

THE STORYLINE

A quarterly publication of the Oak Park Public Library

WINTER 2015/16

News | Events | Stories

PAGE 4

**Use study rooms,
connect in social
spaces, and more**

PAGE 7

**Kids: Dance and
sing with The
Dreamtree Shakers**

PAGE 11

**Teens: Study for
finals and the ACT**

PAGE 15

**No-Shush Salon:
Take the stage for
open-mic night**

IN THIS ISSUE



3 | In Your Words

4 | A Sense of Place: Main Library Improvements

6 | Digital Learning, Careers

7 | Family, Grade School, Tweens

11 | Teens

12 | Groups, Clubs, Library-Led Book Groups

14 | Wellness, Arts & Culture

16 | The Idea Box, Contact Us

Cover Image: The Main Library's Higgins Glass mobile, now in the northeast corner of the second floor. Part of our permanent art collection, it was moved slightly to accommodate other changes to Main Library spaces. Learn more about using library spaces in this issue.

A message from the Executive Director

Each and every day, hundreds of people pass through our doors. Many more interact with us online, downloading ebooks, streaming movies and music, and commenting on social media.

Your neighbors. Friends. Families. Job seekers. Digital learners. Student teams. Local government and community groups. We see, hear, and learn so much about Oak Park. As lifelong learners, we love it. Knowing you and communicating with you helps us to do what we do: provide high-quality experiences centered on learning, literacy, and community connections.

Working to ensure everyone knows what is available to them and what doors a library may help to open, what possibilities we may help our community realize, is part of our job. We know, and you do too, that libraries change lives.

You are reading the very first issue of our new quarterly magazine. We have a story to tell, and you're a part of it.

It's also our community's story, because what we do and why we do it comes from what you told us you want and need: the aspirations of our community.

It's about how all libraries—and ours—have become centers of learning and

community engagement.

Over the past two years, we have been actively listening. And one thing we keep hearing and seeing is that Oak Park needs more public spaces—to meet, to learn, and to connect. The library's spaces are open to all, and we continue to expand and improve them. So, we're dedicating this first magazine issue to library spaces: their physical changes and what's going on inside them. Pages 3–5 talk about why Main Library spaces were streamlined and how you can access all of them.

Looking ahead, we know we need to continue to amplify our community's collective voice, and apply what we learn through listening. That's why our spring issue will dive into how a year's worth of collection use translates into knowledge for fresher and stronger collections. Look to this magazine—one of several tools we will use to reach Oak Park in the most financially and environmentally responsible of ways. Please follow The Storyline as it develops.

Thank you for reading—and for using your library.

David J. Seleb,
Executive Director



Registration is necessary for some events. Register in person at any library location, at oppl.org/calendar, or by calling the Main Library at 708.383.8200, Dole Branch at 708.386.9032, and Maze Branch at 708.386.4751.

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. Your name (and your child's name) will never be used without your written consent.



For accommodations at an event or class, please contact us, allowing seven days' notice to best serve you.

Learn more about access at oppl.org/visit/accessibility.

IN YOUR WORDS



A look back at Humanity 101: What did we learn?

In its second year, Oak Park's Humanity 101 programming series in fall 2015 promoted robust dialogue and understanding about the human interactions that affect us all.



Headlining Humanity 101 was an exhibit on the Main Library's second floor about the life and legacy of Jan Karski. Karski was a Polish World War II resistance fighter who reported eyewitness accounts of the Holocaust to the West.

Here's what you told us were the most important things you learned through the series this fall:

"Jan Karski's story should be mentioned in any discussion of righteous people, such as (Raoul) Wallenberg and (Oskar) Schindler."

"History is worth remembering."

"The Polish-Jewish connection during World War II was never explained in this type of detail."

To learn more about Humanity 101, developed through Project Humanities, visit humanities.asu.edu.

Q&A: Main Library space improvements

As we've streamlined physical spaces and collections at the Main Library this fall and winter—making the second and third floors into our "social" and "learning" floors, respectively—you've had questions. Here, we answer two common ones.

Is the library getting rid of books? Why have I seen empty shelves?

"We're not getting rid of books, just moving them around to make materials easier to find and borrow," says Elizabeth Marszalik, Manager of Library Experiences and Initiatives.

On the second floor—one of the library's most social floors, with new comfortable seating and device-charging stations—you can now find magazines, large-type books, biographies, and memoirs.

"We also improved the shelving flow of adult fiction and DVDs, and added a Hot Picks collection of in-demand fiction, nonfiction, and DVDs," Marszalik says. "And in response to what you've told us, we're creating special sections for the latest books in the genres you want, like mystery, science fiction, and romance."

On the third floor, you may continue to see some empty shelves

as we create expanded sections of travel, career, and educational resources.

Where are all the computers?

"We consolidated all desktop computers, one of our most widely used resources, on the third floor," says Eric Battaglia, Manager of Library Experiences and Initiatives. "Here, newly hired Tech Aides can help you with basic computer and printing questions during peak hours."

And with three new group and conference rooms, an expanding collection of career and educational resources, and the Silent Reading Room, the third floor is the library's learning center—the place to go to work, study, or just read and think.

"Remember: you can still check out and use laptops and DVD players throughout the library," Battaglia says.

We're listening

Have a story to share? A question to ask? A comment to make?

As we continue making changes to improve experiences, make the most of staff resources, and better support learning environments, one thing hasn't changed: we hope to keep hearing from you.

Please share your thoughts in person, at oppl.org/contact, and on social media.





With help from state funding, the Main Library opened three new study and conference rooms on the third floor in August. “Study spaces at the library have always been in high demand,” Executive Director David J. Seleb says.



In the Main Library’s redesigned second-floor seating area, customers work on laptops, read, and browse issues from newly installed magazine carousels.



Attendees listen to an Alzheimer’s Association representative in the Main Library’s first-floor Lobby Community Space, a flexible meeting spot that cardholders can use for no charge.



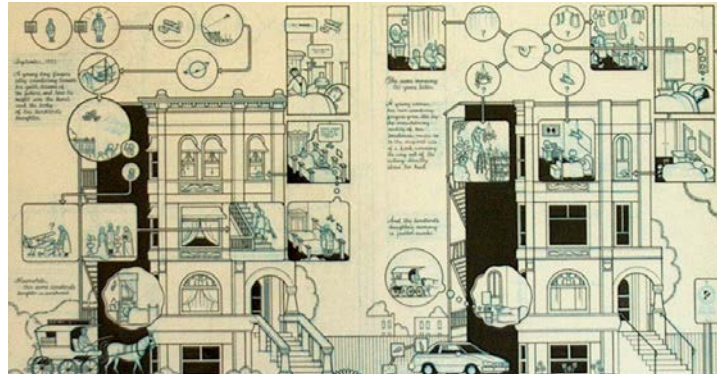
All desktop computers are now on the Main Library’s third floor, where dedicated Tech Aides can help users with basic computer and printing questions.



To improve access to trending fiction, nonfiction, and movies, we created a Hot Picks collection that lets customers bypass holds lists and check out in-demand materials from any library location.



John Winslow's *The Frog Prince* (2002, oil on canvas) on the Main Library's second floor, next to newly rearranged shelves of teen fiction.



Chris Ware's *Building Stories: 1923-2003* (2002, ink and blue pencil on illustration board), in the Main Library's third-floor Study Room B.

A SENSE OF PLACE

Improving community and learning spaces at the Main Library

Every story needs a setting. Starting this past summer at the Main Library, we've rearranged some elements of ours to improve customer experiences, better support learning environments, and maximize staff resources.

Creating space for community

In *The Great Good Place*, author Ray Oldenburg writes about the "third place"—a space outside home and work where friends and neighbors can gather and create community.

At the library, we're committed to offering more spaces like this, as well as spaces where you can work and study.

"In making changes to floor plans and streamlining spaces, one of our goals was to integrate customers of all ages, reinforcing the idea that the library is a space for all," says Elizabeth Marszalik, Manager of Experiences and Initiatives. "We hope this leads to more intergenerational engagement and understanding."

On the Main Library's second floor, we added new magazine carousels and a Hot Picks collection, and we rearranged shelves to make it easier to find what you're looking for. We also created more comfortable, casual seating arrangements where you can cozy up with a magazine or start a conversation with a neighbor, perhaps about the latest mystery novel you picked up, or what teens are reading these days.

Marszalik says that the new central

seating area, in sight of the floor's service desk, allows staff to serve adults and teens at the same time and keep noise levels reasonable.

Offering flexible space

On the Main Library's first floor, the Lobby Community Space is living up to its name. In this social area at the lobby's west end, anyone can use the space to sit, talk, read, and work. And for no cost, library cardholders can reserve the space for various purposes.

"We've had condo associations, the Oak Park-River Forest Chamber of Commerce, and different ensembles use the space for meetings and performances," Customer Service Supervisor Julie Meo says. "We've also hosted local writing groups, staffers from Sen. Mark Kirk's office, and a very well-attended presentation on urban coyotes from the Cook County Forest Preserve."

Lori Pulliam, Manager of Experiences and Initiatives, says that groups are welcome to move furniture around and use the space to suit their needs. "They can really create the space they want," she says.

Creating space for learning

"Study spaces at the library have always been in high demand," Executive Director David J. Seleb says.

Now even more people can access free collaboration spaces, as the Main Library opened three new third-floor study and conference rooms in August with the help of state funding.

Adding the study rooms was one piece of the overall redesign to make the third floor a center of learning. All desktop computers were also consolidated on the third floor, where Tech Aides can more easily help users with basic computer and printing questions.

"With our nonfiction, local history, and other special collections, seven rooms for group work, and dedicated Tech Aides who can offer computer help, the third floor provides an atmosphere that's conducive to learning," says Elsworth Rockefeller, Manager of Experiences and Initiatives.

Find more in our digital space

For more about how to access and use all library spaces, including at Dole and Maze branches, visit oppl.org/spaces.

DIGITAL LEARNING, CAREERS

OPPL.ORG/TECH

WORKSHOPS

Workshops are held in the Main Library Computer Classroom. Register in person, at oppl.org/tech, or by calling 708.452.3480. Walk-ins welcome as space permits.

Internet Basics

Tuesday, Jan. 5, 10–11 am. We will cover how to use a browser to access the Internet, and how to use Google to find information. Knowledge of computer basics is required.

Bring Your Own Devices

Tuesday, Jan. 12, 7–8 pm. Did you receive a new smartphone, ereader, or tablet recently? This class will give you an overview of what you can do with your new device and what library resources you can use. Bring your device passwords.

Basic Microsoft Word 2010

Tuesday, Jan. 19, 7–8 pm. Topics include basic editing and copying, cutting, and pasting. Knowledge of computer basics is required.

Basic Photo Editing: Holiday Photos

Wednesday, Jan. 20, 10–11 am. Learn how to make this year's holiday photos look great by using Pixlr Express, an online photo editing service. We will cover how to apply effects, filters, and stickers to make any photo beautiful.

Intro to the Cloud and Privacy

Tuesday, Jan. 26, 7–8 pm. The cloud. What is it? Where is it? What's the point? Take a tour of some common cloud applications and learn what that means regarding your online privacy and security.

Google Drive Basics

Tuesday, Feb. 2, 10–11 am. Learn how to use this alternative option to

create, organize, store, and retrieve content anytime. We will cover how to use Google Drive to create Google documents that can also be saved as Microsoft Office resources, including Word documents, Excel spreadsheets, and PowerPoint slides. Google account required.

Intermediate Microsoft Word 2010

Tuesday, Feb. 9, 7–8 pm. Topics include advanced formatting, lists, and clip art. Basic knowledge of Microsoft Word is required.

Twitter for Professional Growth

Tuesday, Feb. 16, 7–8 pm. Learn how to enhance your Twitter profile and improve your professional digital presence. We'll learn how to create effective tweets, determine who to follow, and choose an appropriate Twitter handle. Must have a Twitter account and be familiar with Twitter.

Basic Microsoft Excel 2010

Tuesday, Feb. 23, 7–8 pm. Learn about Microsoft Excel and its most common uses and applications. Topics include basic worksheet navigation and editing. Knowledge of computer basics is required.

FORUM

Define Data: How Private Is Your Medical Info?

Wednesday, Jan. 27, 7–8 pm, Main Library Small Meeting Room. Join library staff and topic experts as we discuss data privacy in a roundtable discussion.

OPPL.ORG/JOBSEARCH



SCORE Small Business Counseling Sessions

Tuesdays, Dec. 8, Jan. 12 & Feb. 9, 9:30 am–12:30 pm, Main Library Group Study Rooms. Free business counseling/mentoring for start-ups, existing small businesses, and budding entrepreneurs provided by business professionals from SCORE, a nonprofit association and resource partner of the Small Business Administration. By appointment only. Schedule a private, hourlong counseling session at scorechicago.org (choose "Oak Park Public Library" from the drop-down list of locations) or by phone at 312.353.7724.

JOB SEEKER SEMINARS

The Importance of a Strong Resume

Thursday, Jan. 28, 2–4 pm, Main Library. Learn the components of a strong resume, and what keywords or phrases to use that will help move your resume to the top of the stack. Presenter: David Preciado, Chicago Federation of Labor Workers Assistance Committee.

Preparing for a Job Interview

Thursday, Feb. 25, 2–4 pm, Main Library. Learn the importance of first impressions, and how to present yourself to potential employers. We will review tips and techniques to help you prepare for job interviews. Presenter: Joselyn Rollerson, Chicago Federation of Labor Workers Assistance Committee.

Family events are all ages unless otherwise noted.



OPPL.ORG/KIDS

LEGO Club

Come play! LEGO and DUPLO provided.

Maze Branch	Tuesday, Dec. 8, 3-5 pm Tuesday, Feb. 16, 3-5 pm
Main Library	Friday, Dec. 18, 10 am-12 pm Wednesday, Dec. 30, 2-4 pm Friday, Jan. 8, 10 am-12 pm Friday, Feb. 12, 10 am-12 pm Friday, Feb. 12, 2-4 pm

Barbie Club

Come play! Dolls and accessories provided.

Main Library	Friday, Dec. 11, 10 am-12 pm Wednesday, Dec. 23, 2-4 pm Friday, Jan. 22, 10 am-12 pm
Dole Branch	Friday, Dec. 18, 3-5 pm Friday, Jan. 15, 3-5 pm Friday, Feb. 19, 3-5 pm

Book Speed Dating

Friday, Dec. 11, 3:30-5:30 pm, Main Library. Meet the book of your gift-giving dreams! Find our top picks for kids from birth through middle school and match them with your friends and family. For kids and caregivers.

Snowy Storytime and Craft

Tuesday, Dec. 15, 10:30-11:30 am, Dole Branch. Join Ms. Niki for a snowy good time with this fun and interactive storytime. Followed by a marshmallow igloo craft. Ages 3-6.

Block Party!

Monday, Dec. 21, 2-4 pm & Friday, Jan. 15, 10 am-12 pm, Main Library. Calling all budding engineers! Use our wooden blocks to build whatever your imagination can come up with, from zoos to skyscrapers.

Disney's Descendants Screening

Monday, Dec. 21, 3-5 pm, Maze Branch. Disney's smash about four would-be villains hoping for redemption. Best for ages 7+. (G, 2015, 112 minutes)

Inside Out Screening

Tuesday, Dec. 22, 2-4 pm, Main Library Veterans Room. Emotions run wild when Riley moves to San Francisco and loses her sense of self. (PG, 2015, 102 minutes)

Frozen Sing-Along

Monday, Dec. 28, 2-4 pm & 6:30-8:30 pm, Main Library Veterans Room. Back by popular demand! We'll play *Frozen* on the big screen and want to hear everyone singing along with Anna, Elsa, and Olaf. Costumes encouraged. Registration necessary. (PG, 2013, 103 minutes)

Kid's Craft: Footprint Penguins

Brrrr! Get ready for winter with this festive and fun craft. Ages 3+.

Maze Branch	Monday, Dec. 28, 3:30-4:30 pm
Dole Branch	Wednesday, Dec. 30, 3:30-4:30 pm

New Year's Eve Concert: The Dreamtree Shakers

Thursday, Dec. 31, 4-4:45 pm, Main Library Veterans Room. Get ready to dance, sing, and celebrate the coming of a new year with The Dreamtree Shakers! This show features diverse instrumentation, visual surprises, and creative movement.

FAMILY

Family events are all ages unless otherwise noted.



OPPL.ORG/KIDS

Saturday Sensory Storytime

Saturdays, Jan. 2 & Feb. 20, 2-2:30 pm, Main Library. This class is designed for children with special needs, with caregiver support. Classes are structured with Boardmaker schedules and include fun picture books and songs, along with fine and gross motor movement activities. Special supports like lap weights and fidget toys are available to help children be successful. Ages 3+. Siblings welcome.

Galaxies Far, Far Away Storytime and Craft

Wednesday, Jan. 6, 10:30-11:30 am, Dole Branch. Get ready to blast off with this fun storytime and craft. Join Ms. Jenny and Mr. Ian for an interactive storytime filled with laughter, songs, and, of course, lightsabers! Ages 3+.

Minions Screening

Friday, Jan. 15, 3-4:30 pm, Main Library Veterans Room. Those yellow Minions have existed since the dawn of time, seeking out despicable people to serve. (PG, 2015, 91 minutes)

A Musical MLK Day With Shanta Nurullah

Monday, Jan. 18, 10:30-11:30 am, Main Library Veterans Room. Sing along to spirituals, blues, jazz, and freedom songs with Old Town School of Folk Music's Shanta Nurullah! Learn more about the people who created these musical styles through an engaging, interactive performance.

DigiTales: Mindful Moments

Fridays, Jan. 29 & Feb. 19, 10-10:30 am, Main Library. Start the New Year refreshed: discover calming new apps

BABIES & TODDLERS

See oppl.org/kids for special storytimes for babies and toddlers.

Kindermusik Storytime

Friday, Jan. 8, 10:30-11:15 am, Dole Branch. Join Kindermusik teacher Ms. Pat for an interactive and musical storytime created especially for children ages 1-2. Registration with an Oak Park Public Library card necessary.

to help you and your child de-stress and relax together. Stories and songs are paired with quality ebooks and apps that can be used whenever a quiet break is needed. Best for ages 2-6.

Lunar New Year Storytime

Friday, Feb. 5, 10:30-11 am, Main Library. Ring in the

Year of the Monkey with a bilingual storytime. Jenny Chen from Paper Lantern Language and Cultural Center will share stories and songs in Mandarin. Ages 3-5.



Valentines With Seniors at the Oak Park Arms

Monday, Feb. 8, 4-5 pm, Off-site: Oak Park Arms, 408 S. Oak Park Ave., Oak Park. Join us at the Oak Park Arms to make Valentine's Day cards and crafts with seniors. Studies have shown that kids and older adults benefit from intergenerational connections, and it's fun for all. Best for ages 3+. Registration necessary for kids and adults.

FAMILY, GRADE SCHOOL



[OPPL.ORG/KIDS](https://oppl.org/kids)

Valentine Storytime and Craft

Tuesday, Feb. 9, 10:30–11:30 am, Dole Branch. Join Ms. Niki for a festive and love-filled Valentine storytime and craft. Ages 3+.

Kids and Tweens Book Swap

Thursday, Feb. 11, 4–7 pm, Main Library Veterans Room. Bring your gently used kids' books and take home something new to you! Any leftover books will be donated to the annual Friends of the Library Book Sale.

Kid's Craft: Memory Quilt

Friday, Feb. 12, 2–3:30 pm, Dole Branch. February is the month of love and togetherness, so please join us in making a quilt for Black History Month. Create a picture of love, peace, and joy that will be displayed at Dole Branch.

Mammals and More

Monday, Feb. 15, 10:30–11:30 am, Maze Branch. Join our furry friends from Flying Fox Conservation Fund as they bring the zoo to the library. They will provide a hands-on approach to learning about animals that is both

fun and safe. Ages 4+. Registration with an Oak Park Public Library card necessary.

Very Funny Magic With Dennis DeBondt

Monday, Feb. 15, 2–3 pm, Main Library Veterans Room. Want to see something amazing, something incredible, something hilarious? Be prepared because Dennis DeBondt delivers. Ages 4+. Registration necessary.

STORYTIMES FOR KIDS

Storytime classes help children acquire pre-literacy skills in fun, age-appropriate ways.

To offer the best learning experience, we tailor each class to a specific age group, limit class sizes, and require an Oak Park Public Library card for certain classes. Have fun, sing along, and check out books to take home.

Check out the latest schedule at oppl.org/kids.



Meet Jennifer Norborg, Assistant Manager of Children's Services

Learn more at oppl.org/about.

After the Bell

Wednesdays, Dec. 2–16 & Jan. 6–Feb 24, 2–3:30 pm, Dole Branch. It's our weekly after-school program for kids ages 8+! Activities include crafts, movies, and games.

Curiosity Club

Wednesdays, Dec. 2–16 & Jan. 6–Feb. 24, 3–4 pm, Main Library. Games, crafts, and activities will be matched with stories in this hands-on way to discover both new books and new friends. Best for ages 4–8.

Homeschool Meet-Up

Thursdays, Dec. 3–17 & Jan. 7–Feb 25, 12–2 pm, Main Library. Drop in each week to socialize with other local homeschooling families. Sack lunches welcome. Best for ages 6+. Siblings welcome.

Ornaments Around the World

Thursday, Dec. 10, 4:30–5:30 pm, Dole Branch. Ever wonder how other countries celebrate the holidays? Get ready to discover a variety of cultures with this creative craft. Ages 5+. Registration with an Oak Park Public Library Card necessary.

GRADE SCHOOL, TWEENS



OPPL.ORG/KIDS

Holiday Origami

Bring the kids or come alone to make some decorative holiday origami! We will provide all the supplies and instruction. Ages 7+.

Maze Branch | Monday, Dec. 14,
6-7 pm

Dole Branch | Thursday, Dec. 17,
6-7 pm

Kids' Improv Workshop

Mondays, Dec. 21, Jan. 25 & Feb. 22, 6:30-7:30 pm, Maze Branch. Calling kids for improvisational drama games! Never acted before but always wanted to try? Looking for a way to build your sharing and cooperation skills? Join us for fun and games that are sure to test your quick-thinking skills. And remember, in improv, everyone wins! Warning: hilarity will ensue. Grades 1-4.

Dream Snow Craft

Monday, Jan. 18, 2-4 pm, Maze Branch. Create a winter snow scene using Eric Carle's painted tissue paper technique and his book *Dream Snow* as inspiration. Best for ages 5+.

Get Ready for Valentine's Day! Crafternoon

Thursday, Feb. 4, 3-4:30 pm, Main Library. Want to get beyond store-bought valentines this year? Drop in and get crafty! We'll have all sorts of supplies on hand; you bring the creativity and imagination. Best for ages 5+.

Valentine Boxes

Wednesday, Feb. 10, 4-5 pm, Dole Branch. Make a Valentine Box you'll treasure for years to come. We will decoupage heart-shaped boxes with beautiful designs and colors from old magazines. Best for ages 5+.

Stop-Motion Animation Workshop

Thursday, Feb. 11, 1-2:30 pm, Main Library Community Space. Drop in and make a movie with Steve & Kate's Camp! No experience, expertise, or equipment needed; just bring your imagination. Best for ages 5+.



Tween Only (T.O.) events are for kids entering grades 5-8 to make cool things, be creative, learn something new, and hang out with friends.

T.O.
Tweens Only

GEMS: For girls in grades 5-8. For more information on GEMS, visit gemsclub.org.

DIY Roller Coaster

Tuesday, Dec. 29, 2-3 pm, Main Library. Get ready to scream! Miss Jessica will show you how to build your own roller coaster that will send marbles on a loop-de-loop. Register now.

Minecraft Superheroine Challenge

Friday, Jan. 15, 4-5:30 pm, Main Library Computer Classroom. Girl power! Join Miss Anne and Miss Amy in this team challenge to complete MinecraftEDU superhero missions. Space is very limited, so register early.

Guys Read: For guys in grades 5-8. No need to pre-read anything; just show up.



Superheroic Stories

Friday, Jan. 29, 4-5 pm, Main Library. Explore the worlds of superheroes with fan-tastic books.

Into the Future

Friday, Feb. 26, 4-5 pm, Main Library. Explore new worlds and places through some awesome science fiction and dystopian books.



OPPL.ORG/TEENS

Teen Volunteer Association

Tuesdays, Dec. 1-15, 3:30-5 pm, Main Library. Help with a variety of projects including planning teen events, crafting for local organizations, boxing books, and organizing materials on library shelves. Teen volunteers will meet on Tuesdays from 3:30 to 5 pm, as often as their schedules allows. Sign up today.

Mess Hall

Thursdays, Dec. 3-17, 3:30-5 pm, Main Library. This is not your teacher's study hall! Drop by for an afternoon of messing around and making stuff. We'll have art projects, video games and board games, and robots to build, as well as space for you to unwind. Every week will be a new experience.

Exam Cram

Your table is reserved! Find a quiet place to study through the end of finals week.

Main Library	Saturday, Dec. 12, 9 am-5 pm
	Sunday, Dec. 13, 1-6 pm
	Monday, Dec. 14, 3-9 pm
	Tuesday, Dec. 15, 3-9 pm

FAFSA Completion Workshops

Monday, Jan. 11 & Thursday, Jan. 28, 7-9 pm, Main Library Computer Classroom. Drop in for help completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Bring your tax forms and sit down at a computer. A financial aid professional will be available to answer any financial aid questions and help you complete your FAFSA at no charge. Register and see what information to bring with you at oppl.org/calendar.

ACT Test-Taking Strategies Workshop

Thursday, Jan. 14, 7-8 pm, Main Library. Beyond getting enough sleep and eating a good breakfast, what can you do to score well on the ACT? Join professional tutor Chris Bench to learn strategies to try and pitfalls to avoid.

Practice ACT Test

Saturday, Feb. 6, 9 am-1 pm, Main Library. High school students can sign up for this free, fully proctored, full-length practice ACT test sponsored by Kaplan Test Prep. Students will learn

what to expect in a test-like environment and will receive a comprehensive analysis of their performance on the test, detailing individual strengths and weaknesses. Space is limited, so register now. Students should bring two No. 2 pencils and a calculator.

College Admissions 101

Saturday, Feb. 20, 10:30 am-12:30 pm, Main Library. Parents and college-bound high school students will learn important tips in this free presentation, including organizing your thought process, setting realistic goals, determining what institutions and locales meet the student's interests and abilities, setting time frames for college visits, writing the personal statement, completing the common application, and making the experience a positive, less stressful opportunity. Presenter: Kathleen Haney, MEd, a former junior college and university program director, faculty member and advisor, and academic coordinator at a major university medical center.

GROUPS, CLUBS



Adult Improv Workshop

Tuesday, Dec. 1, 7-8:30 pm, Maze Branch. Looking for a way to let your inner comedian run free? Want to improve your quick-thinking skills? Join us for a night of spontaneous comedy. All skill levels welcome. Warning: hilarity will ensue...

Open Board-Game Play

Wednesdays, Dec. 2 & 16, 6:30-9 pm, Main Library. Open game play on the first and third Wednesday of every month. Bring your own board games, or just bring yourself.

Chess Open Play

Mondays, Dec. 7-Jan. 11, 5:30-9 pm, Main Library. Open play, all ages, all skill levels.

Yarns & Yarn

Thursday, Dec. 10, 2-4 pm, Dole Branch. All are welcome to join a group of avid readers who meet to discuss books while they knit and crochet blankets and scarves to donate to various charities. No knitting experience needed.

French Conversation Hour

Wednesday, Dec. 30 & Jan 27, 7-8 pm, Maze Branch. Join French Conversation Hour to keep up your French language skills through open conversation with other French speakers. Whether you speak enough to hold a basic conversation or you can rattle off long stories, all are welcome. No class, no formal lesson—just practice for current French speakers.

Oak Park Photography Club Reception

Sunday, Jan. 10, 3:30-5:30 pm, Main Library. Members of the Oak Park Photography Club exhibit new photographs. Meet the photographers and enjoy refreshments.

Oak Park Photography Club Meetings

Mondays, Jan. 11 & 25, Feb. 8, 7-9 pm, Main Library. All skill levels are welcome.

Zeitgeist: Passionate About Pop Culture

Zeitgeist is the new library group capturing the spirit of our times. Join us to connect over popular TV and movies, music and podcasts, and books. No advance reading or watching is required. Just show up and dive in!

Zeitgeist: Passionate About Star Wars

Wednesday, Jan. 13, 7-8:30 pm, Main Library. Did you wait in line for the midnight show of *Star Wars: Episode VII - The Force Awakens*? Have you already watched it five times? Did you spend your summer memorizing every line of the trailer? Us too!

Zeitgeist: Passionate About Funny Ladies

Wednesday, Feb. 10, 7-8 pm, Main Library. Come celebrate an early Galentine's Day and all the funny ladies we love: Tina Fey, Amy Poehler, Mindy Kaling, Amy Schumer, Tig Notaro, and more!

LIBRARY-LED BOOK GROUPS



OPPL.ORG/BOOKGROUPS

Titles are available at the library one month before the discussion. All are welcome; no registration is required. For more information and to sign up for our monthly book discussion groups email, visit oppl.org/bookgroups.

Detection by Daylight

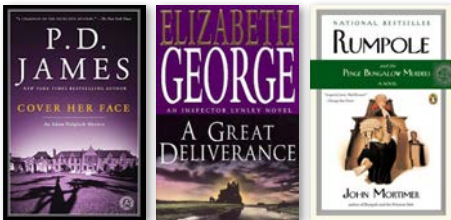
Tuesdays, 12-1 pm, Maze Branch

Dec. 8: *Cover Her Face*

Jan. 5: *A Great Deliverance*

Feb. 2: *Rumpole and the Penge*

Bungalow Murders



Brown Bag

Tuesdays, 12-1 pm, Dole Branch

Dec. 15: *The Summons*

Jan. 19: *Mind's Eye*

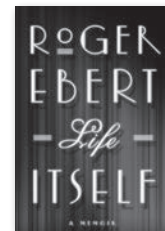
Feb. 16: *The Dark Monk*



The Lives They Lived

Tuesday, Jan. 19, 7:30-8:30 pm,

Maze Branch. *Life Itself*



Words on Wednesday

Wednesdays, 1-2:30 pm, Main Library

Jan. 20: *Liar, Temptress, Soldier, Spy:*

Four Women Undercover in the Civil War

Feb. 17: *A Thousand Hills*



Read & Reflect

Fridays, 12-1 pm, Dole Branch

Dec. 18: *Can't We Talk About Something More Pleasant?*

Jan. 15: *The Emperor of All Maladies*

Feb. 19: *Just Mercy*



What's Cooking?

Sundays, 2-3 pm, Maze Branch

Dec. 13: *Crazy About Cookies*

Jan. 10: *Tangy Tart Hot & Sweet*

Feb. 14: *Chef Paul Prudhomme's Louisiana Kitchen*



Some events require registration. Call 708.383.8200 or visit oppl.org/calendar.

WELLNESS, ARTS & CULTURE

Blood Pressure Screenings

Tuesday, Dec. 1 & Wednesday, Dec. 16, 5–8 pm, Main Library. Clinicians from Rush Oak Park Hospital will provide health information and free blood pressure screenings.

Motivational Coach Tom Kens: "Staying Positive in a Negative World"

Sunday, Jan. 17, 2–4 pm, Main Library. Jump-start your way to a more positive attitude in 2016. Motivational coach Tom Kens uses video, humor, drama, and testimonies to share the 10 fundamental practices you can use to live a healthier, happier life.



Meet Susan McClelland, Health & Wellness Librarian

How I turn outward: As the Health & Wellness librarian, I am passionate about connecting the Oak Park community to health resources available in our library collection and about forming partnerships with outside health agencies to bring medical events and wellness programming to our patrons on-site.



Author Jeremy Falcon: *The Book of Wisdom*

Saturday, Dec. 5, 2–4:30 pm, Main Library. Meet Oak Park author Jeremy Falcon and hear about his new novel, the first in his Harmony of the Spheres series. *The Book of Wisdom* is a journey from the ancient Near East to yesterday's Dublin, a hunt for the very first song, and a quest to rediscover the bonds between religion and superstition, history and myth, art and reason, and love and hate.

Picturing the Past

Wednesdays, 1–3:15 pm, Maze Branch. Join us for this film series featuring films with a historical context. Watch the film and then discuss the historic events and people depicted. Focusing on the story, we'll discuss what the film got right (or wrong).

Dec. 16: *The Lion in Winter*
(PG-13, 1969, 134 minutes)

Jan. 20: *Amistad*
(R, 1997, 152 minutes)

Feb. 17: *Good Night and Good Luck*
(PG, 2005, 93 minutes)

Walt Disney: Creativity Frame by Frame

Saturday, Dec. 19, 2–3:30 pm, Main Library Veterans Room. Join us for an intimate portrait of Walt Disney presented by Bob Burton, professor emeritus of communications at Oakton Community College and a longtime Oak Park resident. Clips from Disney films will be shown, plus surprising personal insights from Disney's friends, family, and colleagues.

Lyric Opera Lecture: *Nabucco*

Sunday, Jan. 10, 2–3 pm, Main Library. Learn the story and hear the music of *Nabucco*. This is the opera that made Verdi a star!

Musical Classics and Cocoa

Sunday, Jan. 24, 4–5 pm, Off-site: Pleasant Home, 217 Home Ave., Oak Park. Take a musical journey down memory lane with pianist Beverlee Nelson. Discover the beauty of storytelling through music, within the majestic setting of the Pleasant Home. Registration with an Oak Park Public Library card necessary.



OPPL.ORG/ART

No-Shush Salon

Thursdays, 6:30–8:30 pm, Maze Branch. The No-Shush Salon is a monthly open mic for all creative types who want to share their works in progress or even their newly finished endeavors. Share your poetry, prose, music, dance—anything creative—in one of our 10-minute time slots. No registration is required. Just drop in and share your talents. Spectators are also welcome and appreciated, and so are treats to share! Themes change monthly.

Jan. 28: New Beginnings

Feb. 25: For the Love

A Glimpse of Ancient China to Celebrate Chinese New Year

Sunday, Jan. 31, 2–4 pm, Main Library. Learn about traditional Chinese culture and dances, see a demonstration of Chinese calligraphy, and celebrate the Chinese New Year (Feb. 8) early.

For Grown-Ups: Storytime and Coloring

Sunday, Feb. 21, 2–3 pm, Main Library. Get cozy and creative this winter by embracing your inner child. Join us for

cocoa, coloring, and a unique brand of storytelling.

Geology as Destiny: Across the Chicago Portage, a Story of Glaciers, Voyageurs, and Carp!

Sunday, Feb. 21, 2–4 pm, Main Library. David Dolak examines Chicago's pre-eminence as the largest metropolitan area in the middle of North America. This program includes a live performance of an original song with lyrics based on these topics.

PLEASANT HOME LECTURE SERIES

Park Ridge: Rediscovering a Major American Arts Colony

Thursday, Feb. 25, 7–9 pm, Main Library. Hear about the artistic history of Park Ridge from Karen Larsen, board member of the Kalo Foundation.

March 3: *Silsbee in Polo: A Chicago Architect in a Prairie Town*

March 10: *The Lakefront Transformed: George W. Maher in Gary*

aMAZEing Art Program

Sunday, Dec. 6, 2–3 pm, Maze Branch. Steve Fisher of Expressions Graphics, a nonprofit printmaking cooperative, will present a hands-on printmaking program. Using ink, watercolors, and plates, participants will create their own watercolor monotypes. Dress for making a mess.

Artist Reception: Jennifer Mannebach

Sunday, Dec. 20, 3–5 pm, Main Library. Meet Oak Park artist Jennifer Mannebach and see her exhibit, *Discursive Demarcations*. Learn more at jmannebach.com.

Oak Park-River Forest Community Art Associates

Sunday, Jan. 24, 2–4:30 pm, Main Library. Learn how to approach and analyze artwork from John McKinnon, Program Director of the Society for Contemporary Art, The Art Institute of Chicago. Audience members will learn how to absorb visual information, dig deeper to find out artists' intentions, place artwork within a critical understanding and historical context, and, finally, know what to do with all that information. McKinnon will show introductory works and also demonstrate these approaches through some more challenging work, such as an abstract painting by Jackson Pollock.

CONTACT US

oppl.org/contact
708.383.8200

Talk to a librarian

Main Library: 708.452.3480
Dole Branch: 708.386.9032
Maze Branch: 708.386.4751

**Board of
Library Trustees**

Open to the public, meetings of the Board of Library Trustees are held on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm unless rescheduled by the trustees. Find board meeting dates and locations at oppl.org/board, and get in touch at board@oppl.org.

**Library
Executive Director**

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

The Storyline is published as a service for the Oak Park Public Library community.

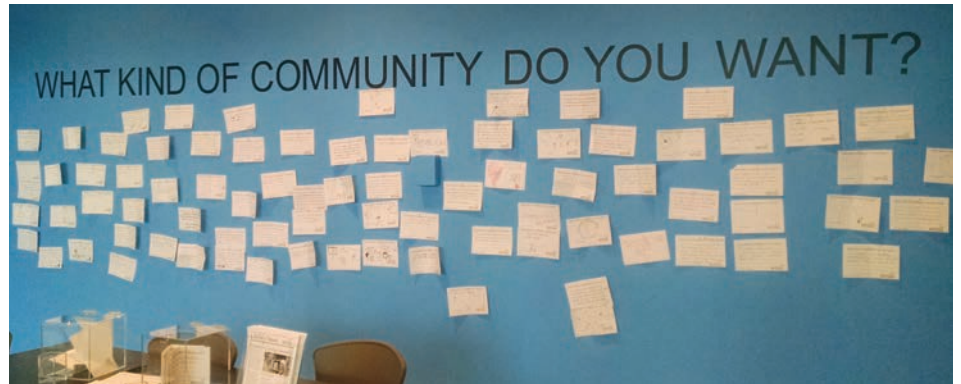
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IDEA BOX INSPIRATION: A YEAR IN REVIEW

Located just inside the Main Library entrance, the Idea Box has provided a new and dynamic participatory community experience each month since launching in the spring of 2012. Visitors are encouraged to learn through tinkering, fun, experimentation, and play. See all 2015 Idea Box exhibits at bit.ly/1Qgi4S7.



Community Conversations: February 2015



District 97 Celebrates Youth Art Month: March 2015



In The Fold: October 2015



Recuerdame: November 2015

All library buildings will be closed Friday, Dec. 4, Thursday, Dec. 24, Friday, Dec. 25, Thursday, Dec. 31 (closing early at 5 pm), and Friday, Jan. 1.

OPPL.ORG/VISIT

Main Library
834 Lake St.
708.383.8200
Mon-Thurs: 9 am to 9 pm
Friday: 9 am to 6 pm
Saturday: 9 am to 5 pm
Sunday: 1 pm to 6 pm

Dole Branch Library
255 Augusta St.
708.386.9032
Monday: Closed
Tues-Thurs: 10 am to 9 pm
Friday: 10 am to 6 pm
Saturday: 10 am to 5 pm
Sunday: 1 pm to 6 pm

Maze Branch Library
845 Gunderson Ave.
708.386.4751
Mon-Thurs: 10 am to 9 pm
Friday: Closed
Saturday: 10 am to 5 pm
Sunday: 1 pm to 6 pm