NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE   Contact: Kristen Corrado
616.988.5402, ext. 5438
kcorrado@grpl.org

Grand Rapids Public Library Events for November 2019

Día de los Muertos: Family Day
Sunday, November 3, 2019, 1:00 pm
Main Library - 111 Library St NE

Families are invited to learn more about the Día de los Muertos holiday. Children can have their face painted and listen to bilingual storytimes. Other activities include live music and food sampling from local restaurants.

Basic Computer Maintenance
Tuesday, November 5, 2019, 1:00 pm
Main Library - 111 Library St NE

Have you noticed your computer slowing down? Have you had a virus or malware infect your machine? Learn a few basic things you can do to keep your desktop, laptop, or mobile device running smoothly and efficiently. Discover the various problems and threats that can completely disable or reduce the lifespan of your machine.

Social Justice Begins with Me: A Book Club for Kids
Saturday, November 9, 2019, 10:30 am
Main Library – 111 Library St NE

Children ages 4-11 can explore social justice topics that impact their daily lives through children's literature. GVSU, GRPL and community volunteers a will read children's books on that month's social justice topic (e.g. celebrating diversity, gender, equity, disability). After the book readings, we discuss the month's social justice topic in small groups and enjoy a snack and themed craft activity. This program is a partnership between the Grand Rapids Public Library and the School of Social Work at Grand Valley State University. This month's topic: First Nations People.

Understanding the Ethnic Ancestry in Your DNA Test
Saturday, November 9, 2019, 1:30 pm
Main Library - 111 Library St NE

Many DNA tests now include a breakdown of your overall ethnic ancestry. Yet many people don't get the results they expect. Different companies may show different results for the same person. People also wonder why siblings see different results in the same test, or why Native American ancestry does not always show up as expected. This session will address these issues and more, such as which tests to consider and which to avoid. We will review and compare actual ethnicity reports from AncestryDNA, 23andMe, FTDNA's Family Finder, MyHeritage, Living DNA, GEDmatch, National Geographic's Geno 2.0 and Insitome. This program is co-sponsored by the Western Michigan Genealogical Society.

Backup Basics: How to Secure Your Data
Tuesday, November 12, 2019, 1:00 pm
Main Library - 111 Library St NE

Whether its your family photos, business documents, or digital media collection, your digital data is valuable. Learn how to ensure your digital data is kept safe and secure. From thumb drives and hard drives to cloud storage, find multiple ways to backup your data on any device.

Intro to Coding Workshop
Tuesday, November 12, 2019, 6:30 pm
Main Library - 111 Library St NE

Curious about tech careers? This free workshop, taught by the Grand Circus community, is designed for those who have little or no coding experience. Learn about basic programming technology and practice basic programming. Provided in collaboration with the City of Grand Rapids SmartZone and the Grand Rapids Public Library. Registration is required.

Grant Seeking 101
Wednesday, November 13, 2019, 7:00 pm
Main Library - 111 Library St NE

The process of grant writing can be daunting, but we'll show you the ropes. Learn how to plan, write, and fund your grants using Grantspace.org and The Foundation Directory Professional.

Division Avenue: A Trip Back in Time
Wednesday, November 13, 2019, 7:00 pm
Main Library - 111 Library St NE

South Division was once a dirt road that connected Grand Rapids to Kalamazoo. Over time, it evolved into a thriving corridor important to area businesses and the people of Grand Rapids. Prior to an era with malls and shopping centers, South Division was home to a number of retail businesses, as well as auto deals, lawyers, restaurants, factories, hotels, doctors, and more. In the first of a two-part series, local researcher Ed Pacienca details the story of South Division, including how the city widened the road in the 1920s. Ed will show photographs and share stories from his forthcoming book, *The History of South Division*, which marks the culmination of 15 years of research. This program is co-sponsored by the Grand Rapids Historical Society.

Genealogy Lock-In
Friday, November 15, 2019, 6:00 pm
Main Library - 111 Library St NE

Come to the Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department for a free after-hours program just for genealogists. Learn how to use the library databases, newspaper microfilm and other resources, and take advantage of free copying and printing during the event. Bring your family history questions or problems—volunteers from the Western Michigan Genealogical Society will be on hand to assist. Network with other genealogists—you never know what you might find. Registration required: www.grpl.org/register or call 616-988-5400.

Yoga Time
Saturday, November 16, 2019, 11:00 am
Main Library - 111 Library St NE

Bend and breathe in this yoga class for kids, led by an instructor from AM Yoga. Mats will be provided, but you are welcome to bring your own. For ages 4-11.

Internet Privacy: Protecting Yourself in the Digital Age
Tuesday, November 19, 2019, 1:00 pm
Main Library - 111 Library St NE

Everyday we hear about how governments, corporations, and hackers are gaining access to individual accounts and personal information. There is a lot you can do to minimize risk as you go online. Learn how to secure your information and manage your digital footprint, including securing your internet connection and browser, creating and managing passwords, and authentication devices.

Social Media Privacy: Taking Control of Your Profiles
Tuesday, November 26, 2019, 1:00 pm
Main Library - 111 Library St NE

Facebook, Twitter and Instagram have revolutionized how we communicate and relate to one another. But at what cost? Learn how social media uses personal information and how to regain some control over your online profiles. Discover important settings and features that help control your social media profiles and online identity.

Día de los Muertos: Honoring Day of the Dead
Wednesday, October 30 - Sunday, November 3, 2019, during open hours
Main Library - 111 Library St NE

Come celebrate Día de los Muertos with the Grand Rapids Public Library. Day of the Dead is a Mexican holiday that honors family and friends who have passed on. Loved ones come together to build altars that celebrate the life and memory of the dead. This is a time of celebration and joy, filled with talk and memories of those who have died. Altars from members of the community honoring family and friends will be on display. Every altar is unique and taken together they create a fascinating portrait of what citizens of Grand Rapids hold close to them. Free and open to the public.

Art Attack with the DAAC
Tuesdays, September 10 - November 26, 2019, 3:00 pm
Van Belkum Branch - 1563 Plainfield NE

Our new neighbors, the Division Avenue Arts Collaborative (DAAC) is leading an after school art program at the library. Kids in grades 3-8 can kick back and get creative with local artists.

Storytime at the Farmers Market
Saturdays, September 14 - November 9, 2019, 12:00 pm
South East Area Farmers Market - MLK Park

Join us for a very special storytime at Martin Luther King Jr. Park! We will read stories, sing songs, and have activities and information on library programs. Come join us at the farmers market!

Let's Play!
Children 0-5 are invited to a playdate at the library! Let's Play focuses on child-driven play using STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and math) toys to ignite the imagination. Caretakers are invited to enjoy

a cup of coffee while meeting new people and learning helpful early literacy tips. Drop in for an hour of friends and fun.

Mondays, November 25, December 2, 9, 16
6:30 pm   West Leonard Branch - 1017 Leonard NW

Tuesdays, November 26, December 3, 10, 17
11:00 am   Main Library - 111 Library St NE

Wednesday, November 27, December 4, 11, 18
10:30 am   Seymour Branch - 2350 Eastern SE
11:00 am   West Side Branch - 713 Bridge NW

Baby & Me Storytimes
Bring your baby, 0-18 months, and bounce along to fun stories, songs, and rhymes. Baby & Me is a 15-minute storytime followed by a relaxed playtime where you and baby will meet new friends.

Mondays, September 9 – November 11
1:30 pm   West Leonard Branch – 1017 Leonard NW
6:30 pm   Main Library – 111 Library St NE

Wednesday, September 11 – November 13
11:00 am   Yankee Clipper Branch - 2025 Leonard NE

Thursday, September 12 – November 14
10:30 am   Seymour Branch - 2350 Eastern SE

Toddler Time
Bring your toddlers, ages 18 months to 3 years, to share fun stories, songs, and rhymes and learn together! Toddler Time is a 25-minute long storytime followed by a hands-on activity and playtime designed to help your child's brain grow.

Tuesdays, September 10 – November 12
11:00 am   Main Library - 111 Library St NE

Wednesdays, September 11 – November 13
10:30 am   Seymour Branch - 2350 Eastern SE
11:00 am   West Leonard Branch - 1017 Leonard NW

Thursdays, September 12 – November 14
11:00 am   Yankee Clipper Branch – 2025 Leonard NE

Pajama Time!
Come explore learning through fun stories, movement, and music activities during this evening storytime. Pajama Time is a 30-minute storytime followed by a hands-on activity and playtime. Wear your pajamas and get those wiggles out before bed! For families with children 5 and under.

Tuesdays, September 10 – November 12
6:30 pm   Seymour Branch - 2350 Eastern SE

Thursdays, September 12 – November 14
6:30 pm   Madison Square Branch – 1201 Madison SE

Storytimes for Families
Parents and caregivers are invited to bring their children 18-months to 5 years old to this 45-minute class featuring hands-on, literacy rich activities such as stories, songs, fingerplays, and hands-on fun. Classes end with a fun and creative art activity.

Saturdays, September 14 - November 16
10:00 am   Yankee Clipper Branch - 2025 Leonard NE

STEAM Ahead Storytime
Children ages 3-5 can discover the world around them through science, technology, engineering, art, and math (STEAM). Join us for a 20-minute storytime followed by 25-minutes of hands-on activities.

Tuesday, September 10 – November 12
6:30 pm   Yankee Clipper Branch – 2025 Leonard NE

Wednesday, September 11 – November 13
11:00 am   Main Library – 111 Library St NE

Thursday, September 12 – November 14
11:00 am   West Leonard Branch – 1017 Leonard NW

Bilingual Pajama Time
Join us for an evening bilingual storytime filled with fun stories, movement, and music activities. The 30-minute English and Spanish storytime followed by a hands-on activity and playtime. Wear your pajamas and get those wiggles out before bed! For families with children 5 and under.

Mondays, September 9 – November 11
6:30 pm   West Leonard Branch - 1017 Leonard NW

Open Lab - Computer Help
Wednesdays, November 6, 13, 20, 2019, 1-3 pm
Main Library - 111 Library St NE

Need help with your computer, tablet, or smartphone? We're here to help. Stop by during our drop-in computer help sessions.

Mindstorm Saturdays
Saturdays, September 7 - May 30, 2020, 10:00 am
Main Library - 111 Library St NE

Kids ages 10 and up can explore robotics every Saturday at the library. Using Lego Mindstorms EV3 kits, these hands-on robotics teach essential coding skills, problem solving, and more. This is a self-guided, drop-in event.

Lego Block Party
Saturdays, September 7 - November 30, 2019, 1:00 pm
Main Library - 111 Library St NE

Kids 6 and up can explore engineering, art, math, and other core concepts using Legos and other building blocks. Each month will feature a building challenge to teach critical thinking, problem solving, decision making and more. This is a self-guided, drop-in event. This month's challenge: Design a restaurant.

All library events are free and open to the public. Visit www.grpl.org or call 616-988-5400 for branch hours and locations. The Grand Rapids Public Library connects people to the transforming power of knowledge.

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