

THE STORYLINE

SUMMER 2017

A quarterly publication of the Oak Park Public Library

News | Events | Stories



GET MORE OUT OF YOUR LIBRARY ALL SUMMER

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Summer 2017
Vol. 2, No. 3
June | July | August

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Get to know your library staff at oppl.org/about.

Share comments and questions at oppl.org/contact and on social media.



ON THE COVER

Mary, age 3, loves to curl up with lots of good books. And since we've eliminated overdue fines as of June 1, she can check out stacks of them—up to 200 at a time—without fear of racking up late fines. More on pages 10–11.



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This issue showcases select events and classes at the library this summer. View all at oppl.org/calendar.

The Storyline is published quarterly as a service to the Oak Park Public Library community. Contact us at communications@oppl.org: Jodi Kolo, Manager; Kristen Romanowski, Writer/Editor; and Rebecca Price, Graphic Designer. Many thanks to library staff and community photographers whose work is featured this issue, including Ashley Boyer, Ann Farrell, Barbara Fitzgerald, Carrie McGillen, and Marcela Rafea.

MORE FROM YOUR LIBRARY

reading **MORE**
learning **MORE**
sharing **MORE**

In our little corner of the world, summertime brings a bounty, with so much seasonal fun to squeeze in before the kids go back to school.

At the library, summer is our busy season too. We want to do more, to give you more, so you can experience and enjoy as much learning, enrichment, and community connection as time permits.

Doing more includes opening our doors to more people. That's why, starting June 1, we're eliminating late fines on materials checked out at any Oak Park Public Library location. It's about access and equity: we don't want anyone, especially our youngest learners, to be discouraged or prevented from



Levi and Olivia share some of their favorite titles.

using the library because they fear late fines. We're also extending the length of time you can check out material, with up to five renewal periods (see pages 10–11).

Second, in response to your feedback, our kids' summer reading program, "Build a Better World," now spans the entire summer, starting the last day of school and ending the last day of summer vacation. This change offers more time for reading fun, increased flexibility for

families, and the chance for kids to earn more prizes than ever before (see page 12).

Third, to provide more access to our meeting spaces, as well as support for the causes our community cares about, we've eliminated rental fees for nonprofits at all three library locations. We've also added our Main Library Computer Classroom to the spaces available for rent (see more on page 4).

More: oppl.org/about

NEW

TITLE SUGGESTIONS IN YOUR INBOX

Subscribe now to library newsletters sharing news, events, and title suggestions in your favorite genres: oppl.org/subscribe



what's YOUR STORY?



Library Assistant Ann Farrell said she created #OakParkStories on the library's Facebook page in 2015 "as an opportunity for the library to turn outward, to celebrate our patrons, and to share more with everyone about the unique intersection of individuals and possibilities that happen in the library every day." More: oppl.org/meet-ann

Sabrina contributed her story to #OakParkStories in January:



“One Friday night at the shelter, Sabrina was called upon to comfort a new client—a recent widow who was legally blind. She made sure the woman was comfortable and that no one messed with her belongings. They slept side-by-side, although the new client cried all night.

The next morning, Sabrina guided the woman to the library, helped her apply for a library card and made her transition easier, because someone had reached out to Sabrina the very same way. 'It's amazing,' said Sabrina, 'how things can change overnight.' ”

WE RAN THE STATS, AND IT'S CLEAR: YOU ♥ #OAKPARKSTORIES! Our Facebook fans like, share, and comment on these posts twice as much as they do for other library posts.

 Find more #OakParkStories on the library's Facebook and Instagram pages.

 Share your own story on social media (tag your post with #OakParkStories), or share your thoughts at oppl.org/tell-us-your-story.

IN YOUR WORDS

Frances Kraft with Holmes Elementary School students at the Main Library in summer 2012.



Leading change by REMOVING BARRIERS

BY FRANCES KRAFT

As parents, teachers, and family members, we hope to foster in our children a love of reading from the earliest age. We encourage them to get lost in a book and allow their imagination to take them anywhere they want to go.

Books eliminate boundaries and erase borders in our minds. But in reality, there are many barriers our society puts up around our children, especially around

race and income. The good news is that public libraries can play a vital role in removing these barriers if that goal is embedded as part of the vision and mission. The Oak Park Public Library has taken that step, and it is reflected in policies and programs.

Six years ago, a group of teachers at Holmes Elementary School saw a need for a summer program combining reading with activities in math, science, art, and history. We quietly slipped into the Main Library's children's section and worked with 10 students weekly for five weeks.

It was a great first experience, but this program known as Rising Readers really took off two years later when we partnered with the library. Oak Park Elementary School District 97 teachers led reading groups, and High School Services Librarian Rachael Bild helped coordinate the program, aligning the library's teen summer volunteer program with our efforts. We connected with numerous community partners, including Oak Park Township, Dominican University, Magic Tree Bookstore, and Trader Joe's.

This summer, Rising Readers expects to have 50 students, nine teachers, and at least 15 teen volunteers meeting at two library branches and at the Hephzibah Children's Association summer program.

This partnership shows how the neutral space of the library can eliminate the borders between schools, businesses, and the community to provide resources to students and families. The library continues to focus on the community by eliminating overdue fines for all, as well as fees for nonprofits using meeting spaces, and by opening its summer reading program to anyone who comes through the library's doors. Residency is not required.

As a community, we can build relationships and tear down barriers if we focus directly on action that effects change. Let's follow the library's lead.



FRANCES KRAFT is an Oak Park teacher, community organizer, and a leader of the E-Team, a grassroots coalition of families, educators, and community members working together to provide the resources and support our children need to be successful. More: e-teamoakpark.com

OPENING OUR DOORS WIDER

Providing public spaces to learn, collaborate, and create is a core library service we offer to our community. In April, the library board updated policy to eliminate rental fees for nonprofits and to add our Main Library Computer Classroom to the list of available spaces for rent. More: oppl.org/spaces

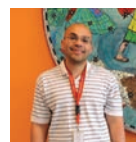
FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



[emmie_g_grams](#)
In Oak Park, you randomly bump into your best friend at the library!
[#bestbuddies](#) [#oakpark](#)

March 11, 2017

[@norakflynn](#) March 18, 2017
Mr. Jose! Greeted my tots at storytime + helps them navigate early chapters to tween fiction as they've grown. Bldg rdrs! [#librariesmatter](#)



Oak Park Library [@oakparklibrary](#)
"I am constantly focused on bringing more of the community into the library."
oppl.org/meet-jose [#OPMeetOurStaff](#)

MORE OUTSIDE ACCESS



BOOK BIKE:
DELIVERING RESOURCES IN 2016



1,000+ items
CHECKED OUT

141 KIDS



signed up for the summer reading program

61 EVENTS attended
INCLUDING

12



BLOCK PARTIES



14 trained
STAFF RIDERS

103 HOURS
ENGAGED
with the community



PAPERBACK RIDER *rides again*

Now in its third season, the Book Bike (aka Paperback Rider) is cruising the streets of Oak Park, spreading good cheer and improving community access to library resources. From the parks to the farmer's market, and tons of block parties in between, find out where the Book Bike will be this summer, weather permitting: oppl.org/bike

BRINGING BRAILLE BOOKS

For one block party visit last year, an Oak Park family requested that Braille books be included for their young son, who is visually impaired. "Having Braille books would enable him to be included in this fun event with our neighbors," the resident wrote.

Happily, Neighborhood Services Librarian Sarah Yale was able to stock the bike with Braille books, including one on trains and buses—the boy's favorites—and the family checked out every one.

"This is a big part of what the Book Bike is all about," Yale said. "Breaking down barriers to access, getting books in people's hands, providing opportunities for learning, highlighting our diverse collections, and being a good steward and listener so we can discover what needs exist in the community."

Want to book the Book Bike for your block party? Request a visit at oppl.org/bike. Note that weekends fill up quickly and visits are weather permitting.

DID YOU KNOW?

Home Delivery is a library service available to all Oak Park cardholders unable to come into a library location, either indefinitely or for a short time—for example, while recovering from surgery or caring for a newborn. More: oppl.org/home-delivery



MORE INTERCULTURAL LEARNING & EMPATHY



Naomi Priddy, the library's new Multicultural Learning Librarian, at Dole Branch. More: oppl.org/meet-naomi

We are global LEARNERS

How do you start to have conversations about an object? It's something the library's new Multicultural Learning Librarian, Naomi Priddy, has been reflecting on as she immerses herself in the library's Multicultural Collection. Her goal? To promote intercultural learning and empathy, in part by sharing the curiosity-sparking stories the collection's artifacts can tell.

"What do you see? What inferences can you draw? What questions do you have?" Priddy asks as she considers a Senegalese *souwere*, or glass painting. Returning her gaze from the 5x6.5-inch frame is a woman draped in green cloth and gold jewelry, a vessel atop her covered head.

Originally used to depict scenes from the Quran, the *souwere* art form has been made in Senegal for at least 800 years, but was outlawed under French colonial rule. After Senegal regained independence in 1960, the *souwere* began to flourish once again, commonly depicting people and scenes of everyday life. The library's painting was made after 1960, Priddy said.

"It's a great example of how knowing the context adds so much," said Priddy, who came to the library from The Field Museum. "Objects don't say just one



Souwere, Senegal

thing. From this object, we can start to learn about things like the diverse expression of Islam around the world, colonialism in Africa, how art can be a form of resistance to oppression, or how people dress and choose to represent themselves in everyday life. It's sort of a choose-your-own-adventure form of learning."

SPARKING CURIOSITY

"Libraries are such places of individual curiosity, where people can learn about things they really care about," Priddy said. "I want to provide a starting place for an individual's curiosity."



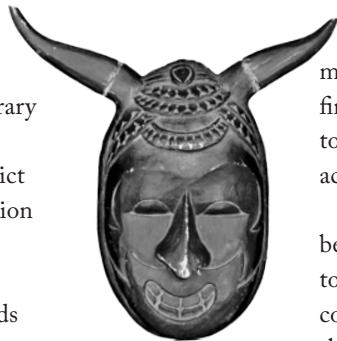
#OPMULTICULTURAL | Follow the library on Instagram for photos and artifact details from the collection.

“In Oak Park, I see a community that is deeply engaged in wanting to make the world a better place.”

—Naomi Priddy, Multicultural Learning Librarian



The Multicultural Collection, which the library acquired from Oak Park Elementary School District 97 last fall in a collaboration that freed up classroom space at Julian Middle School, includes thousands of items, including sculptures, paintings, books, posters, clothing, and games.



Wooden mask,
Mexico

members coming in and finding objects that relate to their cultural identity across generations.

“As we add the stories behind each artifact, I want to get perspectives from communities in Oak Park that identify with these cultures,” Priddy added.

“Representation is really important. Seeing yourself reflected in different spaces is really important.”

“Now that it’s in a public library, I want to make sure that it’s accessible to all,” Priddy said.

The Multicultural Collection is meant to circulate: you can check out most items and take them home. It also will continue to grow and develop as Priddy curates both books and artifacts.

“I want to ensure we have as robust and diverse a collection as possible, to continue to inspire people in our community and beyond,” she said.

ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY

“This collection is all about looking outward, both globally and locally,” Priddy said. “While much of it is focused on international diversity, it’s exciting to see community

BROADENING PERSPECTIVES

The collection can be used to talk about universal human experiences while creating a greater appreciation of diversity, Priddy said. For example, *Being Mortal*, the selection for this summer’s One Book, One Oak Park program, explores mortality (see page 9).

“We can use items in the collection to explore how different cultures around the world have responded to death and mourning,” she said. “It can remind us that there are some things that we all have in common, and maybe even learn things from other cultures that will help us face our own challenges.”

WHAT’S IN THE COLLECTION?

A: Artifacts about cultures around the world, including art, clothing, objects of daily life, books, music, and DVDs. With the library’s new Multicultural Learning Librarian, the collection is continuing to grow.

WHERE CAN I FIND IT?

A: Based at Dole Branch, all items are in the library’s online catalog, organized by continent and country. Looking for artifacts from China? Search **MC China**.

More: oppl.org/multicultural

BUILD A BETTER WORLD

® HELPING IMMIGRANTS: FREE RESOURCES FOR ATTORNEYS AND VOLUNTEERS

Thursday, June 22, 7–8:30 pm, Main Library Veterans Room. Learn about free and low-cost legal online research and technologies to help with immigration matters. Presented by two expert law librarians: Joe Mitzenmacher from Loyola University and Deborah Ginsberg from Chicago-Kent College of Law. Register now.

DID YOU KNOW?

With CultureGrams, you can make recipes like Murgh Kebab (Chicken Kebab) from Afghanistan and Ndiwo (Collard Green Leaves with Peanut Powder) from Zambia, and learn about the history, customs, and everyday life in countries around the world. Access it at oppl.org/online-tools.



MORE VISIBILITY

TRANSGENDER [trans-jen-der]

Relating to or being a person whose gender identity does not conform to that typically associated with the sex to which they were assigned at birth.



REPRESENTATION *matters*

For a decade, the library's award-winning Transgender Resource Collection has served anyone seeking information, including employers, medical providers, friends, and family. With more than 400 items, the collection is searchable in the catalog and available to cardholders statewide.

WELCOMING, SAFE PLACES

"We believe a public library offers the best venue for raising awareness and understanding of gender identity issues, and for serving transgender people," said Materials Services Librarian Bleue Benton, who was instrumental in creating the collection.

"This marginalized group faces widespread—often socially condoned—discrimination, harassment, and violence. Our project, with its commitment to diversity and inclusion, helps to promote libraries as welcoming and safe places for everyone."

BEYOND THE SURFACE

In 2005, the library analyzed its collections: Were items on shelves and in

the catalog genuinely diverse? Did they represent and serve specific populations in Oak Park?

Staff Learning Coordinator Sharon Grimm examined how well LGBT populations were represented and served: "I discovered we had lesbian and gay resources well represented, but for transgender resources, we had been covering just the surface."

With an Illinois State Library grant, the library was able to "really corner the market" with resources then available, Grimm said. "Especially medical and law books for the layperson, which are hugely necessary but expensive."

Among the first public libraries to offer such a collection, Oak Park continues to be a model. In June, Grimm will speak at the American Library Association annual conference in Chicago, sharing how the collection's development sparked other changes at the library, like revising policy language to be more gender inclusive, making single-occupancy staff restrooms available to people of any gender, and raising awareness with library staff.

More: oppl.org/trc



We aim to encourage diverse, quality local content in library collections. Oak Park Creates is a unique and growing "local creators" collection that's based at the Main Library and available for checkout.

More: oppl.org/creates

Shar McCoy works in ministry counseling and is the author of *The True Art of Sisterhood*, a popular book in the Oak Park Creates collection.



WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO WRITE YOUR BOOK?

"I find that women, though strong and quite honestly the most viable assets in the universe (my personal opinion), are highly susceptible to criticism and other attacks on their beauty, character, and physicality. I hope to empower women with wisdom and reference from my study of the Bible and biblical references that will add strength and value into their lives."

MORE COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



One Book, ONE OAK PARK

This summer's selection for the One Book, One Oak Park community summer reading program for adults and teens is *Being Mortal*. Written by surgeon Atul Gawande, MD, this nonfiction memoir addresses a host of medical, quality-of-life, and end-of-life issues.

WHAT MAKES LIFE MEANINGFUL?

From the catalog: "Modern medicine has transformed the dangers of childbirth, injury, and infectious disease from harrowing to manageable. But in the face of our inevitable aging and death, what it can do often runs counter to what it should do. Through eye-opening research and gripping stories of his own patients and family, Atul Gawande reveals the suffering this has produced. He examines the profession's limitations and failures as

life draws to a close. And he shows how the ultimate goal is not a good death, but a good life, until the very end."

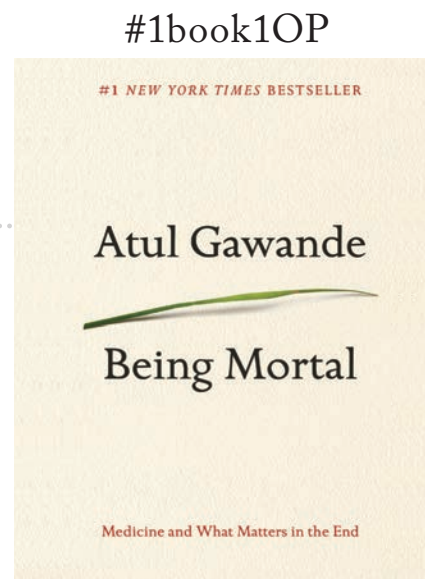
CONNECTING ON TOPICS THAT MATTER

"We're excited to engage with our community on the important topics Gawande examines," said Margita Lidaka, Readers' Advisory Librarian.

With this title chosen by a team of librarians, we continue to pursue the goal of offering opportunities to connect on topics that matter through one great title, available in multiple formats including large print, digital book, and audiobook.

Discussions, workshops, and more provide opportunities to tackle this title's tough issues—to encourage reflection on what makes life meaningful and, in the end, what is most important.

More: oppl.org/one-book



BOOK DISCUSSIONS

- Thursday, June 29, 1–2 pm, Maze Branch
- Thursday, July 13, 7–8 pm, Dole Branch
- Saturday, July 15, 2–3:30 pm, Off-site: Buzz Cafe, 905 S. Lombard Ave., Oak Park
- Wednesday, July 19, 1–2:30 pm, Main Library (with Words on Wednesday book group)
- Friday, July 21, 10:30–11:30 am, Main Library Storytime Room (Bring Your Own Baby, for caregivers with young children)

GOT YOUR OWN GROUP?

Check out a book discussion bag, available through the catalog. Each is loaded with 10 copies of the book, discussion questions, author info, read-alikes, and more.

DON'T MISS OUT!

FRONTLINE: BEING MORTAL FILM SCREENING & DISCUSSION

Sunday, June 25, 2–3:30 pm, Main Library Veterans Room. PBS follows Gawande as he investigates the practice of caring for the dying and shows how doctors are often untrained, ill-suited, and uncomfortable talking about chronic illness and death. Discussion will be facilitated by a representative from Be@Ease, a suburban Chicago nonprofit organization that focuses on family-friendly advanced care planning.

ESTATES AND WILLS

Thursday, June 15, 6–7 pm, Main Library Lobby Community Space. Learn tips for setting up an estate or will with Jim Flanagan from Bentron Financial Group, an organization that helps people understand social, health, and financial issues as they age.

SAVING AND INVESTING APPS

Wednesday, June 28, 7–8 pm, Main Library Computer Classroom. Get help crossing off those bucket list items! Explore some of our favorite saving and investing apps in this interactive class. Bring your own device or use a library computer. Register now.

WATCH THIS!

Watch Gawande's TED Talk, "How Do We Heal Medicine?": bit.ly/2o8Ega9



MORE TIME, MORE FREEDOM

On June 1, we're going **FINE FREE**

It all started with a stomach bug.

When she got the phone call that Friday, Gwen Walski had just dropped off her two oldest daughters at school and was en route to Dole Branch with her youngest for their weekly routine of attending storytime, returning library books and movies, and picking out new ones to take home.

The phone call threw a wrench in all that: one daughter had become ill and needed to be picked up from school. "Obviously, I wasn't going to bring whatever sickness we had into the library that day," Walski said.

Less obvious, in the midst of stress over a sick kid: their library books were due. And not just one or two. "With three girls of different ages, who each want their own books, we often have a good 30 to 40 books out at one time," Walski said.

By the time she realized, it was too late. The overdue fines had started accruing.

'WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER'

Starting June 1, anyone who checks out materials from an Oak Park Public Library location will no longer be charged overdue fines.

"Every single mom of young children I know is jumping for joy," Walski said. "It's a relief to not have to worry about overdue fines. I can just enjoy these books with my kids."

Under the new policy, items will still have due dates, and overdue items must be returned before you can check out more. Additionally, eligible items (excluding items with holds, Hot Picks, and Multicultural Collection items) may now be renewed up to five times.

That means you get more time to enjoy your materials without worrying about overdue fines.

Even without the threat of overdue fines, Walski said her daughters will continue to learn about responsibly using library materials. "We're learning about sharing," she said.

"And that we're all in this together."

Another mother of three, Megan Galeener, agreed: "We talk a lot about,



well, if we keep this book, someone else can't have it. It's someone else's turn."

As for the overdue fines she's incurred, Galeener said, "I can afford it, and I still feel shame. No one should feel shame when they come to the library. No kid should be denied a book."

USE, ACCESS, EQUITY

"The entire point of our library collection is for it to be used," said Experiences and Initiatives Manager Elizabeth Marszalik. "We want our books, movies, and music to circulate. We want people to check items out and enjoy them without stress and fear of fines."

Policies should define how the library wants to interact with the community, said Executive Director David J. Seleb. "And this policy change is focused on access and equity. Overdue fines are a regressive method of raising revenue, they hurt the most those who can afford them the least, create stress-filled interactions, and require significant amounts of staff time to manage."

As one library assistant put it: "Many people are living from paycheck



"This policy change is focused on access and equity."

—David J. Seleb, Executive Director

“No one should feel shame when they come to the library. No kid should be denied a book.”

—Megan Galeener, mother of three

to paycheck. If they incur a couple of big fines on their cards, or one of their children's cards, it's enough to have them leave the library and stay away.”

Eliminating overdue fines is not a new idea, Seleb noted, and Oak Park is not the first library to do so. Other Chicago-area libraries that have already made this kind of change, including Algonquin Area Public Library and Addison Public Library, have reported that their patrons have been pleased with the change. And in a policy statement, the American Library Association promotes “the removal of all barriers to library and information services, particularly fees and overdue charges.”

REMOVING BARRIERS

Fines have typically accounted for only about 1 percent of the library's total operating revenue, and they continue to trend down.

“The fact is, we don't need overdue fines to have a healthy, responsible budget,” said Deputy Director Jim Madigan. “Oak Park taxpayers will not pay more to the library as a result of this change.

“Bottom line, the use of library materials and services is the point,” he added. “We don't want to be in the business of collecting overdue

fines. We are in the business of literacy and learning: circulating our materials, putting books in the hands of readers, and welcoming back those who may have been turned away in the past because of overdue fines.”

GIVING YOU MORE

Walski is among the half of library users who, at any one time, have overdue fines.

“Why can't they get a book back on time?” Walski imagines people asking. “But if you're not in that world of checking out a million children's books at once, you just don't realize.”

Other reasons you might not return materials on time: Your grandson is hiding them in his room. Your wife is in the hospital. You're out of town. Your basement flooded, you broke your ankle, your car's in the shop. You haven't finished season two of *Call the Midwife*. Maybe you just forgot.

Whatever the reason, “We know one thing: overdue fines are a barrier to service,” said Experiences and Initiatives Manager Lori Pulliam. “Imposing them is contrary to why we exist and what we do: sharing the information, services, and opportunities that fulfill Oak Park's aspirations.”

OUR BORROWING POLICY
THEN & NOW

	BEFORE JUNE 1		ON JUNE 1
	Books/ other items	Video formats	All items
Overdue fine per item per day	25¢	\$1	\$0
Maximum overdue fine per item*	\$10. ⁵⁰	\$42	\$0
Default loan period	3 weeks	1 week	3 weeks
Possible number of renewals**	2	2	5
Number of items overdue that block library privileges	Not applicable		More than 3
Item checkout limit	200		200
Charge for never returned or damaged library item	List price		List price

*42 days at daily rate

**Hot Picks, items from the Multicultural Collection, and items on hold for other users cannot be renewed.

Read the full borrowing policy: oppl.org/about/policies



MORE TIME FOR SUMMER READING



*Build a
BETTER WORLD
all summer*

Our kids' summer reading program kicks off Wednesday, June 7, with the theme "Build a Better World."

And with your feedback, we've built an even better program to last all summer. Now the fun and learning goes until August 22, the day before Oak Park Elementary School District 97 students head back to class. "That means more opportunities to win prizes, and more levels to unlock as kids tackle reading challenges," said Genevieve Grove, Elementary School Services Librarian.

The program is again open to anyone who wants to sign up, no Oak Park residency required. Kids from birth through ninth grade can sign up at any Oak Park Public Library location, including the Book Bike (see page 5)!

Find more details at oppl.org/kids.



Natasha Cosgrove, Ellie McGillen, and Ella Sparks, graduates of Oak Park's Lincoln Elementary School, won fall 2016's Reading Olympics, a program with Oak Park and River Forest schools and public libraries that challenges fifth-grade teams to answer questions about selected books (oppl.org/kids-lists).

THE GLORIES *of Summer Reading* BY NATASHA COSGROVE, ELLIE MCGILLEN, AND ELLA SPARKS

It's 7 am, and kids all over the country whine as their parents tell them to start reading. But those same kids, the ones who grudgingly picked up books and started reading, were the kids who made the honor roll, graduated high school and college, and went on to become successful and happy people.

You may be thinking, it's summer! I'm not going to do homework! But this article might change your mind. Continuing to read over the summer can help you to keep up your reading skills over the summer while having fun!

We understand that for some kids reading is a treat, and for others it isn't as enjoyable. Usually, summer is a break from schoolwork, but, even so, you shouldn't stop reading. You may be the smartest kid in your class, but next year, the kids who did their reading will easily outsmart you, and you will have forgotten what you learned. If kids fall behind on their

summer reading every year, they could experience learning loss, and will be two years behind their classmates by sixth grade. Reading is not just good for your brain, but it's also good for your imagination!

We love reading because it brings us into a place where we can escape from our insecurities and laugh, cry, and smile with the characters we will learn to love. Every book is a doorway to a new world, which can sometimes even make us happier than we are. When you are feeling unhappy, melancholy, disappointed, or bored, take a break from everything and just read a book. It'll help, we promise.

So, in conclusion, summer reading helps in every way it could: better grades, more fun, and, of course, less boredom. So, remember to read over the summer, and visit the library often. We hope you have a wonderful, book-full summer!



TAKE ACTION SERIES

Wednesdays, 4–5 pm,
Main Library Storytime Room
Build a better world through science, citizenship, kindness, and art. Ages 4–10; kids 8 and under must have a caregiver present for outdoor events.

Nature Hunt Bingo | June 14

Learn about nature and play bingo in Scoville Park (weather permitting).

Kindness Rocks | June 21, July 12, August 9. Paint rocks with messages of love and friendship and leave them around town to make others smile.

OFF-SITE LOCATION

Intergenerational Gardening |

June 28, July 19, August 16

Help others by gardening, harvesting food, and more at Cheney Mansion's All Ages, All Abilities Garden (220 N. Euclid Ave., Oak Park). In partnership with Sugar Beet Schoolhouse. Ages 4–10, with a caregiver. Weather permitting. Families and older adults welcome.

Postcard Party | July 5, August 2

Make your voice heard. We'll supply postcards and addresses to mail to elected officials.

Wish Flags | July 26

Create your own wish flags and be the change you want to see.



BUTTONS & FIGS is a librarian-hosted podcast for kids and parents, designed to introduce kids to the world of nonsense literature (think Lewis Carroll's *Jabberwocky* and Edward Lear's *Book of Nonsense*). More: buttonsandfigs.com



"Podcasts created for kids, and often by kids, have begun blooming into silver bells and gold shells," said Pamela Rogers, creator of Buttons and Figs.

What do some of the kids of Buttons & Figs like about podcasting? Lee: "Practicing with all of my friends." Leah: "Acting like a character." Makai: "Being heard."

Join the podcast revolution this summer at the library!

KIDS' PODCAST DISCOVERY & RECORDING SESSION

Wednesday, June 21, 6:30–8 pm,
Main Library Storytime Room.

Podcasts created for kids and by kids are flourishing! Discover a variety of kidcasts to enrich your errands or road trips, and then take your turn in the limelight. Record a joke, tell a story, or simply make a silly sound effect to be featured in an upcoming episode of local

podcast Buttons & Figs. Ages 5+ with a parent or caregiver.

MAKE YOUR OWN KIDS' PODCAST

Thursday, July 13, 4–5:30 pm,
Main Library Storytime Room.
Discover tips and tricks to start your own podcast! Led by the librarian and kid voices of local podcast Buttons & Figs. Ages 7–12. Register now.

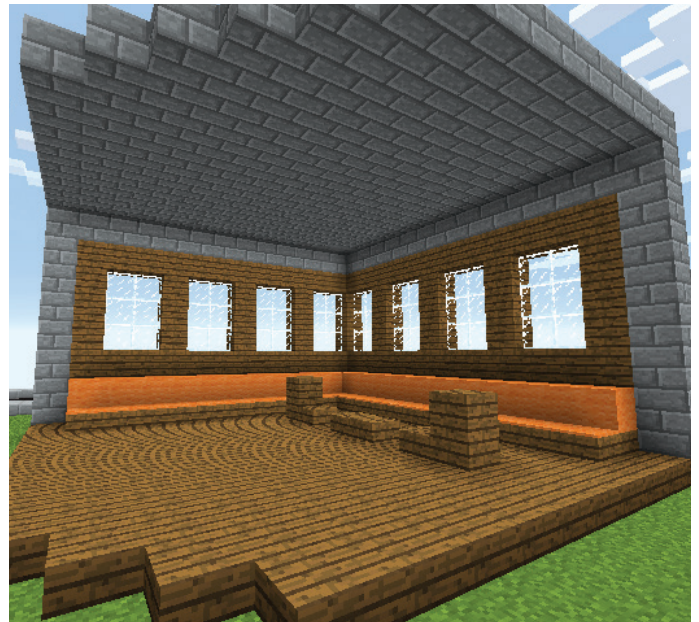
STAYING LOCAL THIS SUMMER?

Go exploring with the Museum Adventure Pass, which provides special offers and discounts to unique cultural destinations throughout the Chicago area, including Brookfield Zoo, Chicago Botanic Garden, Legoland Discovery Center, and Illinois Railway Museum. Oak Park cardholders can check out passes in person at library locations on a first-come, first-served basis. More: oppl.org/museum-passes



MORE FOR KIDS & FAMILIES

See a complete list of events at oppl.org/calendar.



Historical Oak Park structures and Prairie-style features are part of the landscape of this summer's Frank Lloyd Wright MinecraftEdu World series designed by library staff. *Left:* Scoville Institute. *Right:* Room interior with a built-in bench.

DESIGN *like Frank*

In this summer's Frank Lloyd Wright MinecraftEdu World, the virtual fun begins in an underground maze below Oak Park's Unity Temple. To advance through the maze and rise into the National Historic Landmark's interior, players will answer trivia questions about the famous architect.

Players will then head across the street to the Scoville Institute, Oak Park's first public library at 834 Lake St., where they can page through books to learn about Wright's style: his use of art glass and built-in furniture, his incorporation of nature, and so on. Later, in the game's build phase, they can use these elements in creations of their own.

FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT MINECRAFTEDU WORLD

Get inspired by the architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright while playing with your friends! Create your own structures on our build sites, inspired by images from the library's Special Collections (see page 19). Register now.

MAIN LIBRARY IDEA BOX

Monday, August 7 | 4–5 pm: Kids in grades 2–4.

Tuesday, August 8 | 4–5 pm: Girls Excelling in Math and Science (GEMS) Jr. edition. Girls in grades 2–4.

Monday, August 14 | 4–5 pm: Kids in grades 5–8.

MORE SUMMER FUN

FAMILY CREATION LAB: DIGITAL COMICS EDITION

**Thursday, June 15 or Wednesday, June 28,
6:30–8 pm, Main Library Storytime Room.**

Discover how to design and share your own digital comics using the Book Creator app. Devices will be provided. Ages 7–12 with a parent or caregiver. Register now for one of the sessions.

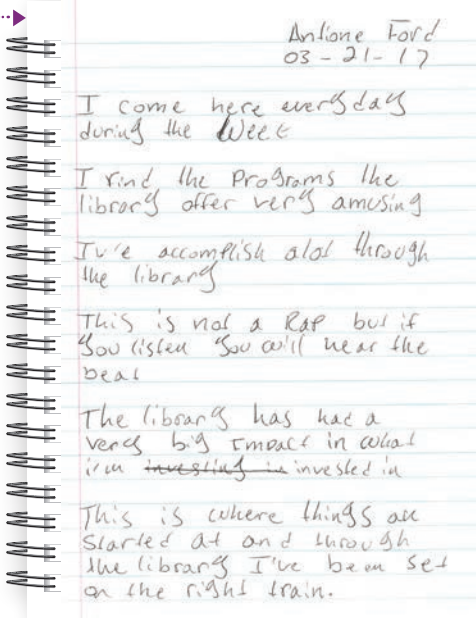
SOLAR ECLIPSE VIEWING PARTY

Monday, August 21, 11:54 am–2:53 pm, Main Library. Join us to safely experience the celestial event of the century, outside in Scoville Park! Get a free pair of special solar viewing glasses, make pinhole projectors, play games, listen to music, and more. Our rain or cloud location will be the Main Library Veterans Room, where we'll live-stream the eclipse as it moves across the country. The maximum eclipse will occur at 1:20 pm. More details: oppl.org/calendar

ORIGINAL WORK BY ANTIONE FORD



Clockwise from left: Middle schoolers Alex Lacara, Dylan Willis, Donovan Aceron, Jonathan Harris, and Antione Ford express themselves through spoken-word workshops and performances.



'IT'S WHERE WE MAKE OUR LINES and work our hardest'

For April's National Poetry Month, four local middle schoolers who call themselves the ABC Kids wrote and performed a spoken-word piece about their experiences in Oak Park and at the library.

An excerpt:
 "[The] library is the place where we started / It's where we make our lines and work our hardest."

Since January, they and other students in grades 6–12 have been participating in open mic events and writing workshops with the library's first artist in residence, poet Luis Tubens.

"I think now [teens are] feeling more comfortable because they're starting to build relationships with the faces

of the library," Tubens said. "They're not just coming here thinking, 'Oh, there's only books there.' They're coming here now knowing that there's support, not only through materials but through personnel."

Middle School Services Librarian Jose Cruz said he sees more teens motivated to write, and he marvels at how hard they work. "I notice a shift in attitude in terms of what the library means to young people," he said. "Now young

people come in and ask for support in their school campaigns. They're starting to get active in school. They come to the library looking for support from us and however we can supply it. We see that happening gradually. It's still a work in progress."



Watch the video: bit.ly/2pHazgh

TEENS BUILDING A BETTER OAK PARK

From June through August, six dedicated teams of teens are tackling topics including civic engagement, STEM, literacy, spoken-word creativity, and good old-fashioned community service through the library's teen summer volunteer program.

Want to know more? Contact High School Services Librarian Rachael Bild at rbild@oppl.org.

DIGITAL LEARNING



Meet the library's 3D printer and create your own design, using the free software Tinkercad, in a July 25 workshop at the Main Library.

REGISTER NOW: OPPL.ORG/TECH

All workshops are held in the Main Library Computer Classroom.

R BASIC MICROSOFT WORD 2010

Tuesday, June 6, 4–5 pm

R BASIC INTERNET

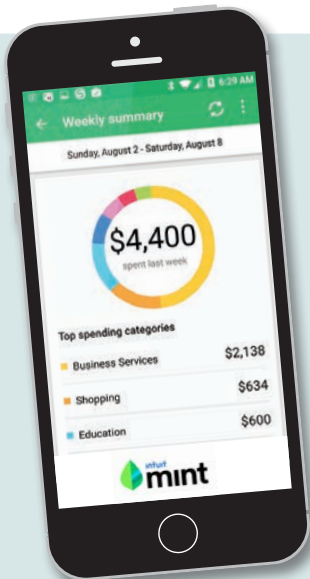
Tuesday, June 20, 7–8 pm

R INTRO TO 3D PRINTING AND DESIGN

Tuesday, July 25, 10–11 am

R BASIC MICROSOFT EXCEL 2010

Thursday, July 27, 4–5 pm



Learn about our favorite websites and apps in these interactive classes. Bring your own device or use one of our computers. Register now.

R FITNESS APPS AND WEBSITES

Wednesday, June 14, 7–8 pm

R SAVING AND INVESTING APPS

Wednesday, June 28, 7–8 pm

...► *Part of One Book, One Oak Park (page 9).*

R DATING WEBSITES

Wednesday, July 19, 7–8 pm

R ORGANIZING YOUR HOME LIBRARY

Wednesday, August 2, 10–11 am

MORE TECH EVENTS

R HOUR OF CODE FOR ADULTS

Wednesday, June 7, 7–8 pm, Main Library Idea Box. Adults are invited to try basic coding techniques in a play-based atmosphere. Computer science degree definitely not required. Register now.

ONLINE PRIVACY

Tuesday, July 11, 7–8:30 pm, Main Library Veterans Room. Discover the easiest and smartest ways to ensure that your personal information and search history stay hidden, with Michael Gershbein of Very Smart People (vsppchicago.com).

Did you know...

- Dedicated technology assistants are available on the Main Library's third floor to answer basic computer and printing questions.
- You can make an appointment for one-on-one help at oppl.org/tech.



Librarian Rashmi Swain shows job seeker Trina Wade the library's online resources: oppl.org/job-search

LANDING THE JOB

Last year, Trina Wade was working part-time, studying full-time for a business degree, and job hunting.

"My goal was to have a new career before I graduated," Wade said. "Being on the dean's list, I wanted to focus on my grades and then land a job with a company with a good track record with its employees and the people it serves."

But after months spent filling out applications, updating her resume, and receiving rejection letters, "I decided to dig deeper in my job search," she said.

'ONE-ON-ONE CONSULTING'

One day at the Main Library, Wade asked when the next job seminar would be.

"What started as a simple question turned into a full one-on-one consulting session from Ms. Rashmi," Wade wrote

later in a letter to the library. "Little did I know she was excited to help me and it showed during our conversation."

'INSIDE INFORMATION'

Adult Education & Job Seekers Librarian Rashmi Swain showed Wade the library's online resources and the Career Resources section. They talked about how some employers use applicant tracking systems to screen resumes. And she "let me know my Hotmail email address was outdated," Wade said. "I had some inside information on why I wasn't getting a response."

Last summer, Wade landed a customer service position in the airline industry. "Because of Ms. Rashmi's dedication," she wrote, "I have a very promising career with an organization I am excited to be a part of!"

RASHMI RECOMMENDS

Librarian Rashmi Swain helps job seekers with computer classes, seminars, and one-on-one help by appointment (rswain@oppl.org). Below are three top resource recommendations. Find these and more: oppl.org/job-search

KNOCK 'EM DEAD

A series on networking, interviewing, and writing cover letters and resumes, available in the Main Library's third-floor Career Resources section and in the catalog.

"I recommend it to everyone. It's an essential title for job seekers."



BRAINFUSE JOBNOW

Interactive, live help from expert job coaches online. Also features a downloadable resume template, which Swain used recently to help a job seeker in his 60s.

BUSINESS SOURCE COMPLETE

Job interview? Do a "SWOT analysis" to identify a company's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. "You could identify a company's weakness, let's say declining sales, and describe how you can help meet that company's challenge."

JOB SEEKER SEMINARS | REGISTER NOW: [OPPL.ORG/JOB-SEARCH](http://oppl.org/job-search)

UNEMPLOYMENT RESOURCES: HOW TO GET HELP NOW

Wednesday, June 7, 2–3:30 pm, Main Library Veterans Room. Led by Bill Lesus and Richard Williams, Triton College. Register now.

TIPS FOR SUBMITTING ONLINE JOB APPLICATIONS

Thursday, July 20, 2–4 pm, Main Library Veterans Room. Led by David Preciado, Chicago Federation of Labor Workers Workforce and Community Initiative. Register now.

PREPARING FOR A JOB INTERVIEW

Wednesday, August 30, 2–4 pm, Main Library Veterans Room. Led by David Preciado, Chicago Federation of Labor Workers Workforce and Community Initiative. Register now.

ARTS & CULTURE

Photo courtesy of Diana Baumbach



ARTIST RECEPTION: DIANA BAUMBACH

Saturday, June 3, 2:30–4:30 pm,
Main Library Art Gallery

MIDCENTURY MOVIE STAR: MONTGOMERY CLIFT IN HOLLYWOOD

Mondays, 1:30–4:30 pm, Main Library. Join local film historian and journalist Doug Deuchler for a six-week series of film screenings celebrating Montgomery Clift (1920–1966), one of the finest actors to grace the silver screen in the 1940s and 1950s.

June 12: *Red River*

June 19: *The Search*

June 26: *The Heiress*

July 3: *A Place in the Sun*

July 10: *I Confess*

July 17: *From Here to Eternity*

SCULPTURE WALK GUIDED TOUR

Experience the Oak Park Area Arts Council's 6th Annual Sculpture Walk with a guided tour through the Oak Park Arts District, led by library staff member Lauren Cooper, a former member of the Village of Oak Park's Public Art Advisory Commission. The tour will start and end at Maze Branch. Register now. Learn more about the Sculpture Walk: oakparkareaartscouncil.org

Sunday, June 25 | 2–3:30 pm, Maze Branch

Sunday, July 9 | 4–5:30 pm, Maze Branch

ARTIST RECEPTION: MATTHEW COLLINS. Sunday, July 2, 2–4 pm, Main Library Art Gallery



CIAO, JOHN!

What I'm watching: A bunch of Michelangelo Antonioni films to brush up on my Italian. More: oppl.org/meet-john

● **NEW! ITALIAN CONVERSATION HOUR**
Tuesdays, June 6, August 1, 7–8 pm, Main Library Book Discussion Room. A casual hour of open conversation with other Italian speakers. All levels welcome.

● **FRENCH CONVERSATION HOUR**
Wednesdays, June 28, July 26, August 30, 7–8 pm, Maze Branch. Conversation practice for French speakers. All levels welcome.

● **NEW THIS FALL! SPANISH CONVERSATION HOUR**
Want to brush up on your Spanish-speaking skills? Explore nuances in different dialects? Details coming soon.



MANGO LANGUAGES

Find easy, interactive tools to reach conversational proficiency in 72 languages, from American Sign Language to Yiddish. More: oppl.org/online-tools



Frank Lloyd Wright Home and Studio, 1889-1911. Gilman Lane Photograph Collection, Special Collections.

FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT *at 150*

Frank Lloyd Wright was born 150 years ago this June 8. Along with the rest of Oak Park and the world, we'll be celebrating the famous architect's life and work all summer.

IMAGES ANYWHERE, ANYTIME

By June 30, more than 700 photographs of Wright's architecture in Oak Park, River Forest, and beyond will be searchable and accessible online, made possible by a grant to Special Collections.

The photographs, featuring 150 buildings including Wright's Home and Studio (pictured above), were taken over several decades by Gilman Lane, an original member of the Oak Park Camera Club. The library acquired the photos after Lane's death in 1961.

The grant is expected to "dramatically increase options for viewing and using these unique one-of-a-kind historical materials," said Leigh Tarullo, Curator of Special Collections.

Images will be added to the Illinois Digital Archives, a hub of the Digital Public Library of America, providing multiple access points, making the images more browsable, and increasing their exposure.

Visit oppl.org/special-collections for the latest. And to see images in person, join us for a Frank Lloyd Wright Open House on July 19 (see sidebar).

CELEBRATE A LOCAL LANDMARK

In August, the Main Library Idea Box will feature an exhibit celebrating Oak Park's Unity Temple, set to reopen to its congregation in June after being closed for restoration since 2015.

The library houses records from both the Unity Temple Restoration Foundation, including blueprints from the landmark's first restoration in the 1970s, and the Unity Temple Unitarian Universalist Congregation, namely correspondence between Wright and the congregation.

JOIN US THIS SUMMER

FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday, July 19, 4–6 pm, Main Library Special Collections. View the library's copy of the 1910 Wasmuth Portfolio, Wright's first published work of original drawings, plus rarely seen materials from his Oak Park studio and highlights from the library's three Wright-related photograph collections.

The library's curator and archivist also will discuss the library's Illinois State Historical Records Advisory Board grant expanding access to photographs of Wright's architecture, and will give a behind-the-scenes look at newly renovated Special Collections workrooms.

DID YOU KNOW?

Kids are building their own Wright-inspired architecture in a MinecraftEdu series at the library! See page 14.



ECRWSS
POSTAL CUSTOMER

VISIT US | OPPL.ORG/VISIT

MAIN LIBRARY

834 Lake St. | 708.383.8200
Monday–Thursday: 9 am–9 pm
Friday: 9 am–6 pm
Saturday: 9 am–5 pm
Sunday: 1–6 pm

DOLE BRANCH

255 Augusta St. | 708.386.9032
Monday: Closed
Tuesday–Thursday: 10 am–9 pm
Friday: 10 am–6 pm
Saturday: 10 am–5 pm
Sunday: 1–6 pm

MAZE BRANCH

845 Gunderson Ave. | 708.386.4751
Monday–Thursday: 10 am–9 pm
Friday: Closed
Saturday: 10 am–5 pm
Sunday: 1–6 pm

REGISTRATION

Some events require registration.
Call 708.383.8200 or visit
oppl.org/calendar for the latest
information and all events.

ACCESSIBILITY

For accommodations at an event or
class, please contact us, allowing
seven days' notice to best serve you.
See oppl.org/visit/accessibility.

PROMOTION

Library programs and classes are
often photographed and/or recorded
for promotional purposes. Please
let us know if you prefer not to be
photographed or videotaped.



WHEN

Friday, August 4, 6–10 pm &
Saturday, August 5, 9 am–5 pm

WHERE

Oak Park & River Forest High School,
201 N. Scoville Ave., Oak Park

The Friends of the Oak Park
Public Library's Annual Book
Fair typically offers more than
100,000 books in every conceivable
category. With funds raised, the
Friends continue a tradition that
supports literacy, learning, and
community connections. Proceeds
support programs including kids'
summer reading (pages 12–14) and
the annual Barbara Ballinger Lecture,
typically held each fall, featuring an
accomplished author and recognizing
the former head librarian's many years
of dedicated service to the library and
to Oak Park.



SUPPORT THE FAIR

Before the sale, volunteers help sort
materials at the high school. During
the sale, volunteers help customers,
and help restock and move materials.
Want to volunteer? Email the
Friends at foppl-aa@sbcglobal.net.

Donate materials year-round only
at the Main Library. All donations
are tax deductible.

LEARN MORE: OPPL.ORG/FAIR

BUILDING CLOSINGS

All library buildings will be
closed Monday, May 29 and
Tuesday, July 4.

Friday, June 2 (Staff Day)

- Main Library open 2–6 pm
- Dole Branch open 2–6 pm
- Maze Branch closed

JUNE 2017						
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JULY 2017						
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30	31					

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