Fall 2021

Programs and Information

ROPL Information ..................... 1, 12
Adult programs ....................... 2 - 7
Teen programs .............................. 8
Twigs - Youth programs........ 9 - 11

Library Hours
Monday - Thursday, 10:00 am - 9:00 pm
Friday & Saturday, 10:00 am - 6:00 pm
Sunday, 1:00 - 5:00 pm
(begins September 12)

Holiday Closings
For Thanksgiving, the library is closed Thursday, November 25
through Sunday, November 28.
For Christmas, the library is closed Friday, December 24 through Monday, December 27.
For New Year’s, the library is closed Friday, December 31 through Monday, January 3, 2022.

Royal Oak Public Library Reopening!
Royal Oak Public Library is currently in Phase 5: Socially Distanced Service. This means there are no time or capacity restrictions, however, masks are currently required for all library employees and patrons regardless of vaccination status. We are continuing to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic and will offer more library services as we are able.
Study rooms are now available for reservations. Call the library or book via the myLIBRO app.

On the go? We are still offering Grab n’ Go holds. Sign up for your spot with the myLIBRO app or call the library and speak with the Circulation staff. Items will be checked out to you and placed in the Grab n’ Go hold area in the North Lobby for pickup at your convenience.

Fall Programming @ ROPL
Owing to the resurgence of the pandemic and its variants, we have decided to err on the side of caution and make all fall programs virtual. All fall programs will be on Zoom. We are still planning to resume in-person programming alongside virtual but not until the winter. Please note also that this Leaflet covers September, October and November, while the winter issue will cover December, January and February. So stay tuned and enjoy!

New Online Resources
Our downloadable ebook service through Hoopla has recently been expanded and upgraded. Now there are two ways to borrow from our library’s Hoopla collection: Instant and Flex. Instant is what we’ve always offered wherein you can immediately borrow any Instant title. Flex is the newer service that allows you to borrow the latest ebook and audiobook if it is available or place a hold. Explore thousands of new and popular titles with Flex. If you’re familiar with Overdrive or Libby, Flex is very similar. With Hoopla, you can read, watch, and listen to more than 950,000 eBooks, audiobooks, comics, movies, music, or television titles available to stream or download. With added resources in Hoopla, it might be wise to get in the habit of checking both Hoopla and Overdrive for titles. It could reduce the time you wait for popular titles. All you need to sign-up is a ROPL card.

In addition to electronic access to the New York Times and Wall Street Journal, patrons now have a free subscription to the Washington Post digital edition. To read these papers, click on Online Resources, and then click on Find an Article at ropl.org.

Ancestry.com remote access has been extended until December 31, 2021. To get started on your genealogy from home, click the Online Resources, then Online Databases and then click Genealogy.

Questions? Please contact Adult Services at 248-246-3727 or visit ropl.org.
### National Hispanic Heritage Month

**Diego Rivera and the Detroit Industry Murals**

The Detroit Industry Murals (1932-1933) are a series of frescoes by the Mexican artist Diego Rivera, consisting of 27 panels depicting industry at the Ford Motor Company and in Detroit. Painted between 1932 and 1933, they were considered by Rivera to be his most successful work.

The two main panels on the north and south walls depict laborers working at Ford Motor Company’s River Rouge Plant. Other panels depict advances made in various scientific fields, such as medicine and new technology. The series of murals, taken as a whole, expresses the idea that all actions and ideas are one.

Presented by DIA staff, come learn the complex and intriguing story behind Diego Rivera and his Detroit Industry murals which have now been declared a National Historic Landmark.

**Wednesday, September 22 at 7:00 pm**  
Please register [HERE](#)

---

### Happy Halloween!

**The Mothman and Other Flying Creatures of the Midwest**

In West Virginia folklore, the Mothman is a creature reportedly seen in the Point Pleasant area from November 15, 1966 to December 15, 1967. The first newspaper report was published in the *Point Pleasant Register* dated November 16, 1966, titled "Couples See Man-Sized Bird...Creature ... Something." The national press soon picked up the reports and helped spread the story across the United States.

The Mothman was introduced to a wider audience by Gray Barker in 1970 and was later popularized by John Keel in his 1975 book, *The Mothman Prophecies*, claiming that there were supernatural events related to the sightings, and a connection to the collapse of the Silver Bridge.

Many people have heard of the case of the Mothman in Point Pleasant WV, but there are many other flying cryptids reports in the Midwest. Join author and cryptozoologist *Shetan Noir* as she talks about flying creatures of the region.

**Wednesday October 13 at 7:00 pm**  
Please register [HERE](#)

---

### Happy Diwali!

**Monsoon Postcards**

Based on his book *Monsoon Postcards*, journalist *David H. Mould*, notebook in hand, traverses the Indian Ocean. It’s an unpredictable journey on battered buses, bush taxis, auto-rickshaws, and crowded ferries. Mould travels from the traffic snarls of Delhi, Dhaka, and Jakarta to the rice paddies and ancestral tombs of Madagascar’s Central Highlands; from the ancient kingdom of Hyderabad to India’s so-called chicken neck—the ethnically diverse and underdeveloped northeast; and from the textile factories and rivers of Bangladesh to the beaches of Bali and the province of Aceh—ground zero for the 2004 tsunami.

Mr. Mould offers witty and insightful glimpses into countries linked by history, trade, migration, religion, and a colonial legacy and explores how they confront the challenges of climate change, urban growth, economic development, land, water and natural resources, and national and ethnic identity. The presentation will be updated with coverage of the Covid pandemic ravaging India.

**Wednesday, November 3 at 7:00 pm**  
Please register [HERE](#)

---

### Michigan Haunts

This Halloween, walk the path less traveled of Michigan’s hauntings – including ghost towns, theaters, and eateries – with *Gail Offen and John Milan*, authors of *Michigan Haunts: Public Places, Eerie Spaces*. Have a spooky story? Be sure to share it.

**Monday, October 25 at 7:00 pm**  
Please register [HERE](#)

---

### The Michigan Dogman

In Michigan folklore, the Michigan Dogman was allegedly witnessed in 1887 in Wexford County, Michigan. The creature is described as a seven-foot tall, blue-eyed, or amber-eyed bipedal canine-like animal with the torso of a man and a fearsome howl that sounds like a human scream.

According to legends, the Michigan Dogman appears in a ten-year cycle that falls on years ending in 7. Sightings have been reported in several locations throughout Michigan, primarily in the northwestern quadrant of the Lower Peninsula.

Historical sightings and modern day reports point to the existence of an upright bipedal canine creature but what exactly does that mean? Join author and cryptozoologist researcher *Shetan Noir* as she discusses information about Michigan’s Dogman.

**Tuesday, October 26 at 7:00 pm**  
Please register [HERE](#)
Happy Holidays

Legends and Folklore of Winter

Winter may seem like a quiet time, but it is actually filled with bizarre tales and stories of superstitions. Winter spirits, Krampus the anti-Santa Claus, stories of little people, the twelve days of Christmas, werewolves, witches, people being buried alive, and numerous other Holiday traditions are featured for the darkest days of the year!

Presenter Chad Lewis has been featured on the Discovery Channel’s A Haunting, William Shatner’s Weird or What, ABC’s World’s Scariest Places, and Monsters and Mysteries in America. With a Master’s Degree in Psychology, Chad has authored over 25 books on the supernatural and extensively lectures on his fascinating findings. The more bizarre the legend is, the more likely you will find Chad there!

Tuesday, November 9 at 7:00 pm Please register HERE

Lincoln and Thanksgiving

All are invited to come hear a first-hand account from President Abraham Lincoln himself about how our national, annual observance of the Thanksgiving holiday came to be established in the fall of 1863, in the midst of the Civil War. Mr. Lincoln tells how the influential writer and editor Sarah Josepha Hale, author of the nursery rhyme “Mary Had a Little Lamb,” tirelessly advocated for the establishment of such a day. He reads his 1863 Thanksgiving proclamation – which would be the first of an unending series of such presidential proclamations which has continued to our own day – and explains its words in the context of the Civil War and the nation’s history up to that point. This program serves as a reminder that despite whatever difficulties we might be experiencing as a nation or as individuals, we can still find reasons for which to be thankful. This program is most appropriate for adults and for children from six years old and up. It runs a little under 60 minutes and is followed by an additional time of Q&A, photos, and informal interaction. Mr. Lincoln is portrayed by Kevin Wood, a professional Lincoln presenter who bears a remarkable resemblance to “the Great Emancipator,” and who is extremely knowledgeable about his life and times.

Tuesday, November 16 at 7:00 pm Please register HERE

Crime & Punishment

Terror in Ypsilanti: John Norman Collins Unmasked

During the summers of 1967 through 1969, a predatory killer stalked the campuses of Eastern Michigan University and the University of Michigan seeking prey until he made the arrogant mistake of killing his last victim in the basement of his uncle’s home. Terror in Ypsilanti: John Norman Collins Unmasked tells the story of the six other murders attributed to John Norman Collins that never went to trial and became cold cases. Terror In Ypsilanti compiles an array of physical and circumstantial evidence drawing an unmistakable portrait of the sadistic murderer who slaughtered these innocent young women.

Gregory A. Fournier received his bachelor and master’s degrees from Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti while the Washtenaw County murders were occurring. He lived one block up the street from John Norman Collins and had several unpleasant brushes with him. Greg has appeared on the Investigation Discovery Channel as a guest expert on John Norman Collins for it’s true crime series A Crime to Remember.

Monday, September 27 at 7:00 pm Please register HERE

An Underrated President

Harry & Bess Truman: An Interactive Presentation

Harry S. Truman was President during very trying times in our country’s history. He was thrown into the position when FDR died suddenly. Truman then had to end World War II in Europe and deal with Joseph Stalin to stabilize Europe for future peace. He had to end the war with Japan and made the difficult decision to accomplish that quickly by dropping the Atomic Bomb. He then turned his efforts to aid South Korea against the invasion by the North Korean Communists. Truman loved being the Senator from Missouri, and never really wanted to be Vice President or President. Not as charismatic as his predecessor FDR or as well known as his successor Dwight Eisenhower, history has proven him one of our most effective presidents. His decisions are credited with avoiding another world war.

Bess Truman supported her husband throughout his career and was listed as one of the most admired women of her time. She quietly influenced key legislation and promoted cultural contributions. Go back to 1952 and interact with these two historical figures in this one hour presentation with seasoned actors, Russel Dore and Nancy Schuster, portraying Harry and Bess. Learn about their rise in politics, their daughter Margaret and their strong love for each other. The presentation is authentic and presented with a keen sense of humor.

Tuesday, September 14 at 7:00 pm Please register HERE

Classic, indie, documentary and DIY films are now available from Kanopy. Access Kanopy’s impressive variety of films from silent-era shorts to ground breaking documentaries for free with your Royal Oak Public Library card. Go to ropl.org for details.
The Writing Life

Journaling for Emotional Sobriety

Are you struggling with stress? Feeling emotionally dysregulated? If so, journaling has been recognized as a therapeutic way to deal with the stress and emotions of life. “Keeping a journal helps you create order when your world feels like it’s in chaos,” according to the University of Rochester Medical Center.

In this free Zoom workshop, Lynne Cobb will teach you how to cope with stress using journaling tips and techniques found in the book, Maintaining Emotional Sobriety During COVID-19: Transforming Trauma into Post-Traumatic Growth by Tian Dayton, PhD. The discussion will include the benefits of daily journaling, an overview of emotional sobriety, a session of prompts, self-affirmations, reframing and more. So bring your favorite pen, journal or device and get ready to begin journaling your way to emotional sobriety.

Cobb is a speaker, writer and journalist whose essays and articles have been published in the Detroit Free Press, Detroit News, Michigan Prime, Guideposts, and Metro Parent Magazine. She also is a contributing author to the anthologies What I Do to Get Through, and Feisty after 45 - the Best Blogs of Midlife Women. She is a member of Detroit Working Women Writers and the National Society of Newspaper Columnists.

Wednesday, September 15 at 7:00 pm  Please register HERE

A Celebration of Friends: Poetry of Linda Nemec Foster and Mary Jo Firth Gillett

The poets will read from their works, including The Blue Divide by Linda Nemec Foster, which was just recently nominated for the National Book Award for poetry, and the prize-winning book by Mary Jo Firth Gillett, Soluble Fish.

Poet and writer Linda Nemec Foster is the author of 12 poetry collections, including the critically acclaimed books The Lake Michigan Mermaid (2019 Michigan Notable Book), Amber Necklace from Gdansk, and Talking Diamonds. In 2015, she was given a Lifetime Achievement Award by the Dyer-Ives Foundation for her poetry and advocacy of the literary arts in Michigan. More recently, she won the Editor’s Choice Award in the Allen Ginsberg Poetry Contest sponsored by the Paterson Literary Review.

Mary Jo Firth Gillett’s poetry collection, Soluble Fish, won the Crab Orchard Series First Book Award. Four prize-winning chapbooks have also been published, most recently Dance Like a Flame (Hill-Stead Museum). Her poems have appeared in many literary journals including The Southern Review, New Ohio Review, and Southern Poetry Review as well as the Poetry Daily and Verse Daily sites. She’s won the N.Y. Open Voice Poetry Award and a Kresge Artist Fellowship in the Literary Arts. Her MFA is from Vermont College.

Wednesday, September 29 at 7:00 pm  Please register HERE

Haiku Zines: A Hands-On Zoom Workshop

Artist Guillermo Delgado will lead participants in the exploration and creation of zines and haiku poetry. Zines are handmade short books filled with personal art and creative ideas. Delgado is currently an Academic Specialist in Community and Socially Engaged Arts at Michigan State University’s Residential College of Arts and Humanities, RCAH. At RCAH he teaches courses in art, poetry, community engagement, and contemplative practices including yoga, meditation, and walking.

Thursday, October 7 at 7:00 pm  Please register HERE

Creative and Bold for Old Time’s Sake

A poetry reading with three friends who met in their undergraduate days over 45 years ago. Elizabeth Kerlikowske, Marc J. Sheehan and David James are reunited for a Zoom poetry reading. With over 15 books published between them, this trio will make the case that creativity has no age limits!

Elizabeth Kerlikowske is the author of eight chapbooks and a larger book, Art Speaks, with painter Mary Hatch. She is the president of Kalamazoo’s Friends of Poetry and also The Poetry Society of Michigan. She was awarded the Community Medal for the Arts in 2017. She is madly in love with the three deer who live in her yard, even though they eat all her plants.

Marc J. Sheehan is the author of two full-length poetry collections and two chapbooks, most recently, Minor Late Empire Diversions, from Celery City Chapbooks. His flash fiction has been featured on NPR’s Three-Minute Fiction series and Selected Shorts. A new chapbook of his flash fiction, The Civil War War, is forthcoming. A life-long Michigander, he lives in Grand Haven, Michigan.

David James has published five full-length books including A Heart Out Of This World (2018), She Dances Like Mussolini (2009), My Torn Dance Card (2015), A Gem Of Truth (2019) and Nail Yourself Into Bliss (2019). He has two more books forthcoming: Wiping Stars From Your Sleeves in 2021 and Alive In Your Skin While You Still Own It in 2022. In addition to publishing six chapbooks, he has had 30 one-act plays produced in the U.S. and Ireland. He teaches at Oakland Community College.

Thursday, November 11 at 7:00  Please register HERE
Express Yourself!

Get to Know Your Makerspace

The library received a matching grant in the amount of $10,000 to create a Makerspace in the library. This will feature a variety of different equipment available for patron use, including sewing and embroidery machines, craft and art supplies, photography technologies, a button maker, vinyl to MP3 conversion technology, and much more. While housed in a dedicated room most of these items will be available for check out.

To help orient patrons, we offer a series of pre-recorded monthly virtual programs presented by Adult Services Librarian, Matthew Day. Each program will feature a tour of the Makerspace collection followed by basic video instructions on the use of one item from that varied collection.

All programs are or will be pre-recorded and can be accessed on the library’s YouTube channel starting on the following dates:

- Thursday, September 9: Button-maker
- Thursday, October 14: Cricut Machine
- Thursday, November 4: A Short Introduction to Photoshop

Please click HERE to visit our YouTube channel.

This project is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts. To find out more about how the National Endowment for the Arts impact communities, visit www.arts.gov.

Painting Quiet Scenes of Nature

Join us for a mellow session of painting as we create art featuring happy trees and sweet clouds. We’ll paint along with a rebroadcast of a TV show offering step-by-step instructions. This virtual class will run until 8:30 pm. Space is limited to 20 people. The session is free; art supplies will be provided. Registration is required and begins Tuesday, October 12. Adult Services librarian, Rosemary Mirsky, will be your host. Questions? Please call 248-246-3715.

- Wednesday, October 20 at 7:00 pm Please register HERE

Music Then and Now

Music of the 60s

The 60s sound is characterized by more aggressive tones and delivery. Hard rock vocalists are identified by their higher range and distinct and often raspy voices. The music was influenced heavily by blues rock, garage rock, and rhythm and blues. Towards the decade’s end, genres such as baroque pop, sunshine pop, bubblegum pop, and progressive rock started to grow popular. Furthermore, the 1960s saw funk and soul music rising in popularity, and rhythm and blues in general remained popular. Join Stu Johnson for a musical tour of that pivotal decade.

- Part 1: Monday, September 20 at 7:00 pm Please register HERE
- Part 2: Monday, October 4 at 7:00 pm Please register HERE

Third–Thursday Zoom Book Club

Memorial Drive: A Daughter’s Memoir by Natasha Trethewey

Trethewey wrestles with the murder of her mother at the hands of the author’s former stepfather. The murder occurred when the author was 19 years old. Trethewey, a former U.S. Poet laureate, unearthed painful memories of growing up in the racist south and how her mother’s murder shaped her own life and writing. A story of tragedy, but also love and resilience.

- Thursday, September 16 at 7:00 pm Please register HERE

History of Wolves by Emily Fridlund

Living with her parents in a counter culture commune in the northern Minnesota woods, 14-year-old Linda finds her perspectives and desires changed by the scandal-marked arrest of a teacher and the secrets of a new neighbor family as she wrestles with the consequences of actions and failures in the name of love.

- Thursday, October 21 at 7:00 pm Please register HERE

Now I Sit Me Down: from Klismos to Plastic Chair: a Natural History by Witold Rybczynski

Architect Rybczynski presents a history of chairs – not only from the perspective of design and manufacture, but sociology and culture.

- Thursday, November 18 at 7:00 pm Please register HERE

Breed & Bootleg: Legends of Flint Rap Music

In recognition of Hip Hop month we are pleased to present the documentary film, Breed & Bootleg: Legends of Flint Rap Music. It is about Eric T. Breed, better known as MC Breed, and Ira “Bootleg” Dorsey of the Dayton Family, a rap group named after Dayton Street where members of the group lived. Breed is noted as the first commercially successful and nationally recognized rapper in the Midwest.

This non-fiction film is one element of a transdisciplinary and transmedia project called Rap on Flint. The project also includes a book, stills of and interviews with rap artists, and film screenings. Breed & Bootleg is significant because of its contributions to hip-hop history and to the histories of music legends. Some cast members do a Q&A after the screening.

Monday, November 1 at 7:00 pm Please register HERE
Autumn Jewels: the Science Behind the Scenery

Living here in Michigan, we look forward to the fall if only for the jewel-like displays of autumn foliage. Although we’ve known for a while how trees and shrubs change color, we’ve not been as certain as to the “why” of it. Join Detroit-based master gardener Cheryl English to learn about the chemical and biological processes that go into our annual fall fashion show and get a glimpse of the beauties of our own native species as they go through their annual transformation.

Monday, October 18 at 7:00 pm   Please register HERE

Great Lakes Disasters

Seeking the Lord: Search for the Jarvis Lord Shipwreck

Join shipwreck hunter and author Ross Richardson in exploring the depths of Northern Lake Michigan while looking for lost ships and missing aircraft. Dive down to Lake Michigan’s newest shipwreck discovery and meander through the histories and mysteries of the Manitou Passage, the most dangerous place in Lake Michigan.

Ross has spent the last two decades exploring the bottom of the Great Lakes and discovering and documenting long lost shipwrecks. His website, michiganmysteries.com, is dedicated to the stories of the missing ships, missing aircraft and missing persons of the Michigan region.

Monday, November 8 at 7:00 pm   Please register HERE

November Gales: A Ric Mixter Lecture

The witch of November has terrorized the Great Lakes since the first Americans paddled the shorelines. Fed by moisture from the Gulf of Mexico and chilled by an Arctic jet stream, these storms wreak havoc on the lakes and bring notorious storms that have sunk the largest freighters lost on the inland seas. In this very popular lecture, Ric Mixter shares not only insight and rare survivor interviews from autumn gales, but also first hand accounts of dives to freighters lost to the winds. Ric Mixter shares details and underwater footage that you’ve never seen in any other lecture on the topic. Ric shares what it’s like to dive the shipwrecks from submarines and with SCUBA and he brings 30 years of award-winning research to the podium. Included in this lecture are his exclusive interviews with two sailors who took on 126 mile per hour winds during the 1940 Armistice Day storm. Energetic and knowledgeable, Ric is one of the most requested speakers on the Great Lakes, not only based on his personality but also on his ability to dig for details that other lecturers have missed.

Wednesday, November 17 at 7:00 pm   Please register HERE

Rediscover the Planet

Nature Getaways

This program takes the traveler to some of the most overlooked nature areas in Michigan. Many have easy trails, accessible to almost anyone. The trails are usually under a mile long. You don’t have to be a mountain climber to enjoy these. Some getaways are near scenic views, some lead to waterfalls, all are beautiful. Local attractions are discussed near each nature area so each can make for a great day trip. Presented by Ron Rademacher who has six books in print about road trips to out of the way places in Michigan, plus a podcast and road trip websites.

Tuesday, September 7 at 7:00 pm   Please register HERE

Climate Change as of 2021: Simple, Serious, Solvable

This talk will be a science-based look at the state of the issues and impacts involved in climate change, localized in many ways to Michigan and Metro Detroit. We will explore a range of ideas to address the significant challenges we face, including what each of us can do.

Chris Edwards began his career as a forecaster in the U.S. Air Force. He was then one of the first meteorologists with The Weather Channel in Atlanta, before moving on to forecast at WISN-TV in Milwaukee, and KYW-TV in Philadelphia. Chris was the Chief Meteorologist at WJBK-TV in Detroit before leaving in 2004 to spend more time with his family and to start his own business teaching weather science to students.

In 2011, he joined WXYZ-TV as a multimedia meteorologist, where he worked until December of 2018. As a recovering TV meteorologist, he now enjoys part-time work at the University of Michigan, where both his children recently earned degrees.

Wednesday, September 8 at 7:00 pm   Please register HERE

Exploring Backyard Wildlife

Explore the backyard through the eyes of local wildlife on a photo tour with naturalist Andrew Nowicki. Learn more about the creatures we live alongside every day and the reason some backyards have more critters than others. We’ll discuss the animals commonly seen living near people as well as some you may not have known were there.

Andrew Nowicki is a naturalist and environmental educator. He runs programs across the state of Michigan where he teaches audiences about the connections between wildlife, people, and society and how to experience more during their time outdoors.

Monday, September 13 at 7:00 pm   Please register HERE

Climate Change as of 2021: Simple, Serious, Solvable

This talk will be a science-based look at the state of the issues and impacts involved in climate change, localized in many ways to Michigan and Metro Detroit. We will explore a range of ideas to address the significant challenges we face, including what each of us can do.

Chris Edwards began his career as a forecaster in the U.S. Air Force. He was then one of the first meteorologists with The Weather Channel in Atlanta, before moving on to forecast at WISN-TV in Milwaukee, and KYW-TV in Philadelphia. Chris was the Chief Meteorologist at WJBK-TV in Detroit before leaving in 2004 to spend more time with his family and to start his own business teaching weather science to students.

In 2011, he joined WXYZ-TV as a multimedia meteorologist, where he worked until December of 2018. As a recovering TV meteorologist, he now enjoys part-time work at the University of Michigan, where both his children recently earned degrees.

Wednesday, September 8 at 7:00 pm   Please register HERE

Exploring Backyard Wildlife

Explore the backyard through the eyes of local wildlife on a photo tour with naturalist Andrew Nowicki. Learn more about the creatures we live alongside every day and the reason some backyards have more critters than others. We’ll discuss the animals commonly seen living near people as well as some you may not have known were there.

Andrew Nowicki is a naturalist and environmental educator. He runs programs across the state of Michigan where he teaches audiences about the connections between wildlife, people, and society and how to experience more during their time outdoors.

Monday, September 13 at 7:00 pm   Please register HERE

Climate Change as of 2021: Simple, Serious, Solvable

This talk will be a science-based look at the state of the issues and impacts involved in climate change, localized in many ways to Michigan and Metro Detroit. We will explore a range of ideas to address the significant challenges we face, including what each of us can do.

Chris Edwards began his career as a forecaster in the U.S. Air Force. He was then one of the first meteorologists with The Weather Channel in Atlanta, before moving on to forecast at WISN-TV in Milwaukee, and KYW-TV in Philadelphia. Chris was the Chief Meteorologist at WJBK-TV in Detroit before leaving in 2004 to spend more time with his family and to start his own business teaching weather science to students.

In 2011, he joined WXYZ-TV as a multimedia meteorologist, where he worked until December of 2018. As a recovering TV meteorologist, he now enjoys part-time work at the University of Michigan, where both his children recently earned degrees.

Wednesday, September 8 at 7:00 pm   Please register HERE

Exploring Backyard Wildlife

Explore the backyard through the eyes of local wildlife on a photo tour with naturalist Andrew Nowicki. Learn more about the creatures we live alongside every day and the reason some backyards have more critters than others. We’ll discuss the animals commonly seen living near people as well as some you may not have known were there.

Andrew Nowicki is a naturalist and environmental educator. He runs programs across the state of Michigan where he teaches audiences about the connections between wildlife, people, and society and how to experience more during their time outdoors.

Monday, September 13 at 7:00 pm   Please register HERE
Self-Care in the Wake of a Pandemic

Heartfulness Meditation Program

The Heartfulness Meditation Program offers a simple set of relaxation and meditation exercises, which when practiced daily, help restore balance in life, manage stress, improve your health, and most of all will lead you to inner calm and peace. The relaxation and meditation techniques are taught over a free 4-week course: Each class covers both the conceptual framework as well as practical meditation and relaxation sessions. As classes progress, we add other techniques to help you go into a deep meditative state, faster. Ideally, all participants may register for all four sessions. Participants will be meditating in chairs. Those wishing to meditate while sitting on the floor may bring their own floor cushions. The entire program will be conducted by certified Heartfulness trainers, who have been meditating and training for several years. Virtual classes are free but registration is required.

Classes run 1.5 hours.

Week 1: Introduction to Heartfulness Relaxation and Meditation
Tuesday, September 21 at 7:00 pm   Please register HERE

Week 2: Introduction to Heartfulness Cleansing
Tuesday, September 28 at 7:00 pm   Please register HERE

Week 3: Goal and Maintaining the Condition
Tuesday, October 5 at 7:00 pm   Please register HERE

Week 4: Incorporating Meditation in Daily Life and Next Steps
Tuesday, October 12 at 7:00 pm   Please register HERE

Graduates are also invited to attend virtual meditation sessions on Zoom every Tuesday at 7:00 pm through the rest of the year. Other weeknight sessions are available directly from Heartfulness Meditation.

Queer Healthcare 101: A “Know Your Rights” Presentation for LGBTQ+ Folks

A substantial body of research indicates that lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBTQ+) populations across the United States encounter significant barriers to health care. Many LGBTQ+ people have difficulty finding providers who are knowledgeable about their needs, encounter discrimination from insurers or providers, or delay or forego care because of concerns about how they will be treated. In the absence of federal legislation prohibiting healthcare discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, LGBTQ+ people are often left with little recourse when discrimination occurs.

Join Erin Knoff, Executive Director of Equality Michigan and Jay Kaplan, staff attorney for the ACLU of Michigan for an informative panel discussion on the healthcare rights of queer folk.

Thursday, September 23 at 7:00 pm   Please register HERE

ESL Conversation Club

English as a Second Language Conversation Club is a community partnership with the Oakland Community College ESL program in Royal Oak. Participants include non-native speakers, as well as volunteer English speakers, who want to learn about other cultures and engage in interesting conversations. All levels are welcome, and each person is encouraged to participate. The group leader is Susan Sheiner, Adult Services Librarian.

Thursday, September 30 at 7:00 pm   Please register HERE
Thursday, October 28 at 7:00 pm   Please register HERE

The A, B, Cs and Ds of Medicare: an Educational Seminar

David Banet, a licensed insurance counselor, will present an educational seminar to give people turning 65 and older a safe place to ask questions and get information without being pressured by insurance companies. The seminar is focused on Medicare Parts A, B, C, & D and how Medicare Supplemental plans work. This allows people to get general answers concerning the moving parts of Medicare, thus turning a complicated process into a simple one for people faced with these important life decisions.

Wednesday, October 6 at 7:00 pm   Please register HERE
Saturday, October 23 at 10:00 am   Please register HERE
Virtual Monthly Makerspace for Teens

These monthly programs offer various creative projects that include elements of the visual arts, technology and/or handicrafts. Registration is required. Limit 30 per program.

These projects are supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts. To find out more about how the National Endowment for the Arts grants impact individuals and communities, visit www.arts.gov.

Spider Web Embroidery

Use simple stitches to make sparkly spider web embroidery, perfect for Halloween or year-round! Perfect for beginners, or even experienced stitchers. Supplies are available for pick up at the Youth Services desk starting on Wednesday, September 1.

Thursday, September 9 at 7:00 PM   Please register HERE

DIY Gemstone Soap

Make your own fragrant Gemstone glycerin soap! With just a few simple ingredients and household items, you can mix and layer the colors of soap, pop it out of the mold and cut it into realistic crystal shapes! Supplies are available for pick up at the Youth Services desk starting on Monday, September 13.

Thursday, September 16 at 7:00 PM   Please register HERE

Rainbow Macrame Wall Art

Inspired by the rainbows in Hawaii, this decorative wall hanging uses just three elements: rope, yarn and felt! Use different colors of yarn for variations on the theme! Supplies are available for pick up at the Youth Services desk starting on Monday, November 1.

Thursday, November 4 at 7:00 PM   Please register HERE

Author Visit: Ruth McNally Barshaw

Thursday, September 23 at 7:00 PM
See page 9 for details and registration information.

Virtual Comic Strip Writing Workshop

This program teaches kids to understand literature as a writer, not just a reader. Using examples from popular comic strips, Eisner Award-winning Graphic Novelist, Gene Ha, will lead the students to create their own comic strip by building a story. The story is set up, a dramatic question is posed, and the resolution answers the question with an entertaining payoff. Supplies are available for pick up at the Youth Services desk starting on Monday, October 4. Registration required. Limit 30.

Thursday, October 7 at 7:00 PM   Please register HERE

Teen Book Club

The Perfect Place to Die by Bryce Moore

A thrilling historical novel set during the Chicago World's Fair. Zuretta and Ruby are sisters living in Utah with their mother and abusive father. After seeing terrible bruises on Zuretta, Ruby decides they need to leave home for good. Zuretta chooses to stay for her mother, and Ruby goes off on her own. Ruby consistently writes to her sister about her adventures and her new job as a maid, but suddenly letters back stop coming.

Zuretta is afraid something terrible happened to Ruby, so she travels to Chicago to find her. With some help from new friends and months of searching, Zuretta gets a job as a maid at a hotel called the Castle, a place she discovers her sister was working before her disappearance. Unbeknownst to Zuretta, she's hot on the trail of one of the world's most infamous serial killers.

Book pick up begins Monday, October 4 at Youth Services Desk. Limit 20.
Zoom Book Club meeting is Thursday, October 28 at 7:00 PM
Please register HERE

Botanical Watercolor Illustration with Creativebug

By following the step-by-step video tutorial with the library's database Creativebug, you'll create a stunning painting using a Micron drafting pen and watercolors. The result is a beautiful illustration as you discover the artist within. Supplies are available for pick up at the Youth Services desk starting on Monday, November 15. Registration required. Limit 30.

Thursday, November 18 at 7:00 PM   Please register HERE

Questions? Call Youth Services at 248.246.3725 or email emilycrosby@ropl.org
What’s New This Fall?

In the interest of the health and well-being of all, and due to recent updates on room capacity restrictions, Youth and Teen Services will continue to offer virtual Zoom programs only this fall. Registration is required for all programs, including Story Times, Mother Goose on the Loose and Baby Size. The good thing about doing Zoom programming is that it allows for a lot more people to attend each program! Live Zoom programs will bridge the gap between the recorded programming that we did this summer and (the hope of) returning to in-person programs in January 2022!

This fall we are excited to introduce new programs and authors to our lineup!

**Author Visit: Ruth McNally Barshaw Ages 5 and up**
Create a story along with Ruth McNally Barshaw, author of the Ellie McDoodle books. Brainstorm a story all together, and then compose and illustrate the beginning of a story, right there on the spot. And guess what? Ms. Barshaw is a Michigan author/illustrator! Registration is required to receive the supplies and Zoom link invitation. Limit 30.

**Thursday, September 23 at 7:00 PM**  
Please register HERE

**Alex Thomas and Friends: Among Us Sculpture Workshop**
Join us live via Zoom to learn how to sculpt Among Us figures using polymer clay. Instructor will teach basic sculpting techniques to create three-dimensional figures. Will you sculpt Crewmates or Imposters? Registration is required to receive the supplies and Zoom link invitation. Limit 30.

**Tuesday, September 28 at 7:00 PM**  
Please register HERE

**Acting Out Kids Community Theater**
Kids will learn acting, improv and public speaking skills through a variety of acting and improv games, activities, monologues and skits. This class is perfect for both new and experienced actors and is great for building confidence, making new friends and having lots of fun! Presented by Acting Out Kids Community Theatre. Registration is required for each session. Limit 20 per session.

**Friday, October 1 at 4:30 PM**  
Please register HERE
**Friday, October 8 at 4:30 PM**  
Please register HERE
**Friday, October 15 at 4:30 PM**  
Please register HERE

**September is Library Card Sign-Up Month!**
Parents: This is a perfect time to get library cards for the whole family to boost the odds of a successful school year. Royal Oak Public Library cards are issued to Royal Oak residents for library services including online access to ebooks and other electronic resources. Our youngest patrons are eligible for a library card when they can write their name. Students in Royal Oak Schools who are non-residents are also eligible for a library card - please see the circulation desk for details. Get your library card today!
Tuesday Evening Family Programs

The whole family will enjoy a variety of virtual evening programs designed for elementary and preschool children. Programs typically last 30-45 minutes. Registration is required to receive the Zoom link. You may register online at ropl.org or by calling 248-246-3725 during library hours. Registration opens two weeks in advance of the program.

Virtual Makerspace LEGOS® Time
Families are invited to join these special Virtual LEGOS® events along with friends to build with LEGOS® (or any other construction toy). Share ideas, knock ‘em down, and build ‘em up again. Registration is required for each session to receive the Zoom invitation. No registration limit.

Select Tuesdays at 7:00 PM
September 7: Build the Tallest Brick Tower! Please register HERE
October 19: Build your Favorite Gaming Character! Please register HERE
November 30: Build a Fantasy Scene! Please register HERE

Bad Guys Virtual Program
Who are the baddest bunch of do-gooders in town? They sound like bad guys, they look like bad guy… and they even smell like bad guys. But Mr. Wolf, Mr. Piranha, Mr. Snake, and Mr. Shark are about to change all of that! Join us for an evening of Bad Guy Fun! Registration is required to receive craft supplies and the Zoom link invitation. Limit 30.

Tuesday, September 14 at 7:00 PM Please register HERE

Wild Rehab: Howell Nature Center
What do Batman, Spiderman and Cat Woman have in common? They base their powers on amazing wildlife abilities. In this mixed wildlife presentation, we look at each animal’s “super power” that helps them survive in the wild. Limit 75.

Tuesday, October 12 at 7:00 PM Please register HERE

Native American Heritage Month
Celebrate Native American Heritage Month with the reading of The Legend of Sleeping Bear written by Kathy-Jo Wargin. There will be time to share your own adventures of visiting the Sleeping Bear Dunes! Enjoy discovering the history and legends of the Ojibwe of Michigan. Registration is required to receive the Zoom invitation and craft. Limit 40.

Tuesday, November 2 at 7:00 PM Please register HERE

Story Times

We are continuing virtual story times this fall but as LIVE programs via Zoom! Registration is required for each session to receive Zoom link.

Tuesday Evening Pajama Story Times
Wear your PJ’s, bring a favorite stuffed animal and cozy up for stories, songs, movement and a craft. Registration is required to receive the craft and Zoom invitation. Limit 40 per session.

Select Tuesdays at 6:30 PM
Fall Story Time: September 21 Register HERE
Halloween Story Time: October 26 Register HERE
Thanksgiving Story Time: November 23 Register HERE

Family Story Times
These story times for ages 5 and under incorporate many enjoyable pre-reading skills including stories, rhymes, songs, finger plays, and movement. No registration limit.

Mondays at 10:15 AM
September 13 Register HERE
September 20 Register HERE
September 27 Register HERE
October 4 Register HERE
October 11 Register HERE
October 18 Register HERE

October 25 Register HERE
November 1 Register HERE
November 8 Register HERE
November 15 Register HERE
November 22 Register HERE
November 29 Register HERE

Baby Size!
These story times are for the youngest children, infants to 15 months, and their caregivers. Literacy building activities for babies including songs, rhymes, and sharing board books. Older siblings may attend, but these sessions are designed for babies up through 15 months old.

Thursdays at 10:15 AM
September 9 Register HERE
September 16 Register HERE
September 23 Register HERE
September 30 Register HERE
October 7 Register HERE
October 14 Register HERE

October 21 Register HERE
October 28 Register HERE
November 4 Register HERE
November 11 Register HERE
November 18 Register HERE

Mother Goose on the Loose
Mother Goose on the Loose is based on the award-winning early literacy program created by Betsy Diamant-Cohen. This unique series utilizes a formula of 80% repetition from week to week including interactive nursery rhymes, best practices from baby story time and developmental tips for adults. Join Miss Tracy for this six-week series.

Select Wednesdays at 6:30 PM
September 8 Register HERE
September 15 Register HERE
September 22 Register HERE
September 29 Register HERE
October 6 Register HERE
October 13 Register HERE
**Book Buddies Book Club**

Book Buddies is a book club for ROPL’s youngest independent readers, grades K-2. Each participant will get their own copy of the book to keep. Club meetings are 45-60 minutes and include activities and discussion based on the book. Registration is required to receive the book and the Zoom meeting link. **Limit 25 per session.**

![The Secret Room](image)

**The Secret Room** (#5 in the Haunted Library series) by Dori Hillestad Butler

Book and craft pickup begins Monday, September 13 at Youth Services Desk

Book Club Zoom meeting is Monday, September 20 at 4:30 PM

Please register [HERE](#) to receive Zoom link

Now that Kaz can finally pass through walls without feeling all “skizzy,” he is excited to explore Beckett’s secret room at the back of the library. In it he finds an envelope, some empty soda bottles, and a ghostly doll. Are any of these things connected? Kaz wants to return the doll to the ghost it belonged to, but that may be harder than he thinks.

![Caterflies and Ice](image)

**Caterflies and Ice** (#4 in the Zoey and Sassafras series) by Asia Citro

Book and craft pickup begins Monday, November 1 at Youth Services Desk

Book Club Zoom meeting is Monday, November 15 at 4:30 PM

Please register [HERE](#) to receive Zoom link

When an unexpected snowstorm causes trouble for the magical creatures of the forest, Zoey and Sassafras come to the rescue. But their first attempt to save trapped caterfly eggs results in a big mistake. Can they figure out a way to fix things before the baby caterflies hatch?

**Kids’ / Survived Book Club**

Join ROPL’s new historical fiction book club for grades 2-5 based on the I Survived book series. Registration is required to receive a free copy of the book and the Zoom meeting link. **Limit 20.**

![I Survived the California Wildfires](image)

**I Survived the California Wildfires, 2018 (#20)** by Lauren Tarshis

Book pickup begins Monday, October 25 at the Youth Services Desk

Book Club Zoom meeting is Wednesday, November 10 at 4:30 PM

Please register [HERE](#) to receive Zoom link

We’ll be starting this brand new book club with the newest book in the series, I Survived the California Wildfires, 2018 (#20)! The people of northern California were used to living with the threat of wildfires. But nothing could have prepared them for the devastating 2018 fire season, the deadliest in 100 years and the most destructive in history.

**Graphic Novel Book Club**

ROPL has a book club just for kids in grades 4-6 who love graphic novels! Lively book discussions and activities are all part of the fun. Registration is required to receive a free copy of the book and the Zoom meeting link. **Limit 20.**

![The Witches](image)

**The Witches: the Graphic Novel** by Roald Dahl; illustrated by Pénélope Bagieu

Book pickup begins Monday, October 4 at the Youth Services Desk

Book Club Zoom meeting is Monday, October 25 at 4:30 PM

Please register [HERE](#) to receive Zoom link

Even being transformed into a mouse doesn’t keep an 8-year-old orphan boy from turning the tables on a convention of child-hating witches in this graphic makeover of the classic novel from 1983.

The plot remains unchanged overall except that Bruno Jenkins, the unsuspecting lad the witches use as their test subject, is switched for an unnamed and more competent girl and the protagonist’s cigar-smoking, purple-haired Grandmamma has both her thumbs. But unlike the 1990 film, here our protagonist remains a mouse as he and his new mouse friend charge off at the end to serve just desserts to all the witches of the world.

**Kids’ Book Club**

ROPL has a book club just for kids in grades 4-6! Join us for a lively book discussion and activities centered on the featured book. Registration is required to receive a free copy of the book and the Zoom meeting link. **Limit 20.**

![Stand Up Yumi Chung](image)

**Stand Up Yumi Chung** by Jessica Kim

Book and craft pickup begins Monday, October 4 at the Youth Services Desk

Book Club Zoom meeting is Monday, November 15 at 4:30 PM

Please register [HERE](#) to receive Zoom link

On the outside, Yumi Chung suffers from #shygirlproblems, a perm-gone-wrong, and kids calling her “Yu-MEAT” because she smells like her family’s Korean barbecue restaurant. On the inside, Yumi is ready for her Netflix stand-up special. Her notebook is filled with mortifying memories that she’s reworked into comedy gold. All she needs is a stage and courage.
Friends of ROPL

The Friends of the Royal Oak Public Library are looking for a few good volunteers for the following positions:

**Donated book sorter:** Sort through donated books and media by category, determine what’s sellable, recycle outdated or damaged items

**Scanning donated books:** Use computer to determine internet salability

**Friends Shop stocker:** Stock shelves in Friends Shop, organize stock. Must be able to work alone

**Friends Shop:** Sales Selling used books, media in the shop. The shop is currently open 4 days per week; most volunteers are scheduled for 1 or 2 shifts per month

If you are interested in getting involved, please pick up a volunteer application from the Check Out Desk in the library or Click HERE to apply online.

Sunday Hours Return!

Sunday hours begin again on September 12. ROPL is open from 1:00 to 5:00 pm on Sundays, September through early June, excluding holiday weekends. Remember, parking is free in all city lots and garages on Sundays. Make the library a regular Sunday afternoon destination!

Michigan Activity Pass

Did you know that your library card can be your best travel companion? Discover hundreds of Michigan’s cultural destinations and natural attractions with your Michigan library card! You can “check out” FREE or discounted admission (or other exclusive offers) to hundreds of Michigan state forest campgrounds, parks, museums, trails, arts and cultural destinations, and more. Print out free or discounted one-day passes at home or the library. For more information, visit ropl.org or call the Adult Services desk at 248-246-3727.

Construction Updates

The south entrance of the library is still closed due to the construction of the Centennial Commons Park. Please park in the 11 Mile Parking Garage (the first two hours are free, no matter when you arrive) and use the north entrance of the library to come visit us.