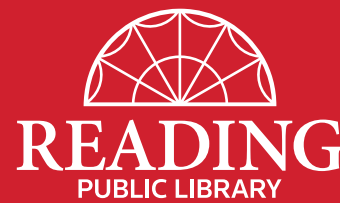


# WINTER 2024

## DECEMBER, JANUARY, FEBRUARY

### PROGRAM GUIDE



HIGHLIGHTS

## THE HARPER AND THE MINSTREL PRESENT: A WYNTER HOLIDAY CONCERT

Monday, Dec. 18, 7:00-8:00 pm

Community Room

Come and unwind with medieval musical magic! The Harper and The Minstrel are Jay and Abby Michaels, a husband and wife musical duo who specialize in historically inspired and passionately performed Medieval, Renaissance, and Celtic music. *All ages. This program is generously funded by the Friends of the Reading Public Library.*



## TITLE TOWN\*

Thursdays, Jan. 25-Feb. 15, 3:30-4:30 pm

Community Room

Go Rockets! Kids can join this program full of town pride, great books, and healthy competition. We will play team games, read sporty books, and meet some Rocket champions!! *Grades 1-4.*



## 18-HOLE MINI GOLF AFTER HOURS

Friday, Feb. 23 5:00-6:00 pm, 6:00-7:00 pm, 7:00-8:00 pm

Join One Up Games as they take over the Reading Public Library with a full 18 hole LED mini golf set! Players will be able to play all holes throughout the event. *All ages. This program is generously funded by the Friends of the Reading Public Library.*



## ETHICS FOR WHEN SCI-FI BECOMES REALITY: GENE EDITING AS MEDICINE

Monday, Jan. 29, 7:00-8:00 pm

Community Room

Gene editing, once a fictional plot device in movies, is now a technological reality. The FDA, which approved five initial gene therapies in 2017, will have approved 10 in total this year. Dr. Zollie Yavarow will explain the science and explore the ethical questions that blossom as therapeutic use of the technology expands.



**\*Registration required.** Register online or call 781-944-0840.

Thank you to the Friends of the Reading Public Library for funding library programming.

**MEET-UPS****Teen Meet Up: True Colors**

Tuesday, Dec. 19, 3:00-5:00 pm

Teen Room

Join us for activities, adventure, and fun! Open to all LGBTQIA+ teens and allies. Snacks will be provided. *Grades 6-12.***Teen Meet Up: Magic the Gathering\***

Tuesday, Dec. 5, 5:00-7:00 pm

Teen Room

Whether you're looking to make your very first Magic the Gathering deck or anxious to try out your newest ingenious build, we're bringing the friendly, casual play of the game store straight to the library! *Grades 6-12.***Teen Meet Up: Book Group**

Thursday, Feb. 8, 6:00-7:00 pm

Teen Room

Looking for a place to share what you're reading, get book recommendations, and meet up with friends? Then join our book group! Snacks and pizza will be provided! *Grades 7-12.***CLASSES & WORKSHOPS****Soap Making for Teens!\***

Thursday, Dec. 14, 4:00-5:00 pm

Community Room

Come and learn the art of soap making with Kulina Folk Art! Teens will design their own aquarium goldfish. At the end of the workshop each participant will take home their handmade soap. *Grades 6-12.***Quilting Project Series for Teens!\***

Tuesdays, Jan. 9-Feb. 13, 4:00-5:30 pm

Community Room

Participate in our community quilting project! Teens will create quilted blocks, that when put together, will make a bookshelf. Teens will learn design placement, how to hand stitch and cut cloth, as well as how to use a sewing machine. The completed piece will be hung up in the Teen Room for all to see! *Grades 6-12.***Pottery for Teens!\***

Thursday, Jan. 11, 4:00-5:30 pm

Community Room

Come and learn the art of pottery with Pied Potter Hamelin. After a wheel demonstration on how to manipulate clay, each teen will learn how to make a pinch pot and alter it with coils, pads, and slabs into a dragon! *Grades 6-12.**Thank you to the Friends of the Reading Public Library for funding library programming.***\*Registration required.** Register online or call 781-944-0840.**SPECIAL EVENTS****Exam Cram: Midterms**

Weds, Thurs and Fri, Jan. 17-19, 4:00-8:00 pm

Teen Area

Midterms are here... Need a place to study? Come to the library! Enjoy TEEN ONLY spaces for collaborative study. Need a break? Come to the TEEN ROOM to talk with friends and enjoy some snacks! *Grades 6-12.***Virtual: Standardized Testing\***

Thursday, Jan. 25, 6:00-7:00 pm

Join us as we dive into everything families need to know about how standardized testing works during the admission process. *Grades 6-12.***Virtual: Admission 101\***

Thursday, Feb. 29, 6:00-7:00 pm

Join us as we discuss grades, test scores, activities, and everything else colleges evaluate. Attendees will get straight answers about what college admissions committees really look for and how they ultimately decide who gets in. *Grades 6-12.***HEALTH NOOK CORNER****Wellness Wednesdays**

Wednesdays, Dec. 6-Dec. 13, 2:00-4:00 pm

Library Lobby or Children's Room

Taunya L. Jarzyniecki, LCMHC MLADC, Public Safety Clinician for the Reading Coalition has office hours at the library! There is no fee or health insurance needed and all services are confidential.

**PSC Memory Cafe\***

Tuesdays, Dec. 12, Jan. 9, Feb. 13, 10:30-noon

Community Room

The Pleasant Street Center and the RPL are partnering to bring a Memory Cafe to those with memory impairment &amp; their care partners. To RSVP, call Kerry Valle at (781) 942-6659 or Alyse Warren at (781) 942-6693.

**Small Steps & Slight Shifts in 2024\***

Saturday, Dec. 16, 1-2:00 pm

Community Room

Are you thinking about where you'd like to be in 2024? Don't wait until the New Year to thrive and flourish, presented by Reading resident, Wellness Representative and dynamic educator Lori Lambert-Osburn.

**Mindfulness Meditation Series\***

Thursdays, Jan. 4-Feb. 15, 7:00-8:00 pm

Studio

In this 6-week series, Christine Rose, a Reading resident and nurse, will teach the basics of practicing meditation and increasing awareness in your day to day life.

64 Middlesex Ave  
Reading, MA 01867  
781-944-0840  
rdg@noble.net.org  
[www.readingpl.org](http://www.readingpl.org)**Library Hours**Monday 9am-9pm  
Tuesday 9am-9pm  
Wednesday 9am-9pm  
Thursday 1pm-9pm  
Friday 9am-5pm  
Saturday 9am-5pm  
Sunday 1pm-5pm  
(Oct-May)[eeurl.com/bwOT](mailto:eeurl.com/bwOT)[Readingpl.org](https://www.facebook.com/Readingpl.org)[@ReadingPublicLibrary](https://www.youtube.com/@ReadingPublicLibrary)[@readingpl](https://www.instagram.com/readingpl)

## Storytimes

### Special Guest Storytime (Ages 5 and under)

Fridays, Dec. 1, Jan. 12, Feb. 9, 10:00-10:30 am

Community Room

Join RPL Librarians and local town employees as we talk about what they do! Every week there is someone new to tell us about what they do! *Ages Birth-5 years.*

### Jumping Beans: Family Storytime Drop-in

Saturdays, Dec. 2-Feb. 24, 10:00-10:30 am

Community Room

Join us for an active story and song time. Stories, fingerplays, and plenty of music and motion to get the wiggles out. *Ages Birth-5 years.*

### Adaptive Stories & Songs\*

Thursdays, Dec. 7-Feb. 29, 6:30-7:00 pm

Children's Program Room

This program is designed for children who are neurodiverse or have developmental/intellectual disabilities, and their typically developing siblings and peers. *Ages 3-8*

### Babytime: Storytime for Babies 0-15 months\*

Tuesdays, Dec. 5-19, 6:30-7:00 pm

Children's Program Room

Join us for stories, songs, play, and Very Important Fun with other babies and caregivers. *Ages Birth-15 months.*

### Singalong with Peter Sheridan

Fridays, Dec. 8, Jan. 26, Feb. 2, 10:00-11:00 am

Community Room

Join our longtime friend Peter Sheridan for a musical celebration. *Ages Birth-5 years.*

### Spin a Tale with E.B. Goodale

Saturday, Dec. 9, 3:00-4:00 pm

Community Room

Join local author and illustrator E.B. Goodale for a storytime featuring her brand new stories and some fan-favorites. And stay afterward for craft time! *All ages.*

### Snow Much Fun! Storytime and Craft

Friday, Dec. 15, 10:00-10:30 am

Community Room

Join us for a snow much fun adventure as we usher in a new season. We'll read stories, sing songs, decorate snow people, and have a snowball fight! *Ages Birth-5 years.*

### Sing and Dance with Rockabye Beats!

Friday, Dec. 29, 10:00-10:30 am

Community Room

Join Rockabye Beats for a singing, dancing, and jamming celebration! *Ages Birth-5 years.*

### Dribble Drabble (Ages 18-36 months)\*

Mondays, Dec. 11, Jan. 22, Feb. 12, 11:00-11:30 am

Children's Program Room

Storytime and paint exploration! We will integrate storytelling, music, and movement with painting. The process is valued over any finished product. Dress for a mess! *Ages 18-36 months.*

### Stuffie Storytime (all ages)

Fridays, Jan. 19, Feb. 16, 10:00-10:30 am

Community Room

Grab your favorite stuffed animal and head to the library for some storytime fun with books, songs, rhymes, and movement. *All Ages.*

### Monday Marvels Storytime: Ages 5 and under\*

Mondays, Jan. 8-Feb. 26, 10:00-10:30 am

### Tuesday Treasures Storytime: Ages 5 and under\*

Tuesdays, Jan. 9-Feb. 27, 10:00-10:30 am

### Wednesday Wishes Storytime: Ages 5 and under\*

Wednesdays, Jan. 10-Feb. 28, 10:00-10:30 am

Children's Program Room

Please call the Children's Room at 781-942-6705 or come in-person to register starting Friday, December 22 at 9 AM. Registration ends the day before the first session and only registered families will be allowed into storytime. *Ages Birth to 5 years.*

## School Age

### Spark Spot (Ages 5 and up)

Fridays, Dec. 1, 15; Jan. 19, 26; Feb. 2-16, 2:00-4:00 pm

Children's Program Room

Draw, collage, glue, design, mold, bead, create! The Spark Spot is an open-ended art space designed for the entire family to explore their creativity at their own pace. *Ages 5 and up.*

### BeTween Time (Grades 4-7)\*

Wednesdays, Dec. 6-Feb. 28, 3:00-5:00 pm

Children's Program Room

Tweens can join us for a range of fun activities, from crafting to gaming and everything in-between, at this weekly afternoon hangout! *Grades 4-7.*

### Nature Journaling (Grades 3-5)\*

Fridays, Dec. 8, Jan. 12, 3:30-4:15 pm

Children's Program Room

Nature journaling combines observation, drawing, writing and data collection. Kids can join the ranks of Henry David Thoreau and Leonardo DaVinci while enjoying nature and spending time with friends. Dress for the weather. *Grades 3-5.*

### Nonfiction Smackdown! (Grades 4-5)\*

Thursdays, Dec. 14, Jan. 18, 3:30-4:30 pm

Children's Program Room

Do you devour books about TRUE things like nature, history, geography, and science? Each month you'll read 2 or 3 nonfiction titles assigned by your fearless leader, Librarian Ashley. *Grades 4-5.*

### Food for Frosty Friends (Grades 1-4)\*

Saturday, Dec. 16, 3:00-3:45 pm

Children's Program Room

Come to the library to make a treat to take home for your favorite cold weather creature. *Grades 1-4.*

### Fort-Building and Read-In

Tuesday and Wednesday, Feb. 20-21, 9:30-11:30 am

Children's Room

Spend a magical morning full of comfy spaces, reading, and making memories! Pick up a fort building kit and books at the Children's Room desk. Feel free to B.Y.O.B. (Bring Your Own Blanket). *All Ages.*

### Giant-Sized Family Games\*

Thursday, Feb. 22, 6:00-7:00 pm, 7:00-8:00 pm

Community Room

Bring the whole family to play games that are GIANT in size and fun! *All Ages.*

*Thank you to the Friends of the Reading Public Library for funding library programming.*

**\*Registration required.** Register online or call 781-944-0840.

**MEET-UPS****Writers' Group**

Wednesdays, Dec. 6, Jan. 3, 10:00-11:00 am

Studio

Join this writer's group to share ideas, drafts, and encouragement.

**Genealogy One-on-One: Private Research****Appointments\***

Various Dates-Check Calendar

History Room

Book an appointment with our Local History and Genealogy Reference Librarian today!

**English Conversation Group\***

Fridays, Dec. 1-Dec. 15, 10:00-11:30 am

Studio

Would you like to improve your conversational English skills in a fun, friendly, free setting? Join the English conversation group.

**CLASSES & WORKSHOPS****Learn American Mah Jongg with Alissa\***

Wednesdays, Jan. 3-31, 1:30-3:00 pm

Studio

Join us in this beginners American Mah Jongg class. All supplies will be provided.

**Veteran's Resume Workshop**

Wednesday, Feb. 21, 7:00-8:00 pm

Community Room

Veterans, join us in this workshop that will help you align your resume to make a positive impression and get the job.

**Dr. Fowler Presents: The Tea Is Coming! Celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the Boston Tea Party**

Wednesday, Dec. 6, 7:00-8:00 pm

Community Room

On the evening of December 16, 1773 Bostonians gathered to protest the arrival of the British ships bearing taxed tea. What happened next became history.

**Virtual: The Two Nerdy History Girls Ride Again!\***

Wednesday, Jan. 10, 7:00-8:00 pm

Join our friends over at Ashland Library as they host the Two Nerdy History Girls, authors Loretta Chase and Susan Holloway Scott.

**Birding Basics with Dave Williams**

Monday, Jan. 22, 7:00-8:30 pm

Community Room

Reading resident Dave Williams will get you up and out of your seat practicing how to use binoculars and how to identify the birds.

**Massachusetts Chocolate History**

Wednesday, Feb. 7, 7:00-8:00 pm

Community Room

Did you know that when the colonists stopped drinking tea due to taxation they instead turned to drinking chocolate? Learn more about our sweet history with this fascinating program!

**Revolutionary War Author Talk**

Friday, Feb. 9, 11:00 am-noon

Community Room

Author Abby Chandler discusses the research which led to her book, *Seized With The Temper of the Times: Identity and Rebellion in Pre-Revolutionary America*.**PERFORMANCES & SPECIAL EVENTS****Trivia at the Library: Star Wars Edition!\***

Wednesday, Jan. 24, 7:00-8:15 pm

Community Room

Join us for Star Wars themed trivia at the library!

**DIY Paperwhites: Pick up a kit at the Library**

Wednesday, Jan. 18, 2:00-8:00 pm

Upper Lobby, Library

Stop by the library and pick up a DIY-kit to grow paperwhites indoors. First come, first serve.

**Creative Arts Sunday Concert Series:****Great American Standards: Sunday, Jan. 21, 2:00-3:30 pm****World Musical Instruments: Sunday, Feb. 25, 2:00-3:30 pm**

Community Room

**Porcupines Don't Shoot Their Quills**

Wednesday, Jan. 31, 7:00-8:00 pm

Community Room

Come join Jane Newhouse, founder of Newhouse Wildlife Rescue, as she shares the do's and don'ts of helping injured and orphaned wild animals in an emergency.

**BOOK DISCUSSIONS****RPL Book Group\***

Wednesdays, Dec. 13, Jan. 10, Feb. 14, 7:00-8:30 pm

Conference Room

Join our participant-run adult book discussion group. Check our events calendar for book titles.

**Pleasant Street Center Book Group**

Tuesdays, Dec. 19, Jan. 16, Feb. 20, 9:30-11:00 am

Pleasant Street Center

Join our casual book group! Check our events calendar for book titles.

**Word of Mouth Book Discussion**

Tuesdays, Dec. 26, Jan. 30, Feb. 27, 10:00 am-Noon

Conference Room

Have you read any good books lately? Join us for an informal monthly discussion of what people are currently reading.

**Virtual: 2023 Best-in-Romance Review\***

Monday, Dec. 11, 7:00-8:00 pm

Tune in virtually for a review of 2023's greatest romance titles. This is no meet-cute-- if you love romance, it's a meet-must!

**KidLit Fan Club!\***

Mondays, Jan. 8, Feb. 12, 7:30-8:30 pm

Children's Program Room

Adult fans of children's and young adult books sign up for a book discussion about all things KidLit!

**Sleuths on the Loose! A Book Subscription Club\*  
Registration open**

From January-June, receive a new mystery book carefully selected by our expert librarians in this book subscription club.

**International Soccer Grannies Author Event**

Monday, Feb 26, 7:00-8:30 pm

Community Room

Join us for an evening of conversation with Reading residents Kathy Kelly and Robyn Parker as they welcome Jean Duffy, author of *Soccer Grannies: The South African Women Who Inspire the World*.