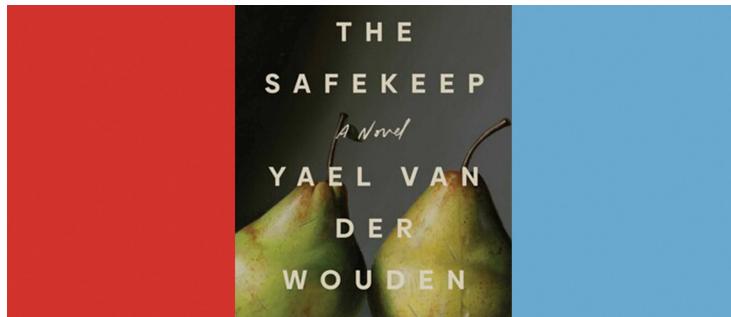


January 2026



EVENTS at the CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Events



Brewery Book Club IN-PERSON

Wednesday, January 7, 7-8:30 p.m.

📍 Lamplighter Brewing

Lamplighter and the Cambridge Public Library team up to highlight contemporary works from marginalized voices while having a beer. Meet at Lamplighter Brewing Co., 284 Broadway, in the back taproom. This month we'll read *The Safekeep* by Yael van der Wouden. **Registration is encouraged but not required.**

51st Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Lecture with Dr. Brandon Terry HYBRID

January 14, 6-7:30 p.m.

📍 Main Library Lecture Hall

Dr. Terry is the John L. Loeb Associate Professor of the Social Sciences at Harvard University and Co-director of the Institute on Policing, Incarceration, and Public Safety at the Hutchins Center for African and African American Research. He is the author of *Shattered Dreams, Infinite Hope: A Tragic Vision of the Civil Rights Movement*. This event is cosponsored by the Mayor's Office, the City Manager's



SERVICE ALERT

All Library locations will be closed Thursday, January 1, 2026, for New Year's Day.

The O'Neill Branch Library will close on Monday, January 5, for a routine update of the HVAC system, and will reopen in early February.

All Library locations will be closed Monday, Jan. 19, for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Office, the Cambridge Public Library, and the Cambridge Public Library Foundation. **Registration is required.**

Your Fat Friend Documentary Screening IN-PERSON

Thursday, January 15, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

📍 Central Square Lewis Room

Made over 6 years, *Your Fat Friend* charts the rise of writer and activist Aubrey Gordon from anonymous blogger to NYTimes best-selling author and beloved podcaster through the lens of acclaimed director Jeannie Finlay. Her aim? A paradigm shift in the way we see fat people and the fat on our own bodies. **Registration is required.**

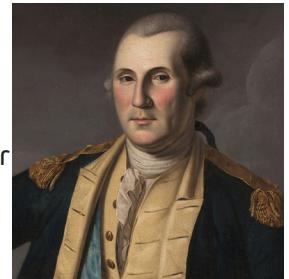


The First President and the First People: Washington in the Native Northeast HYBRID

Thursday, January 22, 6-7:30 p.m.

📍 Main Library Lecture Hall

Explore how Americans have remembered, reinterpreted, and reshaped the meaning of the American Revolution from 1776 to today, featuring **Colin Gordon Calloway**, author of *The Indian World of George Washington: The First President, the First Americans, and the Birth of the Nation* and John Kimball, Jr. 1943



Professor of History and Professor of Native American Studies at Dartmouth College and **Kabl Wilkerson**, enrolled member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation (Bourassa & Muller families; Bear Clan) and doctoral candidate in the History Department at Harvard University. **Registration is 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

Harvey C. Mansfield presents: *The Rise and Fall of Rational Control* IN-PERSON

Monday, January 26, 6-7:30 p.m.

📍 **Main Library Lecture Hall**

Harvard Book Store and the Cambridge Public Library welcome **Harvey C. Mansfield**—William R. Kenan, Jr., Research Professor of Government at Harvard University and recipient of the National Humanities Medal—for a discussion of his new book, *The Rise and Fall of Rational Control: The History of Modern Political Philosophy*. Registration is required.

The Next Dream: Documentary Screening and Discussion IN-PERSON

Thursday, January 29, 6-7:30 p.m.

📍 **Main Library Lecture Hall**

Join the Cambridge Public Library for a screening of *The Next Dream*, an independent documentary about more than one million Temporary Protected Status (TPS) families across the U.S., who are at risk of deportation and family separation. The screening will be followed by a panel discussion and Q&A with members of the National TPS Alliance and the film's producers. Registration is encouraged but not required.

Workshops

Wellness for Older Adults: Zumba Gold VIRTUAL

Mondays, 11-11:45 a.m.

📍 **Zoom**

Put on your dancing shoes to improve flexibility and balance, strengthen muscles and have fun! Certified Zumba Gold instructor Emily B. will lead you through 45 minutes of low-impact and easy-to-follow choreography in your own home through Zoom. Registration is required.

Creative Journaling for Teens IN-PERSON

Thursday, January 8, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

📍 **Main Library Rindge Room**

Take a screen break and get organized! Plan your day, track your workouts, remember your friends' birthdays, all with a pen and paper. Join other teens to learn the basics of the bullet journal and how you can use your doodles to plan your future.

Basic Tech Classes



BASIC TECH CLASSES



IN-PERSON

Join us for Basic Tech Classes this January! 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

- Budgeting with Google Sheets Tuesday, January 13, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.
- Creating Resumes with Google Docs Tuesday, January 20, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.
- Gmail Basics: Manage Your Inbox and Storage Tuesday, January 27, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

Wednesday Night Creative Writing Group IN-PERSON

Wednesday, January 14, 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.

Hand Embroidery IN-PERSON

Thursday, January 15, 6-7:30 p.m.

📍 **Main Library Rindge Room**

Hand Embroidery will cover an assortment of basic embroidery stitches that can be used to embellish your clothing and hide (or highlight!) holes and stains! Leave class with a sampler of embroidery stitches you can refer back to, along with knowledge of tools, materials, and techniques for stitching up embroidered designs. Registration is required.

Starting a Small Business IN-PERSON

Tuesday, January 20 and January 27, 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 1: Foundation and Idea Validation Tuesday, January 20, 2026
- Workshop 2: Market Strategy and Customer Acquisition Tuesday, January 27, 2026

Aging with Mindfulness VIRTUAL

Beginning Monday, January 26, 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.

Bicycle Maintenance Workshop IN-PERSON

Tuesday, January 27, 6-7 p.m.

📍 **Valente**

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

The O'Neill Branch Library will temporarily close on **January 5, 2026** for routine maintenance.

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, January 14, 12-1 p.m.
Radium Girls by Kate Moore

Boudreau Branch Mystery Book Group
HYBRID

Tuesday, January 27, 12-1 p.m.
Death at the Sanatorium by Ragnar Jónasson

Central Square



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

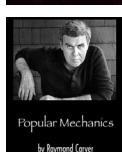
Wednesday, January 7, 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Liar, Dreamer, Thief by Maria Dong



Horror Book Group
IN-PERSON

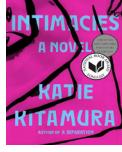
Thursday, January 8, 7-8 p.m.
Mexican Gothic by Silvia Moreno-Garcia



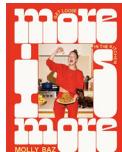
Central Square Short Story Reading Group
IN-PERSON

Wednesday, January 14, 6-7:30 p.m.

Popular Mechanics by Raymond Carver
Central Square Branch Book Group
IN-PERSON



Wednesday, January 21, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Intimacies by Katie Kitamura



Central Square Branch Cookbook Group
IN-PERSON

Thursday, January 22, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

More is More: Get Loose in the Kitchen by Molly Baz

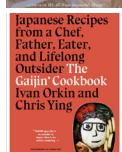
Collins



Collins Branch Book Group
IN-PERSON

Thursday, January 8, 6-7 p.m.

Sandwich by Catherine Newman



Japanese Recipes from a Chef, Father, Eater, and Lifelong Outsider: The Gaijin Cookbook by Ivan Orkin and Chris Ying

recipes from a chef, father, eater, and lifelong outsider by Ivan Orkin and Chris Ying

Cookbook Club
IN-PERSON

Wednesday, January 14, 6-7 p.m.

Love Japan: recipes from our Japanese American kitchen by Sawako Okochi & Aaron Israel with Gabriella Gershenson and *The gaijin cookbook : Japanese*

recipes from a chef, father, eater, and lifelong outsider by Ivan Orkin and Chris Ying

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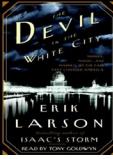
Climate Action Book Club

IN-PERSON

Thursday, January 29, 6-7:30 p.m.

Carmageddon: How Cars Make Life Worse and What To Do About It by Daniel Knowles

Main Library



True Crime Book Group

IN-PERSON

Monday, January 12, 2-3 p.m.

The Devil in the White City by Erik Larson



Great Books Book Group

HYBRID

Tuesday, January 13, 7-9 p.m.

Lolita by Vladimir Nabokov

Tuesday, January 27, 7-9 p.m.

Angels in America by Tony Kushner



Romance Book Group

IN-PERSON

Tuesday, January 13, 7:15-8:15 p.m.

Kiss Me, Maybe by Gabriella Gomez



Contemporary Book Group

IN-PERSON

Tuesday, January 20, 6-7 p.m.

Victorian Psycho by Virginia Feito



Science Fiction & Fantasy Book Group

IN-PERSON

Wednesday, January 21, 6-7 p.m.

The West Passage by Jared Pecháček



Sustaining Community: A Climate Change Book Group

IN-PERSON

Monday, January 26, 7-8:30 p.m.

Human Nature: Nine Ways to Feel about Our Changing Planet by Kate Marvel

O'Connell



O'Connell Branch Book Group

IN-PERSON

Tuesday, January 20, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Three Bags Full by Leonie Swann

Valente



Valente Branch Book Club

IN-PERSON

Wednesday, January 14, 12-1 p.m.

Harlem Rhapsody by Victoria Christopher Murray

Children's Book Groups

Central Square

MCBA Book Group

IN-PERSON

Wednesday, January 7, 6-7 p.m.

The Swifts by Beth Lincoln (9-11)

Books Not Binaries Reading Group

IN-PERSON

Wednesday, January 28, 6-7 p.m.

The Truth About Triangles by Michael Leali (10-13)

Main



Parent/Child Book Group

IN-PERSON

Tuesday, January 13, 6-6:45 p.m.

The Homework Machine by Dan Gutman (7-9)

Tween Book Group

IN-PERSON

Thursday, January 15, 6-6:30 p.m.

Air by Monica Roe (10-12)

O'Connell



Middle Grade Mystery Book Group

HYBRID

Friday, January 9, 4-5 p.m.

The Sherlock Society by James Ponti



Graphics Are Great! Book Group

HYBRID

Tuesday, January 27, 5-6 p.m.

We Are Big Time by Hena Khan and Safiya Zerrougui (Ages 8-12)

Valente



Family Cookbook Book Group

IN-PERSON

Wednesday, January 28, 5-6 p.m.

Join friends and neighbors for a potluck! This month, we're celebrating soups and other warm, savory foods that are extra nice in the winter. Bring a dish to share, or just come to talk about your experience with a chosen cookbook. All experience levels welcome! No need to bring a dish to join. Visit Valente for a selection of cookbooks that are ready to check out. This book group is for children of all ages and their caregivers and families.

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.

Watercolor Workshop

Monday, January 5, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Learn how to paint still life using watercolor in a relaxed and welcoming environment. This class will cover wet on wet and wet on dry techniques, masking, pressing, shading and light techniques, ink washes, and pattern making. This class is full, but a waitlist is available.

Chess Hour

Monday, January 12 and January 26, 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, January 14 and January 28, 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, January 15, 3-5 p.m.

Thursday, January 29, 3-5 p.m.

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

- 3D Pens
[January 15](#)
- Button Making
[January 29](#)

Kindergarten Party

Wednesday, January 21, 4-5:30 p.m.

Party like you just got your first library card! All Kindergartners, along with their families and friends, are welcome to attend. We will have activities, crafts and snacks.

Coffee And Games!

[Friday, January 23, 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.

Drop-in Tech Help at the Library

[Tuesdays, 3:30-5:30 p.m.](#)  [Lewis Room](#)

[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!

Healthy Mouth, Healthy Life

[Thursday, January 8, 6:30 - 8 p.m.](#)

The Harvard School of Dental Medicine's Students for Smiles Club and the Central Square Branch Library are hosting a free community event on oral health. Learn how to brush and floss the right way through a short talk and hands-on practice, including tips for preventing common dental problems and when to see a dentist. Free toothbrushes, toothpaste, floss, and local dental care resources will be available for everyone. Registration required.

The Spot Shop for Free

[Friday, January 9, 3:30-5:30 pm](#)

[Saturday, January 24, 11:30-1:30 pm](#)

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.

Kindergarten Party

[Friday, January 23, 4-5 p.m.](#)

Party like you just got your first library card! All Kindergartners, along with their families and friends, are welcome to attend. We will have activities, crafts and snacks.

Kick Back & Watch a Movie

[Friday, January 30, 3-5 p.m.](#)

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

Collins

Vacation Week: Music Class with Rockabye Beats

Monday, January 5, 11-11:45 a.m.

Hands on learning through music, dancing, Spanish and fun! Rockabye Beats brings the magic of music to babies, toddlers and preschoolers. Little ones and their caregivers will enjoy live music, instrument jams, musical games and even a little Spanish, all designed to spark creativity, joy and connection.

Baby Lapsit

Friday, January 9, 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.

Paint by Sticker

Tuesday, January 13, 4-5 p.m.

Choose a "Paint by Sticker" design and match the numbered stickers to the numbered spaces, then watch your artwork come alive. Recommended for children ages 6-12 and their caregivers.

CPL Nature Club: Fresh Pond Nature Walk

Thursday, January 15, 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.**

Cozy Crafternoon: Snowflakes

Thursday, January 22, 4:30-6 p.m.

Come get creative at Collins! Join your neighbors at this casual, drop-in afternoon craft session. This month, celebrate winter by making snowflakes. We'll provide supplies and instructions to cut traditional snowflakes and advanced 3-D versions using multiple sheets of paper. This month's activity is recommended for people of all ages.

Playful Pets Preschool Story Time

Monday, January 26, 4-4:45 p.m.

Join us for stories, songs and a craft celebrating cats, dogs and less common pets. Recommended for children ages 3-7 and their caregivers.

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

Friday, January 30, 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. **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.

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, January 5, 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, January 6, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

 **Curious George Room**

Learn a new hobby and make a textured art piece with cardboard loom weaving! All materials are provided. Recommended for ages 5 and up. Registration is not required for this event.

All Love and Safety to Our Neighbors: Storytelling and Art Making

Saturday, January 10, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

 **Ridge Room**

Join social justice project Wee The People for a free, immersive, intergenerational event of storytelling and art-making to celebrate belonging, safety, and immigrant communities. This program can accommodate 45 people and is recommended for youth ages 6 and up and their caregivers.

Creative Journaling for Teens

Thursday, January 8, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

 **Curious George Room**

Take a screen break and get organized! Plan your day, track your workouts, remember your friends' birthdays, all with a pen and paper. Join other teens to learn the basics of the bullet journal and how you can use your doodles to plan your future.

Craft & Art Supply Swap

Thursday, January 22, 4-6 p.m.

 **Community Room**

Exchange your surplus paint, fabric, fiber, and other supplies with fellow crafters and artists in the community! Donations accepted at the Main Library Q&A desk starting January 5, 2026. Make & Mend Somerville has generously offered to accept leftover supplies, so please make sure your donations follow their guidelines: <https://makeandmendshop.com/pages/donate>.

Teen Advisory Board

Tuesday, January 27, 3-4 p.m.

 **Ridge 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.

Kindergarten Party

Wednesday, January 28, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Party like you just got your first library card! Kindergartners and their grown-ups are invited to a special party! Enjoy pizza, create a collaborative mural, and learn about all the fun things you can do with your new library card! Kindergartners, along with their families and friends, are welcome to attend.

Story Time, Activities, and Songs in French

Saturday, January 31, 10:30 a.m.-11:15 a.m.

 **Curious George Room**

Join the Cambridge Public Library and the International School of Boston for a French story time and a music-and-movement session where children will sing, move, enjoy a classic book read aloud in French, and create a small craft to take home. Parents will walk away with simple, effective tips to support interactive reading at home. No prior French experience is needed; this program is designed to spark curiosity, build cultural awareness, and make language learning joyful for all! Recommended for youth ages 3 to 6 years with their caregiver.

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.

Alphabet Craft Time

Wednesday, January 7, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Come hear stories and songs about things that start with the letter E, and make an elephant craft. We will be using scissors and glue. Recommended for ages 4-6 with a caregiver.

Wiggle Party

Wednesday, January 14, 5:30-6 p.m.

Join us for a dance party to get your wiggles out! Play a freeze dance game, shake some shakers, and learn the steps to a new dance!

Little Groove Music and Movement

Friday, January 16, 11-11:45 a.m.

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. Recommended for ages 0-4 with a caregiver.

Chapter Book Craft Club

Wednesday, January 21, 4-5 p.m.

Wednesday, January 28, 4-5 p.m.

Come talk about a different series each week, and get crafty with it! Make a button or bookmark, or draw your favorite characters. Recommended for ages 5-8.

Kindergarten Party

Friday, January 23, 4-5 p.m.

Party like you just got your first library card! All Kindergartners, along with their families and friends, are welcome to attend. We will have activities, crafts and snacks.

Evening Family Story Time

Wednesday, January 28, 5:30-6 p.m.

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

O'Neill

The O'Neill Branch Library will close temporarily on Monday, January 5 for routine maintenance. Some programs have been moved to other branches or online. Please check the website calendar for the most up to date information.

Family Movie at the Library

Friday, January 2, 2-3:45 p.m.

Join us over winter vacation for a family movie at the Library! We will be screening *Dog Man - PG* (Dreamworks, 2025). Snacks will be provided.

CPL Nature Club: New Year's Birdwatching at Fresh Pond

Saturday, January 3, 10-11:30 a.m.

Start the year off right by getting to know Cambridge birds! All ages are welcome to join us as we observe birds at Fresh Pond. This event will focus on birds that can be found in the winter in Cambridge, including several species of ducks, sparrows and more. A limited supply of binoculars will be available. Please dress accordingly as we will be outside for the entire walk. Registration is required. Meet at Fresh Pond ranger station.

Kids' Zine Collective

Friday, January 9 and January 23, 4-5 p.m.

Location to be determined. Please check the Cambridge Public Library website for updates.

Cambridge Young Authors' Squad VIRTUAL

Friday, January 16 and January 30, 4-5 p.m.

For the month of January, we will be meeting virtually via Zoom. Please register in order to receive the Zoom meeting link!

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!

Pajama Story Time

Tuesday, January 27, 6:45-7:30 p.m.

 **Peabody School**

Due to the temporary closure of the O'Neill Branch, this month's story time will happen at the Peabody School at 70 Rindge Ave. Please enter the building on the back side through Door 11.

Put on your pajamas and come 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.

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!

Community Build

Saturday, January 3, 2-4 p.m.

Join us for a community building party at Valente as we build structures with LEGOS, wooden sticks, cards, and any other materials we can get our hands on! The library will provide all building materials. This event is recommended for children ages 5+ and their guardians.

Teen Create Your Own Graphic Novel

Tuesday, January 6, 4-5 p.m.

Tuesday, January 13, 4-5 p.m.

Tuesday, January 20, 4-5 p.m.

Tuesday, January 27, 4-5 p.m.

Learn how to visually capture your own memoir or fictional creation in a short graphic novel through story planning, character development, and techniques for capturing emotions, motion, and time. Materials provided and no prior art or author experience needed! Registration is required. Please plan to attend all four sessions.

Teen New Year Vision Board Collage

Monday, January 12, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Join in to reflect on and identify goals for the new year as we create visual representations of those goals with collage!

Crafting materials such as paper, magazines, scissors, and glue sticks are provided.

Read to a Dog

Wednesday, January 14, 3:30-5 p.m.

Thursday, January 29, 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).

Board Game Night for Adults

Tuesday, January 20, 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.

Mend and Make Meetup

Wednesday, January 21, 6-7:30 p.m.

Have clothes to mend or craft projects to work on? Join us for our new monthly meetup! Bring what you are working on and we will provide basic mending supplies. **Registration is required.**

Save the Date

CPL Presents: Johnisha Matthews Levi, the author of *Numbers Up* IN-PERSON

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

For four decades, Johnisha Matthews Levi believed a conventional story about her birth, picturing her happy parents at the hospital together. While sorting through her late mother's belongings, however, she discovered a document indicating that her father was instead serving time in Lorton Correctional Complex. This revelation, along with rumors about an FBI investigation of her deceased parents' "private business," leads Levi to unearth the hidden history of her family.

Registration is required.

Objects of Memory: Washington and Material Culture

HYBRID

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

 **Main Library**

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
- **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

CPL Presents: Shakespeare's Harlem Renaissance by *Opera on Tap* IN-PERSON

Thursday, February 26, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

 **Main Library Lecture Hall**

Join us to celebrate Black History with a performance by *Opera on Tap*. *Opera on Tap* will celebrate Black excellence in classical music and opera by exploring art song and opera born of and inspired by the Harlem Renaissance while diving deep into the narratives of Black musicians, poets and composers.



The graphic features the Cambridge Public Library logo at the top left, which includes a line drawing of the city skyline and the text "CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY". To the right, the word "Wrapped" is written in a bold, sans-serif font. Below it, the year "2025" is displayed in large, bold, yellow digits. A curved line sweeps across the page, containing the text "What was Cambridge reading this year?". Below this, the year "2025" is shown again in red, followed by the text "Total print material checkouts*" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. A large red number "1,133,903" is prominently displayed below. At the bottom, a note states "*including renewals, December 2024 through November 2025".



2025 Adult Fiction

- 1 *Intermezzo* - Sally Rooney
- 2 *The Wedding People* - Alison Espach
- 3 *Atmosphere* - Taylor Jenkins Reid
- 4 *Great Big Beautiful Life* - Emily Henry
- 5 *My Friends* - Fredrik Backman
- 6 *James* - Percival Everett
- 7 *Three Days in June* - Anne Tyler
- 8 *The Emperor of Gladness* - Ocean Vuong
- 9 *The God of the Woods* - Liz Moore
- 10 *We Do Not Part* - Han Kang

A circular graphic on the right shows the front cover of the book "We Do Not Part" by Han Kang, featuring a blue and white design with a tree branch motif and a Nobel Prize laureate seal.

Highlights from December



J.L. Bell and Charles Sullivan discuss George Washington's legacy in Cambridge.



Pop Up Art School teaches patrons how to make a Snowy House Luminaria.



Rachel Slade discusses her book *Making it In America*, as part of the Our Path Forward lecture series.



Snowy House Luminarias



A panel of artists, policy makers, students, and more discuss how we can make our voices heard in the future of AI.



Musicians from Boston Festival Orchestra perform for the 2nd Annual Festive Fanfare concert.



Hive Workshops for January 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 - January 2026



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3
				Vinyl Cutting 101 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM	Sewing 101 9:30 AM - 5:00 PM
				Digital Embroidery (Main) 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	Hive Safety Training (Main) 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
				Open Shop 1:00 PM - 4:30 PM	Open Shop 1:00 PM - 4:30 PM
5	6	7	8	9	10
Sewing 101 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM	Open Shop 3:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Digital Embroidery (Main) 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	Serger Training 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM	Open Shop 9:30 AM - 4:30 PM	Vinyl Cutting 101 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM
		Hive Teen Hangout 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM	3D Printing 101 (Main) 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM		Zing Laser Cutting 101 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
		Open Shop 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Open Shop 5:00 PM - 8:30 PM		Open Shop 12:30 PM - 4:30 PM
12	13	14	15	16	17
Zing Laser Cutting 101 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM	Open Shop 1:30 PM - 7:00 PM	Sewing 101 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM	Vinyl Cutting 101 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM	Open Shop 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM	3D Printing 101 (Main) 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
		Hive Teen Hangout 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM	Open Shop 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Serger Training 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM	Extended Reality 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
		Open Shop 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Hive Safety Training (Main) 8:00 PM - 8:30 PM		Open Shop 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM
19	20	21	22	23	24
Open Shop 1:30 PM - 6:30 PM	Beat-Making 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM	Open Shop 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Sewing 101 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM	Studio Recording 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM	
3D Printing 101 (Main) 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	Hive Teen Hangout 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM	Sewing 101 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM	Open Shop 11:30 AM - 3:00 PM	Serger Training 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM	
	Open Shop 1:30 PM - 6:30 PM		Digital Embroidery (Main) 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM	Open Shop 1:00 PM - 4:30 PM	
26	27	28	29	30	31
3D Printing 101 (Main) 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM	Open Shop 1:00 PM - 6:30 PM	Extended Reality 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	Zing Laser Cutting 101 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM	Open Shop 11:30 AM - 2:30 PM	3D Printing 101 (Main) 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM
	Vinyl Cutting 101 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Hive Teen Hangout 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM	Open Shop 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Serger Training 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM	Sewing 101 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
		Open Shop 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM			Open Shop 1:00 PM - 4:30 PM