

Winter 2025 Newsletter

Winter Reading Bingo

December 6- January 31



Be sure to pick up your winter reading and library services bingo card! Turn in your completed card with your name and contact info for a prize. All ages welcome!

Red & Green Magic Show

Saturday, December 13 2:00-3:00



Join us for an exciting Christmas-themed magic show presented by the Pocket Circus! Families will enjoy a humor-filled magic show with audience participation! All ages are welcome. Registration required.

Story Time with a Cop

Friday, December 19 3:30-4:30



Join us for a special story time featuring a special guest from the Berkeley Police Department! Children will enjoy engaging stories read by an officer and will learn more about our community heroes! A special craft and tactile play will follow the stories.

Gaming Day

Friday, February 6 3:30-5:30



Join us for a fun gaming day! Enjoy Switch games like Super Smash Bros. and Just Dance, board games, laser tag, and more! A snack will be provided. Ages 6-13.

Genealogy Basics

Saturday, January 24 1:00-3:00



Join Jenny Warner, Instructor and Professional Genealogist, as she assists beginning genealogists understand the research process. The program will include showing different research areas both online and offline for your family research. Registration required.

Vegetarian Cuisine Explored

Saturday, February 28 12:00-2:00



Join Chef Susan Maddox as she prepares some vegetarian dishes that we get to sample. Recipes will be provided. Registration required. Ages 16 and up.

Grab & Go!

Busy schedule? We have several different take-home kits available each month, perfect to grab and take home to do when you want:

- Kids Craft & Story Kits
- Teen Craft Kit
- Spice Adventure Kit
- Senior Outreach Bag

Looking for another type of activity? There's more than just books on our shelves. Your library card also gives you access to:

- Musical instruments
- Puzzles & board games
- Nex Playground
- Yoto Player & Story cards

Kids

Tiny Tot Time

Saturdays (12/20, 1/10, 2/21) 10:30 - 11:30

Calling all toddlers! Join us as we provide time for activities that foster play, exploration, creativity, and socialization.



Story Time Thursdays

Each Thursday (except 12/18, 12/25 & 1/1) 1:00 - 2:00

Join us for Story Time, where we read, learn, and grow together through stories! Make connections with other area parents of small children, while your child (ren) get to enjoy books, music, tactile play, and a snack.

Switch Gaming Days

Mondays (12/8, 1/12, 2/9) 3:30 - 5:30

Join us once a month for Switch Gaming! Battle it out in Mario Kart, Super Smash Bros., and other popular games. Play for fun and enjoy a snack!



Dragon & Board Gaming

Saturdays, (12/20, 1/31, 2/21) 2:00 - 3:00

Chess, mancala, board games, dragon card gaming, or bring your own. Stop by with family and friends, or come make friends! Light snacks, friendly environment.

Teens

3D Printing Beginner Course **NEW!**

Mondays, December 22 & 29 3:00-5:30

Design it, print it, love it! Tweens, get ready to dive into the exciting world of 3D printing. Learn to create and bring your digital designs to life in this hands-on class! Recommended for ages 8-13, registration required, both sessions must be attended for project completion.

Anime Club

Wednesdays (12/17, 1/21, 2/18) 4:00 - 6:00

Calling all teens! You help pick what we watch, share a snack (or two), and can enjoy fun crafts.

Mystery Oreo Taste-Off **NEW!**

Monday, February 16 3:00-4:00

Classic, wild card, or limited-edition? Use your detective and taste-testing skills at our Mystery Oreo Taste-Off event! Sample a variety of Oreos and try to guess each mysterious flavor. Participate for fun or compete with friends! Recommended for ages 12-18.



Save the Date

The Library is holding their annual Spring Sale on Saturday, April 4, 2026, 11:00AM - 3:00PM. This will be a book and bake sale, with a special vendor or two, along with raffle prizes. Please come out and support your library!

Adults

Fit & Strong (Age Options)

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1/27-4/16 10:00 - 11:30

This is a 90-minute (60-minute workout, 30-minute discussion) group exercise and educational program lead by an AgeOptions certified instructor. It is an evidence-based program intended to help those with osteoarthritis and those with joint pain, reduce stiffness and increase joint mobility and strength. It includes stretching, aerobic, and strength training exercises. Registration is required, ages 50 and up.

Senior Gaming Mondays

Mondays 1:00 - 2:00

Bingo: 12/8, 1/12, 2/9

Bunco: 12/15, 2/16

Join your neighbors for several casual rounds of gaming. Fun prizes, friendly faces, and light refreshments!



Adult Book Club

Wednesdays 12/10, 1/14, 2/11 6:30-7:45

Join us for a lively discussion of this month's featured book. Copies available in advance in a range of formats.

Taco 'Bout Books

Tuesdays 12/2, 1/6, 2/3 6:30 - 7:30

Ready for a side of tacos with your book discussion? Join us at Berkeley' Super Taco Express for casual book chat! Titles available in advance at the library. Registration requested.

Cozy Crafting Corner

Monday, February 16 6:00 - 7:30

Tired of the daily grind? Give yourself a well-deserved break and rekindle your creative spark! Join us for a relaxing evening of great conversation, warm drinks, and laid-back crafting. This session, you'll learn the beautiful process of adding foil to your book edges! It's a fantastic way to personalize your library and add a touch of elegance. Bring a favorite book to transform, or practice on one of ours. Come relax and create with us! Registration required. Ages 16 and up.



Skill Swap Saturday

Saturday, January 24 10:30 - 12:00

Ready to share a creative skill or learn a new one? It's the perfect way for hobbyists to connect, exchange knowledge, and get inspired. This session, we're diving deep into 3D printing! Registration required. Ages 16 and up.



Museum Adventure Pass

Your library card also gets you free (or reduced) admission to some amazing spots in Chicagoland! For more information, please go to www.museumadventure.org or stop by the library and pick up a brochure. *Limited to one pass per household.*



Passport Acceptance Facility

*By appointment,
Mondays through
Saturdays*



Homebound Delivery

As staffing levels allow

If you're unable to come to us, we can bring library materials to you! For more information, please call the library or fill out an interest form on our website:
www.berkeleypl.org/homebound-application



Notary Services

By appointment, Mondays through Saturdays

We are happy to offer notary services! This service is offered by appointment only, as staffing levels allow. We are unable to notarize immigration and real estate documents. Please contact us for more information.

Did you know that your library is also a passport acceptance facility? We accept new passport applications (*and qualifying renewals*) on behalf of the U.S. Department of State. You bring us your completed forms, passport photo, and accepted forms of identification and we handle mailing them in for processing. This service is offered by appointment only, as staffing levels allow. Please see www.berkeleypl.org/passports and the US State Department website for details!

Touch Tone Tales

Available 24 hours a day toll free!



Can't make it to a story time? Touch Tone Tales is the answer! We feature a selection of stories, jokes, and riddles; available for you via phone. You can also check out a featured book and have your child follow along with our reading to help improve reading skills! Titles and chapters are regularly updated, and there's no cost to call from a touch-tone telephone. Give it a try! Just dial 708-708-0778.

Explore More Illinois

Be sure to check out this free service that provides instant online access to free and discounted tickets to museums, science centers, park districts, sporting events, zoos, theaters, and cultural attractions throughout the state! All you need to get started is your library card.



Holiday & Scheduled Closures

The library will be closed on Wednesday, **December 24** and Thursday, **December 25** in observance of the Christmas holiday; Wednesday, **December 31** and Thursday, **January 1** in observance of the new year; and Monday, **January 19** in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Recently Added Hot Titles

Books - Adult & Teen



People Watching - Hannah Bonam-Young, *Book of Lost Hours* - Hayley Gelfuso, *The True True Story of Raja the Gullible* - Rabih Alameddine, *Smuggler's Cove* - Fern Michaels, *Project Hail Mary* - Andy Weir, *Countertop Gardens* - Shelley Levis, *Solo Leveling: Volume 13* - Chugong, *Long Live the Pumpkin Queen* - Shea Ershaw

Books - Youth



Curlfriends Volume 1 - Sharee Miller, *Descendants: Complete Collection* - Jason Muell, *The Dragon and the Stone* - Kathryn Butler, *Troubling Tonsils!* - Aaron Reynolds, *Bluey*: Cricket

DVDs



Jurassic World: Rebirth, *Ballerina*, *Severance S1*, *Bag Guys 2*, *Superman*, *Weapons*, *Smurfs*

Video Games



Demon Slayer: Kimetsu no Yaiba Hinokami Chronicles 2, *Disney's Illusion Island*, *Pokémon Legends ZA*, *Crypt Custodian*, *Borderlands 4*



Nex Playground

We've got a Nex Playground: an active play video console that connects to your TV; your movements are the controller! Available for checkout with your BPL library card.

Comics Plus!



In addition to our collection of graphic novels on the shelves, your Berkeley Library card gives you access to Comics Plus, an online database of 100s of graphic novels and manga titles! Go to <https://login.librarypass.com/> to get started.

Free Streaming Movies by Kanopy



Your library card now gives you instant access to streaming movies, tv shows, and documentaries! To get started, go to www.kanopy.com. Use your library card barcode, pin, and email address to establish an account.

Unlimited free access to art and craft classes taught by top designers and professionals. 1000+ different classes, including painting, sewing, leatherworking, jewelry making, calligraphy, and more!

www.creativebug.com/lib/berkeleypl