

NPL

SPRING 2023
ACTIVITY GUIDE



NORMAL
PUBLIC LIBRARY

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NPL KNITTING & CROCHETING CLUB

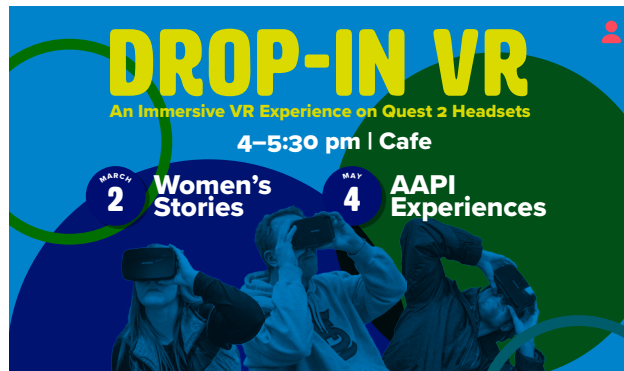
March 1 & 15 • April 5 & 19 • May 3 & 17

10 am–12 pm

In-Person: Community Room

At Home: on Zoom

Gather to work on your current project and share tips and information. Bring a project you would like to work on.

**TATE LEWIS-CARROLL BOOK LAUNCH**

March 4 | 2–3 pm

Community Room

Local poet Tate Lewis-Carroll, a Poetry is Normal open mic participant, will launch their new book from Finishing Line Press.

EDIBLE WILD MUSHROOMS: THE FOOL-PROOF FOUR & MORE

March 5 | 2–3 pm

Community Room

The Fool-Proof Four refer to four of the over 50 wild mushrooms that are easy to identify, abundant, and delicious. In this presentation from certified wild mushroom expert Hunter Le Duc, participants will learn to recognize these mushrooms and a handful more that can easily be found locally and turned into succulent and nutritious meals.

GENEALOGY MEETUP

March 7 • April 4 • May 2 | 2–3 pm

In-Person: Community Room

At Home: on Zoom

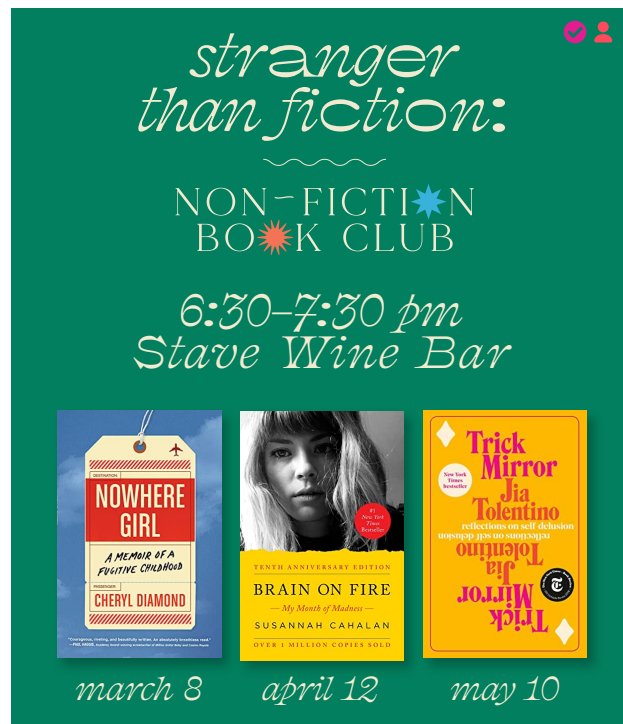
Share your recent genealogical finds with others! Get help using Ancestry Library Edition and other library resources to explore your family's history.

**PAPER CRAFTING CLUB**

March 8 • April 12 • May 10

10 am–12 pm | Community Room

Paper crafters, please join us for an opportunity to work on your projects. We will provide a large workspace and bring out some of our best paper crafting tools for you to try and use. Whether you scrapbook, make cards, or build 3D paper sculptures, there is room for you at NPL. Please bring your own materials to use with our tools.

**ADULT WRITING MEETUP**

March 11 • April 8 • May 13

2–3:30 pm | Community Room

Whether you enjoy writing as a hobby or a career, join us for a monthly writing meet-up. Bring your latest project to share or continue working on. There will be opportunities to read each other's writing and discuss latest reads. Bring or borrow a computer, or paper and pen will be provided.



AN INSIDE LOOK AT WATER BY THE SPOONFUL

WITH HEARTLAND THEATRE COMPANY

March 13 | 7–8 pm
Heartland Theatre

1110 Douglas St., Normal, IL 61761

An Inside Look gives the audience a chance to meet the director and designers of each production. The current production, opening March 30, is *Water by the Spoonful*, winner of the 2012 Pulitzer Prize for Drama.

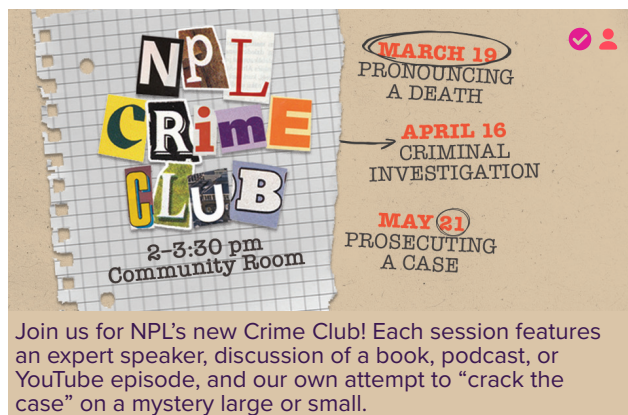
PINS & NEEDLES: A FIBER ARTS CELEBRATION

WITH BLOOMINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

March 18 | 2–4 pm

First Floor

Are you a needlework novice thinking about a new hobby? Or a seasoned crafter looking for some new techniques? Explore the wide world of fiber arts, with demonstrations of spinning, knitting, crocheting, quilting, cross stitching, embroidery, and more! Get your questions answered by representatives from local craft shops and fiber guilds as well as other experienced artisans, and have the opportunity to see new tools and materials in person.



NPL Crime Club
2–3:30 pm
Community Room

MARCH 19
PRONOUNCING
A DEATH

APRIL 16
CRIMINAL
INVESTIGATION

MAY 21
PROSECUTING
A CASE

Join us for NPL's new Crime Club! Each session features an expert speaker, discussion of a book, podcast, or YouTube episode, and our own attempt to "crack the case" on a mystery large or small.

TAXES IN RETIREMENT FOR 2023

WITH THE INSTITUTE FOR FINANCIAL EDUCATION

March 22 | 6:30–7:30 pm

Community Room

Learn about recent and proposed tax changes and how they could impact your retirement income. Tyler Wrezinski will cover the SECURE Act, opportunities to reduce your tax burden, strategies to help protect yourself against the taxation of your Social Security income, and more. With tax efficiency at the core of a solid retirement strategy, staying informed on how important tax law changes may affect you and your family is pivotal. This workshop is designed to help you determine the steps necessary to minimize taxation of your assets and maximize income in retirement.

EXPLORE ART

WITH ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY ART EDUCATION

ages 12+

March 23 & 30 • April 6 | 1:30–3 pm
Community Room

Participants will use a variety of mediums and techniques and will be introduced to works of contemporary artists that relate to the lessons' subject matter.

BIO-PARENTS FOR PEG & DONNA: A GENETIC GENEALOGY CASE STUDY

April 5 | 6:30–7:30 pm

In-Person: Community Room 

At Home: on Zoom 

Genetic genealogy expert Michelle Wilson will lead participants through a DNA case study to identify the biological parents of two related adoptees.

Romance Me

BOOK CLUB

6:30–7:30 PM

COMMUNITY ROOM



March 23 **April 27** **May 25**

Books featured: *The Bromance Book Club* by Lyssa Kay Adams, *The Love Hypothesis* by Ali Hazelwood, *Girl on Fire* by Alisha Rai.

*Recipe Rotisserie a cookbook CLUB

2–3:30 * Community Room



MAR 26 Half Baked Harvest Everyday
MAY 7 Theme: Sweet & Savory Pies

Grab your apron and join our cookbook club! Choose a recipe from the featured cookbook or theme, prepare your recipe at home, and bring it to the library to share for a tasting with others! Cookbooks will be available to pick up at NPL.

adult reading challenge



march
read a coming of age story



april
read a science fiction novel



may
read a book by an Asian American author

**book
brunch**

march 28 • april 25
may 23 | 10–11 am
board room

LEARNING CIRCLE: THE SCIENCE OF HAPPINESS ✓ 2

Thursdays | April 6–May 25

10 am–12 pm | Board Room

Learn something new! Participants will meet once a week to work through an online course with support from others. For this learning circle, we will be working through the course *The Science of Happiness* by UC Berkeley, offered through edX. This eight-week course explores the roots of a happy and meaningful life through science and practice.

RETIREMENT UNIVERSITY ✓ 2**WITH THE INSTITUTE FOR FINANCIAL EDUCATION**

April 8 & 15 | 10–11:30 am

Community Room

Whether retirement is far off or coming up soon, now is the time to plan ahead and learn what you need to know now in order to retire securely. Become familiar with social security income planning strategies, taking your current expenses and income stream into consideration. Bernie Wrezinski will present on important topics like Medicare coverage and long-term care, and help you get an accurate look at tax efficient legacy planning and wills and trusts.

TOMATO TROUBLES ✓ 2

May 3 | 6:30–7:30 pm

Community Room

Master Gardener Elaine Yoder will highlight common tomato troubles encountered by every gardener. Learn basic pest management, common pests and diseases, and environmental or cultural issues you may encounter this season.

FINANCES FOR WOMEN ✓ 2**WITH THE INSTITUTE FOR FINANCIAL EDUCATION**

May 20 | 10–11 am

Community Room


In this class from Josie Metzger, learn what it means to operate as a female in the financial world. Discover how to properly prepare for retirement and discuss various investment choices, saving basics, and tools available for managing debt.

NORMAL, ILLINOIS UKULELE FUN JAM! 2

March 4 • April 1 • May 6

2–4 pm | Café

Bring your ukulele (or borrow one of the library's) and join in, or feel free to watch and listen. More information on the group, and a songbook, can be found at normalukejam.com.



n p l
tiny book concerts
Cafe | 12–1 pm

march 9 JaM Acoustic	march 23 emily the band	april 6 Orpheus Mandolin Orchestra
april 20 Chris & Kim Acoustic Duo	may 4 Christine Cicha	

CELEBRATE EARTH MONTH 2

April 10 | 10 am–6 pm

Throughout NPL

Let's honor Earth Month with a day of activities for all ages focused on sustainability and our planet!

10 am–6 pm Upcycled crafts for all ages**10–10:30 am** Baby Rock for the planet!**2–4 pm** Nature and sustainability activities for families with Sugar Grove Nature Center and Ecology Action Center**4–5:30 pm** Immersive VR documentaries about the environment for teens and adults**4–6 pm** Ecology themed game demos for all ages from Red Raccoon Games**ASIAN HERITAGE CELEBRATION** ✓ 2

April 22 | 10 am–4 pm

Throughout NPL

Learn, participate, and celebrate with different performances and activities throughout the day!

INTRODUCTION TO STORM CHASING ✓ 2

April 29 | 2–3 pm

Community Room

Veteran storm chaser Brian Hastings presents on the myths and realities of observing severe weather. Learn how he got into storm chasing, the preparation and safety measures involved, and see photos and videos from the field.

PRAIRIE FIRE THEATRE PRESENTS:**PANIC IN THE BARNYARD** 2

May 6 | 10–11 am

Community Room

Prairie Fire Theatre brings their newest children's opera to Normal Public Library!



APRIL IS NATIONAL POETRY MONTH!

Poetry is Normal Presents: Barbara Harris Leonhard 2
March 21 * 7–8 pm
on YouTube Live

Poetry is Normal Open Mic: Celebration! ✓ 2 2
April 18 * 7–8 pm
Café or on Zoom

Poetry Reading: Angela Jackson, Illinois Poet Laureate 2 2
April 29 * 2–3 pm
Café or on YouTube Live

Poetry is Normal Presents: Ken Kashian & Kathleen Kirk 2 2
May 16 * 7–8 pm
Café or on YouTube Live

Poetry is Normal Presents: Sandra Marchetti 2 2
May 20 * 2–3 pm
Café or on YouTube Live



SPRING Poetry Events
ages 18+

MAKE NORMAL EXTRAORDINARY.

FOUNDATION BOARD

Lyn Potts President
Marc Tucci Vice-President
Morgan Falconer Treasurer
Nancy Anderson Secretary

Dr. Ramsin Benjamin
Bevin Choban
Michelle Freeman
Maggie Gibb
Brian Huonker

Cheryl Magnuson
Clare Malott
Charley Reynard
Erin Ripley-Gataric

Normal Public Library Foundation funding supports:

Summer Reading Challenge • author visits • Poetry is Normal Presents • 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten • music concerts • theater performances • character visits • magic workshops art workshops • LEGO events • local speakers • and so much more for our community

With your vital support, we can do more.

The Normal Public Library Foundation works to ensure every person builds a life-long relationship with learning and libraries, giving them access to all the tools needed to succeed in life.

NPLF is a community-based organization designed to raise and provide funding to enable Normal Public Library to enhance programs, services and facilities for our community.

There are three easy ways to give:

- ❶ Individual and Corporate Giving
- ❷ Planned Giving
- ❸ Passive Giving—
Axline Pharmacy, Kroger Community Rewards,
Schnucks escrip

To make a gift of stock or learn about other ways to support the library, contact John Fischer at jfischer@normalpl.org or 309.433.3488.



Thank you to all of our donors for both investing and believing in the vision of Normal Public Library. Your support makes all the difference!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Use the form below to make your gift or give online at normalpl.org/NPLF

Name _____
Phone _____ Date _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Email _____

I am interested in supporting the Normal Public Library Foundation by:

- ☐ Sponsoring ☐ Serving on the Normal Public Library Foundation Board
☐ Giving (complete below)

Enclosed is my gift of:

- ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$1,000 ☐ \$5,000 ☐ \$10,000
☐ Other _____ ☐ one-time gift ☐ recurring
☐ My gift will be matched by _____
☐ Please record this donation in honor/memory of: _____

Payment Method

- ☐ check ☐ credit card (complete below) ☐ cash

Name on Card _____

Credit Card # _____

Exp. Date _____ Security Code _____

Signature _____

- ☐ I would like information about including Normal Public Library Foundation in my estate plan.

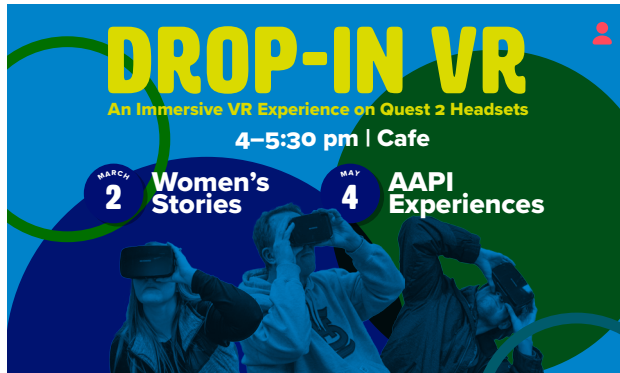
Detach and send to: Normal Public Library Foundation
206 W. College Ave. / Normal, IL 61761

The Normal Public Library Foundation is a non-profit organization under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3) and your gift is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Federal Tax ID # 45-3138846

For online giving go to: normalpl.org/NPLF
For more information call: 309.433.3488

All pledges should be made payable to Normal Public Library Foundation

NORMAL PUBLIC LIBRARY
FOUNDATION



TEEN ADVISORY COUNCIL

March 2 • April 6 • May 4

4–5 pm | Board Room

Come share your ideas and have a say in teen services at Normal Public Library.



TEEN & TWEEN CRAFTERNOONS

ages 10–18 years

4–6 pm | Café

We will provide the supplies, you provide the creativity!

March 9

Duct tape bags & wallets

April 13

Felt flowers & succulent wreaths

May 11

Tie-dye t-shirts

TEEN D&D

March 13 & 27 • April 10 & 24 • May 8 & 22

5–7:30 pm | Community Room  

March 20 • April 17 • May 15

5–8 pm | Discord & Roll20  

Goblin ambushes, mysterious caverns, evil henchmen, and yes, a dragon await you in this D&D campaign. Do not worry if you have never played or do not have a character developed, all are welcome to join.

TEEN ANIME CLUB

March 14 • April 11 • May 9

4:30–6 pm | Board Room

Come join other fans of Japanese animation and comics as we watch and discuss our favorite anime TV shows.

TEEN WRITERS' WORKSHOP

March 16 • April 20 • May 18

4–5 pm | Board Room

Join us to discuss the highs and lows of the writing life, and share your work with other writers!

EXPLORE ART

WITH ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY ART EDUCATION

ages 12+

March 23 & 30 • April 6 | 1:30–3 pm

Community Room

Participants will use a variety of mediums and techniques and will be introduced to works of contemporary artists that relate to the lessons' subject matter.

TEEN & TWEEN LEGO BUILD CHALLENGE

ages 10–18 years

March 31 | 2–4 pm

Community Room

Test your LEGO building skills, both alone and with a team, in this ultimate LEGO challenge, featuring speed builds, mystery builds, and a Showstopper Challenge!

POETICALLY SPEAKING

April 12 | 5–6:30 pm

Community Room

Celebrate National Poetry Month with a variety of poetry experiences, including a make your own magnetic poetry station, blackout poetry, an open mic time for sharing your own poetry, and more!

SNACK FOOD TASTE TEST CHALLENGE

May 27 | 2:30–4 pm

Community Room

Come try all kinds of unique snacks from around the world and vote on your favorites! Can you guess what each food item is? Which snack will reign supreme?



CELEBRATE WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH SCAVENGER HUNT

ages 5–12 years

March 1–31 | Second Floor

March is Women's History Month! Honor women's contributions to American history all month long with a scavenger hunt. Stop by the second-floor service desk to begin.

ART SPARKS

ages 8–12 years

March 2 • April 6 • May 4

6–7 pm | Community Room

Craving creativity? Need more color in your life? Try being an Art Spark! We will dabble with different mediums to create monthly masterpieces! Dress to get messy!

BABY ROCK

ages 0–2 years

Mondays in March & April

10–10:30 am | Community Room

Enjoy stories, songs, and fingerplays, all intended to enhance babies' development of language and senses.

MAKER ACADEMY

ages 5–8 years

March 6 • April 3 • May 1

4–5:30 | Community Room

The Academy is back in session! Craft, experiment, design, and create with other makers! Every month we will meet to work on a new project. At your first session of Maker Academy, you will be presented with your maker apron and then each activity you attend will earn you buttons to add to your apron.

READY, SET, READ!

ages 3–5 years

Tuesdays in March & April

10–10:45 am | Book Nook

Join us for a fun environment filled with stories, songs, crafts, and activities. No registration required!

LEGO MY LIBRARY

ages 2–12 years

March 7 • April 4 • May 2

4–6 pm | Second Floor Media Zone

Join us every month to build, build, build! Each month will have a new LEGO theme, but children are welcome to build anything. Children under the age of 8 should make sure their grownups are part of the construction crew.

JAMMIE JAMBOREE

ages 0–5 years

March 9 & 23 • April 13 & 27 • May 11 & 25

6–6:30 pm | Book Nook

Put on your pajamas and join us for stories, songs, and bubbles!

INVENT & CREATE

ages 2–12 years

March 28

9 am–7 pm | Second Floor

Discover, build, color, and create with a variety of craft supplies. Fill a bucket with supplies and let your imagination be your guide!

FAMILY CODERS

ages 8–12 years

6–7:15 pm | Community Room

Learn coding skills together! Kids will work in teams with their grown-ups to practice computational thinking and explore fun technology. Funded in part by a grant from the Illinois Prairie Community Foundation.

March 29

Pattern Recognition featuring Osmo Coding Jam

April 26

Functions featuring Dash & Dot

FAMILY FORT & PAJAMA NIGHT

March 30 | 6–7 pm

Community Room

Bring the whole family for a cozy night of fun in your pajamas! Build your own blanket fort and read or play games under flashlight! Pre-packaged snacks will be served. Supplies will be provided, but please bring any additional blankets, pillows, stuffed animals, and flashlights you would like to use!

BOOK RELEASE PARTY WITH UNIT 5

April 1 | 10 am–12 pm

Café & Gallery

Join us as we shine a spotlight on writing through the display of books written by children in Kindergarten through eighth grade. Student winners of the Unit 5 Young Authors contest will share excerpts of their books and all will be able to participate in fun book-related activities. Books will be on display in the Children's Department until April 30.

STEAM CLUB

ages 8–12 years

April 20 • May 18

6–7 pm | Community Room

Come to explore science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics in STEAM Club! Expect activities, experiments, crafts, and lots of STEAM related books! Dress to get messy!

TINY CHEFS

ages 3–5 years

April 21 | 10–11 am

Community Room

Stir up some fun with a short storytime followed by hands-on cooking of a related recipe. Dress to get messy with your grownup!



1:30–3:30 pm | Second Floor

Join us to celebrate reading at El día de los niños/ El día de los libros (day of the child/day of the book)! Enjoy crafts, virtual reality experiences, and bilingual storytime in Spanish and English!

NORMAL ARC 10 AM	March 7 & 21 April 4 & 18 May 2 & 16
ADELAIDE APARTMENTS 1 PM	March 7 April 4 May 2
BLAIR HOUSE 10 AM	March 13 April 10 May 8
MERCY CREEK 10 AM	March 14 April 11 May 9
EVERGREEN VILLAGE 9:30 AM	March 28 April 25 May 23
EVERGREEN PLACE 11 AM	March 28 April 25 May 23



Normal Public Library
206 W. College Ave.
Normal, IL 61761

309.452.1757
Children's: 454.4668

normalpl.org
ask@normalpl.org

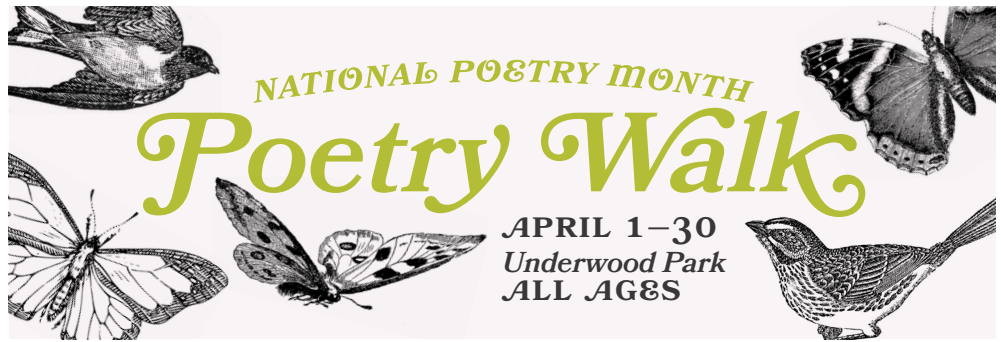
M - TH | 9 AM-8 PM
F - SAT | 9 AM-5 PM
SUN | 1 PM-5 PM

Program details are subject to change.

/normalpl
 normalpubliclibrary
 NPLtweets

During library events staff may take photographs and/or video recordings for future publicity and promotional purposes.

If you prefer to keep yourself or your child from appearing in these photographs or videos, please immediately inform library staff present at the event. Thank you!



MARCH							APRIL							MAY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4						1			1	2	3	4	5	6
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31			
							30													

CLOSED ON APRIL 9 & MAY 28-29