

KNOW

OLPL Oak Lawn
Public Library
Newsletter

MARCH-MAY 2026 VOL. 40 NO. 1

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OLPL FAN FEST 2026

Saturday, May 9
10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Join us for an all-ages celebration of pop culture!

Featuring:

- Free comic books
- Local creators and vendors
- Crafts and activities
- All-day photobooth
- Cosplay competition
- Scavenger Hunt
- Video games
- Prizes & more



Sponsors:

- Galloping Ghost Arcade
- Thread & Ash
- La Rosa Escobedo
- Renewed Adornments



#OLPLFanFest

PROGRAM CALENDAR

To access the calendar scan the QR code below or go to:

www.olpl.org/calendar





LOCAL HISTORY



Founding Families of Oak Lawn Local History Exhibit

Opens Monday, March 23

Local History Room

Explore the new Local History exhibit, "Founding Families of Oak Lawn." This town was settled by Europeans who came during the great immigration wave in Chicago during the late 1800s. The earliest residents were farmers looking for affordable land near Chicago, where they could sell their crops and livestock. It was a time of rapid growth, great upheaval and change. Enjoy a glimpse of the families who made Oak Lawn their home in this Local History exhibit.

Founding Families of Oak Lawn Reception

Thursday, March 26; 7-9 p.m.

Second Floor Windows

Join us for a reception for "Founding Families of Oak Lawn," the new Local History exhibit. Local History Librarian Tom Javorcic will speak about the exhibit, refreshments will be served and patrons are welcome to view the exhibit. Seating is limited.

Founding Families Walking Tour

Tuesdays, April 7 & May 5; 1-2 p.m.

Local History Room

Join Local History Librarian Tom Javorcic for a monthly walking tour of the exhibit "Founding Families of Oak Lawn."

COMMUNITY DISPLAY CASE SUBMISSIONS ARE OPEN!



View policies and apply at:

www.olpl.org/display-cases

HEALTH & SENIOR PROGRAMS

Bingo Blossoms (R)

*Tuesdays, March 3, April 7 & May 5
10-11 a.m.; Encore Room*

Calling all Bingo lovers! This program is sponsored by Hog Wild at 4040 W. 111th St., Oak Lawn, IL 60453. Light refreshments will be served. Contact Samantha Prado, customer services associate, at sprado@olpl.org or 708-422-4990 ext. 508 with questions.



Northstar Digital Literacy Information Session

Thursday, March 5 & Friday, April 10

10 a.m.; Computer Center Classroom

Create a Northstar Digital Literacy Platform account and learn to explore their lessons. Northstar's self-guided, online modules can help learners assess their skills and learn how to perform tasks on computers. Funded by the AgeOptions Library CARES ARPA grant.

PROGRAMS WITH ADVOCATE HEALTH CARE

Strokes (R)

Thursday, March 5; 6:30 p.m.; Encore Room

<https://youtube.com/live/18uINBoANsA>

Speaker: Dr. Hamad Farhat.

A Guide to Hip and Knee Replacements for a Pain Free Future (R)

Tuesday, March 24; 6:30 p.m.; Encore Room

https://youtube.com/live/9r_8mpQmosE

Speaker: Jamil Kendall, MD.

Weight Management and Kidney Disease (R)

Tuesday, April 28; 2:30 p.m.; Encore Room

<https://youtube.com/live/dljVkhedxpK>

Speaker: Dr. Darshika Chhabra and Dr. Allen Mikhail.

Who's Got Game (R)

Tuesday, March 10: Eggcellent Art; 10-11 a.m.

Tuesday, March 17: Shamrock Designs; 10-11 a.m.

Tuesday, April 14: Karaoke Singalong; 10-11 a.m.

Tuesday, April 21: Butterfly Treasures; 10-11 a.m.

Tuesday, May 12: DIY Terracotta Pot Bee Bath; 10-11 a.m.

Tuesday, May 19: Byte-sized Bowling; 10-11:30 a.m.

Encore Room

Get ready for games and crafts at this fun senior social hour. Light refreshments will be served. Funds for this program were provided by AgeOptions. Contact Samantha Prado, customer services associate, at sprado@olpl.org or 708-422-4990 ext. 508 with questions.



Advocate Diabetes Support Group

Wednesdays, March 11, April 8 & May 13  **ADVOCATE HEALTH**
2:30-4:30 p.m.; Encore Room

Learn with Advocate in a space for individuals with diabetes to connect, share experiences and receive support in managing their condition. Meetings can provide emotional support, benefit overall well-being, improve A1C levels and bring valuable insights into diabetes management and comprehensive care. Please walk in.

The Craft Collective (R)

Thursday, March 12: 3D Canvas Art

Thursday, April 9: Ceramic Bunny Centerpiece

Thursday, May 14: Watercolor Flower Painting

1-3 p.m.; Encore Room



Alzheimer's & Dementia Support Group

Thursdays, March 12, April 9 & May 14

6:30-7:30 p.m.; Encore Room

Family members, friends and caregivers can share feelings and thoughts with people experiencing similar things.

Facilitated by Mary Murphy, RN, BSN, CDP of Hibernian Home Care. Drop-ins welcome.



Chat & Chew: Senior Game Hour (R)

Sundays, March 15, April 19 & May 17

10-11 a.m.; Encore Room

This senior program features games like Scrabble, Chess, virtual bowling and cards to stimulate memory, sharpen thinking and encourage social interaction. Engage your mind with friendly competition, laughter and connection.



Wits Workout (R)

Tuesdays, March 24, April 28 & May 26

10-11 a.m.; Encore Room

This program developed by the University of Illinois Extension for adults ages 60 and over, includes interactive puzzles and games. After the workout, there will be time to enjoy additional puzzles and socialize. Light refreshments will be provided. Funded in part by the AgeOptions Library CARES ARPA grant.



Turning 65: Your Medicare Enrollment Guide

Wednesday, March 25; 6-7 p.m.; Encore Room

Licensed local educator Anthony Perrino gives clear, easy-to-follow guidance, for anyone preparing to make Medicare decisions. Learn how and when to enroll in Medicare, key differences between Medicare Supplement and Medicare Advantage plans, what to expect from prescription coverage (Part D), and how employer insurance works after turning 65.

Yoga for Adults 60 and Over

Thursdays, March 26, April 23 & May 28

Wednesdays, April 15 & May 20

1 p.m.; Encore Room

Gail Morales of Blissful Light leads a fun and engaging beginner's yoga class designed for participants to sit on mats on the floor. Please bring your own mat, if possible. Registration is no longer required, but seating is limited. This program is funded by the AgeOptions Library CARES ARPA grant. Attendees participate at their own risk.





Downsize With Confidence: Navigating Today's Real Estate Market for Aging in Place (R)

Wednesday, April 8; 10-11:30 a.m.; Encore Room

Presented by Arlene Scott, realtor for VRS Village Realty, Inc and Kathryn Rachuy, mortgage broker for Crossover Financial Group.

PROGRAMS WITH ARDEN COURTS

Discovering Their Love Language: Learning the Dance of Communication in Dementia Care

Friday, April 10; 2-3:30 p.m.; Encore Room

Contrary to popular belief, knowing about dementia is not sufficient for effective care. Knowing the person is crucial to understanding the disease. LaVon Lenaway of Dragonfly Senior Navigation Services will dive into the value of seeing people diagnosed with dementia as individuals, just like us. This makes dementia care more enjoyable and teaches us what it might feel like to start losing parts of who we are. By learning we can better empathize with our loved one and find each day in caregiving more profound.

National Memory Screenings (R)

Friday, May 1; 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Encore Room

Arden Courts Memory Care is proud to offer the Alzheimer's Foundation of America's National Memory Screening, a series of questions and tasks gauging memory, language and thinking skills. Screenings are scheduled at 30-minute intervals and last just 5-10 minutes. Results are not a diagnosis, but someone scoring below the normal threshold may want to receive a full evaluation with a clinician. A person could be experiencing memory issues for a number of reasons. To schedule a free, confidential memory screening, please contact Meghan Moran at 708-422-4990 ext. 630.



The Not-so-secret Sauce of Navigating Tricky Behaviors in Dementia Care

Monday, May 4; 2-3:30 p.m.; Encore Room

If you understand dementia, navigating an individual's tricky or challenging behaviors is filtered through a different lens. This program will educate on some specific behaviors and discuss potential creative responses for more harmonious outcomes. This program also leans heavily on treating residents as adults and interacting with dignity and respect, despite their actions. Responses to tricky behaviors should be nothing less than honorable and full of integrity.

TechWise: Technology for Older Adults (R)

Wednesdays, April 15, 22 & 29 & May 6, 13 & 20

10:30 a.m.-noon; Computer Center Classroom

Pathlights presents basic tools to help adults ages 60 and over improve their computer skills in this free six-class series. Classes cover computer basics, email, technology troubleshooting and online security, social media and socialization tools, better aging through technology, and online library offerings. To register, call Zac Frazier at 708-422-4990 ext. 505. Seating is limited.



Chair Yoga

Wednesdays, April 15 & May 20; 11 a.m.; Encore Room

Gail Morales helps beginners strengthen, stretch, focus, tap into their breath and feel better with chair yoga. Performing yoga with a chair can provide support and protect against falls and injury. Patrons are encouraged to listen to their bodies and move accordingly. Seating is limited. Funded by the AgeOptions Library CARES ARPA grant. Attendees participate at their own risk.

AARP Smart Driver Course (R)

Wednesday, April 22 & Thursday, April 23

9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.; Meeting Room B

The nation's first and largest refresher course designed specifically for older drivers provides a review of driving skills and techniques, as well as strategies and tips to help you adjust to normal age-related changes that may affect your driving ability. All participants will receive AARP's revised 2022 edition of the Smart Driver Guidebook.

Attendance at both four-hour classes is required to receive a certificate of completion. The fee for the course is \$20 for AARP members and \$25 for non-members. Fees must be paid via cash or check payable to AARP given to the instructor at the start of the course. Please bring your driver's license and AARP card with you (if applicable).



Vaping: Real Harm, Real Consequences (R)

Wednesday, May 6; 6:30-7:30 p.m.; Encore Room

The Cook County Department of Public Health and the Respiratory Health Association present for parents on vaping. You'll learn about the contents of an e-cigarette, the negative effects of vaping, the ways big tobacco companies are successfully advertising to young people, how peers and culture influence the decision to vape, signs your child is vaping to look out for, how you can help, and more.



Documents You Don't Think You Need—Until You Do

Saturday, May 16; 10-11 a.m.; Encore Room

Estate planning is necessary for all of us, regardless of income and assets. What basic legal documents do you need? What types of government programs might help and how do you qualify? Attend this program by Kamilah English of Dutton Casey & Mesoloras, PC, to get the answers.

Emotional Intelligence (R)

Saturday, May 23; 10-11 a.m.; Encore Room

What is Emotional Intelligence, and how does one get it? Pastor Daniel Stidham of Oak Lawn Calvary Church invites you to learn how to differentiate between where you end and others begin. Emotional Intelligence involves learning to self-regulate, be aware of your own and others' emotions, and be proactive rather than reactive. A Q&A session will follow the presentation.



YOUTH SERVICES



Register at: www.olpl.org/calendar
10 days before the date of the program.



STORYTIMES

Baby Storytime (T)

Ages 6-24 months with an adult
*Tuesdays, March 3, 10, 17 & 31;
April 7, 14, 21 & 28; May 5 & 12
9:30-9:50 a.m.*



Toddler Storytime (T)

Ages 2-3 with an adult
*Wednesdays, March 4, 11 & 18;
April 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29; May 6 & 13
OR
Thursdays, March 5, 12 & 19;
April 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30; May 7 & 14
9:30-10 a.m.*



Preschool Storytime (T)

Ages 3-5
We recommend kids attend without adults to foster independence.
*Tuesdays, March 3, 10, 17 & 31;
April 7, 14, 21 & 28; May 5 & 12
10:15-10:45 a.m.*

Messy Art: Sleepy Sheep (T)

Ages 2-5 with an adult
Monday, March 2; 9:30-10 a.m.
Dress for a mess and explore your artistic side!

BINGO

Ages 5 and up
Try Bingo with some of our favorite characters!

Minecraft Bingo

Wednesday, March 4; 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Mario Bingo

Tuesday, March 31; 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Chess Club

Ages 6 and up
*Thursdays, March 5, April 2 & 23, & May 7
Wednesday, March 18
4:30-5:30 p.m.*
All skill levels welcome to practice or learn the game!



Let's Find Out: Ramadan (T)

For families
Saturday, March 7; 10-11 a.m.
Learn about the practices and meaning of this important month observed by over 300,000 people in our area each year. Information presented by representatives of GainPeace.



Movin' and Groovin' (T)

Ages 2-5 with an adult
*Mondays, March 9 & 30, April 13 & May 11,
Friday, May 1; 9:30-10 a.m.*
Dance, jump and shake your sillies out with songs and props!

Catch That Leprechaun! (T)

Ages 5-7
Tuesday, March 10; 4:30-5:15 p.m.
Ready to catch that sneaky leprechaun for St. Patrick's Day? We'll show you how to design your own leprechaun trap!

Tech Time: Create a 3D-printed Peep (T)

Ages 9 and up
Thursday, March 19; 4:30-5:30 p.m.
Learn to use the CAD program Tinkercad to design a decorative Peep to be printed with our 3D printer.

INTERACTIVE MOVIE KITS

Kits include props, snacks and fun family-friendly activities to keep everyone engaged with the movie. Activities designed for ages 4 and up. One kit per family, while supplies last.

"Minecraft" (2025)

Available starting Monday, March 23

"Sing" (2016)

Available starting Monday, April 27

Movie: "Cars"

(2006, G, 117 minutes)
Recommended for ages 5 and up
Tuesday, March 24; 2-4 p.m.



Hotshot race car Lightning McQueen makes an unexpected detour into forgotten town Radiator Springs, where he learns there's more to life than trophies and fame.

Pokémon Kids Club

Ages 7 and up
*Wednesday, March 25 & Tuesday, April 28
4:30-5:30 p.m.*
Meet other fans, trade, battle with your cards, and have fun!

Switch 2 Gaming (T)

Ages 8-10
*Thursday, March 26; 2-3 p.m.
Friday, May 15; 4:30-5:30 p.m.*
Try out multiplayer games on our new Switch 2!



Puzzle Race (T)

Ages 5-10
Friday, March 27; 4:30-5:15 p.m.
Race against other competitors to be the first team to complete a series of jigsaw puzzles! Teams may consist of 2-3 players. Come with a friend or as a solo player! Solo players will be teamed up with others on the day of the event.



We will distribute admission tickets at the Youth Services Desk 15 minutes before the start of the program. Doors close 10 minutes after the start of the program.

Sign up for Youth Services emails at: bit.ly/olpl-enevs



Dan Gogh's Magic and Art Show For Families



Monday, April 6; 2:30-3:15 p.m.

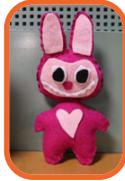
Artist-Magician Dan Gogh uses comedy, magic and art to unlock the mystery of creativity. Dan will be your guide to wacky colors, magical drawings and art tools that have a mind of their own. Prepare to be amazed, inspired and laugh all the way as you join us on this one-of-a-kind journey!

DIY Labubu Squishy (T)

Ages 11-14

Tuesday, April 7; 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Obsessed with Labubus? Learn how to cut, glue and sew your own Labubu Squishy!



Host a Hummingbird (T)

For families with children ages 5 and up

Wednesday, April 8; 6:30-7:15 p.m.

Do the ecosystem and yourself a favor and learn how to attract these fascinating pollinators! Each family will take home a hummingbird feeder, while supplies last.

Baby Romp (T)

Ages 6-24 months with an adult

Friday, April 10; 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Drop by with your baby or toddler for movement activities and free play with other young children and their grownups!

NERF Battle Royale (R)

Ages 11-14

Friday, April 17; 6-8 p.m.

Register at the Youth Services Desk 10 days before the program to play after-hours Capture the Flag with Nerf gear. A caregiver permission slip must be filled out at the time of registration.

Make a Book Hedgehog (T)

Ages 10-14

Tuesday, April 21; 4:30-5:15 p.m.

Fold pages of a recycled paperback book to make a book hedgehog!



The Fart-lympics (T)

Saturday, April 25

Ages 5-7: 10-11 a.m.

Ages 8-10: 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Put your fart noise making skills to the test by competing against other fart-tastic competitors. See if you have what it takes to be crowned flatulent royalty.

Reading Dragons & Friends Reading Program

Ages 5-14

For every four 20-minute sessions of reading, kids will get a family of mythical creatures, including four cards.

NOTE: The Reading Dragons are taking the summer off for our Summer Reading Program, but they will return in September! Claim the cards you've earned by **Thursday, April 30.**



Reading Dragons Card Tournament (T)

Ages 5-14

Thursday, April 30; 4:30-5:30 p.m.

All participants will get a special card set and the winner of the tournament will get a winning card set! Remember to bring your cards with your name or initials on them to play!



Moms Are "Thumb" Kind of Wonderful!

Sunday, May 3; 12:30-2 p.m.

Make an adorable thumbprint showpiece as a gift for your mom or any special someone in your life. While supplies last.

NEW: Puzzle Swap

Youth Services now hosts an ongoing puzzle swap. Bring in a puzzle in gently used condition, including all of its pieces, and exchange it for another.

Coming Monday, June 1: Summer Reading

Everyone remain calm! Summer Reading 2026: Plant a Seed, Read is almost ready to sprout! Harvest all the details in our next newsletter!



SENSORY-FRIENDLY YOUTH PROGRAMS

These programs have been designed to provide a welcoming, friendly environment for special sensory-sensitive children and those with integration challenges. **(R) Registration is required.** Please sign up in person at the Youth Services Desk, or by phone at 708-422-4990 ext. 400, starting 10 days before each sensory-friendly session.

Sensory Meetup (R)

For families with a sensory-sensitive child

Sundays, March 15, April 12 & May 17; 1-2 p.m.

Every session will offer a different combination of stories, songs and crafts, followed by playtimes.

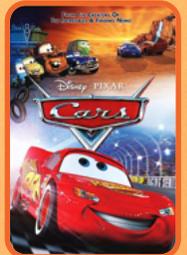
SF Movie: "Cars" (R)

(2006, G, 117 minutes)

Recommended for ages 5 and up

Tuesday, March 24; 10 a.m.-noon

Hotshot race car Lightning McQueen makes an unexpected detour into forgotten town Radiator Springs, where he learns there's more to life than trophies and fame.



SF Dan Gogh's Magic and Art Show (R)

Monday, April 6; 1-1:45 p.m.

Artist-Magician Dan Gogh uses comedy, magic and art to unlock the mystery of creativity. Dan will be your guide to wacky colors, magical drawings and art tools that have a mind of their own. Prepare to be amazed, inspired and laugh all the way as you join us on this one-of-a-kind journey!

MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES (R)

Need community service hours? Volunteer to help with the following programs if you enjoy spending time with young children and are good at working independently. Registration starts 10 days before the date of the program.

BINGO (R)

Ages 11-14

Minecraft Bingo (R)

Wednesday, March 4; 6:15-7:45 p.m.

Mario Bingo (R)

Thursday, March 31; 6:15-7:45 p.m.



Catch That Leprechaun! (R)

Ages 11-14

Tuesday, March 10; 4:15-5:30 p.m.

Group Volunteering: Youth Services Cleanup (R)

Ages 11-14

Tuesday, March 17; 3-4 p.m.

Monday, April 27; 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Help us keep Youth Services beautiful and earn community service time by cleaning up the department.

NERF Battle Royale (R)

High school

Friday, April 17; 5:45-8 p.m.

The Fart-lympics (R)

Ages 11-14

Saturday, April 25; 9:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Reading Dragons Card Tournament (R)

High school

Thursday, April 30; 4:15-5:45 p.m.

Moms Are "Thumb" Kind of Wonderful! (R)

Ages 11-14

Sunday, May 3; 12:15-2:15 p.m.

FRIDAY CLASSIC FLIX

"The Maltese Falcon"

(1941, NR, 101 minutes)

Friday, March 13; 3-5 p.m.

Private Detective Sam Spade takes on a case that involves three eccentric criminals, a gorgeous liar and a quest for a priceless statuette.



"The Thin Man"

(1934, NR, 90 minutes)

Friday, April 3; 3-5 p.m.

Former detective Nick Charles and his wealthy wife Nora investigate a murder case, mostly for fun.



"The Glass Key"

(1942, NR, 85 minutes)

Friday, May 1; 3-5 p.m.

A crooked politician finds himself accused of murder by a gangster he refused help from during a re-election campaign.



MOVIES

"One Battle After Another"

(2025, R, 161 minutes)

Thursday, May 21; 5:45 p.m.

In this critically-acclaimed movie starring Leonardo DiCaprio, a misfit group of ex-revolutionaries reunite to rescue one of their own's daughter. This film is rated R for mature themes, violence and sexual content that may not appeal to all viewers.



"Springsteen: Deliver Me From Nowhere"

(2025, PG-13, 120 minutes)

Friday, May 29; 3-5 p.m.

Jeremy Allen White stars as Bruce Springsteen, a musician on the cusp of global superstardom, as he struggles with the pressures of success and the ghosts of his past.



Traveling Britain by Rail

Monday, March 9; 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Celeste Brown, retired but not retiring, takes us on a three-week self-planned rail trek through England, Wales and Scotland.



The Yarnery Club

Tuesdays, March 10 & 24, April 14 & 28, May 5 & 26 2 p.m.

Bring your handicraft projects, crochet, knitting or sewing, and spend an hour enjoying conversation while you work.

The Latest News From NASA

Wednesday, March 18; 6:30-7:30 p.m.

NASA ambassador Mark Benson shares the latest news on the upcoming Artemis 2 Moon Launch, highlights new scientific work at NASA and lets you touch a moon rock! If you can't attend, email kdonley@olpl.org for details on our live launch party in April, date and time TBA.

Anime+

Wednesdays, March 18, April 15, May 20 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Meet local anime fans to chat, share recommendations and discover new and classic anime together. Open to ages 18 and up in the Library's welcoming space.



Understanding Taxes: The Basics

Wednesday, March 25; 6-7 p.m.

Learn about filing an income tax return, when to file, common tax forms (like W-2), determining filing status, deductions and credits, and preparing a return. We'll also discuss the importance of filing, tax penalties and helpful resources.

English Together (ESL)

Mondays, March 30-May 11; 10-11 a.m.

Let's learn English together at this free ESL class for beginning and advanced speakers, begin anytime.

Creative Writing Workshop (R)

Tuesdays, March 31, April 28 & May 19 7-8:30 p.m.

Refine your creative writing through exercises and actionable strategies with author Zachary Jeffries. Foster your strengths through prompts, sharing and discussion with a collective of peers. Share your work at our Open Mic and Poetry Slam.



ADULT SERVICES

 Register at: www.olpl.org/calendar



NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

Sunday, April, 19-Saturday, April 25

Get the Most out of Your Library

Learn About Your Library Raffle – With Prizes!

Pickup begins Wednesday, April 1

See how much you know about OLPL and enter our raffle with this quiz! Return completed quizzes to the Adult Services Desk by **Saturday, April 25, at 10:55 a.m.** Winners will be picked at **11 a.m.** Must score at least 90% correct to qualify. The Adult Services Desk might have some clues. Prizes will be displayed in early April.

Library App Workshop

Monday, April 20; 11 a.m.-noon

Tuesday, April 21; 7-8 p.m.

Access Library magazines, eBooks, eAudiobooks, music and TV shows on your phone with Libby and Hoopla.

Library Tour

Wednesday, April 22; 11 a.m.-noon

OR Friday, April 24; 4-5 p.m.

Take a personalized tour of OLPL, including our new website, Drive-up, museum passes, Local History exhibit, research databases, and additional items you can check out like craft supplies, tech and instruments.

Kanopy Short Film Fest

Thursday, April 23; 6:30-8 p.m.

Kanopy features 30,000 films, including great shorts! Let's watch and browse content, like recent Oscar winners and British TV. Learn how to add Kanopy to your smart device.

Hundreds Club National Library Week Celebration

Saturday, April 25; 11 a.m.

See page 14 for details.

Your Legal Toolkit to Protect Yourself and Others

Wednesday, April 1; 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Kerlin Walsh lawyers discuss the six legal documents all adults need: financial power of attorney, medical power of attorney, living will, last will and testament, revocable living trust, and legacy letter.

Interfaith Conversations

Wednesday, April 8; 6:30-7:30 p.m.

The Interfaith Muslim/Catholic Women's Dialogue Group has held 27 years of positive conversations about culture and religion. Members will take questions and discuss community building projects. Light refreshments will be provided.

Coyotes in Town

Thursday, April 9; 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Why do coyotes seem to be all over Oak Lawn these days? A Sagawau Environmental Learning Center naturalist discusses whether to feed them, risks to pets, breeding behavior and insights from the oldest coyote urban study program in Cook County.



Pope Leo XIV – His Life and Times

Friday, April 17; 4-5 p.m.

Library historian Larry Bergnach presents the life, times and significance of Pope Leo XIV, a fellow Southsider and Sox fan.

Seed Starting

Saturday, April 18; 11 a.m.-noon

A Master Gardener from the Illinois Extension Service will explain how to start seeds to have a successful garden.

Seed Exchange

Saturday, April 18; 12:15-1 p.m.

Share seeds from your garden or start one with seeds donated by your Oak Lawn neighbors and generous companies like Sow Right Seeds and Baker Creek Seeds. Also learn to locally source native plants and seed.



Seed Take and Make (R)

Pickup starting April 21; Adult Services Desk

Register for a packet of leftover seeds from our Seed Exchange, while supplies last.



Adult Teenagers – Legal Considerations

Wednesday, April 22; 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Lawyer Caroline Smith with Latimer LeVay Fyock discusses the legal paperwork parents should talk about with their adult child or teenager turning 18; teens also welcome.



Sell Smarter in 2026: Strategies That Attract Buyers and Boost Your Sales Price

Wednesday, April 29; 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Real estate expert Robert Medinger presents simple, high-impact strategies homeowners can use to attract motivated buyers, increase their home's appeal and secure a strong sale price.

DIY Compost

Saturday, May 2; 11 a.m.-noon

Celebrate National Compost Awareness Week with compost expert Sue Fitzgerald, and stop spending top dollar on garden center compost. Learn about DIY options that work for you.



Cute Lunches Every Day

Wednesday, May 6; 6:30-7:30 p.m.

The Obento Lady, Sara Fujimura, shows you how to prepare quick, healthy, and flavorful lunches in 10 minutes or less per night. Discover new foods while learning the cultural meaning behind bento, the Japanese tradition of lunch making.

Rebranding Your Resume

Wednesday, May 13; 6:30 p.m.

Re-entering the workforce or changing careers can be difficult, but it's not impossible! Discuss ways to rebrand your resume and job search materials to increase the success of your transition.



Craft Class: Nature Stationery (R)

Wednesday, May 20; 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Pound flowers and leaves with a hammer to make three cards and learn about Creativebug, so you can make more. Bring some flowers and foliage, plus a small hammer, if you have one.

Open Mic and Poetry Slam

Wednesday, May 27; 7-8 p.m.

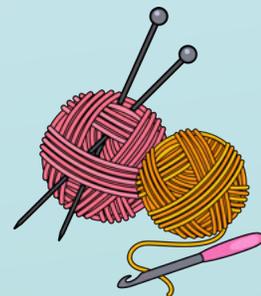
The Oak Lawn Writers' Group invites the community to perform original writing, poetry, presentation or music. Share your talent or enjoy the show!

ADULT CLUBS

Knit & Stitch

Mondays, March 2, 16 & 30; April 6 & 20; May 4 & 18; 6:30-8:30 p.m.

BYO needlework projects and enjoy conversation and crafting with Jennifer Rodriguez and friends. Crocheters, knitters, cross-stitchers and embroiderers welcome.



Saturday Afternoon Games

Saturdays, March 7, April 4 & May 2; drop in from noon-4 p.m.

Adults and teens are welcome to enjoy family-friendly tabletop games with the Moraine Valley Gamers.

Magic: The Gathering – Casual Commander Club

Mondays, March 9, April 13 & May 11 6-8:30 p.m.

Join OLCHS teacher Eric Kallenborn and friends to play Commander casually. Bring a competitive deck or use ours. All levels, adults and teens welcome for MTG fun and community.



Investment Group

Tuesdays, March 10, April 14 & May 12 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Financial Advisor Max Dunne of Oak Lawn's Edward Jones office leads the group's discussion of investment tips and tricks.

Oak Lawn Writers' Group

Saturdays, March 14 & 28, April 11 & 25, May 2 & 23 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Calling all writers! Come read your written works in any genre to get group feedback.



Southside FilmMakers

Wednesdays, March 18, April 15 & May 20 6-7:30 p.m.

Make films and learn what goes on behind the camera, all levels welcome!

The RPG Club

Saturdays, March 28, April 18 & May 16 noon-4 p.m.

Interested in tabletop role playing games? Come learn and play a new game every month with the RPG Club!



TEEN SERVICES

Programs take place in the Teen Room, open Mon.-Thurs. (3-9 p.m.), Fri. (3-6 p.m.), Sat. (1-5 p.m.) & Sun. (10 a.m.-3 p.m.; Oct.-May only).

 Register at: www.olpl.org/calendar

Presentation Party (R)

Thursday, March 12; 6-7 p.m.

Share a five-minute presentation on a topic you are deeply interested in and listen to others share their hyperfixation. Please send your presentation to nvidmar@olpl.org at least three days prior.

Book Bedazzling (R)

Thursday, March 26; 6-8 p.m.

Join us to add some flair to your books with a diamond art set. Books will be provided, but you are encouraged to bring your own.

Build & Break: Barge

Thursday, April 9; 6-7 p.m.

Build your barge or boat to hold the most weight, but beware sabotage from other teams!

Cosplay Basics (R)

Thursday, April 23; 6-7:30 p.m.

Join us to learn the basics of foam work for cosplay. Use these skills to make a foam armor bracer.

Cooking Club

Thursday, May 14; 6-7:30 p.m.

Start learning your way around the kitchen with some basic recipes and cooking tips.

Make a Marshmallow Cannon

Thursday, May 28; 6-8 p.m.

Learn to cut and glue PVC to make your own marshmallow cannon, then compete to test your accuracy.



MONTHLY

Futures Club (R)

First Monday of the month; 6-7 p.m.

New or upcoming high school graduate? Feel like you don't know what to do and your friends are leaving town? Join this social gathering for 17 to 20-year-olds to meet new people, pick up new hobbies and talk about what to do next.

Teen Craft Workshop

First Wednesday of the month; 4-5 p.m.

Pick a project from our well stocked makerspace!

Teen D&D Club

First & Third Thursdays of the month; 5-8 p.m.

Join us on a fantasy adventure in Dungeons & Dragons 5e. No experience or supplies needed. May the dice favor you.

Teen Advisory Board (R)

Second Tuesday of the month; 4-5 p.m.

Help shape the future of our teen space by meeting with the Teen Librarian and discuss programming and teen needs.

Teen Fandom Guess Who

Second Wednesday of the month; 4-5 p.m.

Can you guess your favorite characters first?

Teen Wargaming Club

Second & Fourth Thursdays of the month; 4-6 p.m.

Join us as we play a variety of wargames, like One Page Rules, 40k and Gaslands. There is a small selection of armies available to play. No experience or materials needed, but feel free to bring your own. We also have hobby supplies.

Teen Game Master Workshop

Third Wednesday of the month; 4-5 p.m.

Interested in running D&D or other TTRPGs? Join us to talk with other GMs and learn from their experiences.

WEEKLY

Teen Game Night

Mondays; 5-8 p.m.

Board Games, Video Games, Card Games, TTRPGs, all are welcome!



Teen Movie Night

Wednesdays; 6-8 p.m.

Join us each week to watch a feature film, with popcorn! Details on the Teen Discord.



Teen Self Care Slowdown

Fridays; 4-5 p.m.

Take a moment to slow down and take care of yourself with an array of stress reducing activities.



COMPUTER CENTER

All programs take place in the
Computer Center Classroom
on the Library's second floor.



TECH HELP

Mondays excluding March 23 & May 25
2-4 p.m.
Drop in for assistance with your computer, smartphone or other device at this weekly help session.



Northstar Digital Literacy Information Session

Thursday, March 5 & Friday, April 10
10 a.m.

Funded by the AgeOptions Library CARES ARPA grant. See page 4 for details.



Genealogy Databases

Ancestry: Sunday, March 8
MyHeritage: Sunday, April 12
Findmypast: Sunday, May 3
1-2 p.m.

Dive into the past at these tutorials for OLPL's free genealogy resources.



Create With Canva

Tuesday, March 10; 6-7 p.m.
Thursday, May 14; 2-3 p.m.

Create quick and professional-looking designs using Canva. Requires basic computer skills.

Smartphone Basics

Wednesday, March 11; 11 a.m.-noon
Thursday, April 23 & Wednesday, May 27; 2-3 p.m.

Bring in your device and learn how to call, text, download apps, and take and share pictures.

Internet Safety

Thursday, March 12; 11 a.m.-noon
Friday, April 10; 1-2 p.m.
Tuesday, May 12; 6-7 p.m.

Identify common scams and learn best practices for staying safe online.



Cricut Coaster Craft

Thursdays, March 12, April 16 & May 14; 6-7 p.m.

Decorate a coaster with infusible ink designs created using Cricut.

Business & Job Databases

Mondays, March 16, April 20 & May 11; 6-7 p.m.
Explore OLPL's free business and job databases.

Tinkercad Basics

Wednesday, April 1 & Thursday, April 30
11 a.m.-noon

Try out Tinkercad, a free 3D modeling web program used to create or find 3D print designs. Requires basic computer skills.



MICROSOFT PROGRAMS

Word Basics

Wednesday, March 18; 11 a.m.-noon

Tuesday, April 7; 2-3 p.m.

Thursday, May 21; 6-7 p.m.

Learn to create, save, open, print and make changes to documents in Microsoft Word.



Word Advanced

Thursday, March 19; 2-3 p.m.

Wednesday, April 8; 11 a.m.-noon

Friday, May 22; 1-2 p.m.

Explore paragraph spacing and layout settings in Microsoft Word, like columns and bulleted lists.

Excel Basics

Wednesday, March 25; 11 a.m.-noon

Thursday, April 16; 2-3 p.m.

Thursday, May 28; 11 a.m.-noon

Learn how to create formulas and enter data into spreadsheets with Microsoft Excel.



Excel Advanced

Thursday, March 26; 11 a.m.-noon

Fridays, April 17 & May 29; 1-2 p.m.

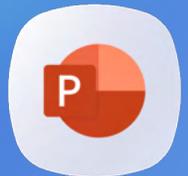
Learn how to format a spreadsheet and practice using formulas and equations. Requires basic computer skills.

PowerPoint Basics

Tuesday, March 31; 2-3 p.m.

Tuesday, May 5; 11 a.m.-noon

Make slides, use templates, insert images into your slideshow presentation and more.



QR Codes

Thursday, April 2; 2-3 p.m.

Friday, May 1; 1-2 p.m.

Learn what QR codes are used for and how to scan them.

Artificial Intelligence

Thursday, April 9; 11 a.m.-noon

Tuesday, May 19; 6-7 p.m.

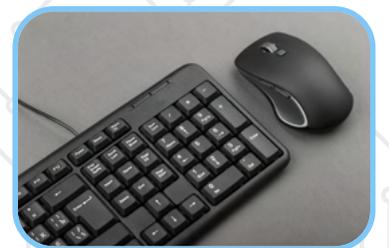
Get introduced to AI, its controversies and how it can be used responsibly to make your life easier.

Mouse and Keyboard

Tuesday, April 21

11 a.m.-noon

Practice handling a mouse and typing on a keyboard in this basic introduction to computers.



BOOK CLUBS

WITH THE OAK LAWN PUBLIC LIBRARY

Join us for in-person book discussions

EXPLORING THE OUTER LIMITS (SCI-FI SHORT STORIES)

With Roger Burns and Tom Javorcic
7 p.m.; Book Nook

"Tower of Babylon"

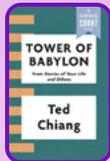
by Ted Chiang
Wednesday, March 4

"Bring Your Own Spoon"

by Saad Z. Hossain
Wednesday, April 1

"Dance on a Forgotten Shore"

by Alan Dean Foster and Sally McBride
Wednesday, May 6



20'S/30'S AT HEART

With Alyssa Sparacio
7:30 p.m.; Cork & Bean,
4931 W. 95th St.

"The One"

by John Marrs
Thursday, March 12

"By Any Other Name"

by Jodi Picoult
Thursday, April 9

"More or Less Maddy"

by Lisa Genova
Thursday, May 14



REFRESHING READS

With Emily Bettcher
7:30 p.m.; Avenue Wine Bar,
10632 S. Cicero Ave.

"Let's Call Her Barbie"

by Renee Rosen
Tuesday, March 24

"The Glass Castle"

by Jeannette Walls
Tuesday, April 28

"Artemis"

by Andy Weir
Tuesday, May 26



SAGE STORIES CULTURE CLUB

With Meghan Moran
10-11 a.m.; Encore Room & Zoom,
Find Zoom links on the online event calendar.

"Golden Years: How Americans Invented and Reinvented Old Age"

by James Chappel
Thursday, March 26

"Mr. Flood's Last Resort"

by Jess Kidd
Thursday, April 16

"Old in Art School: A Memoir of Starting Over"

by Nell Painter
Thursday, May 21



BOOK NERDS BOOK BOX

The first 20 Oak Lawn cardholders who register by **Thursday, March 19** get a personalized book box with two to three library books along with some other goodies at the beginning of April.

THE HUNDREDS CLUB

Teens and adults, join our Library club that celebrates reading year-round! Keep track of your books on the free Beanstack app. To sign up, stop by the Adult Services Desk, visit olpl.beanstack.org or call 708-422-4990.

HUNDREDS CLUB NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK CELEBRATION

Saturday, April 25; 11 a.m.

The theme for National Library Week is "Find Your Joy" by reading...and eating cheesecake! Bring a favorite book to recommend, and we'll have our usual trivia and also pick the winners of the National Library Week raffle.



FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

FREE MOVIES AND CONCERTS
SPONSORED BY THE FRIENDS

BEST FRIENDS FOREVER!

Did you know that Friends of the Oak Lawn Library is one of the most successful Friends organizations in the Southwest Suburbs? Our amazing volunteers operate the Friends Bookstore, raising funds that support many of the cultural and educational programs offered by the Library. Friends membership has picked up steam after a pandemic dip and we've currently got over 300 Friends! The 2026 membership drive is now underway and we invite you to join or renew now! It's a great way to show your support for the Oak Lawn Public Library. The cost to become a Friend is only \$5 for individuals and \$8 for families. Pick up a Friends membership form at the Library or sign up digitally on the new Friends site: ollfriends.org

Use the QR code to sign up and pay online or pick up and return a Friends application at the Library.



FRIENDS SHORT STORY DISCUSSION GROUP

1 p.m.; Mary Nelson Room

"The Software Wars"

by Paul De Palma

Wednesday, March 11

"The Bag"

by Saki from "Reginald in Russia" pub. 1910

Wednesday, April 8

"The Sex That Doesn't Shop"

by Saki from "Reginald in Russia" pub. 1910

Wednesday, May 13

FRIENDS BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

1 p.m.; Meeting Room C

"The Great Divide"

by Cristina Henríquez

Wednesday, March 25

"The Women"

by Kristin Hannah

Wednesday, April 22

"The Butterfly's Daughter"

by Mary Alice Monroe

Wednesday, May 27

MYSTERIES IN THE MORNING BOOK GROUP

9:30 a.m.; Book Nook

"With A Vengeance"

by Riley Sager

Friday, March 27

"Nightshade"

by Michael Connelly

Friday, April 17

"Miss Pinkerton"

by Mary Roberts Rinehart

Friday, May 15

FREE CONCERTS

These free concerts sponsored by the Friends of the Library welcome all to enjoy music in a friendly atmosphere.

Carl Anthony & the Eclectic, Electric Band

Sunday, March 15; 1-2 p.m.

Local favorite Carl brings his fun mix of rock, crooners, soul, and R&B in a set that will be enjoyable for patrons of any age, as he plays instruments from the guitar to the harmonica... with maybe a wig change and some impressions in between!



Jazz Goes to the Movies

Sunday, April 19; 1-2 p.m.

Pianist Chris White plays the Library's Steinway piano, along with his trio, to bring us favorite songs from the movies.



America 250

Sunday, May 3; 1-2 p.m.

Big Sky Ensemble performs acoustic music drawing from folk, Americana, blues and bluegrass traditions; featuring upright bass, mandolin, guitar and dobro.



FREE MOVIES

The Friends welcome adults and seniors to their monthly film series.

"Downton Abbey: The Grand Finale"

(2025, PG, 123 minutes)

Tuesday, March 24; 2-4 p.m.

In the summer of 1930, the Crawleys grapple with the threat of social disgrace when Mary finds herself at the center of a public scandal and the family faces financial trouble.

"Wicked for Good"

(2025, PG-13, 138 minutes)

Tuesday, April 28; 2-5 p.m.

Elphaba, Wicked Witch of the West, and her relationship with Glinda, the Good Witch of the North.

"Hamnet"

(2025, PG-13, 125 minutes)

Tuesday, May 26; 2-4:30 p.m.

Agnes Shakespeare, the wife of the world's most famous writer, struggles to come to terms with the loss of her only son, Hamnet.

SPRING CLEANING?

Drop off gently-used books, magazines, DVDs, CDs and other media at the Friends Bookstore Donation Station. Each year, the Friends Bookstore raises \$18,000+ to fund Library materials, programs and special projects.

Board of Trustees

Kim Brightmore
Heather McCarthy
Carrie O'Keefe
Joe Skibinski
Kate McDermott
Karrie Mallo
Raymond Schwarzkopf

The Board meets Tuesdays, March 17, April 21 and May 19 at 6:45 p.m. Board meetings will be held in the lower-level meeting rooms of the Library. The public is invited to attend.

Library Hours

Monday-Thursday: 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

Friday: 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Saturday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Sunday: 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

**(Closed on Sundays
from June-September)**

Library Closings

Friday, March 20
Staff In-service Day

Sunday, April 5
Easter

Sunday, May 24
Start of Sunday Closures

Monday, May 25
Memorial Day

Director: Carol L. Williams

Designer: Chelle Pala

Editor: Alexander Ewell

Photography

The Oak Lawn Public Library reserves the right for staff to photograph and videotape during programs to promote activities, collections and services.

The Americans with Disabilities Act

The Oak Lawn Public Library is subject to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you plan to attend a program and need special accommodations, call 708-422-4990 during regular business hours at least seven days prior to the event.

Let's Get Social



Facebook:
@OakLawnPublicLibrary



Instagram:
@oaklawn_library



YouTube:
bit.ly/olpl-youtube



TikTok:
@OakLawnPublicLibrary



MeetUp:
@Oak-Lawn-Public-Library-Meetup



e-Newsletter:
bit.ly/olpl-ews



Oak Lawn Public Library

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www.olpl.org

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EARLY VOTING

OLPL will host early voting for the **Tuesday, March 17, 2026** Gubernatorial Primary Election from **Monday, March 2** through **Monday, March 16** in Meeting Room C.

For more information about early voting in Suburban Cook County, visit:
www.cookcountyclerk.il.gov/elections/ways-to-vote/early-voting

MONDAYS-FRIDAYS

March 2-6
9 a.m.-5 p.m.

March 9-13
9 a.m.-7 p.m.

March 16
9 a.m.-7 p.m.

SATURDAYS

March 7
9 a.m.-5 p.m.

March 14
9 a.m.-5 p.m.

SUNDAYS

March 8
10 a.m.-4 p.m.

March 15
10 a.m.-4 p.m.

