



## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Grand Rapids Public Library Events for January 2020

[www.grpl.org](http://www.grpl.org)

**Main Library**  
111 Library Street NE  
Grand Rapids MI 49503  
p. 616.988.5400  
f. 616.988.5419

**Madison Square Branch**  
1201 Madison SE  
Grand Rapids MI 49507  
p. 616.988.5411  
f. 616.245.1403

**Ottawa Hills Branch**  
1150 Giddings SE  
Grand Rapids MI 49506  
p. 616.988.5412  
f. 616.241.1460

**Seymour Branch**  
2350 Eastern SE  
Grand Rapids MI 49507  
p. 616.988.5413  
f. 616.241.1445

**Van Belkum Branch**  
1563 Plainfield NE  
Grand Rapids MI 49505  
p. 616.988.5410  
f. 616.365.2615

**West Leonard Branch**  
1017 Leonard NW  
Grand Rapids MI 49504  
p. 616.988.5416  
f. 616.301.9438

**West Side Branch**  
713 Bridge NW  
Grand Rapids MI 49504  
p. 616.988.5414  
f. 616.458.0103

**Yankee Clipper Branch**  
2025 Leonard NE  
Grand Rapids MI 49505  
p. 616.988.5415  
f. 616.235.8349

#### **All Aboard! Friday Mornings at the Ford Roundhouse**

*Friday, January 3, 2020 9:30 am*

Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum - 303 Pearl St NW

Bring your junior conductors to the Ford Museum to enjoy the Breton Village train display. A train-themed story time with crafts and activities will be held at 10:00 am, 10:30 am, and 11:00 am. Free admission to the museum for families with children attending the program. Presented in partnership with the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Foundation.

#### **Michigan Online: Family History Tools for the Great Lakes State**

*Saturday, January 4, 2020, 1:30 pm*

Main Library - 111 Library St NE

Kris Rzepczynski, Senior Archivist at the Archives of Michigan, will lead this session exploring important Michigan online genealogical resources, including both popular and lesser-known sites. He will also discuss effective strategies for genealogists conducting research specifically in the state of Michigan. Kris will draw on this years of experience as a genealogist with expertise in research in the Midwest. This program is co-sponsored by the Western Michigan Genealogical Society.

#### **Building Basic Computer Skills**

*Tuesday, January 7, 2020, 1:00 pm*

Main Library - 111 Library St NE

Are you confused by computer terms and lingo? In this class you will develop the skills and terms you will need to navigate the Internet, mobile devices, and many types of computer software.

#### **Division Avenue: A Trip Back in Time (Part II)**

*Thursday, January 9, 2020, 7:00 pm*

Main Library - 111 Library St NE

In part two of this series, Ed Paciencia will look back at South Division between Wealthy and 28th Street, showcasing photographs and sharing stories from his book, *The History of South Division*. Ed will highlight more than seventy buildings that were located on this stretch of road. This part of South Division saw good times (booming businesses) as well as bad (bombings and bank robberies). He will also discuss the railroads that cross South Division and the Plaster Creek area. This program is co-

sponsored by the Grand Rapids Historical Society.

### **Discovering the Internet**

*Tuesday, January 14, 2020, 1:00 pm*

Main Library - 111 Library St NE

Learn how the Internet works and the most common Internet terms. Discover tips and tricks on how to protect your information and identity while searching, shopping and surfing the web.

### **Music in the Stacks: Zachary Trebellas**

*Thursday, January 16, 2020, 7:00 pm*

Main Library - 111 Library St NE

Fruit Punch is the musical project of Zachary Trebellas. The raps he creates are often homoerotic and confessional with topics ranging from comedic to serious. In both music and performance he is inspired by Kpop and British New Wave in equal measure. From start to finish Fruit Punch is a pop project and Trebellas works to create an entertaining show and connect with his audience.

### **Exploring Social Media and Email**

*Tuesday, January 21, 2020, 1:00 pm*

Main Library - 111 Library St NE

The Internet and social media have made it easier than ever to keep in touch with friends and family. Beginning with an introduction to email, this class will teach you how to communicate online and offer tips on how to stay safe while doing so. Learn the basics of Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Discover how to get started with Skype and other video calling services.

### **Yoga Time**

*Saturday, January 25, 2020 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.

### **Managing Your Digital Footprint**

*Tuesday, January 28, 2020, 1:00 pm*

Main Library - 111 Library St NE

Have you ever forgotten a password? Managing your digital footprint may seem intimidating, but with a plan and the right tools you can stay safe and get the most out of your experience online. This class offers methods and tools to begin managing your online profiles, passwords and information.

### **Small Business Research Essentials**

*Wednesday, January 29, 2020, 7:00 pm*

Main Library - 111 Library St NE

Join the Business Librarian for an informative journey through the Library's small business resources. Arm yourself with the best business information available and give yourself the upper hand whether you are starting or growing your business.

## **57th Ann Arbor Film Festival Traveling Tour**

*Thursday, January 30, 2020, 6:00 pm*  
Wealthy Theatre - 1130 Wealthy St SE

The Ann Arbor Film Festival has been showcasing independent and experimental films since its launch in 1964. This year, Wealthy Theatre, Cinema Lab, and the Grand Rapids Public Library are proud to bring the 57th Ann Arbor Film Festival Traveling Tour to Grand Rapids. Along with this year's experimental films, AAFF has created an "Almost All Ages" program for younger audiences. This program includes short experimental films and animation that will stir the imagination of audiences from the ages of 8 to 108. The Pickle Fort Collective will be demonstrating some hands-on film manipulation techniques. Admission is free but space is limited. A short discussion will follow each program. Viewer discretion is advised for the touring program.

## **Adventurers Guild**

*Saturdays, January 11 and 25, 2020, 3:30 pm*  
Main Library - 111 Library St NE

Adventurers Guild takes players on a tour through a dangerous fantasy world created by Dungeons & Dragons where they become the heroes of the story. Adventurers will be able to change the path of the narrative by their choices and interactions. Players ages 13-24 are welcome. Snacks provided. Registration is required. Sign up at [www.grpl.org/register](http://www.grpl.org/register).

## **Art Attack with the DAAC**

*Tuesdays, January 7 - February 25, 2020, 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.

## **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.

Tuesdays, January 14 – April 28  
11:00 am West Side Branch - 713 Bridge NW

Wednesdays, January 15 – April 29  
11:00 am Yankee Clipper Branch - 2025 Leonard NE  
11:00 am West Leonard Branch - 1017 Leonard NW

Thursday, January 16 – April 30  
10:30 am Seymour Branch - 2350 Eastern SE  
11:00 am Main Library - 111 Library St NE

## **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.

Mondays, January 13 – April 27  
6:30 pm Main Library - 111 Library St NE

Tuesdays, January 14 - April 28

11:00 am Main Library - 111 Library St NE

Wednesdays, January 15 – April 29

10:30 am Seymour Branch - 2350 Eastern SE

Thursdays, January 16 – April 30

11:00 am Yankee Clipper Branch – 2025 Leonard NE

Friday, January 17 - May 1

11:00 am West Side Branch - 713 Bridge NW

### **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.

Thursdays, January 16 - April 30

11:00 am West Leonard Branch - 1017 Leonard NW

Saturdays, January 18 - May 2

11:00 am Yankee Clipper Branch - 2025 Leonard NE

12:30 pm Seymour Branch - 2350 Eastern SE

### **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, January 13 – April 27

6:30 pm West Leonard Branch - 1017 Leonard NW

### **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.

Fridays, January 17 - May 1

10:30 am Ottawa Hills Branch - 1150 Giddings SE

### **Elementary Open Play**

Free play helps build social skills, communication, creativity, and more importantly, confidence! If you have an elementary school student who wants to de-stress and have fun after school, this is the program for you!

Thursdays, January 16 - April 30

6:30 pm Madison Square Branch - 1201 Madison SE

### **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. **Team members from Team Asteroids 14486 will be available to offer instruction on building and programming robots.** This is a self-guided, drop-in event.

### **LEGO Block Party**

*Saturdays, January 4, 11, 18, 25, 2020, 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: Build a pyramid.

### **One Book, One City for Kids**

*January – March, 2020*

All library locations

One Book, One City for Kids is an annual reading program that encourages all 5<sup>th</sup> graders in the city to read and discuss the same book. The program also strives to encourage a lifelong love of reading among students, to inspire readers to bring story ideas and themes to life through discussion, and to build collaborative ties between public libraries, school libraries, and area schools. This year the entire city will be reading *Harbor Me* by Jacqueline Woodson.

All library events are free and open to the public. Visit [www.grpl.org](http://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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