



missoula public library



WINTER 23-24 GUIDE

HOLIDAY PROGRAMS • MISSOULA ON MAIN & BEYOND • MISSOULA READS



HOLIDAY HIGHLIGHTS



Spark Curiosity. Make Connections. Thrive Together.

HOLIDAYS ON HIGGINS (formerly Parade of Lights)

Visit Santa Before Holidays on Higgins

Location: Imaginarium
Sat 12/2/2023 11:00 AM-2:30 PM

Bring your kiddos to MPL to meet Santa and take photos before the Downtown Missoula Partnership's Holiday Village at the Holidays on Higgins celebration. Santa and Mrs. Claus will arrive at the Missoula Public Library at 11am and will be there until 2:30pm to read stories, hear all about holiday wishes and pose for photos on your phone. Santa's sleigh will be leaving promptly at 3pm so be sure to get in line by 2:30! For more information visit: <https://www.missouladowntown.com/holidays-on-higgins/>.

Holiday Music Performance

Location: Level One
Sat 12/2/2023 2:00-3:00 PM

Hellgate Middle School string orchestra students will add to the day's festive cheer by sharing some of their favorite holiday tunes!

Families First Learning Lab: Apron Decorating at Mary's Mountain Cookies

Location: Mary's Mountain Cookies on Higgins
Sat 12/2/2023 2:00-6:00 PM

Kids can enjoy free apron decorating during Holidays on Higgins while supplies last.

MORE HOLIDAY FUN FOR KIDS

Find the Elf on the Shelf

Location: Level Two
Until December 23

Everyday in the Children's Library you can find Paige, MPL's Elf on the Shelf, in her new hiding place. Alert a librarian and you'll receive a sweet treat!

Story Time with Santa

Location: Art Box
Fri 12/15 10:30-11:30 AM
Sat 12/16 10:30-11:30 AM



A very special visitor is taking time off from getting his sled and reindeer ready to visit the Library. Have your listening ears and wish lists ready!

Cookie Decorating and Crafts with Santa

Location: Art Box
Sat 12/16 2:00-4:00 PM

Join Santa and his helper elf Linette for some messy holiday fun! Enjoy cookie decorating and holiday crafts.



ACTIVITIES FOR EVERYONE

The Spirit of Giving at Your Library

Location: Level One
December 1-31 During Open Hours

Remember those in need this season with MPL's Giving Tree and ToileTree. Grab a Giving Tree tag to provide needed resources to a local organization, or adorn our ToileTree with travel-sized toiletries for local shelters.

Memory Café: Holiday Music with Garden City Strings

Location: Cooper Room A/B
Tue 12/12 2:00-3:00 PM

Enjoy beautiful holiday music with Garden City Strings at this special Memory Café. Memory Café is a welcoming and supportive space for individuals experiencing memory loss and their caregivers and family members.

Big Sky Ornament Arts and Crafts

Location: Big Sky Branch Library
Tue 12/12 4:30-7:00 PM



Stop by the Big Sky High School branch library to make some festive holiday ornaments! Kids and families are welcome to build their own and/or watch our 3D printer at work and take home a 3D printed ornament for free. Contact Brian at bdoyle@missoulapubliclibrary.org for more information.

VonCommon Studios Art Blizzaard

Location: Cooper Room A/B
Sat 12/16 11:00 AM-4:00 PM

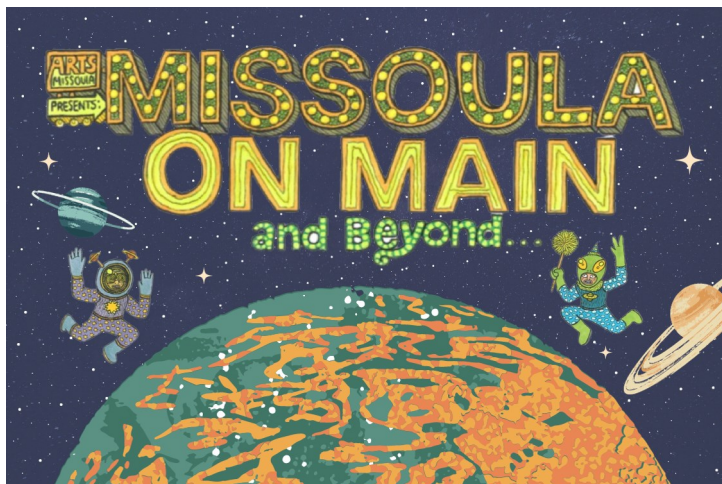


Join VonCommon Studios for their annual holiday art bazaar: Art Blizzaard! Featuring one of a kind art from VonCommon Studios' resident artists as well as local artists! Artists in attendance; Lady Pajama, Jessie Smith, Michele Ernst, Serpentine Designs and more; with Listening Hat Records Djing and selling handmade records! Enjoy a tasty hot beverage and snack bar to warm up from the winter weather while you shop.

Celtic Holiday Dance Performance

Location: Cooper Room A/B
Sun 12/17 3:00-4:00 PM

Get in the holiday spirit with the dancers of the Carroll-Henderson School of Irish Dancing during this wonderful holiday performance. We'll have light refreshments and time at the end to meet the dancers. Join us on Level Four for this family-friendly program!



This New Year's Eve, Missoula Public Library and our All Under One Roof partners will participate in Missoula on Main...and Beyond, a celebration of arts and culture organized by ARTS Missoula now in its 30th year! Join us for tons of fun for all ages on December 31, 12-4 PM. For details about ARTS Missoula or Missoula on Main, visit: www.MissoulaOnMain.org. Happy 2024!

Missoula Public Library:

Crafts with Missoula Public Library

12:30-4:00 PM - Art Box on Level Two

Younger kids can enjoy an Aluminum Foil Moon Craft and older kids can make a Cosmic Galaxy Sensory Bottle Craft!

Quiet Contemplation Space

12:30-4:00 PM - Blackfoot Room on Level Four

Step away from the excitement and take a moment to turn inward for quiet contemplation.

Galactic Snacks

12:30-4:00 PM - Demo Kitchen on Level Three

Sip a warm beverage and make a Galactic Snack! You may even catch Paxton from the PaddleHeads, who will be here to wish visitors a Happy New Year!

Live Music and Dance Performances

Enjoy live music and dance performances throughout the building! Events are as follows:

Welcome and Round Dance

12:00-12:30 PM - Level One

All City Jazz

12:30-1:30 PM - Cooper Room on Level Four

Absent Wilson Conspiracy

12:30-1:30 PM - Level One

Carroll-Henderson School of Irish Dancing

1:00-1:30 PM - Imaginarium on Level Two

Buck Hitswithastick, Bitterroot Salish Educational Indigenous Regalia Performance Sponsored by spectrUM

1:45-2:45 PM- Imaginarium on Level Two

Live Music and Dance Performances Cont.

Drum Brothers

2:00-3:00 PM - Cooper Room on Level Four

Sun Dog North

2:30-3:30 PM - Level One

Turning the Wheel

3:30-4:30 PM- Imaginarium on Level Two

Big Sky Lights

3:30-4:30 PM - Cooper Room on Level Four

Missoula's Community Media Resource (MCAT):

Contemplate Your Future at MCAT

12:30-4 PM - MCAT on Level One

MCAT's popular free Tarot Card Reading is back for 2024! Learn the secrets of your intentions and expectations for the New Year. MCAT will also have New Year backdrops to take selfies with your friends and loved ones.

spectrUM Discovery Area:

Hands-On Science Demonstrations

12:30-4 PM - spectrUM on Level Two

Celebrate New Year's Eve with spectrUM Discovery Area! We'll be bringing in the New Year with our favorite hands-on science experiments and demonstrations.

UM Living Lab:

Cosmic Mask Making + Masquerade Parades

12:30-4 PM - UM Living Lab on Level One

Create out of this world masks to venture into 2024 and beyond! We will have a Masquerade Parade through the Level One Marketplace at 1:30 PM and 3:30 PM.



A NEW BOOKMOBILE FOR MISSOULA

This holiday season, Missoula Public Library Foundation is raising funds for a bookmobile to better serve the County's rural and underserved communities. Some residents struggle to access Library services due to distance, hours, or other limitations. A bookmobile will deliver resources where they are needed most. The Sprinter van will be customized for mobile Library needs, including a specialized chassis, modular shelving, full technology, and a solar powered generator. Exterior design will feature the work of local artist Stella Nall. The Library Foundation is grateful to Blackfoot Communications, Clearwater CU, and Dick Anderson Construction for helping launch the bookmobile campaign last May. Click the link to help us get the Library "roadworthy"! <https://donatenow.networkforgood.org/missoulapubliclibrary>



WINTER 23-24 | Adults and All Ages

WHAT WE'RE READING

2nd Wednesday Book Group

Location: Blackfoot Room and Online

This group meets in the library and online for discussion. To join, email chrish@missoulapubliclibrary.org with "2nd Wednesday Book Group" in the subject line.

The Sentence: A Novel by Louise Erdrich

Wed 12/13 6:30 PM-7:30 PM

Libertie by Kaitlyn Greenidge

Wed 1/10 6:30 PM-7:30 PM

Empire of Pain: The Secret History of the Sackler Dynasty

by Patrick Radden Keefe

Wed 2/14 6:30 PM-7:30 PM

3rd Wednesday Book Group

Location: Ellingson Room

A lively book discussion group facilitated by a librarian. New members always welcome! Email Pam at pamc@missoulapubliclibrary.org for more information.

The Art of Hearing Heartbeats by Philipp Sendker

Wed 12/20 6:30 PM-7:30 PM

Washington Black by Esi Edugyan

Wed 1/17 6:30 PM-7:30 PM

Paradise by Abdulrazak Gurnah

Wed 2/21 6:30 PM-7:30 PM

Potomac Library Book Club

Location: 29750 Potomac Rd., Potomac

Join your fellow Potomac Valley readers for a lively book discussion each month. For more information contact Kayla at: kaylaw@missoulapubliclibrary.org.

The Great Alone by Kristin Hannah

Wed 12/20 6:30 PM-7:30 PM

Educated by Tara Westover

Wed 1/10 6:30 PM-7:30 PM

The Secret, Book and Scone Society by Ellery Adams

Wed 2/14 6:30 PM-7:30 PM

Frenchtown Book Club

Location: Frenchtown School/Community Library

Thu 12/21, 1/18, 2/15 5:45-8:00 PM

Meets the 3rd Thursday of each month. All are welcome to join. For details call (406) 626-2730.

Seeley Lake Library Book Club

Location: 456 Airport Dr., Seeley Lake

Thu 12/7, 1/4, 2/1 11:00 AM-12:00 PM

This book club meets the 1st Thursday of the month.

Swan Valley Community Library Book Chat

Location: 6811 Highway 83, Condon

Wed 12/13, 1/10, 2/14 1:00-3:00 PM

Meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Books are chosen by consensus. For details call (406) 754-2521.

THE WRITTEN WORD

Split the Grief with Me: Art and Poetry with Free Verse

Location: Level Four

Fri 12/1 5:00-7:00 PM

This First Friday Reception will celebrate the unveiling of a gallery of Free Verse Writing Project students' artwork and writing, which will hang on Level Four of the library through December. At the reception, student's poetry will be read, the creativity bursting out of the Pine Hills Correctional Facility will be shown through a video, and a writing activity will be offered led by workshop facilitator, Agate Gamble. Free Verse brings arts and humanities-based educational programming to youth incarcerated in juvenile detention facilities across Montana.

UNQUALIFIED: An Evening of Storytelling

Location: Cooper Room A/B

Wed 12/6 6:00-8:00 PM

More than a dozen students from University of Montana's Creative Writing-425 class on Storytelling, will take to the stage to share their stories around the theme, "Unqualified." This program is hosted by CRWR-425 Instructor and Montana Poet Laureate, Chris La Tray. Doors open at 5:30 PM and the event starts at 6 PM.

Gallop Toward the Sun: An Evening of Conversation between Peter Stark and Chris La Tray

Location: Cooper Room A/B

Wed 1/10 6:00-8:00 PM



An in-depth discussion about the conquest of Indigenous land in North America and the often overlooked efforts of tribal cooperation to stand against it, viewed through the lens of the Shawnee chief Tecumseh, the subject of Stark's new book, and La Tray's own Pembina Chippewa/Little Shell people. Peter Stark is an adventure and exploration writer and historian with work that has appeared in the Smithsonian, The New Yorker, The New York Times Magazine, Men's Journal, and more. Chris La Tray is a Métis storyteller, the winner of the 2018 Montana Book Award, a 2019 High Plains Book Award, and was recently named the new Montana Poet Laureate.

First Reads with Montana Repertory Theatre



Missoula Public Library is proud to host the Montana Repertory Theatre for First Reads, a staged reading series featuring local actors. If you are a theatre lover and you want to be the first to hear the plays the Rep is considering, don't miss this program! For details visit: <https://tinyurl.com/MPLFirstReads>.

The Thin Place by Lucas Hnath

Location: Cooper Room A/B

Sat 2/3 2:00-4:00 PM

Zoe's Perfect Wedding by Matthew Lopez

Location: Cooper Room A/B

Sat 2/17 2:00-4:00 PM

WINTER 23-24 | Adults and All Ages

COMING TOGETHER

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Location: Cooper Room A/B
Tue 12/5, 1/23 11:00 AM-4:00 PM

Warm hearts and give the gift of life by donating at one of Missoula Public Library blood drives. Make an appointment at [RedCrossBlood.org](https://www.redcrossblood.org) and enter sponsor code missoulalibrary or 59801, or simply call (800) 733-2767. Together, we can save lives.

Five Valleys Seed Library Seed Swap

Location: Cooper Room A/B
Sat 2/24 10:00 AM-2:00 PM



Learn about seeds and gardening when Missoula Public Library hosts the annual Five Valleys Seed Library Seed Swap. The event will include a variety of gardening resources from local experts and vendors, including free seeds available for you to take home. Seeds to trade or share are welcome; bring your saved seed from last year's harvest to help keep this awesome program going. This year the Seed Swap Speakers are:

Lori Elliott, Owner of Big Sky Herbs Cooking with Culinary Herbs 406

Lori Elliott has owned Big Sky Herbs since 1991 and is a self-taught sustainable gardener. Elliott will cover the historic seasonality and benefits of kitchen herbs.

Elaine Sheff, Founder of Green Path Herb School Top 10 Medicinal Herbs

As a clinical herbalist, mom, and author, Sheff's goal is to connect people to the earth, to plants, and to their own healing process. In her presentation, Sheff will talk about her top 10 medicinal herbs.

Paul Buck, High Altitude (CO & MT) Master Gardener Seed-saving in Western Montana

Paul has 15 years of gardening experience and has been saving seeds for 10 years. As a member of the Montana Native Plant Society he has experience with collecting and raising native plants from seed. His presentation will focus on how to save seeds in Western Montana.



Don't miss the popular House Plant Swap! Bring One, Take One. Also, bring in your plant and gardening books to trade them out for something new.

MISSOULA PUBLIC LIBRARY DATABASES A-Z

WE SUBSCRIBE TO DATABASES THAT CAN ASSIST YOU WITH RESEARCH, GENEALOGY, INVESTING, AND SO MUCH MORE!



DOCSHOP FILM MAKER'S FORUM

Big Sky Documentary Film Festival DocShop 2024

Location: Cooper Room and Blackfoot Room
Level Four
Tue 2/20 - Fri 2/23 9:00 AM-5:00 PM

Missoula Public Library hosts the Big Sky Documentary Film Festival DocShop 2024. DocShop 2024 will explore the themes of Influence & Resistance, celebrating, reckoning with and challenging the seminal forces of documentary film. Keynotes, panels, roundtables, and master classes will explore the historical and contemporary influence of the documentary field, the systems of power that have resulted, and the ways in which documentary film serves as a modern tool for resistance. DocShop 2024 sessions will invite filmmakers and industry to explore ways to widen the contemporary pathways of influence for documentary film and understand effective avenues for resistance against systems of power. DocShop 2024 aims to be a progressive exchange of ideas amongst influential documentary filmmakers, industry, and emerging artists seeking fundamental change in the documentary marketplace. All DocShop 2024 events held at Missoula Public Library are free and open to the public. For more details and a full list of events visit: <https://www.bigskyfilmfest.org/>.



WINTER 23-24 | Adults and All Ages

CREATIVITY. HEALTH. ADVENTURE.

Yarns @ MPL

Location: Blackfoot Boardroom
Every Friday 12:00-2:00 PM



Calling all knitters and crocheters! Bring your lunch and your latest project to the Blackfoot Boardroom every Friday to end your week with some crafty fun.

Watercolor Painting Class

Location: Cooper Room A/B
Every Friday 12:00-2:00 PM

Local artist Robert Peltzer will help you develop the skills and techniques necessary to enjoy and succeed at watercolor painting. Open to ages 18 and older. Bring your own watercolor paper, paints, brushes, and palette.

D&D Guild for Adults

Location: Virtual
Fri 12/8, 12/22, 1/5, 1/19, 2/2, 2/16 6:00-8:00 PM

A bi-weekly online Dungeons & Dragons game for adults 18+. Beginners welcome but space is limited. To join contact Brian at bdoyle@missoulapubliclibrary.org.

YMCA Yoga @ the Library

Location: Cooper Room A
Thursdays 12:00-1:00 PM (No class on Feb. 22)

MPL teams up with the Missoula Family YMCA to offer free yoga taught by Dr. Young-ee Cho at the library! We'll focus on basic yoga postures, alignment principles, and breathing techniques that help balance, strengthen, and stretch the body. This class is recommended for those wishing to strengthen the foundation of their practice, or who simply want an ongoing practice in harmony with their level of strength, balance, and flexibility - beginners are welcome! Participants must sign a liability waiver prior to class by downloading and printing it or by signing a provided copy before class begins. Download the waiver at: <https://tinyurl.com/2994wjww>. Bring your own yoga mat or use one of ours.

MEMORY CAFÉ

Location: Cooper Room A/B

Enjoy activities in a safe, welcoming, and supportive space for individuals experiencing memory loss.

Holiday Music with Garden City Strings

Tue 12/12 2:00-3:00 PM

Enjoy beautiful holiday music with Garden City Strings.

Turning the Wheel Visits

Tue 1/9 2:00-3:00 PM

Enjoy joyful connections with movement games, rhythm and wordplay to inspire mental and physical creativity.

Valentine Crafts and Treats

Tue 2/13 2:00-3:00 PM



Make Valentine crafts and treats and celebrate love with your friends and family!

CHALLENGE YOURSELF

Introduction to Nature Journaling

Location: Blackfoot Boardroom
Sat 1/6 2:00-3:30 PM

Valerie Bayer and Kathy Settevendemie of Northern Rockies Nature Journaling will give an introduction to the principals, techniques and joys of nature journaling. Registration for this workshop is required by emailing Amanda at: amandaa@missoulapubliclibrary.org.



Missoula Reads 2023 Reading Logs Due

Location: Any Service Point
Friday 12/29/2023 by 5:00 PM

Turn in your completed 2023 reading log by December 29 by 5 PM to be eligible for a fabulous prize! Prizes will be awarded and logs will be returned in January.

Missoula Reads 2024

Location: Level Three
Starting Tuesday 1/2/2024

New Year, new list! Read one book in each of 50 categories by December 31, 2024 and win a fabulous prize! The 2024 reading categories will be posted online and reading logs will be available on Level Three. For more information about the 2024 reading challenge visit: <https://www.missoulapubliclibrary.org/home/programs-events/ongoing-programs/missoula-reads/>.

WINTER 2023-2024 HOLIDAY CLOSURES

Sunday, December 24 | Christmas

Monday, December 25 | Christmas

Tuesday, December 26 | Christmas

Sunday, December 31 | New Year's Eve

Monday, January 1 | New Year's Day

Monday, January 15 | Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Monday, February 19 | Presidents' Day



WINTER 23-24 | Adults and All Ages

HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

4HISTORYBUFFS

Calling all history enthusiasts! Join guest speakers for lively and entertaining presentations of historical interest. Details at: <https://tinyurl.com/4HistoryBuffs>.

Ponies and Passes with Bruce Mihelish

Location: Cooper Room A/B
Fri 1/26 7:00-9:00 PM

Though the Corps of Discovery spent only a few weeks traveling through Missoula and Bitterroot Valleys, critical actions here changed the face of Montana and its people forever.

Buffalo Soldiers & Band Music with Susan Hintz

Location: Cooper Room A/B
Fri 2/23 7:00-9:00 PM

Learn about the people and activities of the 25th Infantry Band while it was stationed at Fort Missoula.

GENEALOGY @ MPL

Western Montana Genealogical Society

Location: Blackfoot Boardroom
Tue 1/9 6:30-8:00 PM

The Western Montana Genealogical Society meets at MPL the 2nd Tuesdays of January, March, and May. Join the members of this group for general genealogy discussions and tips on making your family history research more productive.

Western Montana Genealogical Society Work Day

Location: Blackfoot Boardroom
Sat 12/16, 1/20, 2/17 12:00-4:00 PM

Researching family history can be exciting, as well as challenging. This work day gives genealogists a chance to share ideas, resources, and support. Help your fellow genealogists with websites, research problems, and more. All experience levels are welcome!

GENEALOGY RESOURCES AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

Did you know that your library card gives you free access to several genealogy resources? Visit our website at: <https://www.missoulapubliclibrary.org/home/services/genealogy/> to get started.

MPL Genealogy Resources Include:

Ancestry Library Edition: Search the world's largest online family history collection. With 4 billion records available, discovering your family's story is easy.

Heritage Quest: A genealogy database to help you research your family history. Search census records, Freedman's Bank and Revolutionary War records, books, articles, and more.

Vital Records Index: An index of birth, marriage, death, etc. announcements from a wide variety of Montana newspapers. New records are added daily.



Genealogy Book Group

Join us for the library's new Genealogy Book Group! To join email: desireef@missoulapubliclibrary.org

Paper Love by Sarah Wildman

Mon 12/11/2023 1:00-3:00 PM; Blackfoot Room

Inheritance: A Memoir of Genealogy, Paternity, and Love by Dani Shapiro

Mon 1/8/2024 1:00-3:00 PM; Blackfoot Room

The Heminges of Monticello by Annette Gordon-Reed

Mon 2/12/2024 1:00-3:00 PM; Blackfoot Room

Census Through the Decades

Learn about the U.S. census from 1790 to 1950 and how to use these records in family history research.

Mon 12/18/2023 1:30-3:00 PM; Cooper Room A

Newspapers in Genealogy Research

Mon 1/22/2024 1:30-3:00 PM; Cooper Room A

Obits and articles and gossip, oh my! Learn to use newspapers in genealogy research.

Beyond BMDs: Adding Life to Your Family History

Mon 2/26/2024 1:30-3:00 PM; Cooper A

There's more to your ancestors than their births, marriages, and deaths. Learn how to add interesting details to your family history.

Family History Writing Contest

Calling all family historians! Enter genealogical writing about your Montana ancestors in MPL's first annual Family History Writing Contest. For a full list of rules and submission links please scan the QR code below or visit: <https://www.missoulapubliclibrary.org/family-history-writing-contest/>



Review Deadline:
2/16/2024 5 PM

Submission Deadline:
3/1/2024 5 PM

WINTER 23-24 | Kids and Families

PROGRAMS JUST FOR KIDS!

Kids Cook with *ChopChop*

Location: Demonstration Kitchen
Thu 12/7, 1/4, 2/1 3:30-4:30 PM

Taking inspiration from our kid's magazine *ChopChop*, learn how to create tasty snacks and easy meal options you can make at home.

spectrUM at the UM Living Lab

Location: UM Living Lab
Sat 12/9, 1/13, 1/27, 2/10, 2/24 3:00-5:00 PM

Kids can join spectrUM at the UM Living Lab for hands-on activities that are fun for the whole family!

Missoula Scholastic Chess Club at MPL

Location: Cooper Room B
Thu 12/7, 12/21, 1/4, 1/18, 2/1, 2/15 3:30-5:30 PM

Join the Missoula Chess Club throughout the school year! Students from grades 2-12 are welcome to come play and learn new moves. Beginners are welcome.

Missoula Symphony Presents: Harry Potter and His Magical Orchestra Journey

Location: Imaginarium
Sat 1/27 10:00 AM-12:00 PM



With symphony musicians and Music Director Julia Tai as your guides, participants will take a magical journey exploring music and musical instruments.

Symphony Kids: Missoula Symphony Library Concert Series #3

Location: Imaginarium
Wed 2/28 4:30-5:30 PM

Join the Montana Woodwind Quintet for an intimate concert experience designed for kids and families, where the audience can sit up close with the musicians to listen to the music and ask questions at the end of the concert.

Teddy Bear Sleepover & Ice Cream Breakfast

Location: Imaginarium
Fri 2/2 4:00-5:00 PM & Sat 2/3 10:00 AM-12:00 PM



Bring your fluffy best friend to the library for a special Story Time, a Families First Learning Lab exhibit, and a fun teddy bear craft. Leave your friend overnight and pick them up the next morning to see a slideshow of your friends' sleep-over shenanigans. Families First will have Ice Cream for Breakfast in the Art Box from 10 AM-12 PM!

WEEKLY CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Tiny Tales

Location: Imaginarium
Every Thursday & Friday 10:30-11:00 AM

Tiny Tales uses sounds, rhythm, and movement to help your child learn to read! Participants sing songs, learn finger-plays and nursery rhymes, and hear stories.

Story Time

Location: Art Box
Every Friday & Saturday 10:30-11:30 AM

For children ages 3 and older and their caregivers. Story Time on Friday will be recorded and posted online on the library's website and YouTube channel.

Read with Dogs!

Location: Imaginarium
Every Tuesday 3:30-4:30 PM



Registered Pet Partners Therapy Dogs are just waiting for your child to read them a book. Great for hesitant readers or kids who just love dogs.

Young Kids Dance Party with MCAT

Location: MCAT Studio
Every Saturday 11:00-11:45 AM

MCAT offers a disco dance for kids and caregivers. Stop by MCAT Studio after Story Time to enjoy a fantastic light show and kid-friendly playlist.

Lego Club

Location: Imaginarium
Every Monday & Friday 2:30-5:00 PM

Drop in and build fantastic Lego structures to your heart's content every Monday and Friday afternoon.

Stop Animation for Kids with MCAT

Location: MCAT Studio
Every Saturday 1:00-3:00 PM

A two hour workshop that fosters fun, computer skills, and artistic expression. Program suitable for ages 9-13, call (406) 542-6228 to learn more.

Middle School Writers' Group

Location: Art Box and Virtual
Every Wednesday 3:30-5:00 PM

For writers in 6th-8th grades. We share original stories, poems, novels; give and receive feedback; and do fun writing activities. It's all about creation and imagination! To join, email Dana danam@missoulapubliclibrary.org.

PROGRAMS FOR TEENS

D&D Guild for Teens

Location: Virtual
Sat 12/2, 12/16, 12/30, 1/13, 1/27, 2/10, 2/24 3:00-5:00 PM

An ongoing online Dungeons & Dragons game for teens aged 12-17. Beginners welcome but space is limited. To join email Brian at bdoyle@missoulapubliclibrary.org.

Young Adult Writers Group

Location: Art Box and Virtual
Fridays 3:30-5:30 PM

For writers and aspiring writers ages 16-19. We share our work aloud including poems, stories, songs, rants, novels and give and receive respectful feedback. All genres, tones, and styles are welcome. Questions or to join email Dana at: danam@missoulapubliclibrary.org.

WINTER 23-24 | Programs and More

PROGRAMS FOR TEENS CONT.

New! Teens Only Taskforce Coming Soon

Are you a teen with ideas for turning the teen corner into a fabulous place? We need your talent, innovation, and sense of style! Bring your friends for food, fun, and creativity. For details contact Linette at: (406) 541-8876 or linette@missoulapubliclibrary.org

COMMUNITY. FRIENDS. NEIGHBORS.

Missoula Public Library's Welcoming Library

Location: Level Two

On Level Two find our Welcoming Library. We chose the items in this collection to build community belonging with books, and raise a new generation who welcome all. Our collection consists of items that feature the experiences of refugee, immigrant, BIPOC, LGBTQIA+ communities and others. These items can serve as windows into cultures and experiences different from your own or mirrors of your lived experience.



Talk Time

Location: Imaginarium
Mondays in December
6:00-7:00 PM



Practice speaking with other English language learners in this Missoula Public Library program. Learn about U.S. culture and meet people from around the world. Connect with your community, share stories, and create lasting connections in an inclusive community setting. Childcare enrichment activities are provided onsite in collaboration with Families First Learning Lab.

En Français:

Entraînez-vous à parler avec d'autres apprenants de langue anglaise dans ce programme de la bibliothèque publique de Missoula. En savoir plus sur la Culture américaine et rencontrer des gens du monde entier. Des activités d'enrichissement de la garde d'enfants sont proposées sur place en collaboration avec Families First Learning Lab.

En Español:

Practica hablando con otros estudiantes del idioma inglés en este programa de la Biblioteca Pública de Missoula. Aprende sobre la cultura estadounidense y conoce personas de todo el mundo. Cuidado y recreación infantil se brindarán en colaboración con Families First Learning Lab.

Kwa Kiswahili:

Jizoeze kuzungumza na wanafunzi wengine wa lugha ya Kiingereza katika programu hii ya Maktaba ya Umma ya Missoula. Jifunze kuhusu Utamaduni wa Marekani na kukutana na watu kutoka duniani kote. Shughuli za uboreshaji wa malezi ya watoto hutolewa kwenye tovuti kwa kushirikiana na Families First Learning Lab.

Story Time for Diverse Abilities

Location: Art Box

Mon 1/29 and 2/26 1:00-2:00 PM

Youth Services librarians read a selection of engaging stories geared toward teens through adults with cognitive or other disabilities. This inclusive program is designed to create an accessible and welcoming space that aims to celebrate diversity and promote inclusivity.

AARP TaxAide

Location: Cooper Room A

Tuesdays 2/6-4/2 (except Feb. 20) All Day



This tax season AARP Foundation TaxAide will offer free Federal and State tax preparation every Tuesday starting February 6th at Missoula Public Library. From students to seniors and everyone in-between, if you file a simple 1040 Form the AARP Foundation TaxAide would love to see you! All TaxAide preparers are IRS certified and your Federal and State taxes will be electronically filed on site, thereby speeding up your refund. Visit their website https://www.aarp.org/money/taxes/aarp_taxaide/ to make an appointment and learn more. Come in and eliminate the stress of tax season!

BRANCH PROGRAMS

Big Sky 3D Printing Open Hours

Location: Big Sky High School Library
Every Thursday 4:30-7:30 PM

Staff can help with finding free 3D files online and using Cura Ultimaker 3D printing software. For details email: bdoyle@missoulapubliclibrary.org.

Big Sky Gaming Station

Location: Big Sky High School Library
Tue 12/5, 1/2, 2/6 4:30-7:00 PM

There is a PlayStation 4 available for use on the projector screen in the back of the Big Sky High School Library with hundreds of games available on PlayStation Plus. Challenge your friends or explore new worlds on your own! Contact Brian at bdoyle@missoulapubliclibrary.org for more information.

Big Sky Ornament Arts and Crafts

Location: Big Sky High School Library
Tue 12/12 4:30-7:00 PM

Stop by the Big Sky High School branch library to make some festive holiday ornaments! Kids and families are welcome to build their own and/or watch our 3D printer at work and take home a 3D printed ornament for free. Contact Brian at bdoyle@missoulapubliclibrary.org for more information.

Seeley Lake Library Open Podcasting Studio

Location: 456 Airport Dr., Seeley Lake
Check with the Branch Librarian for Dates

Come and try out the new podcasting machine courtesy of MCAT. For details and days available, call Carrie (406) 677-8995.

WINTER 23-24 | AUOR Partner Programs



FAMILIES FIRST LEARNING LAB

Preschool Art with a Purpose

Location: Families First Classroom
Tuesdays 11:00 AM-12:00 PM

A program that gives children an opportunity to get creative while serving our community!

Blue Block Wednesdays

Location: Families First Classroom
Every Wednesday 11:00 AM-3:00 PM

Build something amazing with our giant blue blocks.

CDC Screenings

Location: Families First Learning Lab
Thu 12/7, 1/4, 2/1 11:00 AM-1:00 PM

Are you curious about developmental milestones? Do you have questions about your child's development? According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 1 in 6 U.S. children experience a developmental delay. These delays can often be easily addressed if they're caught early. Drop in to get your child tested for free on select days.

Community Connections

Location: Families First Classrooms
Fridays and Saturdays 11:00 AM-12:00 PM

Mini-interactive exhibits for children that inspire hands-on exploration and play while focusing on building empathy & kindness, social-emotional development, cultural expression, and imaginative and dramatic play.

Dads & Dialogue

Location: Families First Classroom
Wed 1/31 2/7, 2/14, 2/21, 2/28 5:45-7:30 PM

This support group for dads is a springboard for rich, meaningful discussions, and discovery. Dads will learn about the different ways that their power influences and affects the family system. While part of the intent of this group is helping to educate dads, our overarching goal is to provide a space for dads to connect and feel supported. Registration is required at <https://www.familiesfirstmt.org/dad.html>.

Holiday Kids Cooking Class

Location: Demonstration Kitchen
Wed 12/20 4:00-5:00 PM

Enjoy this special holiday version of our popular Kids Cooking Class. Space is limited to 12 kids.

Kids Cooking Class

Location: Demonstration Kitchen
Wed 1/17 & 2/21 4:00-5:00 PM

This class brings families together by teaching children and adults lifelong cooking skills that can ignite creativity, build self-esteem, and create memories.

MPL's Teddy Bear Sleepover

Location: Imaginarium
Fri 2/2 4:00-5:00 PM and Sat 2/3 9:00-11:00 AM

Bring your fluffy best friend to the library for a special Story Time, a Families First Learning Lab exhibit, and a fun teddy bear craft.

Ice Cream for Breakfast

Location: Art Box
Sat 2/3 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Families First will serve ice cream for breakfast. It's a great way to celebrate the end of the library's Teddy Bear Sleepover. Don't miss out on sprinkles, ice cream and lots of fun.

Volunteer Days

Location: Families First Classroom
Tue 12/5, Fri 1/5, Thu 2/8 12:00-1:00 PM

Families First is looking for volunteers for help on various impactful projects. Please lend a hand if you can! For more visit <https://www.familiesfirstmt.org/volunteer.html>.



Research Studies + Activities

The Minds Lab studies how children think about others' minds and internal states. Researchers are interested in how young children's conception of others' minds inform their learning and their moral judgments. The Minds Lab examines these questions developmentally from preschoolers to early adolescence.

UM Living Lab Appointment Hours

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 3:00-6:00 PM
Friday 10:00 AM-1:00 PM & 3:00-6:00 PM
Saturday 10:00 AM-6:00 PM
Closures: 12/16-1/21

Fun, brief, child-friendly research activities for kids ages 3-5. By appointment only: <https://tinyurl.com/mindslab>.

December Theme: Perspective Taking Game
January Theme: Crime and Punishment Game
February Theme: Greedy Monkey Game

The UM Living Lab is part of the LINK collective, a Science Education Partnership Award (NIH) funded collaboration between the City of Missoula, University of Montana, and Missoula Public Library to inspire the next generation and create on-ramps to higher education.



WINTER 23-24 | AUOR Partner Programs



To register for programs or for more details visit mcat.org or call (406) 542-6228

All About Podcasting Distribution

Location: MCAT Studio

Tue 1/16/2024 & 2/20/2024 6:45-7:45 PM

Join tech savvy instructor, Kathleen Shannon, to learn how to distribute your podcast on Apple Music, Spotify and more. Learn how to conform your podcast to standards used by all the popular podcast platforms.

Community Radio DJ Auditions

Location: MCAT

Every Sunday 2:00-5:00 PM

If you would like to have your own radio show, consider making an audition demo with help from MCAT staff.

Film Collective Meet Up

Location: MCAT

Sat 2/24 3:00-7:30 PM

Enjoy a day of networking and workshops with the best and brightest members of the Montana Film Community! To learn more, contact Anya Smith at anya@mcat.org.

Introduction to Podcasting

Location: MCAT Podcast Room

Tuesdays 5:30-6:30 PM & Thursdays 2:00-3:00 PM

Learn to use MCAT's podcasting equipment featuring headphones and microphones for up to four participants.

Learn MCAT's 3 Camera Studio

Location: MCAT

Every Wednesday 5:00-6:00 PM

Learn how to operate our 3 camera studio effects switcher. Call to arrange a custom workshop.

MCAT Tour & Training

Location: MCAT

Mondays 2:00-3:00 PM & Saturdays 10:00-11:00 AM

Tour includes the studio, computer editing, podcast rooms, and cameras for check-out.

Music Sunday at MCAT Studios

Location: MCAT Studio

Every Sunday 12:00-1:30 PM

Record yourself and your friends playing music in MCAT's studio. We'll have lights and cameras - you supply the action!



Missoula Community Radio provides tools and techniques for every user and creates a medium for community members to enrich and engage their community directly and freely. www.1015kfgm.org.

One Day Short Film Production

Location: MCAT Studio Room 120

Every Sunday 2:00-5:00 PM

Plan & execute a short film each week while learning the basics of filmmaking. You will participate in pre-production & production including how to revise your work as well as real-time creative problem-solving.

Video Camera Tour

Location: MCAT

Every Tuesday 2:00-3:00 PM

Learn about MCAT's video cameras and find out which type might be right for your video project. Lessons are required before checking out cameras and accessories.

Virtual Reality Tour

Location: MCAT

Every Saturday 4:00-5:30 PM

Drop into MCAT's media studio to experience the world of Virtual Reality. MCAT offers games and experiences with our VR headset.



spectrUM Open Hours

Tuesday – Saturday 10:00 AM-6:00 PM

Closures 12/24, 12/25, 12/26, 1/1, 2/19

Discovery Bench Themes

Guided activities at our Discovery Bench every Tuesday-Saturday 2-6 PM. No registration required.

Forensics	Tue 11/28 - Sat 12/2
Robotics & Coding	Tue 12/5 - Sat 12/9
Biology & Nano	Tue 12/12 - Sat 12/16
Aliens and Outer Space	Tue 12/19 - Sat 12/23
Crazy Chemistry	Wed 12/27 - Sat 12/30
Forces and Motion	Tue 1/2 - Sat 1/6
Science Palooza	Tue 1/9 - Sat 1/13
Rocks, Minerals, and Fossils	Tue 1/16 - Sat 1/20
Engineering	Tue 1/23 - Sat 1/27
Color in Science	Tue 1/30 - Sat 2/3
Space Exploration	Tue 2/6 - Sat 2/10
All About Anatomy	Tue 2/13 - Sat 2/17
Making Madness	Tue 2/20 - Sat 2/24
Earth Science	Tue 2/27 - Sat 3/2

Special Discovery Bench Activity Themes

Blood Typing	Fri 12/1
Dissection	Fri 12/15
Chemistry Magic in a Bag	Fri 12/29
Science of Spin	Fri 1/5
Fire Science	Wed 1/10
Rocks, Minerals, & Fossils Mania	Fri 1/19
Fractals	Fri 2/2
Constellations & Storytelling	Fri 2/9
Heart Dissection	Wed 2/14

Our Mission & Values

OUR MISSION



Spark Curiosity



Make Connections



Thrive Together

OUR VALUES

KINDNESS

- . We promote the well-being of staff and the community.
- . We treat all people with compassion.
- . We seek to understand the needs of the people we serve.

INTEGRITY

- . We act in ways that foster trust and confidence.
- . We are accountable to the community and to each other.
- . We abide by the ethical principles that define modern librarianship.

REFLECTION

- . We reflect the diversity of our community.
- . We actively listen to our community.
- . We are intentional in our actions and decisions.

ACCESS

- . We put people at the heart of all we do.
- . We support discovery and lifelong learning.
- . We commit to equitable access for all.

KINDNESS

- . We promote the well-being of staff and the community.
- . We treat all people with compassion.
- . We seek to understand the needs of the people we serve.

INNOVATION

- . We anticipate changes and challenges and respond with agility.
- . We celebrate the creativity of staff and patrons.
- . We consider sustainable practices as core to our identity.

Photo by Max Hill



missoula public library

455 E Main Street
Missoula, MT 59802
missoulapubliclibrary.org
mslaplib@missoulapubliclibrary.org
(406) 721-2665

Downtown Hours

Monday 9 AM-8 PM
Tuesday 9 AM-8 PM
Wednesday 9 AM-8 PM
Thursday 9 AM-6 PM
Friday 9 AM-6 PM
Saturday 9 AM-6 PM
Sunday 12 PM-5 PM

Branches

Big Sky High School
Frenchtown High School
Lolo School
Potomac School
Seeley Lake High School
Swan Valley/Condon

For branch hours and locations
go to missoulapubliclibrary.org
or call (406) 721-2665

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MPL Executive Director

Elizabeth Jonkel
Assistant Director of Services

Amanda Allpress
Assistant Director of Community
Engagement

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