

UNFOLDED

AND YOUR
PEOPLE

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EAT SHOP

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Monday
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LOCAL

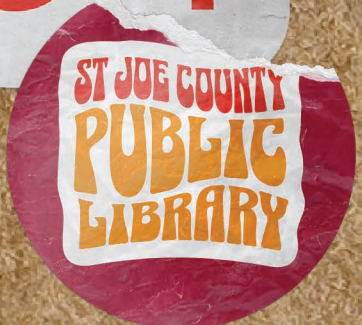
ORV

DICAL
ARIUMS
TEENS

DANCE PARTY

BookCon

ING
SUPER COOL



SPRING 2025
MAR/APR/MAY

Main | 574.282.4646
304 S. Main St., South Bend 46601
Mon-Thurs: 9 AM - 8 PM
Fri-Sat: 9 AM - 5 PM
Sun: 1 PM - 5 PM

Centre Township | 574.251.3700
1150 E. Kern Rd., South Bend 46614

Closed for Renovations

Francis | 574.282.4641
52655 N. Ironwood Rd., South Bend 46635
Mon-Thurs: 9 AM - 7 PM
Fri-Sat: 9 AM - 5 PM

German Township | 574.271.5144
52807 Lynnewood Ave., South Bend 46628
Mon-Thurs: 9 AM - 7 PM
Fri-Sat: 9 AM - 5 PM

Lakeville | 574.784.3446
120 N. Michigan St., Lakeville 46536
Mon-Thurs: 10 AM - 7 PM
Fri: 1 PM - 5 PM
Sat: 10 AM - 2 PM

LaSalle | 574.282.4633
3232 W. Ardmore Tr., South Bend 46628
Mon-Thurs: 9 AM - 7 PM
Fri-Sat: 9 AM - 5 PM

North Liberty | 574.656.3664
105 E. Market St., North Liberty 46554
Mon-Thurs: 10 AM - 7 PM
Fri: 1 PM - 5 PM
Sat: 10 AM - 2 PM

River Park | 574.282.4635
2022 Mishawaka Ave., South Bend 46615
Mon-Thurs: 9 AM - 7 PM
Fri-Sat: 9 AM - 5 PM

Tutt | 574.282.4637
2223 Miami St., South Bend 46613
Mon-Thurs: 9 AM - 7 PM
Fri-Sat: 9 AM - 5 PM

Western | 574.282.4639
611 Lombardy Dr., South Bend 46619
Mon-Thurs: 9 AM - 7 PM
Fri-Sat: 9 AM - 5 PM

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UPCOMING CLOSINGS

All locations will be closed on these dates:

- April 20, Easter Sunday
- May 11, Mother's Day
- May 26, Memorial Day

All programs subject to change. Visit sjcpl.org for the most current information.

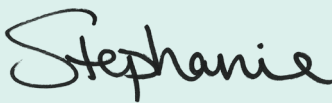
Letter from the Executive Director

January 2025 felt like the longest year- er, I mean, month. It was dark and cold without much of the beauty and brightness that comes with snow. For many people, including myself, that darkness and cold can be a real struggle. Here I am in February thinking about and longing for spring.

I'm sure that I'm not the only one ready for spring. In addition to the much needed daylight, it's a great time to seek out opportunities to create. Creative pursuits and interacting with others are as good for our mental well being as the longer days. We have so many opportunities at the library for both of those things. You might try recording some music at Studio 304 at the Main library. Staff are always available to help you learn how to use the equipment. We have many fiber arts clubs-crochet, quilting, etc-meeting at multiple locations. You can check out local authors at BookCon or join a writer's group. Or you or your kids can explore creative pursuits at the library with one of our partners - SB Civic Theatre, SB Symphony, the Raclin Murphy Museum of Art.

Finally, in honor of spring, creativity, and national poetry month, I give you Ada Limón's beautiful poem, Instructions on Not Giving Up. If you want to read more of her work, we have many of her books in our collection, including her new children's title And, too, the Fox.

Happy reading,



Stephanie Murphy
Executive Director

Instructions on Not Giving Up

by Ada Limón

More than the fuchsia funnels breaking out
of the crabapple tree, more than the neighbor's
almost obscene display of cherry limbs shoving
their cotton candy-colored blossoms to the slate
sky of Spring rains, it's the greening of the trees
that really gets to me. When all the shock of white
and taffy, the world's baubles and trinkets, leave
the pavement strewn with the confetti of aftermath,
the leaves come. Patient, plodding, a green skin
growing over whatever winter did to us, a return
to the strange idea of continuous living despite
the mess of us, the hurt, the empty. Fine then,
I'll take it, the tree seems to say, a new slick leaf
unfurling like a fist to an open palm, I'll take it all.

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FREE INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE

Taxes due Tuesday, April 15, 2025

Tax Preparation Sessions with VITA

Make an appointment:
Call (574) 800-1361 to make
an appointment beginning
January 8, 2024.

Tutt Branch
Mondays, 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
February 17 - April 14

Western Branch
Wednesdays, 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
February 12 - April 9

LaSalle Branch
Thursdays, 12:30 p.m. - 6 p.m.
February 13 - April 10

Tax Preparation Sessions with ND/SMC

Make an appointment:
Online registration opens two
weeks prior to each date at
sjcpl.org/tax-assistance.

February 13 - April 12*

Thursdays: 5 - 7 p.m.

Saturdays: 9 - 11 a.m.

CLC, Ballroom

**There will be no sessions
February 22 or March 8, 13, 15, 29*

Scan here for
more info and
registration



When & Where:

Thursdays
5:30pm-7:00pm

Mar. 6 - German

Mar. 13 - Lakeville

Mar. 20 - N. Liberty

Apr. 3 - River Park (3PM)

Apr. 17 - Francis

Apr. 24 - LaSalle

May 8 - Tutt

May 22 - Western

Resumes & Resources

**Ready for a resume refresh or
starting from scratch?**

**Let's pave the path to your dream job
together!**

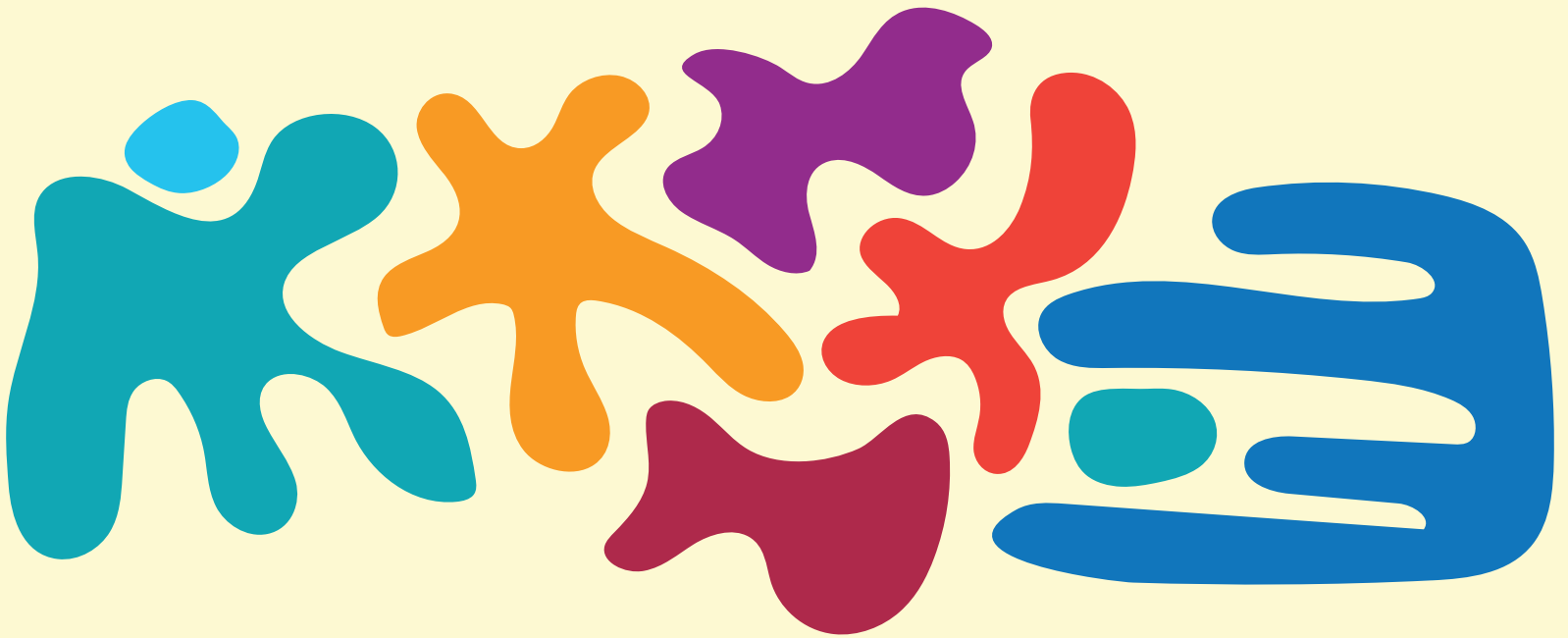
This interactive session comes with the
bonus of one-on-one time with our staff,
who are ready to guide you through the
job market maze.

Scan here
for more
information.



Storytime, Playtime, & More!

Programs that Spark Joy & Learning, Crafted by
Our Children's Librarians



BABYTIME

(AGES 0-2)

Main Library

Wednesdays & Fridays | 10:30 AM

Francis

Thursdays | 10:30 AM

TINY TUMBLERS

(AGES 0-2)

Main Library

Monday, March 17 | 10:30 AM

Francis

Monday, April 14 | 10:30 AM

SENSORY TIME

(AGES 3-9)

REGISTRATION RECOMMENDED

Main Library

CLC - Classroom C

Tuesday, Mar 18, Apr 15, May 20 | 5 PM

STORYTIME

(AGES 3-5)

Main Library

Thursdays | 10:30 AM

Thursdays, Mar 27, Apr 24, May 22 | 5 PM

Francis

Tuesdays & Wednesdays | 10:30 AM

German

Mondays, 10:30 AM

Lakeville

Mar 13, Mar 27, Apr 10, Apr 24,
May 8, May 22 | 10:30 AM

LaSalle

Mondays, 10:30 AM

North Liberty

Mar 6, Mar 20, Apr 3, Apr 17,
May 1, May 15, May 29 | 10:30 AM

River Park

Thursdays, 10:30 AM

Tutt

Tuesdays, 10:30 AM

Western

Wednesdays, 10:30 AM

PLAYTIME

(AGES 0-5)

Main Library

Tuesdays, 10:30 AM

Francis

Monday, Mar 10, May 12 | 10:30 AM

German

Wednesdays, Mar 12, Apr 9, May 14 | 10:30 AM

Lakeville

Wednesdays, Mar 19, Apr 16, May 21 | 10:30 AM

North Liberty

Wednesday, Mar 5, Apr 2, May 7 | 10:30 AM

River Park

Wednesdays, Mar 19, Apr 16, May 21 | 10:30 AM

Tutt

Wednesday, Mar 26, Apr 23, May 28 | 5:30 PM

Children

ND Book Buddies

Main Library

Saturday, March 1 | 11:00 AM

Celebrate Read Across America with fun activities! Enjoy partner reading with a Notre Dame Book Buddy, decorating a hot-air balloon, and munching a yummy snack. Ages 7 - 11 are welcome.

Zoo-to-You Presented by Potawatomi Zoo

River Park Branch

Tuesday, March 4 | 4:00 PM

Enjoy an up close encounter with live zoo animals. Learn about several amazing animals with the zoo staff. Ages 6 to 12 are welcome. Doors close when room capacity is reached.

Talk With Your Baby Presented by the Robinson Community Learning Center

Main Library - CLC

Thursdays @ 10am | 10:00 AM

Come learn the importance of talking, singing, and playing with baby during a FREE 8 week parenting class. Babies are encouraged to attend with parent/caregiver. This session takes place every Thursday at 10am beginning on March 6th.

Edible Derby Cars with Purdue Extension

Lakeville Branch

Wednesday, March 12 | 4:00 PM

Design an edible derby car that keeps your gummy bear driver safe on the race track. Can you make it to the finish line? Ages 7 to 12 are welcome.

Around the World with Flat Stanley

Workshop Presented by the South Bend Civic Theatre

Main Library

Saturday, March 15 | 12:30 PM

"Scour the globe" in this Creative Dramatics Workshop and try to solve Stanley's unique problem through voice and movement, imaginative play, music, and story dramatization. Grades K - 5 are welcome.

Coastline Children's Film Festival Little Kid Flicks

Main Library

Thursday, March 20 | 6:00 PM

Discover the magic of the big screen with Little Kid Flicks. Whether diving into the ocean for a pufferfish standoff or skating to victory across the ice, these shorts are sure to delight. Ages 5+

Bookworms and Batons - Tales & Tunes with the Symphony Presented by the Shein Trust Community Series

Main Library

Saturday, March 22 | 12:00 PM

Join the South Bend Symphony Orchestra staff for a musical tale and learn how to become a conductor! Recommended for ages 3 - 8.

Anything But a Brush

Main Library

Monday, March 24 | 10:30 AM

Discover new ways to paint with anything but a paintbrush! Learn the difference between Process and Product art by creating a masterpiece with your child. Recommended for children ages 0-5.

Nature Creations

Main Library

Thursday, April 3 | 4:00 PM

Bring the outside in! Learn the value of nature exploration in child development and create beautiful works of art using natural resources. Ages 6 - 11 are welcome.

Free Lead Screening Provided by St. Joseph County Department of Health

Main Library

Thursday, April 10 | 10:30 AM

In partnership with the St. Joseph County Department of Health, FREE lead screenings will be offered for children ages 1 - 6.

Building Bridges Through Acts of Kindness

Main Library

Thursday, April 10 | 1:00 PM

Discover how kindness matters in our community. Design your own kindness bridge, create and fill a book box to share, and enjoy a scavenger hunt to learn about kindness. Ages 6 to 12 are welcome.

Edible Derby Cars with Purdue Extension

Western Branch

Tuesday, April 22 | 4:00 PM

Design an edible derby car that keeps your gummy bear driver safe on the race track. Can you make it to the finish line? Ages 7 to 12 are welcome.

Upcycled Instrument Jam - Tales & Tunes with the Symphony Presented by The Shein Trust Community Series

Main Library

Saturday, April 26 | 12:00 PM

Join the South Bend Symphony Orchestra staff for a musical tale and create your own musical instrument out of recycled materials! Recommended for ages 3 - 8.

Zoo-to-You Presented by the Potawatomi Zoo

North Liberty Branch

Tuesday, April 29 | 4:00 PM

Enjoy an up close encounter with live zoo animals. Learn about several amazing animals with the zoo staff. Ages 6 to 12 are welcome. Doors close when room capacity is reached.

Cuentos y Cantos - Stories & Songs with I Heart Spanish

Main Library

Monday, May 5 | 10:30 AM

Join Senora Velasco as she shares bilingual songs and stories. Learn numbers, letters and greetings in Spanish. Spanish and non-Spanish speakers are welcome. Recommended for ages 3 to 5.

Zoo-to-You Presented by Potawatomi Zoo

Tutt Branch

Wednesday, May 14 | 4:00 PM

Enjoy an up close encounter with live zoo animals. Learn about several amazing animals with the zoo staff. Ages 6 to 12 are welcome. Doors close when room capacity is reached.

Regulate Big Feelings with Peaceful Spot!

Main Library

Thursday, May 15 | 3:00 PM

Learn to regulate big emotions with Peaceful Spot from A Little Spot of Emotions series. Equip yourself and your little one with the tools to shrink big emotions when they show up! Ages 3 - 5.

Jump off the Page! Fairy Tale Noir Workshop Presented by the South Bend Civic Theatre

Main Library

Saturday, May 17 | 12:30 PM

Get ready to put on your detective hat as we retell classic fairytales with a 1940's noir twist through story dramatization and character creation in this Creative Dramatics Workshop. Grades K - 5.

Talk With Your Baby Presented by the Robinson Community Learning Center

Main Library - CLC

Tuesdays | 10:00 AM

Come learn the importance of talking, singing, and playing with baby during a FREE 8 week parenting class. Babies are encouraged to attend with parent/caregiver. This session takes place every Tuesdays at 10am beginning on May 20th.

Edible Derby Cars with Purdue Extension German Township Branch

Wednesday, May 21 | 6:00 PM

Design an edible derby car that keeps your gummy bear driver safe on the race track. Can you make it to the finish line? Ages 7 to 12 are welcome.

A Musical Masquerade - Tales and Tunes with the Symphony! Presented by the Shein Trust Community Series

Main Library

Saturday, May 24 | 12:00 PM

Decorate your own mask and become part of a musical tale with the South Bend Symphony Orchestra! Recommended for ages 3-8.

Lego Builder Challenge

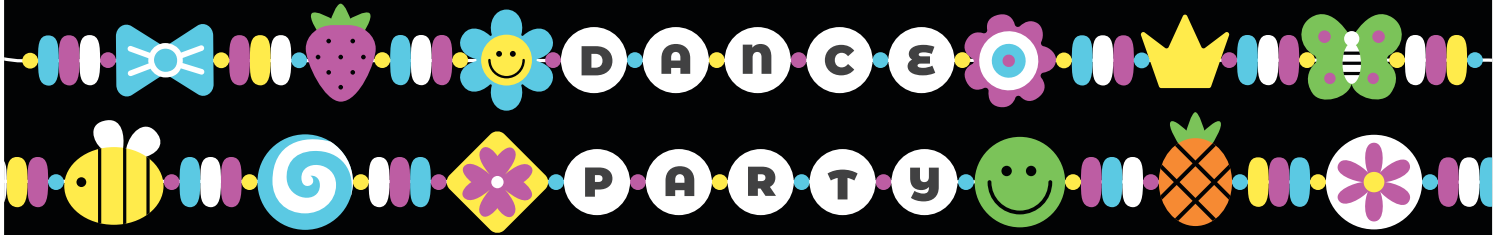
Main Library

Third Monday of The Month | 5:00 PM

Can you master the LEGO Builder Challenge? Test your building and creativity skills. Join us as we plan, build, and then share about our creations. Recommended for ages 8 to 12.

Taylor Swift

Celebrate all things Taylor with a dance party, karaoke, trivia and an exciting activity for every Era. Come in your favorite Eras outfit and be ready to enjoy the party. Geared to ages 6 - 12.



Saturday, April 12 | 1:00pm - 2:30pm | Main Library Story House

Teen

Tell Your Story Through Art Journaling

with SJCP's Storytelling Librarian

River Park Branch

Thursday, March 13 | 4:30 PM

Get creative and tell your story through art journaling using writing prompts and a combination of analog and digital techniques. Capture big and small moments in your everyday life on a page!

Brain Hacks: Unlock Your Mind's Potential

Main Library

Wednesday, April 2 | 4:00 PM

What is going on in your brain when you're mad? Why can I feel so emotional or unpredictable sometimes? Explore fun activities to consider the best way to care for your brain! Ages 12 - 18.

Design Your Own Button* with Studio 304

Main Library

Wednesday, April 9 | 5:00 PM

Stop by the Teen Room to learn how to transform your doodle into a custom pin! For Teens 12-18.

Tell Your Story Through Art Journaling

with SJCP's Storytelling Librarian

Francis Branch

Thursday, April 10 | 4:30 PM

Get creative and tell your story through art journaling using writing prompts and a combination of analog and digital techniques. Capture big and small moments in your everyday life on a page!

Upcycle and Paint* with Emily Stallman

LaSalle Branch

Wednesday, April 30 | 4:30 PM

Join in creating functional works of art by recycling plastic bottles and making them into something new. For ages 12-18.

Tell Your Story Through Art Journaling

with SJCP's Storytelling Librarian

Lakeville Branch

Thursday, May 15 | 4:30 PM

Get creative and tell your story through art journaling using writing prompts and a combination of analog and digital techniques. Capture big and small moments in your everyday life on a page!

Upcycle and Paint* with Emily Stallman

North Liberty Branch

Thursday, May 22 | 4:30 PM

Join in creating functional works of art by recycling plastic bottles and making them into something new. For ages 12-18.

Dungeons & Dragons

Main Library

Every other Saturday, starting on March 8th | 1:00 PM

Come to the Teen Room every two weeks to learn about a new playable race or class in D&D, create your own character, and use that character to play a mini-game!

Interview Basics for Teens

Main Library

March 11th & March 25th | 5:00 PM

Come learn about interview tips and resources! And receive feedback after participating in a group interview to refine your skills.

Intro to Theatre with the South Bend Civic Theatre

Western Branch

Thursdays - Mar 6, Mar 13, Mar 20, April 17, April 24, May 1, May 15 | 4:30 PM

Middle and high school students! Explore theatre through workshops that introduce acting basics and present hands-on projects for students to explore lighting, sound, costume design, and more!

Intro to Theatre with the South Bend Civic Theatre

LaSalle Branch

Tuesdays - Mar 4, Mar 11, Mar 18, Apr 15, Apr 22, Apr 29, May 6, May 13, May 20 | 4:30 PM

Middle and high school students! Explore theatre through workshops that introduce acting basics and present hands-on projects for students to explore lighting, sound, costume design, and more!

Adult

W.I.S.E. Wellness for Seniors Presented by REAL Services

German Township Branch

Thursdays beginning Feb 27th | 10:30 AM

This six-week course will focus on empowering older adults to make positive, healthy choices.

This series is in partnership with REAL Services.

"Blues Moon" Over Michiana: Southside

Denny & Friends* Presented by Wild Rose

Moon Radio Hour

Main Library - CLC

Saturday, March 1 | 7:00 PM

Join us for a live recording of the Wild Rose Moon Radio Hour featuring Southside Denny and Friends. The show will be broadcast on WVPE 88.1 and WNIT 34.1. Ages 12+.

Not the Killing Kind Book Discussion

Culturally Speaking Author Series

Western Branch

Monday, March 3 | 5:30 PM

Join your fellow readers and a librarian to discuss Maria Kelson's debut novel, Not the Killing Kind.

Draw and Paint a Quirky Animal Portrait!

North Liberty Branch

Tuesday, March 4 | 5:30 PM

Capture the personality of an animal in your life (or an animal using our photo source materials from Potawatomi Zoo) and develop your unique personal drawing/painting style! Beginners welcome!

An Evening with Maria Kelson* Culturally Speaking Author Series

Main Library - CLC

Wednesday, March 5 | 6:00 PM

Join us for an evening with Maria Kelson, poet and author of Not the Killing Kind, a contemporary thriller about a Latina education reformer whose son is wrongfully jailed for murder.

Getting Started Online: A Guide to Internet Basics A Digital Literacy Workshop

Tutt Branch

Wednesday, March 5 | 5:30 PM

Boost your digital literacy skills in this Internet Basics Workshop! Learn the basics of connecting to the internet, searching for information, and browsing safely.

Mastering Your Inbox: Learning Email Basics A Digital Literacy Workshop

Western Branch

Monday, March 10 | 5:30 PM

Learn to set up an account, send and organize messages, and some basic safety tips. Perfect for beginners looking to communicate and use their email efficiently.

Mondays at the Movies The Public (2018)

Main Library - CLC

Monday, March 10 | 6:00 PM

Join us as we view The Public directed by Emilio Estevez and discuss the themes of the film in relation to the South Bend community with a local expert.

Crafting Connections Japanese Stab Bound Books

LaSalle Branch

Wednesday, March 12 | 5:00 PM

Crafting is better together! Travel back to 16th century Japan through the hands-on bookbinding method known as fukuro-toji or Japanese stab binding!

Identity Theft Protection

Main Library - CLC

Wednesday, March 12 | 5:30 PM

In this workshop you will learn what is identity theft, identity fraud, how it happens, how to prevent it, and what to do if you have been a victim.

Dear Uncle Adolf: The Germans and Their Führer IUSB International Film Series

Main Library - CLC

Wednesday, March 12 | 5:30 PM

Enjoy a screening of Dear Uncle Adolf: The Germans and Their Führer (2011) directed by Michael Kloft and Mathias von der Heide with an introduction and discussion led by Dr. Jeffrey Luppés

Unity Gardens Growing Summit

Main Library - CLC

Saturday, March 15 | 9:00 AM

A day of free classes, a learning extravaganza! Classes on Gardens, Orchards, Nature and more!

Performing Media Festival

Main Library - CLC

Saturday, March 15 | 12:00 PM

Enjoy a selection of short films followed by a panel discussion as part of the 2025 Performing Media Festival.

Conociendo la Web: Introducción a Internet

A Digital Literacy Workshop in Spanish

German Township Branch

Monday, March 17 | 5:30 PM

Aprende a navegar por Internet con confianza en este taller de aprendizaje digital. Descubre cómo usar los navegadores, buscar información y protegerte en la web. Ideal para principiantes.

Mondays at the Movies The Old Oak (2023)

Main Library - CLC

Monday, March 17 | 6:00 PM

Join us as we view The Old Oak directed by Ken Loach and discuss the themes of the film in relation to the South Bend community with a local expert.

Skilled Nursing Facility vs Nursing Homes

Information Session with Aging Connections

Main Library - CLC

Tuesday, March 18 | 3:30 PM

The terms "nursing home" and "skilled nursing" might be used interchangeably, but they are quite different. Learn about short- and long-term care options and how to finance these services.

Bringing Ben Home: A Story of Injustice, Love, & Redemption

Main Library - CLC

Tuesday, March 18 | 6:00 PM

Barbara Bradley Hagerty tells the story of a murder, a conviction, and the fight to redeem American justice in her book "Bringing Ben Home: Exoneration Justice." Ben Spencer spent 34 years in prison for a crime he did not commit.

Friday, March 07
6:00pm - 8:30pm
North Liberty Branch

What happens at the library when the lights go down? Come out to North Liberty to experience Library After Dark with glow-in-the-dark fun, snacks, a string laser maze, and more!

**LIBRARY
AFTER DARK**

***REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

Virtual Connections: Video Conferencing 101

A Digital Literacy Workshop

River Park Branch

Wednesday, March 19 | 5:30 PM

Learn the essentials in this interactive workshop! Get hands-on practice with setting up, joining, and managing virtual meetings while mastering tools like screen sharing and audio/video settings.

Let's Ferment...Hot Sauce!

Lakeville Branch

Thursday, March 20 | 5:30 PM

Dive into the fermentation process with a pantry staple: hot sauce! Learn the basics of fermenting with pepper varieties and create your own bespoke hot sauce.

Beginning Genealogy*

Western Branch

Monday, March 24 | 6:00 PM

Begin climbing your family tree with an introduction to genealogy research.

Mondays at the Movies

Main Library - CLC

Monday, March 24 | 6:00 PM

Join us as we view *Origin* directed by Ava DuVernay and discuss the themes of the film in relation to the South Bend community with a local expert.

SJCPL Online Book Group

In *Wayward Lives, Beautiful Experiments*, by Saidiya Hartman

Online

Monday, March 24 | 8:00 PM

In this lyrical and novelistic speculative history, author Saidiya Hartman reconstructs the lives of unknown black female urban rebels from the early 20th century.

Crafting Connections

Japanese Stab Bound Books

Francis Branch

Tuesday, March 25 | 10:30 AM

Crafting is better together! Travel back to 16th century Japan through the hands-on bookbinding method known as fukuro-toji or Japanese stab binding!

Crafting Connections

Japanese Stab Bound Books

Tutt Branch

Tuesday, March 25 | 5:00 PM

Crafting is better together! Travel back to 16th century Japan through the hands-on bookbinding method known as fukuro-toji or Japanese stab binding!

Eviction & Housing Legal Clinic

Presented by the Volunteer Lawyer Network

Francis Branch

Thursday, March 27 | 1:00 PM

Free legal advice for evictions and housing issues provided to the public on a first-come, first-served basis.

Re-Entry Simulation of St. Joseph County

Presented by Dismas House of Indiana, Inc.

Main Library - CLC

Friday, March 28 | 9:30 AM

Participate in a simulation as a person coming home from incarceration (a returning citizen) trying to navigate their way back into society.

SJCPL Writes Release Party

Main Library - CLC

Saturday, March 29 | 2:15 PM

Celebrate the fourth release of *SJCPL Writes*. See authors and artists showcase their work from the publication, then attend a meet and greet with light refreshments.

Comunicación Digital: Introducción al Correo Electrónico

A Digital Literacy Workshop in Spanish

LaSalle Branch

Monday, March 31 | 5:30 PM

Domina los aspectos básicos del correo electrónico en este taller. Aprende a enviar mensajes, gestionar tu bandeja de entrada y escribir correos claros y efectivos. Perfecto para principiantes.

Mondays at the Movies

The Quiet Girl (2022)

Main Library - CLC

Monday, March 31 | 6:00 PM

Join us as we view *The Quiet Girl* directed by Colm Bairéad and discuss the themes of the film in relation to the South Bend community with a local expert.

Crafting Connections

Japanese Stab Bound Books

Western Branch

Tuesday, April 1 | 5:00 PM

Crafting is better together! Travel back to 16th century Japan through the hands-on bookbinding method known as fukuro-toji or Japanese stab binding!

Monsieur Lazhar (2011)

IUSB International Film Series

Main Library - CLC

Wednesday, April 2 | 5:30 PM

Enjoy a screening of *Monsieur Lazhar* (2011) directed by Philippe Falardeau with an introduction and discussion led Heather Jones, Senior Lecturer of French and Spanish at IUSB.



L A B S

Explore the laws of motion by designing and racing your very own balloon-powered LEGO Car! Try different designs to see which goes farthest.

For Ages 8-12

Tinker.
Build.
Create.

LaSalle Branch • Wednesday, 4pm
March 5

Lakeville Branch • Thursday, 4pm
March 6

River Park Branch • Tuesday, 4pm
April 1

Tutt Branch • Wednesday, 4pm
April 2

North Liberty Branch • Thursday, 4pm
April 3

Francis Branch • Tuesday, 4pm
May 6

German Branch • Wednesday, 4pm
May 7

Western Branch • Thursday, 4pm
May 8

Mapping Change: A Workshop* with the Raclin Murphy Museum of Art
Thursday, April 3 | 6:00 PM

This two-part workshop examines how mapping places, both big and small, shapes our understanding of space, time, and our role in the world. Initial session will be held on April 3rd at 6pm at the Raclin Murphy Museum of Art.

Mondays at the Movies The Exiles (1961)

Main Library - CLC

Monday, April 7 | 6:00 PM

Join us as we view The Exiles directed by Kent Mackenzie and discuss the themes of the film in relation to the South Bend community with a local expert.

Crafting Connections Japanese Stab Bound Books

German Township Branch

Tuesday, April 8 | 10:30 AM

Crafting is better together! Travel back to 16th century Japan through the hands-on bookbinding method known as fukuro-toji or Japanese stab binding!

Mesa Virtual de Conversación en Español

Virtual Spanish Conversation Table

ONLINE

Tuesdays Through April 8 | 3:00 PM

If you're interested in practicing authentic conversation in Spanish, this group is for you. Listen to an interesting, informal presentation in Spanish, then discuss in small groups.

Let's Ferment...Hot Sauce!

Tutt Branch

Thursday, April 10 | 5:30 PM

Dive into the fermentation process with a pantry staple: hot sauce! Learn the basics of fermenting pepper varieties and create your own bespoke hot sauce.

Monday at the Movies Crip Camp (2020)

Main Library - CLC

Monday, April 14 | 6:00 PM

Join us as we view Crip Camp directed by James Lebrecht and Nicole Newnham and discuss the themes of the film in relation to the South Bend community with a local expert.

Staying Safe Online: Cybersecurity Basics

A Digital Literacy Workshop

North Liberty Branch

Monday, April 14 | 5:30 PM

Learn to identify threats like phishing and malware, create strong passwords, and secure your devices. Perfect for anyone wanting to stay safe in the digital world.

SJCPL Online Book Group A Ghost in the

Throat by Doireann Ní Ghriofa

ONLINE

Monday, April 14 | 8:00 PM

A fascinating hybrid work in which the voices of two Irish female poets (18th-century poet Eibhlín Dubh Ní Chonail and author Ní Ghriofa) connect and ring out across centuries.

How do Palliative Care and Hospice Differ?

with Aging Connections

Main Library - CLC

Tuesday, April 15 | 3:30 PM

Learn about the difference between palliative care and hospice at this informational session.

Crafting Connections Japanese Stab Bound Books

Lakeville Branch

Tuesday, April 15 | 5:00 PM

Crafting is better together! Travel back to 16th century Japan through the hands-on bookbinding method known as fukuro-toji or Japanese stab binding!

Conectando Virtualmente: Taller de

Videokonferencias A Digital Literacy

Workshop in Spanish

Tutt Branch

Wednesday, April 16 | 5:30 PM

Aprende a usar herramientas de videoconferencia en este taller interactivo. Configura tu cámara, comparte tu pantalla y organiza reuniones virtuales con facilidad. Ideal para principiantes.

Intermediate Genealogy: Methods

Main Library - CLC

Wednesday, April 16 | 6:30 PM

Once you've mastered the basics, take your family history research to the next level with strategies that will improve your approach to research.

Draw and Paint a Quirky Animal Portrait!

River Park Branch

Thursday, April 17 | 5:30 PM

Capture the personality of an animal in your life (or use a photo of Miso, the two-toed sloth from the Potawatomi Zoo) and develop your unique personal drawing/painting style! Beginners welcome!

The Story Exchange a Story Sharing Session

Main Library

Thursday, April 19 & May 17 | 1:00 PM

Attention all storytellers! Here's your chance to share a true, five-minute story. Everyone is welcome to listen, but registration is required to take the mic.

All About Investments

Main Library - CLC

Saturday, April 19 | 5:30 PM

In this workshop you will learn the best way to approach investments and what are the most common investment instruments.

Digital Literacy

Starting at 5:30 PM

3/5 - Tutt

3/10 - Western

3/17 - German (ES)

3/19 - River Park

3/31 - LaSalle (ES)

4/14 - North Liberty

4/16 - Tutt (ES)

4/28 - Western (ES)

5/12 - Lakeville

5/21 - LaSalle

Starting at 10:30 AM

4/30 - German

5/5 - Francis

(ES) - Clases en Español

A guide to computer basics

Boost your skills with a variety of digital literacy workshops! Learn the basics of connecting to the internet, searching for information, and browsing safely.

Thursday April 24

3:00pm - 5:00pm | German Branch

Learn more about
the natural wonders
all around us as we
celebrate Earth Day!

An Evening with Jericho Brown Kelly

Community Reading Series

Main Library - CLC

Thursday, April 24 | 7:00 PM

The Notre Dame Creative Writing Program Reading Series invites you to our inaugural Kelly Community Reading event: an evening with Jericho Brown. A Q&A and book signing will follow.

Eviction & Housing Legal Clinic

Presented by the Volunteer Lawyer Network

River Park Branch

Thursday, April 24 | 1:00 PM

Free legal advice for evictions and housing issues provided to the public on a first-come, first-served basis.

Seguridad Digital: Fundamentos de

Ciberseguridad A Digital Literacy Workshop in Spanish

Western Branch

Monday, April 28 | 5:30 PM

En este taller aprenderás a proteger tu información personal en línea. Descubre cómo evitar amenazas, crear contraseñas seguras y mantener tu privacidad digital. Perfecto para principiantes.

Virtual Connections: Video Conferencing 101

A Digital Literacy Workshop

German Township Branch

Wednesday, April 30 | 10:30 AM

Learn the essentials in this interactive workshop! Get hands-on practice with setting up, joining, and managing virtual meetings while mastering tools like screen sharing and audio/video settings.

Spill the Ink Poetry Reading

Main Library - CLC

Thursday, May 1 | 6:00 PM

A live reading in celebration of our Spill the Ink poetry contest. All are welcome!

Staying Safe Online: Cybersecurity Basics

A Digital Literacy Workshop

Francis Branch

Monday, May 5 | 10:30 AM

Learn to identify threats like phishing and malware, create strong passwords, and secure your devices. Perfect for anyone wanting to stay safe in the digital world.

Intermediate Genealogy: Sources*

Main Library - CLC

Wednesday, May 7 | 6:30 PM

Once you've mastered the basics, take your family history research to the next level by exploring new types of records.

Eviction & Housing Legal Clinic

Presented by the Volunteer Lawyer Network

Tutt Branch

Thursday, May 8 | 1:00 PM

Free legal advice for evictions and housing issues provided to the public on a first-come, first-served basis.

Mastering Your Inbox: Learning Email Basics

A Digital Literacy Workshop

Lakeville Branch

Monday, May 12 | 5:30 PM

Learn to set up an account, send and organize messages, and some basic safety tips. Perfect for beginners looking to communicate and use their email efficiently.

CELEBRATE THE EARTH



Planning for Retirement*

Main Library - CLC

Wednesday, May 14 | 5:30 PM

In this workshop you will learn how to build a good retirement plan and what are the different options available to you.

Parable of the Sower Book Discussion

Creative Conversations with Raclin Murphy
Museum of Art

Main Library - CLC

Wednesday, May 14 | 6:00 PM

Clarissa Tossin's exhibit "All That You Touch, You Change" takes its title from the opening lines of Octavia Butler's Parable of the Sower. This two part program will examine how the themes overlap.

Crafting Connections Japanese Stab Bound Books

North Liberty Branch

Thursday, May 15 | 5:00 PM

Crafting is better together! Travel back to 16th century Japan through the hands-on bookbinding method known as fukuro-toji or Japanese stab binding!

SJCPL Online Book Group Hula, a Novel by Jasmin 'Iolani Hakes

ONLINE

Monday, May 19 | 8:00 PM

A young daughter of the legendary Hawaiian Naupaka dynasty dreams of healing the rift in her family by competing in and winning the next Miss Aloha Hula contest.

Senior Lifestyle Injury and Fall Prevention

with Aging Connections

Main Library - CLC

Tuesday, May 20 | 3:30 PM

The risk of falling and fall-related problems rises with age. Learn about different ways to improve your balance

Crafting Connections Japanese Stab Bound Books

River Park Branch

Tuesday, May 20 | 5:00 PM

Crafting is better together! Travel back to 16th century Japan through the hands-on bookbinding method known as fukuro-toji or Japanese stab binding!

Getting Started Online: A Guide to Internet Basics A Digital Literacy Workshop

LaSalle Branch
Wednesday, May 21 | 5:30 PM

Boost your digital literacy skills in this Internet Basics Workshop! Learn the basics of connecting to the internet, searching for information, and browsing safely.

Entrepreneur Panel
Main Library - CLC

Wednesday, May 21 | 5:30 PM
A group of entrepreneurs with diverse backgrounds, industries, or experiences gather to discuss various aspects of entrepreneurship.

Eviction & Housing Legal Clinic Presented by the Volunteer Lawyer Network

Main Library - CLC
Thursday, May 22 | 1:00 PM

Free legal advice for evictions and housing issues provided to the public on a first-come, first-served basis.

Woodworking 101

German Township Branch
Tuesday, May 27 | 10:30 AM

Grab your work apron and let's get saw dusty in this beginner-friendly introduction to basic woodworking skills, taught by a master-level craftsman! Traditional woodworking methods are highlighted.

Let's Ferment...Hot Sauce!

Francis Branch
Tuesday, May 27 | 5:30 PM

Dive into the fermentation process with a pantry staple: hot sauce! Learn the basics of fermenting pepper varieties and create your own bespoke hot sauce.

Draw and Paint a Quirky Animal Portrait!

LaSalle Branch
Wednesday, May 28 | 5:30 PM

Capture the personality of an animal in your life (or use a photo of Miso, the two-toed sloth from the Potawatomi Zoo) and develop your unique personal drawing/painting style! Beginners welcome!

The Write Space
ONLINE

Third Tuesday of The Month | 7:00 PM
A virtual support group for writers and aspiring writers. Join our Zoom meeting to participate in writing prompts, chatting, and dreaming about next steps in your writing life.

Yoga for EveryBODY

Main Library - CLC
Wednesdays | 5:30 PM
Join us for free, all-levels yoga designed to be accessible to everyone.

English Conversation Group

Main Library - CLC
1st and 3rd Wednesday of the Month | 3:00 PM
English Conversation Group allows English language learners to practice English with others. Each meeting will have a conversation topic.

All Ages

Our Universe Revealed Presented by University of Notre Dame and IU South Bend

Main Library - CLC
Tuesdays, March 4, April 1, May 5 | 6:30 PM

Explore some of the most exciting and cutting edge topics in scientific research. All are welcome!

BookCon

Main Library - CLC
Saturday, March 29 | 11:00 AM

Celebrate local writing talent and connect with a wide range of authors at BookCon, our annual celebration of books.

Celebrate the Earth
German Township Branch

Thursday, April 24 | 3:00 PM
Learn more about the natural wonders all around us as we celebrate Earth Day! Do a nature-inspired craft and learn how to protect the wildlife in your neighborhood.

Ultimate Werewolf Michiana

Main Library - CLC
Saturday, April 26 | 2:00 PM

Join us to play social deduction games (similar to Among Us) which are fun for adults, teens, and older kids! These games are great for individuals, groups, or families!

Ultimate Werewolf Michiana

Main Library - CLC
Saturday, May 24 | 2:00 PM

Join us to play social deduction games (similar to Among Us) which are fun for adults, teens, and older kids! These games are great for individuals, groups, or families!

La Loteria

Western Branch
First Saturday of The Month | 3:00 PM

Join us for a family game of la loteria, a traditional Mexican game of chance similar to bingo. Enjoy snacks and the chance to win prizes!

Shein Trust Children's Concert Series

Presented by South Bend Symphony Orchestra
Main Library

Mar 7 & 21, Apr 11, May 2 & 22 | 4:00 PM
Join the South Bend Symphony Orchestra for a family-friendly concert. All concerts are free to attend and will feature a variety of musical styles. All are welcome.

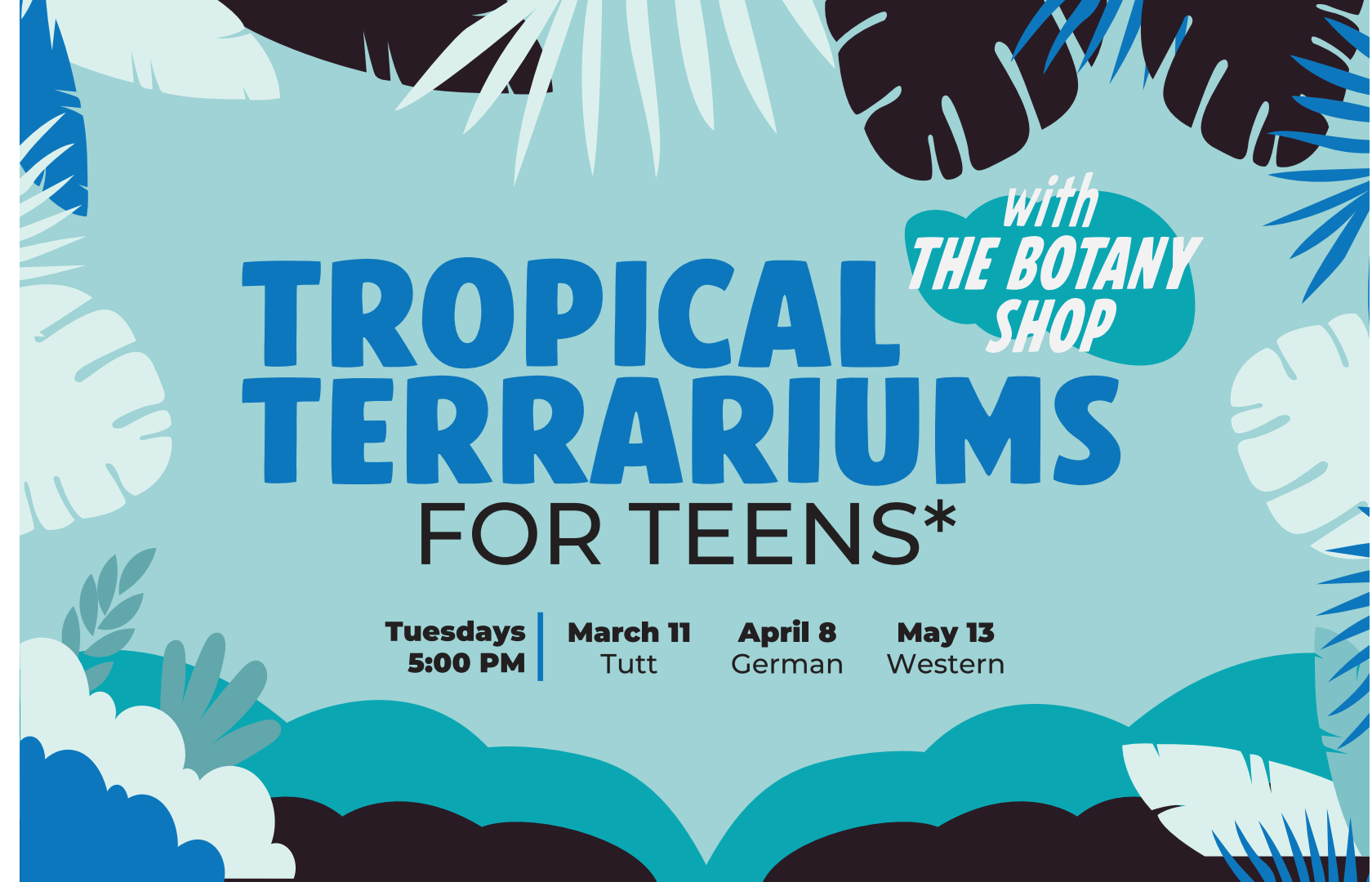
Celebrating Poetry

Featuring The Acting Ensemble

Saturday, April 05

1:00pm - 3:00pm
River Park Branch

Come kick off Poetry Month with readers and poets assembled by The Acting Ensemble. This event will also include a special storytime of poems for children so that families are able to join the fun!



with
**THE BOTANY
SHOP**

TROPICAL TERRARIUMS

FOR TEENS*

Tuesdays
5:00 PM

March 11
Tutt

April 8
German

May 13
Western



mondays at the Movies

Mondays 3/10 - 4/14 | 6:00pm - 9:00pm
Main Library | CLC

Join us for a series of five films focused on themes of social justice. Each week we will be joined by a panel of community experts to discuss the film in relation to our South Bend community.

WHERE DO BOOKS COME FROM?

BY GRACE DOWNEY

Many of us who love books and are intrigued by the concept of writing a novel have a very specific visual in mind when we imagine how publishing a book must go. A hopeful writer toils away on their manuscript late into the night, their hands flying across the keyboard. The office is lit by a single lamp with a flickering light. After years of hard work and investment, that book is then sent to a publisher who distributes it on the author's behalf. Success!

THE REALITY, LIKE MOST THINGS, IS MUCH MORE COMPLICATED THAN THAT.

In today's world of publishing options, authors have a multitude of avenues to choose from when it comes to connecting their work with readers. Each option has its virtues and vices. Most books readers find in bookstores and libraries have been traditionally published. The traditional publication process is long and difficult.

After a writer has polished the manuscript they hope to sell to as close to perfection as it can be, they have to query literary agents that will represent them and their work. This is similar to how the entertainment industry works for actors. It's not uncommon for a writer to query hundreds of agents before getting that first coveted "yes." This "yes" catapults the writer into the terrifying and exciting cycle of having their book looked over and picked apart by acquiring editors at publishing houses.

Once again, it's a time when even the most patient and determined of people can be pushed to their limit as they wait for a second "yes" that can change the course of their life. It can take five years—or even longer—between typing "THE END" on that polished manuscript to then seeing your book on shelves!

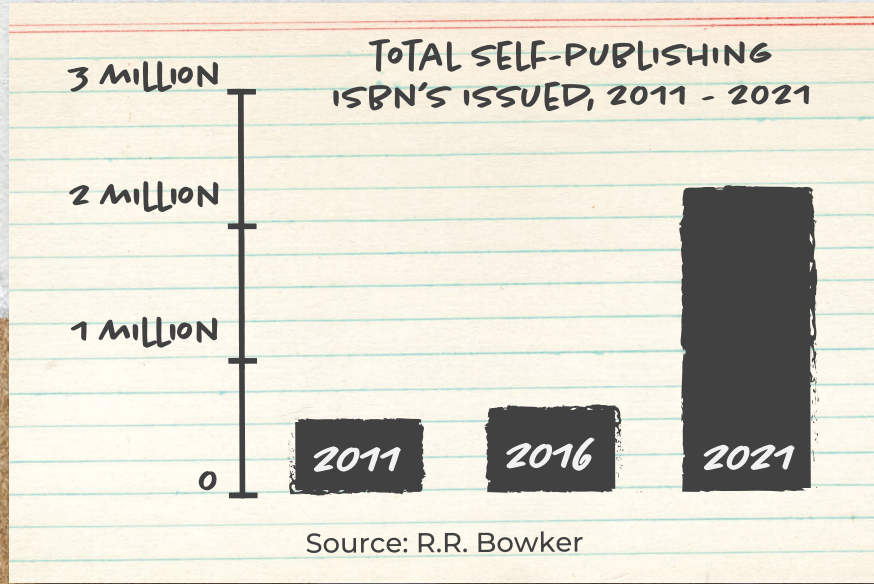
READ
LOCAL

15

FOR THIS REASON, EVERY BOOK ON THE SHELF IS A TRIUMPH OF PERSEVERANCE, GRIT, AND SELF-MOTIVATION.

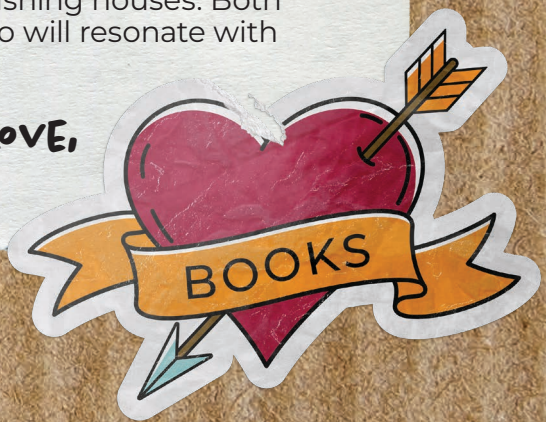
Traditional publishing does not work for every author and every story. This can be for any number of reasons. Perhaps the timing for that particular book isn't right for the current market. Maybe the subject matter of the book is niche. Often, authors desire complete creative control over their works, and will turn to self-publishing for that reason.

Once an uncommon practice, self-publishing has since exploded into the literary scene. Some genres in particular thrive with self-publication, including the increasingly popular romance and romantasy space. "Self-published" should not be mistaken for poor quality.



Doing it well means doing it right. Self-published authors take on the gargantuan task of coordinating beta readers, copy edits, cover design, copyright, and more for the same reason traditionally published authors seek out publishing houses. Both know there is a reader out there that needs their story and who will resonate with their voice.

EVERY SELF-PUBLISHED BOOK IS A LABOR OF LOVE, DETERMINATION, AND SELF-ADVOCACY.



There are also abundant examples of authors transitioning from one end of the spectrum to the other. Some even choose for a best of both worlds hybrid approach, publishing some work traditionally and some on their own. The popularity and versatility of ebooks has empowered many writers to forego physical books entirely and instead sell exclusive digital only copies of their work.

The world of book marketing is changing rapidly as well. Many authors feel an increasing pressure to be present and active on social media, even as they balance full-time day jobs, childcare, and working on their next project. Standing out and making your name heard is a battle for all authors, whether they be traditionally published or self-published. Gifted emerging writers can get swept away in a sea of established industry heavyweights and trending debuts with alluring covers.

LIKE MANY ASPECTS OF LIFE, WE CAN FIND TALENT AND PROMISE IN OUR OWN BACKYARD.

SJCPL will be hosting our annual BookCon event on March 29th in the CLC's ballroom, and you're invited! Join a community of readers in celebrating local writing talent from 11am to 3pm. Authors from a variety of backgrounds and working in a broad range of genres and age groups will be there for you to meet. Attendees can browse and purchase books directly from local authors, learning their personal stories along the way. Local bookstore Brain Lair Books and the Library Foundation Bookstore will also be on site selling more titles and library swag.

For the second time, BookCon will also be featuring writing workshops led by local authors for those keen to improve their own writing craft! Learn from the masters in a workshop for teens at 12pm and a workshop for adults at 1pm. Additionally, SJCPL's own literary publication, SJCPL Writes, will have their launch party and public reading at 2:15pm.

Come join us to discover your next favorite book!

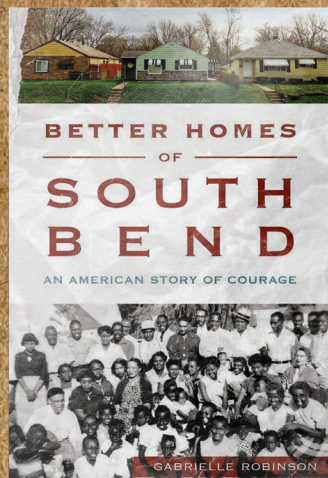
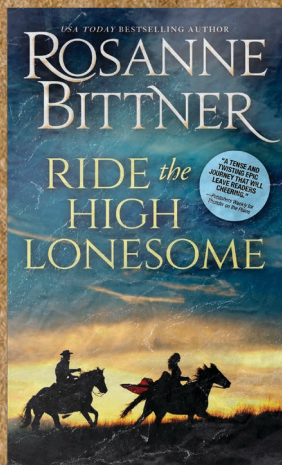
Main Library - CLC

Saturday, March 29 | 11:00 AM



BookCon

LOCAL AUTHOR READING LIST



GRACE DOWNEY is SJCPL's Readers' Services Librarian. She works to connect readers with books they'll love through programming, staff training, and customer service. Outside of work, she loves writing her own stories and hopes to see them on shelves and in stores one day.



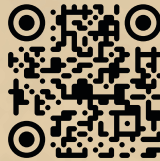
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The First State of Being by Erin Entrada Kelly
Time-traveling teenager, Ridge, from the year 2199 gets trapped in 1999. Ridge soon meets lonely 12 year old Michael. As the two bond, Michael soon discovers Ridge has a book outlining the events of the next 20 years. Michael must have it!

Impossible Creatures by Katherine Rundell
Christopher discovers he is the guardian of the Archipelago, a world within our world where magical creatures roam free. Meanwhile Mal, a resident of the Archipelago, works to understand why magic is fading from this special place. Together, the two kids begin an island-hopping adventure to save magic and its creatures.

Echo by Pam Muñoz Ryan
Otto meets three mysterious sisters while lost in the Black Forest. He is entangled by prophecy, promise, and a harmonica. Decades later, three other children find themselves caught in the same thread of destiny during the darkest days of the twentieth century.

STUDIO 304

Getting to Know Studio D
Wednesdays | 6:00 PM

Mar 5, Mar 19, Apr 2, Apr 16, May 7, May 21
Learn how to create a professional quality video in Studio D, the Studio 304 Video Room.

AI Music Creation
Wednesday, May 14 | 6:00 PM

Exploring the top AI tools in 2025 to assist with music creation.



FIND YOUR PEOPLE

Join a club!

Looking to connect with others who share your interests? Join one of our patron-led clubs! These clubs are organized by passionate community members, so expect a relaxed, welcoming environment where you can meet new friends and explore shared hobbies.



BOOKS	GAMES	MOVIES	CRAFTS	LANGUAGE	LEARNING
FANTASY HISTORY	CHESSE EUCHRE BINGO LEGO POKÉMON	ADVENTURES IN BAD CINEMA CINEMATES	KNITTING QUILTING CREATIVE	SPANISH FRENCH	HOMESCHOOL MEETUPS

DON'T SEE A CLUB FOR YOU? Ask library staff about how to start your own!

Patron-led clubs are organized by community members, not library staff.

