

August 2026



EVENTS *at the* CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Events



Summer Fitness: Strength Training for Beginners

IN-PERSON

Saturday, August 1, 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.**

Summer Fitness: Yoga in the Park

IN-PERSON

Tuesday, August 11, 6-7 p.m.

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

📍 Joan Lorentz Park

All are welcome to attend the Cambridge Public Library's free outdoor yoga summer series every other Saturday starting July 14 until August 25. 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. **Registration is required.**



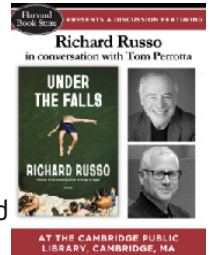
Richard Russo presents: *Under the Falls*

IN-PERSON

Tuesday, August 18, 6-7:30 p.m.

📍 Main Library Lecture Hall

Harvard Book Store and the Cambridge Public Library welcome **Richard Russo**—acclaimed author of ten novels, including the Pulitzer Prize-winner *Empire Falls*—for a discussion of his new novel, *Under the Falls*. He will be joined in conversation by **Tom Perrotta**—New York Times bestselling author of eleven works of fiction, including *Election*, *Little Children*, *Mrs. Fletcher*, *The Leftovers*, and *Ghost Town*. **Registration is required.**



Cambridge Cooks: Plant-based Bowls with Jill Ahlstrand

IN-PERSON

Wednesday, August 19, 5:30-7 p.m.

📍 Main Library Community Room

Join us for the latest installment of Cambridge Cooks. In this class, participants will learn how to create balanced, satisfying bowls using grains, vegetables, proteins, and sauces. Facilitated by Jill Ahlstrand—the founder of Harvesting Flavor, where she teaches approachable, garden-to-table plant-based cooking that helps people feel energized, confident, and nourished—the goal of this class is to make healthy eating practical, seasonal, and deeply flavorful. **Registration is required.**



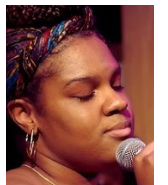
Park Sounds: Joyce the Singer

HYBRID

Saturday, August 22, 2-3:30 p.m.

📍 Joan Lorentz Park

Please join us in welcoming Joyce the Singer for the next installment of Park Sounds 2026. A versatile artist, musician, and producer from



SERVICE ALERT

The Valente Branch is open for Summer Sundays, 1-5 p.m. In August, the Main Library will be closed on Sundays.

Due to construction on Broadway, the Main Library garage is expected to be closed from Friday, July 31 through Monday, August 3.

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

Detroit, MI with a deep passion for her craft. Her sound draws from a beautiful blend of R&B, neo-soul, and jazz influences. Park Sounds 2026 brings free outdoor musical performances featuring local artists to the front lawn of the Cambridge Public Library's Main Branch. Bring a chair, food, and loved ones to celebrate the summer! **Registration is not required.**

Workshops

Wellness for Older Adults: Let Your Yoga Dance

VIRTUAL

Mondays, 11:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Zoom

A fun, dynamic, and ultimately blissful class. We'll work our way through the seven energy centers (chakras) with Let Your Yoga Dance. You will leave with a good workout and a peaceful happy mind/body/spirit. Good for every body! **Registration for each session is required.**

Wednesday Night Creative Writing Group

IN-PERSON

Wednesday, August 12, 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.**

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 Learning Lab

- Getting Started with Canva
Wednesday, August 19, 2-3 p.m.
- Using Google Calendar
Wednesday, August 26, 2-3 p.m.

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, 10:30-11:30 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, 5:30-6:00 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 and Thursdays, 11-11:25 a.m.**

Rey Room

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

Rey Room

Baby Lapsit **Wednesday, 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 10:30-10:50 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.**

minuteman
LIBRARY NETWORK

The Cambridge Public Library is participating in the Minuteman Library Crawl, August 3-8! Pick up a Passport at any branch and collect stamps at every Minuteman library you visit! Scan the QR code to view participating libraries.



Summer Reading

June 20 – August 14, 2026

Summer Reading wraps up on August 14, 2026! Show the completed lines of your “Plant a Seed, Read” bingo board at any Cambridge Public Library location and enjoy special prizes (while supplies last). There are still some Summer Reading programs coming up. **No registration is required unless stated otherwise.**

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.

Adults

An Evening with Lola the Plant Lady

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

📍 Main Library Community Room

Learn the fundamentals of houseplant care, including how to choose the right plants for your 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.

Registration is required.

Seeds & Planting 101 Workshop

Thursday, August 6, 3-4 p.m.

📍 O’Connell

Join us for a hands-on workshop covering starter plants, soils, plant positioning, watering options for your lifestyle, and the health benefits of gardening. Each participant will leave with their own plant. All materials provided. **Registration is required.**

CPL Presents: David George Haskell HYBRID

Thursday, August 6, 6-7:30 p.m.

📍 Main Library Lecture Hall

Join the Cambridge Public Library in celebrating our Summer Reading theme—“Plant a seed, read!”—by gathering with us for a reading and talk with author and biologist, **David George Haskell**, author of *How Flowers Made Our World: The Story of Nature's Revolutionaries*, published just this past March. **Registration is required.**



Finish Your Bingo Card Party

Tuesday, August 11, 5:30-7 p.m.

📍 O’Neill

It is the last week of Summer Reading and your last chance to complete a line or board of Summer Reading BINGO to earn prizes! We will have books that fit categories for all BINGO boards, snacks for motivation and some fun activities and read-alouds!

Tiny Gardens Everywhere

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

📍 Main Library Community Room

Uncover the radical roots of urban gardening with Kate Brown, author of *Tiny Gardens Everywhere* (2026). Presented in partnership with City of Cambridge Community Garden Program.

Sunú Film Screening

Wednesday, August 12, 7-8:30 p.m.

📍 Central Square

Seen through the eyes of small, midsize and large Mexican maize producers, *SUNÚ* knits together different stories from a threatened rural world. This film documents how people realize their determination to stay free, to work the land and cultivate their seeds, to be true to their cultures and forms of spirituality, all in a modern world where corn is being threatened at the center of its origin: Mexico. Popcorn and movie snacks provided.

The Art of Chigiri-e: Decorate a Paper Fan

Friday, August 14, 2-3 p.m. and 3-4 p.m.

📍 O’Connell

Decorate a handheld paper fan using the simple, meditative basics of Chigiri-e (“chee-gee-ree-eh”), a traditional Japanese art form where the name literally means “torn picture.” There will also be a mini-mural station for families to decorate collaboratively to celebrate wrapping up this year’s Summer Reading program. **Registration is required.**



Summer Art Nights: Garden Block Printing

Tuesday, August 18, 5:30-7 p.m.

📍 Main Library

Choose from a selection of images and transform it into a print by carving the image into easy cut linoleum. You will love the satisfying process of carving away the linoleum to reveal the design. Once the carving is complete, the block will be inked and printed. Each person will take home a carved block for future use, and a collection of their own hand printed pieces! **Registration is required.**

Youth

BioDesign with the Rhode Island Computer Museum

Saturday, August 1, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

📍 Main Library

Delve into the wonders of the natural world. Attendees will learn about different types of animal homes and use them to inspire their own creation. Recommended for ages 8-13. This program can accommodate 12 people; tickets are available on a first come, first served basis on the day of the program.



Arthropod Petting Zoo

Saturday, August 1, 3-4 p.m.

📍 Valente

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.

Stuffed Animal Sleepover

Monday, August 3, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

📍 O'Connell

Bring a stuffed animal to the Library for a fun story time! Tuck your animal in, wish them sweet dreams, and read them a good night story. Come back on Tuesday 8/4 (or later) to pick up your friend and find out what adventures they had! Please make sure to bring an animal you are comfortable leaving overnight.

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.

August 4 - Paint by Sticker

August 11 - Origami Peace Cranes

Video Game Days

Wednesday, August 5 and August 12, 12-2 p.m.

📍 Main Library

Every Wednesday during the summer, the Teen Room will host video game days! Buddy up in 1, 2, Switch, or battle each other in Super Smash Bros.

Cyanotype Nature Printing

Wednesday, August 5, 2-3 p.m.

📍 Main Library

Bring your own bits of nature to experiment with cyanotype printing. Recommended for ages 7 and up.

Storytime with José Mateo Ballet Theatre

Wednesday, August 5, 3-4 p.m.

📍 O'Connell

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

Movie Matinee

Wednesday, August 5, 3-4:30 p.m.

📍 Central Square

Enjoy an afternoon movie in the cool indoors. Recommended for children ages 5 and up and their caregivers.

Music and Movement with Julie Murray

Wednesday, August 5, 3-4 p.m.

📍 Collins

Join Julie for a ukulele music and movement program. Recommended for children ages 0-5 and their caregivers.

Teen Crafternoon

Thursday, August 6, 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.

Book Bingo Story Time

Friday, August 7, 11-11:45 a.m.

📍 O'Connell

Join us for a special story time featuring books to match a square on this summer's bingo board for young children. Recommended for ages birth to five with a caregiver.

Seed Art and Mosaics with Hands on Nature

Saturday, August 8, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

📍 Main Library

Saturday, August 8, 2-3 p.m.

📍 O'Neill

Join us for a simple discussion on the life cycle of a plant, then make some seed art to take home! Recommended for children ages 5 and up and their caregivers.

Finish Your Bingo Card Party

Tuesday, August 11, 5:30-7 p.m.

📍 O'Neill

It is the last week of Summer Reading and your last chance to complete a line or board of Summer Reading BINGO to earn prizes! We will have books that fit categories for all BINGO boards, snacks for motivation and some fun activities and read-alouds!

Movie Monday for Teens

Monday, August 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.

Hooping with Wildkat Hoops

Monday, August 10, 6-7 p.m.

📍 Valente

Put on your dancing shoes for an unforgettable workshop of hula hoop magic with Kat Suwalski! You will learn basic hooping moves while increasing hand-eye coordination, strength, balance, and agility. No prior hooping experience is required. Hoops are provided. Recommended for children ages 5 and up and their caregivers. Meet at Donnelly Field.

Tales and Origami for Teens

Tuesday, August 11, 5-6:30 p.m.

📍 O'Connell

Discover Japan, the birthplace of Anime, through magical tales and origami! Award-winning storyteller Motoko will discuss how Japanese folklore has inspired games and anime in the U.S. and around the world. Under her step-by-step guidance, participants will make exciting origami figures, and design their own original anime characters. **No registration required.**



Outdoor Story Time and Chalk Party

Wednesday, August 12, 10:30 -11:30 a.m.

📍 Central Square

Close out Summer Reading with stories, chalk drawing, and a summer treat. Recommended for children of all ages and their caregivers.

Observing the Partial Solar Eclipse with #Popscope

Wednesday, August 12, 1-2:30 p.m.

📍 O'Neill

Join us during the partial solar eclipse and learn how to safely observe it! Eclipse glasses will be provided. Participants will also have the chance to explore a walkable model of the solar system and create a related craft.

Bingo Afternoon

Wednesday, August 12, 3-4 p.m.

📍 Main Library

Five squares in a row and BINGO! Join us for an hour of this fun, exciting game. Recommended for children ages 6+ and their caregivers.

Fairy Celebration at Bergin Park

Friday, August 14, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

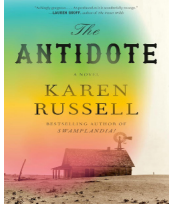
📍 O'Neill

We invite children and their grown-ups to join us for a magical walk through nature. We will look for signs of fairies and build fairy houses. Meet at Gerard Bergin Park (Haskell & Pemberton Streets), a short walk from the O'Neill Branch.

Book Groups

Adult Book Groups

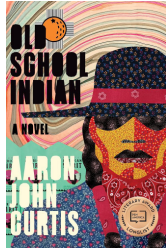
Boudreau



Boudreau Branch Book Group
HYBRID

Wednesday, August 12, 12-1 p.m.

The Antidote by Karen Russell

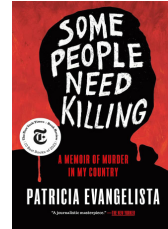


Central Square Branch Book Group
IN-PERSON

Wednesday, August 19, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Old School Indian by Aaron John Curtis

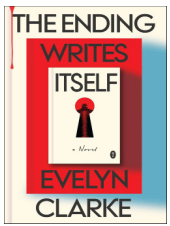
Main Library



True Crime Book Group
IN-PERSON

Monday, August 10, 2-3 p.m.

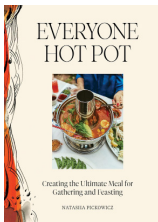
Some People Need Killing: A Memoir of Murder in My Country by Patricia Evangelista



Boudreau Branch Mystery Book Group
HYBRID

Tuesday, August 25, 12-1 p.m.

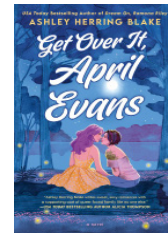
The Ending Writes Itself by Evelyn Clarke



Central Square Cookbook Club
IN-PERSON

Thursday, August 27, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

More than Cake and Everyone Hot Pot by Natasha Pickowicz



Romance Book Group
IN-PERSON

Tuesday, August 11, 7:15-8:15 p.m.

Get Over It, April Evans by Ashley Herring Blake

Central Square

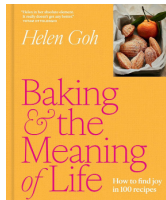


Abating Reality: Mystery/Thriller/Sci-Fi Book Group
HYBRID

Wednesday, August 5, 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Things We Do in the Dark by Jennifer Hillier

Collins

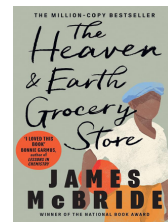


Cookbook Club
IN-PERSON

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

Baking and the Meaning of Life by Helen Goh

O'Connell



O'Connell Branch Book Group
IN-PERSON

Tuesday, August 18, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

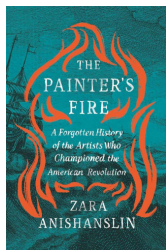
The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store by James McBride



Short Story Reading Group
IN-PERSON

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

TBD



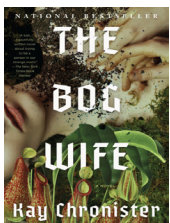
Collins Branch Book Group
IN-PERSON

Thursday, August 13, 6-7 p.m.

The Painter's Fire: A Forgotten History of the Artists Who Championed the American Revolution by Zara Anishanslin

Children's Book Groups

O'Connell



Horror Book Group
IN-PERSON

Thursday, August 20, 7-8 p.m.

The Bog Wife by Kay Chronister



Climate Action Book Club
IN-PERSON

Thursday, August 27, 6-7:30 p.m.

The Future by Naomi Alderman



Graphics are Great Book Club
HYBRID

Tuesday, August 11, 5-6 p.m.

Grace Needs Space by Benjamin A. Wilgus and Rii Abrego (ages 8-12)

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, August 12 and Aug 26, 4-5pm.

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.**

Chess Hour

Monday, August 10,13 and 24, 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, August 13 and August 27, 3-5 p.m.

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

- Button Making
August 13
- 3D Pens
August 27

Coffee And Games!

Friday, August 28, 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.

Narcan Distribution

Tuesday, August 11, 1-3 p.m.

Swing by the Central Square Branch Library to restock on Narcan and learn more about how to reverse overdoses.

"An Aprann Pale Kreyól": Haitian-Creole

Conversational Group

Wednesday, August 26, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

📍 **Literacy Center**

If you would like to chat it up and learn some Haitian-Creole phrases with other folks, please join us at the Central Square Branch for an evening of low-effort, but enriching conversational group.

Kick Back & Watch a Movie

Friday, August 28, 3-5 p.m.

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

Collins

Draw a Bird with Local Artist Mary C. Sullivan

Tuesday, August 11, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Join local artist Mary C. Sullivan and learn how to draw the bird of your choice! Participants of any skill level are welcome and will leave the program with their own finished bird drawing. If you don't think you can draw a bird, that's okay - this event will show you that you can! **Registration is required.**

CPL Nature Club: Fresh Pond Nature Walk

Thursday, August 20, 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.**

Crafternoon: Back to School

Tuesday, August 25, 4-4:45 p.m.

Thursday, August 27, 4-4:45 p.m.

Prepare for the first day of school by making an accessory to hang from your backpack. Supplies and instructions will be provided. Recommended for children ages 6-12 and their caregivers.

- Pom Poms and Tassels
Tuesday, August 25
- Gimp Zipper Pulls
Thursday, August 27

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

Friday, August 28, 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.**

Baby Lapsit

Friday, August 28, 11-11:20 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@cambridgema.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, August 3, 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.

Arabic Story Time

Saturday, August 29, 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; tickets are available on a first come, first served basis on the day of the program.

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.

Kids Paint Party

Tuesday, August 4, 2-5 p.m.

Join us for a fun afternoon of painting, led by local artist Lynn Vandick and geared toward kids ages 7-12. Paint your favorite squishy toy or paint one of ours! Each painter will receive one of our assorted squishy toys to paint and keep. **Registration is required.**

Drop-In Spanish Conversation Group

Thursday, August 13, 5:30-6:30 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 best for those 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. All ages welcome. **No registration required.**

CPL Nature Club: Drop-In Flower Arranging Workshop

Monday, August 17, 3-5 p.m.

Drop by and learn how to assemble a flower bouquet. Participants will leave with their very own bouquet; materials provided while supplies last. Appropriate for all ages, although young children should be accompanied by an adult. **No registration required.**

Wiggle Party

Friday, August 28, 11-11:30 a.m.

Join us for a dance party to get your wiggles out! Play a freeze dance game, shake some shakers, and twirl some rainbow scarves!

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. *Please note that classes are on a two-week break from August 3-12, resuming August 17.

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.

CPL Nature Club: Alewife Afternoon Nature Walk

Tuesday, August 4, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

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. The walk will meet at the stone benches by the wetland boardwalk. **Registration helpful.**

Branch Walk (55+)

Thursday, August 6 and August 20, 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. **Registration is encouraged.**

Drop-in Maker Studio

Saturday, August 15, 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.

Pajama Story Time

Tuesday, August 18, 6:45-7:30 p.m.

Come to the library in your pajamas to listen to stories, read with your children, and enjoy a snack before bed! This program is recommended for children of all ages and their caregivers.

Block Party

Wednesday, August 19, 5-7 p.m.

Celebrate the end of summer with neighbors old and new! All neighbors of any age are welcome.

Valente

CPL Adult Summer Camp: Plant Identification Nature Walk

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

Meet new people and have nostalgic fun outside in Cambridge! Meet at Lechmere Station to admire and identify Cambridge trees, plants, and more using iNaturalist with your neighbors! **Registration is encouraged.**

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 hang out and do crafts or STEAM activities. **No registration required.**

Evening Family Story Time

Monday, August 3, 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.

Youth Graphic Novel Design

Tuesday, August 4, 11, and 18, 3-5 p.m.

Visually capture your own story in a short graphic novel format from story planning to character development and illustration. All materials are provided and no prior art experience is needed! Registration is required, and registering for the first session includes the following sessions.

Bicycle Maintenance Workshop

Wednesday, August 5, 6-7 p.m.

Join the Cambridge Community Development Department for a bicycle maintenance workshop at the Valente Branch Library. **Registration is required.**

CPL Adult Summer Camp

Tuesday, August 11, 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! We will be making friendship bracelets in the Reading Garden next to the Valente Branch. **Registration is required.**

Board Game Night for Adults

Tuesday, August 18, 6-7:30 p.m.

Join us for an evening of board games. We have: Wingspan, Ticket to Ride, Settlers of Catan, Azul, Splendor, Scrabble, chess, checkers, Boggle, Bananagrams, and more! Feel free to bring a board game to play with others. Registration helpful.

Save the Date

CPL Presents: Valeria Luiselli

HYBRID

Thursday, September 24, 6-7:30 p.m.

📍 **Main Library**

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with Valeria Luiselli—the acclaimed author of several books, including *Tell Me How It Ends* and *Lost Children Archive*, the recipient of the 2021 Dublin Literary Award—as she reads and discusses her new novel, *Beginning Middle End*.

Highlights from June and July



CPL Summer Art series hosts a botanical collage class.



Alastair Mook and friends perform at the Summer Reading kickoff.



Tim Hall performs a Park Sounds concert in celebration of Juneteenth.

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.

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

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

Advanced ESOL IN-PERSON

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

Beginner ESOL IN-PERSON

Mondays, 1-2:30 p.m.

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

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

Résumé and Job Application Support

IN-PERSON

Wednesdays, 1-3 p.m.

LIBRARY LOCATIONS/PHONE/HOURS

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-Sun 1-5

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

Hive Workshops for August 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 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 - August 2026

Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

					1 Fun with Gif-o-Grafs! (Main) 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM Hive Safety Training (Main) 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Open Shop 2:00 PM - 4:30 PM
3 Filmmaking 101 (Main) 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Digital Embroidery (Main) 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM	4 Open Shop 2:00 PM - 8:30 PM	5 Studio Recording 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM Open Shop 3:00 PM - 6:30 PM Sewing 101 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	6 Open Shop 5:00 PM - 8:30 PM	7 Sergeer Training 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM Open Shop 11:30 AM - 4:30 PM	8 Open Shop 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM Zing Laser Cutting 101 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM 3D Printing 101 (Main) 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM
10 Beatmaking (Main) 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Open Shop 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM	11 Open Shop 1:30 PM - 5:30 PM Digital Embroidery (Main) 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM	12 3D Printing 101 (Main) 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM Open Shop 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM	13 Open Shop 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM Open Shop 2:30 PM - 6:30 PM Filmmaking 101 (Main) 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	14 Vinyl Cutting 101 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Open Shop 11:00 AM - 4:30 PM	15 3D Printing 101 (Main) 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM Sewing 101 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM Open Shop 2:00 PM - 4:30 PM
17 Zing Laser Cutting 101 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Open Shop 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM	18 Open Shop 1:30 PM - 5:00 PM XR Lab 101 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM 3D Printing 101 (Main) 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	19 Sewing 101 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM Sewing 101 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM Open Shop 5:00 PM - 8:30 PM	20 Knitting 101 (Main) 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM Open Shop 2:30 PM - 5:00 PM Studio Recording 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM	21 Open Shop 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM	22 Open Shop 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM Digital Embroidery (Main) 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Sergeer Training 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM
24 Digital Embroidery (Main) 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Sergeer Training 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM	25 Open Shop 3:00 PM - 6:30 PM Sewing 101 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	26 3D Printing 101 (Main) 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM Vinyl Cutting 101 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM Open Shop 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM	27 Digital Embroidery (Main) 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM Open Shop 2:30 PM - 5:30 PM	28 Getting Started with Adobe Illustrator (Main) 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM Open Shop 1:00 PM - 4:30 PM	29 Filmmaking 101 (Main) 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM Open Shop 12:00 PM - 4:30 PM
31 Open Shop 1:00 PM - 4:30 PM					