

LIBRARY CONNECTIONS

Ruby B. Archie Public Library

News, Programs, and Events



November - December 2023



We are thankful for...

...MY PARENTS' BOOKSHELVES.

When I was growing up, my parents had two tall bookshelves overflowing with their respective collections. My mother had all of the classics from Dickens to Dostoevsky. My father had stacks and stacks of science fiction anthologies full of Bradbury, Asimov, and Clarke. They were teenagers in the 1960s so they had all the subversive classics too, like "Naked Lunch" and "The Electric Kool-Aid Acid Test." If I could reach it, I could read it. I remember stacking milk crates to get to the next title I had my eye on. To this day, I am thankful for the variety of literature I had access to and the love of reading and learning that it fostered in me.

~ Rachael Miller

...A TEACHER WHO READ TO ME.

I was recently straightening our shelves and I ran across a few books that I remember my sixth grade teacher reading to us in class. I was instantly transported to the time right after P.E. when Mrs. Blount would read to us. It would be hot beyond belief but I would hate for her to cut on the fans because I wanted to hear every word. Sometimes the windows would be open and the sounds of the playground would drift in to the room. Standing in the library almost 30 years later, I could still feel the breeze on my face and hear the sounds of my classmates laughing in the distance. I shut my eyes and basked in the memories and the words of Roald Dahl and Katherine Paterson. Those are some of the moments I am most thankful for; the ones where a teacher took the time to read to us and that were instrumental in developing in me a life-long love of reading.

~Russell Carter

...GREAT AUTHORS.

It wasn't until later that I gained an appreciation for reading. It always seemed like a chore in grade school. During my first college English course is when my love for the Romantics went berserk! That's when John Keats, Mary Wollstonecraft, and Jane Austen became a part of my life forever. It's this period that I always find myself coming back to like a familiar friend. I'm so thankful for the women (and men) who showed me how reading and writing really can change the world for the better and paved the way for someone like me to have a voice.

~Freja Williamson

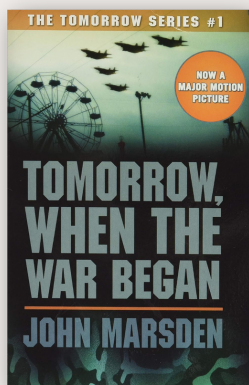
...STORY TIME WITH GRANDMA.

Visits to my grandparents' house growing up are highlighted by memories of sitting on the arm of Grandma's recliner while she read 'Raggedy Ann and Andy's Grow and Learn Library' stories and following along with the colorful pictures. I'm thankful for family that instilled a love for reading even before I could read myself and the many adventures that followed

~ Chrislyn Gardner



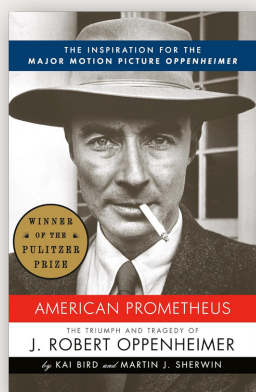
STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS



I found this series through the Hoopla app. *Tomorrow When The War Began*, written by John Marsden, follows a group of teenagers who are unexpectedly thrust into a war that changes their lives forever. Set in Australia, seven friends go on a camping trip to a remote campsite called Hell; however, upon their return,

they find their town and country has been invaded and occupied by an unknown foreign power. Being isolated, cut off, and confronted with the harsh realities of war, they resolve to resist the occupation, save their families, and fight back.

Conner Harris, Information Specialist



American Prometheus is the best book I have ever read. Before I read the book, I committed “the sin” and watched the movie, *Oppenheimer*. I enjoyed the movie so much that I figured I just had to read his biography, which the movie was based upon. The book follows J. Robert

Oppenheimer throughout his entire life; from how his parents met to the death of his daughter. Even though this was a biography, it felt like I was sitting in front of a master storyteller every time I picked this book up. As carefully crafted as it was, it’s no wonder it took two authors 25 years of research and writing to complete this book. I was captivated by the history, which at times felt unreal but was very much true! I wouldn’t say it’s altogether a tragic or a joyful read, but it was raw. Because of that, I can say I have a new and welcomed appreciation for Oppie.

Freja Williamson, Circulation Specialist

SPIRITS OF DANVILLE



On Sept. 30, the Ruby B. Archie Public Library partnered with Smokestack Theatre Company to present “Spirits of Danville” as a part of the Reflections of Home Arts Festival.

The original production featured the stories of Danville’s past told by the apparitions long gone. The event was well received and plans are already underway for next year’s production.

The Reflections of Home Arts Festival occurs annually in September and is a celebration of the written, visual, and performing arts and the artists of Danville. This year’s lineup included an Edgar Allan Poe production, a spoken word performance and workshop, a historical interpretation performance of Frederick Douglass, a historical interpretation workshop, and of course the “Spirits of Danville” show.

For more information, visit www.reflectionsofdanville.com.

REFLECTIONS OF HOME ART EXHIBITION

Reflections of Home Art Exhibition

This was the first year the Ruby B Archie Public Library organized our very own art exhibition as part of the Reflections of Home Arts Festival. The theme chosen was *People, Places, and Progress* in which we asked artists to consider their relationship with our unique and ever-changing city. We are so grateful to all who participated and have already started thinking of next year's show!

Congratulations to the three winners of our accepted categories, mixed media, painting, and photography. The pieces were judged by Felice McWilliams who is with the Danville Art League. Mrs. McWilliams analyzed each piece and provided excellent commentary for each of the winners she chose.

Winners

Mixed Media: *"Bird's Eye View"* by Hannah Barker

"Such a wonderful little piece of needlework! Great use of color to build a 3D aerial view of the river and surrounding landscape. The trees make this picture pop and I loved the movement of the river."

Painting: *"Highland Peace"* by John Thomas

"Such a fascinating piece! This landscape has so much to take in. The lake with a perfect reflection was a joy to discover. The mountains and clouds make you feel like you are viewing another planet. Such vibrant colors!"

Photography: *"Schoolfield Reflections"* by John Ranson

"At first glance, I felt tricked by this photo, but determined to figure it out. Eyes are immediately drawn to the red, and then you see the street reflected with cars and trees and a proud brick building. Great composition!"

Honorable Mentions

Mixed Media: *"People - Places and Progress"* by Amparo Hutchinson

Painting: *"Averett University"* by Kelsey Bolton

Photography: *"Exploring My City"* by Trisha Oakes

Director's Pick: *"Mill on the Water"* by Hunter Applegate



MARK YOUR CALENDARS



Mark your calendars folks, November 18 is National High Five a Librarian Day!

So, why not take a moment to show some love to your favorite book-loving heroes?

Give them a high five and a big thank you for all their tireless efforts!



TO REGISTER FOR ANY LIBRARY PROGRAM, CALL 434-799-5195

The Write Stuff – Writers Group

If you love writing, join us for inspiration, encouragement, and feedback. Bring what you are working on to share with the group or just come to discuss your craft. All genres and writing styles are welcome. Ages 18 and up. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Auditorium **5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.** **No fee**
 • **Tuesdays, Nov. 14, 28, and Dec. 12**

Whodunit Book Club

From cozy mysteries to intense thrillers, we will discuss all the twists, turns, and theories we have along the way. Join us for a thought-provoking discussion and meet other mystery lovers in the community. Ages 18 and up. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Auditorium **Thursdays**
5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. **No fee**
 • **November 2**
 ◦ “Finlay Donovan is Killing It” by Elle Cosimano
 • **December 7**
 ◦ “The Night Shift” by Alex Finlay

Adult Arts and Crafts

Unwind from your day with a relaxing arts and crafts project. Let your creativity shine to create a cute craft or inspiring art piece. Bring friends and meet new ones. Ages 18 and up. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Auditorium **Tuesdays and Thursdays**
5 p.m. to 6 p.m. **No fee**
 • **November 9**
 ◦ **Turkey Bucket**
 • **December 5**
 ◦ **DIY Craft Stick Puzzle**
 • **December 19**
 ◦ **Sharpie Mug**



Unrequired Reading – Classics Book Club

We all learned about the classics in high school. Let's read them again just for fun! Join our discussion for a fresh perspective on these enduring tales. Ages 18 and up. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Auditorium **Mondays**
6 p.m. to 7 p.m. **No fee**
 • **November 20**
 ◦ “A Tree Grows in Brooklyn” by Betty Smith
 • **December 18**
 ◦ “The Hobbit” by J.R.R. Tolkein

Puzzlers Club

Put your thinking caps on and join us to solve crosswords, logic puzzles, and other riddles. You are welcome to bring your own brain teasers for the group to solve. Ages 18 and up. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Auditorium **5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.** **No fee**
 • **Thursdays, Nov. 16 and Dec. 14**

Classic Movie Club

Classic movies tell us stories of love, adventure, intrigue, and so much more. Enjoy a classic movie viewing with a discussion after the film. Ages 18 and up. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Auditorium **11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.** **No fee**
 • **November 18**
 ◦ “Sunset Boulevard” (1950)
 • **December 16**
 ◦ “A Christmas Carol” (1938)



VA-NC Piedmont Genealogical Society Presents

Learn helpful tips and hear interesting stories related to genealogy topics with our guest speaker. Ages 18 and up. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Auditorium **2 p.m. to 3 p.m.** **No fee**
 • **November 2**
 ◦ **Finding Women Ancestors with Larry Cates**
 • **December 7**
 ◦ **The Crossing of the Dan with Gary Hall**

NaNoWriMo

Your novel journey starts now. November is National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo). Challenge yourself to write 50,000 words in a month. Join us for activities, encouragement, and free writing periods to support your writing goals. Bring your own laptop or other internet-capable device. Ages 18 and up. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Genealogy Room **Mondays, Oct. 30 - Dec. 18**
5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. **No fee**

DIY Gift Wrap Hacks

Bring your wrapping skills and holiday spirit to the library. Enjoy a hot beverage and holiday music as you learn simple ways to dress up your gifts with easy-to-make bows, tags, and more. Ages 18 and up. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Auditorium **Thursday, December 21**
5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. **No fee**

Teen Advisory Board

The Teen Advisory Board is a way for teens to have a voice at the library and help others in their community. TAB goals include promoting library services, helping library staff develop teen programs and strong young adult book collections, and creating youth-led service projects. Grades 6-12. Call (434) 799-5195.

Maker Space **Fridays, Nov. 15 and Dec. 13**
4:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. **No fee**

Youth Dungeons & Dragons

Solve puzzles, defeat the monsters, and discover treasure along the way. All experience levels are welcome. This is a 5th edition game. First time participants receive a free set of dice. Snacks are provided. Saturday sessions include lunch. Grades 6-12. Space is limited. Register by the Monday before the program. Call (434) 799-5195.

Maker Space **No fee**

- **Mondays 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.**
 - **Nov. 6 and Dec. 4**
- **Saturdays 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**
 - **Nov. 4 and Dec. 2**

Tween Craft Night

Join us for a night of crafts, music, and snacks. Bring your friends and make new ones. Ages 10-17. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Maker Space **Wednesdays**
5 p.m. to 6 p.m. **No fee**

- **November 15**
 - **DIY Geodes**
- **December 13**
 - **Holiday Ornaments**

Storytellers: Creative Writing 101

Are you a tween who is creative and loves to write? Explore and foster your creative voice through writing prompts and exercises. Covering short stories, poetry, prose, non-fiction, and more, writers will be able to share their work and collaborate with others in a relaxed workshop environment. Grades 6-12. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Maker Space **Tuesday, December 5**
5 p.m. to 6 p.m. **No fee**



Friendsgiving

Give thanks for your friends this year with a festive night of crafts, games, music, and snacks. Grades 6-12. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Second Floor **Friday, November 3**
5 p.m. to 7 p.m. **No fee**

Murder Mystery Dinner

Use problem solving and deductive reasoning to figure out which dinner guest is the murderer. More details on the night's theme to come. Grades 6-12. Space is limited; reservations required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Auditorium **Friday, December 1**
5 p.m. to 7 p.m. **No fee**

Teen Takeover

After-hours at the library is for teens-only! Play video games with friends, make slime, have nerf battles, eat pizza, and more. Grades 6-12. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Second Floor **Friday, December 15**
5 p.m. to 7 p.m. **No fee**

Bookworms: Tween Book Club

Talk about "Maizy Chen's Last Chance" by Lisa Yee and get to know your fellow bookworms! Be sure to read the book ahead of time to get the most out of the program! A free copy of the book will be given out to the first newcomer to register a month before the meeting. Snacks provided. Grades 5-8. Call (434) 799-5195.

Maker Space **Wednesday, December 20**
4 p.m. to 5 p.m. **No fee**

Overbooked: Teen Book Club

Meet new friends and discuss "Dragon Hoops" by Gene Luen Yang! Be sure to read the book ahead of time to get the most out of the program! A free copy of the book will be given out to the first newcomer to register a month before the meeting. Snacks provided. Grades 9-12. Call (434) 799-5195.

Maker Space **Wednesday, January 3**
4 p.m. to 5 p.m. **No fee**



Book Babies

Music and rhymes, stories, and fingerplays in a lap sit program for babies and their caregivers. Recommended for children 0-24 months. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Activity Room **Fridays, Nov. 3 and Dec. 8**
10:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. **No fee**

Little Explorers Storytime

Children and their caregivers are invited to join us for songs, stories, and activities that promote language development and pre-literacy skills. Recommended for ages 2-5. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Maker Space **11 a.m. to 12 p.m.** **No fee**
 • **Tuesdays, Nov. 7 through Dec. 19**

LEGO Brick Engineers

Make your own LEGO brick creation to meet this month's creative challenge. Bricks provided; imagination required. All LEGO models will be displayed in the children's department. Ages 5-17. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Maker Space **Mondays, Nov. 6 and Dec. 4**
4 p.m. to 5 p.m. **No fee**

Maker Mondays

Put your maker caps on to build, explore, tinker, and create fun hands-on projects. Each session will have different activities to try and problems to solve. Ages 7-17. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Maker Space **Mondays**
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. **No fee**
 • **November 27**
 • **DIY Worry Pets**

Tree House Tuesday

If you are an adventurer like Jack and Annie from the Magic Tree House, this program is for you! Learn about ninjas and twisters, perform experiments, and make crafts in this literary STEAM program. Ages 5-12. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Maker Space **Tuesday, Nov. 28**
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. **No fee**

Mad Scientists

Put your goggles and lab coats on and explore components of STEAM through hands-on demonstrations, experiments, and crafts. Ages 8-17. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Maker Space **Thursdays**
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. **No fee**
 • **December 7**
 • **Marshmallow Engineering**

Dumbledore's Army

Calling all witches, wizards, and Muggles. Join us monthly as we learn different wizarding subjects, from Herbology and Charms to Defense Against the Dark Arts, with crafts, activities, and demonstrations. Become a DA member today! Ages 9 and up. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Maker Space **Thursdays**
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. **No fee**
 • **December 21**
 • **Yule Ball**

Little Learning Lab

Explore, create, and learn through interactive STEAM based activities that will engage the mind and body as your child builds their fine motor skills and creativity while exploring scientific concepts. Ages 2-7. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Maker Space **Thursdays**
4 p.m. to 5 p.m. **No fee**
 • **November 9**
 • **I Like to Move It Move It! (Force and Motion)**
 • **December 14**
 • **Winter Wonderland**

Gobble Good Fun

Quit yolking around and waddle on down to the library for a night of festive fun and games for families. Have the baste night ever chasing turkeys, making pumpkin play dough, and playing turkey bingo. All ages welcome. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Maker Space **Thursday, November 16**
5 p.m. to 6 p.m. **No fee**



PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

Preschool Picassos

Join us for an evening of finger-painting and fun. Let those creative juices and drinks flow as you create your own work of art. Materials and drinks will be provided. Ages 6 and under. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Maker Space
4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Wednesday, November 29
No fee

Gingerbread Ornaments

Make your own ginger salt dough ornaments and try your hardest to catch the gingerbread man! Ages 2-12. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Auditorium
5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Wednesday, December 6
No fee

Walt Disney Day

Celebrate Walt Disney's birthday with a magical night of Disney-rific crafts and games. All ages. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Maker Space
4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Monday, December 11
No fee

Santa's Workshop

Calling all holiday elves! Spend the night creating your own special toy with provided materials. Become Santa's little helper today! Ages 3-12. Registration is required. Call (434) 799-5195.

Maker Space
4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Monday, December 18
No fee

SUPPLIES FOR FINES

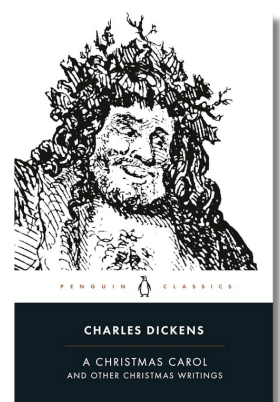


We are thrilled to have collaborated with Danville Public Schools in donating essential supplies to our community. This endeavor also offered an opportunity for patrons to renew their library accounts.

CHRISTMAS CLASSICS

Psst! Want to know a secret?

You can get your hands on awesome reads right now with Libby's always-available titles! So why not dive into one of these holiday classics today?



TO REGISTER FOR ANY LIBRARY PROGRAM, CALL 434-799-5195



Let's keep in touch.

Scan the QR code to sign up for the digital version of this newsletter!

Ruby B. Archie Public Library
511 Patton Street · Danville

Phone - 434-799-5195
www.readdanvilleva.org

Looking for the perfect gift to wrap up your holiday season?



Take a Look at our Mystery Book Sale!

Bring some holiday cheer by sharing the joy of reading this season!

Our books come pre-wrapped, so less stress!

Hours

Monday - Thursday 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Friday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Upcoming Closings

Friday, November 10 the Library will be closed in observance of Veteran's Day.

Wednesday, November 22 the Library will close early at 12 p.m.

November 23 - 25 the Library will be closed in observance of Thanksgiving.

December 25 - 26 the Library will be closed in observance of Christmas.

Did you know?

It's leaf peeping season and we have the perfect accessory for your next Fall Trip!

Take a Hike Kits are available for checkout at the library all year long!

Use the included guides and binoculars to identify native flora, fauna and fungi!

Get out there this fall and explore!

Don't forget to jot down your adventures in the travel log!

