**Winter Reading Challenge**

Cozy up with a good book this winter and earn yourself a treat through our brand new Winter Reading Program! (Because why should summer have all the fun?)

**Kids & Teens** (age 0 thru grade 12) who sign up will get a reading log/bingo card to track their progress. If they finish their goal by Jan. 31, they will get a packet of prizes.

**Adults** who finish their goal by Jan. 31 will get a small entry prize and a chance to win a $50 gift card.

This program is generously sponsored by the Friends of the Library, the Chicago Wolves, Chicago Fire, Burger MooVment, and FOSS Swim School.

**Season of Giving**

'Tis the season for generosity, spreading joy, and helping those less fortunate. The Library is proud to offer several ways you can lend your support to good causes. Check inside this issue for more ways to give back this winter.

**Adopt-A-Kid Holiday Giving**

Local resident, Rosanne Eiternick, is the founder of Adopt-A-Kid Inc., an organization that provides for the needy through partnerships with churches, associations, and community members. The Library is proud to be a collection site on behalf of children at the Cheyenne River Reservation.

Gift tags will be available in our lobby starting in mid-November, and wrapped gifts should be brought to the Library by Wed., Dec. 6.

**Pop-Up Book Sale**

Fri., Dec. 8, 3-6 p.m. and Sat., Dec. 9 • 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Enjoy cookies, coffee, and hot cocoa while you shop at the Friends of the Library mini-sale, featuring paperbacks ($0.50 each), kids’ books ($0.25 each), graphic novels ($1-2) and holiday specials. All proceeds from this sale will go to the Friends of the Library.

**Charity Flower Sale**

(Hosted by the Young Adult Council)

Mon., Feb. 12 & Tues., Feb. 13 • 3:30-8:30 p.m.

The Library’s Young Adult Council will be selling roses for Valentine’s Day to raise money for Hephzibah Children’s Association, which provides a nurturing haven for kids in need. Bring a smile to someone’s face and support a great cause.

---

**Winter weather got you stuck indoors?** You can access free eBooks, audiobooks, and digital magazines from home with just your Library card and an Internet connection! For more information, visit elmwoodparklibrary.org and go to "eBooks & more" to see the instructional guides for your device. Or sign up for our BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) class on Wed., Jan. 31, and learn how to access the Library’s eBooks and more using your tablet, eReader, or smartphone. See the Computers & Technology section on the next page for details.
Adult Programs & Events

Computers & Technology

Basic Computer Skills*
Tues., Dec. 5 • 7-8:30 p.m.

Introduction to the Internet*
- Basic skills required -
Mon., Dec. 11 • 7-8:30 p.m.

Photo Editing with Pixlr*
Thurs., Dec. 14 • 7-8:30 p.m.

Excel 2010*
- Basics: Tues., Jan. 9 • 7-8:30 p.m.
- Intermediate: Thurs., Jan. 25 • 7-8:30 p.m.
- Advanced: Mon., Feb. 12 • 7-8:30 p.m.

BYOD (Bring Your Own Device)*
Wed., Jan. 31 • 7-8:30 p.m.
- Elmwood Park residents only
- Learn to download eBooks & audiobooks with your Elmwood Park library card.

Word Basics*
Wed., Feb. 28 • 7-8:30 p.m.

Movie Matinees

Wednesday Matinees • 1:30 p.m.
Watch popular new releases.
Delicious popcorn provided.

Film Lovers’ Friday • 1:30 p.m.
Enjoy older movies based on a monthly theme.
For info about upcoming movies, please call, visit our website, or get a monthly schedule at the Adult Services desk.

Language & Literature

Hora de Conversación
Godzina Rozmowy
English Conversation Hour
Wed • Jan. 3-17 & Feb. 7-21 • 7-8 p.m.
Acompáñenos para una hora de conversación guiada en inglés.

Dołącz do nas za godzinę rozmowy po angielsku.

Join us for an hour of guided conversation in English.

Want to learn a new language?
Mango Languages is an online, interactive language-learning program that you can access for free with your Elmwood Park library card! There are also ESL courses for those who speak Spanish, Polish, Armenian, Arabic, and more.

To get started, just go to elmwoodparklibrary.org and look under Research/Learning for ESL & Languages.

Food, Drink, and Crafts

Adult Coloring Club
Sat. • Dec. 2 | Jan. 6 | Feb. 3 • 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Tues. • Dec. 19 | Jan. 23 | Feb. 13 • 7-8:30 p.m.

Holiday Card Making*
Thurs., Dec. 7 & Tues., Dec. 12 • 7-8:30 p.m.
Join Linda Verzani and make homemade holiday cards and gift tags.

Homebrewing Club* - Must be 21 or older to attend
Brew: Sat., Dec. 9 & Feb. 10 • 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Bottling: Mon., Jan. 8 • 6-7:30 p.m.

3D Printer Cookie Cutters*
Wed., Dec. 13 • 7-8:30 p.m.
Learn to design your own cookie cutter on the computer and print it on our 3D Printer!

Eat & Make* (Priority given to Elmwood Park residents, registration ends 3 days before program)
Sat. • Dec. 16 | Jan. 27 | Feb. 24 • 2-4 p.m.
Dec. 16: Guinness Gingerbread & Perpetual Calendars
Jan. 27: Inside Out S’mores Bars & Coat of Arms
Feb. 24: Turkey and Sweet Potato Chili & Puzzle Piece Frames

Soup on a Cold Winter’s Night*
Tues., Jan. 23 • 7-8:30 p.m.
Join us as A-Theme Events prepares some nice, warm soup.
Samples & recipes will be provided.

Make a Valentine, Share a Valentine
All Ages • Thurs., Feb. 1 • 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.
See the Family/All Ages section for details.

Yoga Classes

Chair Yoga*
Mon. • Dec. 11 | Jan. 8, 22 | Feb. 12, 26 • 1-2 p.m.

Floor Yoga*
Mon. • Dec. 18 | Jan. 29 | Feb. 19 • 7-8 p.m.

Games

Adult Bingo Night
Thurs. • Jan. 11 | Feb. 8 • 7-8 p.m.

Trivia Night
Jan. 30 | Feb. 27 • 7-9 p.m.
Bring a team of up to four people for a night of fun, challenging trivia and prizes.
Check our Facebook page the day of the program for our restaurant location, as well as to see the bonus question!
**Family/All Ages Programs & Events**

**Unveiling of the Summer Reading Painting**
Mon., Dec. 4, 3:30-5 p.m.
Join us as we unveil the community art painting, created by patrons at the End of Summer Reading Party 2017!
View the painting, enjoy some snacks and crafts, and sign up for our Winter Reading Program if you haven't done so already!

**Family Movie Showings**
Popcorn will be served.
- Mon., Dec. 4 • 7-8:30 p.m. • *The Emoji Movie*
- Mon., Feb. 5 • 7-8:45 p.m. • *Despicable Me 3*

**Family Bingo**
Wed., Dec. 6 • 7-8 p.m.

**Family LEGO Night**
Tues., Jan. 2 • 7-8 p.m.

**Family Trivia Night**
Tues., Feb. 6 • 7-8 p.m.

**Letters to Santa** • Ages 0-10 • Nov. 24 - Dec. 18
Not sure how you're going to get that important letter to Santa Claus this year? Let the Library help! Drop off your letter to Santa in our special box in Kids & Teens, anytime between Nov. 24 - Dec. 18, and we'll get that letter to the North Pole for you!
Make sure to include your full name and address and we'll make sure the big guy himself sends you a letter in return! This program is sponsored by the Library's Young Adult Council.

**Cookies & Canvas** • (Registration begins Dec. 1)
Wed., Jan. 3
- Ages 2-5 with caregiver • 1-2 p.m.
- Grades K-2 • 2:30-3:30 p.m.
- Grades 3-6 • 4-5 p.m.
Join us for snacks and painting class with Andrea, a local professional artist. She'll teach you how to paint the picture, and you get to bring home a work of art!

**Make a Valentine, Share a Valentine**
All Ages: Thurs., Feb. 1 • 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.
*Grades 3-6: Tues., Feb. 6 • 4-5 p.m.
*Grades 6-12: Wed., Feb. 7 • 4-5 p.m.
*Grades K-2: Thurs., Feb. 8 • 4-5 p.m.
On Feb. 1, stop by the Korbel Room in Adult Services to make a valentine for someone at Generations nursing home in Elmwood Park. Feel free to make one for yourself as well. Kids can also sign up for a class the following week to make more cards for the nursing home and for themselves.

**Family/All Ages Programs & Events**

**Fun & Games**
Magic the Gathering & Yu-Gi-Oh!
Ages 10-18 • Wed. • 4-6 p.m.

**Minecraft for Teens**
Grades 5-8 • Dec. 18 | Jan. 22 | Feb. 19 • 4-5:30 p.m.

**Dungeons & Dragons**
Grades 7-12 • Dec. 21 | Jan. 18 | Feb. 15 • 5:30-8:30 p.m.

**Geek Trivia**
Wed., Feb. 28 • 7-8 p.m.
Test your knowledge on all things “geeky” for chances to win cool prizes.

**Teen Programs & Events (Grades 6-12, unless otherwise noted)**

**Young Adult Council**
Grades 7-12 • Dec. 14 | Jan. 11 | Feb. 8 • 7-8:30 p.m.
Join the Library’s volunteer group to gain service hours, help raise money for local charities, and have some fun.

**Teen Movies**
*Spider-man: Homecoming*
Thurs., Jan. 4 • 6:30-8:30 p.m.
*The Mummy (2017)*
Thurs., Feb. 1 • 6:30-8:30 p.m.

**Teen Book Club**
Pick up a copy at the Kids & Teens desk.
Thu. • 7-7:45 p.m.
Jan. 25 • March. Book One by John Lewis
Feb. 22 • *The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros

**Craft & Food Programs**
Eat & Make Teen: Gingerbread Houses*
Tues., Dec. 12 • 6:30-8:30 p.m.

**I Want to Cook: Breakfast**
Grades 7-12 • Mon., Feb. 26 • 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Join us for a class for chefs-in-training!

**Make a Valentine, Share a Valentine**
*Grades 6-12: Wed., Feb. 7 • 4-5 p.m.
*Grades K-2: Thurs., Feb. 8 • 4-5 p.m.
On Feb. 1, stop by the Korbel Room in Adult Services to make a valentine for someone at Generations nursing home in Elmwood Park. Feel free to make one for yourself as well. Kids can also sign up for a class the following week to make more cards for the nursing home and for themselves.

**Erie Health Youth Leadership Council**
Ages 13-18 • Dec. 4 | Jan. 8 | Feb. 5 • 4-6 p.m.
Learn about and educate peers about teen health topics such as healthy relationships, self-esteem and body positivity, sexual & reproductive health. It's a great resume builder and food is provided at every meeting. Safe space for youth of all identities.
For more information, call Lauren at Erie Health: 773.824.5998

**DIY Bath Bombs**
Wed., Dec. 27 • 2-3 p.m.
Make a fizzy bath bomb using essential oils, fragrances, and colors.

**DIY Soap Class**
Wed., Feb. 7 • 7-8:30 p.m.
Learn to color, scent, and mold your own soap.

For more program information visit elmwoodparklibrary.org

* Registration Required | Sign up online, in person, or by phone.
MidKid Programs & Events (Grades 3-6, unless otherwise noted)

MidKids Read: Book Club*
Pick up a copy at the Kids & Teens desk. Wed. • 4-5 p.m.
Dec. 27 • One Mixed Up Night by Catherine Newman
Jan. 31 • The Real Boy by Anne Ursu
Feb. 28 • A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L'Engle

Homework 911
Grades K-6 • Tues. & Thurs. (except Dec. 19 - Jan. 4) • 4-6 p.m.
Homework got you confused and a little frustrated? Bring your assignment to the Library and get help from a certified teacher. Teachers will work with students in groups or one-on-one as time and space allow.

Homework 911
Grades 4
Papercraft & Photography*
Create a unique papercraft figure, print it, assemble it, photograph it, and then Photoshop it.

Homework 911
Grades 6
Robotics Team.
Learn how to use our VEX Robotics kit and form our very own Library Robotics Team.

Food & Crafts

Beaded Jewelry*
Tues., Dec. 5 • 7-8 p.m.
Mini Canvas Paintings*
Tues., Dec. 19 • 7-8 p.m.

MidKid Iron Chef: Pasta*
Tues., Dec. 26 • 12-1 p.m.
Form a team of 2-3 and compete to make the best pasta dish!

Meet the Artist*
Thurs. • 4-5 p.m.
Explore different artists and make your own version of the artist's masterpiece.
Dec. 28: Frank Stella
Jan. 25: Chuck Close
Feb. 22: Rene Magritte

Cookies & Canvas* (Registration begins Dec. 1)
See the Family/All Ages section for details.

Watercolor Art*
Tues., Jan. 9 • 4-5 p.m.
Paper Mosaics*
Tues., Jan. 16 • 4-5 p.m.

Make a Valentine, Share a Valentine*
See the Family/All Ages section for details.

Clay Sculptures*
Wed., Feb. 14 • 4-5 p.m.

Gaming Programs

Minecraft for MidKids*
Dec. 4 | Jan. 8 | Feb. 5 • 4-5:30 p.m.

Chess Club*
Dec. 5 | Jan. 4 | Feb. 27 • 4-5:15 p.m.

Play Pokémon Trading Card Game*
Dec. 21 | Jan. 11 | Feb. 19 • 4-5:30 p.m.

Robot Club*
Grades 6-12 • Dec. 7 | Jan. 4 | Feb. 1 • 4-5 p.m.
Learn how to use our VEX Robotics kit and form our very own Library Robotics Team.

Hour of Code*
Grades 4-12 • Dec. 7 | Jan. 4 | Feb. 1 • 6-7 p.m.
Play fun games while learning basic coding through Code.org. Then try your hand on some of our programmable robots!

TinkerCAD 3D Design & Printing Snowflakes* (2-part class)
Grades 6-12 • Dec. 12 & 14 • 4-5 p.m.
Grades 4-6 • Dec. 12 & 14 • 6-7 p.m.
Learn 3D design basics and use our 3D printer to make a snowflake.

Live Action Comic Book* (4-part class)
Grades 6-12 • Jan. 9, 11, 16, 18 • 4-5 p.m.
Convert digital photos of real people and objects into cartoons, add captions, and create your own comic.

Drawn to Life* (2-part class)
Grades 4-6 • Jan. 9 & 11 • 6-7 p.m.
Create a one-of-a-kind self portrait using cameras, tracing on paper, and Adobe Photoshop.

Papercraft & Photography* (4-part class)
Grades 4-6 • Jan. 16, 18, 23, 25 • 6-7 p.m.
Create a unique papercraft figure, print it, assemble it, photograph it, and then Photoshop it.

Ozobot Obstacle Course Challenge* (2-part class)
Grades 6-12 • Jan. 23 & 25 • 4-5 p.m.
Use coding to program our cute Ozobot robots to run an obstacle course! (no previous coding experience necessary)

Negative Space Valentine* (2-part class)
Grades 6-12 • Feb. 6 & 8 • 4-5 p.m.
Grades 4-6 • Feb. 6 & 8 • 6-7 p.m.
Combine natural artistry and technology in this fun program that utilizes the vinyl cutter to create an awesome valentine!

Mixcraft* (4-part class)
Grades 6-12 • Feb. 13, 15, 20, 22 • 4-5 p.m.
Learn how to use the digital audio creation software Mixcraft to make your own song.

Photoshop Poster Design* (4-part class)
Grades 4-6 • Feb. 13, 15, 20, 22 • 6-7 p.m.
Learn how to use Adobe Photoshop to create and print a poster of your very own design.

For more program information visit elmwoodparklibrary.org
* Registration Required  |  Sign up online, in person, or by phone.

Funding for this grant project was awarded from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services to the Secretary of State/Illinois State Library under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA).
Story, Craft, & Play Times
Story sessions are followed by open play time designed to stimulate and support your child’s early development, motor skills, problem-solving, and socialization.

Tiny Tots
Ages 0-24 months with caregiver
Wed. • Jan. 17 - Feb. 21 • 9:30-10 a.m.
Discover stories through books, songs, puppets, and more.

Little Explorers Story Time*
Ages 6-24 months with caregiver
Mon. • Jan. 22 - Feb. 19 • 9:30-10:15 a.m.
Explore the wonder of books, puppets, bounces, and rhymes.

Elmwood Park Play Group
Ages 0-5 with caregiver
Fri. • Dec. 8 | Jan. 12 | Feb. 9 • 9:30-11:30 a.m.
Connect, create, and play in our pop-up play space specially designed for babies, toddlers, and preschoolers.

Wiggles & Giggles Story Time
Ages 2-5 with caregiver
Mon. • Jan. 22 - Feb. 19 • 11-11:45 a.m.
Wake up your week with books, songs, movement, and dance.

Giggles & Grins Story Time
Ages 2-5 with caregiver
Tues. • Jan. 16 - Feb. 20 • 11-11:45 a.m.
Tackle Tuesday with books, songs, movement, and dance.

Rockin’ Reads* • Ages 3-5
(Please sign up for Wed. or Thurs. group)
Wed., Jan. 17 - Feb. 21 • 10-10:45 a.m.
Thurs., Jan. 18 - Feb. 22 • 11-11:45 a.m.
Get ready to rock with books, songs, puppets, and more.

More Fun Programs
Ride the Horse • All Ages
Wed. • Dec. 6 | Jan. 3 | Feb. 7 • 4-4:30 p.m.

Homework 911
Grades K-6 • Tues. & Thurs. (except Dec. 19 - Jan. 4) • 4-6 p.m.
Homework got you confused and a little frustrated? Bring your assignment to the Library and get help from a certified teacher. Teachers will work with students in groups or one-on-one as time and space allow.

Ho, Ho, Ho: It’s a Christmas Show*
All Ages • Sun., Dec. 10 • 2-3 p.m.
Join us for holiday songs and stories, plus a visit with a special guest!

Cookies & Canvas*
Wed., Jan. 3 (Registration begins Dec. 1)
Ages 2-5 with caregiver • 1-2 p.m.
Grades K-2 • 2:30-3:30 p.m.
See the Family/All Ages section for details.

Dave Herzog: Dragon Day & Knight Time*
All Ages • Mon., Jan. 22 • 7-8 p.m.
Come see the amazing Dave and his marionettes as they perform a Medieval adventure puppet show.

Special Holiday Crafts & Story Times
Pajama Story Time*
Ages 3-8 • Wed., Dec. 13 • 7-7:45 p.m.
Bring your jammies and a special friend for bedtime stories and songs.

Winter Fun Story Time*
Ages 4-8 • Fri., Dec. 29 • 4-4:45 p.m.

Penguin Story Time*
Ages 4-8 • Wed., Jan. 10 • 4-4:45 p.m.

Honoring Black Heroes Story Time*
Ages 4-8 • Wed., Jan. 17 • 4-4:45 p.m.

Super Bowl Story Time*
Ages 4-8 • Thurs., Feb. 1 • 4-4:45 p.m.

Make a Valentine, Share a Valentine*
Grades K-2 • Thurs., Feb. 8 • 4-5 p.m.
See the Family/All Ages section for details.

Mardi Gras Party*
Ages 4-8 • Tues., Feb. 13 • 4-4:45 p.m.

Clean Those Chompers!*
Grades K-2 • Thurs., Feb. 15 • 4-4:45 p.m.

Pajama Story Time*
Ages 3-8 • Wed., Feb. 14 • 7-7:45 p.m.

Going on a Bear Hunt*
Grades K-2 • Mon., Feb. 26 • 4-4:45 p.m.

For more program information visit elmwoodparklibrary.org

* Registration Required | Sign up online, in person, or by phone.
**Community Corner**

There are many local organizations here in Elmwood Park, and we want to make it easier for residents to get involved and forge new connections. To that end, we will be launching a Community Corner on our website, which will be a central hub for residents to learn about local groups and activities!

If you are a member of a local organization and you would like to be added to our Community Corner, please visit our website to fill out a participation form.

**Great Night at the Gatsby Gala**

A big thanks to everyone who came and partied with us to support the Library! We are excited to announce that with your generous support, we raised **over $3,500** for our lobby redesign with snack space and modernized Story Room, coming in 2018. The community response has been so positive that we are already starting to plan next year’s big Club Conti event. Hope to see you there!

We couldn't have made the Gala happen without the help of our generous sponsors:

- The Arcada Theatre
- Burger MooVment
- Cards Against Humanity
- Creativita
- Elmcrest Banquets by Biancalana
- Friends of the Library
- Fruitful Yield
- JBH Promotions (JoBeth Harrison, Taste Consultant)
- Lagunitas Brewing Co.
- Montclare - Elmwood Park Kiwanis
- Radio Flyer
- Sabrina Sabella - Local artist
- Swoon Living
- and a Generous, Anonymous Donor

Also a big thank you to the members of the Elmwood Park High School Jazz Band, and to all the volunteers and staff who pitched in to make this event the cat’s pajamas!

**Connect with New Books You’ll Love**

Make a new year’s resolution to read more in 2018! We want to make it easy for you to find new books that are so good, you won’t want to put them down. Here are a few easy ways to keep your reading list up-to-date:

**Keep up with the Latest Bestselling Authors**

Sign up for our Bestsellers Club, and you’ll automatically get put on hold for the newest releases from your favorite authors on our Bestsellers list. Never miss your favorite author’s new books again! Sign up at the Adult Services desk or on our website under Adults.

**Follow Your Favorite Genres**

Sign up for our NextReads genre eNewsletters and we’ll send reading lists right to your inbox along with new gems, bestsellers, and related titles. Lists will be linked to the SWAN catalog, so you’ll also be able to check whether the items are available at the Library and place a hold. To get started, visit our website and find the link under About EPPL. Pick the genres you like and enter your email address, and we’ll start delivering recommended reads to your inbox!

**Friends of the Elmwood Park Public Library**

The Friends of the Elmwood Park Public Library raise money through membership and book sales to support the Library. Recent donations include programs for adults and kids; an outside bench near our butterfly garden; an interactive play piece on the upstairs balcony fence; new Explore-to-Go Kits; preschool furniture; a table for our turtle, Crush; and more.

Membership is $5.00 per year. Whether or not you choose to be an active volunteer, every membership helps. Find the membership form and meeting information on our website under About EPPL.

**Be a Friend - Buy a Book!**

The Friends organize and maintain an ongoing book sale in the Library’s lobby. Browse paperbacks, kids books, cookbooks, DVDs, and more, and simply pay at the donation box. You may also donate books to the Library at the dropbox in the lobby.

Don’t miss our Pop-Up Book Sale Dec. 8-9! See the front page for details.