



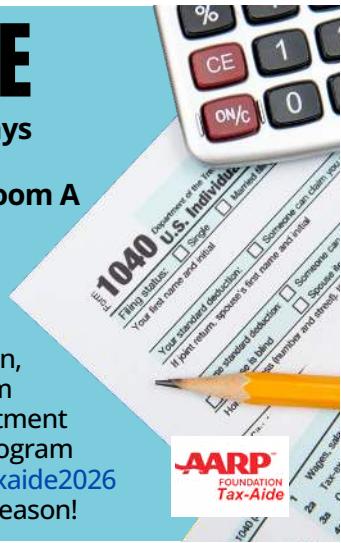
FEBRUARY GUIDE

SPARK CURIOSITY. MAKE CONNECTIONS. THRIVE TOGETHER.

AARP TAXAIDE

Select Mondays and Tuesdays
February 2-April 7
9:00 AM-4:00 PM - Cooper Room A

This tax season, the AARP Foundation TaxAide will offer free Federal and State tax preparation. From students to seniors and everyone in between, anyone filing a simple 1040 Form is welcome. To make an appointment and to learn more about this program visit: <https://tinyurl.com/MPLTaxaide2026> and eliminate the stress of tax season!



MONEY MATTERS

Financial Aid Workshop: How to Pay for College
Tue 2/3 5:00-6:00 PM - Blackfoot Room

A free, informative workshop to help students and families understand financial aid and make confident decisions about grants, scholarships, loans, and work study options.

Financial Fraud and Scams Class
Fri 2/23 6:30-7:45 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.

CHALLENGE YOURSELF IN 2026

MISSOULA *writes*

17th Annual Community Writing Contest

Deadline February 15

Do you have the write stuff? Submit your work by the 15th! For full details visit: <https://tinyurl.com/MissoulaWrites2026>

Family History Writing Contest Continues
Entries Accepted Until March 1, 2025

Memorialize your family's history and compete for cash prizes. Entries will be accepted until March 1, 2025. For rules visit: <https://tinyurl.com/FamilyHistoryWritingContest>.



**SCAN FOR FEBRUARY'S
BOOKMOBILE LOCATIONS**



LIKE MOTHER BREAKING THE CYCLE LIKE DAUGHTER OF BIAS AND HATE

First Friday Exhibit
Fri 2/6 5:00-7:00 PM - Level Four

Stop by the library to experience Dana Boussard's powerful exhibition, *Like Mother, Like Daughter*. This performance piece now lives on through striking photographic images.

Words as Resistance: A Teen Poetry Workshop
Tue 2/10 3:30-5:30 PM - Blackfoot Room

Create poetry and art with a real poet in this hands on workshop, with participant work featured in the library throughout February.

Panelist Discussion

Thu 2/26 6:00-7:00 PM - Cooper Room A/B

Join an exploration of prejudice within the family and its influence on future generations. Panelists include: Katie Knight, Mona Bachman, Scott Ernest (reformed white supremacist), and Tobin Miller-Shrearer as moderator. Presented in collaboration with the exhibit *Like Mother, Like Daughter*.



TENDER TOGETHERNESS

Gratefulness and Grilled Cheese
Tue 2/3 6:00-7:00 PM - Demonstration Kitchen

Chef Linda Hale and MPL will bring the Grilled Cheese, you bring the Gratefulness as we explore these two topics together. Enjoy a surprise take home activity too!

A Cozy Afternoon with Missoula Poets
Sat 2/7 2:00-4:00 PM - Cooper Room A

Enjoy an afternoon of tea and poetry with Missoula poets Aaron Jennings, Dave Thomas, James Jay, Mark Gibbons, and Sheryl Noethe. Aaron Jennings will play live music and Fact & Fiction will sell work from the authors.

Love Your Therapy Dog Meet and Greet
Sat 2/14 2:00-5:00 PM - Cooper Room A/B



Fall in love this Valentine's Day with Therapy Dogs of Western Montana. Meet the pups and their people, learn about the important work they do, and collect dog themed trading cards and bookmarks. All ages welcome.

WINTER OLYMPICS WATCH PARTY

Mon 2/9 6:00-7:30 PM - Cooper Room A
Tue 2/10 6:00-7:30 PM - Cooper Room A



Catch the Olympic spirit at the library. Watch the Games from Italy on the big screen, enjoy snacks, drinks, and fun Olympic facts along the way. All ages welcome.

PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH

Missoula Scholastic Chess Club at MPL Thu 2/5 3:30-5:00 PM - Imaginarium

Join the Missoula Chess Club! Students from grades 2-12 are welcome to play and learn new moves!

NEW! 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.

Teddy Bear Sleepover

Fri 2/6 4:00-5:00 PM - Imaginarium
Sat 2/7 9:00-11:00 AM - Imaginarium  FAMILIES FIRST

Bring in your fluffy best friend for a fun teddy bear craft and a Families First exhibit. If you want, leave your friend overnight and pick them up the next morning. We'll have a slideshow of your friends' sleepover shenanigans, and Families First will celebrate Ice Cream for Breakfast Day in the Art Box!



Rooted: Enhancing Children's Wellbeing through Nature Connection Workshops Sat 2/7, 2/14, 2/21, 2/28 1:00-3:00 PM - Art Box

Kids ages 5-12 are invited to a series of hands-on nature workshops led by UM's Franke Global Leadership Initiative students, with activities like seed planting, paper making, and bird feeders. Parental consent forms are required.

Sensory Story Time

Sat 2/21 1:30-2:30 PM - Imaginarium

An interactive storytelling approach with movement and restorative materials presented by Head Start that supports individuals with autism or sensory processing challenges.

Story Time for Diverse Abilities

Wed 2/11 & 2/25 1:00-2:00 PM - Art Box

Enjoy engaging stories geared toward teens through adults with cognitive or other disabilities. Expect plenty of relaxed, light-hearted conversation and connection.

JUST FOR TEENS

Teen After Hours UnValentine's Day Party Fri 2/13 6:00-8:00 PM - Level Two

Love Valentine's Day? Hate it? Friday the 13th is a great day for a party! MPL's Teen Library Community invites teens grades 7-12 to join them on Level Two for food, fun, and great company. Dress up, dress down, bring a date, a friend, a frenemy, or just yourself!



**LIBRARY CLOSED
FEBRUARY 16
FOR PRESIDENTS' DAY**

LET'S READ TOGETHER!



2nd Wednesday Book Group Wed 2/11 6:30-7:30 PM - Blackfoot Room & Online Station Eleven by Emily St. John Mandel

Potomac Branch Library Book Club Wed 2/11 6:30-7:30 PM - Potomac Branch Library Writers & Lovers by Lily King

3rd Wednesday Book Group Wed 2/18 6:30-7:30 PM - Blackfoot Room Horse by Geraldine Brooks

One Book Montana: *Becoming Little Shell* Book Club Mon 2/2, 2/9, 2/23 6:30-7:30 PM - Blackfoot Room

What If Everyone in Montana Read the Same Book? This Humanities Montana book club will spend six weeks reading *Becoming Little Shell* by Chris La Tray. Each meeting will focus on a selected group of chapters, creating space for thoughtful discussion. Limit of 15 participants.

LEARNING. CONNECTING. THRIVING



Spice It Up: Library Spice Club Wed 2/4 During Open Hours - Demo Kitchen

Pick up a free Spice It Up! kit on the first Wednesday of each month generously donated by the Good Food Store. This month the featured spice is Cardamom.

Get Lit! Program Series: PainSavvy Health Literacy Sun 2/8 1:00-1:50 PM - Blackfoot Room

Learn evidence informed strategies to manage persistent pain, boost movement, and have fun. Enjoy a 25 minute talk followed by an optional 25 minute walk.

Memory Café: Board games, Puzzles, Cards, and Fun Tue 2/11 2:00-3:00 PM - Cooper Room A/B

Game on this month! Bring your best moves for board games, puzzles, cards, and all around good fun.



Resource Access Day (RAD) Wed 2/11 11:00 AM-2:00 PM - Level Four

RAD offers free drop-in resources and lunch in a welcoming space. Services include housing support, legal help, vaccinations and immunizations, medical and mental health care, haircuts, and more!

Death Café Thu 2/19 12:00-1:30 PM - Clyde Coffee on Level One

Death Cafe is a welcoming space for drinks and open conversations about life and death with Hestia Advantage.

4HistoryBuffs: Graphic Design of the WPA Tue 2/24 6:00-8:00 PM - Cooper Room A/B

Luke Duran will explore how the artists of the Works Progress Administration (WPA) used hand drawn lettering, simple messages, and unforgettable illustrations to promote tourism and support economic growth.

Linux User Group Thu 2/28 1:00-3:00 PM - Blackfoot Room

New and experienced users will enjoy Linux research, tips, discussions, and learn how to install and explore confidently.