registration begins on Tuesday, September 5 at 9:30 a.m. for Lapsit, Toddler Time, and Preschool Pals only.

For all other programs, Youth Services Program Registration begins on Wednesday, September 6 at 9:30 a.m.

Register online at fordlibrary.org. Have your library card ready to register online, in person, or by calling (708) 246-0520. First preference will be given to Western Springs residents.

 Registration required

Baby & Toddler Playgroup

Birth-2

Mondays: September 11 & November 6 10-11 a.m.

Explore the power of play! Join us for playtime and stories that support the development of social and early literacy skills.

R.E.A.D. to a Therapaws Pet

Recommended Grades K-2

Mondays: September 11 or October 2 or November 6 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Beginning or independent readers can practice reading aloud to one of the dogs from Hinsdale Humane Society's Therapaws Program. Each child will have a 10-minute slot. We will advise you of your time slot via email prior to the session, which is allotted on a first come, first served basis. *Due to the popularity of this program, we request that you register your child on one day only.*

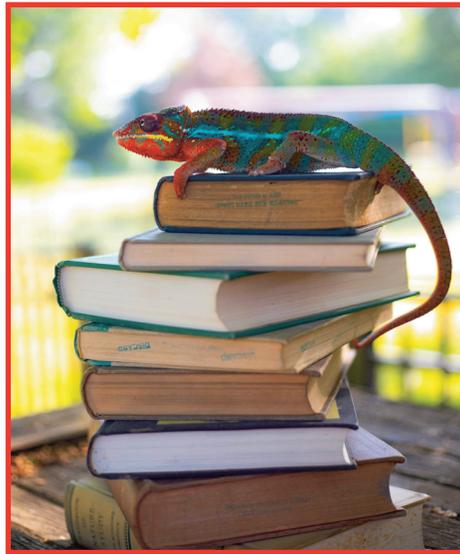
Rock Painting

Grades 2-4

Thursday, September 21

4:30-5 p.m.

Doesn't the Library rock?! Join us in painting river rocks to either take home or hide around the neighborhood to spread kindness and joy through art.



Bug & Reptile Show!

Wednesday, October 11 

4:30-5:30 p.m.

Families Welcome

Crosstown Exotics provides hands-on educational entertainment with a lineup of prehistoric creatures that consists of a mixture of reptiles, amphibians, and bugs. Join us for an interactive experience unlike anything you'd receive at your local zoo!

LEGO Family Night

Families Welcome

Thursdays: September 28, October 26 & November 30

6-7 p.m.

Families of LEGO enthusiasts are invited to join us each month to practice and learn LEGO building techniques. Creations will be on display in the Youth Services department for one month. LEGOs will be provided by the Library for this program.

Solar Eclipse Science

Grades 1-4 with parent/caregiver

Thursday, October 5

4:30-5:30 p.m.

Have you ever wondered what causes a solar eclipse? Come and learn the science behind it from earth and space scientist Jim Sweitzer! We will explore the scientific concepts with a hands-on activity and learn about safe viewing practices.

Read & Create: Stellaluna

Grades K-1

Thursday, October 19

4:30-5 p.m.

Reading gives you wings! Enjoy Janell Cannon's classic tale of friendship and acceptance and create a bat craft that is perfect for the spooky season.

LEGO Inventors

Grades K-4

Thursday, November 2

4:15-5 p.m.

Bring your ideas and imagination to the Library to create a model invention that we will put on display! LEGOs will be provided by the Library for this program.

Baby Handprint Art

6-24 months

Tuesday, November 21

10-11 a.m.

Lend your baby a hand in creating a special handprint art keepsake. Music, toys, and books will be available for playtime.



Wendy & DB Concert!

Wednesday, November 29 

4:30-5:15 p.m.

Families Welcome

Grammy-nominated, Chicago Kindie duo Wendy and DB are excited to share their love and passion for Blues music. Their latest album, ***Into the Little Blue House***, introduces the history and beauty of Blues music to children and families. Wendy and DB have collaborated with the Blues community in Chicago to produce an album the whole family can enjoy!



The Leaves are Changing

September 1–30

Can you spot the changing leaves all around the department? Pick up a leaf checklist at the Youth Services desk and hunt the department to discover what color they have turned that week. Match them all and receive a prize!



Winnie the Pooh's Costume Parade

October 1–31

Winnie the Pooh is getting ready for Halloween! He cannot decide which costume to wear, so he is trying on different ones each day around the department. Find where he is hiding, tell us what he is dressed up as, and receive a Halloween treat!



Rake in a Good Read

September 1–30

Leaves are falling and books are calling! Pick up an apple from the Youth Services desk to color, and we will hang it up on our apple tree bulletin board display.



DINO-venber Scavenger Hunt

November 1–30

T. Rex and his friends got their first library cards! They are looking for books all over the Youth Services department. Find the dinosaurs each week to earn a prize.



Fall Storytimes!

September 18–October 27

® Registration required

Registration is required for all storytimes and begins on **Tuesday, September 5 at 9:30 a.m.** online at fordlibrary.org. First preference will be given to Western Springs Residents.

Due to the popularity of our storytimes, we request that you register your child for one session only.

Lapsit Storytime ®

Birth–23 months w/ adult

Wednesdays or Thursdays or Fridays
10–10:30 a.m.

Help your baby grow up to love books! Share stories, songs, and rhymes with your little one in this lapsit program and introduce them to a lifetime of reading and language enjoyment.

Toddler Time ®

2–3.5 years w/ adult

Mondays: 10–10:30 a.m.
or Mondays: 11–11:30 a.m.
or Tuesdays: 10–10:30 a.m.

Introduce your toddler to early literacy and help build a foundation of reading. We pair short books with songs and rhymes to engage them. Toddlers love to wander and listen during our time together.

Preschool Pals ®

3.5–5 years

Mondays or Tuesdays
1–1:30 p.m.

Hear stories, sing songs, and have fun with your friends! Storytime will highlight early literacy skills that children need to learn before they can read independently. Children attend this storytime **without** their grown-ups so that they can practice independence.



Summer Library Challenge Sponsors

Thank you to the following sponsors for generously supporting the Library's 2023 Summer Library Challenge!

Casey's Market | Chicago Fire | Brookfield Zoo
Cook County Commissioner Sean M. Morrison
Chick-fil-A | Chipotle | Costco | Field Museum
Kane County Cougars | Learning Express Toys
Lost Mountain Adventure Golf | Mattix Music Studio
Oberweis | Spring Orthodontics | Theatre of Western Springs
Thomas Ford Library Foundation | Western Springs Library Friends

**Thomas Ford
Memorial Library**

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Western Springs, IL 60558
(708) 246-0520
fordlibrary.org

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Library Hours

Monday - Thursday
9:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Friday & Saturday
9:30 a.m - 5 p.m.
Sunday
1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Library Closings

The Library will be closed on Monday, September 4 for Labor Day, and Thursday, November 24 for Thanksgiving.

Board of Trustee Meeting Dates

The Board meets on the last Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.
Fall 2023 Dates: September 26, October 24, November 28

Ted Bodewes, Library Director

Library Board of Trustees

Margaret Fahrenbach, President: margaretfahrenbach@fordlibrary.org
Carol Foster, Treasurer: carolfoster@fordlibrary.org
Jean Carroll, Secretary: jeancarroll@fordlibrary.org
Stephen Baker: stephenbaker@fordlibrary.org
Adam Fuelleman: adamfuelleman@fordlibrary.org
Ann Marie Kartsounes: annmariekartsounes@fordlibrary.org
Daniel Montgomery: danielmontgomery@fordlibrary.org

Evergreen Opportunities

Teen Volunteers Wanted!

If you're a teen and need volunteer hours, consider joining our Teen Board! We meet on the third Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. in the Teen/Tween Room. You can sign up to volunteer on our website or by sending an email to Lily@fordlibrary.org. We have lots of volunteer opportunities available, so reach out to learn more!

Support the Library!

The Thomas Ford Library Foundation is dedicated to making a great library even better through gifts from the community. A meaningful, tax-exempt donation supports special Library initiatives and helps build an endowment for the Library's future. To learn more about giving, email foundation@fordlibrary.org.

Everyday Resources

Access thousands of magazines and books at your fingertips through the Libby app or the Media on Demand website!

A friendly reminder that Thomas Ford Memorial Library offers so much more beyond books and community programming. From high-speed internet, computer, and printing access to meeting room reservations and more, we're here to be your convenient one-stop destination for all things learning, connecting, and growing. Ask us about our services to make sure you're taking advantage of every resource you need.

Learn a new skill with unlimited access to video classes taught by recognized design experts and artists on CreativeBug.com!