



**BARRINGTON  
AREA LIBRARY**

**PROGRAM GUIDE**  
December 2024 – January 2025



**WINTER  
READING**

Barrington Area Library

**2024 Winter Reading**

**Dec 16 – Feb 28**

Read and complete fun winter activities to earn badges, prizes, and a coupon for a free bundtlet from Nothing Bundt Cakes. For all ages.

Get started online at [balibrary.beanstack.org](http://balibrary.beanstack.org)!

**TEDx BarringtonAreaLibrary**  
x = independently organized TED event

## **TEDxBarringtonAreaLibrary: Nature Connection**

Thursday, Dec 12, 7 PM

TED, the non-profit, global phenomenon, is devoted to ideas Worth Spreading: making great ideas accessible and sparking conversation. TEDx is a local version of TED - talks designed to energize and inspire, given by our own community members. Join us for the tenth annual TEDxBarringtonAreaLibrary! [Register.](#)

### **This year's speakers:**



**Luke Dahlberg**, Native Seed Program Manager, Citizens for Conservation



**Stephen Barten**, DVM



**Navraaz Kaur Basati**, MA, Farmer, Forest Therapy Guide & Yogi

## **WINTER BREAK FUN**

\* **Wonderful Wacky Juggler**  
All ages w/caregiver  
Friday, Dec 27, 10 AM OR 11 AM  
Juggling, comedy, and audience antics! Andy Head is the perfect blend of silliness and sophistication! Drop in.

\* **Game of Warriors: Brazilian Capoeira**  
All ages w/caregiver  
Thursday, Jan 2, 10 AM  
Gingarte Capoeira Chicago introduces audiences to the history and meaning behind capoeira, a Brazilian cultural art form that beautifully combines dance and music with the acrobatic skills of martial arts. Drop in.



## **SNOW BALL**

All ages w/caregiver  
Friday, Jan 3, 6 – 8 PM  
Brrring the family and chill with us as the Library transforms into a wintry wonderland. Fun for all ages, including:  
• Guitarist Josh Skaja  
• Snowy Stories at 7 PM  
• Snow Queen meet and greet  
• Sing-along at 7:45 PM  
• Snowy crafts and sweet treats!

# STORIES & MORE: Ages 0 – 6

## Let's Move! Story Time

Ages 3 – 6 w/caregiver

Wednesday, Dec 4, 10 AM OR 11 AM

Stories, rhymes, and activities that get your body moving! Drop in. Meeting Room.

## Librarian Puppet Show

All ages w/caregiver

Monday, Dec 9, 10:30 AM

Get ready for a hilariously delightful time as your favorite librarians step into the spotlight for a puppet show like no other! Drop in. Meeting Room.

## Story Time Nature Walk at Crabtree Nature Center

All ages w/caregiver

Wednesday, Dec 11, 10:30 AM

Enjoy stories, a nature walk, and playtime at Crabtree Nature Center, 3 Stover Road, Barrington. Weather permitting. Drop in.

## Cozy Pajama Story Time

All ages w/caregiver

Thursday, Dec 12, 10 AM

Saturday, Dec 21, 10 AM

Dress in your coziest PJs, grab your favorite stuffed friend (and grownup!), and cuddle up for relaxing stories, rhymes, and songs. Drop in. Story Room.

## Potty Palooza Story Time

Ages 2 – 4 w/caregiver

Friday, Dec 13, 10 AM

Let's get this potty started! Ready to ditch the diapers? Songs and stories get littles excited for this big milestone, and ideas for caregivers help to make this big transition a positive experience for everyone. [Register](#). Story Room.

## Virtual Programs on YouTube

Tune into our YouTube Channel for on-demand rhymes, songs, and puppet shows! Search "Barrington Area Library Youth Services" to find us on [YouTube](#).

## Goodnight Story Time

All ages w/caregiver

Fridays, Dec 13 & Jan 17, 6 PM

Shake out your sillies, get cozy, and listen to bedtime stories in this calming story time designed to help kids get a good night's sleep. Drop in. Program Room.

## Happy Birthday Story Time

All ages w/caregiver

Monday, Dec 16, 10:30 AM

Friday, Jan 17, 10:30 AM

Join us for a special story time during your birthday month and we'll celebrate YOU with stories, songs, and a craft! Register with the birthday child's name. Program Room.

## Parent Playdate

Ages 0 – 18 months w/caregiver

Tuesday, Dec 17, 11 AM

Wednesday, Jan 22, 2:30 PM

Join us for a cup of coffee and informal play group. Meet up with friends you already have or make new ones! Drop in. Story Room.

## Little Kids, Big Feelings

Ages 3 – 6 w/caregiver

Wednesday, Dec 18, 10AM

Mister Rogers often said that anything mentionable is manageable. Join us as we create a space to talk about all feelings big and small through books, songs, and mindfulness exercises. Drop in. Program Room.

## Story Time Dance Party

All ages w/caregiver

Friday, Dec 20, 10 AM

Bop to the beat and share some stories! Drop in. Meeting Room.

## \* Sensory Playtime

All ages w/caregiver

Monday, Dec 30, 10 – 11 AM

Join us for a sensory play experience that includes a variety of activities specifically designed to engage the senses. Drop in. Program Room.

## Chinese Story Time

Friday, Jan 24, 10:30 AM

Starlink Global Education brings their interactive Chinese story time to the Library. Enjoy stories, songs, and an introduction to Chinese. [Register](#). Program Room.

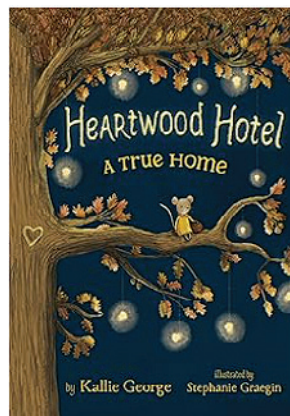
## Winter Wonderland Story Time

All ages w/caregiver

Friday, Jan 31, 10 AM

Get cozy and embrace the magic of winter at our Winter Wonderland Story Time! Join us for some enchanting winter-themed stories, songs, and rhymes. Drop in. Meeting Room.

Look for the snowflake ❄️ to find more fun winter break activities!



## FAMILY WINTER READ

Cozy up with this year's Family Winter Read, *Heartwood Hotel: A True Home* by Kallie George. In this illustrated chapter book, you'll find some little creatures with big hearts, in an inspiring story of friendship, courage, and community.



# LEARN – PLAY – CREATE

## All About Animals

Grades K – 2

Reindeer: Tuesday, Dec 10, 4:15 PM

Penguins: Tuesday, Jan 14, 4:15 PM

Learn all about an animal and make a craft! Register. Program Room.

## Code Together

PreK – Grade 5 w/caregiver

Thursdays, Dec 12 & Jan 23, 6 PM

Kids team up with their adults to explore early coding concepts using Sphero Indi cars and LEGO WeDo robots. Register. Program Room.

## Read With Me™ Therapy Dogs

Grades 1 – 5

Saturdays, Dec 14 & Jan 11, 10 AM

SOUL Harbour Ranch will be here with their Pet Partners registered therapy dogs for some cozy one-on-one reading time. The Pet Partners Read With Me™ initiative incorporates therapy animals to support readers of all ages and abilities. Register. Program Room.

## Afterschool Story + Craft

Grades K – 2

Wednesday, Dec 18, 4 PM: *Just One Flake* by Travis Jonker/snowflake craft

Wednesday, Jan 29, 4 PM: *Snowballs* by Lois Ehlert/snowman craft  
Register. Program Room.

## \* Clay Snowflakes

Grades K – 5

Thursday, Jan 2, 2 PM OR 3 PM

Get creative and make a snowflake as unique as you. Register. Program Room.

## \* Tech Open Lab

All ages w/ caregiver

Friday, Jan 3, 2 – 3:30 PM

Families explore a variety of technology such as robots, circuits, iPads, and more. Drop in. Program Room.

## Family Explorers:

### Rocks + Gemstones

PreK – Grade 2 w/caregiver

Saturday, Jan 18, 10 AM

Let's read *All the Rocks We Love* by Lisa Varchol Perron. After the story, we'll explore rocks and a rock-tastic activity that's a real gem! Register. Program Room.

## \* Cardboard Craft: Birds

Grades K – 5

Monday, Jan 20, 2 PM OR 3 PM

The sky (and your creativity) is the limit when we make birds using recycled cardboard! Register. Program Room.

## REGISTRATION:

Some Youth Services Programs require registration. Registration for Dec and Jan programs opens Monday, Nov 25. To register, visit the Library's online calendar or call (847) 382-1300.

## Build a Snow Globe

Grades 3 – 5

Tuesday, Jan 21, 4:15 PM

Make your own snow globe and listen to a cozy winter story. Register. Program Room.

## Art Studio

Grades K – 8, caregivers welcome  
Tuesday, Dec 17, 4 – 5 PM

\* Monday, Jan 6, 2 – 3 PM

Create something amazing with the Library's art supplies. Drop in. Program Room.

## Lego Club

All ages w/caregiver

Fridays, Dec 20 & Jan 24

3:30 - 4:30 PM

Make LEGO robots, create stories, and build amazing creations. Drop in. Program Room.



# WEEKLY STORY TIMES

## Family Story Time

All ages w/caregiver

Mondays in January

10 AM OR 10:30 AM

Children (with a favorite adult) enjoy books, songs, rhymes, and movement activities while building language and literacy skills. Drop in. Story Room.

## Baby Time

Ages 0 – 12 months w/caregiver

Tuesdays in January, 3:30 PM

Bond with your baby as we share rhymes and songs to build early language skills. Drop in. Story Room.

## Wobbly Ones

Ages 12 – 24 months w/caregiver

Tuesdays in January

10 AM OR 10:30 AM

Enjoy songs, rhymes and stories that support early language and motor skills. Drop in. Story Room.

## Toddler Time

Ages 2 – 3 years w/caregiver

Wednesdays in January

10 AM OR 10:30 AM

Enjoy stories, songs, and rhymes in this energetic story time for toddlers. Drop in. Story Room.

## Art Play

All ages w/caregiver

Thursdays, Jan 9, 23, 30, 10 AM

Through process-oriented art, kids explore their imagination and develop creative thinking skills. Join us for an open-ended art project for all ages and abilities. Mess-makers welcome! Drop in. Program Room.

## Preschool Story Time

Ages 3 – 5 w/caregiver

Thursdays, Jan 9, 23, 30, 11 AM

Enjoy delightful stories, interactive songs, dance and other fun activities that promote essential early literacy and social skills in a welcoming environment. Drop in. Story Room.

# JUST FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL

## Candle Making

Grades 5 – 8

Thursday, Dec 19, 4:15 PM

Wednesday, Jan 15, 4:15 PM

Join us to create your own personalized candle! Register. Program Room.

## \* Learn to Machine Sew:

### Hand Warmers

Grades 6 – 8

Monday, Jan 6, 4 PM

Learn to use a sewing machine by making simple hand warmers to put in your mittens on a cold winter's day. [Register](#) with a BALibrary card. MakerLab.



## HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

### Capstone Café

Tuesday, Dec 17 – Thursday, Dec 19

3 – 9 PM

Stop by the Library to study, enjoy light refreshments, and de-stress during Capstone Days. Our large meeting room will be reserved from 3 - 9 PM just for high school students! Enjoy Mane in Heaven's miniature therapy horses on Wednesday, Dec 18 from 4 – 5 PM. Drop in. Meeting Room.



# FANDOM FEST

Save the Date

Saturday, Feb 22, 10 AM - 3:30 PM

Join us as we celebrate 10 years of Fandom Fest with a full artist alley, cosplayers, photo ops, crafts, and more!

# CREATIVE PURSUITS

## Coffee & Coloring

Thursday, Dec 5, 2 PM

Enjoy a delightful afternoon of coffee, coloring, and good company. [Register.](#) Meeting Room.

## Family Crossword Craft

Friday, Dec 13, 2 PM

Create a unique display using lettered tiles, colorful pebbles, wooden shapes, and a short list of family names.

[Register.](#) Zimmerman Room.

## Mini Zen Gardens

Monday, Jan 6, 10 AM OR 2 PM

Build a calming miniature garden using a variety of objects including stones, sand, and small model greenery.

BALibrary card required. [Register.](#) Meeting Room.

## Paint At BALibrary:

### Moonlit Serenity

Wednesday, Jan 8,

2 OR 7 PM

Create a calming, snowy scene of a moonlit tree, as instructor Ivy provides step-by-step instructions. Dress for a mess! Priority registration for BALibrary cardholders. Ages 14+. Meeting Room.



## Bring Your Own Craft

Wednesday, Jan 22, 1 – 3 PM

Bring a project to work on while you enjoy the company of friends and neighbors. Knitting, sketching, embroidery, or any portable craft - all are welcome. BYOC is a monthly event on 4th Wednesdays. [Register](#) for a reminder or drop in.

## Mini Book Nooks

Wednesday, Jan 22

2 OR 7 PM

Create a cozy book nook with a recycled mint tin and a fun mix of materials. Bring your own mini decorations to make it uniquely yours. Ages 14+. Priority registration for BALibrary cardholders. Meeting Room.



# JUST FOR SENIORS

## Chair Tai Chi

Wednesdays, Dec 4 & Jan 15

10 AM

Join instructor Allison for this fun and relaxing, head-to-toe workout. For those 65 and older. [Register.](#) Virtual.

## Winterberry Watercolor For Seniors

Monday, Dec 9

2 PM

Paint a winterberry watercolor wreath for the holiday season with Kaleidoscope School of Fine Art.

[Register.](#) Meeting Room.



## Game-O-Rama

Tuesday, Dec 10, 2 PM

Bring your friends as Dave Tuszynski leads simple and fun games for 2 – 4 players, like Roll for It, Sevens, and many others. For those 65 and older.

[Register.](#) Meeting Room.

## Senior Scrabble

Wednesday, Jan 15, 1 PM

Bring your pals and test your Scrabble skills in this friendly competition! Five boards available for 2 – 4 players each. For those 65 and older.

[Register.](#) Meeting Room.



## Seed Library Launch

Wednesday, Jan 29

10 AM – 1 PM

(BALibrary cardholders only)

1 PM – 3 PM (Everyone)

Stop by on Wednesday, Jan 29, to see what we're offering in the Seed Library this season. Master Gardeners will be on hand to answer questions and help you make your selections.



Open to Barrington Area Library cardholders from 10 AM to 1 PM; all are welcome to browse for seeds from 1 to 3 PM. Limit of two packets per variety per person present, unless otherwise noted. Select a free garden stake, too; cardholders can visit our MakerLab to personalize their choice.

After Jan 29, the Seed Library will be available to everyone during all regular Library hours. Seeds are free and available while supplies last.

Produce seeds are organic and non-GMO.

For more information about the Seed Library, including the seeds we'll stock in 2025, visit [www.balibrary.org/garden](http://www.balibrary.org/garden).



## Soups

Tuesday, Dec 10, 7 PM

Get cozy and talk soup with Essential Kitchen owner Shawn Bork as he demonstrates a few recipes. [Register.](#) Meeting Room.

## Breads

Tuesday, Jan 14, 7 PM

Come ready to talk about your favorite bread recipes for the winter season and sample a few! [Register.](#) Zimmerman Room.

# ADULT LEARNING

## Who Will Inherit The Mess?

**Monday, Jan 6, 6 PM**

Financial Advisor Greg Corey shares options for estate planning. Learn to maximize the transfer of wealth, minimize or avoid taxes, and preserve important relationships. [Register](#). Virtual.

## Singing Bowl Meditation

**Thursday, Dec 12, 7 PM**

Find a quiet spot at home and immerse yourself in this virtual singing bowl meditation. [Register](#). Virtual.

## Artemis: Return to the Moon

**Tuesday, Jan 14, 7 PM**

Michelle Nichols from the Adler Planetarium discusses our first return to the moon since 1972. NASA will land the first woman and first person of color on the Moon, exploring more of the lunar surface than ever before. Artemis will establish the first long-term human presence on the Moon and send the first astronauts to Mars. [Register](#). Meeting Room.

## Martin Luther King & The October Surprise

**Monday, Jan 20, 7 PM**

Join Clarence Goodman as he focuses on Dr. King's work and the election of 1960. [Register](#). Meeting Room.

## Therapy Vs. Assistance Dogs

**Thursday, Jan 23, 7 PM**

What are the various roles of service dogs and how does one differentiate between them? Learn during this informative presentation from author Jennifer Trojan and trainer Pam Osborne. [Register](#). Meeting Room.

## FamilySearch, AI, and You

**Friday, Jan 24, 2 PM**

Learn all about familysearch.org and its experimental AI feature, enabling you to search deeds, wills, and probate records. Unearth previously unknown and unindexed records and fill in your family tree! [Register](#). Meeting Room.

## Barrington Area Leadership Development: Iterating to Success

**Tuesday, Dec 10, 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM**

*With the Barrington Area Development Council*

Join with peer leaders from the local community to grow your leadership and networks. We'll discuss ideas from Dr. Amy Edmondson, Harvard professor, Global Leadership Summit presenter, and author of *The Right Kind of Wrong: The Science of Failing Well*. Lunch optional. [Register](#).

## Non-Profit Know-How: BAVC Best Practices

**Tuesday, Jan 14, 1 PM**

*With the Barrington Area Development Council*

Barrington Area Volunteer Connection is a platform for nonprofits to find local volunteers...and so much more. Learn tools and tips to take advantage of everything BAVC offers. [Register](#).

# FOR MUSIC LOVERS SECOND FRIDAYS



## Fareed Haque & Goran Ivanovic

**Friday, Dec 13, 7 PM**

Let's celebrate 30 years of Second Fridays with a return performance from Fareed Haque, one of the very first performers in the series. Enjoy two of the finest guitar players of their respective generations, inspired by the rhythms and melodies of flamenco, jazz, classical, rock, and the Balkan region. [Register](#). Meeting Room.



## Martini Lunch Trio

**Friday, Jan 10, 7 PM**

Flash back to the swingin' Sixties sounds of Sinatra and Bobby Darin. Martini Lunch also puts their signature spin on soul, blues, and pop tunes that fit that classic vibe. [Register](#). Meeting Room.

## JAM with B.A.M.

**Wednesday, Jan 15, 7 PM**

Calling all Barrington Area Musicians: join us for BALibrary's first Community Jam! Professional musician and composer Dan leads the group through some tunes while also exploring musical improvisations. Musicians of all levels are encouraged to attend with their instrument. Registrants will receive a brief survey so we can plan the jam accordingly. Ages 14+. Meeting Room.

## Elgin Symphony Listener's Club

**Tuesday, Jan 21, 1 PM**

Delve deep into the concert experience with a personal guided tour, as ESO Assistant Principal Second Violin Robbie Herbst shares personal insights about the upcoming concert program. [Register](#). Meeting Room.

# EXTRAORDINARY EXPERIENCES!

## With Illinois Libraries Present

Enjoy these virtual experiences with authors, actors, podcasters – even musical theatre! – from the comfort of home.

### **The Magic of Raina Telgemeier**

**Tuesday, Dec 10, 7 PM**

Join us for a night with critically acclaimed comic artist, Raina Telgemeier! Raina is the author and illustrator of the graphic novels *Smile*, *Drama*, *Sisters*, *Ghosts*, and *Guts*, all #1 New York Times bestsellers. Raina grew up in San Francisco, then moved to New York City, where she earned an illustration degree at the School of Visual Arts. Raina currently lives and works in San Francisco, CA.

### **Little Women: The Musical (2022)**

**December 20 – 22**

Enjoy a special recording of the performance, for at-home screenings only. Space is limited. Register. Louisa May Alcott's classic story of four sisters growing up in 19th-century Massachusetts made its London premiere in this acclaimed production at Park Theatre. *Little Women* has a book by Allan Knee, lyrics by Mindi Dickstein, and music by Grammy Award-winner Jason Howland.



### **Chicago Pizza: Past, Present & Future**

**Thursday, Jan 9, 7 PM**

Steve Dolinsky, well known Food Guy reporter at NBC 5 and James Beard Award winner for his TV, radio and podcast work, is also the creator of Pizza City Fest, now in four cities, and author of two books about pizza. Join him to dish on his book, *The Ultimate Chicago Pizza Guide: A History of Squares & Slices in the Windy City*.



### **Love and Laughs with Michelle Buteau**

**Thursday, Jan 23, 7 PM**

Enjoy an evening with comedian, actor, television host, and podcaster Michelle Buteau.



These events are made possible by Illinois Libraries Present (ILP), a statewide collaboration among public libraries offering premier events. ILP is funded in part by a grant awarded by the Illinois State Library, a department of the Office of Secretary of State, using funds provided by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services, under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA). ILP is committed to inclusion and accessibility. To request accommodations, email [illinoislibrariespresent@gmail.com](mailto:illinoislibrariespresent@gmail.com). Virtual. Register.

### **Book Potluck**

**Monday, Dec 9, 7 PM**

Bring two books to talk about: one you love, and one you hate. Bonus points if it's a book you feel like you \*should\* love.

### **Woman on Fire**

by Lisa Barr

**Monday, Jan 13, 7 PM**



Join Adult Services Librarians to discuss popular titles in a social book club for adults. Register. Meeting Room.

# Program Guide

is published by the Barrington Area Library.

### **Executive Director**

Jason Pinshower

### **Board of Library Trustees**

President

Carrie Carr

Vice President

Jan Miller

Treasurer

Jennifer Lucas

Secretary

Anne Ordway

Members

Kristin Cunningham

Jackie McGrath

Lindsay Prigge

### **Editor**

Karen McBride

### **Library Hours:**

Mon – Fri: 9 AM – 9 PM

Sat: 9 AM – 5 PM

Sun: 1 PM – 5 PM

### **Direct Numbers:**

Customer Service: 847-382-1300 x1

Adult Services: 847-382-1300 x2

Youth Services: 847-382-1300 x3

### **Library Closings:**

Tuesday, Dec 24, Christmas Eve

Wednesday, Dec 25, Christmas

Tuesday, Dec 31, New Year's Eve

Wednesday, Jan 1, New Year's Day

Thursday, Jan 16, Staff Training

Closed until 1 PM



**BARRINGTON  
AREA LIBRARY**



## BARRINGTON AREA LIBRARY

505 N. NORTHWEST HIGHWAY  
BARRINGTON, IL 60010  
847.382.1300 • balibrary.org



### Library Closings:

Tuesday, Dec 24, Christmas Eve  
Wednesday, Dec 25, Christmas Day  
Tuesday, Dec 31, New Year's Eve  
Wednesday, Jan 1, New Year's Day

Thursday, Jan 16, Staff Training  
Closed until 1 PM

## TECH AND MAKER TOPICS

Register. MakerLab.

### Two-Sided Laser Etching

Thursday, Jan 9, 2 PM OR 6 PM

Learn techniques for laser-etching wood on two sides.

### Sewing Machine:

#### Basics, Bobbins, and Buttons

Monday, Jan 13,

2 PM, 4 PM, 7 PM OR

Tuesday, Jan 14, 10 AM

Learn to use the Library's sewing machines in this no-project, no-pressure introduction.

### MakerLab: Open Shop

Thursday, Jan 16, 2 PM OR 6 PM

Bring in an example or idea to share with your fellow makers in a collaborative, maker-led session.

### Zoom Basics

Monday, Jan 20, 7 PM

Get an introduction or a refresher on using Zoom for your virtual meetings.

### Laser-Etched Seed Boxes

Monday, Jan 27, 2 PM OR 6 PM

Seed Library Launch is almost here! Design a small box to hold your seed packets or any other trinkets.

### Make The Most of MakerLab Appointments

Thursday, Jan 30, 2 PM OR 6 PM

Having trouble finishing a project during a MakerLab appointment? Learn techniques to bring ready-to-produce files into MakerLab.

## MCHENRY COUNTY LIBRARY LOVERS EXPEDITION RETURNS

Feb 1 – March 31, 2025

Visit McHenry County libraries, collect brag tags, explore fun activities, and you just might win a prize basket of gift cards! More details coming soon.

