

# YPSILANTI DISTRICT LIBRARY — askinhy —

**WINTER 2024-25** WWW.YPSILIBRARY.ORG

# **BACK ON** THE BLOCK!

t long last, we can see the light at the end of the tunnel! Following the devastating . 2023 flood, the repair and renovation work at YDL-Michigan Avenue is nearly complete. The building's entrance is the main area awaiting construction work. In the meantime, staff are downtown preparing, shelving books, and putting everything back to rights.

We hope to celebrate an entire Reopening Week right around the holidays, making the brand-new, beautiful Michigan Avenue interior a gift to our community. Check ypsilibrary.org for the big announcement, then drop in for activities and giveaways, and have fun exploring the new space.

The Ypsilanti District Library's three branches are as unique as our district's three communities. They all offer amazing events, fascinating reads, free high-speed Internet, spaces to study, learn, and collaborate, and so much more. Visit and take advantage of everything they provide. Something wonderful is bound to surprise you!

- Lisa Hoenig, *Director* 



The new play space at the Superior branch is definitely a hit! Visit regularly to enjoy rotating themes and new toys.

# TAKE A BOW, JOY!



fter more than 16 years, Joy Cichewicz is stepping down as the YDL-Michigan Branch Manager. Her last day in that position will be February 22, 2025.

Cichewicz started as YDL-Michigan Branch Manager in

August 2008. She has overseen staff, services, and programs and created a welcoming environment τοr patrons from all walks of life.

"Joy is the heart and soul of the Michigan Avenue Library," said YDL Youth Librarian Kelly Scott. "She cares deeply for this city, the people who live in it, and her YDL colleagues."

Joy increased programs from a single weekly storytime to dozens of monthly programs, including Halloween Downtown and Noise Permit. When she saw hungry kids hanging out in the downtown branch, Joy helped YDL become one of the first libraries to participate in the Meet Up and Eat Up summer lunch program.

The needs of downtown Ypsilanti fueled her decisions at YDL-Michigan.

"I believe in servant leadership," Joy said. "My goal has always been to help my staff to be creative, compassionate, kind to each other, and relevant to our public."

During the COVID-19 closure, the branch provided curbside book and kit pickups, printing, and income tax services. Managing 24-hour locker pickup, relocating programs, and staffing the Bookmobile on Fridays during the latest construction closure also ensured the downtown branch was as accessible as possible.

"I'm proud of my staff," Joy said. "Every day they aspire to bring their best selves to their jobs, learn what our public needs, and try to provide it."

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Her personal touch has resonated just as much as the countless initiatives she brought downtown.

"As a leader, she makes you feel like anything is possible," said YDL para-professional Ellen Steves. "But she also operates on a small scale, [like] keeping granola bars in her desk drawer for hungry teens, [or] helping a veteran get medicine and treatment for painful corns on his feet."

She even helped one of our current Outreach team members get his job.

"It was common for me to take my kids to Michigan Ave. for story time," said Outreach para-professional Khi Brenen. "On one of those days I talked to Joy about working for YDL. She quietly walked away and came back with a job application and gave me

She plans to maintain her connection to YDL in a different capacity moving forward, so you may still see her around the stacks, in between gardening, travel, and spending time with her grandkids.

"I appreciate having the honor of serving YDL and the Ypsilanti community!" Joy said.

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YPSILANTI DISTRICT LIBRARY

5577 Whittaker Road Ypsilanti, MI, 48197

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# TRANSFORMING SUPERIOR SPACES

# Art can turn spaces into storytellers.

ast summer, YDL sought submissions from artists to help bring our community's Inarratives to life through a permanent art collection at the Superior branch.

The selected pieces-by Paloma Núñez-Regueiro, Guanhua Yao, and Monica Prince-are distinctive windows into the cultural mosaic of our neighborhood. They will be on display at YDL-Superior by the end of December.





### Paloma Núñez-Regueiro, Breathe In, Breathe Out

Núñez-Regueiro captures the resilience of marginalized communities in her striking diptych Breathe In, Breathe Out. Part of her "Essays on Invisibility" series, the work speaks to how people from marginalized communities navigate life in a majoritarian society.

"As an immigrant and a BIPOC woman, I know that many times...we need to remember to breathe through

such an exhausting process. We breathe for ourselves, for our families, and to show our children that it is possible to attain our goals one breath at a time."

Her piece features Guarumo leaf—a resilient plant native to Central America and the Caribbean known for its healing properties and hurricane resistance—to explore themes of perseverance and

Nunez-Regueiro has spent the last eight years as a resident artist at Ypsi Alloy Studios, where she works as a printmaker, instructor, and art activist.

# **BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

nis February, we honor the profound impact and enduring legacy of Black Americans who have shaped our nation's identity, culture, and progress. The 2025 national theme, "African Americans and Labor," celebrates generations of workers, innovators, and changemakers who helped build America while fighting for dignity and equality in the workplace.

Join us in exploring this rich history through curated book displays and engaging events across our branches.

### FEBRUARY 1-28

### **BLACK HISTORY MONTH TRIVIA CONTEST**



Compete in an online Black History trivia contest to win raffle prizes.

### FEBRUARY 4-25

### **ONE-ON-ONE GENEALOGY SESSIONS** WITH JEAN WINBORN



Tuesdays | YDL-Superior The co-founder of the Washtenaw County African-American Genealogy Society will help you search for information about African American ancestry. See page 5 for time slots.

### **FEBRUARY 3**

### **READ IT AND EAT IT - COOKBOOK CLUB**



### 5pm | YDL-Whittaker

Our NEW Cookbook Club will discuss Everyday Grand by Jocelyn Delk Adams.

### **FEBRUARY 5**

### AFRICAN AMERICANS AND LABOR



### 6pm | YDL-Michigan

Explore the experiences African Americans had with working conditions.

### **FEBRUARY 8**

### **BLACK FLUID: POETRY FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE**



### 11am | Virtual

See how Black social justice activists have used poetic expression in the service of freedom with EMU professor Dr. Toni Pressley-Sanon, then

write to explore and express your own desires for freedom.

### **FEBRUARY 8**

### **AUTHOR VISIT WITH DWIGHT WILSON**



2pm | YDL-Superior An Ypsilanti author reads from his short story collections based on the voice of his 4th-great grandmother, Sarah, a fugitive from injustice.

### **FEBRUARY 15**

### **WASHTENAW AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY (WAAGS) MEETING**

### 10:30am | Virtual

A monthly virtual meetup to help those interested in genealogy navigate the complex archives of African American ancestry. All skill levels welcome!

### **FEBRUARY 22**

### TRAVEL TO TIMBUKTU WITH AISHA **TRAORE**

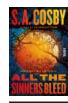


### 2pm | YDL-Whittaker

Dive into the history and culture of Timbuktu, learn a traditional song and dance, and practice a few words in Malian languages.

### **FEBRUARY 25**

### **AFRICAN AMERICAN AUTHORS BOOK GROUP**

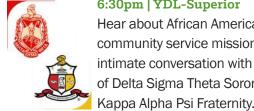


### 7pm | Virtual

Join us for a lively virtual discussion of All The Sinners Bleed by S.A. Cosby.

### **FEBRUARY 27**

### PILLARS OF SERVICE



6:30pm | YDL-Superior Hear about African American Greek community service missions in an intimate conversation with members of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and

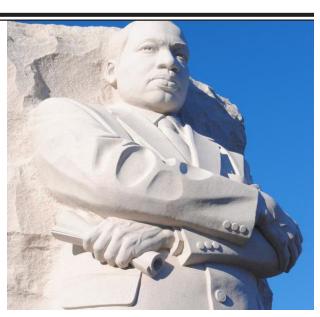
# MLK DAY OF SERVICE

his January, YDL will honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and celebrate the only federal holiday designated as a national day of service. MLK Day invites all Americans to volunteer their time to improve their communities.

Sunday, January 12, YDL-Whittaker will host "Jazz, Spirituals and Civil Rights" - a musical reflection on Dr. King's legacy led by jazz educator Sean Dobbins.

The celebration continues on MLK Day (January 20) with events across multiple YDL branches. The Superior branch will host a concert by the Ypsilanti Youth Choir, a hands-on craft, and a service project where you can write heartfelt messages to local

At 2pm, participate in a MLK service project at YDL-Michigan, where we'll make no-sew fleece blankets to give to Delonis Center and Hope Clinic. You can also donate trial-size hygiene products like toothbrushes, toothpaste, hand sanitizer, lotion, haircare, disposable shavers, and menstrual products for hygiene giveaway kits. See pages 4-7 for event details.





### Guanhua Yao, Freedom

The boundary between reality and imagination dissolves in *Freedom*, a digital artwork by local artist Guanhua Yao. His piece, inspired by his life in Ypsilanti, weaves together documented reality and constructed fantasy to create something entirely new.

"My postmodern work is a tribute to freedom-freedom of form, color, and interpretation," explains Yao. "Rooted in the cultural fabric of Ypsilanti, this piece draws inspiration from the resilience, diversity, and rich history of its minority communities."

As a professional photographer, educator, and researcher, Yao brings multiple lenses to his artistic practice—both literal and metaphorical. "My art aims to transcend boundaries, blending the real and the imagined."

This approach is manifest in his piece for YDI's collection, which documents and reimagines our world, creating a visual

This approach is manifest in his piece for YDL's collection, which documents and reimagines our world, creating a visual space where reality and fantasy are in constant dialogue.



### Monica Prince, Brighter Futures

Prince brings a message of strength and hope with *Brighter Futures*, a fiber art piece that weaves together both material and message. "Every life is full of struggles and obstacles," Prince says. "We move through them knowing there is a bright future out there."

Prince has lived in Michigan all her life, and her love of textiles began in childhood. While she was raising five children, Prince ran a dress-making and altering business out of her home before finishing her degree in fine arts at EMU.

Now, as director of the Ypsilanti Senior Center, Prince still finds time for creating and teaching. "I love sharing my love of textiles and art with young and old," she writes. She eagerly anticipates dedicating her retirement years to her studio practice.

# GRANT HELPS YDL CHESS CLUB LEVEL UP

et ready for YDL's own Queen's Gambit!

Over the next year, the Ypsilanti District
Library's Chess Club will have new ways
for players to test their mettle—and inspire even
more girls and those from underrepresented groups
to participate—thanks to a \$2,000 grant from the
U.S. Chess Federation (USCF).

Now in its third year, YDL's club is a drop-in meetup for grades K-12, led by chess expert Jenny Skidmore Smith. The group meets from 4:30-5:30 pm on Wednesdays.

In previous years, club meetups culminated in a casual, unrated tournament since tournament players weren't required to purchase USCF memberships. With the grant funds, YDL can purchase a limited number of USCF memberships for regular club attendees, and the end-of-year tournament on April 12 will be rated, with pins for participants and trophies for winners. YDL has also purchased kits you can check out with boards, clocks, and how-to books from the Youth Department.

On the first Wednesday of every month (through April 2) the meetups will also include rated chess games, where students will learn to play with clocks (purchased with the grant funds). Additionally, YDL will buy a copy of ChessBase—an online tool to help players with tactics, game analysis, and game prep—so students can spend the third Wednesdays each month working on their own book of chess puzzles. Since part of the grant's mission is to inspire more female chess players, students will be encouraged to include information about their favorite female players in the book.



The second and fourth Wednesdays each month will include casual play and instruction by Skidmore Smith, who volunteers to teach the YDL Chess Club. Jenny is a lifelong chess player and has been a chess coach for 20 years. She has two sons who are also members of the YDL chess club, which typically has around 22 players at each session, with almost 80 individuals playing throughout the year.

The money from USCF will also fund a new teen intern. Alexis Buse is an experienced chess player who has attended chess club and participated in tournaments in previous years. Additional funds from Retirement Income Solutions will fund another intern who, along with Alexis, will mentor incoming female participants.

"Alexis is knowledgeable and will help new chess players learn the basics and play practice games, and be a role model for younger females attending Chess Club," said Jodi Krahnke, YDL's Head of Youth Services.

To learn more about the Chess Club, or our intergenerational chess meetups, visit ypsilibrary. org/chess.

### More games at YDL

If chess isn't your speed, there are more options to explore:

MAHJONG MEETUP

Mondays | 1-3pm | YDL-Whittaker

DEC. 5 & 19; JAN. 2 & 16; FEB. 6 & 20

\*NEW\* EUCHRE CLUB

Thursdays | 6:30pm

Alternating between YDL-Michigan and YDL-Whittaker

DEC. 12; JAN. 9; FEB. 13

\*NEW\* BOARD GAME MEET UP 6:30pm | YDL-Whittaker

DEC. 7 & 21; JAN. 4 & 18; FEB. 1 & 15

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS:

DROP-IN FOR TEENS

10:30am | YDL-Michigan

For more details, see pages 4-7.

You can also check out games from our Library of Things (ypsilibrary.org/LOT)

## NEW LOCKERS COMING TO YDL-WHITTAKER

Il three branches of the Ypsilanti District Library now have self-service lockers! In September, Washtenaw County awarded YDL nearly \$200,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant funding to support technological projects that help bridge the digital divide.

Part of that grant funded new lockers (open 24/7) at the Whittaker branch to go along with the afterhours lockers already available at the Superior and Michigan Avenue branches. The lockers were recently installed on the patio outside the Community Room. You can schedule locker pickups online or over the

phone, then scan your library card to pick up your materials.

The grant will also fund current and longer-term projects, including:

- 15 more hotspots (already in circulation) with service for 2 years
- Costs associated with our project to give every YCS student a library card
- A generator for the Whittaker branch, which will allow Michigan Avenue and Superior to maintain Internet and phone service if Whittaker has a power outage.



# **EVENTS**

### **Adult**

Dec. 1

### PAUL KELLER ENSEMBLE HOLIDAY JAZZ CONCERT

2pm | YDL-Whittaker

Join Paul Keller and his talented band of musicians as they celebrate the season with swinging jazz and good cheer for all ages. Sponsored by the Friends of YDL.



### LOVING ME FIRST: SELF CARE **EDITION FOR 55 AND UP!**

11am | YDL-Whittaker

Learn to meditate, learn breathing techniques, enjoy drumming therapy, and more. Sharonda, a local massage therapist from Cocoa Healing Collective, will lead the workshop. Register at ypsilibrary.org/events.

Dec. 4; Jan. 22; Feb. 5

### **CLASSIC HEIST MOVIES**

6pm | YDL-Whittaker

Join us to watch classic heist movies. Showtimes at 6:30.

Dec. 4: Cash on Demand (1962) directed by Quentin Lawrence

Jan. 22: How to Steal a Million (1966) directed by William Wyler

Feb. 5: Trouble in Paradise (1932) directed by Ernst Lubitsch

### SMALL BUSINESS SAVVY: COMPETE WITH A LARGE COMPANY

6:30pm | Virtual

Explore strategies and tactics you can use to compete in a marketplace crowded with competitors selling similar wares. Our Winter Small Business Savvy series is for those who want to start or own a small business. Presented in partnership with the Ann Arbor area SCORE office and the Belleville Area District Library.

Thursdays, Dec. 5-19; Jan. 9-Feb. 27

### **WASHTENAW COMMUNITY COLLEGE: ADVANCE YPSI PROGRAM**

11am-1pm | YDL-Whittaker

Meet with representatives from Advance Ypsi in the lobby and get your questions answered.

### **DINE TO DONATE AT AUBREE'S**

11am-10pm | YDL-Whittaker

Enjoy delicious pizza at Aubree's on Whittaker Road for a good cause! From 11am-10pm, 20% of your dine-in, delivery, and carryout orders will be donated to YDL. Just show a copy of the flyer to your server (ypsilibrary.org/events).

Fridays, Dec. 6-27; Jan. 17-Feb. 28

### **DIGITAL LITERACY TUTORING WITH WASHTENAW LITERACY**

12-2pm | YDL-Whittaker

FREE sessions for adults to build essential skills such as: how to use computers, phones, and tablets, Internet safety, email and social media etiquette, and using Zoom for appointments. For more information, email steichen@

washtenawliteracy.org or call 734-337-3370.

### **DOWNTOWN TREE LIGHTING**

5pm | Plaza at YDL-Michigan

Sing along with community members, sip hot chocolate, decorate cookies, create an ornament, and visit the Bookmobile. Santa will join us for a photo op in his sleigh!

Dec. 7

### **WRITING AS A GIFT**

11am | Virtual

YpsiWrites facilitators will lead a virtual session on how to turn your poetry, song lyrics, and other writing into meaningful holiday gifts.

### SEASONAL WREATH MAKING (Ages 10+)

2 or 3:30pm | YDL-Superior

Make a door or wall wreath using natural materials such as fresh-cut fir, cedar, holly, and ribbons. Attend ONE of the two workshops with local expert Lauren DuBois. Register at ypsilibrary.org/events.

Dec. 7

### CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

6pm | Superior Township Hall

Santa will light the Township Christmas Tree. Enjoy an ice carving demo, old-fashioned carolers, hot chocolate, and cookies. Bring a camera for pictures with Santa.

Dec. 10

### HANDMADE HOLIDAYS - NEEDLE **FELTED ORNAMENTS**

6pm | YDL-Whittaker

Learn needle felting and decorate wool ornament balls with dyed roving. Register at ypsilibrary.org/events.

Dec. 11; Jan. 15; Feb. 12

### MICHIGAN WORKS! SOUTHEAST **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

11am-1pm | YDL-Whittaker

A representative from MICHIGAN WORKS! Southeast will be in the lobby to answer questions and provide assistance on job leads, employment, job fairs, and career guidance.

Dec. 11; Jan. 18; Feb. 12

### YPSIWRITES WRITERS ROOM AND **DROP-IN CONSULTING**

Dec. 11: 6:30pm (YDL-Superior) Jan 18: 11am (Virtual)

Feb. 12: 6:30pm (YDL-Whittaker)

Bring a work in progress or start something new with prompts for inspiration. Trained volunteers will be available for one-on-one writing support on all forms of writing.

Dec. 14

### GET YOUR CREDIT RIGHT

11am | YDL-Superior

This workshop will help you understand your credit report, what affects your score, and strategies for improving it. Leave with resources and worksheets to put what you learned to practical use. Register at ypsilibrary.org/events.

Dec. 14

### HOLIDAY CRAFT WORKSHOP

1-3pm | YDL-Whittaker

Stop by to make an ugly Christmas sweater ornament, gift tag, or card. Materials are limited. For questions, contact Robert at neil@



Dec. 20

### **HANDMADE HOLIDAYS - NATURAL** WINTER DÉCOR

4pm | YDL-Whittaker

Bring a touch of nature's beauty into your home by crafting your own mushroom garland, pinecone mouse, or hanging ornament. Register at ypsilibrary.org/events.

Dec. 21

### GIFTSCRAPPING - SWAP, WRAP, AND SHARE!

4-5:30pm | Location TBD

Bring your spare wrapping supplies, swap with fellow patrons, and enjoy an afternoon of wrapping and community-building. Share, wrap gifts, enjoy cider and holiday cookies, chat, and sustainably prepare for the holiday season.

Dec. 28

### BULLET JOURNALING: PLAN YOUR YEAR!

1pm | Location TBD

Ryder Carroll developed the bullet journal (BuJo) method as a system of organization that allows you to plan your life flexibly in a simple notebook. We will set up our journals and plan for the coming year, with a couple of sample spreads to inspire you. Notebooks will be provided, or you can bring your own.



Jan. 8

### SMALL BUSINESS SAVVY **SMARKETING - CONSUMER** MARKETING IN A DIGITAL AGE

Explore how changes in consumer behavior will affect your approach to "Smarketing" (Marketing/Sales) and the impact on your bottom line. Our Winter Small Business Savvy series is for those who want to start or own a small business. Presented in partnership with the Ann Arbor area SCORE office and the Belleville Area District Library.

Jan. 9; Feb. 22

### WHAT IS A DOULA?

Jan. 9 | 6:30pm | YDL-Superior

Feb. 22 | 10:30am | YDL-Superior Join Wrapped in Love Doula & Lactation Support to learn about doulas, what they do, how they could benefit you, and even how to become one. Childcare available for children ages 3 & up.

Jan. 11

### **FACEBOOK 101**

11am | YDL-Superior

Learn the ins and outs of Facebook, from posting updates to understanding privacy settings. Register at ypsilibrary.org/events.

### **TELLING AND WRITING YOUR** OWN STORIES, AND WHY IT'S **IMPORTANT**

11am | Virtual

Jean Winborn, a retired educator and longtime genealogical researcher, will share examples from her own work and highlight stories of Black Americans and abolitionists. Participants will engage in writing exercises to explore their own stories and family histories.

Jan. 11 & 25; Feb. 8 & 22

### INTERGENERATIONAL CHESS CLUB

Our club fosters a friendly and inclusive environment that encourages players from different generations to connect, learn, and grow through the game. All ages and skill levels are welcome.

Jan. 11 & 25

### MINDFUL WRITING: JOURNALING AND SELF-CARE

3pm | YDL-Superior

Join YpsiWrites for a 2-part workshop to engage in reflective journaling while developing a thoughtful, actionable plan for moving forward in the new year. Journals and pens provided. Register at ypsilibrary.org/events.

### JAZZ, SPIRITUALS, AND CIVIL RIGHTS

2pm | YDL-Whittaker

Join jazz musician and educator Sean Dobbins and his septet for a musical reflection on the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This all-ages show will include original music and music by the jazz masters of the past. Sponsored by the Friends of YDL.

Jan. 15

### GET YOUR MONEY RIGHT FOR THE NEW YEAR! (Ages 55+)

1pm | YDL-Whittaker

Cheranissa Williams, Economic Opportunity Manager for Washtenaw County, will help you make concrete plans on how to improve your finances. Register at ypsilibrary.org/events.

Jan. 16

### WRITER OPEN MIC NIGHT

7-9pm | Corner Brewery

Share your writing at an open mic night at Corner Brewery with supportive members of the YpsiWrites community. All are welcome to attend, read, listen, and encourage the writers. Sign up at tinyurl.com/YpsiOpenMic.

Jan. 18

### ARABIC CALLIGRAPHY ART **RECEPTION**

3-5pm | YDL-Superior

Join local resident Mohamed Kadri Elkjoha for light refreshments while exploring his Arabic calligraphy art display. He will also write your name artistically in Arabic calligraphy if you

Jan. 20

### DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. SERVICE PROJECT

2-4pm | YDL-Michigan

Did you know that MLK Day is the only National Day of Service? Help us make nosew fleece blankets to give to Delonis and Hope clinic, and donate trial-size hygiene products.

Jan. 21 & 25

### COMMUNITY SCANNING DAY: **DIGITIZE YOUR FAMILY HISTORY!**

2-5pm | See description for location info Use a professional-grade document scanner to make high-quality scans of documents 8.5" x 11" or smaller, including photographs, correspondence, and vital records. Limit to 15 items or less, and don't bring business or legal documents that don't pertain to family or local history or any documents that may be too fragile to survive being handled for scanning.

Jan. 21: YDL-Whittaker Ian. 25: YDL-Michigan

See page 9 for more information.

1pm | YDL-Whittaker

Dr. Erin Klukas from the Kellogg Eye Center explores how common ocular diseases affect vision with age, how these conditions are treated, and how assistive aids and community



### **SMALL BUSINESS SAVVY: PODCASTS**

6:30pm | Virtual

Discuss the importance of podcasts in digital marketing. Our Winter Small Business Savvy series is for those who want to start or own a small business. Presented in partnership with the Ann Arbor area SCORE office and the Belleville Area District Library.

### **INTRO TO GENEALOGY**

6pm | YDL-Superior Join Jean Winborn, co-founder of the Washtenaw County African-American Genealogy Society and YDL Board member, to learn how to find your family's story. Learn to navigate online

databases and how best to organize and share

your research.

**BIRTHING BASICS** 

to guide you through what to expect as you welcome your new baby. Informational hour followed by a question and answer session. Childcare available for children ages 3 & up.

Jan. 25-Feb. 28

### OSCAR & RAZZIE AWARDS

answers wins a movie prize pack. Starting Jan. 25, grab an entry form at the library or submit your picks at ypsilibrary.org by 6pm on Feb. 28.

Dive into literary craft techniques including point of view, description, and character development with author Jeannette Matthews. Participants can share their work and receive feedback. Sign

Jan. 28: Explore description and detail Feb. 25: Explore character development

### CYBERSECURITY: I AM NOT A VICTIM

Older adults are the largest group of victims of online scams. Rachael Dawson-Baglien, Senior Resource Manager at Catholic Social Services, will give you prevention tools. Register at



### **DEMYSTIFYING AGING EYES**

resources can help.



Jan. 22

Jan. 23

Jan. 25

10:30am | YDL-Superior Join Wrapped in Love Doula & Lactation Support

### **CONTEST 2025**

Predict this year's Academy & Razzie Award winners! The entry with the most correct Learn more on page 9.

Jan. 28 & Feb. 25

### ELEVATING YOUR WRITING CRAFT 6:30pm | Virtual

up at tinyurl.com/ywcraft24.

11am | YDL-Whittaker

ypsilibrary.org/events.

# Ypsilanti District Library | The Loop

### Event Schedule | Winter 2024–25 | Visit attend.ypsilibrary.org/events

Feb. 1-28

### **BLACK HISTORY MONTH TRIVIA CONTEST**

Throughout February, answer questions related to Black History to enter into a prize drawing. Contest open to individuals within the YDL service area only. Call 734-482-4110 x2411 with questions.

### Mondays, Feb. 3-Apr. 7

### AARP TAX-AIDE PROGRAM

9am-4pm | YDL-Superior

This service is primarily meant for taxpayers with low to moderate incomes. AARP membership is not required. Appointments can be made starting Jan. 2. Call 734-482-4110 x2411 (Whittaker Road), x2421 (Michigan Avenue) or x2431 (Superior) to make an appointment or for more information. Learn more about what to bring on page 10.

Tuesdays, Feb. 4-Apr. 15

### **AARP TAX-AIDE PROGRAM**

9am-5pm | YDL-Michigan See description above.

Tuesdays, Feb. 4-25

### **ONE-ON-ONE GENEALOGY SESSION**

See description for times | YDL-Superior Sign up for a one-on-one genealogy session with Jean Winborn, co-founder of the Washtenaw County African-American Genealogy Society. Register at ypsilibrary.org/events. Feb. 4 & 18: 10am-12pm Feb. 11 & 25: 12-2pm

Tuesdays, Feb. 4-25

### YPSI PARENTS READ

6:30pm | YDL-Whittaker

Join social worker and educator Andrea Krueger for a four-part series to learn how and what to read to your child (ages 3-7) to build literacy skills at home. Get free books!



Feb. 5

### **AFRICAN AMERICANS AND LABOR**

The theme for Black History Month 2025 is "African Americans and Labor." We will explore the experiences African Americans have had with working conditions.

Feb. 5

### **SMALL BUSINESS SAVVY: BUSINESS ETIQUETTE IN THE DIGITAL AGE** -DO'S, DON'TS, MAYBES

6:30pm | Virtual

Discuss email etiquette including response time, social media etiquette, video call etiquette, virtual professionalism, and cross platform unexpected consequences. Our Winter Small Business Savvy series is for those who want to start or own a small business. Presented in partnership with the Ann Arbor area SCORE office and the Belleville Area District Library.

Thursdays, Feb. 6-Mar. 27

### **AARP TAX-AIDE PROGRAM -INCOME TAX PREPARATION**

9am-5pm | YDL-Whittaker

See previous Tax-Aide Program description.

### **BREASTFEEDING BASICS**

6:30pm | YDL-Superior

Join Wrapped in Love Doula & Lactation Services for a crash course in breastfeeding. Learn the benefits of breastfeeding, how to advocate for yourself and your baby, some tips and tricks to meet your breastfeeding goals, and how your partner can support you. Childcare for ages 3 & up is available.

### BLACK FLUID: POETRY FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

11am | Virtual

Read Black social justice movement poetry and explore how activists use the written word in the service of freedom, then express your own desires for freedom on the page. Hosted by EMU professor Dr. Toni Pressley-Sanon. Register at ypsilibrary.org/events.

Feb. 8

### **CANVA 101**

11am | YDL-Superior

Learn to create flyers, social media content, and more with this intuitive, free website. No design experience needed. Register at ypsilibrary.org/events. Space is limited.

Feb. 8

### **BLACK HISTORY MONTH AUTHOR VISIT**

2pm | YDL-Superior

Hear Ypsilanti resident Dwight Wilson read from three collections of short stories written in the voice of his 4th-great grandmother, Sarah, a fugitive from injustice. The stories cover the period between 1795 and the beginning of the Civil War. A book signing will follow the reading.

### **GRIEVE WELL: UNDERSTANDING GRIEF WEBINAR**

7pm | Virtual

Learn about grief, its effects on physical and emotional health, and helpful tips for navigating grief during Valentine's Day in this interactive workshop with Grievewell. Register at ypsilibrary.org/events.

Feb. 15

### **COFFEE HOUR WITH REPRESENTATIVE** JIMMIE WILSON, JR.

11am | YDL-Whittaker OR Virtual

Representative Jimmie Wilson, Jr. (D), District 32, will share updates on legislation he is working on in Lansing and host a Q&A session. Call Rep. Wilson's office at 517-373-8931 or email JimmieWilson@house.mi.gov to RSVP.

Feb. 19

### SMALL BUSINESS SAVVY: **CREATING DELIGHTED AND LOYAL CUSTOMERS**

6:30pm | Virtual

Examine 25 actions you can take to help create delighted and loyal customers. Our Winter Small Business Savvy series is for those who want to start or own a small business. Presented in partnership with the Ann Arbor area SCORE office and the Belleville Area District Library.

Feb. 27

### PILLARS OF SERVICE

6:30pm | YDL-Superior

Join us for an intimate conversation with Cherisa Allen (Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.) and Bryan Hussein Johnson (Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.) to learn about their beginnings, their personal impact stories, and their commitment to community service and unity.

# **Adult Meetups**

Mondays, Dec. 2-Feb. 24 **MAHJONG MEETUP** 

1-3pm | YDL-Whittaker

Weekly Mahjong group for new and experienced players. American and Chinese-style sets will be provided, but you are welcome to bring your

Dec. 2; Jan. 6; Feb. 3

### **SEW SOCIAL**

7pm | YDL-Superior

Whether you cross-stitch or embroider, get inspired, share project ideas, seek advice, and work on your projects with fellow crafters.



Tuesdays, Dec. 3-17; Jan. 14-Feb. 25

### **ESL COMMUNITY TUTORING**

1pm | YDL-Superior

Practice English with Washtenaw Literacy in an informal, relaxed setting. No registration required. All levels of English are welcome. Please arrive 5 minutes before the start time for each group.

Tuesdays, Dec. 3-17; Jan. 7-Feb. 25

### KNITTING PLUS

6pm | YDL-Whittaker

Meet with other yarnies and share your projects and ideas every Tuesday. Open to all, any handcraft welcome!

Tuesdays, Dec. 3-17; Jan. 7-Feb. 25

### **MEDITATION WITH EASE**

6pm | YDL-Superior

Meditation has many benefits for our health and well-being. Drop in for simple, guided, nonreligious awareness practices.

Dec. 3; Jan. 7; Feb. 4

### **GENEALOGY AND FAMILY HISTORY BUNCH**

7pm | YDL-Whittaker

Share stories and research techniques, sort old photos, and meet others who are interested in

Wednesdays, Dec. 4-18; Jan. 8-Feb. 26

### MOVING FOR BETTER BALANCE 10am | YDL-Whittaker

A free falls-prevention program with the Ann Arbor YMCA that uses the principles of Tai Chi to help older adults increase strength, improve balance, and increase their confidence. No session Jan. 29.

Wednesdays, Dec. 4 & 11

### **ESL BOOK CLUB**

11am | YDL-Whittaker

Talk about language, grammar, and cultural aspects of the assigned book. Read around 45 pages before each session. To register, contact Washtenaw Literacy at 734-337-3338.

Wednesdays, Dec. 4-18: 4pm

Thursdays, Jan. 16-Feb. 27: 10:30am

### **BASIC LITERACY COMMUNITY** TUTORING

See above | YDL-Superior

Washtenaw Literacy is offering free drop-in tutoring for adults. Get help with reading, writing, computer skills, work skills, and GED prep.

Dec. 5; Jan. 2; Feb. 6

### THURSDAY MORNING BOOK GROUP 10:30am | YDL-Whittaker

Copies are available at the Whittaker Road branch Circulation Desk one month before the discussion date. Questions? Contact Nicole at nwalley@ypsilibrary.org.

Dec. 5: Little Women by Louisa May Alcott Jan. 2: Educated by Tara Westover Feb. 6: Beloved by Toni Morrison

Dec. 5 & 12

### LNGO CHAIR YOGA WITH KAITLYN **JOHNSON**

12pm | Virtual

Join yoga instructor Kaitlyn Johnson for a refreshing and gentle mid-day chair yoga session. Designed for ages 55+ but open to all adults. Register at ypsilibrary.org/events.

Thursdays, Dec. 19; Jan. 2 & 16; Feb. 6 & 20

### YPSILANTI EUCHRE CLUB

6:30pm | See description

Join us for a fun evening of Michigan's favorite card game: Euchre! Walk-ins will be accommodated as table space allows, but register at ypsilibrary. org/events to ensure a spot. For questions, contact Brett Hamilton (bhamilton@ypsilibrary. org, Whittaker branch) or Ellen Steves (estev ypsilibrary.org, Michigan Avenue branch). Dec. 19, Jan. 16, Feb. 20: YDL-Whittaker Jan. 2 & Feb. 6: YDL-Michigan

Dec. 9; Jan. 13; Feb. 10

### **DOWNTOWN QUEER CRAFTING** GROUP(Ages 18+)

6pm | Visit ypsilibrary.org/events for location

Folks of the LGBTOIA+ community are invited to bring projects to work on and build a creative community. Questions or comments? Contact YDL Librarian Aaron Smith at a ypsilibrary.org or 734-482-4110 x1335.

Dec. 11; Jan. 8; Feb. 12

### CROCHET CLUB

6pm | YDL-Whittaker

Gather with other crocheters on the second Wednesday of every month to share projects, get ideas, and more. Open to all adults.

Dec. 12; Jan. 9; Feb. 13

### **BOARD GAME MEET UP** 6:30pm | YDL-Whittaker

Try a rotating selection of board games, or bring your own to play, share, or teach. If you are bringing a game, please keep our two-hour time limit in mind. For questions, contact Brett Hamilton at bhamilton@ypsilibrary.org.

**Dec. 12:** Take 5 Jan. 9: Hanabi Feb. 13: Decrypto

Dec. 12; Jan. 9; Feb. 13

### YPSILANTI ZINE CLUB

6pm | Visit ypsilibrary.org/events for location info

Work on zines, share techniques and ideas, and make zine-making friends. Basic art materials provided. Find out how you can contribute your own zine to YDL's growing collection.

Dec. 13; Jan. 10; Feb. 14

### LNGO CRAFTERNOONS (Ages 55+)

2:30pm | YDL-Michigan

Work on a craft project where the goals are to engage your mind, connect with others, and build new brain pathways. Projects TBD.

Dec. 14; Jan. 11 & 25; Feb. 8 & 22

### YDL GUITAR CLUB

10am | Visit ypsilibrary.org/events for location

Bring your acoustic or electric guitar, pick a favorite simple song to share, and practice some tunes with a group!

Dec. 18; Jan. 15; Feb. 19

### WRAPPED IN LOVE BOOBIE CLUB

6:30pm | YDL-Superior

Share your breastfeeding journey, ask questions, get lactation support, and hang out with other parents. Get support from lactation experts.

Dec. 19; Jan. 16; Feb. 20

### **SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD** (Ages 55+) 1pm | YDL-Whittaker

Join us as we work to represent and give voice to the needs of older adults at YDL.

Dec. 19; Jan. 16; Feb. 20

### ADULT QUEER BOOK GROUP

6:30pm | Visit ypsilibrary.org/events for location info

Read and discuss literature written by queer writers with diverse backgrounds. Email Dr. Z at kziegler@ypsilibrary.org to sign up. Books are available for pickup one month before the group meeting.

Dec. 19: Apsara Engine by Bishakh Som Jan. 16: Maurice by E.M. Forster. Feb. 20: Be Gay, Do Comics! edited by Matt Bors

Dec. 21; Jan. 18; Feb. 15

### WASHTENAW AFRICAN AMERICAN **GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

10:30am | Virtual

Learn tools that are vital to successfully navigate African American ancestry resources. For more information contact Joy Cichewicz at joy@ypsilibrary.org.

Jan. 4; Feb. 1

**WAX IN THE STACKS** 

4pm | YDL-Michigan A vibrant vinyl listening group. Using a vintage 1960s Mustang II portable vinyl player, we'll dive into different music genres each month. Bring your favorite records, or simply come to listen and enjoy the nostalgic crackle of vinyl.

Jan. 4: Modal Jazz Feb. 1: Folk

### Jan. 6; Feb. 3 **READ IT AND EAT IT - COOKBOOK**

**CLUB** 5pm | YDL-Whittaker

Choose a recipe from a designated book or theme, prepare it, and bring the dish to share and discuss. In January, please bring only your ideas for themes or cookbooksno food required. This meeting is meant to gauge interest in the new club and plan our future sessions. Questions? Email nwalley@



### Thursdays, Jan. 9-Feb. 13 **LNGO FITNESS WITH GERALDINE POWELL**

12pm | Virtual

This gentle fitness class covers overall body health and well being. It will demonstrate multiple styles of exercises with different modifications. Register at ypsilibrary.org/events.

### BANNED BOOK CLUB (Ages 16+)

7pm | YDL-Superior

Read, discuss, and celebrate stories that have sparked controversy and inspired change. Copies are available at the Superior branch one month before the discussion date. Register at ypsilibrary.org/events.

5

Jan. 13: The Storyteller by Jodi Picoult

Jan. 14 & Feb. 11

### **SCIENCE FICTION BOOK CLUB**

7pm | YDL-Whittaker

An adult discussion group for fans of science fiction books. Copies are available at YDL-Whittaker one month before the discussion date. Questions? Contact Marianne at vandenbergen@ypsilibrary.org

Jan. 14: The Three-Body Problem by Cixin Liu Feb. 11: Parable of the Sower by Octavia Butler

Fridays, Jan. 17-Feb. 28

### **CHAIR YOGA FOR ALL LEVELS**

10:30am | YDL-Superior

Experience the benefits of Chair Yoga, including enhanced flexibility, improved mobility, and greater awareness of breath. This class is done both seated and standing alongside a chair.

Jan. 28; Feb. 25

### VIRTUAL AFRICAN AMERICAN **AUTHORS BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

7pm | Virtual

Join us for lively discussions of books by African American authors.

Jan. 28: Lovely One by Ketanji Brown Jackson Feb. 25: All the Sinners Bleed by S. A. Cosby

Jan. 30 & Feb. 27

### **PARANORMAL CLUB**

Explore UFOs, ghosts, and more through discussions, investigations, and guest speakers. In January, welcome critically acclaimed podcasters Kay Gray and Crysta K. Coburn to discuss their book, Ypsilanti Ghosts & Legends, and share stories of strange occurrences in Ypsilanti, including right here in the library!

### Teen

Dec. 14

### COCOA TO GO (Ages 12-18)

2pm | YDL-Whittaker

Make your own jars of cocoa mix and hot chocolate bombs to take home. Halal and vegan ingredient options will be available.



### MAKE MOCHI (Ages 12-18)

2pm | YDL-Whittaker

Learn to make rice cakes. Choose your own fillings-ice cream, red bean paste, or fruit.

Feb. 8

### **COOKIE DECORATING** (Ages 12-18)

2pm | YDL-Whittaker

Teens, drop in to decorate cookies and dip pretzels. Vegan options will be available.

### **Teen Meetups**

Dec. 3 & 17; Jan. 7 & 21; Feb. 4 & 18

### **TEEN GREAT STORIES BOOK CLUB**

Join YDL & Ozone House for a fun-filled book club featuring snacks, free books, and gift card raffles! The books we read have been selected to inspire young people—especially those facing difficult circumstances or challenges-to consider "big questions" about the world and their place in it. To register, please email Kelly at kscott@ypsilibrary.org.

Dec. 7 & 21; Jan. 4 & 18; Feb. 1 & 15

### **DUNGEONS & DRAGONS** (Ages 12-18)

10:30am | Visit ypsilibrary.org/events for location info

Join us for D&D with an experienced DM, an adventurous storyline, and pre-generated characters. Email mitchell@ypsilibrary.org to

Dec. 10; Jan. 14 & 28; Feb. 11 & 25

### TAG - TEEN ADVISORY GROUP

4:30pm | YDL-Whittaker

Plan and lead library programs, design new services and spaces, look for funding opportunities and write grants, earn service hours, and meet new friends! Teens in grades 8-12 can apply at ypsilibrary.org/tag.

Dec. 14; Jan. 11; Feb. 8

### ANIME CLUB (Ages 12+)

3pm | YDL-Whittaker

Watch anime with other fans, chat about what you watch and what manga you read, and use our drawing supplies to sketch. If you like to cook, come early to learn new recipes.

Dec. 20; Jan. 17; Feb. 28

### **TEEN STEAM CAFE**

6pm | Location TBD

Learn about cool STEAM careers while hanging out with friends, engaging in STEM activities (like Indigenous agricultural systems, meteorology, or a visit with Growing Hope), and eating delicious food. Part of Project STEM @ YDL sponsored by Toyota.

### **Kids & Parents**

### **BLACK MEN READ BOOK PARTY**

10:30am | YDL-Superior OR Virtual Join members of BMR for books featuring stories from the African diaspora and a handson art activity at this family book party. Register to attend virtually at ypsilibrary.org/events.

### **READING WITH KITTENS**

2pm | YDL-Whittaker

Meet, pet, and play with kittens up for adoption through Last Day Dog Rescue, then take a turn reading to a kitten.

Dec. 11

### MICHIGAN AVENUE MAKER NIGHT -WINTER GREENERY

6pm | Location TBD

Create a piece of living art with winter greenery. Register everyone attending at ypsilibrary.org/events.

Dec. 12; Jan. 9 & 23; Feb. 13 & 27

### **READ TO MOON THE LIBRARY DOG**

5:30-7:30pm | Visit ypsilibrary.org/events for location info

Reading to a Therapaws dog helps children develop confidence and become better readers. To sign up for a 10-minute slot with Moon, email mitchell@ypsilibrary.org.

Dec. 19; Jan. 16; Feb. 20

### **READ TO BAMBI THE LIBRARY DOG**

5-6pm | YDL-Superior

Reading to a Therapaws dog helps children build confidence and become better readers. Contact nrussell@ypsilibrary.org to reserve a 10-minute slot.

Dec. 23, 26, 27 & 30; Jan. 2 & 3

### WINTER BREAK BOREDOM **BUSTERS**

2pm | YDL-Michigan

Learn creative ways to use toys, tools, and art.

Dec. 23: Get creative with Play-Doh Dec. 26: Building with ramps

Dec. 27: Exploring art

Dec. 30: Coding for all

Jan. 2: What can you build with Legos?

Jan. 3: Beads, beads, and more beads! Part of Project STEM @ YDL sponsored by Toyota.

Dec. 23, 26 & 30; Jan. 2

### WINTER STEAM (Ages 8+)

3pm | YDL-Superior

Join us for activities that engage your brain and your hands over school break. Dec. 23: Use MakeDo tools and materials to

design & build 3D cardboard creations. Dec. 26: Unlock the secrets of invisible ink and embark on fun, spy-themed activities. Dec. 30: Learn the basics of 3D printing by customizing and printing your own keychain or zipper pull.

Jan. 2: Design and construct marble mazes. Part of Project STEM @ YDL sponsored by Toyota.

Dec. 27 & 28; Jan. 3 & 4

### **WINTER BREAK STEAM**

12pm | Whittaker

Drop in over Winter Break for fun hands-on activities that cover STEM topics. Dec. 27: Relaxation stations - Make a mini Zen

garden, a glitter tube, and worry dolls. Dec. 28: Lego Screen Printing - Create a design with flat plate Legos, then use paint to print

your design on paper. Jan. 3: Moroccan lanterns - Look at Moroccan patterns and tessellations, then create unique lanterns with Doodles Academy.

Jan. 4: Animal habitats - Learn about hibernation and animal shelters with Panda STEM and use recycled materials to build dens for our furry friends.

Part of Project STEM @ YDL sponsored by

Jan. 2

### COCOA & CRAFTS (Ages 8-12)

2pm | YDL-Whittaker

Drink cocoa and craft bracelets, cards, and personalized room décor.

Jan. 8

### **MICHIGAN AVENUE MAKER NIGHT-DIY KALEIDOSCOPES**

Explore STEM principles of light while making your own kaleidoscope.

Jan. 18

### DOG MAN PARTY

2pm | YDL-Michigan

Celebrate our favorite half-man, half-dog, crimefighting hero with games and crafts! You could win your very own copy of Big Jim Begins.

Jan. 20

### MLK DAY CELEBRATION

12-2pm | YDL-Superior

Celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with a performance by the Ypsilanti Youth Choir, a hands-on craft, and a community service project.

Jan. 22 & Mar. 26

### **EMBRACING YOUR CROWN SERIES**

6pm | YDL-Michigan

This series will help families caring for Black hair embrace their crowns through self-care, consent, and alopecia awareness.

Jan. 22: Hair care and consent (ages 6+). Mar. 26: Hair demo and workshop where participants can practice styling hair (ages

Jan. 25

### **CIRQUE AMONGUS**

2pm | YDL-Whittaker

Kids and families, join Cirque Amongus to learn circus skills!

Feb. 1

### **DOLL AND STUFFY TEA PARTY**

2pm | YDL-Whittaker

Bring your favorite doll or stuffy and join us for a library tea party!



Feb. 8

### VIDEO GAME CODING WITH CODE

NINJAS (Ages 7-14)

2pm | YDL-Whittaker

Work on building a video game with JavaScript. Learn basic coding concepts such as loops, sequencing, and debugging. Take your game home when the session is finished.

Feb. 12

### **MICHIGAN AVENUE MAKER NIGHT -**

COLLAGE 6pm | YDL-Michigan

Join Avery Williamson and dive into the art of collage. Create a piece that showcases joy in its many and varied forms.

Feb. 15

### PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN FAIR

11:30am-1:30pm | YDL-Superior preschools and kindergartens to find a good fit for your little one. Learn about support organizations and resources that can help you pay for school, engage in hands-on activities with your little one, and take home a free book and tote bag! If you are a school or daycare and want to have a table at the event, email kwalker@ypsilibrary.org.

Feb. 15

### **CRIME LAB** 2pm | YDL-Whittaker

Brush up on your logical thinking and problemsolving skills and work together with friends or family to solve the mock crime. Part of Project



Feb. 15

### PIZZA MANIA (Tweens)

2pm | YDL-Michigan

Do a pizza taste off, create your own dessert pizza, and design pizza jewelry to take home.



Feb. 22

### TRAVEL TO TIMBUKTU

2pm | YDL-Whittaker

Explore Timbuktu's history and culture with Aisha Traore. Learn a traditional song and dance and practice a few words in traditional Malian languages.

Mar. 1

### CATCHING MIRRORS WITH SPINNING **DOT THEATRE** (Ages 8+)

2pm | YDL-Whittaker

Explore bodies, moods, and mirrors in this interactive puppet show by Cameron Prevatte about accepting yourself as you are, believing in your ideas, and not letting yourself down.

## **Kids & Parents Meetups**

Mondays, Dec. 2 & 9; Jan. 27-Feb. 24 AFTER-SCHOOL WRITING LAB

5:30pm | YDL-Superior Young writers and trained adult volunteers will work together to cultivate joy and confidence around writing. For more information, visit 826michigan.org/programs/after-school-

Wednesdays, Dec. 4 & 11; Jan. 8-Feb. 26

writing-lab. No session Feb. 17.

YOUTH CHESS CLUB

4:30pm | YDL-Whittaker

**HOMEWORK HELP** 

5:30-7pm | YDL-Whittaker

Drop in to play chess at the library! Thanks to support from the US Chess Federation, we are upgrading this year's club with rated tournaments and more. See page 3 for details.

Wednesdays, Dec. 4 & 11; Jan. 15-Feb. 26

Elementary and middle school students can stop by the youth department with their homework and

get help from a high school student volunteer. Thursdays, Dec. 5 & 12; Jan 16-Feb. 27

**LOVE OF LEARNING CLUB** (Ages 6-9)

1pm | YDL-Whittaker Connect with other families and homeschoolers while engaging in themed activities each week

inspired by a nonfiction or picture book.

location info

Thursdays, Dec. 5 & 12 AFTER SCHOOL STEM: LEGOS

4:30pm | YDL-Whittaker Free build or use our Lego Spike coding sets.

Thursdays, Dec. 5; Jan. 2; Feb. 6 TWEEN BOOK CLUB (Grades 6-8) 6:30pm | Visit ypsilibrary.org/events for

Join us for a monthly discussion of a shared book and enjoy a snack. To register, email

Jan. 2: 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea by Jules

Dec. 5: Glitch by Laura Martin

Feb. 6: Divergent by Veronica Roth Saturdays, Dec. 7 & 14; Jan. 25 - Feb. 22 **DROP-IN WRITING FOR WEE-BOTS** 

(Ages 5-8) 12pm | YDL-Whittaker

Read a book aloud and pay attention to one special thing the writer does. Then, work with volunteers on activities inspired by that idea. Visit 826michigan.org to fill out the registration form in advance.

Wednesdays, Dec. 18; Jan. 15; Feb. 19

### **READING READINESS FAMILY BOOK**

CLUB (Ages 3-6)

6pm | Location TBD Caregivers and kiddos will work together on

pre-reading skills, reading readiness, and how to practice at home. Each family will leave with a book related to the book club's theme, as well as age-appropriate tips and tricks for practicing pre-reading skills. Register at ypsilibrary.org/

Thursdays, Dec. 19; Jan. 16; Feb. 20

KIDS BOOK CLUB (Grades 3-5)

6:30pm | Visit ypsilibrary.org/events for location info

Join us for a monthly discussion of a shared book and enjoy a snack. To register, email mitchell@ypsilibrary.org.

Dec 19: Catstronauts: Space Station Situation by Drew Brockington

Jan 16: The 13-Story Treehouse by Andy Griffiths Feb 20: From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler by E. L. Konigsburg

Thursdays, Jan. 9-30

### **AFTER SCHOOL STEM - SNACK SCIENCE**

### 4:30pm | YDL-Whittaker

Hands-on science experiments involving some of your favorite snacks. Part of Project STEM @ YDL sponsored by Toyota.

Tuesdays, Jan. 14-Feb. 4

### **GRAPHIC NOVEL BOOK CLUB**

(Grades 2-5)

### 4:30pm | YDL-Whittaker

Listen to Dog Man: Big Jim Begins: A Graphic Novel read aloud, followed by a themed craft activity each week.

Thursdays, Feb. 6-27

### **AFTER SCHOOL STEM: ROBOT** CODING

### 4:30pm | YDL-Whittaker

Kids and families, drop in to learn and practice block-based coding. Learn to tell Ozobots and VinciBots how to move, what to draw, and more. Part of Project STEM @ YDL sponsored

### Stories and Fun for Little Ones

Dec. 7

### MUSIC TOGETHER

11am | YDL-Whittaker

Join Leah Fox from Robinsongs Music Together for a parent and child music class.



### Dec. 13 & 14; Jan. 31 & Feb. 1; Feb. 28 & Mar. 1

### **SENSORY STATIONS** (Ages 2-6)

11am | YDL-Whittaker

Explore themed sensory and art stations to help your child develop fine motor skills and learn about the world through play. Attend Friday OR Saturday for the same set of stations. Dec. 13 & 14: Alphabet

Jan. 31 & Feb. 1: Bend, stack, pour

Feb. 28 & Mar. 1: Weather and seasons

Dec. 28

### LITTLE ONES PLAY

11am | Location TBD

Join other little ones as we explore the 5 senses in messy and fun ways.

Art Stations: Painting with tea bags and taste-

Construction Stations: Jello digs and taste-safe

Fine Motor Station: Scented Playdough and

Jan. 10

### **LANTERN STORYTIME (Ages 2-7)**

11am | YDL-Whittaker

Hear a read aloud and make lanterns with Doodles Academy using tissue paper.

Jan. 13

### KINDERCONCERT

### 10 & 11am | YDL-Whittaker

Join the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra for a fun-filled KinderConcert for little ones. Get a guided introduction to an instrument while dancing and singing.

Jan. 18 & Feb. 1

### **ASL-FRIENDLY STORYTIME** (Toddlers

to Age 5)

11am | YDL-Superior

Join us for songs and books fully interpreted in ASL. Then play with age-appropriate toys.

Jan. 25

### DIG: A SPINNING DOT BABY THEATRE PRODUCTION (Ages 2-5)

### 11am | YDL-Whittaker

In this interactive production by Monica Kozakiewicz, a young explorer shares the treasures from her dig site and the mythical creature who watches over it.

Jan. 25

### LITTLE ONES PLAY

### 11am | YDL-Michigan

Explore STEM concepts through our 5 senses. Science Stations: Light and shadow play and experiments and reactions station

Technology and Engineering Stations: Roads, ramps, bridges, and vehicles, hammering station, magnet builders

Math Stations: Loose parts sorting and working with shapes

Feb. 8

### SING-ALONG STORYTIME

11am | YDL-Whittaker

Join us for a musical storytime where we will sing, move, and make music together.

### **HUGS AND KISSES STORYTIME**

### 11am | YDL-Whittaker

Celebrate Valentine's Day with stories and songs about love and friendship, cookie decorating, heart crafts, and sensory play.

Feb. 22

### LITTLE ONES PLAY

11am | YDL-Michigan

Explore active play through the 5 senses with little ones, including baby-friendly stations. Gross Motor Area: "Car" wash; Pool noodle forest; Building with alternative materials;

Tummy time sensory Music and Movement Area: Scarves/wings; Parachute; Baby hula hoop

Fine Motor Area: Giant tapestry weaving; Baby and dishes washing; Tugging box

### MONDAYS

Mondays, Jan. 13-Feb. 24

### LITTLE ONES STORYTIME (Babies,

Walkers, and Wiggly Toddlers) 10:30am | YDL-Michigan

Each week we will sing and move, read books, and provide toys for open play. We will also offer space for caregivers to connect.

Mondays, Jan. 20-Feb. 24

### JUMPSTART KINDERGARTEN 10:30am | YDL-Whittaker

An engaging blend of activities and stories designed to help prepare preschoolers for school success, from scissor skills to STEM.

Mondays, Feb. 3-24

### **BEDTIME STORYTIME** (All ages)

6:30pm | YDL-Whittaker Build early learning skills and wind down for bedtime with stories, songs, and movement

followed by a hands-on project.

TUESDAYS

### Tuesdays, Jan. 14-Feb. 25 BABY STORYTIME

10:30am | YDL-Superior

Hear a book and learn fun songs during a short lap-sit storytime designed for pre-walkers. Then stay to chat with other parents and caregivers while your little one plays.

Tuesdays, Jan. 14-Feb. 25

### **DISCOVERY TIME** (Ages 2-4)

10:30am | YDL-Whittaker

Learn a variety of preschool-readiness skills—from ABCs to kindness—through music, parachute play, and books, followed by exploratory play.

Tuesdays, Jan. 14-Feb. 25

### JUMPSTART KINDERGARTEN 1pm | YDL-Whittaker

WEDNESDAYS

Wednesdays, Jan. 15-Feb. 26 **BABY TIME** 

10:30am | YDL-Whittaker

See Tuesday Baby Storytime description.

Wednesdays, Jan. 15-Feb. 26

READ, SING, PLAY (Walkers through age 3)

10:30am | YDL-Superior

Hear a book, sing songs, then caregivers can chat while kids play.

**THURSDAYS** 

### Thursdays, Jan. 16-Feb. 27

**DISCOVERY TIME** (Ages 2-4) 10:30am | YDL-Superior

See Tuesday description. Thursdays, Jan. 16-Feb. 27

READ, SING, PLAY (Ages 1-3)

10:30am | YDL-Whittaker

See Wednesday description.

### **FRIDAYS**

Fridays, Jan. 17-Feb. 28

### **DOWNTOWN STORYTIME** (Ages 0-5) 10:30am | YDL-Michigan

Little ones will hone early literacy skills while

engaging in song, dance, and lots of fun.

### Tech Help (Adults) Register online or call 734-482-4110 x2411.

### **ONE-ON-ONE TECH HELP FOR**

SENIORS (Ages 55+)

YDL-Whittaker and YDL-Superior Call 734-482-4110 x1384 or email brigitte@ ypsilibrary.org to schedule a one hour in-person, phone, or virtual session at Whittaker. To schedule a session at Superior, call 734-482-4110 x2431 or email mgeiman@ypsilibrary.org.

### Dec. 3, 6:30pm; Jan. 22, 2pm; Feb. 1, 10:30am **GOOGLE SHEETS FOR BEGINNERS**

YDL-Whittaker

Learn to enter and edit data, format cells, and create simple formulas. Also, learn to share and collaborate on a spreadsheet.

Dec. 5, 6:30pm; Feb. 26, 2pm

### **GMAIL - BASICS YDL-Whittaker**

Learn how to send and retrieve messages, add attachments, create and manage labels and filters, add contacts, and manage junk email. Participants may sign up for a Gmail account at the end of class.

Dec. 10, 6:30pm; Jan. 29, 2pm; Feb. 15, 10:30am

### **GOOGLE SHEETS TIPS & TRICKS YDL-Whittaker**

Explore more advanced features of Google Sheets like using formulas, conditional functions and formatting, sorting, filtering and linking data, and defining a print area.

Dec. 11, 10:30am; Jan. 21, 2pm

### FROM BOOMERS TO ZOOMERS: **ZOOM PRACTICE FOR SENIORS (55+)**

Virtual

Learn the basics of navigating the Zoom meeting interface. While working with other seniors, you can see yourself on camera, test your microphone, learn to chat, and more.

Dec. 11, 2pm; Jan. 18, 10:30am; Feb. 4, 6:30pm

### **GOOGLE SLIDES FOR BEGINNERS**

### YDL-Whittaker

Learn to create and deliver a presentation and add graphics and multimedia. Also learn to share and collaborate on a presentation.

### Dec. 12, 2pm; Jan. 21, 7pm; Feb. 19, 10:30am VEGA DISCOVER - BASICS

### **YDL-Whittaker**

An introduction to YDL's new online public access catalog, Vega Discover. Learn how to find, request, and renew items. Understand the tools for managing lists and account information including checkouts and hold requests.

Dec. 12, 7pm; Feb. 1, 2pm

### **GOOGLE DRIVE - BASICS**

YDL-Whittaker With a Google account, Google Drive provides access to free web-based applications for creating documents, spreadsheets, presentations, and more. Learn how to navigate Google Drive's interface and how to create. store, organize, access, and share your files.

Dec. 14, 10:30am; Jan. 8, 2pm; Feb. 6, 6:30pm

### GOOGLE DOCS FOR REGINNERS YDL-Whittaker

Learn to format, select, copy, paste, and edit text. Also, learn to share and collaborate on a

Dec. 14, 2pm; Jan. 9, 6:30pm

### **MICROSOFT EXCEL - BASICS YDL-Whittaker**

Learn to enter and edit data, select cell ranges, format cells, use the fill handle, and create simple formulas.

Dec. 17 & Feb. 20, 6:30pm

### MICROSOFT PUBLISHER - BASICS **YDL-Whittaker**

Learn the basics for creating greeting cards, flyers, and calendars including page layout and formatting text and images.

Dec. 18, 10:30am; Jan. 28, 2pm

### **HOW TO HOST A ZOOM MEETING** Virtual

Learn the basics for hosting a Zoom meeting from start to finish. Topics include scheduling and starting your meeting, inviting participants, using host controls, Zoom etiquette, and basic troubleshooting.

Dec. 19, 7pm; Jan. 4, 10:30am

### **GOOGLE CALENDAR - BASICS**

### VDI.-Whittaker

Learn the basics for setting up your Google Calendar to schedule and manage your events and appointments, share event information, and send notifications/reminders to your devices.

Dec. 28, 10:30am; Jan. 15, 2pm; Feb. 13, 6:30pm

### **GOOGLE DOCS TIPS & TRICKS**

### YDL-Whittaker

Explore more advanced features of Google Docs: headers and footers, tabs and indents, inserting breaks (page, section, and column) and finding & replacing text.

Dec. 28, 2pm; Jan. 16, 6:30pm

### MICROSOFT EXCEL - INTERMEDIATE

### **YDL-Whittaker**

Learn to apply functions, filter data, create charts, and print worksheets.

Jan. 4, 2pm; Feb. 11, 6:30pm

### **MICROSOFT WORD - BASICS YDL-Whittaker**

An introduction to word processing. Learn to enter, format, select, copy, paste, and edit text.

### Jan. 7, 7pm; Feb. 5, 10:30am **COMPUTER BASICS - GETTING**

**STARTED** 

**YDL-Whittaker** Learn the parts and proper use of the computer and Windows basics, including opening/closing applications and managing files/folders. Basic PC, keyboard, and mouse skills required.

Jan. 14, 2pm; Feb. 27, 6:30pm MICROSOFT POWERPOINT - BASICS

### **VDI.-Whittaker** Learn how to create and add graphics and multimedia to a presentation.

Jan. 14, 7pm; Feb. 12, 10:30am

**INTERNET BASICS - HOW TO SEARCH THE WEB YDL-Whittaker** 

using search tools and techniques. Basic PC, keyboard, and mouse skills required.

Jan. 18, 2pm; Feb. 18, 6:30pm MICROSOFT WORD - INTERMEDIATE **YDL-Whittaker** Learn to create and format tables, insert

This class covers the browser toolbar and menu

options, managing your favorite websites, and

images, create bulleted and numbered lists, and insert tabs.

### Jan. 23, 6:30pm; Feb. 15, 2pm **MICROSOFT EXCEL - PIVOT TABLES**

**YDL-Whittaker** Learn how to perform simple data analysis using Excel's PivotTable feature. Reorganize and summarize selected columns and rows of data in a spreadsheet to extract desired information. Participants should have an understanding of creating formulas and how

cells are referenced within Excel.

### Jan. 30 & Feb. 25, 6:30pm MICROSOFT WORD - TIPS, TRICKS,

& HACKS

tab order, and more.

(Intermediate)

**YDL-Whittaker** Learn to modify page numbers, recover a corrupted file, add screenshots, reduce eye strain, use the Go To command, change ribbon

# Catch the next episode of Ypsi

In our next episode of the Ypsi Stories podcast, we talk with Donald Harrison and Mark Tucker about the Ypsilanti Experimental Space, a former drugstore turned black box theater in downtown Ypsilanti which hosted many ambitious experimental art displays from 2016 to 2023.



# READ, LEARN, AND EXPLORE OVER WINTER BREAK

ummer Challenge players asked for more reading challenges, so we're offering our first Winter Challenge for kids 18 and under!

### How it works:

- From December 21 January 5, earn points by reading a book, attending a library program, or checking off an activity on this list (or pick up a copy of the list from the library).
- When you've completed 5 activities, return your tracker to any YDL youth desk to pick out a book to keep, courtesy of Domino's.

Pro Tip: You can check out Youth Kits (ypsilibrary. org/kits) and items from the Library of Things (ypsilibrary.org/LOT) to help you complete your activities. Check out YDL events on pages 4-7, or visit ypsilibrary.org/events.

# Snuggle up and read or listen to a book Attend a library program Play a board game Build something with blocks or Legos Work on a puzzle, on your own or as a family Hike local trails or visit a park to sled Build a snowman (with snow or playdough) Practice math while you bake cookies or dessert Make snowflakes with paper and scissors Visit the Ypsi Artisan Market on December 21 or 22 Write thank you notes to those who gave you a gift Have a movie marathon Host a friends and family talent show

# IMPORTANT SCHOOL DATES

### DEC 6

½ Day for Grades K-5 (LCS)

### **DEC 19 & 20**

½ Day (YCS)

### **DEC 21-JAN 5**

Winter Break, No School (YCS and LCS)

### JAN 6

School Resumes (YCS and LCS)

### **JAN 20**

No School - MLK Jr. Day (YCS and LCS)

### **JAN 23 & 24**

½ Day for Grades 6-12 - (Exams) (LCS)

### **JAN 27**

No School (LCS)

### **FEB 12**

Student Count Day (YCS)

### **FEB 13**

No School (YCS)

### **FEB 14-17**

No School - Mid-Winter Break (YCS and LCS)

### **FEB 18**

No School (LCS)

# YCS INTRODUCES KID-FRIENDLY LIBRARY REDESIGN

Some Ypsilanti Community School libraries, starting with Estabrook Elementary, are getting a fun new look just for kids!

he newly redesigned space at Estabrook is intended to inspire a love of reading and learning. Recognizing the diverse needs of young students, the school's media specialist and art teacher implemented features to ensure the library is accessible and engaging.

"From colorful, comfortable seating areas to interactive learning stations, every aspect of the library invites exploration and curiosity," said Jerilyn Lynn, the Technology Resource Specialist for YCS. "This innovative space blends modern design with the timeless joy of reading, creating a sanctuary that is both kid-friendly and welcoming."

One of the standout features is the reading area, intended to make kids feel at home and foster an

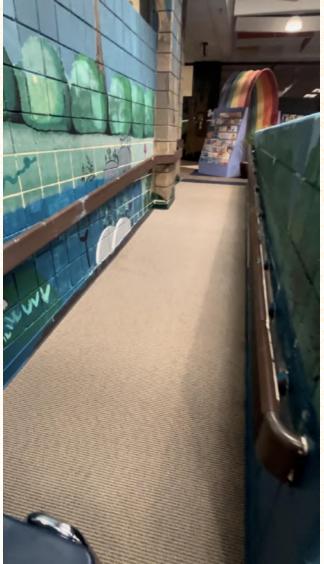
environment where they can lose themselves in the pages of a book. There are also interactive activities for children to playfully engage with educational content.

"Children are learning while having fun, making it an ideal place for both educational exploration and recreational enjoyment," said Lynn.

The library also added a diverse range of new books to the collection that reflect various cultures, languages, and experiences. Lynn said the goal was to promote empathy and understanding among young readers.

"This new chapter in library design ensures that the joy of reading is accessible to every child," said Lynn.





# DIGITIZE YOUR FAMILY HISTORY

### Scan your important family photos and documents at the library

Michigan January 25 from 2-5pm to use a professional-grade document scanner—on loan from the Library of Michigan—to make high-quality digital copies of documents 8.5" x 11" or smaller. This includes photographs, correspondence, and vital records.

Digitizing records allows you to preserve your family history and protect important family heirlooms against damage or decay.



### What to Bring for Scanning:

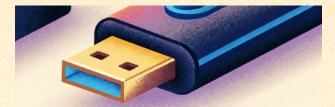
- Family photos
- Correspondence, postcards, newspaper clippings
- Other unique documents significant to your family or local history size 8.5" x 11" or smaller

### What NOT to Bring to This Event:

(These kinds of documents can be scanned any time via our standard free scanning services)

- Business or legal documents that don't pertain to family or local history
- More than 15-20 items (which cannot be reasonably scanned, one document at a time, in 15 minutes)
- Documents that may be too fragile to survive being handled for scanning
- Documents that may be dirty or contaminated

Scans may be saved to a USB flash drive or sent to an email address as .pdf files. Attendees can bring their own USB Drives or purchase one at the library for \$5 (cash only).



Please be aware: This event is intended to help the community digitize documents to preserve family and local history. We cannot answer questions about the validity or use of scanned documents for legal or commercial purposes.

For questions, please contact Brett Hamilton (bhamilton@ypsilibrary.org, Whittaker Branch) or Mani Brito (mbrito@ypsilibrary.org, Michigan Avenue Branch).

# WHAT RESOLUTION WILL YOU MAKE?

ashtenaw Literacy helps learners gain life skills in reading, writing, digital literacy, and English as a second language. Helping as a volunteer could be the perfect New Year's goal!

"There were giggles emanating from the room as I walked by," said James S. after his first day as a volunteer ESL tutor with Washtenaw Literacy. "I knew the library offered tutoring, but I didn't expect the explosion of joy and engagement that I found."

No experience is required, and training is provided for volunteers. You just need to attend one regularly scheduled information session and commit to volunteering about 3 hours a week for at least 4-6 months. Find the next information session at washtenawliteracy.org.

Washtenaw Literacy believes equity cannot exist without literacy and strives to show that literacy is a right, and that learning can be joyous.

"We know these statements to be true," said Washtenaw Literacy Executive Director Carol McCabe. "Tutors and adult learners share stories that illustrate these concepts every day."

You can become part of the winter training cohort and help change a life. Perhaps even your own!

"I got into tutoring to help someone," said James S. "I didn't know how much it would help me."



# AND THE OSCAR GOES TO ...

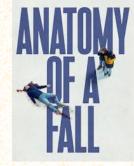


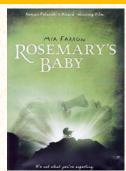
t's time for YDL's annual Oscars and Razzies
Awards Contest! Help us celebrate the best—
and worst—movies of the year. Pick the winner
in the most award categories in both award shows
to win a movie prize pack.

Ballots will be available starting January 25 and are due by 6pm on February 28. Enter online or at any YDL branch. To qualify, you must live within YDL's service area and be able to pick up your prize from a YDL location. Limit one entry per person.

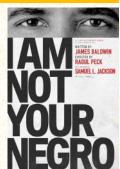
### Previous award winners you can stream with your library card on Kanopy





















Visit kanopy.com/ypsilibrary, then log in with your library card number.

# **NAVIGATE TAX SEASON**



ax help at YDL is back! AARP's Tax-Aide assistance program is provided by trained volunteers in partnership with the IRS. This program is primarily for taxpayers over 50 with low to moderate incomes.

Tax-Aide volunteers have been doing taxes at YDL at no cost for over 16 years, completing taxes for hundreds of taxpayers annually. AARP membership is not required.

Starting Jan. 2, call 734-482-4110 to make an appointment:

- Whittaker: x2411
- Michigan Avenue: x2421
- Superior: x2431

You can also visit ypsilibrary.org/taxprep for more information. Before meeting with your AARP tax preparer, you'll need to pick up an informational packet and forms that must be filled out in advance of your appointment.

# TIPS TO MAKE YOUR FILING EXPERIENCE RUN AS SMOOTHLY AS POSSIBLE:

- If filing jointly, both spouses must be present.
- Make sure you bring: All W-2s, 1098s, 1099s, and any other records of income.
- Photo ID of you and your spouse.
- Social Security card for you, your spouse, and any dependents.
- Birth dates for you, your spouse, and any dependents.
- A voided check or other bank document with account and routing numbers printed on it for direct deposit of your refund.
- 2022 and 2023 tax returns, if you have them.
- If you have health insurance through the Health Insurance Marketplace (ACA), bring Form 1095-A.
- If you are eligible for a heating credit, bring your DTE bill from Dec 2024, Jan 2025, or Feb 2025.
- If you are eligible for the property tax credit, bring Summer & Winter tax statements OR bring proof of rent paid along with the name and address of your landlord.



### **Avoid Tax Scams**

Watch for telltale signs that could indicate you've been a victim of a tax scam. A scam may be happening if you receive any of these:

- A tax transcript in the mail from the IRS that you didn't order.
- An Employer Identification Number that you didn't request.
- A Form W-2 from an unknown employer.
- An unexpected notice or email from a tax preparation company that asks you to:
  - » Confirm access to an existing online account.
  - » Disable an existing online account.
  - » Confirm a new online account.
- A letter from the IRS—during a year you didn't earn income or file a tax return—that says:
  - » You owe additional tax.
  - » A balance due offset a refund.
  - » Collection actions were taken.

You can always verify what you owe or report scams at IRS.gov/account.

# CATCH THE WINTER FOOD MARKET

hrough December 21, Food Gatherers is hosting an indoor food market on Washington Street. Every Saturday from 10am-2pm, you can support your local food system, enjoy your favorite seasonal produce, and shop handmade goods!

At the market, you can pay with cash, or swipe a credit card at an info booth for tokens. You can also use an EBT/P-EBT Card and earn Double Up Food Bucks (\$1 for every \$1 spent). Visit growinghope.net to learn more.

### WINTERS BEST, LOCAL & FRESH

Nov 9 - Dec 21
16 S. Washington St.



# **WARMING CENTERS**

or the first time, Ypsilanti will have daily overnight shelter through the winter. See the charts below to find details about where you can find daytime and overnight shelters.

All YDL locations are also a place to stay warm during regular hours. See page 12 for hours of operation and branch addresses. Holiday closures and hours of operation are also available at ypsilibrary.org/visit.

For more information about seeking overnight shelter, getting referrals, or other questions, call Housing Access of Washtenaw County (HAWC) at 734-961-1999.

You can access the most up-to-date list of Warming Centers at washtenaw.org/2789/Winter-Warming-Centers.

DAYTIME SHELTER LOCATIONS	ADDRESS	2024-25 DATES
Ypsilant Freighthouse (Mon-Thurs, 8am - 6pm)	100 Market Pl., Ypsilanti	Nov 13 - Mar 31
Luther House ED Building (Mon - Fri)	1510 Hill St., Ann Arbor	Nov 11 - Dec 6
First Baptist Church (Mon - Fri)	517 E. Washington St., Ann Arbor	Dec 9 - Jan 3
St. Mary's Student Parish (Mon - Fri)	331 Thompson St., Ann Arbor	Jan 6 - 31
First Congregational Church (Mon - Fri)	608 E. William St., Ann Arbor	Feb 3 - 14
First Baptist Church (Mon - Fri)	517 E. Washington St, Ann Arbor	Feb 17 - Mar 14
Ann Arbor Day Site (Mon - Fri)	TBD	Mar 17 - Apr 11
Delonis Center (Sat - Sun)	312 W. Huron St., Ann Arbor	Nov 11 - Apr 13

OVERNIGHT SHELTER LOCATIONS	ADDRESS	2024-25 DATES
St. Luke's Episcopal Church (Mon - Fri)	120 N. Huron St., Ypsilanti	through April 13
Second Baptist Church (Sat - Sun)	301 S. Hamilton St., Ypsilanti	through April 13
Delonis Center (Daily beginning at 7pm)	312 W. Huron St., Ann Arbor	through April 13

Call 734-961-1999 for a referral for overnight shelter accommodations.

# MEET THE 2024 WRITERS OF YPSILANTI

YpsiWrites is excited to introduce the 2024 Writers of Ypsilanti. YpsiWrites—a writing-based nonprofit that believes everyone is a writer—chose the theme "Writing Our Stories." All nine of this year's writers embody the 2024 theme



Marc Arthur (he/him) lives in Ypsilanti and writes plays, poetry, research papers, grants, and art and performance criticism.



Crystal Campbell (she/her) is an EMU alum who has done community engagement work in Ypsi. She is involved in several Ypsi-serving

civic-social organizations and leads projects that advance opportunity and equity in Ypsilanti, Ypsilanti Township, and Superior Township.



**R.J. Fox (he/him)** loves the "creative spirit, the grittiness, and the abundance of coffee shops, bars, restaurants, and shops" that Ypsilanti

has to offer. R.J. has written 15 screenplays, one of which was turned into a feature film that premiered at the Cinetopia Film Festival in Ann Arbor.



Monica Hickson (she/her) loves the diversity of the people and the rich history of Ypsilanti. She sees writing as a platform for

education, entertainment, and the enrichment of a person's life!



Bradley Kraft (he/him) is an EMU alum. He is a poet and writes spoken word. He believes that writing has the "power to convey ideas, images,

and emotion across vast amounts of time."



Georgia Krieger (she/her) has lived and worked in Ypsilanti for the last twelve years. She loves its smalltown atmosphere, rich culture, and

focus on the arts. Georgia has written memoirs and personal essays, but her main genre is poetry.



Ruth Mella (she/her) is Ypsilanti's first Youth Poet Laureate. She attended Ypsilanti Community Schools and graduated from Washtenaw

International High School. Ruth is a Social Work student at EMU and writes poetry and short stories.



Emma Rodseth (she/her) lives, writes, walks, and practices movement arts in Ypsilanti. She writes poems, fiction, essays, and creative nonfiction. Emma

believes writing and community benefit everyone.



Ameera Salman (she/they) is a student at EMU. She writes poetry and journalistic storytelling. To Ameera, Ypsilanti is a highly underrated place.

She loves the architecture, food, and passionate people, and has found many opportunities for introspection at Ford Lake.

# REMINDERS FOR A HEALTHIER WINTER



Promote community health this cold and flu season with these tips from the Washtenaw County Health Department:

- If you feel sick, avoid being around others.
- Everyone 6 months and older should get the updated COVID vaccine. Visit washtenaw.org/ covid19vaccine for more info.
- Everyone over 6 months old should get a flu vaccine every year. Flu shots are especially important for older adults, anyone with underlying health conditions, pregnant people, and young kids.

- Take steps to avoid spreading illness. Cover your nose and mouth when you sneeze or cough, wash your hands often using soap and warm water, and disinfect surfaces and objects that may be contaminated with germs. Wearing a surgical, KN95, or N95 mask around others can help prevent the spread of illness.
- Schedule a check-up with your doctor to make sure you and your family members get any routine vaccines or preventative screenings needed.



It's Time to Get Your COVID-19 & Flu Vaccines

- A nutritious diet, plenty of sleep, and regular exercise can go a long way in helping you feel better and stay healthy during cold and flu season.
- protection. RSV is a common respiratory virus that causes mild symptoms for most people, but infants and older adults are more likely to get seriously ill from RSV. Ask your healthcare provider about RSV vaccines or visit cdc.gov/rsv/vaccines to learn more.



Want to stay updated on local public health in Washtenaw County? Join the Health Department's email list at bit.ly/WCHD555.

# WRITE YOUR ADVENTURE

Ypsilanti is home to dozens of newly published young writers. Let them inspire you to start your own tale of intrigue!

therworldly Pursuits at the Dawn of Future Horizons features 68 local writers between the ages of 8 and 14. 826michigan published the work, which was the culmination of rounds of drafts, peer editing, and revisions from their weekly after-school writing lab at YDL and Ypsilanti Community Middle School. It's in circulation at YDL, so check out a copy today!

Can you use these adventurous opening lines from the book in your own work?

### "The Day I Saved My Mom?!"

By Cesar Amaya, age 13, YCMS

One bloomy night, it was 8:00 p.m., and I was around ten years old. My mom was making dinner and my father was watching television, when suddenly a warning from the television sounded . . .

### "Arise"

By Ethan Atkins, age 12, YCMS

It was a normal night at the house. Zack and his family were asleep. Then Zack woke up and he dodged Death . . .

### "Sloppy the Superhero"

By Ayaan Jain, age 9, South Arbor Charter Academy One time, there was a kid named Sloppy. He wanted to be a superhero, but he couldn't be one because he didn't have superpowers. But then an alarm came . . .

### "Ach the Space Dog"

By Riya Choudhary, age 9, South Arbor Charter Academy

Ach was a dog who lived in space. His parents hated Earth and thought it was a waste of time. But Ach thought Earth was a unique place and wanted to visit...

Continued on Page 12

Write Your Adventure Continued from Page 11

### "The Adventures of Bob"

By Angus Wilson, age 9, YIES

The villager Bob lived in Adventure Village with his Mom and Dad. Bob was ten years old and loved to go on adventures. Unlike the other villagers, Bob was up for the challenge of going to other dimensions . . .

### "The Haunted Mansion"

By Grace Zhao, age 10, Pattengill Elementary One day, a group of friends came into a haunted mansion to discover the mysteries of it, but it was a big mistake . . .

### "Mittens the Explorer. The Truth."

By Jules Strube, age 9, homeschool Hi, my name is Mittens. I will tell you the tale of how I lost my tail. It was a normal day, but suddenly, I tumbled into a bat cave . . .



### "A Princess's Journey"

By Rae Mussen, age 11, Erickson Elementary Once upon a time in the land of Lylaconukei, a girl named Seti was kidnapped and taken to the island of Petaki. No one has ever returned from this island, not one soul. Luckily, Seti was a survivalist and had her heart set on getting back home . . .

### "The Jewel of Frostwind"

By Sonya Bialk, age 12, homeschool
Sania lived in the kingdom of Frostwind in a castle made of icicles. She was an ice fox and the queen's youngest messenger. Right now, she had to tell the queen something important. Just that morning, her bedroom ceiling had dripped on her, and her chair had turned to mush. It was very strange because nothing ever melted in Frostwind—it was too cold . . .

# FRIENDS OF YDL BOOK SALE



he Friends of YDL Book Sale is coming again in January! Mark your calendars for January 16-19 at YDL-Whittaker.

Book sale prices are \$1 for hardcovers, 25¢ for paperbacks, and 50¢ for oversize paperbacks. On January 19 there will be bags of books available for \$5, and some books will be sold for a reduced price. See hours below. January 16 from 6-8pm will be a members-only preview sale. Memberships will be available for purchase at the door, so it's the perfect time to join the Friends and help make library events possible!

### **BOOK SALE HOURS:**

Jan 16	6-8pm (members-only sale)
Jan 17	11am-5pm
Jan 18	11am-3pm
Jan 19	1-4pm

### WHITTAKER BOOK SHOP HOURS:

• Monday	10am-6pm
• Tuesday	10am-6pm
• Wednesday	10am-6pm
• Thursday	10am-6pm
• Friday	10am-4pm
• Saturday	10am-4pm
• Sunday	2-4pm



# WINTER WITH TheRide.org

ith winter weather comes potential bus delays due to road conditions. TheRide's MyAlerts system allows you to select which route(s) you use and receive an email directly if a route you use is on detour. You can sign up for MyAlerts and get information about TheRide's holiday hours at TheRide.org.

If your bus stop is blocked due to snow or ice, you should wait at the nearest cleared spot. Remember to leave extra time for your commute, particularly on snowy days.

### **GETTING TO YDL ON THE BUS:**

YDL-Whittaker: Accessible on the 46 line
YDL-Michigan: Accessible on the 6 line, or a
5-minute walk from the Ypsilanti Transit Center
YDL-Superior: Accessible on the 42 line



WWW.YPSILIBRARY.ORG



### **LOCATIONS & HOURS**

### YDL-WHITTAKER

5577 Whittaker Road Ypsilanti, MI 48197

**HOURS** 

Mon-Thurs: 9am-9pm Fri and Sat: 10am-6pm

Sun: 1-5pm

### YDL-MICHIGAN

**REOPENING SOON!** 229 W. Michigan Ave

Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Visit ypsilibrary.org/michiganavenue-branch-closure for more information and updates.

Board meetings are generally held on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm. They are open to the public. Visit **ypsilibrary.org/board** for meeting schedules, locations, agendas, and minutes.

Visit ypsilibrary.org/contact-us or call 734-482-4110 for assistance.

### YDL-SUPERIOR

1900 Harris Road Ypsilanti, MI 48198

**HOURS** 

Mon-Thurs: 9am-9pm Fri and Sat: 10am-6pm

### **Board of Trustees**

Bethany Kennedy

Chris Tebbens

Kristy Cooper

Theresa M. Maddix

### YDL-BOOKMOBILE

Ypsilanti, MI 48197

**HOURS** 

Mon-Thurs: 4-8pm

Neighborhood route and schedule: ypsilibrary.org/bookmobile

Patricia J. Horne McGee

Brian Steimel

Jean Winborn

Lisa Hoenig, Director