

September 2026



EVENTS *at the* CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Events



Francis Fukuyama presents: *In the Realm of the Last Man* **IN-PERSON**

Wednesday, September 9, 6-7:30 p.m.

📍 Main Library Lecture Hall

Cambridge Public Library and Harvard Book Store welcome Francis Fukuyama—Olivier Nomellini Senior Fellow at Stanford University's Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies and the author of *The End of History and the Last Man*—for a discussion of his new memoir, *In the Realm of the Last Man*. **Registration is required.**

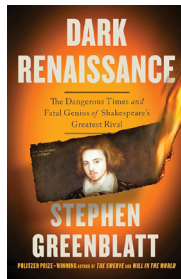
Stephen Greenblatt presents: *Dark Renaissance*

IN-PERSON

Tuesday, September 15, 6-7:30 p.m.

📍 Main Library Lecture Hall

Cambridge Public Library and Harvard Book Store welcome **Stephen Greenblatt**—Cogan University Professor of the Humanities at Harvard University, a leading scholar of English Renaissance literature, and author of sixteen books, including the Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award–winner *The Swerve*—to celebrate the paperback release of *Dark Renaissance: The Dangerous Times and Fatal Genius of Shakespeare's Greatest Rival*. **Registration is required.**



CPL Arts Collective: Intro to Cyanotype **IN-PERSON**

Tuesday, September 22, 5:30- 7 p.m.

📍 Main Library Rossi Room

Explore the creative possibilities of cyanotype by combining photography, found materials, botanicals, and hand-cut collage to create rich, layered blueprints on paper. In this hands-on workshop, you'll learn the basics of the cyanotype process while experimenting with composition, masking, and mixed-media techniques to produce one-of-a-kind prints. All materials will be provided. **Registration is required.**



Create Habitats to Support Biodiversity Year-Round

HYBRID

Wednesday, September 23, 7-8:30 p.m.

📍 Main Library Learning Lab

Learn how to garden to support pollinators, birds and other species so they can overwinter, reproduce, and thrive year-round. Amy will cover specifics of how to provide food, water, shelter and nesting sites, build healthy soil, remove invasive plants, and more. **Registration is required.**



CPL Presents: Valeria Luiselli **IN-PERSON** **VIRTUAL**

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

📍 Main Library Lecture Hall

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month by joining **Valeria Luiselli**—the acclaimed author of several books, including *Tell Me How It Ends* and *Lost Children Archive*—for a reading from her new novel, *Beginning Middle End*, which follows a mother and daughter on a quest to start over and find for themselves a new story. After reading from her work, Luiselli will sit in conversation with



SERVICE ALERT

All Library locations will be closed on Sunday, September 6, and Monday, September 7, for Labor Day.

Sunday hours will resume at the Main Library on Sunday, September 13, 1-5 p.m. The Valente Branch will no longer be open on Sundays starting in September.

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](https://www.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

Eloisa Amezcua, an award-winning poet, translator, and author of *Fighting Is Like a Wife*. An audience Q&A and book signing will follow. **Registration is required.**

Summer Fitness: Tai Chi Under the Tree IN-PERSON

Saturday, September 12, 10-11 a.m.

📍 **Main Library**

Join instructor Ellen DeGenova in Joan Lorentz Park to explore Tai Chi elements (without the complicated choreography). Tai Chi offers highly adaptable and accessible ways of moving for everyone. Being outdoors and learning together inspires a sense of well-being and community. **Registration is not required.**

Panel Discussion: Immigrant Students and the Cambridge Public Schools IN-PERSON

Wednesday, September 23, 2026

📍 **Main Library**

Join the Cambridge Public Library in welcoming the Superintendent of Cambridge Public Schools, Dave Murphy, for a discussion of immigrant students in today's political climate. Panelists will also include Jessica Lander, author of *Making Americans*, whose book provides historical and current context for the discussion, as well as Vice Mayor Burhan Azeem and Richard Harding, a School Committee member.

CPL International Briefing: The Situation in Sudan IN-PERSON

IN-PERSON

Monday, September 28, 2026, 6-7:30 p.m.

📍 **Main Library**

Sudan has been embroiled in a civil war between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF). Once allies in Sudan's transitional government, tensions over the country's political future and plans to integrate the RSF into the regular military led to open fighting in 2023. Join Professor Mai Hassan, Associate Professor of Political Science at MIT and Faculty Director of the MIT-Africa Program, for a conversation about the origins and ongoing consequences of the war, its humanitarian impact, and the challenges facing Sudan's future. **Registration is required.**

Workshops

Wellness for Older Adults: Let Your Yoga Dance

VIRTUAL

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

📍 **Zoom**

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

Citizenship Preparation Classes IN-PERSON

Wednesdays, September 2- November 4, 6-8 p.m.

📍 **Central Square**

Join this free 10-week class, in partnership with St. Mark Community Education Program. This series of classes prepares students for all parts of the Citizenship interview and includes the new 128 civics question list. This class is offered as a 10-week series. Attendance at all sessions is expected.

Attendees must have Intermediate-level English skills and a Legal Permanent Resident card for 4 years and 9 months (2 years and 9 months if married to a U.S. citizen). **Registration is required.**

Creative Aging: Feast of Poetry IN-PERSON

Tuesday, September 8 and September 15, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.

📍 **Main Library Rossi Room**

Poetry lovers and skeptics alike are invited to this weekly workshop where we'll read poems that nourish the mind and spirit. We'll consult a diverse selection of contemporary and classic poets on meaningful topics, share personal reactions, and engage in reflective writing. Sample topics include identity, community, resilience, home, and more. You don't need to be a writer—or a poetry expert—to participate. Join us and see what's on the menu!

Wellness for Older Adults: Chair Yoga IN-PERSON

Tuesdays, beginning September 8, 1-2 p.m.

📍 **Central Square**

Join us each Tuesday afternoon at the Central Square Branch for Chair Yoga, led by experienced instructor Louise Parker. No equipment needed. **Registration is required.**

Wellness for Older Adults: Let Your Yoga Dance

IN-PERSON

Wednesdays, beginning September 9, 11:15 a.m.-12 p.m.

📍 **Main Library Community Room**

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 is required.**

Bicycle Maintenance Workshop IN-PERSON

Wednesday, September 9, 6-7 p.m.

📍 **Valente**

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

Wednesday Night Creative Writing Group

IN-PERSON

Wednesday, September 9, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

📍 **Main Library Rossi Room**

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

Wellness for Older Adults: Zumba Gold IN-PERSON

Fridays, beginning September 11, 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

📍 **Main Library Community Room**

Join instructor Darren Hairston for Zumba Gold – the fun and energizing dance fitness class tailored for active older adults and beginners! Set to vibrant, upbeat music, Zumba Gold features low-impact, easy-to-follow dance moves that make staying fit enjoyable and accessible for all fitness levels. No dance experience needed. **Registration is required every week and will open at 11:30AM the Monday before each class.**

Lights of Your World Astrology Workshop

IN-PERSON

Monday, September 14, 6-8 p.m.

📍 Main Library Community Room

In this fun 2-hour workshop, we will explore the seasons, elements, and planetary days of the week, color, and gems to enchant your life through astrology. For full participation, please bring your complete birth data: date, time, and location. **Registration is required.**

Creative Aging: Beginner Improv

IN-PERSON

Tuesdays, September 15 through December 1, 4-6 p.m.

📍 Main Library Community Room

Learn how to seamlessly integrate interactive improv games, scenes, and skillful storytelling that all come together with performance. **Registration is required.** Due to the popularity and to gain the most out of this program, we expect all participants to commit to all sessions in this 12-week course.

Basic Tech Classes

IN-PERSON

Join us for Basic Tech Classes this July! Learn how to use email, search the internet, and grow your tech skills. Pick and choose the classes that are right for you. Look for new classes each month. **Registration is required.**

Main Library Learning Lab

- AI & Disinformation
Wednesday, September 16, 2-3 p.m.
- AI & Your Small Business
Wednesday, September 30, 2-3 p.m.

Solo Aging Series

VIRTUAL

Thursday, September 17, 2-3:30 p.m.

📍 Online

Join Marni Blank, founder of Begin with the End, for a three-part series designed to give solo agers and those preparing for that possibility the practical tools, emotional support, and community connection they need to plan with confidence.

Expressive Art for Older Adults: Beading Workshop

IN-PERSON

Tuesday, September 22, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

📍 Central Square

Learn the basics of beaded jewelry making and the difference between semi-precious stones and precious stones. Participants will keep all pieces they make. **Registration is required.**

New to Medicare Workshop

IN-PERSON

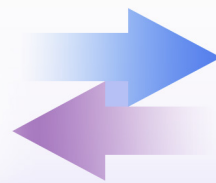
Monday, September 28, 1-3 p.m.

📍 Main Library Community Room

Led by a Minuteman Senior Services state-certified Medicare benefits counselor, this program is for people who are turning 65 or leaving an employer group health plan due to retirement. Topics include Medicare benefits and coverage gaps, when to apply for Medicare, how to apply for Medicare, health insurance plans that work with Medicare, understanding premiums, deductibles and maximum out of pocket costs, and choosing the right supplement plan. **Registration is encouraged but not required.**

Database Spotlight:

OPPOSING VIEWPOINTS IN CONTEXT™



“Choose a controversial topic from the news. Present an objective overview, then pick one viewpoint and identify three articles from different sources to support it.”

Does this assignment sound familiar from high school social studies?

As students, many of us practiced assessing all sides of an issue, looking for supporting evidence, and coming to an informed conclusion. And even if we were just doing it to get the grade, we hopefully learned that amidst the overload of “content,” we could find trustworthy information to support an argument.

This school year, whether you’re a student facing this assignment or lifelong learner assigning it to yourself, the Library’s Opposing Viewpoints resource will help you ace it. Opposing Viewpoints gathers news and opinions representing a variety of perspectives on polarizing topics such as voting laws, Daylight Saving Time, and vaccines. This is not another barrage of breaking news, but a curated collection of sources representing multiple perspectives, beyond pro and con, to help contextualize some of the thorniest issues of our time.

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



Book Groups



Adult Book Groups

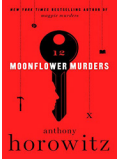
Boudreau



Boudreau Branch Book Group

HYBRID

Wednesday, September 9, 12-1 p.m.
My Friends by Fredrik Backman



Boudreau Branch Mystery Book Group

HYBRID

Tuesday, September 22, 12-1 p.m.
Moonflower Murders by Anthony Horowitz

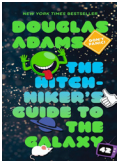


Cookbook Club

IN-PERSON

Wednesday, September 23, 6-7 p.m.
Mooncakes & Milk Bread by Karen Russell

Central Square



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

Wednesday, September 2, 12:30-1:30 p.m.
The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy by Douglas Adams



Recovery Month Book Club

IN-PERSON

Tuesday, September 8, 6:30-8 p.m.
Men We Reaped by Jesmyn Ward



Short Story Reading Group

IN-PERSON

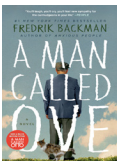
Wednesday, September 9, 6-7 p.m.
Sweeping Past by Yiyun Li



Horror Book Group

IN-PERSON

Thursday, September 10, 7-8 p.m.
Baby Teeth by Zoe Stage



Central Square Branch Book Group

IN-PERSON

Wednesday, September 16, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
A Man Called Ove by Fredrik Backman



Central Square Cookbook Club

IN-PERSON

Thursday, September 24, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Everything's Good: Cozy Classics You'll Cook Always and Forever: A Cookbook by Toni Chapman

Collins



Collins Branch Book Group

IN-PERSON

Thursday, September 10, 6-7 p.m.
Trust by Hernán Díaz



Climate Action Book Club

IN-PERSON

Thursday, September 24, 6-7:30 p.m.
Animal, Vegetable, Miracle by Barbara Kingsolver

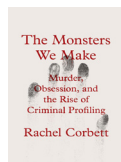
Main Library



Romance Book Group

IN-PERSON

Tuesday, September 8, 7:15-8:15 p.m.
Rebel by Beverly Jenkins



True Crime Book Group

IN-PERSON

Monday, September 14, 2-3 p.m.

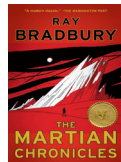
The Monsters We Make: Murder, Obsession, and the Rise of Criminal Profiling by Rachel Corbett



Contemporary Book Group

IN-PERSON

Tuesday, September 15, 6-7 p.m.
Beginning Middle End by Valeria Luiselli



Science Fiction & Fantasy Book Group

IN-PERSON

Wednesday, September 16, 6-7 p.m.
The Martian Chronicles by Ray Bradbury



Sustaining Community: A Climate Change Book Group

HYBRID

Monday, September 28, 7-8:30 p.m.
What If We Get It Right? Visions of Climate Futures by Ayana Elizabeth Johnson

O'Connell



Reel Reads Book Group **IN-PERSON**

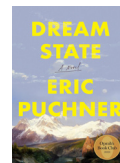
Tuesday, September 1, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Forrest Gump by Winston Groom & the 1994 film *Forrest Gump*



O'Connell Branch Book Group **IN-PERSON**

Tuesday, September 15, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Lincoln in the Bardo by George Sanders

O'Neill



O'Neill Branch Book Group

IN-PERSON

Monday, September 14, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Dream State by Eric Puchner

Children's Book Groups

Central Square



MCBA Book Group **IN-PERSON**

Wednesday, September 2, 6-7 p.m.

Lost at Windy River: A True Story of Survival by Trina Rathgeber



Teens Read Book Group **IN-PERSON**

Wednesday, September 30, 6-7 p.m.

For our first month, we'll be discussing favorite books and voting for our next read.

Main



Parent/Child Book Group **IN-PERSON**

Tuesday, September 8, 6-6:45 p.m.
One-Third Nerd by Gennifer Choldenko (ages 7-9)



Tween Book Group **IN-PERSON**

Thursday, September 17, 6-6:45 p.m.
The First State of Being by Erin Entrada Kelly (ages 10-12)

O'Connell



Graphics are Great Book Club **HYBRID**

Tuesday, September 15, 5-6 p.m.
Sanity & Tallulah by Molly Brooks (ages 8-12)

Branch Events

Boudreau

Knitting Group

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

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

After-School Craft: Button Making

Thursday, September 10, 3-5 p.m.

Thursday, September 24, 3-5 p.m.

Stop by the Boudreau Branch in the afternoon for a craft. On September 10, use two button makers to create your very own buttons. On September 24, use our 3-D pens. This drop-in event is intended for school aged children and their families.

One-on-One Tech Help

Mondays, September 14 and September 28, 2-3 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.**

Chess Hour

Monday, September 14 and September 28, 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.

Coffee And Games!

Friday, September 25, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

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

Central Square

Drop-in Tech Help at the Library

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

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

 **Lewis Room**

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

Fiber Arts Circle

Thursdays, 4-5 p.m.

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!

Linocut Printmaking

Thursday, September 3, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Learn techniques in carving linoleum, composition, ink mixing, and printing. At their own pace, students will learn how to create a design and carve it in linoleum using carving tools. Students will learn how to ink and print their linoleum blocks by hand. **Registration is required.** This class is suitable for beginners. **This program is full; a waitlist is available.**

Meet Your Neighbor: Around the Table

Tuesday, September 15, 6:30-9 p.m.

Join CPL and the Cambridge Peace Commission for a community supper. We'll have conversation and connection in celebration of Meet Your Neighbor Month. Catering by Chilacates. **Registration is required.**

Art Making at the Library

Tuesday, September 22, 6:30-8 p.m.

Get creative at the Library and join us for a casual evening of art making. We'll have supplies for drawing and painting, calligraphy, collage, and more along with instructional books to refer to. Bring a friend and come share casual crafting time together. Attendees are welcome to bring their own projects as well.

Story Time: Celebrate Meet Your Neighbor Month

Wednesday, September 23, 10:30-10:55 a.m.

Join us for stories, songs and rhymes! This week, we'll read stories that celebrate our friends and neighbors in our community. Recommended for children of all ages and their caregivers. **No registration is required.** Please call 617-349-4012 for more information.

Kick Back and Watch a Movie

Friday, September 25, 3-5 p.m.

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

Polyam Education Discussion with The Queer Neighborhood Council

Tuesday, September 29, 6:30-8 p.m.

Join us for Poly Talk, an intimate discussion dedicated to the complexities of polyamory and consensual non-monogamy (CNM) through the queer lens. This is a space to dismantle hetero-mononormative stigmas and celebrate the diverse ways our community shows up for and with one another. Conversation facilitated by The Queer Neighborhood Council. **Registration is required.**

Collins

Crafternoon

Tuesday, September 8, 4-4:45 p.m.

Tuesday, September 22, 4-4:45 p.m.

Get creative after school! On September 8, use gel pens. On September 22, fold paper fortune tellers. Recommended for children ages 6-12 and their caregivers.

Meet Your Neighbor

Wednesday, September 9, 6-7 p.m.

September is Meet Your Neighbor Month! The 2026 theme, Stories We Share: The Courage to Connect, reminds us that meaningful connections often begin by listening to and learning from one another. What better place to meet your neighbors than at the Library? Refreshments will be served.

CPL Nature Club: Fresh Pond Nature Walk

Thursday, September 16, 10:15-11:30 a.m.

Join us for a relaxing walk of Fresh Pond with Park Ranger Amanda Garms! No two weeks are the same in nature, and Amanda will share her insights about what's growing, changing, and blooming in the neighborhood. This walk is not on a paved path. We will walk on uneven terrain, down hills, and over roots. Meet at the Fresh Pond Ranger Station at 250 Fresh Pond Parkway. **Registration is required.**

Baby Lapsit

Friday, September 25, 11-11:20 a.m.

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

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

Wednesday, September 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. **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.

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.

Crafternoon: Perler Bead Pins

Tuesday, September 1, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

📍 **Curious George Room**

Celebrate back-to-school in style by making Perler bead pins and bag charms! All materials are provided. Recommended for ages 6 and up with a caregiver.

Tween Craft: Junk Journals

Saturday, September 5, 11-11:45 a.m.

📍 **Curious George Room**

Get back to school with these DIY journals! Learn how to make a journal from scratch and decorate it with cut outs, pictures, and 3D pieces to make it pop. Junk journals are an interactive and creative project that helps you keep track of all your favorite events and memories. You'll see examples of different techniques and get to make your own!

Adult Gaming: Unplugged

Monday, September 14, 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.

Craft & Art Supply Swap

Thursday, September 17, 6-8 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 September 8, 2026.

Arabic Story Time

Saturday, September 19, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

📍 **Curious George Room**

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

skills. This program is suitable for children up to age 7; tickets are available on a first come, first served basis on the day of the program.

Stories and STEAM: Using Binoculars 101

Wednesday, September 23, 4-5 p.m.

📍 **Joan Lorentz Park**

Celebrate back-to-school in style by making Perler bead pins and bag charms! All materials are provided. Recommended for ages 6 and up with a caregiver.

Tween Craft: Junk Journals

Saturday, September 5, 11-11:45 a.m.

📍 **Curious George Room**

Learn the basics of using binoculars to bring distant wonders into view! We will start outside (weather permitting) and then move inside for a story time. Binoculars will be provided. Meet the librarian under the shade of the trees that are to your right as you walk towards the library. Recommended for ages 5 and up with a caregiver.

Estate Planning for All

Thursday, September 24, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

📍 **Community Room**

The Cambridge Public Library and Legal Services Center of Harvard Law School are excited to offer Estate Planning for All in person at the Main Library. 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. *Everyone—regardless of background or financial situation—can have an estate plan.*

YouCan Kits

Thursday, September 24, 6-9 p.m.

📍 **Rossi Room**

In honor of Save a Life Day and Recovery Month, please join us on Thursday, September 24th from 6-8p.m. to volunteer to put together overdose prevention kits. Volunteers will be able to leave with a completed kit, if desired. Representatives from the Cambridge Health Department will also be onsite to provide additional resources and support.

Stories, Songs, and Play: Celebrate Meet Your Neighbor Month! s

Friday, September 25, 10:30-11:30 p.m.

📍 **Curious George Room**

Join us for songs, stories and rhymes followed by open play. Meet and connect with your neighbors and other members of the community as you all play together! Recommended for children of all ages and their caregivers.

Teen Advisory Board

Tuesday, September 29, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

📍 **Rindge Room**

Are there programs and activities you would like to see at the Library? Come share your ideas! We meet monthly during the school year. **No registration is required**, and new members and

guests are always welcomed. Stop by the Teen Room or call 617-349-4027 to learn more.

Olé Flamenco: Flamenco for Everybody

Wednesday, September 30, 4-5 p.m.

📍 **Rossi Room**

Eve Costarelli, of Always Be Dancing, will lead this interactive, engaging program for families that will get everyone dancing! Join us for a body-stretching, hand-clapping, foot-stomping good time. In this upbeat program, that is infused with the music and dance of flamenco, participants will absorb the dramatic postures and colorful flavor of flamenco while also exploring yoga poses and mindfulness. This program is for children of all abilities 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.

Branch Walk (55+)

Thursday, September 3 and September 24, 10:30-11:45 a.m.

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

Bring layered clothing, comfortable shoes and water. Meet at the O'Connell Branch entrance. **Registration is requested but not required.**

Little Groove Music and Movement

Friday, September 4, 11-11:45 a.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 is required.** Recommended for ages 0-4 with a caregiver.

Spanish Conversation Group

Thursday, September 10, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

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

Read to a Dog

Wednesday, September 30, 4-5 p.m.

Read with Bowie the Therapy Dog from Pets & People! Therapy dogs provide warm and non-judgmental reading companions for new or experienced readers of all ages. **Registration for each**

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

O'Neill

English Conversation Practice, Intermediate

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

Wednesdays, 6-7:30 p.m.*

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

Wednesdays of Wonder- W.O.W.!

Wednesdays, 2:30-4 p.m.

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

CPL Nature Club: Alewife Afternoon Nature Walk

Tuesday, September 8, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Come explore the nature in our urban backyard! We will take a leisurely walk as we observe and learn together about the animals and plants at Alewife Reservation. The walk will meet at the stone benches by the wetland boardwalk. **Registration helpful.**

Pokemon Club

Wednesdays, September 9 & 23, 6 - 7 p.m.

Twice a month, kids of all ages are invited to come to Pokemon Club at the O'Neill branch! Each biweekly drop-in event will feature a different Pokemon-themed craft or activity, along with opportunities to play the card game or trade with fellow Pokemon fans.

Cambridge Young Authors' Squad (CYAS) Kickoff

Friday, September 18, 4-5 p.m.

Help us kick off the new school year with CYAS- Cambridge Young Authors' Squad. 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! If you are attending for the first time, **registration is helpful, but not required.**

Drop-in Maker Studio

Saturday, September 19, 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.

Back-to-School Locker Magnets

Monday, September 28, 3:30-5 p.m.

Kids in 6th, 7th and 8th grade can come to the Library to make magnets to decorate their lockers! Snacks provided. **No registration is necessary.**

Pajama Story Time

Tuesday, September 29, 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.

Valente

Beginning English Class

Mondays, 6-7:30 p.m.

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

Intermediate ESOL

Mondays, 6-7:30 p.m.

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

Wednesdays of Wonder- W.O.W.!

Wednesdays, 2:30-4 p.m.

Come to the Library for games and a different activity each week! Kids of all ages can hang out and do crafts or STEAM activities. **No registration required.**

Teens: Foursquare!

Thursdays, 3:30-5 p.m.

Play the classic court game of four-square (also known as box ball) with peers! Bounce a ball into other player's squares to eliminate them and advance to the highest-ranking square. Indoor, no registration required, drop-in at any time. We play by outlined Library Foursquare Rules.

Teens: Focus Time!

Tuesdays, September 8, 15, 22, and 29, 3:30-5 p.m.

Join peers in quiet time after school to complete homework, study, read your next favorite book, work on your graphic novel and art, or otherwise focus on a project. **No registration required, drop-in anytime.** (ages 12-18).

CPR Class for Parents and Caregivers

Saturday, September 12, 1-2:30 p.m.

Saturday, September 12, 3-4:30 p.m.

This CPR class will cover life-saving skills for infants, children and adults. We will use multi-media and hands-on practice to be sure students acquire skills and confidence to assist in a life-saving medical situation. This class will also cover training and the use of AED (Automated External Defibrillator) for all ages, along with life-saving skills in choking situations. Students will receive their certificate upon completion of class. **Registration is required.**

Board Game Night for Adults

Tuesday, September 15, 6-7:30 p.m.

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

Family Board Game Night

Wednesday, September 16, 5:30-7 p.m.

Join us for an evening of board games at the Valente Branch. Challenge neighbors, family, friends and strangers to prove your gaming might.

The library will provide all materials. Bring your family, friends, or your favorite game! This program is recommended for children ages 4+ and their parents.

Teens: Felt Crafts for Hispanic Heritage Month

Friday, September 18, 3-5 p.m.

Craft a felt food, flag, or something else that is special to Hispanic Heritage! Felt, paper and pencil, needle and thread, and wet glue and hot glue will be provided. **No registration is needed**, drop-in for ages 12-18.

Save the Date

Introduction to Pelvic Floor Health

HYBRID

Thursday, October 8, 7-8 pm

📍 Main Library Community Room

Join pelvic floor occupational therapist Mirah Sand for a Pelvic Health 101 workshop. We will cover basic anatomy, movement for pelvic health, and lifestyle tips for keeping your pelvic floor strong and mobile. All genders welcome because everyone has a pelvic floor!

Understanding Deaf Culture & Everyday Signs

IN-PERSON

Saturday, October 24, 2-2:45 p.m.

📍 O'Neill

This workshop will focus on Deaf culture, common questions and misunderstandings about deafness, respectful communication practices, and practical everyday signs and short phrases. **Registration is required.**

CPL Presents America Unfinished: 250 Years of Law and Governance

HYBRID

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

📍 Main Library

Join editors Alexandra Natapoff and Guy-Uriel Charles, along with contributors to America Unfinished: 250 Years of Law and Governance, for a discussion of this new collection of essays marking America's 250th anniversary.

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, 10:30-11:15 a.m.

📍 Lewis Room

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

📍 Lewis Room

Collins

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

Evening Family Story Time Wednesdays, 5:30-6:00 p.m.

Main Library

Morning Sing-Along Mondays and Wednesdays, 11-11:25 a.m.

📍 Curious George Room

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

📍 Curious George Room

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

📍 Rey Room

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

📍 Rey Room

Baby Lapsit Wednesday, 10-10:20 a.m.

📍 Rey Room

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

📍 Curious George Room

O'Connell

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

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

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

O'Neill

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

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

Valente

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

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

Highlights from August



riah performs as part of the Park Sounds concert series.



David George Haskell presents on his book, *How Flowers Made Our World*.



Patrons practice Tai Chi in the park.



Fitness instructor Shaun Zetlin teaches strength and balance.

Photography credit: Sarina White

LITERACY CENTER PROGRAMS

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

High Beginner ESOL **IN-PERSON**

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

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

Intermediate ESOL **IN-PERSON**

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

Advanced ESOL **IN-PERSON**

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

Beginner ESOL **IN-PERSON**

Mondays, 1-2:30 p.m.

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

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

Résumé and Job Application Support

IN-PERSON

Wednesdays, 1-3 p.m.

LIBRARY LOCATIONS/PHONE/HOURS

Main Library

449 Broadway | 617-349-4040

Mon-Thu 9-9, Fri-Sat 9-5, Sun 1-5 (Sept-June)

Boudreau

245 Concord Ave. | 617-349-4017

Mon-Wed 10-8, Thu-Fri 10-6

Central Square

45 Pearl St. | 617-349-4010

Mon 10-6, Tue-Thurs 10-9, Fri 10-6, Sat 10-2

Collins Branch

64 Aberdeen Ave. | 617-349-4021

Mon 10-6, Tues-Thurs 10-8, Fri 10-6

O'Connell

48 Sixth St. | 617-349-4019

Mon 10-6, Tue-Thurs 10-8, Fri 10-6

O'Neill

70 Rindge Ave. | 617-349-4023

Mon-Wed 10-8, Thurs-Fri 10-6, Sat 1-5

Valente

826 Cambridge St. | 617-349-4015

Mon-Wed 10-8, Thurs-Fri 10-6, Sat-Sun 1-5

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

Hive Workshops for September 2026

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



Getting Started

Completion of Hive Safety Training is the entry point to making, innovating, and collaborating in this space.

Makers must also sign The Hive User Agreement and Waivers.

Hive Safety Training

IN-PERSON OR **VIRTUAL**

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

Certification Workshops

3D Printing 101: Game Piece Design

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

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

Serger 101 **IN-PERSON** Are you an intermediate or advanced sewer? This workshop will cover serger machine setup, threading a serger, and identifying correct tension settings with different types of fabric.

Sewing 101 **IN-PERSON** Learn the basics of sewing machine operation and safety. This session will cover machine setup, basic functions, threading the machine, reloading the bobbin, sewing straight stitches, and recognizing when stitch tension has gone awry.



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

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

Studio Recording 101 **IN-PERSON**

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

Videography 101 **IN-PERSON** Step into the Hive's state-of-the-art recording studio and film a short video of yourself in front of our green screen. Then, spend some time becoming familiar with video editing software while working with your footage.

Vinyl Cutting 101 **IN-PERSON** Would you like to make your own vinyl signs, stickers, or images to transfer to T-shirts and other textiles? Learn how to use our Roland Camm-1 GS-24 vinyl cutter.

XR Lab 101 **IN-PERSON** Extended reality (XR) opens the door to worlds and experiences outside the everyday through virtual reality, augmented reality, and mixed reality equipment.

Zing Laser Cutting 101 **IN-PERSON** Learn how to use our Epilog Zing to laser cut, engrave and shape designs from a variety of materials.

Open Shop-Equipment and Studio Reservations

Use the equipment and spaces in The Hive to design, craft, and make.

Patrons certified on Hive equipment are welcome to reserve time for personal use.

Staff will assist as they are able.

Other Programs

Knitting 101 **IN-PERSON** In this hands-on session, you'll learn the basics of knitting, including how to cast on, do the knit stitch, and cast off. This workshop is intended for people with no prior knitting experience. All supplies will be provided!

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

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



Hive Calendar - September 2026

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1

Open Shop
1:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Sewing 101
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

2

Vinyl Cutting 101
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

Open Shop
3:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Zing Laser Cutting
101
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

3

3D Printing 101
(Main)
9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Open Shop
2:30 PM - 8:30 PM

4

Open Shop
9:30 AM - 3:00 PM

XR Lab 101
3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

5

3D Printing 101
(Main)
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Hive Safety Training
(Main)
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Open Shop
2:00 PM - 4:30 PM

7

8

Digital Embroidery
(Main)
1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Open Shop
5:30 PM - 8:30 PM

9

Studio Recording
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

Open Shop
3:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Serger Training
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

10

Open Shop
9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Filmmaking 101
(Main)
3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Open Shop
5:00 PM - 8:30 PM

11

Sewing 101
9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Open Shop
11:30 AM - 4:30 PM

12

Open Shop
9:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Open Shop
2:00 PM - 4:30 PM

14

Open Shop
1:00 PM - 4:30 PM

15

Open Shop
1:30 PM - 5:30 PM

Hive Safety Training
(Main)
6:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Digital Embroidery
(Main)
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

16

Zing Laser Cutting
101
1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

3D Printing 101
(Main)
3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Open Shop
5:30 PM - 8:30 PM

17

Open Shop
9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Open Shop
2:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Filmmaking 101
(Main)
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

18

Vinyl Cutting 101
9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

Open Shop
11:00 AM - 4:30 PM

19

Sewing 101
9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

3D Printing 101
(Main)
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Open Shop
2:30 PM - 4:30 PM

21

Open Shop
1:00 PM - 4:30 PM

22

Open Shop
1:30 PM - 5:00 PM

XR Lab 101
5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

3D Printing 101
(Main)
7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

23

Sewing 101
1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Sewing 101
3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Open Shop
5:30 PM - 8:30 PM

24

Zing Laser Cutting
101
9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Vinyl Cutting 101
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Beatmaking (Main)
3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Open Shop
5:30 PM - 8:30 PM

25

Open Shop
9:30 AM - 4:30 PM

26

Digital Embroidery
(Main)
9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Serger Training
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Open Shop
2:00 PM - 4:30 PM

28

Open Shop
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Sewing 101
3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

29

Zing Laser Cutting
101
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

Open Shop
3:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Studio Recording
7:30 PM - 8:30 PM

30

3D Printing 101
(Main)
1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Vinyl Cutting 101
3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

Open Shop
5:00 PM - 8:30 PM