



Mount Laurel
Library

Newsletter and Program Guide

Vol. 33, Issue 1 January 2024



Mindful Meditation

Wednesday, January 3, 17 10AM

Join an experienced meditation instructor and relax your mind and body. This program will be conducted on Zoom. Registration required. You will receive a link to the meeting a day prior to the event.

Magic: The Gathering Night

Thursday, January 4 6PM

Stop by the library and play Magic: The Gathering. New and experienced players welcome. Commander has been the most popular format for experienced players at these events. New players can borrow a starter deck and learn the game - a librarian will be available to teach you the rules. Registration not required.



Book Club

Saturday, January 6 1PM

Please join us for our in-person book club discussion of Brother, Sister, Mother, Explorer by Jamie Figueroa. The books for our next discussion will be given out at this meeting. No registration required.

Dance Classes

Rumba – Tuesday, January 9 7PM

Salsa – Tuesday, January 23 7PM

Cha Cha - Tuesday, February 6 7PM

Come and learn to dance with Diane, from Dances by Diane. She'll be teaching a new dance every second Tuesday evening throughout January and February. Shake off the winter blues with this fun dance course. No registration required.



Mahjong for Beginners

Tuesday, January 9 10:30AM

Continues weekly until:

Tuesday, February 6 10:30AM

Mahjong is a fun and popular tile-based game of strategy, skill, and lots of luck. Learn how to play at this class. Bring your National Mahjong League card and a mahjong set (if you have one). No registration required.



Foreign Film: Lucky Grandma

Saturday, January 13 1PM

Set in and around New York City's Chinatown, this darkly comic fable tells of cranky, chain-smoking 80-year-old Grandma Wong who has a bad day after huge gambling losses at a casino. Things look better when she comes across a briefcase filled with cash—but whose loot is it? 2019. Not rated (violence, language). In English, Mandarin and Cantonese with English subtitles. 87 min. Hosted by Irv Slifkin. No registration required.



Doctor Who Trivia

Wednesday, January 17 7PM

Join us for a night of Doctor Who trivia! Bring a team of 2-5 people and compete with other teams - or come alone and form a team at the event. Win fabulous prizes, enjoy free snacks, and have a good time with fellow fans! No registration required.

The library will be CLOSED Monday, January 15th

Library Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9:30am - 9pm, Fri. 9:30am-7pm, Sat. 9:30am - 5pm, Sun. 12noon-5pm
100 Walt Whitman Avenue, Mount Laurel, NJ 08054 856-234-7319 www.mountlaurellibrary.org

ADULTS

Dungeons & Dragons

Thursday, January 4, 11, 18, 25 6PM

Come and join the adventure. 5E ruleset. New and experienced players are welcome. Registration required.



Book Chat

Wednesday, January 17 7PM

Please join us for a lively book discussion on Zoom. Check the book title on the library's events calendar. Registration required.



Chess Club

Saturday, January 13 2PM

Saturday, January 27 2PM

Come play Chess at the library! New and experienced players welcome. We'll provide chess boards, but feel free to bring your own. Registration not required.



Movie Club: Adios, Compadres

Tuesday, January 16 7PM

So many greats from the world of entertainment left us over the last year. Let's salute them with this program that looks at their lives and work. Hosted by Irv Slifkin. Registration required. You will receive a Zoom link the day before.



Crystal Bowl

Sound Bath Meditation

Saturday, January 20 2PM

Join us for an immersive sound bath meditation in an hour of harmonic crystal bowl sound frequencies for mind, body, and soul healing. Crystal Singing Bowls work on a vibrational level to help remove disharmony and tension while raising your energetic vibration. Please bring your pillow, yoga mat and/or blanket for your comfort. Feel free to bring your crystals and extra bottles of water to charge up! Chairs will be available for those who choose not to lie down on the floor. Registration required.

Book Club

Saturday, January 27 1PM

Please join us for a discussion of Lisa Wingate's The Story Keeper. No registration required.



Red Hot: A Musical Chili Feed

Wednesday, January 24 7PM

Welcome to the best eatin' and listenin' on the internet! Our virtual juke box will celebrate the spicy stew. We'll look at the history of the dish and hear tunes appropriate for a honky-tonk cook-off. Chef John Pullis will join host Paul Howe to offer cooking advice. Registration required. You will receive a Zoom link the day before.



Jigsaw Puzzle Club

Wednesday, January 10 6PM

Bring your friends (or make new ones) and work together to complete a puzzle! Looking forward to having a friendly and fun evening puzzling. No registration required.



Musical Melodies

New Moon

– Thursday, January 18 1PM

Annie Get Your Gun

– Thursday, January 25 1PM

Cabin in the Sky

– Thursday, February 1 1PM

Stop in for a merry musical that will entertain, uplift, and get your toe tapping. Hosted by Irv Slifkin. No registration required.



Strength and Conditioning Class for Beginners

Monday, January 8, 22, 29 3PM

Friday, January 5, 12, 19, 26 3PM

Join Harman Ransi in his beginner-friendly resistance training course. The class will teach fundamental stretches and weighted exercises to build flexibility and muscle. Registration required. You will receive a Zoom link the day before.



Movie Club: Tarzan of the Movies

Tuesday, January 30 7PM

We put the creation of Edgar Rice Burroughs under the microscope and follow his journey from books to comic strips to the big and small screens. Award-winning film editor Steve Austin helps lead the safari. Hosted by Irv Slifkin. Registration required. You will receive a Zoom link the day before.

ADULTS



ESL Conversation Class

Wednesdays

January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 6PM

This ESL class is for upper-level beginners to lower-level intermediate learners. To register through NJ Literacy, please fill out an application on their website at <https://literacynj.org/burlington-student-application>, or text them at 609-388-1506. They will contact you and place you in an appropriate class for your learning level. This class is for adults only (18+)

Chair Yoga

Wednesday, January 10 10AM

Wednesday, January 24 10AM

Chair Yoga involves gentle yoga exercises that can be done while seated. This class will teach guided breathing, simple physical stretches, and meditation. The exercises are safe for all levels. Registration required. You will receive a link to the meeting a day prior to the event.

Skylark: The Songs of Johnny Mercer

Thursday, January 11 7PM

One of the giants of The Great American Songbook, Johnny Mercer wrote lyrics for some of the best loved songs in Hollywood, Broadway, and the radio. We'll look at his career and listen to some of America's greatest singers interpret the man's songs. Hosted by Paul Howe. Registration required. You will receive a Zoom link the day before.

Tuesday Mahjong

Tuesday, January 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 1PM

Mahjong is a fun and popular tile-based game of strategy, skill, and lots of luck. Some experience recommended. Bring your National Mahjong League 2023 card and a mahjong set (if you have one). No registration required.

Movie Club: Directing Debuts

Tuesday, January 23 7PM

What director has made a big impression the first time out? Let's take a look at extraordinary rookie efforts that never fail to dazzle. Hosted by Irv Slifkin. Registration required. You will receive a Zoom link the day before.



Scrabble Club

Tuesday, January 30 6PM

Beginners and experts are invited to join us for a fun evening. Scrabble boards, scoring materials, and a dictionary will be provided. Bring your friends or make new friends at the event. Participants will play in groups of up to four people. No registration required.

Trading Card Night

Tuesday, January 16 5:30PM

Trading Card Night is a sport and non-sport card trading night for kids and adults. Come and see various collections, pick up free cards, join the free raffle, and watch hobbyist and sports videos together. You can bring your own collection to show or trade, or just come and enjoy the community. This meeting will teach kids the value of their collections, how to trade with others and will help them with socializing. No registration required.



Film Forum: Barry Lyndon

Thursday, January 18 7PM

Stanley Kubrick's account of an Irish lad's improbable rise to wealth is set in Ireland and the Continent during the 18th century. With impressive period sets and costumes, and revolutionary cinematography, the film is an ironic epic. Featuring the late Ryan O'Neal and the lovely Mariss Berenson. Hosted by Paul Howe. Registration required. You will receive a Zoom link the day before.



Knitting and Crocheting Meetup

Mondays

January 8, 22, 29 6:30PM

Wednesdays

January 10, 17, 24, 31 1PM

Fridays

January 5, 12, 19, 26 1PM

Like to Knit or Crochet? Come and join this friendly group. Beginners to experts are welcome. Please bring your own materials. No Registration required.

KIDS

Some events require registration. Some events require registration **WITH** a current Mount Laurel Library card. Please check the descriptions in advance to determine what you will need to participate. Registration begins on the first of the month for most but not all events. Please check our online calendar for exact dates.



Story Time

Babies ages 0 to 18 months:

Friday, January 12, 26 10:30AM

Toddlers ages 18 months to 3 years:

**Tuesday, January 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
10:30AM**

Preschoolers ages 3 to 5:

**Wednesday, January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
10:30AM**

All Ages:

Saturday, January 6, 20 10:30AM

Join us for fun stories and songs as we explore a new theme every week! No registration required.

Tumblin' Tots

Thursday, January 4, 18 10:30 & 11:15AM

Join Miss Amy of Tumblin' Tots for a fun and energetic movement class designed especially for ages 2.5 - 4 years. Registration with library card required.



Art Time

Sunday, January 21 2PM

Miss Susan combines Art History, Literature, Science, and maybe even a little Math! Participants will be exposed to a variety of artists, mediums, and techniques. No experience or supplies necessary! This is a school-aged program for grades Kindergarten and up. Registration with library card required.



Paws for Reading

Tuesday, January 30 4PM

Practice your reading skills with a captive canine audience in a private setting. Bring your favorite book from home or arrive early to choose a book from the library's collection. Grades K-4. Please note: sessions are in 15-minute blocks and registration is required.



Yoga for Kids

Wednesday, January 10, 22 4PM

This 45 minute yoga class is designed for kids ages 6-8. The students will build strength, balance, and flexibility while promoting body awareness and self-confidence. The class includes breathwork, yoga poses, music, games, and relaxation and is presented in a fun and engaging way. Registration required. Please bring a mat or towel if possible.



Tots Art Time

Friday, January 19 10:30AM

An art class for the little ones to enjoy with parents and caregivers. Registration with library card required.

Move and Groove

Monday, January 8, 22, 29 10:30AM

Does your little one love to dance, sing, and get active? Join us for this weekly event where we celebrate music through rhymes, songs, and dance-alongs! Designed for ages 18 months - 5 years old, this program will give kids a chance to learn new dance moves and get active! No registration required.

TWEENS/TEENS

Some events require registration. Some events require registration WITH a current Mount Laurel Library card. Please check the descriptions in advance to determine what you will need to participate. Registration begins on the first of the month for most but not all events. Please check our online calendar for exact dates.

TWEEN EVENTS

Tween/teen Domino Challenge



Saturday January, 27 3PM

Challenge of the night... never tried before... SWITCHES!!! This challenge is for students ages 8-18. Our online events calendar has a link to watch a brief video on domino switches, both successful and unsuccessful. Please register to hold your spot.



First Chapter Friday

Friday, January 5 All day

Join Ms. Molly for the first chapter of A Snow Day for Plum by Matt Phelan. Plum is a nervous, little peacock who finds himself on an amazing adventure to visit kids at a school with his animal friends from Athensville Zoo. But... oh-no... a blizzard hits and strands them at the school! What are they going to do? Let's find out together!

Tween Keva Challenge

Saturday January 13 3PM

This session we are going to see who can build the longest cantilever, and yes... we will be measuring :) You will receive 40 planks and you must use them all as you try to out-build your competitors. Please register.

Quidditch/Quadball

Friday, January 5, 12, 19, 26 4PM

Inspired by fictional quidditch, quadball is a mixed gender sport with a unique combination of elements from basketball, dodgeball, and tag. Students will learn the non-contact version of the sport including how to score a quaffle, throw a bludger, and catch a snitch for their team! While the game can appear chaotic to the casual observer, once familiar with the basic rules, quadball is an exciting team sport to watch and even more exciting to play! Ages 8-12 ONLY. Registration required. Please register child(ren) only, not adult caregivers. To participate in this program, a parent/guardian must read and sign the Media Release and Waiver of Liability, Assumption of Risk, and Indemnity Agreement, available through our events calendar.

TEEN EVENTS



Adopt-a-shelf Shelving Test

Friday, January 12 6PM

Saturday, January 13 1PM

This test is for students between the ages of 10-17 (18 if still a senior) looking to participate in the Adopt-a-shelf program. It covers both alphabetical order and Dewey Decimal (1,2,3) order and should take less than 30 mins. You will be contacted after the results are tallied for your orientation. This test is offered on 2 different days. Please only register for one of the days.



Adopt-a-shelf Orientation

Friday, January 19 6PM

Saturday, January 20 1PM

This orientation is for those who have already passed their ABC and Dewey Decimal System tests.



Teen Volunteer Newspaper

Saturday, January 6, 20 3PM

Calling all tweens and teens ages 10-17... please join us in the production of a publication created by and made for tweens and teens only. We meet in Discord and create in Canva. Minimum age for Discord is 13 so if you are under 13 a parent of caregiver will need to set up an account for you. If this is your first time joining us, please do so at a regularly scheduled virtual meeting and read the Newspaper Guidelines and Basic Information on the teen webpage. Registration is no longer needed.



Did you know we have a Puzzle Exchange?

How it works:

- Bring a puzzle from home (please make sure no pieces are missing) to swap for one new to you! Just leave yours on the display, now or later.
- After borrowing a puzzle, you may:
- Keep it forever!
- Return it to swap for a different puzzle.
- Return it with no swap.

Guidelines for borrowing/exchanging puzzles.

- Returned puzzles and boxes should be in good condition and have all the pieces. **Please discard a puzzle if you find any missing pieces.**
- Puzzles may be borrowed, but do not need to be checked out.
- **Please do not return puzzles to the book drop.**

The Puzzle exchange is located by the indoor Friends Book Sale in the back corner of the library.

Friends Corner

Happy New Year!

The Friends of the Library will not have meetings during the months of January and February.

Our next meeting will be in March.

We will have 2 book sales this year, they will be April 17 to 20 and October 23 to 26.

Remember you can purchase any books from our in house book sale any time the library is open.

