



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Grand Rapids Public Library Events for February 2020

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

Experimental Film Family Day

Saturday, February 1, 2020, 3:00 pm
Main Library - 111 Library St NE

Lights, camera, experimentation! Join us as we showcase some of the most interesting and innovative short films you will ever see! Kids 8 and up can learn to create their own abstract films and animation. We will be showing the Ann Arbor Film Festival's "Almost All Ages" program. These innovative short films will inspire everyone to experiment with cameras, lights, and anything else that is at hand. The Grand Rapids Community Media Center, Wealthy Theatre, and members from the Pickle Fort Collective will lead activities like stop motion animation, hand processing of 16mm film, and more.

Backup Basics: How to Secure Your Data

Thursday, February 6, 2020, 11:00 am
Main Library - 111 Library St NE

Whether it's your family photos, business documents or digital media collection, your digital data is valuable. Learn how to keep your digital data safe and secure. From thumb drives and hard drives to cloud storage, find multiple ways to backup your data using a computer, smartphone or tablet.

And the Oscar Goes To . . .

Thursday, February 6, 2020, 6:00 pm
Main Library - 111 Library St NE

Whether you are a regular film goer or haven't been to a theater in years, join us for an overview of this year's Academy Award nominees just before Oscar's big night. Make your own call on who *will* win and who *should* win the film industry's most coveted award.

Finding Your Immigrant Ancestors

Saturday, February 8, 2020, 1:30 pm
Main Library - 111 Library St NE

America is a nation of immigrants, but it is not always easy to track our ancestors back to a boat, let alone their town of origin. Jessica Trotter will offer tips and resources for your search with ideas for types of records that might include origins, strategies for working with whole families, and important factors to keep in mind

depending on the time period you are researching. This program is co-sponsored by the Western Michigan Genealogical Society.

BISSELL's History Through Advertising and Design

Thursday, February 13, 2020, 7:00 pm

Main Library - 111 Library St NE

Melville Bissell patented his first carpet sweeper in 1876, beginning a long history of cleaning innovation. Melville and his wife Anna began making and selling these sweepers out of the second floor of their crockery shop. The business grew and, in 1883, a factory was built in Grand Rapids specifically designed for manufacturing carpet sweepers. When Melville unexpectedly died in 1889, Anna took control of the company, becoming one of the first female CEOs. She continued the BISSELL tradition of creative sales, and advertising techniques were developed that propelled the company to prominence around the world. Explore the Grand Rapids-based company's rich history through advertising, design, and brand collections that include influences from notables such as Claude C. Hopkins and Harley Earl. Learn about some of the people, products and key milestones that influenced BISSELL's success. This program is co-sponsored by the Grand Rapids Historical Society.

Taste of Soul Sunday

Sunday, February 16, 2020, 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Main Library - 111 Library St NE

Join us as we celebrate African American history and culture at Taste of Soul Sunday. Sample African American art, music, literature, history, and food. Performances by Kevin Murphy, Lady Ace Boogie, Serita's Black Rose, and The Gospel Believers. Presentations by We Are Lit, Dr. Randall Jelks, the Ebony Road Players, and New Hope Baptist Live African American Museum. Free food samples provided by: Daddy Pete's BBQ, Savor the Flavor, Boston Soul Food Cafe, and Flavorful Pound Cakes. Free and open to the public. Visit www.grpl.org/tasteofsoul for more information

Hustle/Step Soul Line Dance Party with DJ Andre Posey

Tuesday, February 18, 2020, 6:30 pm

Main Library - 111 Library St NE

Want to learn how to Hustle/Step? DJ and dance instructor Andre Posey will lead participants through both simple and complicated hustle soul line dances. Soul line dances are unpartnered line dances that are easy enough for anyone from kids to seniors of all shapes and sizes to join in on the fun. Soul or urban line dances such as the wobble, cupid shuffle, cha cha slide, and zydeco slide are similar to other line dances except they use soul, funk, r&b, gospel, hip-hop or contemporary pop music. Refreshments will be served.

Holistic Job Seeking at Your Library

Tuesday, February 19, 2020, 7:00 pm

Main Library - 111 Library St NE

Job searching can be hard. Decisions are maddening, research is a grind, and resume writing is no cakewalk. In this class, learn how to make your job search effective. Learn how to think about job research, how to present yourself in person and in writing, and how to plan for future work that might not yet exist.

Internet Privacy: Protecting Yourself in the Digital Age

Thursday, February 20, 2020, 11:00 am

Main Library - 111 Library St NE

It seems 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 when you go online. Discover how to secure information and manage your digital footprint. Learn how to secure your Internet connection and browser, create and manage effective passwords, and how to manage authentication devices.

Music in the Stacks: FLUSHED

Thursday, February 20, 2020, 7:00 pm

Main Library - 111 Library St NE

FLUSHED is a three-piece garage rock ensemble from Grand Rapids. Their fuzzy, warm and sugar-coated riffs snuggle up for a hug with some minor chords. Their liner notes reveal reflections on heartache and friendship, and motifs centered on becoming, secrecy, and the inner self vs the outer self. They received two Jammie Awards from WYCE for their first studio album, *Care Less*, which was released in 2016 on Hot Capicola Records. Their second studio album is completed and slated to be released in 2020.

Yoga Time

Saturday, February 22, 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.

DIY@GRPL: Decorative Boxes

Saturday, February 22, 2020, 1:00 pm

Main Library - 111 Library St NE

Create a one-of-a-kind decorative box using book pages. All supplies are provided and space is limited.

Social Media Privacy: Taking Control of Your Profiles

Thursday, February 27, 2020, 11:00 am

Main Library - 111 Library St NE

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

Intro to Coding Workshop

Thursday, February 27, 2020, 6:30 pm

Main Library - 111 Library St NE

This free workshop, taught by the Grand Circus community, is designed for those curious about coding but who have little or no coding experience. Participants will be provided with basic programming technology and the opportunity to practice basic programming ideas. This workshop is a collaboration between the City of Grand Rapids SmartZone and the Grand Rapids Public Library. Registration is required.

Black Family History Series

Saturdays, February 8, 15, 22, 2020, 10:00 am - 3:30 pm

Main Library - 111 Library St NE

What parent or grandparent hasn't been asked where they came from, what their job was, or how they met their spouse? While these family history questions are universal, answers can be challenging to find. This is especially true for African Americans interested in their family history. Join us for a series of workshops that will help you learn about and document your family's genealogical history. Hosted by local genealogist Joyce

Daniels, the series will help you investigate your roots and connect with others around family history. Registration is not required, however a lunch will be provided if you RSVP to rsvp@grpl.org.

Adventurers Guild

Saturdays, February 8 and 22, 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.

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, February 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 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: Design your own pet.

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 5th 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 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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