

**OPEN+ magazine**  
**The Cedar Rapids Public Library**  
**Summer 2025**  
**Large Print Edition**

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## **From the Director:**

When you pick up your Summer Reading kit at the library this year (and we hope you do), it will come with a tote that says “Libraries are for Everyone.”

That’s not just a nice sentiment to put on a bag. It’s at the center of everything we do. No matter your age, background, abilities, beliefs, or economic situation, we want the library to be accessible to you, and we want you to feel welcome.

That means striving to make the library inviting with fun summer programs, from magic shows to live music. It means emphasizing literacy with the Summer Reading Challenge, creating access to technology in our Maker Spaces, and providing career and job help at the Opportunity Center.

It means planning programs for the youngest and oldest readers alike, from a Summer Reading Kick Off Party with our friends from Hovick Farm’s petting zoo to a partnership with UnityPoint’s Aging Services to provide events for older adults. It means taking the library out into the community through outreach – look for us at the CR

Pride and Juneteenth festivals – and story time in the parks.

There is a lot of uncertainty in the world right now. We don't know what the future holds. But we know one thing, and it won't change – the library is for everyone. We are your library, and we will be here for you.

- Dara Schmidt, Director

## **The Summer Reading Challenge is for Everyone**

Everyone is welcome at the library this summer – and everyone is welcome to join us for the Summer Reading Challenge. Summer reading is for kids and families – but it is also for everyone else!

Summer Reading is for kids – Did you know that reading just 10 minutes a day can help children avoid the summer slide? Lack of reading during the summer causes students to lose up to two months of reading development. Summer reading is a critical requirement to keep kids' brain alert and on track.

It's also fun. To help get kids excited about the library and reading, we have a full summer of special programs, from magicians and acrobats to science and animal presentations to live music and even movie screenings. You can also meet us at the parks all summer long for special story times, crafts, and activities.

Summer Reading is for teens – We're inviting teens into the library this summer for Teen Art days, Teen Book Discussions, 3D Print Club, games, and crafts. We've also started a Teen Advisory Group – members can make their voices heard at the library.

Summer Reading is for adults – We know that one of the best ways to get kids interested in reading is to have the adults in their lives – parents and caregivers, grandparents, aunts and uncles, family friends – read with them and model reading as a fun activity. Reading with your child counts towards your own reading goal!

But even if you don't have kids at home, this program is for you. After all, reading is good for all ages. The brain benefits from the frequent workout of reading – reading improves the concentration and memory of both young and older adults. If you are an avid reader in your free time, you have a head start! Log your reading minutes this summer and be a part of our story.

Summer Reading is for community partners – We are encouraging area daycares, preschools, and other places where kids gather this summer to get involved. Sign your group of kids up to be Mega Readers. The library has a special game board you can hang up to track reading together. When your group finishes the challenge, we will bring free books for each child, while supplies last. Mega Reader kids can also participate in the Summer Reading Challenge independently with their caregivers.

Summer Reading is for library lovers – When we have a high engagement rate with our Summer Reading Challenge, it helps us tell our story and show our community's support of the library. Plus, you know you want one of the cute “Libraries are for Everyone” bags we are handing out when you register. And don’t forget, the more times you complete the challenge, the more entries you get in our grand prize drawings.

Summer Reading is for library newcomers – If you haven’t signed up for a library card or haven’t visited us in a while, this is the perfect opportunity to check out all the library has to offer – books and media, computer and internet access, Maker Spaces, library programs, and more.

To complete the challenge, you just need to read 10 minutes a day between June 7 and Aug. 2. You don't need to be a traditional book worm – you can read magazines, graphic novels, or the newspaper. Audiobooks count as reading, too!

Summer Reading is for you. Ready to get started? Here's what you need to know:

Register in person or online at **CRLibrary.org/summer**.

Read and log 600 minutes between June 7 and Aug. 2.

- Register and pick up your free Summer Reading kit at the library.
- Fill out your reading log or track your reading in the Beanstack app.
- When you reach 300 minutes, visit the library for a free book! Kids and teens can choose from a variety of popular titles (while supplies last) to keep. Books can be claimed in person at either location through August. Adults will receive a coupon for a free book from Friends of the Cedar Rapids Public Library.
- When you reach 600 minutes, claim a prize AND get an entry to grand prize drawings.
- Keep reading! You can complete the challenge as many times as you want until Aug. 2. Each time you complete the challenge, you'll receive another

grand prize drawing entry. Finish the challenge multiple times to increase your chances of winning!

- Slips must be returned by Aug. 2 to be eligible for the prize drawing.

Find all the details: [CRLibrary.org/Summer](http://CRLibrary.org/Summer)

The Summer Reading Challenge is generously supported by the Cedar Rapids Public Library Foundation, Hills Bank, GreenState Credit Union, The Gazette, and the Friends of the Cedar Rapids Public Library.

## How You Can Support the Library

We are your library! Just as we exist to serve our community, we rely on the community for support. Wondering what you can do to help? Here are some simple ideas.

**Use the Library:** Sign up for a library card, borrow books and media, log into digital resources, attend programs, engage with reading challenges, and visit our buildings.

We use statistics like material circulation and library visits to demonstrate the need for secure funding and to show community support to our stakeholders. The more you use our services, the more support we can demonstrate.

**Be a Library Advocate:** Download our Advocacy Toolkit and sign up for Advocacy Alerts for updates. We will keep you informed on legislation impacting libraries at the local, state, or national level.

**Share Your Library Story:** Tell us a story about how the library has impacted your life or the lives of those around you. Share meaningful interactions or tell us about your experience with a library staff member.

[CRLibrary.org/advocacy](https://CRLibrary.org/advocacy)

**Volunteer:** We have volunteer opportunities available for adults, families, teens, and retirees with a wide variety of interests and abilities. We also enjoy working with small groups and corporate volunteers for special projects.

[CRLibrary.org/volunteer](https://CRLibrary.org/volunteer)

**Join the Friends:** The Friends of the Cedar Rapids Public Library support library services and programs, raise awareness of library services and literacy efforts, and conduct book sales to support the library. Stop by one of their sales or sign up to become a Friend yourself!

[CRLibrary.org/friends](https://CRLibrary.org/friends)



**Support the Foundation:** The Cedar Rapids Public Library Foundation raises funds to support the library and advance its impact in our community. Their efforts support the Big Dreams capitol campaign for the Westside Library, Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, and more. There are many ways to contribute to the Foundation, from individual or corporate donations to attending a fundraiser to shopping at their Raygun online storefront.

[CRLibrary.org/foundation](http://CRLibrary.org/foundation)

## **Library Programs**

### **Register**

Register for library programs at [crlibrary.org/events](http://crlibrary.org/events) or by calling (319) 261-7323. Events are subject to change.

### **Accessibility**

Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or a modification of policies or procedures to participate in a library program, service, or activity, should contact the library at (319) 261-7323 or

email [programming@crlibrary.org](mailto:programming@crlibrary.org) as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the program.

## **Special Hours**

The Downtown and Ladd libraries will be closed July 4, Aug. 31, & Sept. 1.

## **Summer Reading**

### **Summer Reading Kick Off Party with Farm Friends**

Celebrate the start of Summer Reading with barnyard animals! Sign up for the Summer Reading Challenge and meet animals from Hovick Farm's petting zoo, including a llama, an alpaca, a pot belly pig, a sheep, a miniature cow, a miniature donkey, and many more. Make buttons of your favorite farm animal, create a cute barnyard craft, and join us for story times at 10:30 and 11:30 am.

Saturday, June 7, 10 am-noon

Ladd Library, Community Room

### **End of Summer Party**

Say goodbye to summer with a carnival-themed party complete with circus performers, a tumbling room, face painting, crafts, carnival games, and popcorn.

Saturday, Aug. 2, 1-3 pm  
Downtown Library

## **Special Summer Performances**

The Summer Reading Challenge welcomes a series of big performances for kids to the library on Mondays throughout June and July. **All performances are first-come, first-serve; wrist bands will be handed out one hour prior to each performance.**

### **Gincy Hartin: It's Cool to Be Kind**

Nationally acclaimed recording artist Gincy Hartin presents a show of original songs with meaningful and inspiring lyrics. Participants will sing, dance, and interact to songs such as "Cool To Be Kind," "Together," "We Can Change the World," and more. Gincy's original compositions take inspiration from pop, rock, and R&B, making this a library performance you've never experienced!

Monday, June 16, 10-11 am & 1-2 pm

Downtown Library, Beems Auditorium

Monday, June 16, 3:30-4:30 pm

Ladd Library, Community Room

### **Mikayla Oz Magic Show**

Mikayla's show is highly interactive and makes it seem as though the kids make the magic happen. She presents a

performance full of family-friendly comedy, including appearances by audience favorite Bubbles the Bird.

Monday, June 23, 10-11 am & 1-2 pm

Downtown Library, Beems Auditorium

Monday, June 23, 3:30-4:30 pm

Ladd Library, Community Room

### **Wilderman's Treetop Tales with Chad Elliott**

Songwriter and children's author Chad Elliott will perform songs from his "Wilderman's Treetop Tales" album. His interdisciplinary offering of art, music, and writing will allow the whole family to embrace wild imagination. His art will also be on display in the Downtown Library's Third Floor Gallery throughout the summer.

Monday, June 30, 10-11 am & 1-2 pm

Downtown Library, Beems Auditorium

Monday, June 30, 3:30-4:30 pm

Ladd Library, Community Room

### **Sam Rezz Circus Variety Show**

Join circus performer Sam Rezz for a dazzling show for all ages. From aerial feats to hula hoops to juggling, this show has something for everyone!

Monday, July 7, 10-11 am & 1-2 pm

Downtown Library, Beems Auditorium

Monday, July 7, 3:30-4:30 pm

Ladd Library, Community Room

## **Meet Reptiles with the Cold-Blooded Redhead**

Local reptile enthusiast Lindsay McDermott has a passion for sharing reptiles and invertebrates with children and families. Get up close and personal with her lizards, snakes, arachnids, and more at this interactive presentation! Kids and adults alike will have the chance to learn, discuss, touch, and even hold some reptiles.

Monday, July 14, 10-11 am & 1-2 pm

Downtown Library, Beems Auditorium

Monday, July 14, 3:30-4:30 pm

Ladd Library, Community Room

## **Absolute Science: Laser Show**

In this show, we expose you to chemical reactions. We walk you through how heat can create sound, get to play with HIGHLY FLAMMABLE powder (Don't worry, we are always safe!), and get messy with ink. We will also create a soda explosion indoors and introduce you to what our high-powered laser can do! No matter your age, there is something in this show for you!

Monday, July 21, 10-11 am & 1-2 pm

Downtown Library, Beems Auditorium

Monday, July 21, 3:30-4:30 pm

Ladd Library, Community Room

## **Tom Pease: Children's Musician**

Singer, songwriter, and recording artist Tom Pease entertains with great music and audience participation that will have you rockin' and rollin' like no other performance.

Monday, July 28, 10-11 am & 1-2 pm

Downtown Library, Beems Auditorium

Monday, July 28, 3:30-4:30 pm

Ladd Library, Community Room

## **Story Time in the Parks**

Find us at parks around the city from Monday, June 9 to Friday, Aug. 1 for books, games, fun, and a few surprises, too. Each stop will feature an all-ages story time at the start of the program, followed by a variety of activities, games, and giveaways with our Mobile Technology Lab.

- Mondays, 11:30 am-1:30 pm, Jacolyn Park, 198 Jacolyn Dr. NW
- Tuesdays, 9-11 am, Noelridge Park, 4600 Council St. NE
- Wednesdays, 11:30 am-1:30 pm, Hidder Park, 1248 10th St. SE
- Thursdays, 11:30 am-1:30 pm, Bever Park, 2700 Bever Ave. SE
- Fridays, noon-1 pm, Redmond Park, 1545 Third Ave. SE (no visit July 4)

- Fridays, 3-4 pm, Cleveland Park, 1600 Ninth Ave. SW (no visit July 4)

## **Severe Weather Policy:**

The Cedar Rapids Public Library values and prioritizes the safety of our patrons and staff. During extreme weather, outdoor outreach programs will be cancelled in accordance with Iowa Department of Public Health guidelines, including:

- **Tornado or Severe Thunderstorm Warnings**
- **Heat Index above 100 degrees Fahrenheit**
- **Wind Chill below 10 degrees Fahrenheit**
- **Air Quality Index over 150**

Outdoor outreach may also be cancelled at the discretion of the Library Director or library management.

All decisions will be made no later than 30 minutes before the start of an outdoor program. Cancellations will be communicated on the library's social media channels and on our events calendar.

## **Children**

### **Early Learning Story Time**

Join us for a fun-filled story time for children ages 2-5, featuring stories, songs, and interactive activities.

Mondays, June 2-Aug. 11, 10-10:30 am

Ladd Library, Community Room

Tuesdays, June 3-Aug. 12, 10-10:30 am

Downtown Library, Beems Auditorium

### **Baby & Toddler Story Time**

Join us for this 15-minute story and song program for newborns to three-year-olds, followed by a 45-minute playtime. This program helps strengthen babies' and toddlers' foundation for literacy with rhymes, rhythm, repetition, story, and movement.

Wednesdays, June 4-Aug. 13, 9:30-10:30 am

Downtown Library, Children's Program Room

Fridays, June 6-June 27, & July 11-Aug. 15, 9:30-10:30 am

Ladd Library, Community Room

### **Sensory Story Time**

This story time is designed for attendees with multi-sensory needs and includes low lights, reduced sounds, and opportunities for social interaction and play. With special guest Hopkins the therapy dog on June 12, July 10, & Aug. 7.

Thursdays, June 5-Aug. 14, 10-10:30 am

Downtown Library, Children's Program Room



## **Expressive Arts with Tanager**

From theatre games and clay sculptures to creative movement and ukulele songs, this program is about processing, feeling, and healing through the arts. Geared to pre-K to second graders.

Fridays, June 6, 13, & 27, July 11-25, & Aug. 8-22, 10-11 am

Downtown Library, Children's Program Room

## **Read to Dogs**

Trained, certified therapy dogs provide companionship to emerging readers as they earn a free library book and bookmark. Everyone is welcome to read to the dogs. Stay for a performance at 7 pm. Presented in partnership with Therapy Dogs International.

Thursdays, June 19, July 17, & Aug. 21, 6:30-7:15 pm

Ladd Library, Community Room

## **Monarch Butterfly Experience**

Learn about the monarch butterfly life cycle and more through interactive learning tables for all ages. Make a craft, listen to a story time, and see real monarchs in their chrysalids! Story time will start at 2 pm in the Children's Programming Room, and crafts will be throughout the event in the Commons and Children's area.

Saturday, June 21, 1-3 pm

Downtown Library

## **Island Activities & Crafts with “Moana 2”**

Bring your beach towel and join us for a free showing of “Moana 2” at 10 am. Wrist bands for the movie will be handed out beginning at 9 am; seating is first-come, first-served. Beginning at 9:30 am, meet our Voyager Princess, who will lead a hula lesson and sing along with her ukulele. She will also be available for photos. Make a paper sailboat float, complete a seek-and-find with one of our ocean sensory bins, or make an ocean-themed craft. Saturday, June 28, 9:30 am-noon

Downtown Library, Beems and Whipple auditoriums

## **Ice Cream Story Time**

Take a break from the heat with stories about cool treats, a tasty ice cream cup, and crafts and activities.

Monday, July 7, 6-7 pm

Downtown Library, Beems Auditorium

## **Crunchy Slime Lab**

Join us to create your very own "crunchy slime."

Customize your own slime and pick what goes in it!

Wednesday, July 9, 2-3 pm

Downtown Library, Beems B

Thursday, July 10, 3-4 pm

Ladd Library, Community Room

## **Books & Blocks**

Join us for a short story time followed by free play time to explore and engage with our big blue blocks.

Saturday, July 26, 10-11:30 am

Ladd Library, Community Room

## **Purposeful Play-Dough**

Drop in and play with a variety of textures and tools.

Playing with play-dough has been proven to build fine motor skills, creativity, and hand-eye coordination.

Thursday, July 31, 5:30-7:30 pm

Ladd Library, Community Room

## **Back to School Social**

Families are invited to mark the milestone of starting kindergarten at our Back to School Social. As children age out of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library by turning five, they have the exciting opportunity to ride a real school bus and enjoy a variety of kid-friendly activities, all designed to make the transition to kindergarten an enjoyable experience. This Cedar Rapids Public Library Foundation program is generously sponsored by Corda Credit Union.

Saturday, Aug. 9, 10 am-noon

Downtown Library, Urban Plaza

## **Children & Teens**

### **Crazy Cat People Story Time & Craft**

Calling crazy cat people... we know you are out there!  
Come to the library for zany cat stories, crafts, tattoos, and treats!

Downtown Library, Beems Auditorium  
Monday, June 9, 6-7 pm

### **Family LEGO Night**

LEGOs are not just for kids! Get the whole family in on the action with free play and challenges using LEGOs and KEVA planks.

Monday, June 16, 6-7 pm  
Downtown Library, Beems Auditorium

### **Giant Games & More at the Library**

While visiting the Farmers Market, stop into the library for giant games, button making, and a scavenger hunt.

Saturday, July 5, 10-11:30 am  
Downtown Library, Children's Program Room

### **Make a Laser Cut Dragon**

Create a beautiful laser-cut dragon as a family! Use acrylic paint pens to decorate your dragon before assembling it. See how the dragons were made using the library's laser cutter and learn how to use the library's Maker Spaces.

Registration required. Each family will receive one dragon per child registered. School-aged children will need assistance with assembly.

Saturday, Aug. 30, 1-3 pm

Downtown Library, Beems B

## **Teens**

### **3D Print Club**

Teens will learn how to use the 3D printer and Tinkercad to create their own 3D designs. They'll be able to learn at their own pace and set their creative direction.

Tuesdays, June 3 & 17, July 1 & 15, and Aug. 5 & 19, 4-5 pm

Downtown Library, Technology Classroom

### **Youth Advisory Club**

Youth ages 12-18 are invited to participate in the library's Youth Advisory Club (YAC) to help plan teen programs, sign up for library volunteer opportunities, build leadership skills, and suggest teen books to be purchased by the library. Registration suggested.

Fridays, June 6, July 11, & Aug. 1, 3:30-4:30 pm

Downtown Library, Beems B or Conference Room

### **Teen Book Discussion**

Share and discuss your favorite books with other teens.

Wednesday, Aug. 6, 3:30-4:30 pm  
Downtown Library, Union

### **Teen Art**

Discover new art materials and enhance your skills.  
Thursday, Aug. 7 & 21, 4-5 pm  
Downtown Library, Union

## **Teens & Adults**

### **Future Forward: Skills for Career Success**

This Opportunity Center workshop with the Goodwill Career Center will empower you to enhance your job skills, learn what employers are looking for in interviews, and how to handle difficult situations at work. Attend three sessions to receive a \$25 gift card.

Mondays, June 2-Aug. 25, 11 am-12:30 pm &  
Wednesdays, June 4 & 11 & June 25-Aug.27, 1-2:30 pm  
Ladd Library, Opportunity Center Classroom

### **Craft Your Perfect Resume**

Discover essential strategies to structure your resume, highlight your skills, and showcase your achievements effectively while also catering to the job you are applying for.

Mondays, June 2, July 7, & Aug. 4, 12:30-3:30 pm;  
Tuesdays, June 3-Aug. 26, 9 am-noon; Wednesdays,  
June 11-June 25, July 16-July 30, & Aug. 13-27, 12:30-  
3:30 pm

Ladd Library, Opportunity Center Classroom

### **How to Search & Apply for Reliable Jobs Online**

Learn about some of the best online resources for job searching, avoiding scams, the importance of monitoring your online presence, and more.

Thursdays, June 5 & 19, July 3, 17, & 31, & Aug. 7 & 21,  
2:30-3:30 pm

Ladd Library, Opportunity Center Classroom

### **Basic Sewing Class: Farmers Market Tote Bag**

This strong fabric shopping bag will hold your fruits and vegetables, your groceries, or your favorite project when you are out and about! Learning to make this basic bag will provide you with the skills to make additional bags in the size and style you want. You must be able to operate a sewing machine and be able to sew a straight line.

Registration required.

Thursday, June 5, Mondays, June 16 & July 21, &  
Thursday, Aug. 21, 5:30-7:30 pm

Downtown Library, Technology Classroom

## **Tango Práctica**

Learn the basic steps of tango and grow your skills in an encouraging, welcoming group. No partner required.

Smooth-soled shoes recommended. Registration recommended but not required.

Thursdays, June 5-Aug. 28, 6-7:30 pm

Downtown Library, Whipple Auditorium

## **Resumes that Get Noticed: Virtual Workshop**

Join us for this interactive virtual workshop designed to help job seekers at all levels build powerful, professional resumes that truly stand out. Learn how to present your skills, experience, and accomplishments in a way that resonates with today's employers. Register to receive a Zoom link for the workshop or watch the livestream at the Opportunity Center.

Thursday, June 12, 10-11 am

Virtual or Ladd Library, Opportunity Center

## **How to Impress at Your Job Interview**

Practice common interview questions, improve your impromptu conversations skills, and talk about the “unwritten rules” of interviewing. Earn a \$10 Goodwill voucher to shop for an interview-ready outfit.

Thursdays, June 12 & 26, July 10 & 24, & Aug. 14 & 28, 2-3 pm

Ladd Library, Opportunity Center Classroom



## **Glowforge Welcome Sign**

See how our laser printers work and paint a welcome sign for your home. Registration required.

Thursday, June 12, 6-7:30 pm

Downtown Library, Children's Program Room

## **Murder Mystery Club**

Calling all true crime and murder mystery fans. Put on your detective hat and join other sleuths to solve a mystery at the library. Participants will work together to examine clues, read case files, and figure out whodunnit.

Tuesdays, June 17 & July 15, 6-7:30 pm

Ladd Library, Community Room

## **The Center for the Book: Drum-Leaf Book Demonstration**

Learn how to make a handmade book using the drum-leaf method from the University of Iowa's Center for the Book. Participants will make two books to take home and learn simple cover variants. Registration required.

Thursday, June 26, 5:30-7:30 pm

Downtown Library, Beems Auditorium

## **Just Beachy: Watercolor Workshop**

Vibe and paint with us. In this self-guided workshop, we focus on process, relaxation, and fun with a beach and ocean-themed watercolor. Beginners encouraged!

Presenters will give basic tips for painting with watercolors and create a positive environment for relaxation and learning. Registration required.

Tuesday, July 8, 5:30-7:30 pm

Downtown Library, Beems Auditorium

### **Centering Sound Bath Meditation**

Join us for this uplifting sound meditation with Natalie Brown of Sounds Heal Studio to feel calmness and freedom from worries and stress. Registration required.

Saturday, July 19, 2-3 pm

Downtown Library, Beems Auditorium

### **Lighted Book Nook Craft**

See a demonstration of how a laser cutter works and learn how to make an appointment in the Library's Maker Spaces. Then paint, assemble, and wire this beautiful wooden miniature, perfect for enhancing your bookshelf decor. Registration required.

Saturday, Aug. 9, 12:30-4 PM

Downtown Library, Children's Program Room

### **Jigsaw Puzzle Speed Competition**

Compete in an all-ages speed race to finish their jigsaw puzzle the fastest! Registration required.

Saturday, Aug. 23, 1-3:30 pm

Downtown Library, Beems Auditorium

## **Adults**

### **Computer Skills Training**

Learn new computer skills or gain additional experience on current skills at this Opportunity Center workshop with IowaWORKS. Participants will earn a NorthStar Computer Literacy Certificate.

Mondays, June 2-Aug. 25, 2:30-4:30 pm

Ladd Library, Opportunity Center Classroom

### **English Conversation Group**

English language learners and native English speakers are invited to a conversation group to practice their skills or help others learn while building connections. A facilitator will guide the sessions, which may include structured discussions, games, or open-ended conversations catering to different proficiency levels.

Wednesdays, June 4-Aug. 27, 5-6 pm

Ladd Library, Opportunity Center Classroom

### **Civil Rights Commission Community Office Hours**

Chat with staff of the Cedar Rapids Civil Rights Commission about your concerns and questions.

Thursdays, June 5, July 3, Aug. 7, 2-4 pm

Downtown Library, Commons

## **Intergenerational Connections**

AbbeHealth Aging Services and Coe College will give an inside look at the Intergenerational Connections Program – a unique opportunity that pairs adults age 60+ with college students to build genuine, meaningful relationships across generations. Hear inspiring stories from past participants and learn how these connections are boosting mental well-being and creating lasting impact.

Wednesday, June 18, 1-2 pm

Downtown Library, Beems B

## **Chair Yoga**

Join us for a beginner-level chair yoga class. Tammy Bayer of Toulou Yoga will adapt the class as needed to fit your needs and mobility levels. Chair yoga uses a chair for support with seated and standing postures to make yoga accessible to those who are new to it, have physical limitations, or find other yoga classes challenging.

Thursdays, June 12, July 10, & Aug. 14 ,1-2 pm

Ladd Library, Community Room

Thursdays, June 26, July 24, & Aug. 28, 1-2 pm

Downtown Library, Beems A

### **Corridor Games on Demand: Community Game Day**

Play tabletop games with us! Bring your favorite indie role-playing game to share with the group or try a new game that one of our game masters has prepared.

Saturday, June 28, July 26, & Aug. 30, noon-4 pm

Downtown Library, UnConference Room, Conference Room, or Beems A

### **Socially Anxious Hangout Group**

Are you socially anxious, introverted, new in town, or just looking for an easy way to meet new people? Join us to play board games and have fun! Snacks provided. This group is designed for young adults ages 18-40.

Saturdays, June 28, July 19, & Aug. 30, 1-3 pm

Downtown Library, Conference Room

### **DIY Potion Bottle Dice Roller**

Make your own dice roller in a potion bottle! All materials will be provided, including a D20 per person. However, patrons may bring their own die to put in their potion bottle if they'd like. This program is designed for adults.

Registration required.

Tuesday, Aug. 12, 6-7:30 pm

Downtown Library, Beems B

# **Everyone**

## **Dungeons & Dragons**

Adventures await! Bring your first-level character and be ready to dive in. All ages and experience levels welcome. We are also looking for Dungeon Masters to start tables. Wednesdays, June 4-Aug. 27, 4:30-6:30 pm  
Downtown Library, Beems B

## **Cedar Rapids Chess Club**

Learn chess, advance your knowledge of the game, or teach others at this club for all ages. Visit [chessiniowa.org](http://chessiniowa.org) for more information. Wednesdays, June 4-Aug. 27, 5:30-7:30 pm  
Downtown Library, Beems A

## **Friday Afternoon Magic**

Join us for a casual game of 60-card Magic: The Gathering (Pauper format, but you may include uncommon cards), or meet up for some casual Commander (Bracket 1-3). Check through our donated cards and see if you can improve your deck – keep the cards you use. We also support Pokémon Trading Card Game, and any other collectible card games you play. Game tutorials available. Fridays, June 6-27, & July 11-Aug. 22, 2:30-4:30 pm  
Downtown Library, Children's Program Room, Union

## **Friends of the Library Farmers Market Book Sale**

Purchase new and gently used books from the Friends of the Cedar Rapids Public Library during Downtown Cedar Rapids Farmers Markets. Browse the books on the Urban Plaza in front of the Fourth Avenue doors of the Downtown Library. Proceeds benefit the Friends, who support the library and literacy efforts in our community.

Saturdays, June 7 & 21, July 5 & 19, Aug. 2 & 16, 7:30 am-noon

Downtown Library, Urban Plaza

## **Graphic Novel Creation**

Learn the fundamentals of graphic novel creation and start your own story.

Tuesday, June 10, 2-3 pm

Downtown Library, Beems B

Thursday, June 12, 3-4 pm

Ladd Library, Community Room

## **Civil Rights Commission Pop-Up**

Participate in an activity to celebrate our community with the Cedar Rapids Civil Right Commission.

Fridays, June 13, July 11, & Aug. 8, 2-4 pm

Downtown Library, Commons

## **Cat Cafe**

Meet cool adoptable kittens and cats while you enjoy cool treats and fun activities. After you become acquainted with our feline friends, make a cat toy for your own cat or the adoptable cats, create a cat button, and check out cat books. In partnership with SAINT Rescue & Adoption Center and Critter Crusaders.

Saturday, June 14, 10 am-noon

Downtown Library, Beems and Whipple auditoriums

## **DIY Cat Castles & Scratchers**

Create a fun and functional cat scratching post or cardboard cat castle. The library will provide materials, fun plans, and space to create something special for your feline friend. Sign up as a solo constructor or a family for a combined effort. Registration required.

Tuesday, June 24, 5:30-7:30 pm

Downtown Library, Beems Auditorium

## **Watercolor Bookmarks**

Create your very own bookmarks using watercolor.

Thursday, June 26, 3-4 pm

Downtown Library, Beems B

Thursday, July 3, 3-4 pm

Ladd Library, Community Room



## **Maker Spaces Open House**

Want to check out the library's Maker Spaces? See a demonstration of the library's 3D printers and laser cutter while viewing completed projects for all machines. Learn how to use the rooms and ask a librarian about your potential projects or other maker-related questions.

Saturdays, June 28 & July 12, 2-3pm

Downtown Library, Technology Classroom & Maker Room

## **Pre-Pride Party**

Family-friendly dancing, crafts, and fun kick off the morning of the Cedar Rapids Pride Festival! Make DIY buttons, sun-catchers, loom bracelets, and other crafts to share your pride before heading to the festival.

Saturday, July 12, 10 am-11:30 am

Downtown Library, Beems and Whipple auditoriums

## **Literary Mini Golf**

Tee up to explore the library and enjoy some book-themed mini-golf holes. Drop-in anytime between 5:30-7 pm to the Children's Programming Room to pick up a map and score card. Balls and putters will be located with each hole.

Winners can take a picture at our photo booth to commemorate their victory.

Thursday, July 17, 5:30-7:30 pm

Downtown Library, Children's Program Room

## **Creative Build**

Learn how to build structures with materials you can find around the house.

Wednesday, July 23, 3-4 pm

Ladd Library, Community Room

Thursday, July 24, 3-4 pm

Downtown Library, Beems B

## **Young at Harp**

Local harp ensemble Young at Harp will play a free concert of Renaissance music.

Thursday, July 24, noon-1 pm

Downtown Library, Commons

## **Blender Bike Adventure**

Linn County Extension will present an interactive demonstration of the Blender Bike, which uses pedal power to make healthy snacks like hummus and smoothies. Attendees will work together to prepare food for a blended smoothie and have a chance to use the bike to mix it up.

Monday, July 28, 6-7 pm

Downtown Library, Beems Auditorium

## **“A Minecraft Movie” Showing & Building Activities**

Join us for a free screening of "A Minecraft Movie" and participate in different building activities. Rated PG.

Saturday, Aug. 16, 1-3:30 pm

Downtown Library, Whipple & Beems auditoriums

## **Book Clubs**

When a title is a part of a Book Club Kit, it will be ready for pick-up the month before it is discussed. Other titles are available on Hoopla and CloudLibrary. Copies may be picked up in person or by hold at any Metro Library Network location. Contact Amy Golly at [gollya@crlibrary.org](mailto:gollya@crlibrary.org) if you need assistance finding books.

### **Between the Covers Book Club**

If you enjoy reading and good conversation in a relaxed atmosphere, this book group that meets the first Tuesday of each month is for you.

- June 3: “The Anxious Generation” by Jonathan Haidt
- July 1: “Sing, Unburied, Sing” by Jesmyn Ward
- Aug. 5: “The Women” by Kristin Hannah

Tuesdays, June 3, July 1, & Aug. 5, 10-11 am

Downtown Library, UnConference Room

## **Book Lovers Book Club**

Newcomers are always welcome to this general interest book club that meets the second Tuesday of each month.

- June 10: "1984" by George Orwell
- July 8: "The Giver of Stars" by Jojo Moyes
- Aug. 12: "The Farm" by Joanne Ramos

Tuesdays, June 10, July 8, & Aug. 12, 6:30-7:30 pm  
Ladd Library, Community Room

## **Art on Exhibit this Summer**

### **Downtown, Third Floor Gallery: Chad Elliott**

Chad Elliott strives to create music and art that inspires, uplifts, and moves his audience emotionally by relating life experiences through dream-like imagery. In his Wilderman's exhibit, he hopes to inspire families to think about creating and nature as a whole-mind project through painting, writing, and song. His Wilderman's book series launched in 2014 with "Wilderman's Treetop Tales." The illustrations for the book will be on view as 15 3x4 foot acrylic paintings. Elliott will also perform at the library on Monday, June 30.

### **Downtown, Skywalk Gallery: Renee Marie Hoffman**

Renee is an LGBTQ+, differently -abled mixed media artist who turned to art as a way to stay grounded after

reinventing her career due to health challenges. Renee's work explores resilience, self-expression and inclusivity, using diverse materials to reflect life's complexity.

### **Ladd Library, Gallery: Helen Hunter**

Helen Hunter bloomed late as an artist. Believing that we should continue to learn throughout our life, Helen took four watercolor lessons in Florida and after each - with much laughter - she shared what she had painted with her husband. Determined, however, to improve, she searched out a local teacher. What you see in this exhibit is the result of almost 20 years of learning and painting.