



JANUARY GUIDE

SPARK CURIOSITY. MAKE CONNECTIONS. THRIVE TOGETHER.

LITTLE DRAGONS' INSTRUMENT HUNT



Sun 1/25 2:30-4:30 PM

The Missoula Symphony invites families on a hands on musical adventure with Symphony musicians as their guides. Explore instruments, follow an interactive map, and join Music Director Julia Tai as she molds the musical dragons into a harmonious orchestra at the library!



CHALLENGE YOURSELF IN 2026

MISSOULA *writes*

18th Annual Community Writing Contest

Do you have the write stuff? The 18th annual writing contest kicks off on January 2! We will accept poetry, fiction, and non-fiction submissions until February 15. Prizes will be awarded for the top three submissions in each category and in four age groups: 8-10, 11-14, 15-18 and 19+. For full details visit: <https://tinyurl.com/MissoulaWrites2026>

missoula READS

2026 Missoula Reads 50-Book Challenge

New Year, new list! Can you read 50 books in 2026? The 2026 reading categories will be posted online and reading logs will be available on January 2 on Level Three. Fill out your log by the end of the year and win a fabulous prize!

MISSOULA WELL-BEING CONCERT

Thu 1/8 6:30-7:30 - Level One

Live music meets mindfulness in this community concert, in partnership with Carnegie Hall Weill Music Institute.

FINANCIAL FRAUD AND SCAMS CLASS

Sun 1/15 1:00-2:30 PM - Cooper Room B

Financial Fraud is an ever-expanding industry. Learn about the current trends we are seeing, tips to avoid them and how to protect yourself and others in your life.



ONE BOOK MONTANA Becoming Little Shell Book Club

Mon 1/26 6:30-7:30 PM - Blackfoot Room

What if everyone in Montana read the same book? This book club will spend six weeks reading *Becoming Little Shell* by Chris La Tray, meeting on Mondays from January 26 to February 23. Books can be picked up January 10 on Level One of the library. This program is part of One Book Montana, a program of Humanities Montana.

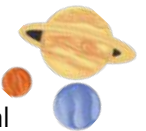


Humanities
MONTANA

BIG SKY WITH NASA TIES: PERSONAL JOURNEYS THROUGH THE SOLAR SYSTEM

Mon 1/26 6:30-7:30 PM - Cooper Room A

Join us for an inspiring presentation with two NASA engineers, Brent Buffington and Powtawche Valerino, as they share their personal journeys from Montana to careers in space exploration. Join the program virtually at: <https://tinyurl.com/BigSkyNASA>



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Reflect. Restore. Renew.

Sat 1/10 10:00 AM-5:00 PM - All Levels

Join this free, all ages peace building event with the Jeanette Rankin Peace Center, featuring workshops for adults and creative sessions for kids. For more visit: <https://www.jrpc.org>

Resource Access Day

Wed 1/14 11:00 AM-2:00 PM - Level Four

Free resources, free lunch, and a welcoming space! Services include housing support, legal help, vaccinations, medical and mental health care, haircuts, and more!



Death Café at MPL

Thu 1/15 12:00-1:30 PM - Blackfoot Room

Hestia Advantage invites you to this warm, welcoming space to share drinks and open conversations about life and death.

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Tue 1/27 11:00 AM-4:00 PM - Cooper Room A/B

This year make a resolution that can help save a life. Make an appointment at RedCrossBlood.org and enter code missoulalibrary or 59801, or call (800) 733-2767.

SCAN FOR JANUARY'S BOOKMOBILE LOCATIONS



PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH

Story Time

Saturdays *New Time 11:30 AM-12:30 PM - Imaginarium

Bring your little ones ages 4 and older and join the fun! Enjoy delightful tales, crafts, music, and laughter. Each week is a different theme!

Saturday Tiny Tales

Saturdays 3:00-3:30 PM - Imaginarium

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



Story Time for Diverse Abilities

Wed 1/14 & 1/28 1:00-2:00 PM - Art Box

Youth Services librarians read a selection of engaging stories geared toward teens through adults with cognitive or other disabilities. Expect plenty of relaxed, light-hearted conversation and connection throughout the program.

Sensory Story Time

Sat 1/17 *New Time 1:30-2:30 PM - Imaginarium

An interactive storytelling approach that supports individuals with autism or sensory processing challenges. This story time offers the opportunity to move and interact with restorative materials. Limited to 10 participants.



Youth Winter Reading Challenge

Logs Due February 28, 2026

Cozy up with great books this winter and win prizes. Youth 18 and under can pick up a reading log on Level Two and turn it in by February 28 for prizes and a chance at a grand prize.

JUST FOR TEENS

Teen Tuesdays

Tuesdays 3:30-6:00 PM - Art Box

Missoula Teens can drop in after school to create, connect, and have fun with arts, crafts, games, cooking, and more.

Teen Library Community (TLC)

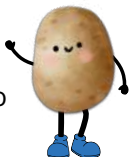
Thursdays 2:30-5:30 PM - Art Box

Teens in grades 7-12 are invited every Thursday after school to connect, collaborate, and create meaningful ways to grow and make our community a better place.

Teen Library Community: Potatopalooza

Thu 1/22 3:00-5:00 PM - Art Box

Kids ages 6 and up can join teens and enjoy potato stories, games, prints, and snacks. Paint will be used, so dress to make a mess.



SPICE IT UP! LIBRARY SPICE CLUB

Wed 1/7 - Demonstration Kitchen

Pick up a free Spice It Up! kit courtesy of the Good Food Store. Each kit includes a spice, a background and traditional uses, and a low-cost recipe. This month's spice is Tarragon.

MEMORY CAFÉ: MAKING MUG CAKES

Tue 1/13 2:00-3:00 PM - Cooper Room A/B

Memory Café is a welcoming and supportive space for individuals experiencing memory loss. This month enjoy making and decorating mug cakes in our Demo Kitchen.

LET'S READ TOGETHER!



2nd Wednesday Book Group

Wed 1/14 6:30-7:30 PM - Blackfoot Room & Online

James: A Novel by Percival Everett

Potomac Branch Library Book Club

Wed 1/14 6:30-7:30 PM - Potomac Branch Library

Hamnet by Maggie O'Farrell

3rd Wednesday Book Group

Wed 1/21 6:30-7:30 PM - Blackfoot Room

Winter Garden by Kristen Hannah

LEARN SOMETHING NEW

MakerSpace: Mend a Friend Pet Toy Repair

Sat 1/17 3:00-4:00 PM - MakerSpace



Bring that well-loved, slightly chewed, or totally bedraggled stuffed toy in for a little TLC. Whether it belongs to your furry sidekick or your favorite kid, all plush friends are welcome. You supply the toy and we will supply the thread, needles, stuffing, and cheerful know how to help bring it back to life.

Windows User Group

Wed 1/21 2:30-4:30 PM - Blackfoot Room

Want to be more confident using Microsoft Windows? Then this beginner Microsoft Windows User Group is for you!

4HistoryBuffs: Hotels & Hooligans with Sophia Etier

Thu 1/27 6:00-8:00 PM - Cooper Room

This month we will talk about Missoula's early streets that were full of hotels, hustle, and plenty of mischief. Hear unforgettable stories that bring those days to life.

Linux User Group

Thu 1/31 1:00-3:00 PM - Blackfoot Room

These monthly Linux User Group meetings support both new and experienced users through shared research, tips, and discussions. Learn to install and explore confidently.

YMCA YOGA at the Library

Thursdays 12:00-1:00 PM - Cooper Room A

Join us for free YMCA Yoga at the library! We will focus on balance, strength, and flexibility. Bring a mat or use one of ours. A liability waiver is required and can be downloaded here: <https://tinyurl.com/2994wjwv>



PAINSAVVY HEALTH LITERACY

Sun 1/11 1:00-1:50 - Blackfoot Room

Come to this health literacy class to learn about strategies for preventing and overcoming persistent pain, increase movement and have fun! Enjoy a 25 minute talk and a 25 minute walk. To attend virtually, please contact Mari Hodges at painsavvywalkandtalk@gmail.com.

A black and white portrait of Martin Luther King Jr. looking upwards and to the right.

JANUARY CLOSURES

New Year's Day
Thursday, January 1

Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Monday, January 19