A Message from Brad
Library Friends & Foundation Looks Back at 2023
A Fresh Direction: 2023–2025 Strategic Library Plan
2023: The Year in Numbers
Virtual Library Yearbook
A Q&A with Jack Altman: RetroActive Hits1000
Free Library Events for All Ages
Signs of Spring: Horoscopes and A Fresh Playlist

ON THE COVER (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT): Miss Linda at Summer Reading Kickoff; Beach Author Jacqueline Woodson at Liberty Hall; 780s Singer-Songwriter David Lowery; Actor Keanu Reeves promotes Dracula Booktoberfest Community Read; Dottie Outreach at Billy Mills Middle School; library staff in their Summer Reading tees; After Hours Fundraiser bartenders Codi Bates and Mayor Bart Littlejohn; a young reader picks a Dr. Bob READs Book to keep and take home. (PHOTOS: Ann Dean, Kayla Cook)

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Allison Friend Mazzei
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All are welcome.

ABOUT US: Lawrence Public Library (LPL for short) is a community hub that believes in the power of connecting with each other through shared knowledge and resources. Located in the heart of Downtown Lawrence, Kansas, we’re committed to providing a space where everyone can learn, connect, create, and grow through access to our vast collections, resources, services, programs, and knowledgeable staff. The library is supported by tax dollars, the LPL Friends & Foundation’s record-breaking book sales and philanthropic efforts, and dedicated efforts of more than 300 volunteers.
Imagine more.

Annual Message from Your Library Director

I’m amazed our new building will be ten years old this year! The time has flown by. After my time away on sabbatical this past fall, I’m excited to be back and get to work moving the library’s new Strategic Plan forward. I’m also deeply grateful to Kathleen Morgan for serving as Acting Director while I was out of the office.

As part of our new Strategic Plan (see page 6), we’re starting to refresh areas inside the building this year in celebration of our tenth anniversary. So, watch for renovations! I’m excited to try out some new ideas to ensure our library spaces continue to meet your needs.

See you at the library!

Brad Allen, Executive Director
Lawrence, Kansas, you did it again!

You stepped up to support your library in a big way in 2023. You gave your tax dollars, your donations, your volunteer time, and your love to Lawrence Public Library. We feel your big community hug!

Thanks to you, Lawrence Public Library is a strong and vibrant community anchor in this town. Your tax dollars support the library’s “three B’s” — the building, the books, and the bodies (staff). This essential public support sustains our core library operations.

Nearly everything else — 100% of programming, author visits, our outreach bookmobile Dottie, special storytimes, Summer Reading, Booktoberfest, Kanopy movie service, Dr. Bob READs books, our RetroActive program for retirees, our seed library — and even feeding the fish! — are made possible through purchases at our year-round book sales and your heartfelt donations to the library.

In 2023, the Library Friends & Foundation gave a whopping $476,000 to the library. This incredible private support supplements and strengthens the public’s investment in the library. It makes such a difference.

YOU make such a difference.

Thank you,

Kathleen O'Leary Morgan
Deputy Director, Lawrence Public Library
Executive Director, Library Friends & Foundation

2023 HIGHLIGHTS

$151,000 in unrestricted block grants
$106,914 given to support youth programs & services
$200,000 in book sale proceeds
15,339 total volunteer hours worked at book sales and in the library

*Unaudited total
**Our book sale volunteers’ creativity in finding new ways to sell books to help the library was endless: Second Saturday Sales, Downhall Books, the new Friends Express bookstore in the lobby, personal shopping appointments, Seasons Readings, and three successful major book sales. In addition, online book sales hit a new record.
The Lawrence Public Library Friends & Foundation (LPLFF) is a non-profit organization that works to strengthen and supplement the public’s investment in the library. Even in a city like Lawrence, tax dollars aren’t enough to provide all the important resources that people need. Together, we give, we volunteer, and we advocate so the library can connect and inspire everyone in our community.

Please direct my gift to:
- [ ] immediate needs
- [ ] endowment
- [ ] no preference

YES! Send me information about:
- [ ] volunteering
- [ ] including the library in my estate plan

TOTAL AMOUNT — $
LPL Strategic Plan Summary
2023–2025
Brad Allen, Executive Director

With the pandemic three years behind us and a 10-year anniversary on the horizon, we used the first part of 2023 to work on a new strategic plan for the library.

Once the Library Board of Trustees approved it in May 2022, staff took inventory of our current work — team by team — and checked for alignment with our mission, vision, and organizational values.

Our next step was to set organizational priorities and goals. Inspired by Steven Potter’s strategic approach at Missouri’s Mid-Continent Public Library, we reached out to arrange a day-long leadership retreat with the recently retired CEO for a guided facilitation.

We took what we learned and developed a framework over the next several months. It includes four components: a foundation, six operational pillars, progress indicators, and three strategic priorities.

The foundation.
Equity and inclusion are values we infuse into our daily work and strategic priorities.

Our six pillars.
These represent routine, but essential library work and include Collections, Finance, Human Resources, Infrastructure and Safety, Marketing and Communications, and Public Services.

Progress indicators to measure success.
We’re using the percentage of active cardholders per population, our Net Promoter Score, and a Library Use Index (LUI). The LUI is a number built from core services that includes checkouts, renewals, gate count, program attendance, and other measurable library outputs.

Our aspirational pinnacle consists of three strategic priorities.

1. Improve patron and staff experience, and increase engagement at the 707 Vermont Street campus.
2. Improve patron and staff experience, and increase engagement in virtual spaces and outreach.
3. Build on internal strengths with solid organizational structures and processes.

A strategic plan is always a work in progress, evolving as the world changes. These last few years have taught Lawrence Public Library to be more nimble and even more aware of the needs of our community. The kind of evergreen strategic plan presented above allows the library the ability to reevaluate strategic priorities to best meet community needs.

In the fall of 2023, we built our action plan and got busy. For starters, we leased the Library Lawn from the City of Lawrence and made our campus smoke-free. Next up is reviving some of our indoor spaces this year.

We’re excited to have such a strong framework to help guide us in making the library the best it can be for our community.

Scan this QR code to read our Strategic Plan in its entirety.
1,105,304
total items circulated

252,319
Digital Audio, Video & eBooks

1,013
FREE LIBRARY EVENTS
100% funded by the Lawrence Public Library Friends & Foundation

852,985
Books, CDs, DVDs & More

2023 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT | THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

430,308
Total in-person visits

847,600
Total website visits

37,516
Public computer sessions

76,996
Total questions answered in person and by phone

35,298
Total number of attendees at free library programs/events

26,184
Kids & Teens attended programs

3,794
Total Summer Reading finishers

26,076
Summer Reading Kids books read

16,451
Total volunteer hours contributed

1,105,304
total items circulated

$476,000*
Total amount given to the library from generous private gifts and library book sales.

LIBRARY REVENUES*

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LIBRARY EXPENDITURES*

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*Figures are based on unaudited 2023 Revenue and Expenditures and Outside and Private Funding statements.
Joy and learning on MLK Jr. Day • Our Seed Library helped you grow it yourself • Brian Hanni and Deja Brooks hosted the LPLFF Basket Ball fundraiser • Staff dressed their best to promo LPL Con ’23 • Remember what Jacqueline Woodson said about reading? • What happens to things left in returned books? • Earth Day at Haskell & Wakarusa Wetlands • Summer Reading Kickoff Party • Juneteenth and Lawrence Pride Parades • How-To Festival success • Barbie wants you to pick up your ILLs • Romance Royalty on Barbie Dolls • Taking the library to the Jayhawks • Best of Lawrence wins • Banned Books collage by Joelle Ford • Booktoberfest/Community Read unites book nerds • New LPL Kid President • Diwali and Kwanzaa Storytime guests • Miss Linda retires — and more!
Joy and learning on MLK Jr. Day

• Our Seed Library helped you grow it yourself

• Brian Hanni and Deja Brooks hosted the LPLFF Basket Ball fundraiser

• Staff dressed their best to promo LPL Con '23

• Remember what Jacqueline Woodson said about reading?

• What happens to things left in returned books?

• Earth Day at Haskell & Wakarusa Wetlands

• Summer Reading Kickoff Party

• Juneteenth and Lawrence Pride Parades

• How-To Festival success

• Barbie wants you to pick up your ILLs

• Romance Royalty on Barbie Dolls

• Taking the library to the Jayhawks

• Best of Lawrence wins

• Banned Books collage by Joelle Ford

• Booktoberfest/COMMUNITY READ unites book nerds

• New LPL Kid President

• Diwali and Kwanzaa Storytime guests

• Miss Linda retires — AND MORE!
RetroActive hits 1,000 members
A Q&A with Jack about the library’s booming retiree program

Kayla Cook
Media Relations & Communications Specialist

With attendance up by 64% in 2023, I wanted to learn more from Jack Altman, the library’s Older Adults Specialist, about how Retirement Boot Camp (now RetroActive) started, how it’s going, and why the name changed. If you’re looking for a fun way to connect with your peers in the Lawrence community, this is the library group for you!

Why does the library have a retiree program?
Jack: There are programs for every other age demographic and yet older adults are the fastest growing group. Older adults also have a higher risk of isolation. Even active older adults are looking for activities and opportunities to make new friendships.

Who attends the retiree program events?
Jack: The program is open to anyone interested in sharing interests with others who are generally in their 60s, 70s, and 80s, retired or not.

What’s the history of the retiree program?
Jack: The program was the brainchild of Kathleen Morgan, Cathy Hamilton, and Logan Isaman, starting with individual programs targeting this age demographic. With their efforts, initial grants helped fund it and now funding from the Capital Federal Foundation and the Sharyn and David Katzman Endowment go directly toward maintaining RetroActive.

On October 1, 2019, the first Wii Bowling took place with about 10-12 individuals and became a regular weekly program. To me, this marks the beginning of continuous programming and the initial date of the program as we know it now. When the pandemic hit, unlike other older adult library programs, these three leaders felt that older adults could handle online programming through Zoom while other cities discontinued programming assuming older adults were not tech savvy enough. The Lawrence program was right, and the program grew during Covid! When the pandemic ended, the addition of a multitude of in-person events allowed members to choose what they wanted to attend from a rather large menu. Today we average 12-18 events per month. Wow!

What’s “the heart” of the retiree program?
Jack: Lawrence is consistently ranked as one of the best places to retire in America.
The library is always in search of benefits we can provide to our community, so we set three goals for our RetroActive program: learn, have fun, and make new friends. But, the real goal is social interaction.

The program also exists to expose folks to (and encourage them to take advantage of) library resources, possibly unknown learning opportunities in our surrounding communities available at historic sites, museums, green spaces and nature, wine, beer, and spirit-making, agriculture, art, city services, culture, and more.

We also work closely with the Douglas County Senior Resource Center. They are a wonderful partner! Together, we’re able to offer a fabulous variety of programs.

Thinking back, what are your top three memories from events in 2023?

Jack: “Tables of Content” for starters. This totally social, interactive experience was the most rewarding because folks walked away having made new connections and exchanging contact information with each other around common interests. Also, “Cocktail Hour” is super. We meet monthly and local mixologists teach us how to mix and sample cocktails with lesser-known ingredients.

Lastly, the Black Jack Battle Ground tour. We watched a reenactment and celebrated John Brown’s 223rd birthday (on the actual date) with a birthday cake!

Why the name change?

Jack: At the end of 2023, we learned that a business in New Hampshire holds the trademark on the “Retirement Bootcamp” name. After getting advice from the LPLFF Board, legal counsel, and our wonderful library marketing team, we determined that our best approach was to rebrand and pick a new name.
Second Saturday Book Sale  
SAT | Mar 9 | 10 AM–4 PM  
LPLFF Garage  
You only have one day to shop the LPLFF garage for unbeatable deals on books, CDs and DVDs. More info at LPLFF.org.

Fruit Tree Community Choir Practices  
MON | Feb 26 | 7-8:15 PM  
SUN | Mar 17 | 2-3:15 PM  
THU | Mar 28* | 4-5:15 PM  
Zoom  
Free, but registration required at: fruittreecommunitychoir@gmail.com  
*Mar 28 is especially for kids; adults welcome  
Join songleader Lyndsey Scott to learn and practice simple songs for the Community Fruit Tree planting ceremony. All voices are welcome! In paperless singing tradition, songs are taught “call and echo” line by line and repeated until learned. On the day we plant, Lyndsey will quick-teach the songs to refresh our memories and we’ll welcome these trees with a chorus of our voices!

Planting Ceremony with Fruit Tree Community Choir  
SAT | Apr 6 | 12–3 PM  
Library Lawn and green spaces  
This collaborative artwork by geographer Hazlett Henderson, songleader Lyndsey Scott, and orchardist Skyler Adamson welcomes you to harmonize with other voices while getting a little dirt under your nails. Rain date: April 7 from 11 AM-2 PM.

LPL Con  
SAT | Apr 13 | 2–7 PM  
Library-wide  
Free, but registration required  
Sign up online or at 785-843-3833  
Whether you go to Cons all the time or this is your first one, LPL is bringing you a comic con-style experience with all the library perks. LPL Con has it all from well-known regional and national cosplayers, expert-hosted panels, gaming (tabletop, consoles), fandom artist alley, cosplay runway and contest, and more. Our family-friendly con celebrates all fandoms and media. Look for the full schedule and list of special guests at lplks.org/lpl-con.

Spring Book Sale  
FRI–SAT | Apr 12, 13 | 10 AM–6 PM  
SUN | Apr 14 | 12–4 PM  
LPLFF Garage  
Spring reads are bloomin’ at our first big sale of the year. All books, CDs, DVDs, and audiobooks are priced $2 or less. Members get early sale access! More info at LPLFF.org.

Summer Reading Kickoff Party: Adventure Begins at Your Library  
THU | May 23 | 6–8 PM  
Library Lawn  
Kick off your summer reading with a bang. Join us for a party filled with music, food, and all the essentials to make your summer of reading absolutely awesome!

SPECIAL EVENTS

2024 Book Battle  
Mar 18–Apr 8  
Vote in person and online  
Join the madness! Vote for your favorite books starting March 18 for the “Field of 32”. Cast your ballot at the library OR on social media. Titles with the most votes at the end of each week will advance to the next round. Submit your predictions March 18–22. Prizes will be awarded for perfect brackets!

Hanif Abdurraqib Book Tour  
TUE | Apr 16 | 7–8 PM  
Liberty Hall  
(644 Massachusetts Street)  
Join in welcoming award-winning author Hanif Abdurraqib back to Lawrence, KS to celebrate his new book, There’s Always This Year: On Basketball and Ascension. Abdurraqib is a poet, essayist, and cultural critic and the author of six books. The Raven Book Store will have copies of his work for sale with a signing to follow. Email any questions to Polli: pkenn@lplks.org.
Sara Paretsky Book Launch
WED | Apr 17 | 7–8 PM
Auditorium

We’re delighted that Sara Paretsky has a new novel and she has chosen Lawrence Public Library as the place to launch it! Everyone’s favorite private investigator, V.I. Warshawski is back on the crime-fighting trail in Pay Dirt. Best of all, the story takes V.I. to (wait for it…) Lawrence, Kansas! The Raven Book Store will have copies of Paretsky’s work for sale and a signing will follow her talk. Questions? Ask Polli: pkenn@lplks.org.

Wakarusa Wetlands Celebration
SUN | Apr 21 | 9–11 AM
Haskell Indian Nations University (155 E. Indian Avenue)

Gather at the Medicine Wheel Earthwork for a special land recognition south of the Haskell Campus buildings. Dr. Daniel Wildcat and various local authors and artists will share how their creative work connects to nature, a sense of place, and community. We’ll be outside, so bring a lawn chair or blanket, and something to drink; a refillable bottle is encouraged. In case of inclement weather, this event will be held May 11. Questions? Ask Shirley at sraunlich@lplks.org.

The Rise and Fall of Margaret Walker: The Most Famous Person Nobody Knows
THU | Mar 7 | 6–7:30 PM
Auditorium


GENERAL EVENTS

Repair Studio!
SUN | Mar 10; Apr 14; May 12 | 2–4 PM
Auditorium

Bring your broken items and torn clothes to our repair mentors for stuff in need of fixing. They can even bring things back to life! While we can’t guarantee we’ll save everything, we can promise a fun time tinkering and learning how things work. Want to be a Repair Mentor? Email Hazlett: hhenderson@lplks.org.

Shopping for a Car Auto Loan
WED | Mar 6 | 6–7:30 PM
Auditorium

Getting a new car or auto loan can be a big financial decision! This informative presentation features staff from Truzy Credit Union and Westside 66 who will guide patrons through the intricacies of shopping for an auto loan and what to think about as you navigate this financial decision. Questions? Ask Marc: mveloz@lplks.org.

Hablemos Spanish Conversation Table
THU | Mar 7, 21; Apr 4, 18; May 2 | 5–6 PM
Meeting Room C
No registration required

Want to improve your Spanish conversation skills? Join in these lively discussions led by graduate students from the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at KU. Each meeting is centered around a theme and held in Spanish. All who wish to practice their Spanish are welcome! Questions? Email Terese at twinters@lplks.org.

Mesa de conversación en español Hablemos
JUE | Mar 7, 21; Abr 4, 18; May 2
Meeting Room C
No se requiere registro
¿Quieres mejorar tus habilidades para conversar en español? Únete a estas informales conversaciones dirigidas por estudiantes graduados del Departamento de Español y Portugués de KU. Cada reunión se centrará en un tema del que se hablará en español. ¡Todo el que desee practicar español es bienvenido! ¿Tienes preguntas? Envíar un correo a Terese: twinters@lplks.org.

Free Homebuyers Workshop
SAT | Apr 6; May 4 | 10 AM–1 PM
Auditorium
Free, but registration required
Register at bit.ly/TTHworkshop

Join Tenants to Homeowners (TTH) to learn about the steps to buying a home, why credit matters, the types of mortgage loans available, and more! Workshop sponsored in part with US Bank. A HUD-approved workshop certificate will be issued upon completion of the workshop. Attending the workshop is a TTH requirement of the Home Purchase Program. Questions? Ask Marc at mveloz@lplks.org.

Coming to the Heartland: Intergenerational Stories of Latin American and African Migration to Kansas
SUN | Apr 7 | 3–5 PM
Auditorium

This project spotlights often overlooked stories of migration to the “heartland,” shifting focus from big cities and the east and west coasts. We’ll hear people’s stories of migration to our region as they relate to food, culture, language, and more. Got your own story to add? Come and find out how you can get involved! Offered in partnership with KU’s Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies (CLACS), Kansas African Studies Center (KASC), and the Hall Center for the Humanities. Email questions to Terese: twinters@lplks.org.

Wild Foraging & Native Grass Seeding
SUN | Apr 14 | 9:30–11 AM
Kansas River Trails
Free, but registration required
Sign up online or at 785-843-3833

Join KU Field Station Education Program Coordinator Wendy Holman and Native Lands Restoration Collaborative Executive Director Courtney Masterson as we forage for invasive yet edible Garlic Mustard and drop native grass seed in its place. Along the way, we’ll learn about sustainable foraging practices, how to identify and
combat invasive species, and the benefits of growing native plants. Check lplks.org for updates and information for where to meet and how to prepare. Questions? Ask Terese: twinters@lplks.org.

In the Kitchen: Cooking with Foraged Garlic Mustard
MON | Apr 15 | 6–7:30 PM
Armitage Center at KU Field Station
(350 Wild Horse Road)
Free, but registration required
Sign up online or at 785-843-3833
Bring the Garlic Mustard you foraged at our event “Wild Foraging and Native Grass Seeding” and learn how to turn it into something delicious! Didn’t attend the first event? That’s ok! We’ll have extra garlic mustard for anyone who needs it. We’ll be joined by Wendy Holman of the KU Field Station and Courtney Masterson of Native Lands Restoration Collaborative as well as a guest chef who will guide our cooking experience! Questions? Ask Terese: twinters@lplks.org.

Annual Baker Wetlands Bird Walk
SAT | Apr 27 | 8–10 AM
Baker Wetlands Discovery Center
(1365 N 1250 Road)
Walk amidst the spring bird migration with Roger Boyd. Got questions? Ask Jake: jvail@lplks.org.

Rockin’ and Rollin’ in the East Bottoms, 1890-1920
TUE | Apr 23 | 6:30 PM
Auditorium
Join Dennis Domer—architect, professor emeritus, and editor of Embattled Lawrence—for an exploration of lesser-known stories from East Lawrence’s rich past. Questions? Ask Melissa: mfisherisaacs@lplks.org.

Genealogy & Local History: Research Resources
TUE | Apr 30 | 4–5 PM
Meeting Room A
Free, but registration required
Sign up online or at 785-843-3833
Want to research your house’s history, delve into genealogy, or explore Kansas’s storied past? Join us to get acquainted with with the library’s digital resources for digging into local and family history, including NewspaperARCHIVE, Ancestry Library Edition, and Sanborn Maps. We’ll wrap with a brief tour of our local history room. Email Melissa for info: mfisherisaacs@lplks.org.

Beginner Bike Maintenance & Community Ride
See lplks.org for May date and time
Free, but registration required
Sign up online or at 785-843-3833
Want to get back into bike riding? Not only is it good for physical and mental health as well as the environment, recent studies link cycling to a greater commitment to the common good! Joined by local experts and bike enthusiasts, we’ll go over a few maintenance basics before we hit the road for a short ride together. See lplks.org for updates and more information. Questions? Email Terese: twinters@lplks.org.

BOOK CLUBS

Queer Book Club
MONTHLY | 1st SUN | 4–5:30 PM
Meeting Room A
Each month, this book club will discuss books in a variety of genres, from fantasy to contemporary fiction, memoirs to graphic novels, and more! What these stories share in common is that they center authors or characters with queer identities. Contact Adam for more info: alopez@lplks.org.

Mar 5 | This Is How You Lose the Time War
Apr 2 | Pageboy
May 7 | Lone Women

Mystery Book Club
BIMONTHLY | 3rd SUN | 1:30–3:30 PM
Auditorium
Join us for a lively discussion in which each person will have read a different book from that subgenre. This is an opportunity to learn about the diverse authors and characters in mysteries. Club meets Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, and Nov. Email Shirley for more information at: sbraunlich@lplks.org.

Mar 17 | Humorous or witty mysteries
May 19 | Place-based mysteries

Speculative Fiction Book Club
MONTHLY | 2nd TUE | 6:30–8 PM
Meeting Room C
Do you like world-building, fantasy, eerie dystopias, far-out sci-fi, or just want to talk about weird books and improbable what-ifs with cool people? For more info, email Leah at: lewton@lplks.org.

Mar 12 | Chain-Gang All Stars
Apr 9 | A Darker Shade of Magic
May 14 | Starling House

Nature Book Club
MONTHLY | 2nd TUE | 6:30–8 PM
Meeting Room A
Come discuss both fiction and nonfiction books connected to the natural world. Share what you’re reading and get some new book recommendations from library staff Jake, co-author of A Kansas Bestiary, and Shirley, Kansas Native Plant Society Board Member. Email Shirley for info: sbraunlich@lplks.org.

Mar 12 | Spring meeting

Last Wednesday Book Club
MONTHLY | Last WED | 6:30–8 PM
Meeting Room A
Our longest-running adult book club spans beloved classics to modern favorites. If you’re reading our current month’s book, please join. Email Leah for info: lewton@lplks.org.

Mar 27 | Lucky Red
Apr 24 | The Light Pirate
May 29 | Black Cake

Thriller Thursday Book Club
MONTHLY | 3rd THU | 6:30–8 PM
Meeting Room A
If you love chills, thrills, and bloody spills, join our fun group for deep dives into the macabre. We’ll bounce back and forth between fun themes and popular titles, from horror to suspense to mystery thrillers. Questions? Email Christina: cjames@lplks.org.

Mar 21 | Gothic
Apr 18 | Terror in Translation
May 16 | Mommy Dearest

Library events are free, casual, and open to the public. Events may be photographed or recorded for library promotional purposes.
Third Thursday Book Club
MONTHLY | 3rd THU | 7–8:30 PM
Lawrence Beer Co. (826 Pennsylvania)
Read and discuss a new title each month.
To reserve a book and get more details, email Polli at: pkenn@lplks.org.
Mar 21 | Matrix
Apr 18 | Heaven & Earth Grocery Store
May 16 | Chain Gang All Stars

Yoga of Kindness
See lplks.org for dates and times
Auditorium
No registration or experience required
Join us for an hour of yoga with a local yoga instructor. Beginners are definitely welcome! Bring your own mat if you have one. For more information, email Theresa: tbird@lplks.org.

TECHNOLOGY

AUMI Jam
FRI | Mar 29; Apr 26 | 4:30–6 PM
S+V Studio
Adaptive Use Musical Instruments (AUMI) software makes musical improvisation and collaboration accessible to the widest possible range of individuals. The more you move, the more music you can make. Offered in partnership with KU InterArts.

Computer Basics 1: Getting Started
FRI | Mar 8; May 10 | 10:30 AM–12 PM
Meeting Room C
Free, but registration required
Sign up online or at 785-843-3833 x139
Learn how to use a mouse and keyboard, about various types of computers, and kinds of ports that attach devices to your computer, and more.

Computer Basics 2: Files, Folders, and More
FRI | Mar 15; May 17 | 10:30 AM–12 PM
Meeting Room C
Free, but registration required
Sign up online or at 785-843-3833 x139
Learn to navigate the Windows operating system, save and delete files, use folders, and more.

Elegant Knock with Lawrence Rap Artist Approach
SAT | Apr 20 | 11 AM–12 PM
S+V Studio
Come for a session on sample-based music production guided by local rap artist, Approach. Learn production from an organic source, manipulate samples to taste, and discover out-of-the-box creativity while learning from one of Lawrence’s best.

Studio Basics:
Recording and Mixing Bass
FRI | Mar 15 | 4:30–5:30 PM
S+V Studio
Chris Maddox shares insight into recording and mixing. Tame the often misunderstood low frequencies with a simple, best-practices approach. Control the rumble into a groove that sounds sweet under different playing environments. Experienced in performing, recording, and live sound mixing, Chris has produced and is involved with many local artists.

Synth Building Blocks
THU | Mar 21 | 4:30–5:30 PM
S+V Studio
Learn the fundamentals of sound synthesis. Studio Specialist, Matt Pelsma, will take you through the theory behind widely-used concepts using digital and analog equipment. It’s both a class for beginners looking to understand basic theory and musicians looking for a comprehensive explanation of the fundamentals.

SOUND+VISION Basics
THU | May 16 | 4:30–5:30 PM
S+V Studio
Take a tour of the SOUND+VISION studios and find out how to book a session. We’ll cover microphones, popular A/V software, and lots more.

RETROACTIVE
Library events for retirees are made possible by the Capitol Federal Foundation and the Sharyn & David Katzman Endowment. For updates, visit lplks.org/retirement

Before You Check Out
TUE | Mar 26 | 10:30 AM–12 PM
WED | Apr 24; May 22 | 10:30 AM–12 PM
Auditorium
Free, but registration required
Sign up online or at 785-843-3833

There’s lots to consider in preparation for that day. In our five-part series about end-of-life issues, experts will talk about legal preparation, medical decisions, family concerns, legacy, and burial options. These live presentations provide info on what to do now to assure your wishes are followed and legal/family concerns are addressed.
Coffee Break
WEEKLY | FRI | Mar 1–May 24 | 10–11 AM
Zoom
No programs 3/29, 4/26, 5/31
Brew a cup o’ joe and come hang out with our online coffee group. There’s no agenda, so topics can range from current affairs to wacky weather. Meet new friends and get local suggestions. Talk to Jack to get onto the email list: jaltman@lplks.org.

Tech Club
MONTHLY | 1st THU | Mar 7; Apr 4; May 2
4–5 PM
Zoom
Free, but registration required
Sign up online or at 785-843-3833
Learn about all things Tech. Get tech-savvy and wow your kids and grandkids!
Mar 7 | Organize your images
Apr 4 | TBD
May 2 | TBD

Dessert & A Movie
WED | Mar 13; Apr 17 | 7–8 PM
Zoom
TUE | May 14 | 4–5:30 PM
Auditorium
Free, but registration required
Sign up online or at 785-843-3833
Whip up your favorite dessert and join friends to discuss the Kanopy film of the month. We’ll watch films about senior food insecurity, independent bookstores, and Ku and Naismith’s rules of basketball. This movie streaming service is free with your library card! More info and details at: lplks.org/retirement.
Mar 13 | Leftovers
Apr 17 | Hello, Bookstore
May 14 | No Place Like Home

Wine Around the World
THU | Mar 14; Apr 11; May 9 | 5–6 PM
Zoom
Free, but registration required
Sign up online or at 785-843-3833
Join us for a monthly tour of the world’s wine regions, their history, culture, food, and viticulture. Steve Wilson of City Wine Market leads us through tasting notes for two wines in this online class to enjoy from home. Wine purchases are optional.

Gray Anatomy
TUE | Mar 19, Apr 23, May 28 | 4–5 PM
Meeting Room A and Zoom
Free, but registration required
Sign up online or at 785-843-3833
Learn about what to expect as you age in this wonderful series with LMH Health. We’ll talk about a new health topic each month.
Mar 19 | When to come to the ER
Apr 23 | Digestive care
May 28 | Stroke awareness

Fun & Games
FRI | Mar 29; Apr 26 | 10 AM–12 PM
Auditorium
Free, but registration preferred
Sign up online or at 785-843-3833
Meet up for board games, Wii games, and socializing. You bring good conversation and we’ll provide coffee, tea, and snacks.

Wine Trail
FRI | Mar 15 | 3 PM
Somerset Ridge Vinyard & Winery
(29725 Somerset Road | Paola, KS)
TUE | May 7 | 4 PM
Crooked Post Winery
(7397 K, KS-92 | Ozawkie, KS)

Field Trips & Pop-Ups
Visit lplks.org/retirement for a complete list of programs, dates, and times
Join us for field trips, social events, and special Zoom programs. There’s something for everyone, from nature hikes and museum visits to learning about the inner workings of our city. It’s a great way to learn more about our community and make new friends. Email Jack for info or get on the email list: jaltman@lplks.org.

Coffee Break
STEAM isn’t just a way to cook veggies! We’ll look at boba, do a pickle autopsy, and investigate strawberry DNA. Experiment, learn, and take a bite or two. At the library, Science is hungry work! Join the Teen Zone team for science-based snack programs. Whether you go to Cons all the time or this is your first one, LPL is bringing you a comic con-style experience with all the

Snack Break
Grades 6–12
TUE | Mar 12 | 2–3:30 PM
Auditorium
THU | Mar 14 | 2–3:30 PM
Readers’ Theater
Free, but registration required
Sign up online or at 785-843-3833
Science is hungry work! Join the Teen Zone team for science-based snack programs. We’ll look at boba, do a pickle autopsy, and investigate strawberry DNA. Experiment, learn, and take a bite or two. At the library, STEAM isn’t just a way to cook veggies!
Mar 12 | DIY Popping Boba
Mar 14 | Forensic Foods

Stitch & B*tch
MON | Mar 18; Apr 15; May 20 | 2–3 PM
Visit lplks.org for location
Free, but registration preferred
Sign up online or at 785-843-3833
Calling all knitters, crocheters, hand sewers, cross-stitchers, and needle pointers! Bring your project, learn form each other, and discuss and solve the issues of the world.

LPL Con
FRI | Apr 12 | 6–9 PM (Teens only)
SAT | Apr 13 | 2–7 PM (All ages)
Library-wide
Free, but registration required
Sign up online or at 785-843-3833
Whether you go to Cons all the time or this is your first one, LPL is bringing you a comic con-style experience with all the
Summer Reading is 100% funded by
Friends & Foundation
LAWRENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY

If you require reasonable accommodation to attend an event, please contact us at 785-843-3833 or events@lplks.org.

library perks. LPL Con has it all from well-known regional and national cosplayers, expert-hosted panels, gaming (tabletop, consoles), fandom artist alley, cosplay runway and contest, and more. Our family-friendly con celebrates all fandoms and media. Look for the full schedule and list of special guests at lplks.org/lpl-con.

**Pokémon League**
*Ages 8–18*
**MONTHLY** | THU | Mar 21; Apr 18
3:30–5 PM
**Auditorium**
Do you love playing the Pokémon card game? Would you like to find new friends who love to play too? Join us to learn more about the game and have time to play!

**Rainbow Club**
*Grades 4–8*
**MONTHLY** | 2nd MON | 4–5 PM
**Readers’ Theater**
Free, but registration required
**Sign up online or at 785-843-3833**
Calling all LGBTQIA+ kids and allies! Join us as we build community, hang out, and support each other.

**Teen Gaming Tournament**
*Grades 6–12*
**MONTHLY** | 2nd FRI | 4–6 PM
**Readers’ Theater**
Compete monthly against fellow gamers. Games include *Mario Kart 8*, *Ultimate*, *Super Smash Bros.*, and more.

**Teen Zone Expanded**
*Grades 6–12*
**WEEKLY** | WED | 2–4 PM
**Auditorium or Readers’ Theater**
On early-release Wednesdays, head to the library for gaming, movies, crafts, and STEAM activities. Check lplks.org for each week’s events.

**Tutoring Club**
*Pre-K–9th Grade*
Visit lplks.org for dates and times
Children’s Study Nooks
Free, but registration required
**Sign up online or at 785-843-3833**
Boost reading and math skills with our KU tutor. Check lplks.org for the current schedule.

**Reading** | Pre-K–6th Grade
**Math** | K–9th Grade

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**St. Patrick’s Day Céilí Party**
*All ages*
MON | Mar 4 | 6–7 PM
**Auditorium**
In Irish, the word “céilí” (KAY-LEE) means party! Celebrate St. Patrick’s Day with a free Irish Step Dance performance. Participate in traditional Irish group dances led by Annie Stark. Performance runs 30 minutes followed by group activities. Offered in partnership with Lawrence Arts Center.

**Artists Unite!**
*Ages 5–11*
THU | Mar 7, 14, 21, 28 | 4–5 PM
**Readers’ Theater**
Free, but registration required
**Sign up online or at 785-843-3833**
Come for a month of creative art exploration with our amazing art friends around town, including the Spencer Museum of Art. From paper crafts to drawing, we’re going to have some artistic fun!

**SPRING BREAK**

**Richard Renner: Slapstick Circus**
*Ages 5–11*
MON | Mar 11 | 2–3 PM
**Auditorium**
Richard Renner, a.k.a. the VodVill Klown, delivers a silent, side-splitting extravaganza of circus skills and pantomime. Unicycling with motors, balancing with cleaning gear—get ready for a laughter-packed show of hilarious surprises and triumphant fails!

PHOTO CREDIT: August Rudisell & Mark Benfer / LPL Con 2023
Operation Wildlife: Eagle!
Ages 5–11
WED | Mar 13 | 2–3 PM
Auditorium
Meet an eagle and learn about their unique physical characteristics and nesting habits. Experienced bird handlers will share fun facts and use props to help visualize the wingspan, amazing eyesight, and impressive size of the eagle. You may find yourself assisting with demos—bring your muscles!

Movie Day
Puss in Boots: The Last Wish
Ages 5–11
FRI | Mar 15 | 2–4 PM
Auditorium
Don’t miss this purr-fectly entertaining tale that’ll whisk you off on a journey with our favorite swashbuckling cat. Snacks are included

Storytime at the Easter Egg Roll with Dole
All ages
SAT | Mar 30 | 10 AM–1 PM
Dole Institute of Politics
(2350 Petefish Drive)
Dottie, the library’s little mobile library, will bring a special storytime to the 2024 Easter Egg Roll. We’re delighted to welcome Lawrence author/illustrator Jo Renfro to present her new book, Peg Gets Crackin’! It’s a fun read-aloud story about Peg the Egg who finds the courage to get out of her shell. The Raven Book Store will have copies of Renfro’s book for sale. A book signing will follow.

LPL Con
All ages
SAT | Apr 13 | 2–7 PM
Library-wide
Free, but registration required
Sign up online or at 785-843-3833
Whether you go to Cons all the time or this is your first one, LPL is bringing you a comic con-style experience with all the library perks. LPL Con has it all from well-known regional and national cosplayers, expert-hosted panels, gaming (tabletop, consoles), fandom artist alley, cosplay runway and contest, and more. Our family-friendly con celebrates all fandoms and media. Look for the full schedule and list of special guests at lplks.org/lpl-con.

Amazing Pollinators
Ages 5+
MON | Apr 22 | 4–5 PM
Auditorium
Free, but registration required
Sign up online or at 785-843-3833
Explore the incredible and important world of pollinators with the Master Gardeners and Monarch Watch with activities, games, live butterflies, and more!

Earth Day Fairy Houses
Ages 5–11
TUE | Apr 23 | 3:30–5 PM
Auditorium
We’re using the magic of Earth Day to build fairy houses with found materials. Come and create the whole time or drop in while you can. Costumes welcome!

Poetry Café
Ages 8–11
THU | Apr 25 | 4–5 PM
Auditorium
Free, but registration required
Sign up online or at 785-843-3833
Join us for poetry-writing activities and snacks. We’ll have a mic on hand if you’d like to share your poetry!

Dance Party for Littles
Ages 0–5
TUE | Apr 30 | 10:30 AM–11:30 AM
Auditorium
Dance with LPL storytellers to music just perfect for littles. It’s guaranteed to be boppy and hoppy!

Summer Reading Kickoff Party: Adventure Begins at Your Library
All ages
THU | May 23 | 6–8 PM
Library Lawn
Kick off your summer reading with a bang. Join us for a party filled with music, food, and all the essentials to make your summer of reading absolutely awesome!

ONGOING EVENTS & CLUBS

Kids’ Action Club
Ages 8–11
MONTHLY | WED | Mar 6; Apr 3; May 1
3:30–4:30 PM
Readers’ Theater
Free, but registration required
Sign up online or at 785-843-3833
Want to help make life in Lawrence better? Join Kids’ Action Club (KAC) to meet local leaders and new friends, and carry out some amazing service projects both big and small. Let’s see what cool things we can do!

Homeschool Lego Club
Ages 5–18
MONTHLY | WED | Mar 6; Apr 10; May 8
11 AM–12:30 PM
Auditorium
Free, but registration required
Sign up online or at 785-843-3833
Everything is awesome at Lego Club! Bring your imagination to build with our Legos and display your creations at the library until the next session.
Lego Club
Ages 5–11
MONTHLY | SAT | Mar 23; Apr 27
2–3:30 PM
Readers’ Theater
Free, but registration required
Sign up online or at 785-843-3833
Everything is awesome at Lego Club! Bring your imagination to build with our Legos and display your creations at the library until the next session.

Parent Support Group
Parents and kids ages 0–5
WEEKLY | WED | 6:30–7:30 PM
Readers’ Theater
No sessions in May
Join our support group for parents with younger kiddos. Make new parent friends, connect with resources, or just get out of the house. We’re judgment free and full of empathy! Email Lauren for more info: ltaylor@lplks.org.

Pokémon League
Ages 8–18
MONTHLY | THU | Mar 21; Apr 18
3:30–5 PM
Auditorium
Do you love playing the Pokémon card game? Would you like to find new friends who love to play too? Join us to learn more about the game and have time to play!

Rainbow Club
Grades 4–8
MONTHLY | 2nd MON | 4–5 PM
Readers’ Theater
Free, but registration required
Sign up online or at 785-843-3833
Calling all LGBTQ+ kids and allies! Join us as we build community, hang out, and support each other!

Story Quest Book Club
Ages 5–11
MONTHLY | 2nd SAT | 3–4 PM
Readers’ Theater
Free, but registration required
Sign up online or at 785-843-3833
No session 4/13
Looking for an unconventional book club? Put on your adventure shoes and get ready to head out on an epic story quest! We’ll read (or listen to) books together — sometimes with a theme! All reading levels welcome.

Tail Wagging Readers
Ages 5–11
BIMONTHLY | 1st SUN | 3–4 PM
BIMONTHLY | 4th SAT | 10:30–11:30 AM
Readers’ Theater
No session 5/25
Practice reading and build your reading confidence with a warm, furry friend from Loving Paws Animal Therapy. Bring your own book to read or pick one at the library. You’ll get a 15-min time slot upon arrival.

Tutoring Club
Pre-K–9th Grade
Visit lplks.org for dates and times
Children’s Study Nooks
Free, but registration required
Sign up online or at 785-843-3833
Boost reading and math skills with our KU tutor. Check lplks.org for the current schedule.

Reading | Pre-K–6th Grade
Math | K–9th Grade

Tween Book Club
Ages 8–11
MONTHLY | SUN | Mar 24; Apr 21; May 19
1:30–2:30 PM
Readers’ Theater
Free, but registration required
Sign up online or at 785-843-3833
Do you love getting into the world of a book? Would you like to chat with other book lovers and be part of a book club? To get a copy of our book club title ask at the front children’s desk or email Jenny at jcook@lplks.org.

A Growing Advocate with Loving Paws Animal Therapy
Ages 8–11
MONTHLY | SAT | Apr 27
10:30–11 AM
Auditorium
Practice reading and build your reading confidence with a warm, furry friend from Loving Paws Animal Therapy. Bring your own book to read or pick one at the library. You’ll get a 15-min time slot upon arrival.

Cuentacuentos / Spanish Storytime
Todas las edades son bienvenidas; all ages
BIMONTHLY
1o y 3o Sábados | 10:30–11:15 AM
1st & 3rd SAT | 10:30–11:15 AM
Varios lugares; various locations
¡Cualquiera que sea el lugar, disfruta de algunas historias y canciones en Español con Yari y nuestros amigos de Padres como Maestros! Visite lplks.org para lugares exactos.
Enjoy stories and songs in Spanish with Yari and friends from Parents as Teachers! Visit lplks.org for exact locations.

Kids & Crafts Storytime
Ages 3+ with their families
WEEKLY | TUE | 10:30–11:15 AM
WEEKLY | THU | 6:30–7:15 PM
Readers’ Theater
Enjoy engaging stories, delightful songs, playful rhymes, and hands-on activities with Hannah and Crafty the Cat.

Books & Babies
Birth–23 months with their families
WEEKLY | TUE | 6–6:30 PM
WEEKLY | THU | 10:30–11 AM
Readers’ Theater
Join Anita and Jenny for a magical Baby Storytime. Bounce along to enchanting tales, soothing melodies, and a bubble party. A perfect mix of stories and bubbly fun!

Toddler Storytime
Toddlers with their families
WEEKLY | WED | 6–6:30 PM
WEEKLY | THU | 10:30–11 AM
Readers’ Theater
Morris the Monkey and Lauren invite you on a joyous book-filled adventure. Fun songs, early literacy tips, and laughter, make a wiggle-friendly storytime perfect for littles and their families!

Multicultural Storytime
All ages
BIMONTHLY | 2nd & 4th SUN | 3:30–4:15 PM
Readers’ Theater
Want to be a speaker for this program? Email Anita at apatel@lplks.org for info.
Open yourself up to the world! A different guest speaker will share stories about a particular culture, language, way of life, and if you’re lucky—even food! Be sure to make a craft before you leave.

STORYTIMES
Storytimes will be on break 3/17–3/23; 5/1–5/31

Sing & Rhyme Storytime
All ages
WEEKLY | MON | 6:30–7 PM
Readers’ Theater
No session 3/11
Explore movement, play, and the joy of active music-making with Singing Sarah.
Signs of Spring

**Pisces | Feb 19–Mar 20**
Hello Desk Help
Pisces is a sign known for friendliness and upholding strong emotional connections. The library match for this sign is, naturally, the Hello Desk! Lawrence Public Library staff welcome visitors at this desk and are available for quick directional questions. If you’re looking for answers online, send us a Live Chat! As a Water sign that’s selfless and ready to help others, this is a match made in library zodiac heaven.

**Aries | Mar 21–Apr 19**
Board Games / Video Games
As the first sign of the zodiac, Aries is naturally ambitious (and admittedly a bit competitive.) For this reason, this Fire sign is well-suited to explore our games, both video and board—and never be bored again! From Clue to Sorry, to Mario Party to The Legend of Zelda, Aries is sure to bring the energy to game night with a heaping helping of healthy competition.

**Taurus | Apr 20–May 20**
Seed Library
Taurus is an Earth sign as well as a person who knows how to stick through projects until their completion—a natural green thumb! The Seed Library is a free program that welcomes patrons to take home up to 5 varieties of seed and watch them grow. Stop on by the Seed Library, Taurus, and your plants are sure to thrive with your strong sense of responsibility and nurturing nature.

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**A Totally Local Stop And Smell the Roses Playlist**
Spring into Music, Lawrence!

From The Granada to The Bottleneck and the Love Garden to Mass Street Music, the music scene in Lawrence is a rich one. Celebrate decades of music made with heart in the heartland on Kaw Valley Jukebox (KVJB)—a digital archive of music made in the Northeast Kansas region.

This KVJB playlist is all about romance and rebirth. With Valentine’s Day in February and the budding of Spring in March, love is in the air, including library love as we celebrate the 10-year anniversary of our building renovation in July! Music history is history, and the library is honored to play a part in conserving some good down-home tunes born and bred in LFK and surrounding areas through KVJB.

Browse commercial-free curated local music at music.lplks.org. You don’t even need a library card to access it!

Happy spring, library lovers...

Kayla Cook
Media Relations & Communications Specialist