WINTER FUN!
NEA Big Read
Story Times
Programs for Children, Teens, & Adults
Book Discussions
Computer Classes
For Little Ones

The Play and Learn Station is a special place for children from birth to age 5 and their parents, grandparents, and caregivers. Located on the Main Library second floor it is filled with pre-literacy activities and "stations" for children to play and learn. No registration is required. Programs are offered in partnership with Family Connections.

Play and Learn Station
A free preschool literacy program offering interactive opportunities for parents or caregivers to explore with their children, ages birth to 5 years.
10 am-12 pm Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays
6-8:00 pm Tuesdays

Play and Learn Babies
A special room filled with literacy-based activities just for babies from birth to 12 months and their parents or caregivers.
10 am-12 pm Thursdays

Play and Learn Station for Caregivers
A preschool literacy program offering interactive opportunities for non-parent caregivers to explore with their children, ages birth to 5 years.
10 am-12 pm Wednesdays

*A one-time registration is required; please call Family Connections at 216-921-2023.

Library Closings
December 24 and 25 – Christmas Eve and Christmas Day
December 31 - Libraries close at 5:30 pm
January 1 - New Year’s Day
January 21 - Martin Luther King Day

If you wish to make suggestions for programs or services, please contact us online at https://shakerlibrary.org/about-us/contact-us/

Where to find Programs

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Raising a Reader

Talking with young children helps them learn spoken language and develops skills that prepare them to read when they are older. Talk to your child every day, about everything you see or do! Even before they can respond, they are always listening and learning.


Drop-In Story Times

Sharing the joy of reading with a child is one of the most important things a parent can do. Your library provides access to books, art activities, and children’s rooms where they have opportunities to role play, build, and discover—all of the things that foster a child’s development. Visit often.

No registration is required for Story Time programs; groups of six or more should call ahead to check for space availability.

Fall Session: Through December 13
Winter Session: January 7-March 28

Nestlings
It is never too soon to start sharing books with babies! Enjoy songs and rhymes, books and bounces in this class for babies birth to 15 months with a grown-up.
10 am Mondays at Main Library
10 am Tuesdays at Woods Branch

Fledglings
Experience the wonder of words with your child through stories and songs, movement, puppets and fun in this story time for children 15-24 months with a grown-up.
11 am Mondays at Main Library
11 am Tuesdays at Woods Branch

Terrific Twos
Stories, songs, and movement for 2 year olds with a grown-up.
10 am Tuesdays at Main Library
10 am Thursdays at Woods Branch

Stories for 3, 4, and 5 Year Olds
Join us for stories, rhymes, songs, and fun!
11 am Tuesdays at Main Library
1:30 pm Thursdays at Woods Branch

Family Story Time
Stories, songs, rhymes, and fun for children from birth to 5 years with a grown-up.
7 pm Mondays at Woods Branch
January 9, February 13
4-5 pm Wednesday
Come and build together.
Lego Free Play

2-3 pm Wednesday, January 2
Shuffle, Floss, or Dab.
winter break! Show us your best Electro
Get up and get moving at the library this
January 23, February 27
4-5 pm Wednesday, December 19,
by phone two weeks before each program.

with the Wii! Register in person, online or
3:30-5 pm Monday, February 18
No registration required.

Fun and Games at
Main Library K-6
Wii Wednesday
Whether racing friends in Mario Kart or
dancing until you drop, you’ll have a blast
with the Wii! Register in person, online or by
phone one week before each program.
4-5 pm Wednesday, December 19,
January 23, February 27

Fortnite Dance Party
Get up and get moving at the library this
winter break! Show us your best Electro
Shuffle, Floss, or Dab.
2-3 pm Wednesday, January 2

Lego Free Play
Come and build together.
4-5 pm Wednesday,
January 9, February 13

Tech Tweens – For
Grades 4-6

Make a Comic Strip at Main Library
Design your own comic strip using easy-
to-learn storyboard software. Drag and
drop backgrounds and characters to make
your stories come to life. Participants will
need an email account if they wish to
continue their project at home.
4-5:30 pm Wednesday, December 12
Register in person, online, or by phone beginning November 26

Hour of Code™ Minecraft at Main Library
Hour of Code™ events teach kids the
very basics of coding, using worlds and
characters they know and love. Come learn
how to use coding blocks with challenges
set in the best block-based world. For
grades 4-6.
4:15-5:15 pm Wednesday, January 16
Register in person, online, or by phone beginning January 2.

Design a Website at Main Library
Learn the magic of making a permanent
presence on the web. We’ll work together
to learn how to design a website using
an easy tool. We’ll also talk about
the importance of privacy and digital
citizenship in the internet age. Participants
will need an email account if they wish to
continue their project at home. For grades
4-6.
4-5:30 pm Wednesday, January 30
Register in person, online, or by phone beginning January 16.

Cooking Club for
Ages 12 -14 at Bertram
Woods Branch
Gingerbread Houses at Woods Branch
3-3:45 pm Monday, December 10
Expand your food decorating skills by
using frosting and a variety of candy
to create your own gingerbread house out of
graham crackers.
Register in person, online, or by phone beginning
November 26.

Tacos at Woods Branch
3-3:45 pm Monday, January 14
Spike up your winter by learning how to
make tacos! Meat and vegetarian options
will be available.
Register in person, online, or by phone beginning
December 31.

Strawberry Crêpes at Woods Branch
3-3:45 pm Monday, February 11:
Learn to make these thin, delicious French
pancakes and fill them with homemade
strawberry filling.
Register in person, online, or by phone beginning
January 28.

For Teens in Grades
7-12
Teen Study Workshop: Homework Hour at
Main Library
Essays, projects, and assignments? Finish
your work with the support of library staff
and materials. And, of course, there will be
study snacks, too!
**Program will not be offered on days
Shaker Library or Shaker Schools are
closed.
4:30-5:30 pm Mondays
No registration required.

Wii Thursday for Teens! at Main Library
Bring your skills (and your friends) to Just
Dance, play sports, or battle with the Mario
Bros. on our Wii. Snacks for players.
3:30-4:30 pm Thursday, December 6

Winter’s Coming! at Main Library
We’re decorating snowman cookies to eat
and snowflake crafts to brighten the Teen
Center for the wintry season ahead.
3:30-4:30 pm Wednesday, December 12
After School Art at Woods Branch
Come and create with a variety of media and supplies.
3-4 pm Thursdays, January 10-February 14

Wii Thursday for Teens! at Main Library
Bring your skills (and your friends) to Just Dance, play sports, or battle with the Mario Bros. on our Wii. Snacks for players.
3:30-4:30 pm Thursday, January 10

It’s Officially National Nothing Day! for Teens at Main Library
People have been celebrating National Nothing Day on January 16th since 1973! Have fun and do something with us! Snacks provided.
3:30-4:30 pm Wednesday, January 16

Black History Month—Teen Question of the Day! at Main Library
Answer the Black History Month Teen Question of the Day! Right or wrong, you earn a snack!
3:30-5:30 pm Mondays-Thursdays during February

Wii Thursday for Teens! at Main Library
Bring your skills (and your friends) to Just Dance, play sports, or battle with the Mario Bros. on our Wii. Snacks for players.
3:30-4:30 pm Thursday, February 7

For Adults

Shaker Library joins the Center for Arts-Inspired learning, America SCORES Cleveland, Cleveland Cinemas, Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland Public Library, Cuyahoga County Public Library, Episcopal Diocese of Ohio, Euclid Public Library, Facing History and Ourselves, Heights Libraries, Karamu House, Lake Erie Ink, Lakewood Library, Literary Cleveland, Music and Art at Trinity Cathedral, Rocky River Public Library, Trinity Cathedral, United Black Fund of Greater Cleveland, and Westlake Porter Public Library in the NEA Big Read.

An initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts, the NEA Big Read broadens our understanding of our world, our communities, and ourselves through the joy of sharing a good book. This year’s Big Read is Citizen: An American Lyric by Claudia Rankine. The book lays bare moments of racism that often surface in everyday encounters. It combines poetry with commentary, visual art, quotations from artists and critics, slogans, and scripts for films. It has been called “an anatomy of American racism in the new millennium.”

Read the book, discuss it with others and join in programming selected to complement the book.

Book Discussion of Citizen, an American Lyric by Claudia Rankine at Woods Branch
2-3 pm Saturday, February 2
Selected as the NEA Big Read 2019, Citizen: An American Lyric won the 2014 National Book Critics Circle award for poetry. Jamaican-born author Claudia Rankine exposes modern American racism with poetry, commentary and visual art. Adrienne Gosselin, Associate Professor of English at Cleveland State University specializing in African-American Literature and Culture and Black Women’s Studies, will lead the discussion. Copies of the book will be available at the Bertram Woods Circulation desk one month before the discussion. Advance registration is recommended.

Hoodie! Between Black & White at Main Library
2-4 pm Saturday, February 9
2-4 pm Sunday, February 10
Join us for a multi-media exploration of themes from Citizen: An American Lyric by Claudia Rankine. Local community theater group Rising Phoenix will explore themes of race, racism, and overcoming with poetry, drama, music, video and the visual arts. A discussion with the actors will follow the performance. For teens and adults. No registration is required.

Represent: A Brief History of Self-Representation by African-American Artists at Main Library
2-3:30 pm Sunday, December 2
Ages at Main Library
Ian Hoy and the Doan Brook Trio for All Ages at Main Library

A painting from artist Evaristo Munguia is recommended.

Microaggressions: A Community Conversation with SGORR at Main Library
7-8:30 pm Thursday, February 21
SGORR (Student Group on Race Relations) invites adults and teens to a respectful discussion about microaggressions. What does the word mean? Do I do this? What is the impact on others? What can we do differently to create a healthier, more inclusive community? Advance registration is recommended.

Programs, Poetry, and Panel Discussions

Ian Hoy and the Doan Brook Trio for All Ages at Main Library
2-3:30 pm Sunday, December 2
The Doan Brook Trio is a collaboration of colleagues deeply rooted in the Cleveland music scene. As immigration has taken center stage in politics, founding member Ian Hoy delves into the mystery of his own family immigration story. A family letter to France from New York on the inauguration of the Statue of Liberty is the inspiration for this performance. Classical, Romantic, and Modern French works will prevail, as well as something unexpected. Family history is full of surprises.

Immigration: A Community Discussion at Main Library
7-8:30 pm Thursday, December 6
Immigration has been a frequently discussed topic in Shaker Heights and throughout the U.S., specifically during the recent Sanctuary City debate in Shaker. Join in an informal panel discussion where audience members and panelists are given ample opportunity to share insight, experiences, and opinions about how immigration affects our community. Panelists will be uniquely qualified to give insight from various perspectives on the topic. Light refreshments will be served and advance registration is recommended.

Poetry in the Woods at Woods Branch
7-8:30 pm Wednesday, December 12
Poets Dan Rouke and Joe Toner will warm your evening with their regional poetry performed with their usual flair.

No reservations are required.

Teen Center for Grades 7 - 12
Located on the Main Library Second floor
Hours
3:30 pm - 6 pm Monday - Thursday
Grant Writing Level 1 at Main Library 7-8:30 pm Wednesday, January 9
Learn grant writing basics from an experienced and successful grant writer. Sheela Das is a multi-million dollar grant writer with award experiences in Washington, DC, Chicago, Detroit and Cleveland. While the arts are her focus, her background in private and public grants, program design and evaluation spans a variety of fields. Advance registration is required

Grant Writing Level 2 at Main Library 7-8:30 pm Wednesday, January 23
Learn how to improve your program design and achieve better grant funding results with a seasoned professional Sheela Das. Advance registration is required

Mystery Book Discussion: Wolf Winter by Cecilia Ekback 7:30-8:30 pm Tuesday, December 11
In the 1700s Maija and her family move to Swedish Lapland in the shadow of a mountain with a haunting history. After her daughter finds a mutilated body on the mountain Maija suspects something much more menacing than a wolf attack.

Book Buzz: The Thing About Jellyfish, by Ali Benjamin 10-11:30 pm Tuesday, January 8
A 12-year-old girl is convinced that her best friend died from a rare jellyfish sting and undertakes a heartfelt journey to prove her theory.

Mystery Book Discussion: Man on the Washing Machine by Susan Cox 7:30-8:30 pm Tuesday, January 8
To escape a high-profile family tragedy, a party girl and society photographer moves to San Francisco and sets up a soap specialty shop. Before long she witnesses a man fall from a third floor window, and she’s knocked out, tied up, and imprisoned. She needs to figure out who the killer is before her new life is disclosed as a fraud.

Fourth Tuesday Book Discussion: The Association of Small Bombs by Karan Mahajan 2-3 pm Tuesday, January 22
When a small bomb explodes in a crowded Delhi marketplace, the lives of both victims and perpetrators are irrevocably changed.

Cook the Book Discussions at Woods Branch
Hungry for a fun gathering? Enjoy socializing (and dining) with others and get a sense about the author, his/her food philosophy and gain insight into a new cuisine.

Fifth Tuesday Book Discussion: The Summer Before the War by Helen Simonson 2-3 pm Tuesday, February 26
The bestselling author returns with a breathtaking novel of love and life in the English town of Rye in the summer of 1914 as World War I breaks out in France and Belgium.

Fourth Tuesday Book Discussion: The Invisible Man, by Ralph Ellison 10-11:30 am Tuesday, February 12
Invisible Man is a milestone in American literature that established Ralph Ellison as one of the key writers of the century and has continued to engage readers since its appearance in 1952.

Mystery Book Discussion: A Rising Man by Abir Mukherjee 7:30-8:30 pm Tuesday, February 12
After World War I, Captain Sam Wyndham takes a post with the local police in Calcutta. While investigating the murder of a British official, he and his colleagues find themselves immersed in the turmoil brewing in the colonial city.

Fourth Tuesday Book Discussion: The Summer Before the War by Helen Simonson 2-3 pm Tuesday, February 26
The bestselling author returns with a breathtaking novel of love and life in the English town of Rye in the summer of 1914 as World War I breaks out in France and Belgium.

Book Buzz: The Invisible Man, by Ralph Ellison 10-11:30 am Tuesday, January 18
Prominent American writer Ralph Ellison’s novel explores the identity crisis and political and social upheavals of a young African American and his experiences with racial prejudice in the 1940s.

Mystery Book Discussion: A Rising Man by Abir Mukherjee 7:30-8:30 pm Tuesday, February 12
After World War I, Captain Sam Wyndham takes a post with the local police in Calcutta. While investigating the murder of a British official, he and his colleagues find themselves immersed in the turmoil brewing in the colonial city.

Cook the Book Discussions at Woods Branch
Hungry for a fun gathering? Enjoy socializing (and dining) with others and get a sense about the author, his/her food philosophy and gain insight into a new cuisine.

Fifth Tuesday Book Discussion: The Summer Before the War by Helen Simonson 2-3 pm Tuesday, February 26
The bestselling author returns with a breathtaking novel of love and life in the English town of Rye in the summer of 1914 as World War I breaks out in France and Belgium.
Chess Club at Main Library
6-8 pm, Second and Fourth Mondays, December 10, January 14 and 28, February 11 and 25
Mike Reeves, long-time instructor with Progress with Chess and the Shaker Heights High School Chess Club, moderates a chess club for both teens and adults of all ability levels. The library provides the chess sets and refreshments.

Game Night for Adults at Main Library
6-8:30 pm, Tuesdays, December 4, January 8, and February 5
If the perils of adulthood have you down, our Game Club for Adults is for you. While we can’t make things like student loans and rent go away, we can help you unwind with some gaming fun. Play classic tabletop games like Uno and Monopoly or a modern game like Settlers of Catan. Our PS4 will also be up and running with games like Rocket League and Tower Fall Ascension. Refreshments will be available.

English as a Second Language at Main Library
7-8:30 pm Tuesdays (except January 1)
Carolyn Steiner leads a free English for Speakers of other Languages (ESL) class for adults who wish to learn to speak and read English. All are welcome and may join any Tuesday evening.

Knit Morning at Main Library
10 am-Noon First Wednesdays of each month December 5, January 2, and February 6
Bring a project and get or give help at this creative morning moderated by experienced knitter Elfriede Heaney. All skill levels are welcome.

Knit Night at Bertram Woods
7-8:45 pm Third Wednesdays of each month December 19, January 16, and February 20
Fern Braverman leads a lively group of knitters and crocheters who meet to get and give help. All ability levels are welcome.

Coffee and Conversation at Main Library
10:30-11:30 am on the First and Third Thursdays, December 6 and 20, January 3 and 17, February 7 and 21
Join friends and library staff to discuss topics of mutual interest. Each session includes a presentation on a topic suggested by a participant with time for conversation—and coffee and sweets.

Genealogy at the Library at Main Library
9:30 am-1:30 pm on the Fourth Saturdays, January 26 and February 23
The African American Genealogical Society presents topics of interest to both beginning and seasoned genealogists. A short business meeting, open to all, is followed by a presentation, small group meetings on specific topics, and genealogy troubleshooting. All are welcome to learn from expert genealogists. Please note: There is no meeting in December.

Welcome to the Internet I
10-11:30 am Thursday, December 6
Learn the basics of the Internet, how to use a browser, search the Web, download a file, and the meaning of all of those acronyms and buzzwords you keep seeing. This class builds on ideas covered in Computers for Beginners.

Facebook
7-8:30 pm Tuesday, December 11
Learn how to keep in touch with friends, family, and coworkers on Facebook by making and editing a profile. The technology trainer will help you sign up for a Facebook account and show you how to use it. Plus, learn how to keep your private details private in the Age of the Internet.

Word 2016 I
10-11:30 am Thursday, December 19
Learn how to use Google’s powerful search engine to find information, images, videos, and news as well as ways to evaluate the trustworthiness of your search results. Discover alternative search engines and learn why you might want to use them. This class builds on ideas covered in Computers for Beginners I and II and the Welcome to the Internet I classes.

Welcome to the Internet II
10-11:30 am Thursday, December 20
Learn how to use Google’s powerful search engine to find information, images, videos, and news as well as ways to evaluate the trustworthiness of your search results. Discover alternative search engines and learn why you might want to use them. This class builds on ideas covered in Computers for Beginners I and II and the Welcome to the Internet I classes.

Excel 2016 III
10-11:30 am Saturday, December 1
Find trends in your data or organize it in useful ways! Learn to create Pivot Tables to display data in different ways. We will review Pivot Charts and conditional formatting, which offer dynamic ways to present your information graphically. Concepts covered in the Excel 2016 I and II classes are required for this class.

Password Management
10-11:30 am Thursday, January 3
Forgot your password? Let a secure LastPass account remember it for you. The tech trainer will help you set up a LastPass account and teach you how to store login information and use LastPass’s browser extension and smartphone app to log into your online accounts. An email address and proficiency with a keyboard, mouse, and web browser are required for this class.

Word 2016 II
10-11:30 am Saturday, January 12
Learn to create mass mailings with Mail Merge, track changes from multiple users in a single document, and insert footnotes, citations, captions, indexes, and tables of contents. Concepts covered in the Word 2016 I and II classes are required for this class.

Computers for Beginners I
7-8:30 pm Tuesday, January 15
New to computers? This is a great place to begin. Learn the basics of the Windows operating system and how to use a keyboard and mouse. There are no prerequisites for this class.

All About Google
10-11:30 am Thursday, January 17
Google offers much more than Gmail and web searches. Learn about Google’s free Drive cloud storage, Calendar, Contacts, and Street View. Proficiency with a keyboard and mouse and a Google account are required for this class.

Photo Restoration
10 am-Noon Saturday, January 26
Learn to touch up old photos, remove scratches and creases, fix faded colors, remove red eye, rotate, crop photos and apply photo effects on a selection of digital photos using the free, open-source GIMP software. Proficiency with a keyboard and mouse are required for this class.

Computers for Beginners II
7-8:30 pm Tuesday, January 29
This class covers how to use the Taskbar, navigate through the files and folders on a Windows computer with Windows Explorer, and change system settings. Review how everything is organized in Windows. The class will be taught on Windows 7 computers. This class builds on ideas covered in Computers for Beginners.

Computer Classes at Main Library
In addition to providing a Computer Center with free access to the internet, Shaker Library offers a variety of one and a half hour computer classes in the Training Lab adjacent to the Main Library Computer Center on the second floor. All classes are free; however, reservations are required by calling 216-991-2030 extension 2385.
Audiobooks, eBooks, Music, and Video
10-11:30 am Thursday, January 31
Check out our collection of digital media. We will introduce you to our online catalog and teach you how to use OverDrive, Hoopla, OneClickDigital, and Flipster to access the media you borrow. A CLEVNET library card is required for this class.

Image Magic
10 am-Noon Saturday, February 9
You can’t believe everything you read on the internet. Learn about the tools used to make those interesting composites images you’ve seen online: cutting out parts from multiple images with layers and selection tools, then making them blend together with lighting and color settings using the free, open-source GIMP software. Proficiency with a keyboard and mouse are required for this class.

Welcome to the Internet I
7-8:30 pm Tuesday, February 12
Learn the basics of the internet, how to use a browser, search the Web, download a file, and the meaning of all of those acronyms and buzzwords you keep seeing. This class builds on ideas covered in Computers for Beginners.

Cloud Storage
10-11:30 am Thursday, February 14
Cloud storage allows you to back up your files and access them from any computer with an Internet connection. We will help you pick a cloud storage service that is right for you and show you how to use it. The services covered include Google Drive, Microsoft OneDrive, and Mega. Proficiency with a keyboard, mouse, and web browser are required for this class.

Typing
10-11:30 am Saturday, February 23
We will help you sign up and get started learning to type through free lessons at Typing.com.

Welcome to the Internet II
7-8:30 pm Tuesday, February 26
Learn how to use Google’s powerful search engine to find information, images, videos, and news as well as ways to evaluate the trustworthiness of your search results. Discover alternative search engines and learn why you might want to use them. This class builds on ideas covered in Computers for Beginners I and II and the Welcome to the Internet I classes.

Blogging with Wordpress.com
10-11:30 AM Thursday, February 28
Share your exploits with the Internet! Learn to create a blog using Wordpress. Proficiency with a keyboard, mouse, and web browser are required.

Ask the Tech Trainer
2-4 pm Saturdays, December 1, 15, 29, January 12, 26, and February 9 and 23.
Drop in and get help from the Tech Trainer with computer class issues or help using your mobile devices.

Free Tax Prep for Seniors
FREE Tax Preparation for Seniors at Main Library
9 am – 4:30 pm Tuesdays and Fridays beginning February 5
AARP offers tax prep for seniors on the Main Library second floor. The help is free; however seniors must make an appointment by calling the Community Building at 216-491-1360.

Art Gallery
The Library opened its art gallery on the second floor of the Main Library in 1998. Since then, many local artists have exhibited and sold artwork at the library. Artists interested in exhibiting their work can complete the Art Gallery Application to Exhibit form on the Library’s website at shakerlibrary.org.

In 2000, the library began an annual juried Art Competition named in honor of former library director Barbara Luton. Applications are available online at at the Library Information desks.

Hillcrest Art Club Holiday Show
December 3, 2018 - January 7, 2019
Meet the Artists Reception 2-4 pm Sunday, December 9
January 14 - Applications for the 20th Annual Barbara Luton Art Show are available online at at the Library Information desks

African American Quilt and Doll Guild
February 1 - February 28