



MONROE TOWNSHIP LIBRARY

4 Municipal Plaza
Monroe Township, NJ 08831
(732) 521-5000
www.monroetwplibrary.org

Monday-Thursday 9:30am-9:00pm
Friday 9:30am-5:00pm
Saturday & Sunday 10:00am-5:00pm

JANUARY 2024 HAPPENINGS

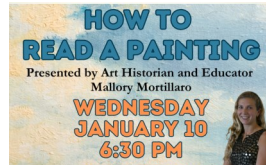


ADULT SPECIAL NEEDS SOCIAL HOUR

Mix & Mingle

MIX & MINGLE SOCIAL FOR ADULTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS
TUESDAY, JANUARY 9
5:00 P.M.

Adults 18+ with developmental or cognitive disabilities and their parent or caregiver are invited for a fun, themed social hour on the second Tuesday of the month. Registration is required in person at the Youth Services Desk.



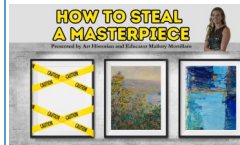
HOW TO READ A PAINTING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10
6:30 P.M.

This lecture reviews common symbols and tropes seen in western painting. Art historian and educator **Mallory Mortillaro** examines a variety of artworks to improve visual literacy, and increase our appreciation of art! Registration is required. This is a virtual program.



VALUE OF THE WETLANDS
SATURDAY, JANUARY 20
11:00 A.M.

Learn about our local watersheds and wetlands. We will explore wetland habitats and ecosystems, discuss their importance to our drinking water, and highlight what we can do to protect these critical environmental resources. Presented by **Claire Paul**, Americorps NJ Watershed Ambassador. Sponsored by Monroe Township Environmental Commission. Registration is required.



HOW TO STEAL A MASTERPIECE
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24
6:30 P.M.

Enter the underworld of stolen art and examine the little-known stories of some of history's greatest art heists. This lecture also questions and discusses how the legitimate art market has managed to pique the interest of so many criminals. Presented by art historian and educator **Mallory Mortillaro**. Registration is required. This is a virtual program.



DECODING THE MYSTERIES OF CATS
WHY DO CATS DO WHAT THEY DO?
TUESDAY, JANUARY 30
7:00 P.M.

Certified Cat Behaviorist **Stephen Quandt** shares expert tips to foster a loving, supportive, and rewarding relationship with your cat! This is a virtual program. Registration is required.

Craft Programs

Sit-N-Stitch

Fridays, January 5 & 19 at 10:30 a.m.

Socialize with stitchers & crafters of all skill levels. Bring your own supplies. This program is held in person. Registration is required.

Meet Your Sewing Machine

Thursday, January 25 at 6:30 p.m. OR Monday, January 29 at 3:00 p.m.

Learn about sewing machines with this hands-on session for adults, ages 18 and over. Learn how to wind a bobbin, thread a needle, and practice stitching. Space is limited. This program will be held in-person. Registration is required. Please register for just one session.

Make It: Valentine's Wreath

Monday, January 29 at 3:00 p.m.

Let's get ready for Valentine's Day! Come make a wreath. For ages 18 and over. Please bring a wreath form. All other supplies will be provided. This program will be held in-person. Registration is required.

Films

International Film Discussion

Thursday, January 11 at 2:30 p.m.

We will discuss "The Quiet Girl: An Cailín Ciúin" (Ireland, 2022, 1h, 35m, PG-13). Set in rural Ireland in 1981, nine-year-old Cait is sent away from her overcrowded, dysfunctional family to live with foster parents for the summer where she discovers one painful truth. Films are available to stream for free on Kanopy, accessible with your library card online at monroetw.kanopy.com. The discussion is virtual and will be held via Zoom. Register to receive the link to the Zoom meeting. Hosted by the Friends of the Monroe Township Library.

Friday Afternoon Movie

Friday, January 26 at 2:30 p.m.

"Some Like it Hot" (1959, 2h, 1m), after two male musicians witness a mob hit, they flee with an all-female band while disguised as women. Registration is required.

On Display

3-D artworks by local resident **Maria Estling** will be on display in the George Ivers Lobby Display Case.

Meetings

The Library Board of Trustees
Tuesday, January 16 at 6:30 p.m.

The Friends of the Library Board Meeting
Tuesday, January 23 at 4:00 p.m.

***Select programs require registration. Register online at www.monroetwplibrary.org/calendar, at the Welcome Desk, or by phone at (732) 521-5000.**

Holiday Hours

The Library will be closed on Monday, January 1 for New Year's Day & Monday, January 15 for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday.

Technology

Device Advice

Mondays at 10:00 a.m.

Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m.

Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m.

Thursdays at 3:45 p.m.

Need some tech help? Register for a one-on-one 45-minute session with a librarian to get advice about your device. Sessions are held in person. Registration is required.



iPhone 101

Wednesday, January 17 at 3:00 p.m.

Learn how to maximize use of your iPhone, the basics about apps, working with text and graphics, multi-touch gestures, settings, passwords, and safety features. Presented by C.O.S.Y. Monroe. This program will be held at Monroe Township Library. Registration is required.

Music

Boheme Opera NJ

Thursday, January 11 at 1:00 p.m.

Boheme Opera returns to Monroe Township Library with a lecture performance featuring Viennese and American Operetta. Selections will include works by Lehar, Strauss, Weill, Friml, Herbert among others. Registration is not required. Sponsored by Monroe Township Cultural Arts Commission.

NEW! The Music Lounge

Thursday, January 11 at 2:30 p.m.

Each month, we pick a musician, listen to a couple of their songs, and read the lyrics. Then, we'll talk about what makes the writer and their music so timeless. Like a book discussion, but for music! This month's focus will be Bob Dylan. This program will be held in-person. Registration is required.

Teens

PSAT Scores: Now What?

Tuesday, January 9 at 7:00 p.m.

Join The Princeton Review virtually to learn valuable information about all things PSAT. In this informative session, we'll kick off the evening by sharing what parents and students need to know, including how to analyze score reports, how to qualify for National Merit, and how to use PSAT scores as a launching point for SAT and ACT Prep. This is a virtual program. Registration is required.

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Continuing Programs

English Language Learners Class for Adults

Wednesdays, January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 and February 7 at 5:30 p.m.

Practice your English language skills with a certified ESL (English as a Second Language) teacher. Classes will take place in person for 6 consecutive weeks. Registration is required. Open to adult Monroe and Jamesburg library card holders.

Poetry Group Workshop

Monday, January 8 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Join us the second Monday of each month to read, write, and discuss poetry. This is an in-person program. Registration is required.

Socrates Café

Monday, January 8 at 7:00 p.m.

Moderated by Dr. Allan Cooper. This is an in-person program. Registration is required.

Photography Club

Tuesday, January 9 at 3:30 p.m.

This monthly club is open to Township residents ages 12+ and welcomes all skill levels. No experience is necessary to join. Bring a camera (smart device is acceptable) and share your love of photography. This is an in-person program. Registration is required.

Caregiver Support Group

Wednesday, January 10 at 11:00 a.m.

This group is intended for caregivers only; no solicitation and no distribution of promotional materials. Led by Kat Verdi, MAT CDP, CADDCT, Certified Alzheimer's and Dementia Care Trainer, of The Gardens at Monroe. Registration is not required.

Creative Writing Workshop

Wednesday, January 10 from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Join this small group, instructor-led workshop to improve your writing skills, give constructive criticism and get feedback on your work. Bring a typed copy of your work (1,500 words or less). Registration is required. This program is held in person for adults 18 or older.

Genealogy Club

Wednesday, January 10 at 2:00 p.m.

Beginner and experienced genealogists welcome to discuss research, share findings and resources. This program is held in person. Registration is required.

Mahjong Club

Friday, January 12 from 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Join us for some casual, non-competitive rounds of traditional Chinese mahjong. There are no joker tiles in this style of play. Brush up on your skills, become more confident with your gameplay, and meet players of all levels. Mahjong sets are provided. This program will be held in-person. Registration is required.

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Book Discussions

Book Café, Wednesday

January 3 at 11:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m.

What have you been reading? We want to know! Join other book lovers for a lively discussion. Book Café is a perfect place to find your next great read or share what you have enjoyed. This is a hybrid program. Join us via Zoom or in person. Registration is required.

Virtual Author Talk: Rebecca Serle

Wednesday, January 10 at 8:00 p.m.

We will chat with Rebecca Serle about her New York Times bestselling novels, *One Italian Summer*, *In Five Years*, *The Dinner List*, and many more. Additionally, Serle will discuss her forthcoming novel *Expiration Dates*, due out in March 2024. This is a virtual program. Registration is required.

Page Turners

Thursday, January 18 at 11:00 a.m.

Looking for something to read or add to your reading list? Library staff will present and recommend a variety of titles pertaining to a different topic. The theme for this session is *Learn the Backstory* – learn little-known facts about the author or an interesting story behind the story. This is a hybrid program. Join us via Zoom or in person. Registration is required.

Non-Fiction Book Discussion

Monday, January 22 at 2:00 p.m.

We will discuss "Come Fly the World: The Jet-Age Story of the Women of Pan Am" by Julia Cooke. This is a hybrid program. Join us via Zoom or in person. Registration is required. Provide a valid email address to receive a Zoom link to participate virtually.

Virtual Author Talk: Rajiv Nagaich

Tuesday, January 23 at 2:00 p.m.

Learn how to avoid the hidden traps in retirement planning. Over his 20-plus years of experience, Elder Law Attorney and bestselling author Rajiv Nagaich has developed a step-by-step guide to retirement planning. This is a virtual program. Registration is required.

Short Story Discussion Group

Thursday, January 25 at 2:00 p.m.

We will discuss "Gold Coast" by James Alan McPherson in "The Best American Short Stories of the Century" edited by John Updike and "A Way with Bea" by Shanteka Sigers in "The Best Short Stories 2022" edited by Valeria Luiselli. This program is held in-person. Registration is required.

Virtual Author Talk: Dr. Robert Lustig

Tuesday, January 30 at 2:00 p.m.

Launch your New Year healthy with Dr. Robert Lustig, a pediatric neuroendocrinologist who has long been on the cutting edge of medicine and science. He challenges our current healthcare paradigm which has gone off the rails under the influence of Big Food, Big Pharma, and Big Government. This is a virtual program. Registration is required.

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January 2024 at a Glance

MON	1		<i>Library Closed</i>	
WED	3	11:00	Book Café	Hybrid
WED	3	1:00	Book Café	Hybrid
WED	3	5:30	English Language Learners	In-person
FRI	5	10:30	Sit-N-Stitch	In-person
MON	8	11:00	Poetry Group Workshop	In-person
MON	8	7:00	Socrates Café	In-person
TUE	9	3:30	Photography Club	In-person
TUE	9	5:00	Mix & Mingle for Adults with Special Needs	In-person
TUE	9	7:00	PSAT Scores: Now What	Virtual
WED	10	11:00	Caregiver Support Group	In-person
WED	10	12:30 - 2:00	Creative Writing Workshop	In-person
WED	10	2:00	Genealogy Club	In-person
WED	10	5:30	English Language Learners	In-person
WED	10	6:30	How to Read a Painting	Virtual
WED	10	8:00	Virtual Author Talk: Rebecca Serle	Virtual
THU	11	1:00	Boheme Opera NJ	In-person
THU	11	2:30	Music Lounge	In-person
THU	11	2:30	International Film Discussion	Virtual
FRI	12	2:00 - 4:00	Mahjong Club	In-person
MON	15		<i>Library Closed</i>	
TUE	16	6:30	Library Board of Trustees Meeting	In-person
WED	17	3:00	iPhone 101	In-person
WED	17	5:30	English Language Learners	In-person
THU	18	11:00	Page Turners	Hybrid
FRI	19	10:30	Sit-N-Stitch	In-person
SAT	20	11:00	The Value of the Wetlands	In-person
MON	22	2:00	Non-Fiction Book Discussion Group	Hybrid
TUE	23	2:00	Virtual Author Talk: Rajiv Nagaich	Virtual
TUE	23	4:00	Friends of the Library Board Meeting	In-person
WED	24	5:30	English Language Learners	In-person
WED	24	6:30	How to Steal A Masterpiece	Virtual
THU	25	2:00	Short Story Discussion Group	In-person
THU	25	6:30	Meet Your Sewing Machine	In-person
FRI	26	2:30	Friday Afternoon Movie	In-person
MON	29	3:00	Make It: Valentine's Wreath	In-person
MON	29	3:00	Meet Your Sewing Machine	In-person
TUE	30	2:00	Virtual Author Talk: Dr. Robert Lustig	Virtual
TUE	30	7:00	Decoding the Mysteries of Cats	Virtual
WED	31	5:30	English Language Learners	In-person

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