

July 2026



EVENTS *at the* CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

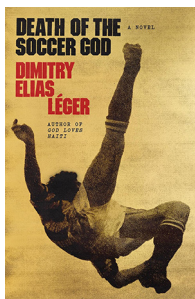
Events

Brewery Book Club IN-PERSON

Wednesday, July 1, 7-8:30 p.m.

Lamplighter Brewing

You're invited to our July Brewery Book Club, where Lamplighter and the Cambridge Public Library team up to highlight contemporary works from marginalized voices while having a beer. We meet at Lamplighter Brewing Co., 284 Broadway, in the back taproom. This month we'll read *Death of the Soccer God* by Dimitry Elias Legér. **Registration is required.**



Summer Fitness: Yoga in the Park IN-PERSON

Tuesday, July 14, 6-7 p.m.

Tuesday, July 28, 6-7 p.m.

Joan Lorentz Park

All are welcome to attend the Cambridge Public Library's free outdoor yoga summer series every other Tuesday starting July 14 until August 25. **No registration is necessary.** The Library will not provide any materials - please bring your own mat and whatever item is in your practice. In case of rain, yoga will be held in the community room. Shayla Tate of M.U.D.D. Flower Yoga leads us through this 60-minute evening flow.



SERVICE ALERT

All Library locations will be closed Friday, July 3 and Saturday, July 4 for Independence Day.

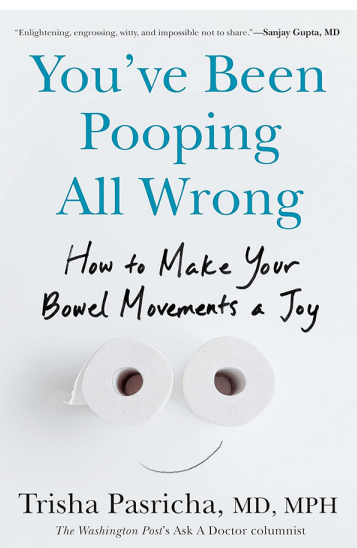
Summer Sundays begin at the Valente Branch on Sunday, July 5, 1-5 p.m. In July and August, the Main Library will be closed on Sundays.

You've Been Pooping All Wrong: How to Make Your Bowel Movements a Joy with Dr. Trisha Pasricha

Thursday, July 16, 6-7:30pm

Main Library Lecture Hall

Join Dr. Trisha Pasricha—a medical journalist, a physician-scientist at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and an Assistant Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School—for a wide-ranging discussion of her new book, *You've Been Pooping All Wrong: How to Make Your Bowel Movements a Joy*. **Registration is required.** This event is cosponsored by the Cambridge Public Library Foundation.



Summer Fitness: Strength Training for Beginners

IN-PERSON

Saturday, July 18, 2-3 p.m.

Main Library Community Room

Curious about strength training but unsure where to begin? This welcoming, beginner-friendly program is designed to remove the uncertainty and help you build a strong, confident foundation—safely and effectively. Led by master fitness trainer, author, and motivational speaker Shaun Zetlin, this session introduces simple, practical bodyweight exercises that focus on stability, strength, and power.

Registration is encouraged but not required.

The City of Cambridge does not discriminate on the basis of disability. The Cambridge Public Library will provide auxiliary aids and services, written materials in alternative formats, and reasonable modifications in policies and procedures to persons with disabilities upon request.

For more information, contact us at library@cambridgema.gov, 617-349-4032 (voice), or via relay at 711.

website cambridgepubliclibrary.org

instagram [@cambridgepubliclibrary](https://www.instagram.com/cambridgepubliclibrary)

twitter [@cambridgepl](https://twitter.com/cambridgepl)

facebook www.facebook.com/CambridgePL

VIRTUAL Virtual event

IN-PERSON In-person event

HYBRID In-person event with option to attend virtually

Summer Sundays Ice Cream Party IN-PERSON

Sunday, July 19, 2-4 p.m.

📍 Valente

Come celebrate Summer Sundays at the Valente Branch and National Ice Cream Day with soft serve from Frosty Ice Cream. Listen to some summer tunes and learn about our all-ages Summer Reading.

Summer Reading Program:

“Seeds of Change” with the New Garden Society: Documentary Screening and Discussion of Prison Garden Programs in New England IN-PERSON

Monday, July 20, 6:30-8 p.m.

📍 Main Library Lecture Hall

Join us to learn about the transformative power of prison gardens for people who are incarcerated. First, we'll watch the award-winning 30-minute documentary, *Seeds of Change*, about a five-acre prison garden in Maine that has offered a gateway to wellness and dignity for prisoners. Following the documentary, the New Garden Society will present and answer questions about the work they do with prison gardens in the Greater Boston area.



Registration is required.

This Is The Plan: How to End America's Meltdown and Save Democracy - discussion with author Ben Wikler and Danielle Allen

Wednesday, July 22, 6 p.m.

📍 Main Library

Harvard Book Store and the Cambridge Public Library welcome Ben Wikler—political organizer and strategist who served as the chair of the Democratic Party of Wisconsin from July 2019 to July 2025—for a discussion of his new book, *This Is The Plan: How to End America's Meltdown and Save Democracy*.

He will be joined in conversation by Danielle Allen—James Bryant Conant University Professor at Harvard University, acclaimed author of *Our Declaration*, and the forthcoming book *Radical Duke*, releasing June 2026. **Registration is required.**

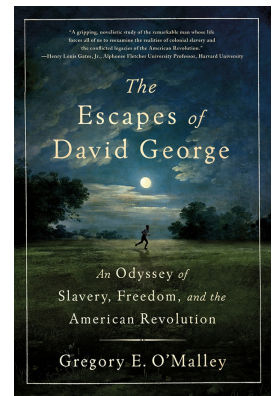
The Escapes of David George with author Gregory E. O'Malley

VIRTUAL

Monday, July 27, 7-8 p.m.

📍 Zoom

Cambridge Public Library's O'Neill Branch is joining with The Ashland Public Library to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. We're thrilled to welcome author and historian Gregory E. O'Malley who will be discussing his book, *The Escapes of David George: An Odyssey of Slavery, Freedom, and the American Revolution* which reveals a remarkable, untold experience of the American revolutionary period—a Black man's quest for the freedom espoused by our Founders, but denied him and other enslaved people. **Registration is required.**



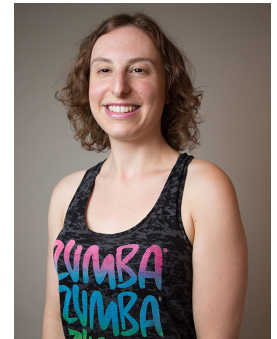
Workshops

Wellness for Older Adults: Low-Impact Fitness IN-PERSON

Wednesdays, 11:15 a.m.-12 p.m.

📍 Valente

This class is designed for people of all levels to strengthen the muscles, the heart and the brain—all while having fun and moving to great music! Come as you are and take everything at your own pace. This class is conducted from a standing position and incorporates exercises like modified lunges, cardio, and body resistance strength training. **Registration for each session is required.**



Wednesday Night Creative Writing Group IN-PERSON

Wednesday, July 8, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

📍 Main Library Rossi Room

Writers of all experience levels are invited to join a casual, peer-supported writing group. Participants take turns bringing short in-progress or completed pieces of any genre. The group reads several pieces each month, sharing feedback and constructive criticism in a supportive and inclusive environment. **Registration is required.**



Wellness for Older Adults: Low-Impact Fitness

VIRTUAL

Monday, July 13 and July 27, 11:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

📍 Zoom

This class is designed for people of all levels to strengthen the muscles, the heart and the brain—all while having fun and moving to great music! Come as you are and take everything at your own pace. You will feel the benefits in mind and body! **Registration for each session is required.**



American Sign Language: The Basics

Friday, July 17, 1-2 p.m. 📍 **Central Square**

Friday, July 17, 5-5:45 p.m. 📍 **O'Neill**

Participants will learn practical everyday signs, respectful ways to interact with Deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals, expressive communication techniques, and simple real-life ASL scenarios.

This activity-based workshop includes silent communication challenges, group participation, and engaging sign language games designed to build confidence and connection through communication. Recommended for ages 10 and up.

Expressive Art for Older Adults: Beading Workshop

Monday, July 20, 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

📍 **Valente**

Learn the basics of beaded jewelry making and the difference between semi-precious stones and precious stones. Participants will keep all pieces they make. Space is limited to 10 participants. Led by Zangar Freeman. Registration opens Monday, July 13 at 10:30 a.m.



Basic Tech Classes

IN-PERSON

Join us for Basic Tech Classes this July! Learn how to use email, search the internet, and grow your tech skills. Pick and choose the classes that are right for you. Look for new classes each month. Registration is encouraged but not required.

📍 **Main Library**

- **Wednesday, July 22, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.,**
How to Use Google Maps
- **Wednesday, July 29, 2-3 p.m.,**
What is Cloud Storage?



Regular Programs for Children and Families

Boudreau

Baby Lapsit **Mondays, 11-11:30 a.m.**

Songs and Stories **Thursdays, 10:30-10:50 a.m.**

Central Square

Baby Lapsit **Tuesdays, 5:30-6 p.m.**

📍 **Lewis Room**

Story Time **Wednesdays, 10:30-11 a.m.**

📍 **Children's Room**

Stories, Songs & Play **Thursdays, 10:30-11:15 a.m.**

📍 **Lewis Room**

Twilight Music and Movement **Thursdays, 5:30-6 p.m.**

📍 **Lewis Room**

Collins

Songs and Stories **Tuesdays, 10:30-11:00 a.m.**

Evening Family Story Time **Wednesdays, 5:30-6 p.m.**

Main Library

Morning Sing-Along

Mondays and Wednesdays, 11-11:25 a.m.

📍 **Curious George Room**

LEGO Time Ages 5+ **Mondays, 4-4:45 p.m.**

📍 **Curious George Room**

Toddler Story Time **Tuesdays & Thursdays, 11-11:25 a.m.**

📍 **Rey Room**

Preschool Story Time **Tuesdays, 4-4:25 p.m.**

📍 **Rey Room**

Baby Lapsit **Wednesdays, 10-10:20 a.m.**

📍 **Rey Room**

Afternoon Sing-Along **Thursdays, 4-4:25 p.m.**

📍 **Curious George Room**

O'Connell

Evening Family Story Time **Wednesdays, 5:30-5:55 p.m.**

Baby Lapsit **Thursdays, 12:30-1 p.m.**

Toddler Story Time **Fridays, 11-11:30 a.m.**

O'Neill

Songs, Stories and Play **Mondays, 10:30-11:30 a.m.**

Story Time **Thursdays, 11-11:30 a.m.**

Valente

Sing-Along **Tuesdays, 11-11:25 a.m.**

Story Time **Thursdays 11-11:25 a.m.**

Summer Reading

June 20 – August 14, 2026

Participate in Summer Reading from June 20-August 14, 2026. This year's theme is "Plant a Seed, Read," celebrating the natural world we live in.

To get started, register at camb.ma/summerreading! Pick up your bingo board from any Cambridge Public Library location. All ages can enjoy special prizes (while supplies last) and exciting programs at various locations!

Funding for Summer Reading has been generously provided by the City of Cambridge, Cambridge Public Library Foundation, Friends of the Cambridge Public Library, and the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.

Throughout the summer, we are also hosting special Summer Reading Programming.

No registration required unless stated otherwise.

All Ages

Bug Walk

Wednesday, July 1, 2:30-4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, July 15, 2:30-4:30 p.m.

📍 Boudreau

Join us for a walk at Fresh Pond as we explore the wonderful world of bugs! This program is open to all ages, from adults to children and their caregivers. **Registration is required. We will meet at the Cambridge Water Department parking lot at the beginning of the event.**

Alewife Afternoon Nature Walk

Tuesday, July 7, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

📍 O'Neill

Come explore the nature in our urban backyard! We will take a leisurely walk as we observe and learn together about the animals and plants at

Alewife Reservation. You are welcome to bring binoculars, magnifying glasses or any other observational tool.



Mayor's Opening Reception for the Exhibit "Winners of the 2026 Cambridge City Nature Art Challenge"

Tuesday, July 7, 5-6 p.m.

📍 O'Neill

Join Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui to celebrate the winners of the 2026 Cambridge City Nature Art Challenge and view their art on display. We will have food and nature art activities for all ages. Co-presented with Cambridge Wildlife Arts.



Summer Reading: Fresh Pond Wild Edibles Walk with Russ Cohen

Thursday, July 9, 5-7:30 p.m.

📍 Fresh Pond

Cambridge is home to over 80 species of edible wild plants, some of which are more nutritious and/or flavorful than their cultivated counterparts. Join expert forager Russ Cohen on a 2.5 hour ramble around Fresh Pond to learn about over two dozen species of edible wild plants.

NOTE that this is an educational walk only: no actual foraging will take place, as that activity is prohibited within the Fresh Pond Reservation.

Registration is required.

Paint and Plant Celebration

Saturday, July 11, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

📍 Central Square

Celebrate Summer Reading's "Plant a Seed, Read" theme! Paint a pot and grab a plant of your own to take home. Browse through a selection of books about our environment and the natural world.

Registration is encouraged but not required.

Community Sewing Circle: Biodiversity Banner

Saturday, July 11, 1-3 p.m.

Saturday, July 18, 1-3 p.m.

📍 O'Neill

Wildlife Arts invites the community to hand sew blocks for a multi-moth fabric banner! We'll teach beginning sewers, and children old enough to handle a needle may work on caterpillar blocks (recommended for age 10 and up). You'll learn about moth biodiversity in Massachusetts and help publicize the humble and little-known world of moths. The banner will be displayed at the Cambridge Moth Ball on July 22 at Fresh Pond Reservation and will be available in the Wildlife Arts banner lending library when complete. **Registration is suggested.**

Film Screening: Annihilation

Wednesday, July 22, 6-9 p.m.

📍 Central Square

Summer Reading isn't just for kids! Join us for a special screening of *Annihilation* starring Natalie Portman and based on Jeff VanderMeer's novel of the same name. Popcorn and movie candy provided! Our horror book club will be reading and discussing this novel for our July 9 meeting for those interested in reading and discussing the novel before watching the film. **Rated R for violence, language, and some sexual content.**

Signs for Inclusion: Fun & Practical ASL for Everyday Communication

Saturday, July 25, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

📍 Main Library

Join us for this special summer reading edition of a fun, interactive, activity-based American Sign Language lesson, including everyday communication signs,



how to respectfully and effectively interact with Deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals, basic expressive communication using facial expressions and body language, how to navigate simple real-life scenarios using ASL, inclusive communication strategies that can be used immediately. **Registration is**

required.

Cyanotype Print-Making

Saturday, July 25, 12-1 p.m.

📍 Central Square

Explore our outdoor world, get creative, and make sun prints (aka cyanotypes). A selection of flora, other natural materials, and simple found objects will be available to create a collage and then print with the sun. Or bring your own materials! Participants will have the opportunity to display their work in the Branch during the month of August. In the case of rain or inclement weather, we'll be indoors doing botanical watercolors.

Patio Project

Tuesday, July 28, 5-6 p.m.

📍 Valente

Join us for STEAM activities for all ages outdoors at Valente's patio!

Youth

Summer Reading: Live Animal Story Time with Land's Sake Farm

Wednesday, July 1, 11-11:45 a.m.

📍 O'Neill

Get up close and personal with chickens! This program includes a chicken-themed story time and educational games about chicken behavior and anatomy. The highlight of the program is the Chicken Circle, where youth are able to touch and interact with live chickens. This program will happen outside unless there is bad weather. **Registration is required.**

Board Game Afternoon

Wednesday, July 1, 2-3 p.m.

📍 Main Library

Join us for an afternoon of board games! Recommended for children ages 5 and up and their caregivers.

Arthropod Petting Zoo

Monday, July 6, 3-4 p.m. 📍 Collins

Tuesday, July 7, 11 a.m.-12 p.m. 📍 O'Connell

Wednesday, July 29, 5:30-6:30 p.m. 📍 Boudreau

The Arthropod Petting Zoo is a hands-on, show-and-tell introduction to entomology featuring real live insects and arthropods! While having fun and interacting with genuine crawling critters, kids learn about biology, taxonomy, adaptations and scientific thinking that real scientists use in the field. Recommended for children ages 3-12 and their caregivers.

Crafternoon

Tuesdays, 4-4:45 p.m.

📍 Collins

Join us for activities celebrating the theme of "Plant a Seed, Read" all summer long. Recommended for children ages 6-12 and their caregivers.

July 7 - Tissue Paper Flowers

July 14 - Bird and Bug Suncatchers

July 21 - *no activity on this date*

July 28 - Perler Bead Plants

Video Game Days

Wednesdays, 12-2 p.m.

📍 Main Library Teen Room

Buddy up in 1, 2, Switch, or battle each other in Super Smash Bros. Grab a controller and hop into the game! For more information contact Ellen at ekaluza@cambridgema.gov.

Chain Reactions and Creative Contraptions with Playful Engineers

Wednesday, July 8, 4-5:30 p.m.

📍 Central Square

Participants design, build, test, and play with chain reactions and creative contraptions, like Rube Goldberg Machines, paper constructions, domino towers, exploding popsicle-stick snakes, and other awesome engineering explorations. This event is recommended for children ages 4 and up.

Instrument Petting Zoo with Boston Music Project

Wednesday, July 8, 5:30-7 p.m.

📍 Valente

Meet, hear, touch and learn about orchestral instruments with the Boston Music Project! Recommended for ages 0-12 and their caregivers.

Live Animal Story Time with Land's Sake Farm

Thursday, July 9, 2-2:45 p.m.

📍 Boudreau

Learn about the rabbits that we raise at Land's Sake. This program includes a rabbit-themed story time, learning about rabbit behavior and anatomy, and a rabbit themed game. The highlight of the program is the Bunny Circle, where youth are able to touch and interact with live rabbits.

Teen Crafternoon

Thursday, July 9 and July 23, 2-5 p.m.

📍 Main Library

Take over the Teen Room and pick up a craft! From button making to paper bead bracelets, take over the tables and learn something new. Crafts will be set out as first come, first serve. For more information contact Ellen at ekaluza@cambridgema.gov.

Yo-Yo Show

Thursday, July 9, 6-6:45 p.m. 📍 Main Library

Tuesday, July 14, 3-3:45 p.m. 📍 O'Connell

Tuesday, July 28, 3-3:45 p.m. 📍 O'Neill (outside)

Join us for a high energy comedy yo-yo show. For children of all ages and their caregivers.

Make Your Own Flower Press

Friday, July 10, 2-3 p.m. 📍 Main Library

Tuesday, July 21, 11 a.m.-12 p.m. 📍 Boudreau

Preserve some of the beautiful summer flowers with this DIY Cardboard Flower Press. Recommended for ages 5 and up with a caregiver.

Read to a Dog

Friday, July 10 and July 24, 3-4 p.m.

📍 O'Neill

Read with a cuddly friend! Trained therapy dogs provide warm and nonjudgmental reading companions for new or experienced readers up to age 14. **Registration for each 10-minute time slot is required and begins one week in advance by calling or visiting the O'Neill Branch (617-349-4023).**

Movie Monday for Teens

Monday, July 13, 2-5 p.m.

📍 Main Library

The Teen Room at Main is hosting a movie screening based on your favorite YA books. Settle into the chill out zone, where we dim the lights and put out seating so you can relax and enjoy the movie. Movie is TBA.

For more questions contact our teen librarian at ptrunnell@cambridgema.gov.

D&D Character Creator Workshop with Guild Hall Learning

Tuesday, July 14, 2-3:30 p.m.

📍 Boudreau

Participants will explore how to build and develop a D&D character, gaining the skills to recreate or expand their own characters in the future. This event is recommended for children ages 8 and up.

Storytelling with Ben Cunningham

Tuesday, July 14, 3-4 p.m.

📍 O'Neill

Join local artist, musician and educator Ben Cunningham for a transformative storytelling performance. This program will happen outside unless there is bad weather. Recommended for children ages 5 and up and their caregivers.

Family Concert with Ants on a Log

Wednesday, July 15, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

📍 Central Square

Join the Ants for a joyful concert centered around music, social justice and fun! Recommended for ages 3-10 and their caregivers.

Kathak Performance with the Chhandika Institute

Wednesday, July 15, 2-3 p.m.

📍 Main Library

Join the Chhandika Institute for an informative performance of Kathak, a classic story-telling dance and art form from North India.

Music and Movement with Boston Music Project

Thursday, July 16, 2-2:45 p.m.

📍 Collins

Sing, dance and join the fun with Boston Music Project. Recommended for children ages 0-7 and their caregivers.

Wingmasters, World of Owls

Friday, July 17, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

📍 Valente

This program shows how owls use their specialized powers of sight, hearing and flight to survive and thrive. A wealth of fact and folklore about these masters of the night explains the natural and unnatural history of owls. A variety of live North American owls provides the focus of this presentation. Recommended for children ages 6 and up and their caregivers.

Family Combat Robotics with Guild Hall Learning

Saturday, July 18, 2-3:30 p.m.

📍 Main Library

Join us for a collaborative experience where families build and battle robots together. This event is recommended for children ages 7 and up and their families.

Live Animal Program with Mass Audubon

Tuesday, July 21, 11 a.m.-12 p.m. 📍 O'Neill

Thursday, July 23, 11 a.m.-12 p.m. 📍 Collins

What better way to learn about wildlife than by observing them in person? Meet local wildlife ambassadors and discover the amazing adaptations that help them survive in the wild. Ask questions and learn what you can do to protect the wildlife of Cambridge. For children of all ages and their caregivers.



Plant Pantry Botany Workshop with New England Botanic Garden

Tuesday, July 21, 2-3 p.m.

📍 Valente

Learn about the structure of the plants we eat from root to fruit and what portions of different plants are or are not edible. Recommended for ages 5 and up.

Animate a Story with Gif-O-Graf Machines

Tuesday, July 21, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

📍 O'Neill

Turn paper cut-outs into animations with the Gif-O-Graf machine! See your stories come to life!

Board Game Afternoon

Wednesday, July 22, 2-3 p.m.

📍 Main Library

Join us for an afternoon of board games! Recommended for children ages 5 and up and their caregivers.

Choose Your Own Afternoon Adventure

Wednesday, July 22, 3-4 p.m.

📍 Central Square

Try out our new 3D pens, explore one of our many STEAM kits, or learn a new board game for this "choose your own adventure" afternoon. This program is recommended for children ages 5 and up and their caregivers.

Swifties Sing-Along

Thursday, July 23, 4-5 p.m.

📍 O'Connell

Are you in your library era? Celebrate your favorite singer-songwriter and make friendship bracelets. Recommended for ages 8-14.



Wingmasters, Birds of Prey

Friday, July 24, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

📍 Main Library

This presentation incorporates 4-5 live birds of prey that are all native to New England. The program is designed to explain predation, the birds' place at the top of the food web, their different hunting adaptations and their status in a rapidly changing world. Because many birds of prey are declining in number, this presentation also features one or more of the endangered raptors that Wingmasters cares for, and explains why these species face an uncertain future. Recommended for children ages 6 and up and their caregivers.

Fun with Bubbles

Saturday, July 25, 2-3:30 p.m.

📍 O'Neill

Join us outdoors to explore and learn with bubbles! We will blow bubbles of all sizes, make bubble wands, and play bubble games!

Wings of Fire Fandom Fun

Tuesday, July 28, 3-4 p.m.

O'Connell

Join fellow fans of Tui Sutherland's "Wings of Fire" series to draw dragons, do a trivia challenge, and talk about the stories. Recommended for ages 8-14.

Pajama Story Time

Tuesday, July 28, 6:45-7:30 p.m.

📍 O'Neill

Come to the library in your pajamas to listen to stories, read with your children, and enjoy a snack before bed! This program will happen outside unless there is bad weather. Co-presented with the Center for Families.

Nature Story Time

Wednesday, July 29, 11-11:45 a.m.

📍 O'Neill

Children and families can join us for a story time and exploration around the outdoor space around the Library to look for plant and

animal life.

Storytime with José Mateo Ballet Theatre

Wednesday, July 29, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

📍 Valente

Join us for a Ballet Storytime for Ages 0-7 and learn some ballet moves with teachers from the José Mateo Ballet Theatre.

Tissue Paper "Stained Glass"

Thursday, July 30, 3-5 p.m.

📍 Boudreau

Stop by the Boudreau Branch in the afternoon to create a beautiful window hanging using colored tissue paper and glue! The final product will have a similar appearance to stained glass. This drop-in event is intended for school aged children and their families.

Live Animal Program with The Joys of Nature

Thursday, July 30, 3:30-4 p.m.

Thursday, July 30, 4:30-5 p.m.

📍 O'Connell

What is an endangered species? Why are many animals and their habitats disappearing? Learn about endangered species in the wild here in New England, and around the world, and some things we can all do to help them. Recommended for children ages 4 and up and their caregivers.

Music and Movement with Rockabye Beats

Friday, July 31, 11-11:45 a.m.

📍 Boudreau

Rock out with rhythm sticks, tambourines and shakers in this interactive music and movement program.

Recommended for ages 0-5 and their caregivers.



Database Spotlight:

NoveList Plus

Overwhelmed by lists of “Books You Simply MUST Read This Summer”?

The Library can help you find books that are right for you.

In addition to personalized recommendations from **Your Next Great Read** (see website for details) and staff suggestions at your local branch, you can use **NoveList Plus**, an online resource designed to connect you to titles that fit your mood and preferences.

Looking for action-packed adventures with plots that twist and turn?

Or maybe you're more into irreverent stories with quirky characters.

NoveList Plus lets you mix and match your favorite story elements, genres, themes, and subjects to create a list of just-right book suggestions. It's a fun and interactive way to uncover your next great read.

If you're not sure what you're in the mood for, NoveList Plus also has many curated lists, including celebrity book club picks and trending titles.

Visit camb.ma/cplonline to try **NoveList Plus** today, or visit a CPL location to learn more.



Save the Date



Summer Fitness Series **IN-PERSON**

Saturday, August 1, 2-3 p.m. Move Better As You Age

Tuesday, August 11, 5-7 p.m. Yoga

Saturday, August 15, 10-11 a.m. Tai Chi Under the Tree

Tuesday, August 25, 6-7 p.m. Yoga

Saturday, August 29, 10-11:30 a.m. Tai Chi Under the Tree

📍 **Main Library**

Join the Library for a Summer Fitness Series.

We have yoga, tai chi, and strength classes.

Summer Reading: An Evening with Lola the Plant Lady **IN-PERSON**

Tuesday, August 4, 6-7 p.m.

📍 **Main Library**

Learn the fundamentals of houseplant care, including how to choose the right plants for their space, understand light and watering needs, and troubleshoot common issues.

The session also introduces the concept of “plantuition”—a more intuitive approach to plant care that encourages observation and confidence. This workshop is especially suited for renters, beginners, and anyone working with limited space or budget. **Registration is required.**



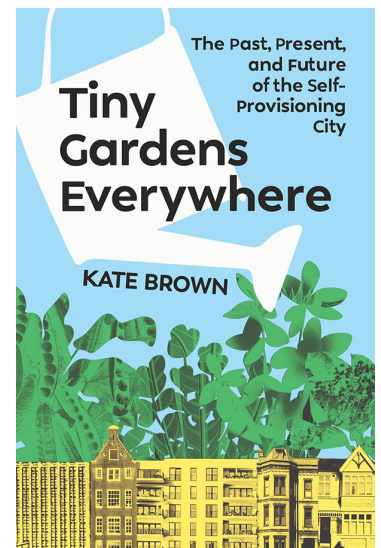
Summer Reading: Tiny Gardens Everywhere **IN-PERSON**

IN-PERSON

Wednesday, August 12, 6-7:30 p.m.

📍 **Main Library**

Uncover the radical roots of urban gardening with Kate Brown, author of *Tiny Gardens Everywhere* (2026). The history of gardening in European and North American cities in the 20th century is a story about ordinary people working with each other—and with plants and microbes—to cultivate life in the unlikelyst of places.





Book Groups



Adult Book Groups

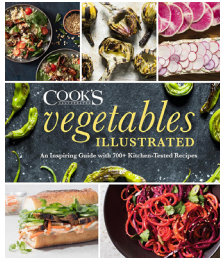
Boudreau

Cookbook Club

IN-PERSON

Wednesday, July 1, 6-7 p.m.

Vegetables Illustrated and *The Complete Summer Cookbook* both from America's Test Kitchen

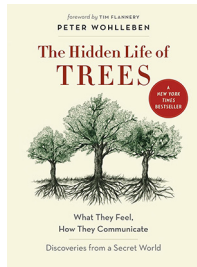


Boudreau Branch Book Group

HYBRID

Wednesday, July 8, 12-1 p.m.

The Hidden Life of Trees by Peter Wohlleben

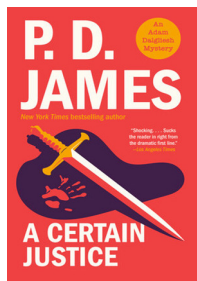


Boudreau Branch Mystery Book Group

HYBRID

Tuesday, July 28, 12-1 p.m.

A Certain Justice by PD James



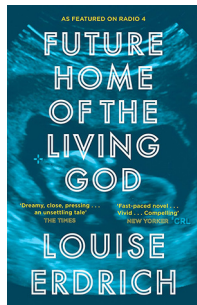
Central Square

Abating Reality: Mystery/Thriller/Sci-Fi Book Group

HYBRID

Wednesday, July 1, 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Future Home of the Living God by Louise Erdrich

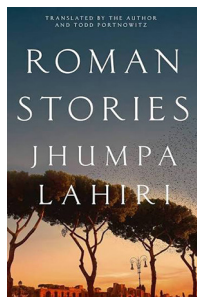


Short Story Reading Group

IN-PERSON

Wednesday, July 8, 6-7 p.m.

"The Boundary" by Jhumpa Lahiri

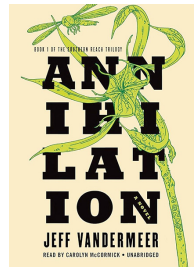


Horror Book Group

IN-PERSON

Thursday, July 9, 7-8 p.m.

Annihilation by Jeff VanderMeer. We're following up our discussion with a special film screening on July 22 of the 2018 film adaptation, *Annihilation*.

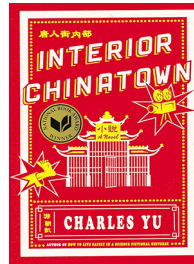


Central Square Branch Book Group

IN-PERSON

Wednesday, July 15, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Interior Chinatown by Charles Yu

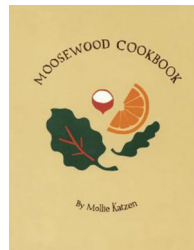


Central Square Cookbook Club

IN-PERSON

Thursday, July 23, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

The Moosewood Cookbook by Mollie Katzen



Collins

Collins Branch Book Group

IN-PERSON

Thursday, July 9, 6-7 p.m.

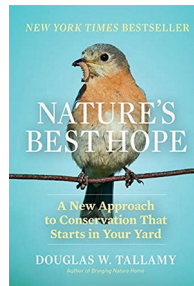
Lavender House by Lev AC Rosen



Climate Action Book Club

Thursday, July 23, 6-7:30 p.m.

Nature's Best Hope by Douglas Tallamy



Children's Book Groups

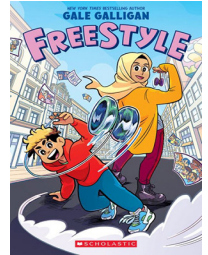
O'Connell

Graphics are Great Book Club

HYBRID

Tuesday, July 14, 5-6 p.m.

Freestyle by Gale Galligan (ages 8-12)



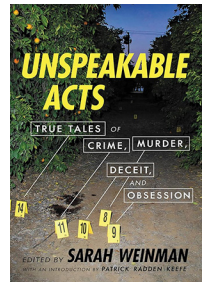
Main Library

True Crime Book Group

IN-PERSON

Monday, July 13, 2-3 p.m.

Unspeakable Acts: True Tales of Crime, Murder, Deceit, and Obsession by Sarah Weinman



Romance Book Group

IN-PERSON

Tuesday, July 14, 7:15-8:15 p.m.

The Duke Who Didn't by Courtney Milan

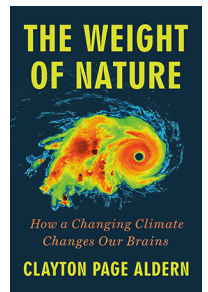


Sustaining Community: A Climate Change Book Group

HYBRID

Monday, July 27, 7-8:30 p.m.

The Weight of Nature: How a Changing Climate Changes Our Brains by Clayton Page Aldern



LIBRARY LOCATIONS/PHONE/HOURS

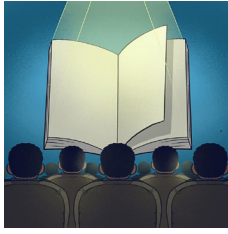
O'Connell

Reel Reads
Book Group

IN-PERSON

Tuesday, July 7,
6:30-7:30 p.m.

The Orchid Thief
by Susan Orlean &
Adaptation (film)

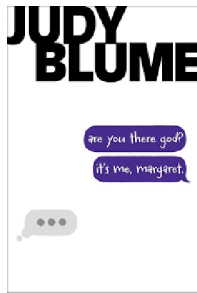


O'Connell Branch
Book Group

IN-PERSON

Tuesday, July 21,
6:30-7:30 p.m.

Are You There, God?
It's Me, Margaret by
Judy Blume



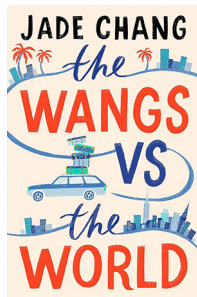
O'Neill

O'Neill Branch
Book Group

IN-PERSON

Monday, July 13,
6:30-7:30 p.m.

The Wangs Versus the
World by Jade Chang



Main Library

449 Broadway | 617-349-4040
Mon-Thu 9-9, Fri-Sat 9-5, Sun 1-5 (Sept-June)

Boudreau

245 Concord Ave. | 617-349-4017
Mon-Wed 10-8, Thu-Fri 10-6

Central Square

45 Pearl St. | 617-349-4010
Mon 10-6, Tue-Thurs 10-9, Fri 10-6, Sat 10-2

Collins Branch

64 Aberdeen Ave. | 617-349-4021
Mon 10-6, Tues-Thurs 10-8, Fri 10-6

O'Connell

48 Sixth St. | 617-349-4019
Mon 10-6, Tue-Thurs 10-8, Fri 10-6

O'Neill

70 Rindge Ave. | 617-349-4023
Mon-Wed 10-8, Thurs-Fri 10-6, Sat 1-5

Valente

826 Cambridge St. | 617-349-4015
Mon-Wed 10-8, Thurs-Fri 10-6, Sat 1-5

All locations are accessible by public transportation.
Details are on our website.

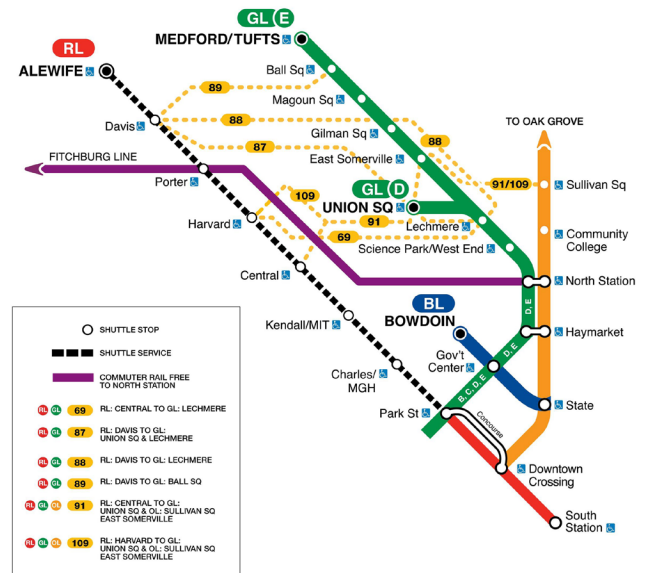
SERVICE ALERT

Red Line Shutdown July 21-30:
Plan Ahead for Major Travel Impacts

HARVARD

SHUTTLE SERVICE
TRAINS/BUSES

The MBTA will suspend Red Line service between Alewife and Park Street from July 21 through July 30, replacing train service with shuttle buses at all Cambridge stations along the line. This includes Alewife, Davis, Porter, Harvard, Central, Kendall/MIT, Charles/MGH, and Park Street. The MBTA is using this planned closure to complete critical track, signal, and infrastructure upgrades to improve long-term reliability. Riders should expect significant delays, allow extra travel time, and consider alternative routes during this period. For full details and real-time updates, visit mbta.com/RedLine or camb.ma/redline.



Branch Events

Boudreau

Knitting Group

Tuesdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Bring your project, yarn, and needles to enjoy an hour in the company of other crafters.



One-on-One Tech Help

Wednesdays, July 1, July 15, and July 29, 4-5 p.m.

Looking for some basic computer or mobile device guidance? Want to learn how to access audiobooks and eBooks? Stop by at the Boudreau branch for our drop-in hours! Drop-in sessions will be limited to 30 minutes for each patron. **Registration is strongly encouraged but not required.**

Branch Walk (55+)

Thursday, July 2 and July 16, 10:30-11:45 a.m.

Join guide Stefanie Haug while exploring our neighborhood nature and history. As a group, we'll connect with and explore the neighborhood mindfully with a gentle walk and draw on contemplative practices.

Chess Hour

Monday, July 13 and July 27, 5-6 p.m.

Join us for a chess challenge. Players of all skill levels and all ages are welcome to participate. Chess sets will be provided, but feel free to bring your own if you prefer. This is not an instructional class, but rather a gathering for individuals who want to play and test their skills against other members of the community.



Summer Craft

Thursday, July 2 and July 16, 3-5 p.m.

Stop by the Boudreau Branch after school for a drop-in craft using fun STEAM equipment from the library!

- July 2: 3D Pens
- July 16: Button Making

Coffee And Games!

Friday, July 24, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

Join us for coffee, treats, and games (Chess, Cribbage, Rummikub, etc.). Bring a friend or meet a new one at the library!

Central Square

Drop-in Tech Help at the Library

Tuesdays, 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Fridays, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

📍 Lewis Room

Looking for some basic computer or mobile device guidance? Want help using an online resource? Need someone to read your resume and support navigating online job applications? Join us for our drop-in help hours between 4 and 6 p.m. **No registration required.** If you have any questions, please contact library@cambridgema.gov

Fiber Arts Circle

Thursdays, 4-5 p.m.

📍 Lewis Room

Bring your project and come join other fiber crafters in your community! Crochet, sew, embroider, knit, cross stitch, spin, mend, and more at this informal drop-in fiber arts circle. All crafts are welcome!

Beyond the Call: CARE Documentary Screening

Thursday, July 16, 6-9 p.m.

Celebrate the 2-year anniversary of the launch of the CARE (Community Assistance Response and Engagement) Team! We will be screening **Beyond The Call**, a powerful documentary highlighting how the City of Cambridge created and implemented the CARE Team, a community-centered alternative response program designed to support people experiencing mental health and behavioral health crises. There will be food, swag, and an opportunity to connect directly with those doing the work!

Kick Back and Watch a Movie

Friday, July 31, 3-5 p.m.

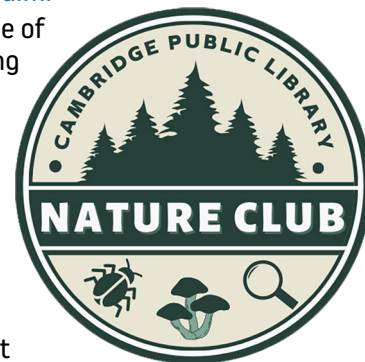
Come watch a movie on Central Square Library's big screen and eat free popcorn!

Collins

CPL Nature Club: Morning Bird Watching Walk at Mt. Auburn Cemetery

Wednesday, July 8, 10:15-11:30 a.m.

Join us for a morning walk at one of the most renowned bird watching spots in Cambridge, Mount Auburn Cemetery! We will help you identify birds, learn birdwatching tips and tricks, and familiarize yourself with migratory birds as well as those that can be spotted all year round. A limited supply of binoculars will be available. Meet at the Collins Branch courtyard and we will walk over together. **Registration is required.**



CPL Nature Club: Fresh Pond Nature Walk

Monday, July 29, 10:15-11:30 a.m.

Join us for a relaxing walk of Fresh Pond with Park Ranger Amanda Garms! No two weeks are the same in nature, and Amanda will share her insights about what's growing, changing, and blooming in the neighborhood.

This walk is not on a paved path. We will walk on uneven terrain, down hills, and over roots. Meet at the Fresh Pond Ranger Station at 250 Fresh Pond Parkway.

Registration is required.

Baby Lapsit

Friday, July 31, 11-11:30 a.m.

Bounces and rhymes for caregivers and babies to learn, play and develop language and motor skills. Recommended for children from birth to 18 months with their caregivers.

Main Library

Sit 'n' Knit

Tuesdays, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

📍 Rossi Room

Bring your project and enjoy the company of other fiber crafters. Drop-in with this informal group to work on your craft, get inspired, pick up skills and socialize. Knit, embroider, crochet, spin, and mend. Refreshments will be provided.

One-on-One Tech Help

Thursdays, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

📍 Learning Lab

Looking for some basic computer or mobile device guidance? Want to learn how to access audiobooks and eBooks? Stop by at the Main Library for our drop-in hours! Drop-in sessions will be limited to 30 minutes for each patron. To view all available timeslots and dates, visit the Library website. If you have any questions, please contact Gina Josette Rivera by email at gjosette@cambridgem.gov.

Puzzle Party

Thursdays, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

📍 Rossi Room

Join our librarians for tea, cookies and a jigsaw puzzle. An hour of fun and conversation on a Thursday afternoon. Refreshments will be provided.

Adult Gaming: Unplugged

Monday, July 13, 6-7:30 p.m.

📍 Rossi Room

Are you suffering from chronic information overload? Feeling overwhelmed by too much technology in your life? Join us for an evening of old school board gaming! Relax and recharge your internal battery with one of our classic board games or bring your own personal favorite.



Sing Along and Story Time in Mandarin

Saturday, July 18, 10-10:30 a.m.

📍 Rey Room

We invite children and their caregivers to a 30-minute session of songs and stories in Mandarin Chinese with Mina (Yating) Fan, a local mother and educator. This fun and interactive session brings families together to enjoy lively songs and engaging stories in a warm, welcoming environment.

Arabic Story Time

Saturday, July 25,

11 a.m.-12 p.m.

📍 Curious George Room

The Library is pleased to be working with dedicated community members to offer a special story time in Arabic! This program which will be conducted primarily in Arabic with the intention of helping young Arabic language learners to improve their skills. This program is suitable for children up to age 7.



O'Connell

Fiber Crafts Group Drop-In

Wednesdays, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Bring your project and enjoy the company of other fiber crafters. Drop-in with this informal group to work on your craft, get inspired, pick up skills and socialize.

Knit, embroider, crochet, spin, mend, cross stitch and more. All crafts are welcome.

LITERACY CENTER PROGRAMS

The Literacy Center is located in the Central Square Branch at 45 Pearl Street. For more information call Maria Balestrieri at 617-349-4013.

Beginner ESOL IN-PERSON

Mondays, 1-2:30 p.m.

Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.

Fridays, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. and 1-2:30 p.m.

High Beginner ESOL IN-PERSON

Mondays, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1-2:30 p.m.

Intermediate ESOL IN-PERSON

Mondays, 1-2:30 p.m.

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Advanced ESOL IN-PERSON

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3-4:30 p.m.

Résumé & Job Application Support IN-PERSON

Wednesdays, 1-3 p.m.

Read to a Dog

Tuesday, July 7, 4-5 p.m.

Wednesday, July 15, 4-5 p.m.

Tuesday, July 21, 4-5 p.m.

Wednesday, July 29, 4-5 p.m.

Read with Pumpkin the Therapy Dog from **Dog B.O.N.E.S.!** Therapy dogs provide warm and non-judgmental reading companions for new or experienced readers of all ages.

Registration for each 10-minute time slot is required and begins a week in advance. Sign up by phone or in person at the O'Connell Branch (617-349-4019).



Paint Party

Thursday, July 16, 2-5 p.m.

Treat yourself to an afternoon of fun, creativity, and community while a local artist guides us step-by-step through the process of creating a beautiful acrylic painting. We'll provide the tea and light refreshments. **Registration is required.**

Drop-in Spanish Conversation Group

Thursday, July 16, 6-7 p.m.

Practice your Spanish language skills in a friendly group setting! Please note, this is not a class, but rather an informal conversation group. This group is best for speakers with knowledge of basic vocabulary, comprehension skills, and the ability to form sentences. Speakers at an advanced beginner to intermediate level or higher are encouraged to join.

O'Neill

English Conversation Practice, Intermediate

Mondays and Wednesdays, 1-2:30 p.m.

Wednesdays, 6-7:30 p.m.

Join us for an English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Conversation Practice. This conversation group is for those with an intermediate or high level of English language skill. No testing is required. For more information on other ESOL classes, please call Maria Balestrieri at 617-349-4013.



Wednesdays of Wonder - W.O.W.!

Wednesdays, 2:30-4 p.m.

Come to the Library for games and a different activity each week! Kids of all ages can hang out and do crafts or STEAM activities.

Drop-in Maker Studio

Saturday, July 18, 1-3 p.m.

Come to the Library to create something special! Use your own supplies or try out our equipment! You can use our 1-inch button maker, 2.5-inch button maker, 3-D Doodle pens, or Janome sewing machines.

The Library will provide basic supplies.

Valente

Beginning English Class

Mondays, 6-7:30 p.m.

Join us for an English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Class! This class will be taught at a beginner level. No testing is needed. Everyone is welcome. For more information, call Maria Balestrieri at 617-349-4013.



Intermediate ESOL

Mondays, 6-7:30 p.m.

Join us for an English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Class! This class will be taught at an intermediate level. No testing needed. For more information call Maria Balestrieri at 617-349-4013.

Wednesdays of Wonder - W.O.W.!

Wednesdays, 2:30-4 p.m.

Come to the Library for games and a different activity each week! Kids of all ages can

Evening Family Story Time

Monday, July 6, 5:30-5:55 p.m.

Join us for 20-25 minutes of stories, songs and rhymes. For children of all ages and their caregivers.

Teen Movie

Fridays, July 10, 17, and 31, 3-5 p.m.

Watch a movie chosen by teen vote. **No registration required,** drop-in when you can.

CPL Adult Summer Camp

Tuesday, July 14 and July 21, 6-7:30 p.m.

Join us for one, two, or all CPL Adult Summer Camp activities to meet new people and have nostalgic fun outside in Cambridge! On July 14, make Tie Dye T-shirts & Bags and on July 21, join us for outdoor game night. **Registration is required.**

Mend and Make Meetup

Wednesday, June 17, 6-7:30 p.m.

Have clothes to mend or craft projects to work on?

Join us for our monthly meetup!

Bring what you are working on and we will provide basic mending supplies.

Registration is required.

Evening Baby Lapsit

Monday, July 20, 5:30-5:55 p.m.

Bounces and rhymes for caregivers and babies to learn, play and develop language and motor skills. Recommended for babies ages 0-18 months and their caregivers.



Hive Workshops for July 2026

All participants must complete the Hive Safety Training before attending Hive Workshops.



Getting Started

Completion of **Hive Safety Training** is the entry point to making, innovating, and collaborating in this space. Makers must also sign **The Hive User Agreement and Waivers**.

Hive Safety Training

IN-PERSON OR **VIRTUAL**

Learn about our makerspace, how to utilize the resources we offer and how to keep safe in The Hive. The training includes a tour of The Hive, either in-person or virtually.

Certification Workshops

3D Printing 101: Game Piece Design

IN-PERSON

Learn how to create your favorite game piece in digital space and print it out using our Prusa 3D printers.

Digital Embroidery 101

IN-PERSON

Want to learn how to create custom clothing and other fiber projects with embroidered text? In this workshop, you'll use a digital embroidery machine to stitch personalized designs and take home a unique piece. This class is for those with prior sewing machine experience. If you're new to sewing, we recommend taking our Sewing 101 workshop first.

Serger 101

IN-PERSON

Are you an intermediate or advanced sewer? This workshop will cover serger machine setup, threading a serger, and identifying correct tension settings with different types of fabric.

Sewing 101

IN-PERSON

Learn the basics of sewing machine operation and safety. This session will cover machine setup, basic functions, threading the machine, reloading the bobbin, sewing straight stitches, and recognizing when stitch tension has gone awry.



Welcome to the state-of-the-art makerspace located at the Main Library! It is a hub for STEAM learning, creativity, and community collaboration in Cambridge. Its mission is to provide free, hands-on learning opportunities to the Cambridge community, resources for personal projects, and to serve as a hub for skill sharing and creative collaboration.

The Hive is open to individuals with a Minuteman library card. The space is designed for independent use for patrons ages 12 and up and supervised use for children under the age of 12.

Registration is required for all Hive workshops.

Studio Recording 101

IN-PERSON

Are you interested in podcasting, audio production, or video production? Join this workshop to become familiar with studio equipment and software.

Videography 101

IN-PERSON

Step into the Hive's state-of-the-art recording studio and film a short video of yourself in front of our green screen. Then, spend some time becoming familiar with video editing software while working with your footage.

Vinyl Cutting 101

IN-PERSON

Would you like to make your own vinyl signs, stickers, or images to transfer to T-shirts and other textiles? Learn how to use our Roland Camm-1 GS-24 vinyl cutter.

XR Lab 101

IN-PERSON

Extended reality (XR) opens the door to worlds and experiences outside the everyday through virtual reality, augmented reality, and mixed reality equipment.

Zing Laser Cutting 101

IN-PERSON

Learn how to use our Epilog Zing to laser cut, engrave and shape designs from a variety of materials.

Open Shop-Equipment and Studio Reservations

Use the equipment and spaces in The Hive to design, craft, and make. Patrons certified on Hive equipment are welcome to reserve time for personal use. Staff will assist as they are able.

Other Programs

Knitting 101

IN-PERSON

In this hands-on session, you'll learn the basics of knitting, including how to cast on, do the knit stitch, and cast off. This workshop is intended for people with no prior knitting experience. All supplies will be provided!

Hive Teen Hangout

IN-PERSON

Teens are welcome to come learn about our space and try their hand at sticker making, video recording in our studio and more. This drop-in event is designed for patrons ages 12-18.

Sewing Circle

IN-PERSON

Continue building your machine-sewing skills AND receive support as you work on your own sewing projects with our Library sewing community. This program is designed for patrons who know the basics of how to use our Janome sewing machines.



Hive Calendar - July 2026



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4
		Serger Training 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM	3D Printing 101 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM		
		Sewing 101 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM	Open Shop 2:30 PM - 6:30 PM		
		Open Shop 5:00 PM - 8:30 PM			
6	7	8	9	10	11
Getting Started with Adobe Illustrator 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM	Open Shop 1:30 PM - 7:00 PM	Zing Laser Cutting 101 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM	Fun with Gif-o-Grafs! 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM	Serger Training 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM	Open Shop 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Open Shop 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM	Studio Recording 101 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Open Shop 3:00 PM - 6:30 PM	Open Shop 5:00 PM - 8:30 PM	Open Shop 11:30 AM - 4:30 PM	3D Printing 101 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM
Sewing 101 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM					Hive Safety Training 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
13	14	15	16	17	18
	Open Shop 1:30 PM - 6:00 PM	3D Printing 101 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM	Open Shop 2:30 PM - 6:30 PM	Digital Embroidery 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM	Sewing 101 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
	Digital Embroidery 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM	Open Shop 3:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Filmmaking 101 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	Open Shop 11:00 AM - 4:30 PM	Serger Training 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
	Hive Safety Training (Virtual) 8:00 PM - 8:30 PM				Open Shop 2:00 PM - 4:30 PM
20	21	22	23	24	25
Filmmaking 101 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM	Open Shop 1:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Sewing 101 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM	Open Shop 2:30 PM - 7:00 PM	Open Shop 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM	Zing Laser Cutting 101 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
		Open Shop 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM	XR Lab 101 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Vinyl Cutting 101 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM	Open Shop 2:00 PM - 4:30 PM
		Studio Recording 101 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM			
27	28	29	30	31	
	Open Shop 1:30 PM - 6:30 PM	Vinyl Cutting 101 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	FUSION Maker Laser Cutting 101 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM	Getting Started with Adobe Illustrator 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM	
	Sewing 101 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	Open Shop 3:00 PM - 6:30 PM	Open Shop 2:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Open Shop 1:00 PM - 4:30 PM	
		3D Printing 101 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM			