EXPLORE YOUR LIBRARY
AURORA PUBLIC LIBRARY | DECEMBER 2023

STORYTIME AND TOY DRIVE WITH SANTA AND THE GRINCH

It’s the holiday season! Enjoy a special storytime with Santa or the Grinch that will include a toy drive for families in need. Please only provide new, unused toy for donations. After storytime, you are welcome to stay for pictures, hot cocoa, cookies and holiday crafts.

STORYTIME WITH THE GRINCH AND TOY DRIVE
Saturday, Dec. 9, 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., Tallyn’s Reach Library
Scan QR code to register

STORYTIME WITH SANTA AND TOY DRIVE
Saturday, Dec. 16, 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m., Central Library
Scan QR code to register

SEASON OF GIVING

GIVE TO THE FRIENDS OF AURORA PUBLIC LIBRARY
Whether you can donate on Colorado Gives Day (Dec. 5) or not, please consider the Friends of the Aurora Public Library as part of your end-of-year charity contributions. The volunteer-run nonprofit takes 100% of the donations and sales of used books to go into funding for the library. To donate, visit ColoradoGives.org/FriendsAuroraLibrary. The Book Outlet is located at 2243 S. Peoria St.

ANGEL TREES AT AURORA PUBLIC LIBRARY
Aurora Public Library has partnered with Salvation Army Aurora with the Angel Giving Tree Program to place Angels Tags at Christmas trees inside the libraries. Each tag will include information about a toy for a family in need. Please consider grabbing a tag to purchase that toy and bring it back to the library by Dec. 12. Participating locations are Central, Mission Viejo, Martin Luther King Jr., Hoffman Heights and Tallyn’s Reach libraries.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. LIBRARY (MLK)
9898 E. Colfax Ave.
Aurora, CO 80010
303.739.1940

HOFFMAN HEIGHTS LIBRARY (HOF)
1298 Peoria St.
Aurora, CO 80011
303.739.1572

CHAMBERS PLAZA LIBRARY (CHA)
1551 N. Chambers Road
Aurora, CO 80011
303.739.1573

ILIFF SQUARE LIBRARY (ILF)
2253 S. Peoria St.
Aurora, CO 80014
303.739.1567

MISSION VIEJO LIBRARY (MVL)
15324 E. Hampden Circle
Aurora, CO 80013
303.326.8600

TALLYN’S REACH LIBRARY (TRL)
23911 E. Arapahoe Road
Aurora, CO 80016
303.627.3050

CENTRAL LIBRARY (CEN)
14949 E. Alameda Parkway
Aurora, CO 80012
303.739.6600

*Some programs may have limited space; visit AuroraLibrary.org for more program information and to register.

Aurora Public Library will close Monday, Dec. 25 for Christmas.
HAPPENINGS AT APL

CATRINA BALL
SATURDAY, NOV. 4
AT CENTRAL LIBRARY
BOOK CLUBS

LGBTQ+ BOOK CLUB
Saturday, Dec. 2, 3:30-4:30 p.m., MLK
Discuss queer books and authors from a variety of genres! Meetings are bi-monthly. December’s book is “In the Lives of Puppets” by T. J. Klune.

NON-FICTION BOOK CLUB
Tuesday, Dec. 5, 1 p.m., CEN
Join for a lively discussion. December’s book: “Amazon Unbound” by Brad Stone

BOOKS AT THE BAR*
Saturday, Dec. 9, 1 p.m., 4550 S. Reservoir Road
Meet for lively discussions on popular and contemporary books. December: “Their Eyes Were Watching God” by Zora Neale Hurston at Two22 Brew.

SPANISH BOOK CLUB, CLUB DE LECTURA
Saturday, Dec. 16, 4 p.m., MLK
Read “Vampires of El Norte” by Isabel Cañas and join for a bilingual discussion.

DAYTIME BOOKLOVER’S BOOK CLUB
Wednesday, Dec. 20, 10:30 a.m., CEN
Join for a lively discussion. December’s book: “The Things We Do for Love” by Kristin Hannah

CRIME AND THRILLER BOOK CLUB*
Saturday, Dec. 30, Noon, TRL
Do you enjoy suspenseful novels? Read popular crime and thriller authors and meet-up for lively discussions. December: “The Edge” by David Baldacci.

STAFF PICKS

“Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow” by Gabriel Zevin
A deeply compelling story about the beauty and complexity of friendship and partnership. Also, as someone who doesn’t play many video games, this gave me a much deeper appreciation for them. One of my favorite books ever. - Amory

“Body in the Library” by Agatha Christie
It’s a Miss Marple mystery! Mystery or murder book lovers must read this. Try to figure it out before the police do – come talk to us about if you can! - Cozette

“Killing Commendatore” by Haruki Murakami
If you love “The Great Gatsby” you’ll love this. It’s an homage. A weird one. A Japanese one! I couldn’t put it down. It’s almost 1,000 pages but feels like a lot less. Plus, you can tell people you read a 1,000-page book! Impress your friends! - Justine

HAVE YOU READ THESE BOOKS?
Share your thoughts on social media with #ReadWithAPL

*Registration is required via CityofAurora.PerfectMind.com
LEARN AND PLAY
Wednesdays, 11 a.m., TRL
Tuesday, Dec. 5 and 12, 11 a.m., HOF
Wednesday, Dec. 6 and 13, 11 a.m., CHA
Play with early literacy toys and enjoy the company of other kids and caregivers after Family Storytime.

HOT COCOA STORYTIME
Saturday, Dec. 2 and 16, 2 p.m., TRL
Warm up with some hot chocolate and a good book! This family storytime focuses on curling up under blankets to listen to a longer story with less movement and sound.

WINTER STORYTIME
Thursday, Dec. 14, 10:30 a.m., MVL
Join for a winter storytime! Create themed crafts after reading together.
AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITY
Tuesdays, 4 p.m., CEN
Join for a fun activity. Designed for students in first through fifth grade.

MAKE A SPARKLY SNOWFLAKE
Friday, Dec. 1, 11 a.m., ILF
Make sparkly snowflakes for the holidays!

TIPPI TOES DANCE DEMO
Wednesday, Dec. 6, 11:30 a.m., TRL
Learn to enjoy the fun of movement with dance! Check out this free demo from Tippi Toes Southeast Aurora where children can learn to move and shake it to music. This is an informal dance class that focuses on fun over form.

MELTING SNOWMAN PAPER CRAFT
Wednesday, Dec. 6, 4 p.m., MLK
Make a fun 3D pop-up snowman.

HOT WHEEL-O-rama
Saturday, Dec. 9, 12:30 p.m., CHA
Saturday, Saturday, Saturday: diecast car rally! Bring your favorite small-scale car and race it along a track through the library.

POLAR BEAR PAPER CRAFT
Wednesday, Dec. 13, 4 p.m., MLK
Cut, fold and paste to make a pop-up polar bear.

MARSHMALLOW ANIMALS AND HOT COCOA
Wednesday, Dec. 13, 4:30 p.m., MVL
Create marshmallow animals using marshmallows and pretzel sticks and then dunk your creations in hot cocoa!

HANGING BIRD FEEDER
Friday, Dec. 15, 11 a.m., ILF
Create an easy bird feeder made with simple supplies.

READ TO A THERAPY DOG*
Saturday, Dec. 16, 10:30 a.m.-noon, MVL
What better way to practice reading aloud than with a friendly dog? Call 303.326.8600 to register for 15-minute sessions.

THINK LIKE A SCIENTIST
Saturday, Dec. 16, 2-4 p.m., MLK
Join Think Like a Scientist for science stations and fun activities.

KID’S WINTER BOOKMARK CONTEST
Saturday, Dec. 16, 4-5 p.m., TRL
Show off your skills and design your own bookmark. Winner of the most creative bookmark will be chosen, and their bookmark will be printed and made available for library patrons.

REINDEER PAPER CRAFT
Wednesday, Dec. 20, 4 p.m., MLK
Create a reindeer.
LIBRARY GAME NIGHT: TEEN SESSION*
Fridays, 5:30 p.m., WebEx
Connect from home to play party games with others! Newcomers are welcome. This month we’ll be playing:
• Dec. 1: Wavelength, a "hot-cold" game of concept guessing
• Dec. 8: Quiplash, a fill-in-the-blank game of witty retorts
• Dec. 15: Wit’s End, a game of riddles and brain teasers

BEYBLADES COMPETITION
Saturday, Dec. 2, 11 a.m., HOF
Let it rip! Bring your own Beyblades or borrow one of ours to see who can win this spinning-top competition.

PERLER BEAD CLUB
Wednesday, Dec. 6, 4:30 p.m., MVL
Make a Perler bead (or “melty bead”) project to take home and keep from a multitude of video game or movie character patterns. Suggested age: 8-14.

TEEN HANG
Thursday, Dec. 7 and 14, 4 p.m., CEN
Meet new friends, create something amazing, learn new skills, or simply chill out. Designed for students in middle school and high school.
Dec. 7: Vision Boards
Dec. 14: Movie night with popcorn

DONUT SNOWMEN AND SNOW GLOBES*
Thursday, Dec. 7, 4:30 p.m., MVL
For this frosty teen hangout, make snowmen out of powdered sugar donuts and snow globe scenes out of goofy action figures.

DROP-IN BEATS
Wednesday, Dec. 13, 4-5:30 p.m., CHA
Teens can produce their own music using drumbeats, keyboards and music production software.

HYGGE COLORING
Thursday, Dec. 14, 4 p.m., TRL
While it’s getting colder it’s time to cozy up! Hygge is the Danish for feeling cozy and content. Take some time to relax and color by the fire burning in the background.
BYOB: bring your own blanket.

OREO COOKIE POPS*
Thursday, Dec. 14, 4:30 p.m., MVL
They’re like cake pops but made from cookies. Stop by and create this tasty holiday treat.

HOLIDAY CAKE POPS
Friday, Dec. 15, 4 p.m., MLK
Make your own delicious, themed cake pop! Supplies provided.
TEEN WINTER BOOKMARK CONTEST*
Friday, Dec. 15, 4 p.m., TRL
Do you enjoy drawing? Show off your talent and make a winter bookmark design for our library! Library staff will pick one design winner and the bookmark will be printed out for distribution in our library!

TEEN MOVIE HANGOUT: NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS
Saturday, Dec. 16, 3 p.m., MVL
A fun movie hangout with free popcorn included! This month watch “The Nightmare Before Christmas.”

GALAXY JARS
Tuesday, Dec. 19, 4 p.m., MLK
Create your own universe in a jar. A lovely and calming craft to take home.

TEEN WRITING CLUB*
Tuesday, Dec. 19, 4 p.m., MLK
Want to take your writing to the next level? Meet other writers, sharpen your creative skills and discover your own unique voice at Teen Writing Club!

TEEN HOT SAUCE CHALLENGE*
Saturday, Dec. 23, 4 p.m. TRL
Can you handle the heat? Try a variety of hot sauces of increasing spiciness up to 82,000 Scoville Heat Units!

2024 VISION BOARD
Thursday, Dec. 28, 4 p.m., TRL
2024 is approaching - time to envision your New Year! Come and create a vision board for 2024. Magazines to create a collage with will be provided.

TEEN ADVISORY GROUP (TAG)
Friday, Dec. 22, 4:30 p.m., HOF
Teens! Participate in your local Teen Advisory Group and let your voice be heard! Help create displays, plan programs and enjoy fun activities while earning volunteer time. Enjoy snacks and meet new friends, too!

*Registration is required via CityofAurora.PerfectMind.com
COZY PUZZLE HANGOUT
Saturday, Dec. 2, 2-5 p.m., MVL
Stop by and work on a community puzzle for a bit this winter. Enjoy hot cocoa and a warm environment where you can chat with your neighbors.

WATERCOLOR PAINTING: CARDS
Thursday, Dec. 7, 4 p.m., MLK
Paint with watercolors on cards. The inspirational words printed on them resist the paint. Decorate several and enjoy the colorful effects.

HOLIDAY CARD WRAP AND YAP
Thursday, Dec. 7, 4 p.m., TRL
Work on your holiday gifting early by creating cards and wrapping any gifts. Material will be provided to make cards and wrap gifts. Gifts aren’t included, but feel free to stop by the Friends of the Aurora Public Library Book Outlet, 2243 S. Peoria St., to purchase something to wrap!

POM-POM ORNAMENTS
Saturday, Dec. 9, 11 a.m., ILF
Create colorful and cute pom-pom ornaments for the holidays.

GRINCH MOVIE
Saturday, Dec. 9, 3:30 p.m., TRL
Celebrate the holiday season by watching the film “Grinch” (2018, PG)! Enjoy hot chocolate, popcorn and fun crafts!

CARD WRITING FOR VETERANS
Dec. 11 to Dec. 16, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., MVL
Stop by and write a holiday card to be dropped off at Colorado Veterans Community Living Center. Spread the holiday cheer with kindness and well wishes to our veterans!

CRAFTING HOLIDAY CARDS
Tuesday, Dec. 12, 4 p.m., ILF
A fun activity for all! Craft, cut and paste to make holiday cards.

ORNAMENT WORKSHOP
Wednesday, Dec. 13, 4 p.m., TRL
Make a holiday ornament of a loved character or story!

PJ MOVIE NIGHT
Friday, Dec. 15, 5 p.m., HOF
Visit the library in your comfiest PJs and bring a fuzzy blanket and pillows! Craft together as a family and then watch a family movie together, “Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse,” with popcorn!
WINTER MOVIE
Saturday, Dec. 16, 11 a.m., TRL
Celebrate the holiday season by watching the film “Frozen 2” (PG)! Enjoy hot chocolate, popcorn and fun crafts!

ROLL A CRAFT NIGHT
Thursday, Dec. 21, 4 p.m., TRL
Take a twist on traditional winter crafts! Make your own snowflake or snowman but let the dice decide how it looks.

NOON YEAR’S EVE
Saturday, Dec. 31, 11:30 a.m., TRL
5-4-3-2-1! Celebrate the New Year before bedtime with a glass of bubbly, fun crafts and an epic countdown.

2023 AURORA Rhythms
Enjoy monthly live music through December inside different library branches.

MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET LIVE RADIO PLAY
Tuesday, Dec. 12, 6:30 p.m., Martin Luther King Jr. Library, 9898 E. Colfax Ave.
Four professional actors portray 40 different roles in a classic comedy with sound effects.
Although the event is free, registration is required. Register by scanning the QR code below.

*Registration is required via CityofAurora.PerfectMind.com
DO IT YOURSELF

SELF-GUIDED PAINT
Saturday, Dec. 2, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., CHA
Stop by to create a work of art at your own pace.

PAINT A POT*
Tuesday, Dec. 5, 3 p.m., ILF
Paint a holiday pot for gift-giving.

NEEDLE FELTING—SNOWMEN
Thursday, Dec. 7, 4 p.m., MLK
Stop by for this beginner friendly course and make your own fun and seasonal snowperson!

WINTER CRAFTING*
Friday, Dec. 8, 4:30 p.m., MVL
Make woodland animal ornaments and winter luminaries while sipping hot chocolate and watching a holiday movie!

ADULT ART: DIAMOND DOT SNOWFLAKES
Saturday, Dec. 9, 4 p.m., MVL
A relaxing amateur art class for adults. This month create a Diamond Dot craft, which involves sticking small gems on a sticker pattern, like a paint-by-number.

BLOCK OF THE MONTH
Monday, Dec. 11, 4-6 p.m., HOF
Interested in quilting? Join every month to create a quilt block!

TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS SPIDER ORNAMENT*
Wednesday, Dec. 13, 6 p.m., CEN
Legend tells of friendly spiders crawling around the Christmas tree to see the ornaments, leaving behind tendrils of web. Make your own spider to hang on your tree or anywhere else you might be inspired.

MID-CENTURY MODERN SPUTNIK ORNAMENTS*
Wednesday, Dec. 20, 6 p.m., CEN
Looking for the perfect MCM (Mid-Century Modern) Sputnik ornaments on a budget? You’ve come to the right place. Make your own set of three perfect vintage reproduction Sputnik ornaments.

MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE NECKLACE
Saturday, Dec. 30, 3 p.m., MLK
Make a necklace with a tiny glass vial, glitter and cord.

GET SOCIAL

VIRTUAL CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP*
Wednesdays, 4:30 p.m., WebEx
Do you enjoy creative writing? Are you working on your own fiction project? Join this group of writers in a weekly virtual meeting to discuss projects and improve their craft.

LIBRARY GAME NIGHT: ADULT SESSION*
Fridays, 8 p.m., WebEx
Connect from home to play party games with others! Newcomers are welcome. This month:
• Dec. 1: Wavelength, a “hot-cold” game of concept guessing
• Dec. 8: Quiplash, a fill-in-the-blank game of witty retorts
• Dec. 15: Wit’s End, a game of riddles and brain teasers

AURORA CHESS CLUB
Saturdays, 10:30 a.m., CEN
Join the Aurora Chess Club for some friendly games of chess! Chess sets will be provided, but feel free to bring your own. Limited to ages 10 and up.

COFFEE AND COLORING
Monday, Dec. 4 and 11, 10:30 a.m., MVL
Join for adult coloring while sipping coffee and chatting with one another! A wonderful way to meet other adults.

ADULT CRAFTING CIRCLE
Tuesday, Dec. 5, 4:30 p.m., CEN
Do you have a craft or hobby that you started but never finished? Bring Your Own Craft (BYOC) and swap ideas, pick up some tips, or just have a good chat with other crafty folks!

WRAP AND CHAT*
Friday, Dec. 15, 4:30 p.m., MVL
Come for a fun afternoon of present wrapping. We will provide supplies and wrapping paper, but feel free to bring your own! A holiday movie will play in the background while we wrap together.

ADULT WINTER BOOKMARK CONTEST*
Saturday, Dec. 16, 1:30 p.m., TRL
Do you enjoy drawing? Show us your talent and make a winter bookmark design for our library! Library staff will pick one design winner, and the bookmark will be printed-out for distribution in our library!

“IT’S A WONDERFUL LIFE” MOVIE SHOWING
Friday, Dec. 22, 3 p.m., MLK
Enjoy this holiday classic with some coffee, cocoa and treats. Show time will begin after fifteen minutes, but latecomers are welcome! Bring pillows and blankets for comfort.

PAINT LIKE A PRO CHALLENGE*
Saturday, Dec. 30, 2 p.m., TRL
Join for a fun challenge of recreating Vincent van Gogh’s “The Starry Night”, but with a twist! Library staff will vote for their favorite painting, winner gets a prize!
THE MORE YOU KNOW

COMPUTER TUTORING
Tallyn’s Reach Library—by appointment—call 303.627.3050
One-on-one instruction from computer basics to Microsoft Word, Excel or PowerPoint. Call for available dates and times to register.

ENGLISH CONVERSATION CLASSES/ CLASES DE CONVERSACIÓN EN INGLÉS
Mondays, 4:30 p.m. CEN
Saturday, 2 p.m., CEN
Practice speaking and listening with others in English. Free, walk-in classes. For more information, call the Reference department at 303.739.6630.

ENGLISH CONVERSATION GROUP*
Wednesdays, 4:30 p.m., TRL
Practice speaking and listening to others in English. Discuss grammar, role-play scenarios, recent news and pop-culture.

LEGAL CLINIC
Tuesday, Dec 5, 3:30 p.m., CEN
Free Legal Clinic via computer for those with no attorney. No registration is required and the clinic is on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, call 303.739.6630.

BEGINNING YOUR FAMILY HISTORY: GENEALOGY 101
Saturday, Dec. 9, 2 p.m., CEN
Work with the Aurora Genealogical Society to uncover the absolute basics of researching and organizing your family history.

HUNGER FREE COLORADO: APPLY FOR SNAP AND FOOD ACCESS RESOURCES
Monday, Dec. 11, 1-6 p.m., CEN
Hunger Free Colorado can assist with screening for all federal nutrition programs, offer referrals to food pantries and free meals, provide information on child and senior nutrition programs and answer any questions about food assistance.

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY MASTER GARDENERS PRESENTS: HOUSE PLANTS
Tuesday, Dec. 26, 6 p.m., CEN
Learn about various gardening topics, presented by our local Master Gardeners!

*Registration is required via CityofAurora.PerfectMind.com
28TH ANNUAL GATEWAY TO THE ROCKIES ART SHOW

The 28th annual Gateway to the Rockies Art Show, in partnership with Aurora Artists Guild, runs through Saturday, Dec. 16 at Central Library, 14949 E. Alameda Parkway.

COME MEET THE ARTISTS!
Artwork will be for sale while the 28th Gateway to the Rockies Art Show is on exhibit. Artists will have unframed artwork in their bins for sale on four Saturdays during the exhibit: Dec. 2 and Dec. 9, during the hours of 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

MERRY MAKERS MARKET

Tuesday, Dec. 5, 3-8 p.m., Central Library

The inaugural Merry Makers Market is a free one-stop shopping event with a selection of products to choose from local and regional vendors. Learn more at AuroraGov.org/MerryMakersMarket.

"I’ll Have Just One" by Edward Hansen

“Running for the Train” by Michael Nicosia

“Tree of Fire” by Chuck Rasco