Explore the updated children’s area at the Miller Park Library.
Winter Reading Club Begins January 7

Readers of all ages are invited to join our Winter Reading Club and add some color to this often dreary time of year.

Pick up a coloring sheet at any UA Library beginning January 7, 2019. For each day you read, color one of the winter symbols on the sheet. Once you’ve completed the sheet, cut off the entry slip at the bottom and return it the library any time before February 18, 2019.

Returned slips will be entered into a grand prize drawing for five different age categories: Infants-PreK; grades K-2; grades 3-5; grades 6-12; and adult.

Winners will be notified by phone on February 18.

Miller Park Library Gets Update Thanks to Donations

The Miller Park Library recently received an update thanks to over $23,000 in private donations made in memory of Dr. Drew Ammons. Drew was a young father in the community who loved being with his family in the Miller Park Library children’s area and out in Miller Park. Before his death, he and his wife May Ling decided that any memorial donations should be geared toward improvement of those two places.

Thanks to these donations, Miller Park Library’s children’s area transformed into a magical woods inspired by the children’s picture book Journey by Aaron Becker. COSI designed and built the pieces with input from library staff, the State Library of Ohio and the Ammons family.

Be sure to visit the new area and see a beautiful wall mural, a bookcase in the shape of a rowboat, a play castle, fairy doors, and more.

Show Your Love During National Library Lovers’ Month

February is Library Lovers’ Month, when library fans across the country celebrate the ways libraries are vital to communities and discover new things to love about them. There are many reasons to love libraries, from free programs to computers to passport service to (naturally) books. This February we’ll share some of these reasons on our Twitter and Facebook feeds.

Library Lovers’ Month is also a great time to show your love for the library by making a monetary gift. We’ve used private donations to purchase furniture and equipment, create group work space, and give a whole new look to the Miller Park Library’s children’s area (see above).

You can help fund a future project by making a donation at https://give.ualibrary.org.
ADULTS

English Conversation Practice
Tues., December 4 & 11; January 15-May 14 at 10 a.m.
Meeting Room B; 90 min.
No registration

Join this group, led by native English speakers, to practice speaking English and to make some new friends. All language skill levels are welcome.

BYOC: Bring Your Own Crafts
Thurs., December 6 at 11 a.m.
Atrium; 60 min.
No registration

Bring your own project to work on while sharing book recommendations with fellow crafters.

American Red Cross Blood Drive
Fri., December 14 from 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
Wed., January 2 from 1-7 p.m.
Sat., February 9 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Friends Theater and Meeting Room B
No registration

Walk-ins welcome or make an appointment at www.redcrossblood.org with sponsor code “UAPL”.

Art History: The Northern Renaissance

Columbus College of Art and Design instructor Ann Shifflet presents a look at the art and artists of the Northern Renaissance.

Jan van Eyck
Fri., December 7 at 12:30 p.m.
Friends Theater; 60 min.
No registration

Jan van Eyck is considered one of the most talented and influential artists in Northern Europe during the Renaissance of the 15th century. We’ll look at van Eyck’s exquisitely detailed paintings, including religious scenes and portraits. We’ll also discuss how his work, including his use of the oil medium, influenced later artists.

Albrecht Durer
Fri., January 11 at 12:30 p.m.
Friends Theater; 60 min.
No registration

Albrecht Durer was a true Renaissance man. Born in what is now Germany, Durer was a well-traveled painter, printmaker and author in the 15th and 16th centuries. We’ll discuss the wide variety of Durer’s work, his interest in Classical motifs, and his impact on other artists.

Pieter Brueghel
Fri., February 8 at 12:30 p.m.
Friends Theater; 60 min.
No registration

Pieter Brueghel the Elder was a Netherlandish painter who only lived to his early 40s, but whose body of work (including paintings and prints) is impressive. In this session, we’ll examine Brueghel’s charming and dramatic images of peasants and landscape, discuss how he integrated religious elements into his works in the 16th century.
Preview of Adriana Lecouvreur
Thurs., January 3 at 7 p.m.
Friends Theater; 60 min.
No registration

The Metropolitan Opera has beamed selected matinee performances live into movie theaters nationwide since 2006. Classical 101 host and producer Christopher Purdy will preview Francesco Cilea’s Adriana Lecouvreur, which will be broadcast live in the comfort of a local cinema on January 12.

Passport Fair
Saturday, January 5; 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Atrium
All ages
No registration

Need a passport for your upcoming spring and summer travels? Come to our passport fair where we’ll have multiple staff members ready to process your passport and/or take passport photo. No appointment needed for this event!

Organize Your Life with the KonMari™ Method
Wed., January 9 at 7 p.m. — Part 1
Wed., January 16 at 7 p.m. — Part 2
Friends Theater; 90 min.
Registration now open

The KonMari Method™ is a life-changing process of exploring your life through your stuff. You begin by visualizing your ideal lifestyle, then examine your belongings one-by-one. You choose what to keep and what to discard based on what sparks joy, and finally organize and create new habits. Presenter Michell Domke is the only consultant currently certified in the KonMari Method™ in Ohio.

In part 1, you’ll examine your current state, visualize your ideal lifestyle, and explore what ‘sparks joy’ for you.

LIVE AT THE LIBRARY

Enjoy music from talented local artists at our popular concert series.

MISS MOLLY WINTERS
Thurs., December 13 at 7 p.m.
Friends Theater; 60 min.
No registration

“Miss Molly Winters” is a singer-songwriter from Columbus and a lead member of the Salty Caramels band. She plays old time music as well as new music that is different in a good way. Her Americana style of music and her songwriting are influenced by the likes of Bob Dylan, Ella Fitzgerald and Janis Joplin.

TOPHER JAMES AND BISCUIT BRIGADE WITH STRINGS ATTACHED
Thurs., January 10 at 7 p.m.
Friends Theater; 60 min.
No registration

This band mixes vintage-inspired soul originals with modern R&B. Commissioning writers and arrangers from all around Columbus, Topher James re-mixes his tunes with a backing band of violin, cello, viola, and upright bass. The group brings a new twist to soul sure to please both classical and modern music fans.

FOOL’S FIRE
Thurs., February 14 at 7 p.m.
Friends Theater; 60 min.
No registration

Fool’s Fire is an alternative rock band from Columbus. Since their debut release in May 2015, Fool’s Fire has opened for several national artists such as The Wombats and Little Green Cars. Playing at the library is a sort of homecoming for the band, as four of the members are graduates of Upper Arlington High School and one of them is an alumnus of the UA Library.
**TECH FOR SENIORS**

Older adults may avoid new technology and devices as it often feels unfamiliar and intimidating. But innovative apps and tools for seniors can help them continue living independently in their homes in safety and comfort. Join Emerging Technologies Librarian Katy Hite to discover useful apps and find out that you, too, can learn them.

**Tech for Health & Wellness**

**Wed., January 9 at 1 p.m.**  
Friends Theater; 60 min.  
No registration

Learn about smartphone apps, devices and online services to improve your health and promote wellness.

**Tech for Safety**

**Wed., January 16 at 1 p.m.**  
Friends Theater; 60 min.  
No registration

Learn about how to stay safe with an overview of devices like video doorbells, wellness checks, and wearable technology.

**Tech at Home**

**Wed., January 23 at 1 p.m.**  
Friends Theater; 60 min.  
No registration

Smart Home devices, home delivery services and more in-home technology will be discussed at this program.

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**Storyville: An Evening of Live Storytelling**

**Thurs., January 17 at 7 p.m.**  
Thurs., February 21 at 7 p.m.  
Friends Theater; 60 min.  
No registration

Join us for live storytelling where you are sure to be charmed, entertained, inspired and connected. In addition to listening to our seasoned storytellers, there will be opportunities for you to try storytelling in a supportive, enthusiastic environment. Please note that this program may be best suited for adults and teens ages 15+.

**Book Circle: Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine**

**Wed., January 16 at 1:30 p.m.**  
Meeting Room B; 90 min.  
No registration

An informal discussion of *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine* by Gail Honeyman.

**Building Civil Discourse Skills**

**Tue., January 22 at 7 p.m.**  
Sat., February 23 at 10:30 a.m.  
Meeting Room B; 90 min.  
Registration now open

Polls show that Americans believe the lack of civility poses a threat to the very democracy of our nation. Join a facilitator from the National Institute for Civil Discourse (NICD) and Revive Civility Ohio to learn what civility and civil discourse are, and what they are not. Gain skills to help create respectful and civil dialogues and explore how communication and connection can be used as positive tools in everyday life. The same topic will be discussed at both sessions.
Teen Tech Help
Sat., January 26 at 10:30 a.m.
Meeting Room B; 60 min.
No registration
Join teen volunteers from the Upper Arlington High School Computer Science Club as they answer your questions about smartphones, iPads, tablets, laptops and more. Teens will give tech help and a librarian will be available for library-specific questions. Please bring your own device and any necessary login and password information with you.

Parenting Against the Crowd
Tues., January 29 at 10:30 a.m.
Friends Theater; 60 min.
No registration
We frequently warn our children about the dangers of peer pressure. We’re comfortable coaching our kids in ways that they can resist social influences to engage in risky behavior. But how much are our parenting decisions influenced by other parents? How can parents unite to set healthy boundaries and change those norms that make us uncomfortable or fearful? This conversation will be led by Syntero clinicians. The program is presented in partnership with The Stand Project and Start Talking Grandview.

Cut the Cord
Wed., January 30 at 7 p.m.
Friends Theater; 60 min.
Registration opens January 16
It sounds simple: cancel your cable and watch TV and movies over the Internet. But which service should you sign up for? Do you get it on your TV? We’ll talk about streaming services and devices, and what you need to successfully cut the cord.

hUmAn Connections:
A Community Conversation
Sat., February 2 at 10:30 a.m.
Friends Theater; 60 min.
No registration
Based on the popular “hUmAn connection” Facebook series, Equal UA and the Library invite you to come and walk in someone else’s shoes. This moderated panel discussion will spotlight the challenges, victories, stories and personal journeys of UA residents from all walks of life. Join us for an interactive conversation with the goal of promoting an inclusive climate within our community. See page 8 for information about the simultaneous social justice storytime.

Money and Freedom: Create the Life You Want to Live
Sat., February 16 from 1-4 p.m.
Friends Theater; 60 min.
Registration open now
Mihaela Jekic and her husband Mark began making simple lifestyle changes to support their long-term financial goals. They’re now on track to be financially independent by the time their youngest child starts kindergarten. Join Mihaela for an interactive workshop to learn about the techniques she used to define her life goals. She’ll lead you through strategies to help you create your own plan.

Talking Oscars® with MaddWolf
Sun., February 17 at 2 p.m.
Friends Theater; 60 min.
No registration
Hope Madden and George Wolf, film critics for MaddWolf.com and Columbus Underground, will give their predictions for awards season. You’ll also have a chance to vote for your choice for this year’s winners! Ballots will be available at the program or you can pick one up at the Media Services desk from Feb. 18-24. Five people will win $25 AMC Theaters gift cards.

Book Circle: Hillbilly Elegy
Wed., February 20 at 1:30 p.m.
Meeting Room B; 90 min.
No registration
Join us for an informal discussion of Hillbilly Elegy by J.D. Vance.

Streaming Devices
Wed., February 27 at 7 p.m.
Friends Theater; 60 min.
Registration opens February 13
Learn about popular streaming devices like Roku, Apple TV, Amazon Fire Stick and others to help you figure out which device is right for your streaming needs.
CINEMA OF SOUTH AMERICA

Film scholar Steve Hunt presents four films from South America.

Embrace of the Serpent (Colombia)
Sun., January 13 at 2 p.m.
Friends Theater; approx 2½ hrs.
No registration

The ravages of colonialism cast a dark shadow over the South American landscape in Embrace of the Serpent. Inspired by the real-life journals of two explorers in search of a sacred plant, the film centers on an Amazonian shaman and the last survivor of his people, and the two scientists who build a deep friendship with him. (2015, NR, 125 min.)

Bad Hair (Venezuela)
Sun., February 10 at 2 p.m.
Friends Theater; approx 2 hrs.
No registration

A Venezuelan boy’s desire to straighten his curly hair leads to friction with his hard-working single mother, eliciting a tidal wave of homophobic panic in her. The film has been praised by critics for its performances and for dealing with topics ranging from adolescence and parent-child tensions to gender identity and sexuality. (2013, NR, 93 min.)

North, You’ll Go Far (Peru)
Sun., January 27 at 2 p.m.
Friends Theater; approx 2 hrs.
No registration

Three Peruvian children are taken off the streets of Lima and sent to their rural village for the first time. The story is told partly through their eyes, partly through their parents’ memories of their own childhood. (2016, NR, 115 min.)

Aquarius (Brazil)
Sun., February 24 at 2 p.m.
Friends Theater; approx. 3 hrs.
No registration

Clara, a 65-year-old widow and retired music critic, is the last resident of Aquarius building. She refuses to sell her apartment to a construction company and vows to live there until she dies. The movie was selected to compete for the Palme d’Or at the 2016 Cannes Film Festival. (2016, NR, 146 min.)

YOUTH

Library Scavenger Hunt
December 1-31
Youth Department
All ages
No registration

Drop in any day in December for a self-guided scavenger hunt! Learn about all the things the library has to offer and get a small prize once you’ve finished.

Holiday Happiness
Sat., December 1 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
All ages
No registration

Bring the family for a day of music, crafts, and festive displays as we celebrate our annual Holiday Happiness event. Santa and Mrs. Claus will visit from 12-2 p.m.

Jingle Bell Storytime
Tues., December 4 at 10:15 a.m.,
11:15 a.m. and 7 p.m.
Youth Department; 30 min.
Preschoolers
No registration

Dash through the snow to this fun Pre-K winter music-and-movement storytime.

Make It and Take It Tuesdays
Tuesdays from 10:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m.
Youth Department
Kids

Drop in each Tuesday and tap into your artistic expression. The emphasis in this program is on the process, not results.

Hour of Code
Wed., December 5 from 3:30-5:30 p.m.
Theater, Meeting Room B & Atrium; 2 hrs.
All ages
No registration

Join volunteers from Upper Arlington High School’s Computer Science Club in the Hour of Code during Computer Science Education Week. Bring your own device or use one of ours, and we’ll get you started with learning modules that are designed to be fun and engaging. We kick off at 3:30 in the Friends Theater for a short presentation about coding. Be sure to check out our Spheros and other hands-on activities. Hour of Code is designed for grades K-12 but is open to all.
A Visit from the Space Painter  
Sat., December 8 at 10:30 a.m.  
Atrium; 60 min.  
All ages  
No registration  
Enjoy a humorous juggling show starring Tom Sparough, otherwise known as the Space Painter. There will be balls, plates, and even a bowling ball (plus lots of laughs) flying through the air.

Family Movie and Popcorn  
Sat., December 8 at 2 p.m.  
Sat., January 19 at 2 p.m.  
Sat., February 16 at 2 p.m.  
Friends Theater; approx. 2 hrs.  
All ages  
Free tickets available 20 min. prior  
Enjoy some of the newest G or PG movies for younger audiences released to DVD. We’ll provide the popcorn and candy, and you may bring your own drink with a lid. Children ages 9 and younger need to be accompanied by an adult. Title will be available two weeks prior. Free tickets are required and will be available in the Youth Department 20 minutes before movie starts.

Language Learning Storytime  
Fri., December 14 at 2 p.m.  
Youth Department; 45 min.  
Ages 4+  
No registration  
We’ll focus on English vocabulary and American culture. This storytime is created with non-native English speakers in mind, but all are welcome.

STEAM Storytime  
Sat., December 15 at 10:30 a.m.  
Sat., January 12 at 10:30 a.m.  
Sat., February 9 at 10:30 a.m.  
Youth Department; 45 min.  
Ages 4-7  
No registration  
Explore STEAM ideas (science, technology, engineering, art and math) with stories, crafts and activities.

After School Activities & Crafts  
Thursdays at 3 p.m.  
Youth Department; 60 min.  
Grades K-5  
No registration  
Join us on Thursdays for afternoon fun. We’ll have crafts, activities and more. No program on December 27 or January 3.

Countdown to Noon  
Mon., December 31 at 11:15 a.m.  
Youth Department; 45 min.  
Preschoolers  
No registration  
For those too young to make it to midnight, it’s a preschool party to celebrate the old year and welcome the new one at a more manageable time! We’ll have craft stations and count down to noon.
Teacher Appreciation Cards
January 5-12
Youth Department
All ages
No registration
Children can learn how to address a letter and practice writing skills. For letters that need to go to an Upper Arlington school, you can drop the letter in our “mailbox” and we’ll deliver it.

Winter Reading Club
January 7-February 17
All ages
Register in person at any UA Library
Readers of all ages are invited to join our Winter Reading Club by reading and coloring. Pick up a coloring sheet at any UA Library beginning January 7. For every day you read, color one of the winter symbols on the sheet. Turn in your completed sheet for a chance in the grand prize drawing for your age category.

Power of the Pencil
Sun., January 13 at 2 p.m.: grades 2-3
Sun., January 27 at 2 p.m.: grades 4-5
Youth Department; 60 min.
Registration opens December 30
Have you ever wanted to write a story, but didn’t know quite how or where to begin? With a little brainstorming, strategy forming and guidance, you can become an author! Please bring a blank spiral notebook.

Ooh La La, It’s French Storytime!
Sat., January 19 at 10:15 a.m.: ages 2-3
Sat., January 19 at 11:15 a.m.: ages 4-7
Sat., February 16 at 10:15 a.m.: ages 2-3
Sat., February 16 at 11:15 a.m.: ages 4-7
Youth Department; 45 min.
No registration
Bonjour and welcome to this très special French language storytime! Our teacher Marie-Hélène is a native speaker and will read stories and sing songs in French. We’ll also do a related craft.

Family Math Night
Wed., January 23 at 6 p.m.
Atrium; 90 min.
Grades 1-5
Registration at the door
Mathnasium of Upper Arlington presents Family Math Night, an opportunity for students and parents to play math games together in a fun and stress-free atmosphere. When education and fun come together, kids become engaged and more excited about math. Enjoy a fun night together and win some great prizes, too.

Chatterbox with Columbus Speech and Hearing
Thurs., January 24 at 10:30 a.m.
Youth Department; 60 min.
Ages 2-5
No registration
Meet and chat with a speech-language pathologist from the Columbus Speech and Hearing Center for a casual Q&A about your child’s speech and language development, and how you can naturally support your child’s communication development at home during everyday routines and activities. A variety of helpful handouts will be available.

Social Justice Storytime
Sat., February 2 at 10:30 a.m.
Meeting Room B; 60 min.
Ages 4-7
No registration
Stories are powerful tools for raising kind, compassionate kids. They give us ways to explore topics like family, diversity, race, religion, and gender. Research shows that hearing stories about people different from ourselves increases empathy. Join Equal UA for stories and activities that open our minds and hearts. Storytime is geared toward preschool and early elementary-aged kids, but all are welcome.

Drop-In Valentine Craft
Thurs., February 14; 10:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m.
Youth Department
All ages
No registration
Stop by anytime today and make a valentine for someone special.

Stuffed Animal Sleepover
Thurs., February 21 at 6:30 p.m.
Youth Department; 30 min.
Preschoolers
No registration
Have you ever wondered what goes on in the library after everyone leaves at night? Your stuffed friend has the chance to find out, plus have some fun adventures of their own! We’ll read a bedtime story, kiss them good night, and wish them sweet adventures! Don’t forget to pick up your friend the next day, and be on the lookout for pictures of their big night! We recommend you bring your second or third favorite stuffed animal.

Pokémon Party
Mon., February 25 at 3:30 p.m.
Youth Department; 60 min.
Grades K-5
No registration
Join for us for a party of all things Pokémon. We’ll have crafts, games, and space for you to catch Pokémon. If you have cards, bring them and play with your friends.
THE WRITE STUFF
Saturday, January 12
All writers are welcome to attend our fourth Writers’ Conference & Expo.

Keynote: Scott Woods
10:30 a.m.
Friends Theater; 25 min.

Scott Woods is the author and editor of more than 10 volumes of poetry and prose, and is the producer of numerous spoken-word and music CDs. He first discovered slam poetry in 1998, and by 2002 he was on the Executive Council of Poetry Slam, Inc. (PSI), a nonprofit organization that oversees the National Poetry Slam — North America’s largest spoken-word event.

Ask the Authors
11 a.m.
Friends Theater; 55 min.

David Weaver moderates a panel of published authors to gain insights into their writing processes and experiences. Panelists include: Erin McCahan, Natalie D. Richards, and Kerry Winfrey.

Erin McCahan is the author of three young adult novels. Her second, Love And Other Foreign Words, was named one of Booklist’s Top Ten Romance Fiction for Youth, 2014. Her most recent novel, The Lake Effect, was a 2018 finalist for both the Ohioana Book Awards and the Cybils Awards.

Natalie D. Richards is an author for young adults and a champion of aspiring authors. She is a frequent speaker at schools, libraries, and writing groups.

Kerry Winfrey writes romantic comedies for adults and teens. She is the author of Love and Other Alien Experiences and Things Jolie Needs to Do Before She Bites It.

The Building Blocks of Writing: Fiction and Nonfiction
11 a.m.
Meeting Room B; 2 hrs.

Writer, speaker, teacher and editor Susanne Jaffe presents this interactive workshop that discusses the essential components of writing fiction and nonfiction. During the first hour, the session will focus on the key elements of fiction: plot, dialogue, character, point of view, and more. In the second half, we’ll look at the key elements of writing nonfiction and how to utilize fiction-writing techniques when you are writing a work that must be entirely based in facts. You’ll leave with writing exercises to improve these skills.

Introduction to Screenwriting
11 a.m.
Meeting Room A; 2 hrs.

This workshop will give you an understanding of the world of screenwriting, including the creative process, writing methods and fundamentals of the business. Participants will learn how to take an original premise for a movie and develop it into a screenplay. OSU Film Studies Lecturer Andy Rose will teach the importance of three-act dramatic structure, proper script formatting, as well as ways to create intriguing characters, meaningful subplots, and realistic dialogue.

Working with a Writing-Critique Partner
12 p.m.
Friends Theater; 60 min.

Young adult fiction writers Jody Casella and Natalie D. Richards talk about the benefits of having a writing-critique partner. These partners can be an essential resource to help you brainstorm ideas, make critical revisions, and keep you psychologically motivated to push through challenges.

Jody Casella is an author and a former high school English teacher. Her novel for young adults, Thin Space, received a starred review from Kirkus.

Lunch Break and Expo
1 p.m.
Atrium; 60 min.

During the one-hour lunch break, participants are invited to pack a lunch or order one in advance (instructions will be sent by email to those who register), and talk to the various book-sellers, writer’s groups, and publishing organizations.
TEENS

Hour of Code
Wed., December 5 from 3:30-5:30 p.m.
Friends Theater, Meeting Room B & Atrium; 2 hrs.
All ages
No registration

Bring your own device or use one of ours, and we'll get you started. We kick off at 3:30 p.m. in the Friends Theater for a short presentation about coding. Check out our Spheros and other hands-on activities. Hour of Code is designed for grades K-12 but is open to all.

Study Break
Tues., December 11 at 3:30 p.m.
Tues., December 18 at 3:30 p.m.
Meeting Room B; 2 hrs.
High school and college students
No registration

Fight test time terror by trying our “Relaxation Station.” If you’re a high school or college student, stop by for free coffee, snacks, and space to relax, unwind with a craft, and decompress.

UA High School Book Club
Mon., December 10 at 3:15 p.m.
UA High School; 30 min.
Grades 6-12
No registration

UAHS and the Library are partnering to offer an afternoon of lively discussion surrounding classics and contemporary literature. Stop by the UAHS Learning Center to pick up a copy of this month’s title or topic.

Teen Service Club
Sun., January 20 at 2 p.m.
Sun., February 17 at 2 p.m.
Meeting Room B; 60 min.
Grades 6-12
No registration

Need service hours for school and/or want to give back to the community? Join our Teen Service Club! We meet once a month to work on projects that help the community. Grades 6-12 are welcome and will receive service credit.

Superhero Minute to Win It
Wed., February 6 at 6 p.m.
Meeting Room B; 60 min.
Grades 6-12
No registration

Think you’ve got what it takes to be the next superhero? Try our fun superhero-inspired challenges that will put your superpowers to the test.

Writing Your Personal Essay
2 p.m.
Friends Theater; 60 min.
Bring your stories, experiences and observations to life in this fun and encouraging class. We'll learn techniques for generating ideas, organizing your thoughts and adding interest and humor to your story.

Andra Gillum is the author of the children's books Doggy Drama, Puppy Drama, Old Doggy Drama, and the in-progress Kitty Drama. She writes a blog and newspaper columns and essays using observational humor.

Creating Fictional Characters
2 p.m.
Meeting Room B; 2 hrs.

Author Trudy Brandenburg leads an interactive workshop to discuss the elements that create good characters, and will share tools to help you develop your own cast of great characters.

Trudy Brandenburg has been published in various Columbus publications and professional magazines. She is the author of three cozy mystery novels in The Emma Haines Kayak Mystery Series, and is currently working on the fourth book.

Your Book’s Marketing Plan
3 p.m.
Friends Theater; 60 min.

Laurie Avery will talk about pinpointing your target audience and how to reach them, compiling contact lists, procuring quotes, submitting for reviews, and how to go beyond routine publicity.

Laurie Avery has been the Marketing Manager for The Ohio State University Press, publisher of scholarly and trade titles, for the past 18 years. Previously she worked for a K-12 educational publisher.

Registration is free and opens on December 1. Register and see complete descriptions and presenter bios at https://write-stuff.eventbrite.com.

Book Prep Pitch
11 a.m.-1 p.m.; 2-4 p.m.
Meeting Room C; 30 min. sessions

For this one-on-one session, you will need a one-page pitch letter and the completed first chapter of your book. Editor Faith Van Horne will give you feedback both on your pitch, and comments on the first section of the chapter you submitted. This is a great way to get insight into how an editor sees your pitch. You’ll discover what might make an editor tip toward asking for a full manuscript or sending a polite rejection. You can also get feedback to help you move ahead in your story.

Faith Van Horne started in the publishing industry as a writer and then worked as a content editor for a New York Times bestselling e-publisher. She’s now a freelance editor.
LANE ROAD LIBRARY PROGRAMS

ADULTS

Tech Assist
Sat., December 1 at 11 a.m.
Sat., December 29 at 11 a.m.
Sat., January 26 at 11 a.m.
Sat., February 23 at 11 a.m.
60 min.
Registration now open

Want to learn how to borrow eBooks or access other eResources? Having trouble with your eReader, smartphone or tablet? Sign up for our tech help program and a library staff member will guide you to a solution.

Board Game Café
Sun., December 2 at 1:30 p.m.
Sun., December 30 at 1:30 p.m.
Sun., January 27 at 1:30 p.m.
Sun., February 24 at 1:30 p.m.
3 hrs.
No registration

Get a CLUE and come to the Board Game Café. Take your TICKET TO RIDE and journey to CATAN. You’ll be SORRY! if you miss it! Coffee and tea will be available while you play classic board games and discover new ones. Open to all ages.

Let’s Speak English
Wednesdays at 1 p.m.; December 5-12 and February 20-May 22
90 min.
Registration for February session opens January 30

This weekly class is a great opportunity for adults to practice English with ESOL trained volunteers.

The Free-Form No-Homework Book Club
Wed., December 5 at 7 p.m.
Wed., January 2 at 7 p.m.
Wed., February 6 at 7 p.m.
60 min.
No registration
No assignments, no deconstruction. Just a group of book lovers discussing their latest reads and discovering their next ones, trading tips for using Goodreads and Novelist, and exploring new genres.

**Cut the Cord**
Thurs., December 6 at 7 p.m.
60 min.
*Registration now open*

We’ll talk about streaming services and devices, and what you need to successfully cut the cord.

**Repurposed Book Crafts**
Wed., December 12 at 3:30 p.m.
Wed., January 16 at 3:30 p.m.
Wed., February 13 at 3:30 p.m.
2 hrs.
*No registration*

Recycle our broken books by creating awesome crafts. Craft ideas and supplies provided. For all ages.

**Book Circle: Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine**
Tue., January 15 at 7 p.m.

90 min.
*No registration*

Join us for an informal discussion of *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine* by Gail Honeyman.

**Book Circle: Hillbilly Elegy**
Tue., February 19 at 7 p.m.
90 min.
*No registration*

An informal discussion of *Hillbilly Elegy* by J.D. Vance.

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**YOUTH**

**Holiday Craft Palooza**
Thurs., December 13; 10:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m.
*Kids
No registration*

Drop by any time today to make some fun holiday crafts. For kids of all ages.

**Reading to Rover**
Mon., December 17 at 7 p.m.
Mon., January 28 at 7 p.m.
Mon., February 25 at 7 p.m.
60 min.
*Grades K-5
No registration*

Meet furry friends from Therapy Dogs International and improve your reading skills by sharing stories with them.

**Elf Party**
Wed., December 19 at 3:30 p.m.
*All ages; 2½ hrs.
Registration opens December 5*

We’ll have cocoa, snowflake making, elf crafts, and a screening of the movie *Elf.* Activities begin at 3:30 p.m. and the movie will begin screening at 4:00 p.m. Open to elves of all ages!

**The First Day of Winter Storytime and Craft**
Thurs., January 10 at 4 p.m.
60 min.
*All ages
No registration*

The *First Day of Winter* by Denise Fleming will be the featured book at our StoryWalk at Fancyburg Park during the winter months. Due to the cold weather, a special storytime to celebrate the book will be held at the Lane Road Library rather than Fancyburg Park. We’ll share the story, do a winter activity, and you can learn all about our StoryWalk project!

**Winter Reading Club**
January 7-February 17
*All ages*

Register in person at any UA Library

Readers of all ages are invited to join our Winter Reading Club by reading and coloring. Pick up a coloring sheet at any UA Library beginning January 7. For every day you read, color one of the winter symbols on the sheet. Turn in your completed sheet for a chance in the grand prize drawing for your age category.

**Penguin Party**
Thurs., January 24 at 4 p.m.
90 min.
*All ages
No registration*

Come to a penguin celebration! We’ll have crafts, games, and other activities.

**Pom Pom Creatures Craft**
Thurs., February 7 at 4 p.m.
60 min.
*All ages
No registration*

Stop by to make a creature out of pom poms.

**Geronimo Stilton Book Party**
Thurs., February 28 at 4 p.m.
90 min.
*Grades K and up
No registration*

Enjoy crafts and games related to this famous mouse detective/journalist.
ADULT

Winter Word Play
January 7-February 17
No registration

Try our puzzles and win weekly prizes! No registration or electronic devices required. Stop by our front desk to pick up the weekly puzzle.

Book Chats
Tues., December 4 at 11 a.m.
Tues., February 5 at 11 a.m.
60 min.
Adults
No registration

Don’t miss this opportunity to join an informal group of book lovers to exchange titles and share reading recommendations.

TEENS

Teen Service Club
Wed., February 27 at 2 p.m.
60 min.
Grades 6-12
Registration opens February 13

It’s early dismissal for Upper Arlington schools today. Come to the Miller Park Library to help with volunteer projects and earn an hour of service credit. Registration is required and we’ll have snacks available.

Library Seeks Adult and High School Volunteers to Help ESOL Patrons

Enjoy the satisfaction of helping non-native speakers improve their English skills through one-on-one conversation sessions by being an ESOL conversation partner at the Miller Park Library.

Share your knowledge and experiences while learning about other countries and cultures. This is a one hour per week commitment. Apply online at http://makeadifference.ualibrary.org.

We asked one of our conversation volunteers to talk about her experience with the program. Sarah Renner is a senior at Upper Arlington High School and works with ESOL kids.

Q. Why did you decide to help the community in this way?
A. I’ve always wanted to be the kind of person who makes my community better. I was very interested in improving the resources for ESOL kids and after talking to Alina Butler at the Miller Park Library, I realized there was a need for young students to get help with English.

Q. What about the experience is rewarding to you, and beneficial to the young students?
A. Through my experience volunteering in this way, I can attest that it is beneficial to the students. I’ve seen how after being in the United States for longer, and having this one-on-one experience of practicing English in a safe space, every single young student that I’ve worked with has become more confident with speaking and listening to English.

Being able to see the students make such incredible progress and be able to make more connections with those around them, using English, is so rewarding for me. I also have gotten to make such amazing connections with the students and their families after meeting consistently with them over a prolonged time. I’ve even kept in touch with several of the families of the kids I’ve worked with.

Q. Do you have an interesting story about one of the kids you’ve helped?
A. One of my favorite stories involves a third grader from China named Fayer. When I first met with Fayer, she was very shy and I had trouble communicating with her. After thinking about our meeting, I decided to try something new. The next time we met I started drawing pictures and asking her about them. She drew pictures in response and I discovered she was a talented artist!

I started labeling the pictures with words and talking about what I was drawing, and soon we started to have real conversations. I got to see Fayer really come out of her shell and I am thrilled to have gotten to know her.
**YOUTH**

**Spot the Difference Puzzle**
December 1-31
All ages
No registration
Test your observational skills! Stop by Miller Park Library and use your eagle eye to spot the difference in our picture puzzle. Small prizes available while supplies last.

**Home for the Holidays**
Thurs., December 6 at 4 p.m.
2 hrs.
Families
No registration
Bring your family to the Miller Park Library to celebrate the holiday season. We’ll have cookies and drinks, a craft for the children and more. You can also write a letter to Santa Claus, who will visit from 4-6 p.m. (Note the extended time for Santa this year!)

**Reading to Rover**
Tues., December 11 at 7 p.m.
Tues., January 8 at 7 p.m.
Tues., February 12 at 7 p.m.
60 min.
Grades K-5
No registration
Meet furry friends from Therapy Dogs International and improve your reading skills by sharing stories with them.

**Winter Reading Club**
January 7-February 17
All ages
Register in person at any UA Library
Readers of all ages are invited to join our Winter Reading Club by reading and coloring. Pick up a coloring sheet at any UA Library beginning January 7. For every day you read, color one of the winter symbols on the sheet. Turn in your completed sheet for a chance in the grand prize drawing for your age category.

**Play and Learn**
Fri., December 14 at 10 a.m.
Fri., January 18 at 10 a.m.
Fri., February 15 at 10 a.m.
2 hrs.
Ages 2-5
No registration
Drop in for a morning of fun! Enjoy play-based learning activities that vary each month, from games and play dough to cars, blocks, and more.

**Mo Willems Party**
Wed., January 16 at 2:30 p.m.
2 hrs.
Kids
No registration
Stop by for crafts and games based on characters from Mo Willems’ popular books.

**Family Forts After Hours**
Sat., February 2 at 6 p.m.
90 mins.
Families
Registration opens January 19
Join us after the library has closed to build a fort with your family. Please bring your own building materials of blankets, sheets, pillows, etc. We’ll provide flashlights, a snack, and plenty of books for family fort reading!

**Heart-Shaped Animals**
February 17-23
Kids
No registration
Stop in anytime this week to make animals out of construction paper hearts of different sizes and colors and then write about your animals!
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