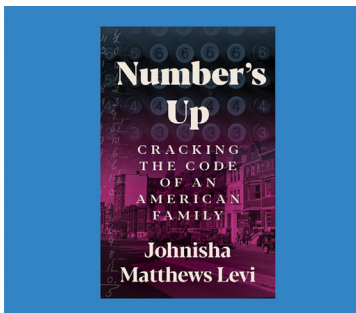


February 2026



## EVENTS *at the* CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY



### Events

CPL Presents: Johnisha Matthews Levi, Author of *Numbers Up* **HYBRID**

Wednesday, February 4, 6-7:30 p.m.

📍 **Main Library Lecture Hall**

For four decades, Johnisha Matthews Levi believed a conventional story about her birth, picturing her happy parents at the hospital together. *Numbers Up* follows Matthews' journey as she uncovers a hidden family history shaped by the state lottery legalization and the War on Drugs' impacts on Black institutions and communities in Washington, DC. **Registration is required.**

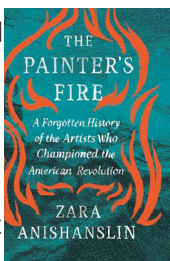
Objects of Memory: Washington and Material Culture

**HYBRID**

Thursday, February 5, 6-7:30 p.m.

📍 **Main Library Lecture Hall**

Consider how Americans understand the material culture of Washington and the Revolution, including art and clothing, featuring Zara Anishanslin, author of *The Painter's Fire: A Forgotten History of the Artists Who Championed the American Revolution* and Associate Professor of History and Art History at the University of Delaware, and Horace Ballard, author of *Superfine: George Washington and the Free and Enslaved Men Who Dressed Him* (forthcoming) and the Theodore E. Stebbins, Jr. Curator of American Art at the Harvard Art Museums. **Registration is required.**



Cambridge Cooks: Black History Month with Chef Malcolm Green

**IN-PERSON**

Wednesday, February 18, 6-7:30 p.m.

📍 **Main Library**

Cambridge Cooks is back! Cambridge native and former Master Chef contestant, Malcolm Green, will prepare stuffed salmon with shrimp and spinach, topped with a Creole cream sauce. **Registration is required.**



CPL Presents: Shakespeare of Harlem: Exploring the Life and Legacy of Langston Hughes **IN-PERSON**

Thursday, February 26, 6-7 p.m.

📍 **Main Library Lecture Hall**

In honor of Black History Month, join Opera on Tap Boston for Shakespeare of Harlem, a concert celebrating the life, work, and enduring influence of Langston Hughes. The program weaves Hughes' poetry and prose with art songs by composers such as Margaret Bonds and Florence Price, alongside the voices of his contemporaries, including Georgia Douglas Johnson and Countee Cullen.



Featuring Morgan Beckford, Soprano; Melynda Davis, Soprano; Todd McNeel, Baritone; and Fred C. Van Ness Jr., Tenor.

Produced by Nina Evelyn and Kathryn McKellar. **Registration is encouraged but not required.**

### SERVICE ALERT

All Library locations will be closed Monday, February 16, for Presidents Day.

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](mailto:library@cambridgema.gov), 617-349-4032 (voice), or via relay at 711.

website [cambridgepubliclibrary.org](https://www.cambridgepubliclibrary.org)

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

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

facebook [www.facebook.com/CambridgePL](https://www.facebook.com/CambridgePL)

**VIRTUAL** Virtual event

**IN-PERSON** In-person event

**HYBRID** In-person event with option to attend virtually

# Workshops

## Aging with Mindfulness VIRTUAL

Mondays, 9-10 a.m.

📍 Zoom

This program, led by Zeenat Potia, will introduce and utilize mindfulness techniques to help us examine and regulate everyday life changes with a focus on aging. Participants will learn and benefit from the development of a mindfulness practice to enable responding to getting older in a calm, clear and thoughtful manner. Presented in Partnership with Cambridge Insight Meditation Center (CIMC). **Registration is required.**

## Documentary Photography with your Smartphone [55+] IN-PERSON

Wednesdays beginning February 4, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

📍 Main Library Rossi Room

We live in an age where we carry our smartphones everywhere we go. Built into this device is a camera that can help us document the world around us. This class will not only teach you to take the best possible photos, but how to edit your photos to make them look as good as they possibly can. **Registration is required.**

## Basic Tech Classes

Join us for Basic Tech Classes this February! 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

- Anatomy of a Smartphone  
Tuesday, February 10, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.
- Customizing Phone Accessibility Settings  
Tuesday, February 17 11 a.m.-12 p.m.
- Navigating the Internet and Online Safety  
Tuesday, February 24, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

### Virtual

- Communicating via Emails and Text Messages  
Wednesday, February 25, 6-7 p.m.

## Wednesday Night Creative Writing Group IN-PERSON

Wednesday, February 11, 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. We may practice in-class writing exercises and read samples of published writing as time allows. **Registration is required.**

## Wellness for Older Adults: Let Your Yoga Dance

VIRTUAL

Monday, February 2 and February 9, 11-11:45 a.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.**

## Starting a Small Business IN-PERSON

Tuesday, February 3 and February 10, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

📍 Central Square Lewis Room

Whether you're just starting out or already running a business, this workshop is for you! Over four weeks, we'll give you the practical skills to make your business run even better. **Registration is required.**

- Workshop 3: Accounting and Bookkeeping Management  
Tuesday, February 3, 2026
- Workshop 4: Operational Efficiency and Inventory Management  
Tuesday, February 10, 2026

## Healthy Mouth, Healthy Life IN-PERSON

Thursday, February 10, 6-7:30 p.m.

📍 Valente

The Harvard School of Dental Medicine's Students for Smiles Club and the Cambridge Public Library are hosting a free community event on oral health. Attendees will learn how to brush and floss the right way through a short talk and hands-on practice. The program will also share simple tips for preventing common dental problems and explain when to see a dentist. A free oral hygiene kit and local dental care resources will be available for everyone. **Registration is required.**

## The Power of Poetry with Writers without Margins

IN-PERSON

Wednesday, February 11 and February 18, 1-2:30 p.m.

📍 Central Square Lewis Room

Join us for artistic exploration and guided exercises to reimagine and reinvigorate your life's stories. We provide a supportive structure and process to encourage insight and healing. Come join us to reclaim your narrative! **Registration is required.**

## Vegetable Fermentation for Gut Health IN-PERSON

Thursday, February 19, 6-8 p.m.

📍 Main Library Community Room

What's all this fuss about fermented foods? Why are fermented foods essential for gut health, and why are they so expensive? Join clinical herbalist Mo Katz-Christy to learn how to use any old vegetables to make delicious and nutritious fermented foods that replenish the microbiome, regulate our immune system, and more! Leave with a jar of kraut that you can share with your household. **Registration is required.**

## Estate Planning for All VIRTUAL

Thursday, February 26, 10-11:30 a.m. .

📍 Zoom

The Cambridge Public Library and Legal Services Center of Harvard Law School are excited to offer *Estate Planning for All*. Estate plans can help you prepare for unexpected changes, offer a sense of security in uncertain times, and ensure that your wishes will be carried out if you become ill, incapacitated, or die unexpectedly. **Registration is required.**

## 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**  
After School Stories and Crafts **Wednesdays, 4:00-5 p.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

Preschool Story Time **Thursdays, 3:30-4 p.m.**  
Toddler Story Time **Fridays, 11-11:30 a.m.**

### O'Neill

Sing-Along **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.**

## 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 1-5

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





# Book Groups



## Adult Book Groups

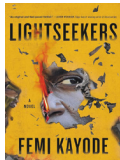
### Boudreau



Boudreau Branch Book Group  
**HYBRID**  
Wednesday, February 11, 12-1 p.m.  
*People Like Us: A Novel* by Jason Mott

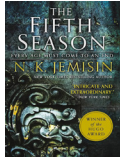


Cookbook Club  
**IN-PERSON**  
Wednesday, February 18, 6-7 p.m.  
*East: 120 Vegan & Vegetarian Recipes from Bangalore to Beijing* by Meera Sodha

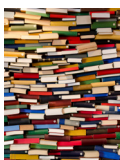


Boudreau Branch Mystery Book Group **HYBRID**  
Tuesday, February 24, 12-1 p.m.  
*Lightseekers* by Femi Kayode

### Central Square



Abating Reality: Mystery/Thriller/Sci-Fi Book Group **HYBRID**  
Wednesday, February 4, 12:30-1:30 p.m.  
*The Fifth Season* by N.K. Jemisin



Central Square Short Story Reading Group  
**IN-PERSON**  
Wednesday, February 10, 6-7:00 p.m.  
Story TBD!



Horror Book Group  
**IN-PERSON**  
Thursday, February 12, 7-8 p.m.  
*Carmilla* by Joseph Sheridan Le Fanu



Central Square Branch Book Group  
**IN-PERSON**  
Wednesday, February 18, 6:30-7:30 p.m.  
*Passing* by Nella Larsen



Central Square Branch Cookbook Group  
**IN-PERSON**  
Thursday, February 26, 6:30-7:30 p.m.  
*Ottolenghi Comfort* by Yotam Ottolenghi

### Collins

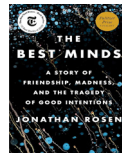


Collins Branch Book Group  
**IN-PERSON**  
Thursday, February 12, 6-7 p.m.  
*The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict & Victoria Christopher Murray



Climate Action Book Club  
**IN-PERSON**  
Thursday, February 26, 6-7:30 p.m.  
*Electrify: An Optimist's Playbook for Our Clean Energy Future* by Saul Griffith

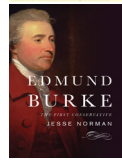
### Main Library



True Crime Book Group  
**IN-PERSON**  
Monday, February 9, 2-3 p.m.  
*The Best Minds: A Story of Friendship, Madness, and the Tragedy of Good Intentions* by Jonathan Rosen



Contemporary Book Group  
**IN-PERSON**  
Tuesday, February 10, 6-7 p.m.  
*Searches: Selfhood in the Digital Age* by Vauhini Vara



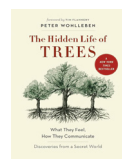
Great Books Book Group  
**HYBRID**  
Tuesday, February 10, 7-9 p.m.  
Edmund Burke and Samuel Johnson on the Colonies  
Tuesday, February 24, 7-9 p.m.  
Selected Poems of Johann Wolfgang von Goethe



Romance Book Group  
**IN-PERSON**  
Tuesday, February 10, 7:15-8:15 p.m.  
*Wuthering Heights* by Emily Brontë

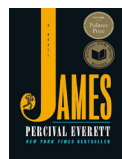


Science Fiction & Fantasy Book Group  
**IN-PERSON**  
Wednesday, February 18, 6-7 p.m.  
*All Systems Red* by Martha Wells



Sustaining Community: A Climate Change Book Group  
**IN-PERSON**  
Monday, February 23, 7-8:30 p.m.  
*The Hidden Life of Trees* by Peter Wohlleben

### O'Connell



O'Connell Branch Book Group  
**IN-PERSON**  
Tuesday, February 17, 6:30-7:30 p.m.  
*James* by Percival Everett

### O'Neill



Valente Branch Book Club  
**IN-PERSON**  
Monday, February 9, 6:30-7:30 p.m.  
*Five-Carat Soul* by James McBride

## Children's Book Groups

### Central Square

MCBA Book Group



**IN-PERSON**  
Wednesday, February 4, 6-7 p.m.  
*Wrong Way Home* by Kate O'Shaughnessy (9-11)



Books Not Binaries Reading Group  
**IN-PERSON**  
Wednesday, February 25, 6-7 p.m.  
*A World Worth Saving* by Kyle Lukoff (12-15)

### Main

Tween Comic Book Club



**IN-PERSON**  
Saturday, February 7, 2-2:30 p.m.  
Monthly Theme: "Bring in your favorite comic!"



Parent/Child Book Group  
**IN-PERSON**  
Tuesday, February 10, 6-6:45 p.m.  
*Charlie and Frog* by Karen Kane (7-9)



Tween Book Group **IN-PERSON**  
Thursday, February 19, 6-6:30 p.m.  
*The Creeping of Dogwood House* by Eden Royce

### O'Connell



Middle Grade Mystery Book Group  
**IN-PERSON**  
Friday, February 13, 4-5 p.m.  
*Winterborne Home for Vengeance and Valor* by Ally Carter



Graphics Are Great! Book Group  
**IN-PERSON**  
Tuesday, February 24, 5-6 p.m.  
*Dear Jackie* by Jessixa Bagley

### O'Neill



Kids' Books for Everyone  
**IN-PERSON**  
Tuesday, February 10, 6:30-7:30 p.m.  
*Atana and the Firebird* by Vivian Zhou

### Valente

Family Cookbook Book Group **IN-PERSON**

Wednesday, February 25, 5-6 p.m.  
Join friends and neighbors for a potluck! This month, we're celebrating sweet treats and desserts!

# Planning for the Library's Future

## One City. Many Voices. Your Library.

How can we be the best public library for you? Cambridge Public Library is planning for the future, and we want your input. Tell us how you use our collections, technology, programs, services, and spaces. Share what library services have the biggest impact on you. Your feedback will help us improve services and set priorities for the coming years.

## Community Chats

Drop by to share your feedback, speak with library staff, and learn more about our recent accomplishments.

Friday, February 6, 2026, 2-3 p.m.

📍 Central Square Branch

Sunday, February 8, 2026, 2-3 p.m.

📍 Main Library, Rossi Room

Tuesday, February 10, 2026, 6-7 p.m.

📍 Boudreau Branch

Thursday, February 12, 2026, 11 a.m.-Noon

📍 O'Connell Branch

Thursday, February 12, 2026, 6-7 p.m.

📍 Main Library, Rossi Room

Thursday, February 19, 2026, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

📍 Collins Branch

Saturday, February 21, 2026, 1:30-2:30 p.m.

📍 Valente Branch

Monday, February 23, 2026, 6-7 p.m.

📍 O'Neill Branch

O'Neill's Welcome Back Potluck will take place 6-7:30 p.m.; see page 9 for details.

## Community Survey

Open February 2-23. Scan code to share your input online.



Print copies available at all library locations.

## Stay Informed

Sign up for planning updates and more library news:

<https://camb.ma/CPLweeklymessage>.



# 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.

### Chess Hour

Monday, February 9 and February 23, 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.

### One-on-One Tech Help

Wednesdays, February 11 and February 25, 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.

### After-school Craft

Thursday, February 12 and February 26, 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  
February 12
- 3D Pens  
February 26

### Boudreau Family Movie Matinee: *Wall-E*

Tuesday, February 17, 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Join us at the Boudreau Branch as we watch the 2008 movie *Wall-E*. There will be pizza available! No registration required.

### Live at the Library: Concert with Rolie Polie Guacamole

Friday, February 20, 2-2:45 p.m.

Join us for a rock concert with the band Rolie Polie Guacamole. This program is for families with children of all ages! No registration is required. *Funding for Vacation Week Programming: Live at the Library has been generously provided by the Cambridge Public Library Foundation.*

### Coffee And Games!

Friday, February 27 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

## Meditation Mondays

**Mondays, 12-1 p.m.** 📍 **Resource Center**

Start your week off right with some meditation at the Central Square Library. Led by the Library Social Worker, Brett Dixon, we combine gentle breathwork, visualization practice and mindful meditation, for a relaxing and recharging experience.

## Remembering Together: Grief Support Group

**Tuesdays beginning January 20, 12-1 p.m.** 📍 **Virtual**

The "Remembering Together" support group is for patrons who are grieving the loss of a loved one. Facilitated by the library social worker, this online group offers a safe and confidential online space for peers to come together, share common experiences and heal in community. If you are interested in participating, or simply learning more about this offering, please email Brett Dixon, the library social worker, at [bdixon@cambridgema.gov](mailto:bdixon@cambridgema.gov).

## Fire Cider Class

**Tuesday, February 3, 2-4 p.m.**

📍 **Lewis Room**

In this class, we will discuss the ingredients in fire cider, different recipes for different conditions, and when and how to use them (salad dressings! mocktails!). Each participant will leave with the info to make their very own fire cider to share with their community.

## 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](mailto: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!

## The Spot Shop for Free

**Saturday, February 7, 11:30-1:30 pm**

**Friday, February 20, 3:30-5:30 p.m.**

📍 **Lewis Room**

Come Shop for Free with Spot at the Central Square Branch Library. Gear up with fall and winter clothes, accessories, supplies, and more -- all for free! First come, first serve. For more information: [spotcambridge@karayallc.com](mailto:spotcambridge@karayallc.com)

## Narcan Distribution

**Tuesday, February 10, 1-3 p.m.**

Restock on Narcan and learn more about how to reverse overdoses.

## Live at the Library: Alex Makes Art!

**Thursday, February 19, 3-4 p.m.**

📍 **Children's Room**

An afternoon of arts and crafts with artist, Alexandra Adamo! Recommended for children 5+ and their caregivers. Registration required.

## Wikipedia Highlights Black Cambridge: Edit-a-thon

**Wednesday, February 25, 5:30-8:30 p.m.**

📍 **Literacy Center**

Join us as we edit and create Wikipedia pages related to Black history, with a focus on Black Cantabridgians. We will use resources from the Library's Archives and Special Collections and the Black Voices Collection at the Central Square Branch.

## Kick Back & Watch a Movie

**Friday, February 27, 3-5 p.m.**

📍 **Lewis Room**

Join us to watch a movie on Central Square Library's big screen and eat popcorn! **No registration required.**

# Collins

## Baby Lapsit

**Friday, February 6, 11-11:30 a.m.**

Enjoy time together with other caregivers and babies to learn, play and develop language and motor skills. Recommended for children from birth to 18 months with their caregivers.

## Perler Bead Valentines

**Tuesday, February 10, 4-4:45 p.m.**

Work with Perler Beads to follow a pattern or create your own unique design. We'll fuse the finished product into place for you to take home and share with your valentine. Recommended for children ages 6-12 and their caregivers.

## CPL Nature Club: Fresh Pond Nature Walk

**Thursday, February 11, 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 Collins Branch courtyard and we will walk over together. **Registration is required.**

## Live at the Library: Music Class with Music at the Blissful

**Wednesday, February 18, 5:30-6:15 p.m.**

This school vacation week, join musician Evan Haller of Music at the Blissful for an interactive music class. Through singing, movement and playful engagement, every child is invited to participate at their own level. Recommended for children ages birth-7 with their caregivers.

## Vacation Week: Paper Spaceships

**Thursday, February 19, 2-2:45 p.m.**

Become an interstellar pilot by folding the ultimate paper airplane: a spaceship! Select a decorated sheet and follow



detailed folding instructions to craft your orbiter or star cruiser. Recommended for children ages 6-12 and their caregivers.

## Cozy Crafternoon for Adults

Thursday, February 19, 4:30-6 p.m.

Come get creative at Collins! Join your neighbors at this casual, drop-in afternoon craft session. Bring your own work-in-progress or join us for recycled paper crafting.

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

Wednesday, February 25, 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.**

## 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.

## Free Drop-In Tutoring for Teens

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, 5-6 p.m.

📍 Teen Room

Need help with a class? Have a question before an exam? Tutors are available to help you! Cambridge School Volunteers and the Library are pleased to offer tutoring services in the Teen Room. No registration required.

## 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](mailto: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, February 2, 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.

## Crafternoon: Cardboard Loom Weaving

Tuesday, February 3, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

📍 Curious George Room

Celebrate the coming Lunar New Year and bring some light to the dark winter by learning the art of tissue paper collage! Make a paper lantern or sun catcher to bring home. All materials are provided. Recommended for ages 5 and up.

## Live at the Library: Lunar New Year Family Concert

Friday, February 20, 11-11:45 a.m.

Join master musician Shaw Pong Liu in an interactive, educational and bilingual (English and Mandarin) music program welcoming the Year of the Horse. Shaw Pong will play her Western violin and her Chinese erhu, play music about horses, and invite a group sing-along. This program is recommended for children ages 5 and up and their caregivers.

## Teen Advisory Board

Tuesday, February 24, 3-4 p.m.

📍 Rindge Room

Teens! Help us plan teen programs for the Library. Earn community service hours. Enjoy free snacks. We meet monthly during the school year. No registration is required. Stop by the Teen Room or call 617-349-4027 to learn more.

## A for AI Series: AI for Content Creation

Thursday, February 26, 6-7:30 p.m.

📍 Learning Lab

Discover how AI can make creative work more fun and accessible. Learn simple tools for writing, audio and video editing, graphic design, and social media — even if you've never created content before. Do you have any accessibility or language support needs? Please submit this form and we'll do our best to meet your needs.

Led by The Hope Group, an award-winning Boston-based AI education team, in collaboration with the Cambridge Public Library.

## Stories, Songs & Play

Friday, February 27, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

📍 Curious George Room

Join us for this new hour-long program, featuring thirty minutes of songs and stories and thirty minutes of open play! This program is recommended for children ages 0-5 and their caregivers. This program can accommodate 50 people. Tickets are available on a first come, first served basis on the day of the program. The entire party must be present to receive a ticket. This program starts promptly. Unclaimed seats will be offered to someone waiting. We appreciate your patience and understanding. Please call 617-349-4038 for more information.

## Castle of our Skins Presents: A Little History

Saturday, February 28, 2-3 p.m.

📍 Curious George Room

Presented by Castle of our Skins, "A Little History" is a 60-minute interactive recital that tells the simplified stories of nine legendary figures in Black History through original music, poetry, and engagement. Recommended for school-age children and their caregivers.

## 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.

### Paint Party at the Library

**Tuesday, February 10, 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.**

### Lunch at the Library for Teens & Tweens

**Wednesday, February 11, 1-3 p.m.**

Take a break from your studies and join us for lunch! Free pizza will be provided while supplies last. This is a drop-in event designed for patrons ages 11-18. **No registration required.**

### Live at the Library: Folktales and Origami for Families

**Thursday, February 19, 3:30-4:30 p.m.**

Parents' Choice Award winner Motoko regales families with delightful folktales from her native Japan, combined with hands-on origami activities. Motoko's step-by-step instructions make the ancient Japanese art fun and accessible. This event is recommended for children ages 5 and up with their caregivers, and no registration is required.

### Little Groove Music and Movement

**Friday, February 20, 11-11:45 p.m.**

This interactive 45-minute children's show is designed to engage young audiences through music, movement, and play. A professional musician with an acoustic guitar leads the program, and an assistant guides the kids through activities with rhythm instruments, scarves, original songs, and familiar favorites to keep the kids engaged and excited. No registration required. Recommended for ages 0-4 with a caregiver.

## O'Neill

### Intermediate ESOL Class

**Mondays, 1-2:30 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 is needed. For more information call the O'Neill Branch at 617-349-4023.

### English Conversation Practice, Intermediate

**Wednesdays, 1-2:30 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.

### Kids' Zine Collective

**Friday, February 6 and February 20, 4-5 p.m.**

What's a zine? And how do I make one? Come find out! Kids are invited to explore making, copying, sharing, and swapping zines. Making zines will include activities like writing, drawing, and using a photocopier. For kids ages 7 and up. Snacks are provided!

### Read to a Dog

**Saturday, February 7, 3-4 p.m.**

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 on Monday, February 2 by calling or visiting the O'Neill Branch (617-349-4023).

### One-on-One Tech Help by Appointment

**Wednesday, February 11 and February 25, 10-10:30 a.m.**

Looking for some basic computer or mobile device guidance? Want to learn how to access audiobooks and eBooks? Stop by at the O'Neill Branch Library for a tech help appointment! Sessions will be limited to 30 minutes for each patron.

### Drop-In Tech Help

**Wednesday, February 11 and February 25, 10:45-11:45 a.m.**

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 10:45 a.m. and 11:45 a.m. **No registration required.**

### Cambridge Young Authors' Squad

**Friday, February 13 and February 27, 4-5 p.m.**

Young people ages 10 to 14 who love to write are welcome to share their ideas and writing. There will be time for share-outs/ workshopping, as well as group or solo writing. Snacks are provided!

### Drop-in Maker Studio

**Saturday, February 14, 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.

### Family Movie at the Library

**Friday, February 20, 2-3:45 p.m.**

Join us over February vacation for a family movie at the Library! We will be screening Paddington in Peru - PG (Columbia Pictures, 2024). Snacks will be provided.



## Live at the Library: Concert with Rolie Polie Guacamole

**Saturday, February 21, 3:30-4:15 p.m.**

Join us for a rock concert with the band Rolie Polie Guacamole. This program is for families with children of all ages.

## Welcome Back Community Potluck

**Monday, February 23, 6-7:30 p.m.**

What's hot & cold & read all over? The O'Neill Branch Library's new HVAC system!

Bring a hot or cold dish to share as we celebrate community and our new heating and cooling system. We'll provide a hot fudge sundae bar, plates, napkins, and cutlery.

Library staff will also be on hand to ask how can we be the best library for you? Tell us how you use our collections, technology, programs, services, and spaces. Share what library services have the biggest impact on you. Your feedback will help us improve services and set priorities for the coming years.

## Pajama Story Time

**Tuesday, February 24, 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. Pajama Story Time is presented by the Cambridge Public Library and the Center for Families.

# 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.

## Drop In Tech Help

**Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.**

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

Looking for some basic computer or mobile device guidance? Want help using an online resource? Need someone to support navigating online job applications? Want information on low cost internet? Join us for our drop-in help hours between 2p.m. and 3:30p.m. **No registration required.**

## Wednesdays of Wonder- W.O.W.!

**Wednesdays, 3:30-5 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.

## Teen Hangout

**Thursdays, 3:30-5 p.m.**

Hangout with other teens in the Valente Branch Community Room after school: socialize, unwind, play a game, make some art - your choice!

## Evening Story Time

**Monday, February 2, 5:30-5:55 p.m.**

We invite children and their grown-ups to join us for our monthly evening story time event. This program will run for 20-25 minutes, with songs, stories and rhymes.

## Youth Dungeons and Dragons

**Tuesdays, February 3, 10, and 24, 4-5 p.m.**

Youth ages 10-16 are welcome to join three sessions of the table-top game Dungeons and Dragons (DnD), as we build our cooperative role-play and storytelling skills. The first session will include time to build characters and review rules of gameplay. Following sessions will follow a storyline through to the final session. Registration is required. Please plan to attend all sessions! All experience levels welcome.

## Read to a Dog

**Wednesday, February 4 5-6:30 p.m.**

**Thursday, February 19, 3:30-5 p.m.**

Read to Dante, our local cuddly therapy dog! Trained therapy dogs provide warm and non-judgmental reading companions for new or experienced readers up to age 14. Registration for each 15-minute time slot is required and begins one week in advance by calling or visiting the Valente Branch (617-349-4015).

## Teen Valentine Crafting & Friendship Bracelets

**Monday, February 9, 4-5 p.m.**

Express your gratitude for special people in your life with handmade Valentines! Materials to create cards, friendship bracelets, and more will be available.

## After Story Time Caregiver Social

**Thursday, February 12, 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.**

Connect with other caregivers after story time! We will provide coffee for caregivers, and toys for children.

## Coffee and Games for Adults

**Friday, February 13, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.**

Join us at the Valente Branch for coffee and games. We have Scrabble, cribbage, cards, Bananagrams, chess, checkers, Boggle and more! Registration helpful.

## Board Game Afternoon

**Saturday, February 14, 2-4 p.m.**

Join us at Valente for an afternoon of board games and fun! Play with friends, family and neighbors. The library will provide all materials.

## Fabric Mending: Darning

**Wednesday, February 18, 6-7:30 p.m.**

Darning is a fabric mending technique that involves reinforcing or re-weaving a portion of fabric by hand. In this workshop, we'll learn how to visibly mend holes and weak areas in sweaters, socks, and other knit fabrics using seed stitch and square darning techniques. You'll leave with a sampler of both techniques that you can refer back to when tackling your own darning projects at home. Suitable for beginners with little or no darning experience, though it does help if you have some experience with hand sewing. **Registration required.**

## Live at the Library: Capoeira for Everyone with Mass Capoeira

**Saturday, February 21, 3-4 p.m.**

Join us for a demonstration of capoeira, a unique Afro-Brazilian art form combining martial arts, dance, music and acrobatics. Following the performance, children will have the opportunity to learn basic capoeira movements. Recommended for children of all ages and their caregivers.

## Board Game Night for Adults

**Tuesday, February 24, 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. We will provide pizza and beverages. **Registration helpful.**

## Save the Date

**CPL Arts: Voices in Collage; Celebrating Women's History** IN-PERSON

**Thursday, March 12, 5:30-7 p.m.**

📍 **Main Library**

In honor of Women's History Month, this collage workshop invites participants to explore collage as a practice rooted in storytelling, care, and reclamation. Together, we will look at how women and femmes have historically used cutting, layering, assemblage, and repair as forms of documentation and self expression, often working outside traditional art spaces and definitions of what is understood to be "fine art."

**Registration is required.**

***Travels with George: In Search of Washington and His Legacy*** HYBRID

**Thursday, March 12, 6-7:30 p.m.**

📍 **Main Library**

Retrace George Washington's post-inaugural journeys and explore how he sought to unite a fragile new nation, featuring: Peter Drummey, Chief Historian of the Massachusetts Historical Society (Ret.) Nathaniel Philbrick, author of *Travels with George: In Search of Washington and His Legacy*, along with many other *New York Times* bestselling books.

**Registration is required.**

**Grow Native Massachusetts Evening with Experts: Kim Eierman Presents The Pollinator Victory Garden**

IN-PERSON

**Wednesday, March 11, 7-8:30 p.m.**

📍 **Main Library**

Kim Eierman will help you sort out the mysteries and complexities of native plant selection including: Am I buying a genetic clone, and does it matter? What are local ecotypes and where can I buy them? Are native cultivars ok? Are dwarf natives ecologically-useful? What's the tradeoff with double flowers? Which native plants require pollination partners (i.e. are dioecious) and how do I source them? What are the pros and cons of planting native seeds vs. live plants? Get the answers you need to make your native landscape both beautiful and eco-beneficial. **No registration is required.**

## Highlights from January



Dr. Brandon Terry takes a question from the audience following his Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Lecture.



Members of the Cambridge Young Authors' Squad moderated a conversation with local author Kate McGovern about the release of her book, *Maple for the People*. CYAS members had the opportunity to read and provide feedback on an earlier draft of the book.



Patrons exchange art materials like yarn, paint, and more at the Craft and Art Supply Swap.



# Hive Workshops for February 2025

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 - February 2026

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
Zing Laser Cutting 101 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM	3D Printing 101 (Main) 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM	Fiber Arts Adventure with Lenni: A Machine-Sewing Workshop Series 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Sewing 101 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM	Open Shop 11:30 AM - 4:30 PM	Digital Embroidery (Main) 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
	Open Shop 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Hive Teen Hangout 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM	Open Shop 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM		Hive Safety Training (Main) 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
			Vinyl Cutting 101 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM		Open Shop 2:00 PM - 4:30 PM
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
3D Printing 101 (Main) 1:30 PM - 3:30 PM	Open Shop 1:00 PM - 6:30 PM	Zing Laser Cutting 101 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM	Digital Embroidery (Main) 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM	Open Shop 11:30 AM - 4:30 PM	Serger Training 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
	Sewing 101 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	Fiber Arts Adventure with Lenni: A Machine-Sewing Workshop Series 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Open Shop 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM		Studio Recording 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
		Hive Teen Hangout 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM	XR Lab 101 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM		Open Shop 2:00 PM - 4:30 PM
			Hive Safety Training (Virtual) 8:00 PM - 8:30 PM		
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
	Open Shop 3:00 PM - 8:30 PM	Vinyl Cutting 101 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Knitting 101 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM	Serger Training 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM	Zing Laser Cutting 101 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
		Fiber Arts Adventure with Lenni: A Machine-Sewing Workshop Series 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Open Shop 3:30 PM - 7:00 PM	Open Shop 11:30 AM - 4:30 PM	Sewing 101 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
			Digital Embroidery (Main) 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM		Open Shop 2:00 PM - 4:30 PM
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
Sewing 101 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM	Open Shop 1:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Beatmaking (Main) 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM	Vinyl Cutting 101 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM	Open Shop 11:30 AM - 4:30 PM	3D Printing 101 (Main) 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM
		Fiber Arts Adventure with Lenni: A Machine-Sewing Workshop Series 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Open Shop 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM		Open Shop 2:00 PM - 4:30 PM
		Hive Teen Hangout 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM	Zing Laser Cutting 101 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM		