



## Celebrating Our Community



During May and June, we're offering numerous ways to learn about and honor different parts of our community. Events are noted using the symbols below, and go to the website to find selected library materials to check out, as well as additional events.

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**Asian and Pacific Islander  
Heritage Month**

**Pride Month**



**Jewish American  
Heritage Month**

[skokielibrary.info/newsletters](https://skokielibrary.info/newsletters)



[www.skokielibrary.info](https://www.skokielibrary.info)



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Monday to Friday, 9 am to 9 pm  
Saturday, 9 am to 6 pm  
Sunday, noon to 6 pm  
**Closed May 29**

# KIDS & FAMILIES



Check the online calendar for added events, and sign up at [events.skokiellibrary.info](https://events.skokiellibrary.info). Capacity for individual events is limited.

## Small Hands Crafts

Age 3–5

Mondays, May 1–22, 10:30–11 am

## Reading for Curiosity: *El Deafo*

Families with kids in grades 4–6

Tuesday, May 2, 6–7:30 pm

## Preschool Puppet Playtime

Age 2–5

Wednesday, May 3, 10:30–11 am (online)

## STEAM Engines

Grades K–2

Thursdays, May 4, June 1

4:30–5:15 pm

## Campfire Fun

Friday, May 5, 6–7:30 pm

## STEAM Saturday to Go

Kids younger than 6

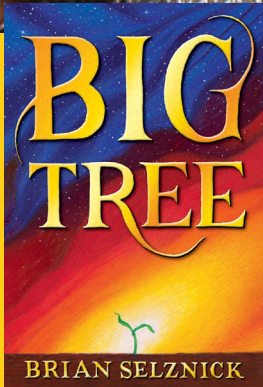
Saturdays, May 6, 20, June 3, 17 10:30–11 am



Photo: Slimane Lalami

Meet the Author  
**Brian Selznick**

Monday, May 1  
6:30–7:30 pm



## Lego Challenge

Age 8+

Thursdays, May 11, June 15

4:30–5:30 pm

## Be the Scientist: Bioluminescence

Grades 3–5

Tuesday, May 16, 4:30–5:15 pm

## Library Dance Party

Kids younger than 5

Tuesdays  
10:30–11 am



## Intro to Karate

Thursday, May 18

Ages 6–8: 4:30–5 pm

Ages 9–12: 5–5:30 pm



## Fun with Rainbow Therapy Dogs

Sunday, May 21, 11:15 am–noon



## Israeli Salad Social

Sunday, May 21, 12:30–1:30 pm

## Open Chess

Sundays, May 21, June 18, 2–4 pm



## Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Trivia

Age 8–11

Tuesday, May 23  
4:30–5:15 pm



## Learn to Make Chinese Dumplings

Families with kids  
grades 1–5

Saturday, May 27  
1:30–3 pm



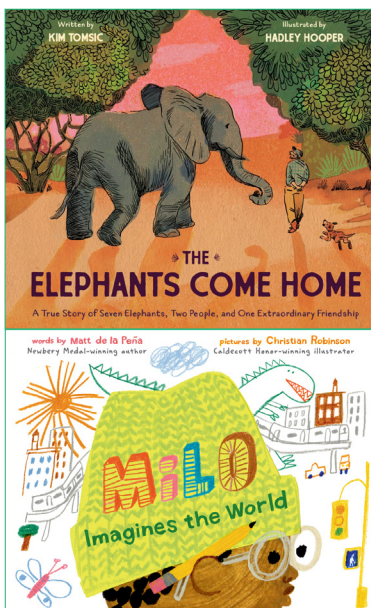
## Family Movie: *An American Tail*

Tuesday, May 30, 6–8 pm

## Family Book Club

Grades 1–3 with an adult

Wednesdays, 6:30–7:30 pm



## The Elephants Come Home

May 31

## Milo Imagines the World

June 14



## Let's Take a Walk

Age 3–5

Fridays, June 2, 9, 16, 10:30–11:15 am

## Together Time

Age 0–23 months

Wednesdays in June, 10–11:30 am

## Nature Play

Age 2–6

Mondays in June, 10:30–11:30 am

## Wednesdays on the Green

Family entertainment on Wednesdays starting June 14

[Wednesdaysonthegreen.com](http://Wednesdaysonthegreen.com)



## Pride Party

Tuesday, June 20, 3:30–4:30 pm

## Family Drumming

Sunday, June 25, 10:30–11:15 am



## Storytimes

### Book Babies Storytime

Babies to 11 months who are not yet walking

Wednesdays

9:30–10 am: indoors in May, outdoors in June

10:30–10:50 am: outdoors in May

### Wonderful Ones Storytime

Age 1

Wednesdays

10–10:30 am: indoors in May, outdoors in June

11–11:20 am: outdoors in May

### Family Fun Storytime

Wednesdays, May 3–24, 6:30–7 pm

### Terrific Twos Storytime

Age 2

Thursdays in May

10:30–11 am or 11:15–11:45 am

### Storytime

Thursdays in May, 1:30–2 pm



### Bilingual Storytime and Craft: Hebrew

Thursday, May 18, 1:30–2:15 pm

### Weekend Storytime

Saturdays, May 13, 27, June 10, 24  
10:30–11 am

## Storytime in the Park

Timber Ridge Park

Tuesday, June 27, 5–5:30 pm

McNally Park

Wednesday, June 28, 3:30–4 pm



## Honoring Ms. Mandy for Serving Our Children

Mandy O'Brien received the 2022 Illinois Library Association Youth Services Achievement Award.

The award recognizes an individual for outstanding local contributions to library services for young people.

And it is an award that Mandy well deserves! Since 1999, Mandy has been a vital part of the library's youth team. She loves helping kids with social and emotional learning while she is making literacy and research fun and exciting. Mandy loves connecting kids, grown-ups, and families with materials and services at the library, within the community, and globally. Leading two-year-old storytimes, coordinating Booking with a Buddy, helping with author events, and developing fun family events, like the interactive Polar Express and Sesame Street celebrations, have made Mandy's job a fun and inspiring adventure.

## Booking with a Buddy

Kids entering grades 1–3 this fall can take part in this series that promotes reading during the summer. Registration begins June 1 and ends June 30 (or when capacity is reached) for events held July 10–August 3.

[skokielibrary.info/booking](https://skokielibrary.info/booking)

# Mandy's Library Journey

As a child, I loved checking out books and records (yes, vinyl), attending storytimes and classes, and watching special performances and movies. A popular story from my childhood is that when a scheduling conflict arose between my four-year-old ballet class and the library storytime, I chose storytime. And the rest, as they say, is history!

Summer reading was also a great memory from my childhood. I loved seeing my name on the library wall and getting all the simple but well-earned prizes. I discovered so many great books and authors this way! One summer, my family took a vacation to Florida, and a trip to Disney World couldn't distract me from the fact that I couldn't officially finish summer reading that year.

In high school, I remember the first time I stepped into Skokie Public Library. I came with a classmate, and she laughed because she knew libraries were my happy place, and watched as I was mesmerized by the library's vast materials and services. Even in the early '90s our library was innovative, and little did I know that soon I'd be working at that very library! Fast forward to today, and I've worked at Skokie Public Library for 24 years, nearly half my life.



“

*The library is a gold mine of information, resources, and original research and imagination. It's amazing to think of all the authors, artists, and other creators whose talents are held within the library's walls; it honestly boggles my mind!*

”

## Mandy's Secret: It's Our People



Mandy loves that the library is a happy place for so many community members, and while the building is great and the materials extensive, she believes that our staff is also amazing. She says, “I know I'm biased, but there really is someone who can answer anything. Of course, I love to find the answers for our patrons, but when I don't know or can't help, I'm not discouraged, because I know that I'll find the right person to help.”

Cathy puts the fun in all the events she leads! She can get anyone excited about anything. When she visited classrooms with a quiz show, she somehow got the kids all revved up about the possibility of their team winning one red Solo cup!

—Shelley, youth services manager

When I think about the impact Cathy has had on our community over the many years she has been at the library, the first thing that comes to mind are the sights and sounds of kids and families laughing and experiencing joy and wonder.

—Richard, library director



I always get nervous before programs and Cathy's "Don't worry about it. It'll be fine" mantra makes me feel better every time. She says it like she means it!

—Gudrun, youth librarian

I met Cathy on my first day at the library in 1999. She wasn't yet working in Youth Services but wanted to. On my second day, who should interrupt my solitary lunch? Cathy! She asked to sit with me, and we've been friends ever since, with her joining the youth team later that year.

Our dynamic has always been sisterly, and while she can be the bossy older sister to my bratty little sis, I have loved every minute of working with such a bright, creative, and giving person.

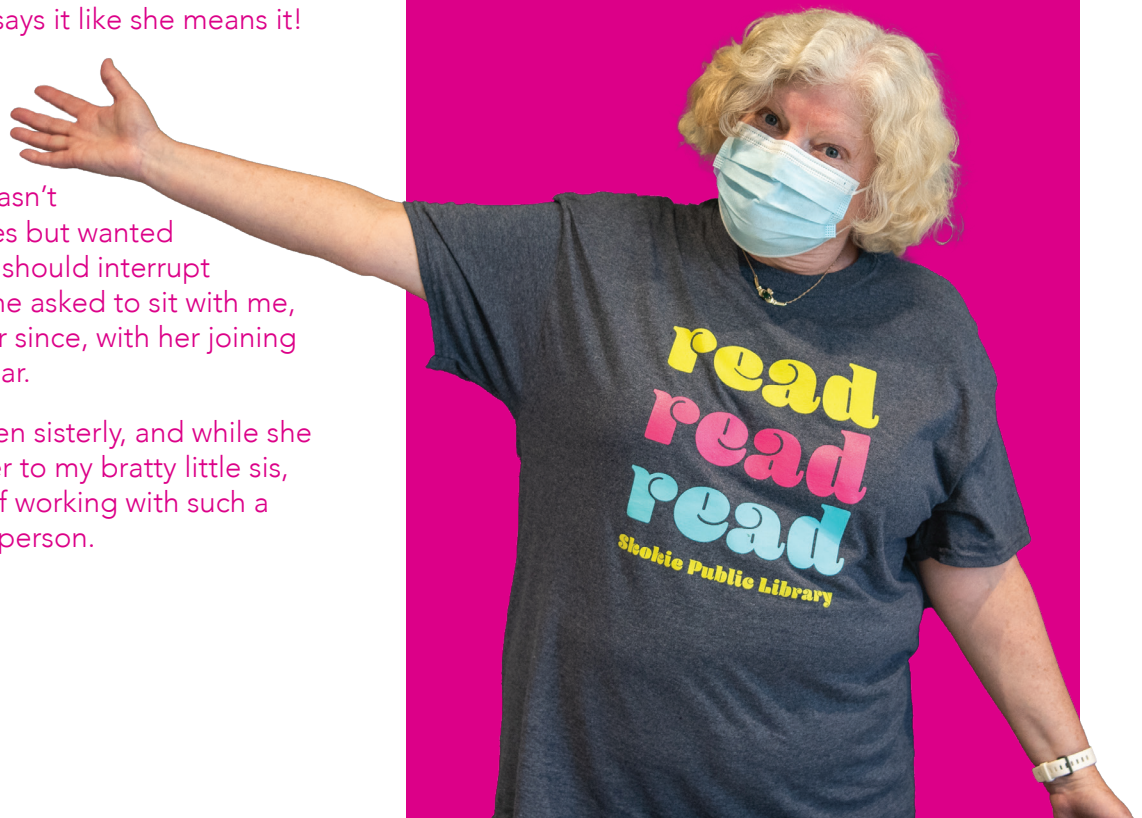
—Mandy, youth librarian

## Celebrating Retiring Youth Librarian



# Cathy Maassen

Cathy Maassen started working at the library in 1987 and retires in June after 36 years! We asked other staff who've worked with Cathy over the years for comments so we can all share in celebrating Cathy's service to so many in our community.





One of the many things I love about Cathy is her commitment to having fun. Cathy is well-deservedly beloved for the energy and joy she has brought to her storytimes, dance parties, campfires, and more. For so many people across Skokie—parents, kids, and parents who once came to the library as kids themselves—seeing Cathy has been a guarantee that you'll have a great time at the library, or in your classroom, or out on the Village Green.

—Amy K., learning experiences manager



I have been fortunate to see so many adults return to the library of their childhood and delight at seeing that Cathy Maassen, who told them stories when they were little, is still at the library doing storytime. Some of them now have children of their own and bring them back to attend Cathy's events. Sometimes they share stories about how she helped them when they were having a difficult time or inspired their career choices. Mostly, they, like us, seem to be in complete awe of such a tremendous life of public service.

—Angela, youth and family program coordinator



Cathy is a one-of-a-kind person and an amazing librarian. Her first thought is always for others, with kindness and compassion. She's the life of the party and a hard worker—a unique and winning combo! We will miss the energy she brings to the library.

—Katie, youth librarian

# FOR ADULTS

Check for event details and sign up at [calendar.skokilibrary.info](http://calendar.skokilibrary.info). Registration opens May 1 except for events during the first week of May, which are already open.

## ESL Café

Wednesdays, 12:30–2 pm (drop in)



### Exploring the Olympic Peninsula's Temperate Rainforest

Wednesday, May 3, 7–8 pm



### Drawing Comics with Jarrett J. Krosoczka

Saturday, May 6, 10–11 am (online)

### What Is Assistive Technology? And How It Can Help You

Tuesday, May 9, 1–2:30 pm

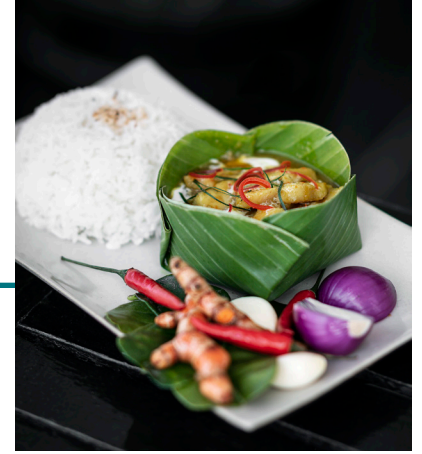
### Reduce the Risk of Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease

Wednesday, May 10  
noon–1 pm (online)



### Southeast Asian Cuisine: Cambodia

Tuesday, May 16  
6:30–8 pm



### On Being Fabulous: Jonathan Van Ness and Kristi Yamaguchi

Wednesday, May 17, 7–8 pm (online)

### Introduction to Yoga

Fridays, May 19, June 16, 1–2 pm

### The North Shore: Evanston and Wilmette (in Russian)

Saturday, May 20, 2–3 pm

### Writing and Storytelling Workshop with Northlight Theatre: High Lights

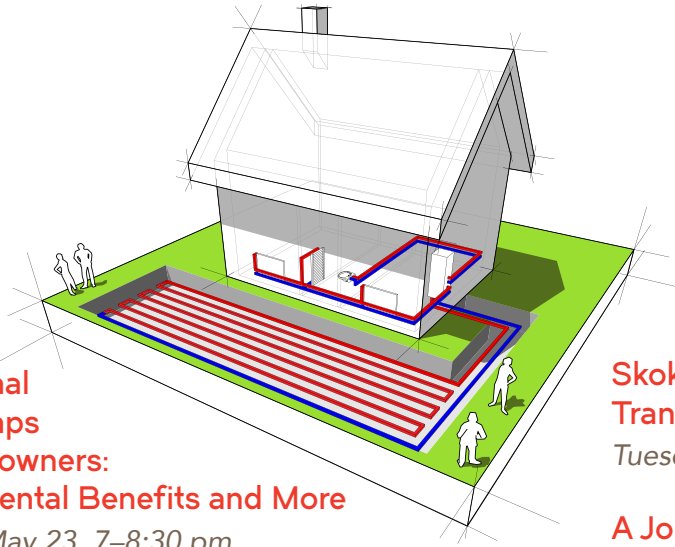
Choose one series to attend

Tuesdays, May 23–June 27  
11 am–12:30 pm (online)

Thursdays, May 25–June 29  
12:30–2 pm







**Geothermal Heat Pumps for Homeowners: Environmental Benefits and More**  
 Tuesday, May 23, 7–8:30 pm



**Explore Beginner South Asian Regional Dances**  
 Thursday, May 25, 6–7 pm



**Spring Foraging: Eat the Neighborhood**

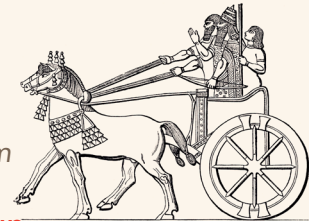


Sunday, June 4, 1:30–3 pm

**Practice Citizenship Interviews with HIAS**  
 Tuesday, June 6, 6:30–8 pm

**Skokie Refuse Collection Transitions and Composting**  
 Tuesday, June 6, 7–8 pm

**A Journey Back to the Assyrian Homeland**  
 Wednesday, June 7, 7–8 pm



**Low Vision Support Group**  
 Tuesday, June 13, 1:30–2:30 pm

**Revitalizing a Stalled Job Search**  
 Tuesday, June 13, 7–8 pm (online)

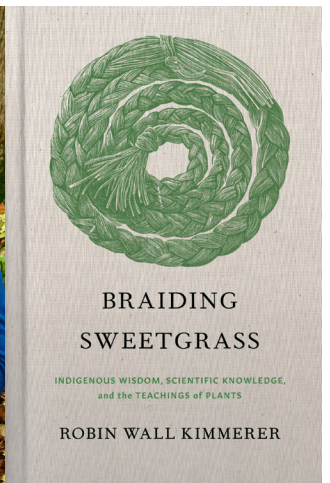
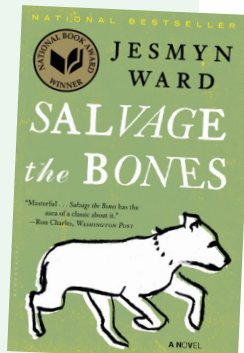
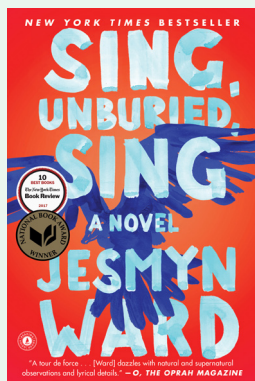
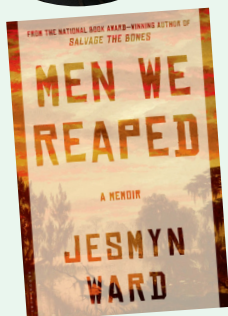


**Juneteenth Community Celebration 2023: Love, Liberation, Life**  
 Saturday, June 17, 1–7 pm  
 at Oakton Community Center



**Navigate Your Stars: A Conversation with Jesmyn Ward**

Tuesday, June 6, 7–8 pm (online)



**Braiding Sweetgrass: A Conversation with Robin Wall Kimmerer**

Wednesday, June 21, 7–8 pm (online)

# Make Things

## Learn to Sew

Thursday, May 4, 7–8:30 pm

## Introduction to CorelDRAW

## Laser Projects

Thursday, May 11, 7–8:30 pm

## Studio Design Swap and Showcase



Designs for Jewish American  
Heritage Month

Thursday, May 18, 6–7 pm



Designs for Pride

Wednesday, June 7, 6:30–7:30 pm

# Technology

## Microsoft Word 2021 for Beginners

Saturday, May 13, 10:30–11:30 am

## All about Android: Beyond the Basics

Thursday, May 18, 10:30–11:30 am

## Microsoft Excel 2021 Drop-in

Sunday, May 21, 3–4:30 pm

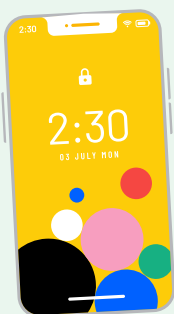
## Organize Your Windows Desktop

Tuesday, May 23, 3–4:30 pm

Tuesday, June 13, 3–4:30 pm

## Google Docs for Beginners

Saturday, June 10, 10:30–11:30 am



## All about iPhones: Beyond the Basics

Thursday, June 29  
10:30–11:30 am

# Exhibits



## Tiny Clay Books

Julie Simon

Through May, look for the adorable tiny books near the Cafe! Julie set about making replicas of all the books she read in 2020—and just kept going. She launched an Instagram account @TinyClayBooks in 2021, where you can find her entire TCB collection, along with her thoughtful book reviews.



## Nature: Observed and Imagined

Ruth Fingerman

Long-time Skokie resident Ruth Fingerman attended the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, then taught art in Evanston and continued her painting skills. Enjoy her exhibit in the library's gallery during through the end of July.



# Performances

Tickets for Sunday concerts given to those present starting at 2:30 pm

## Young Steinway Concert

Elle Cho, Violin, and Helena Sprajcer, Piano

Sunday, May 7 at 3 pm



## Artemisia Vocal Trio Presents She Was

This performance “sings to life” past and little-known stories of women, celebrating the storytellers among us today who are keeping their legacies and influences alive.

Sunday, May 14 at 3 pm

## Scholarship Winners Concert

Wednesday, May 17 at 1 pm (drop in)



## Kraig Kenning: National Slide Guitar Champion

Contemporary folk, acoustic blues, roots rock, or American fingerstyle—Kraig merges them all while maintaining close connection with his audience.

Sunday, June 11 at 3 pm



# Movies (drop-in)

## Morning Movie

Wednesdays at 10 am

Paddington

May 10

The Princess Bride

June 14

## Friday Film

Fridays at 1:30 pm



Yellow Rose

May 26

The Fabelmans

June 23

## Movie Night

Till

Wednesday, May 24 at 6:30 pm

Peace by Chocolate

Tuesday, June 20 at 6:30 pm

# Book Discussions and Book Talks



**LitLounge**  
Wednesdays  
7:30–9 pm (online)

**The Mountains Sing**  
May 10

**A Psalm for the Wild-Built**  
June 14

**Talking Books Discussion Group**  
Wednesdays, 1:30–2:30 pm

 **Clark and Division**  
May 17

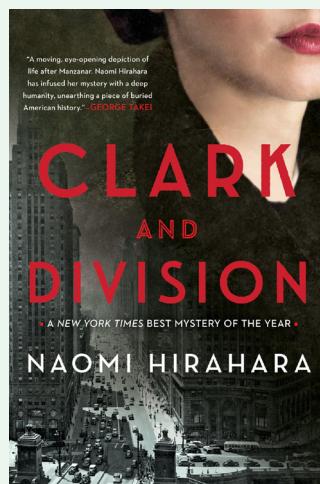
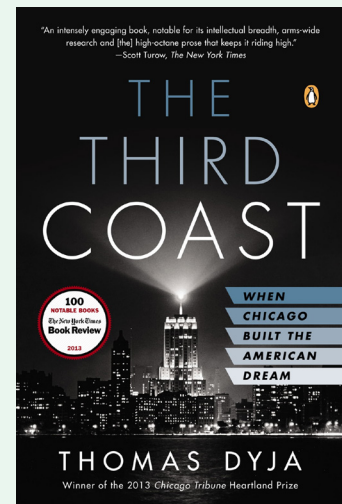
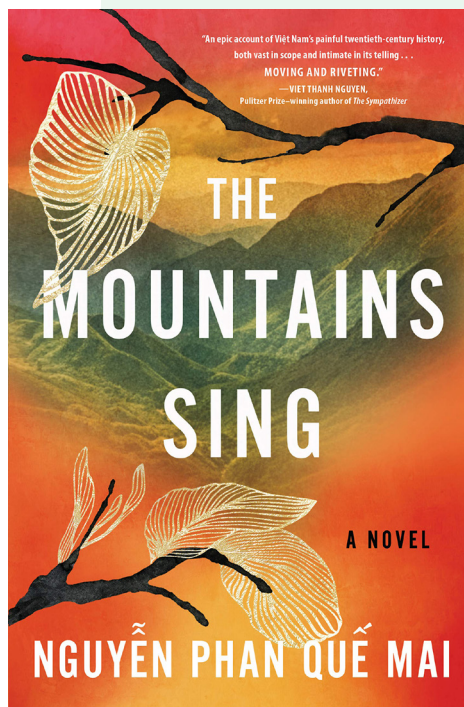
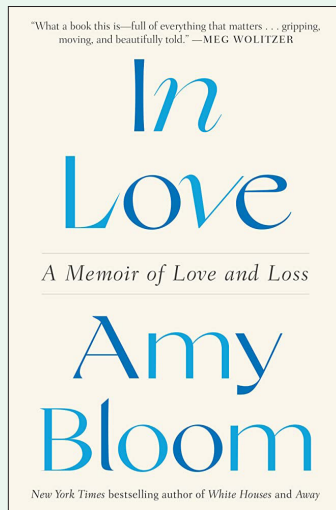
**In Love**  
June 21

**Pages through History**  
**The Third Coast: When Chicago Built the American Dream**  
Wednesday, May 31, 7–9 pm

**Genres on My Mind: Romance**  
Thursdays, May 25, June 29  
2–2:30 pm (online)

 **Article Discussion: Monuments to the Unthinkable**  
Tuesday, June 13, 7–8:30 pm

**BookTok Book Talk**  
Tuesday, June 27, 6:30–7:30 pm



Our book discussions are a wonderful way to meet your neighbors, talk about books, and have a great time. Some groups meet in person, some online, and some use a hybrid of both, so there's very likely one that fits your schedule and interests. You can expect a lively social experience, and you might learn something new.

## What happens during a book discussion?

Our expert staff discussion leaders take care to choose books that will make for an interesting chat.

Here's how they prepare:

- Looking at reviews and guides provided by publishers
- Watching or listening to interviews with the author
- Reading the book, of course—usually more than once

They're there to ask questions and keep things on track, but the group can take the conversation wherever it needs to go. There really is no wrong way to interpret a book, so there will be many different opinions and reactions, or people may share personal memories and experiences that connect to the story. You might be surprised to find that you feel very differently about the book after you hear others talk about it. In fact, sometimes the best discussions even happen when no one in the group liked the book!



## Book Discussions Conversation and Connection



## So do I have to read the book?

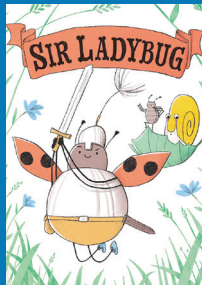
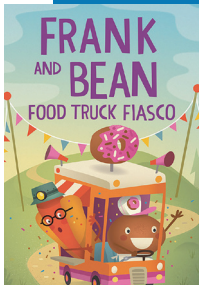
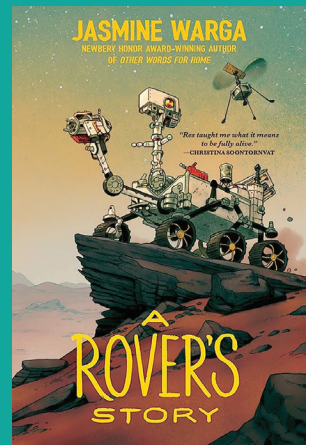
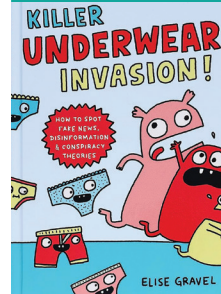
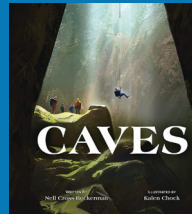
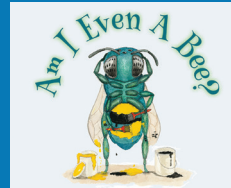
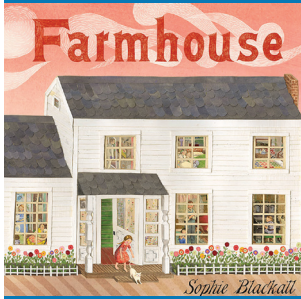
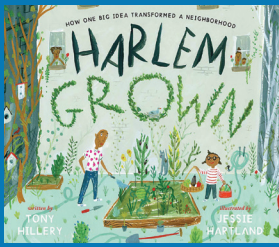
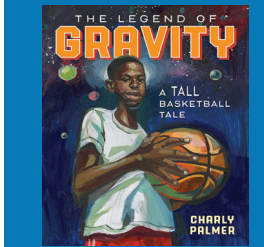
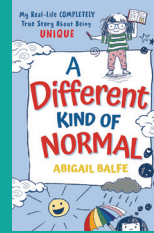
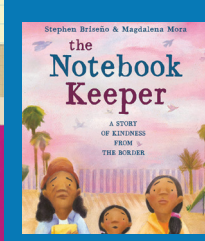
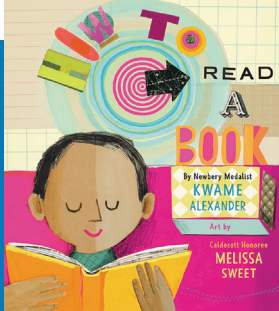
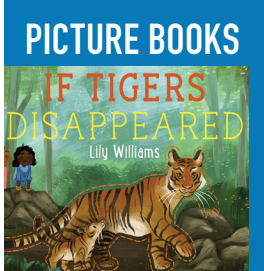
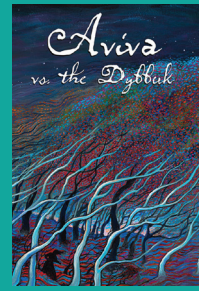
Well, yes, we hope you will. But it's not actually required. Maybe you ran out of time, or you couldn't get into it but you want to hear what others think. Come anyway, but just be prepared for spoilers because major plot points will definitely come up. The only thing you really have to do to join a book discussion is bring an open mind and open ears!

# BREEZY SUMMER READS

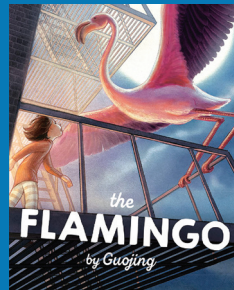
GRADES K-2



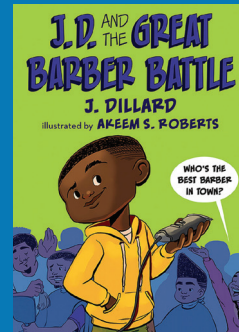
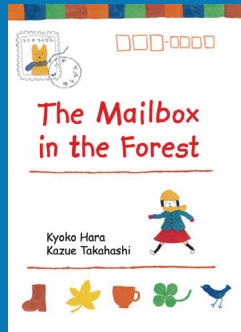
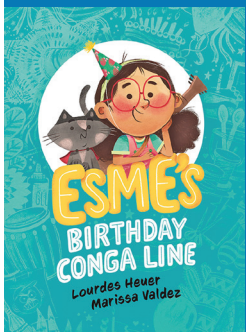
skokielibrary.info/summer-reads



## EARLY READERS AND GRAPHIC NOVELS



## EASY CHAPTER BOOKS



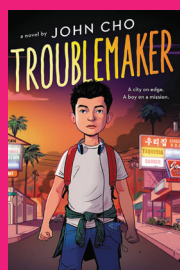
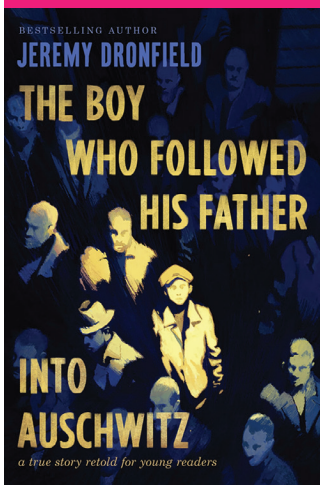
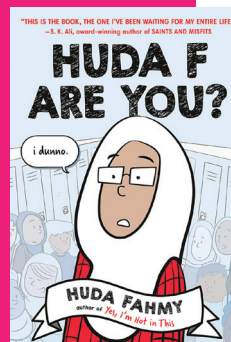
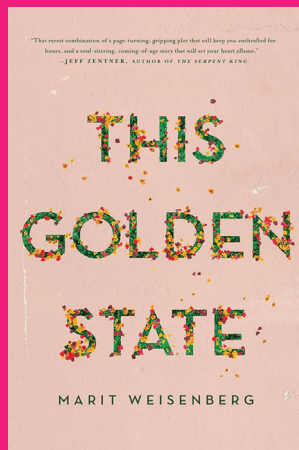
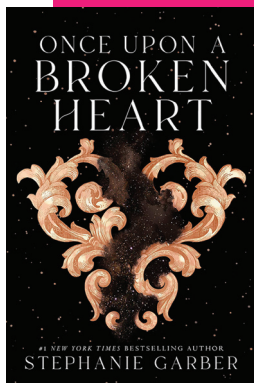
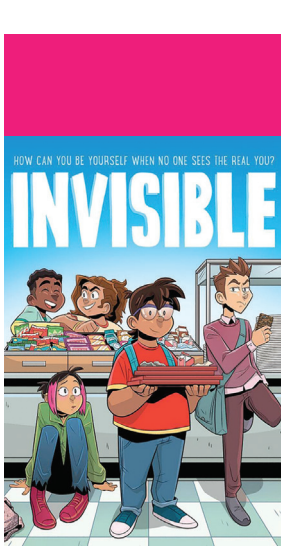
# COOL SUMMER READS



GRADES 3-5

skokielibrary.info/summer-reads

# HOT SUMMER READS



## Teens

Check the online calendar for added events or events that can include teens, along with other ages. Sign up at [events.skokiellibrary.info](http://events.skokiellibrary.info).

### Teen Library Collaborative

Thursdays, May 4 and June 1, 5:30–6:30 pm

### Teen Book Chat with Cheesecake

Sunday, May 7  
3–4 pm

### K-Pop and Kimbab

Wednesday  
May 10, 6–7:30 pm



### Anime and Manga Appreciation Club

Wednesdays, May 31 and June 28, 6–7:30 pm



## Magic the Gathering: Learn the Basics

Sunday, June 11  
1–3 pm

### Friend Squad Volunteer Orientation

Wednesday, June 21, 6–7 pm

### Tie Dye with Teen Library Collaborative

Thursday, June 30, 4–4:45 pm or 5–5:45 pm

## Teen Summer Service 15

Service opportunities that begin the week of June 19. More info: [skokiellibrary.info/volunteer](http://skokiellibrary.info/volunteer)

# READ

# SUMMER READING 2023

It's almost time for Summer Reading!

Come to the library or bookmobile starting June 1 to pick up your summer reading materials, or sign up online at [skokielibrary.info/summerreading](https://skokielibrary.info/summerreading)

Read books, have fun, and earn prizes all season long.

