

BOOKS MOVIES MUSIC PODCASTS TV SHOWS

What's Getting You through This Year?

Our staff members are busy picking our year-end "best of" lists for 2020, and we'll share those with you in the January–February newsletter.

We also want to know what you've been reading, watching, and listening to. Whether newly published or aired, or comfort reading or viewing from years past, here's your chance to nominate your favorites.

The only rule is that it is something that you started or finished during 2020. Because there has to be something good about this year, right? Go to skokiellibrary.info/my2020picks to participate. Bonus points if you checked it out or streamed it using your library card!



Winter is coming. The renovation is progressing.
Stay up-to-date on changing library hours
and services at skokiellibrary.info



5215 Oakton Street
Skokie, IL 60077
847-673-7774
tellus@skokiellibrary.info

For current hours and services,
call or go to skokiellibrary.info/hours
Visiting the library?
Go to skokiellibrary.info/what-to-expect

FOR ADULTS

All events are held online.
Sign up for all events at
events.skokielibrary.info.

ESL Café

Wednesdays, 12:30–2 pm

Low Vision Support Group

Tuesdays, November 10 and
December 8, 1:30–2:30 pm



Medicare Part D Sign-up Assistance

Wednesday, November 11, 9 am–4 pm

Thursday, November 12, 9 am–3 pm

Starting November 1, call the
library at 847-673-7774 to make
a 30-minute appointment.

Food Science for the Win

Grilled Cheese Panini

Thursday, November 12, 11–11:30 am

Jams and Jellies

Thursday, December 10, 11–11:30 am



Coping with COVID-19

Our lives have changed significantly this year, and we all could use a little relief. Learn practical strategies for coping with the stress caused by the changes and uncertainties of the COVID-19 pandemic, and how to support others. Catherine Counard, MD, medical officer for the Office of Health Protection at the Illinois Department of Public Health and former director of the Village of Skokie Health Department, will provide an overview on COVID-19 in Illinois and Skokie, followed by local agency representatives sharing resources and ways to deal with challenges caused by COVID-19.

Thursday, November 12, 6–7:30 pm

Project Sharing Roundtable

Saturdays, November 14 and December 19, 2–3 pm

Great Authors, Great Articles

With Veganism on the Rise, Is Meat Cooked?

by Peter Singer

Tuesday, November 17, 6:30–7:30 pm

Japan's Rent-a-Family Industry

by Elif Batuman

Tuesday, December 15, 6:30–7:30 pm

Zoom into the Movies

Chavela

Thursday, November 19, 8–9 pm

Shoplifters

Thursday, December 17, 8–9 pm

Introduction to Yoga

Fridays, November 20 and December 18, 1–2 pm





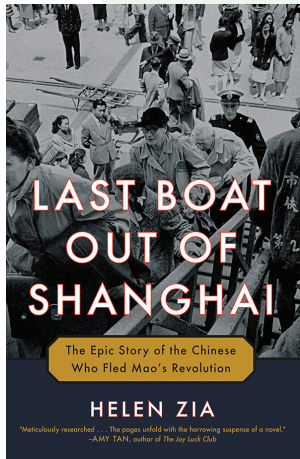
Ask a Librarian

Charities and Volunteer Work

Tuesday, November 24, 6–7 pm

Time Management and How to Get Things Done

Tuesday, December 22, 6–7 pm



Book Discussions

Pages through History

Last Boat Out of Shanghai

by Helen Zia

Monday, November 9, 7–8:30 pm

LitLounge

Neverwhere

by Neil Gaiman

Wednesday, November 11,
7:30–9 pm

Litera-CHEERS! The Best of 2020

Wednesday, December 9,
7:30–9 pm

Talking Books

Circe

by Madeline Miller

Wednesday, November 18,
1:30–2:30 pm

Becoming

by Michelle Obama

Wednesday, December 16,
1:30–2:30 pm

Adult Book Discussion

Title TBA

Goodreads: Thursday,
November 19, 8–9 pm

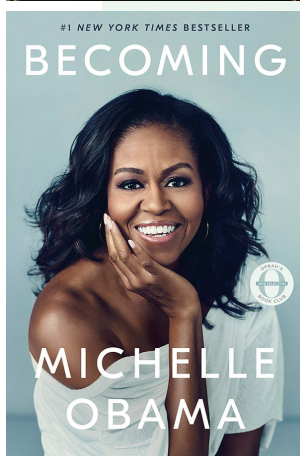
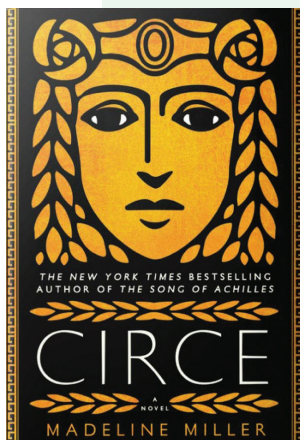
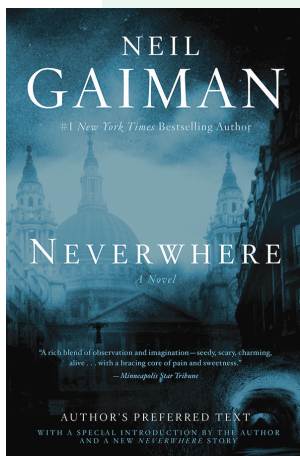
Instagram Live: Tuesday,
November 24, 7:30–8 pm

The Year in Books

Facebook Live: Wednesday,
December 2, 8–8:30 pm

Goodreads: Thursday,
December 10, 8–9 pm

Instagram Live: Monday,
December 14, 7:30–8 pm



Introductory Workshop: Making Videos and Podcasts



Tuesdays, 4:30–6 pm

December 1: Planning and recording

December 8: Office hours to share ideas
and progress

December 15: Editing and getting feedback

The Year in Movies: The Good, the Not Great, and What's Next

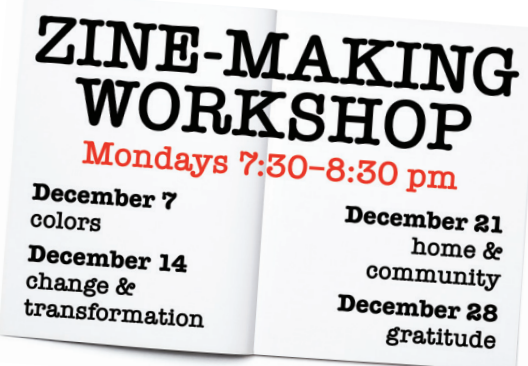
Tuesday, December 1, 7:30–8:30 pm



Chicago's Historic Motor Row District

Barbara Barrett describes the early
development of the American automobile
industry and architects who designed elaborate
automobile showrooms on Motor Row.

Thursday, December 3, 7:30–8:30 pm



1

returned items

We have huge bins in the outside book drops for items being returned. Sometimes they fill up very fast, so we can make them available only when we have staff at the building. As the bins fill up, we wheel them into the Radmacher Room. More than 80,000 items were checked out when we started accepting returns, making this a huge undertaking.



a trip to the west side

2

These now heavy bins have to be wheeled outside and around the building to get to the new workroom on the west side of the building. Why? Because the rest of the west side is under construction, and it's the safest passage for us.

3

a trip through the new automated material handling machine

The huge bins are so deep that they have to be tipped for us to reach everything at the bottom. Each item is picked up and sent through the new sorting machine, which checks it in and sends it to one of 10 small bins, depending on the type of item. Video and music materials are individually opened and checked to make sure everything that should be in the case is there.



BEHIND THE SCENES

We walked through the current process for taking care of items being returned through getting them ready for curbside pickup. We've always taken great care, but everything is extra complicated during a simultaneous pandemic and renovation. Here's a peek behind the scenes at how we're keeping everything moving while keeping people safe.



4

sorting and shelving

When the bins are full, we rough sort everything onto carts, wheel the carts back around the building, and then do a fine sort to get everything in order so the items can be put on the shelves during the evenings. We wait until after hours to put things on the shelves so we aren't taking up space in the building that you could be using to browse for items while practicing physical distancing.



6 reserved items take another trip, this time to the bookmobile

Three times a day, we wheel those reserved items out to the bookmobile in the parking lot and put them in order so you can come pick them up. We discovered very early in the process that it is much better to unload the cart onto the bookmobile floor first, and then shelve the items, rather than going up and down the steps many times!



5

getting your reserved items ready

When you get an email that the item you've reserved is ready to be picked up, that's because we have "triggered" it at the computer. Each reserved item is then labelled and put on another book cart.



5



An Unusual Audience



As long as the west side is under renovation, our adult magazines are “shelved” on every seat in the Petty Auditorium. Although it’s a terrific way to keep things organized, this definitely makes for the strangest “crowd” we’ve ever hosted!

While they aren’t available for browsing, you certainly can check them out using curbside pickup. If you’d like to reserve one or more issues, find the magazine title in the catalog, then click on “Place a Hold.” In most cases, you’ll then see a list of available issues and can select those you’d like, and they will be prepared for you to pick up when you get an email that they are ready.

Pro tip: Some of us have a habit of looking at the availability section before placing holds for other types of items. That doesn’t work for magazines! So click that “Place a hold” button first. You can also call the library if you’d like staff assistance with reserving any magazine.

If you don’t want to wait, you can also read online editions of your favorite magazines with RBDigital (formerly Zinio). To check out magazines, log in with your library card number and then create a username and password. To download checked-out issues to mobile devices, get the RBDigital app.

Information about online magazines and more:

skokielibrary.info/streaming



»▶ screenmatch TO THE RESCUE

'Tis the season of hunkering down and binge-watching. If the pandemic has you feeling like you've already seen everything ever made, Screenmatch can help.

Think of it like personal shopping for movies and TV shows. You tell us a bit about what you're in the mood for, and our expert staff recommend viewing specific to your tastes and interests.

We're really passionate about our work—and we love a challenge!

"I love movies more than most things in life and I find it rewarding every day that talking, recommending, writing, reading about (and sometimes watching) movies is part of my job."

—Cecelia, Advisory Specialist

"Part of the fun is we get to evangelize, wax poetic, and rave about what we love in hopes that somebody else will enjoy it as well. Making those connections is really gratifying."

—Chris, Advisory Specialist

"I think the biggest challenge is when the patron tells us that they are an avid viewer and we get the sense that they have seen everything already! We really have to dig deep and think creatively concerning suggestions. Recently a patron submitted a second Screenmatch and they said, 'I have no idea how you guys do it but last time the list was so, so, so accurate it was like you've been inside my brain.'"

—Sharon, Advisory Librarian

Whether you're looking for family-friendly features, award winners, diverse perspectives, a good laugh (or a good cry), on disc or streaming, we'll find just the right fit for you and your screen.

skokielibrary.info/screenmatch

KIDS & FAMILIES

All events are held online (except Nature Camp). Sign up for all events at events.skokiellibrary.info. Check the deadlines to sign up, and we'll let you know how to pick up supplies if needed.

Children with Disabilities and Their Families

Fun with Rainbow Therapy Dogs

Sundays, November 15 and December 20, 11:30 am–12:30 pm



November is Food Month!

Families

Family Cooking Workshop

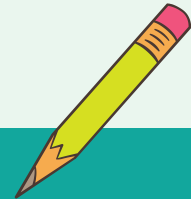
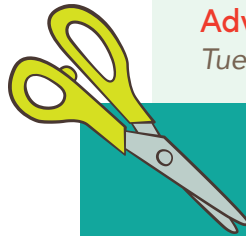
Mondays, November 2, 9, and 16, 4:30–5:30 pm

Library Dance Party

Tuesdays, except November 3, 10:30–11 am

Adventure Club: Spain

Tuesday, November 10, 3:30–4:15 pm



Family Art Party in a Bag

Sign up by Friday, November 13 or December 11, then pick up supplies when notified.

Be the Artist

Mondays, November 16 and December 21, 5:30–6 pm

Family Game Night

Fridays, December 4, 11, 18, 6:30–7:15 pm



Little Kids

Face-to-Face Time

Mondays in November, 1:30–2:30 pm



Preschool Puppet Playtime

*Wednesdays, November 4 and 11,
December 2 and 9, 10:30–11 am*

Storytime

*Thursdays, except November 26 and
December 24 and 31, 1:30–2 pm*

Family Fun Storytime

*Fridays, except
November 27
and December 25,
10:30–11 am*

Weekend Storytime

*Saturdays,
10:30–11 am*



School-Age Kids

3D Printing

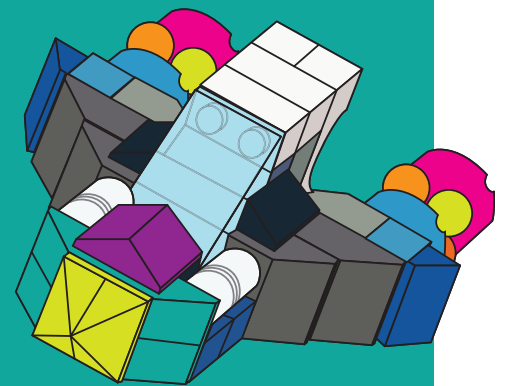
*Wednesdays, November 4 or 11,
4–5 pm, Ages 8–15*

Sewing 101

*Fridays, November 6 or 13,
4–4:45 pm, Ages 8+*

Write Stuff

*Tuesday, November 17,
4–4:45 pm, Grades 4–5*



Lego Build: Spaceships

*Saturdays, December 5 or 12,
1:30–2:30 pm, Ages 6–10*

Nature Camp (in person, South Courtyard)

*Tuesdays, December 22 or 29,
2–3 pm, Ages 8–12*

Journal Juice

*Monday, December 28,
1:30–2:30 pm or Tuesday,
December 29, 12:30–1:30 pm,
Grades 4–6*

TEENS

3D Printing

*Wednesdays,
November 4 or 11,
4–5 pm, Ages 8–15*

Teen Library Council

*Thursdays, except November 26 and
December 24 and 31, 4:30–5:30 pm,
Grades 6–12*



Meet the Bookmobile Staff



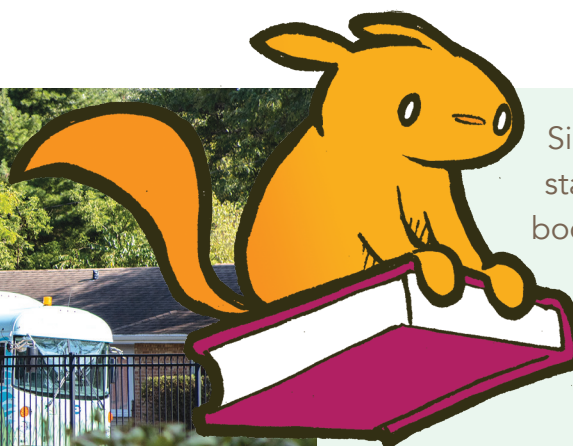
Matt MacKellar

Supervisor for Neighborhood Engagement

"One of the good things about the curbside community stops has been for people to see that the library is doing what we can to help the community. We not only check out books to people, we also answer a lot of questions about what the library is able to offer during this time. I think it also helps overcome some of the fear people might have being a little bit hunkered down and all of that. We're out and about having those relationships with people. And as the bookmobile supervisor, it's been great to see my team being adaptable, being flexible, and doing what they can to reach out and serve people during a difficult time."

What Matt's reading: *Ubik*, Philip K. Dick,
Transcend: The New Science of Self-Actualization,
Scott Barry Kaufman

What he's watching:
Longmire



Since curbside pickup started in June, our bookmobile staff have been working extra hard, making sure everyone can get the materials they want

to check out. In addition to staffing the bus while it's in the library's parking lot, they've been driving the bookmobile to special community stops so people have options for picking up their items that may be closer to home and more convenient. Let's meet our bookmobile staff.

"It's a more personal interaction at the community stops, as opposed to the busier curbside pickup hours at the library. I can ask someone how their day is going. You can actually see patrons smiling behind their masks!"

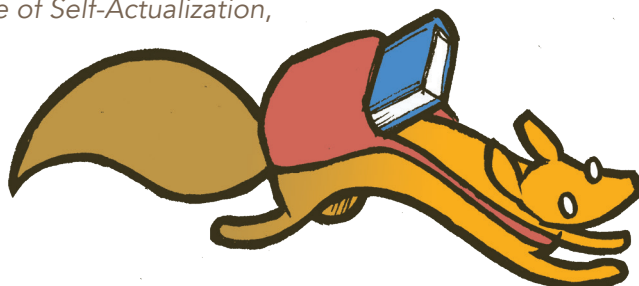
What Carl's reading: *Fly Girls: How Five Daring Women Defied All Odds and Made Aviation History*, Keith O'Brien

What he's watching: *The Good Place*



Carl Cutler

Bookmobile Assistant



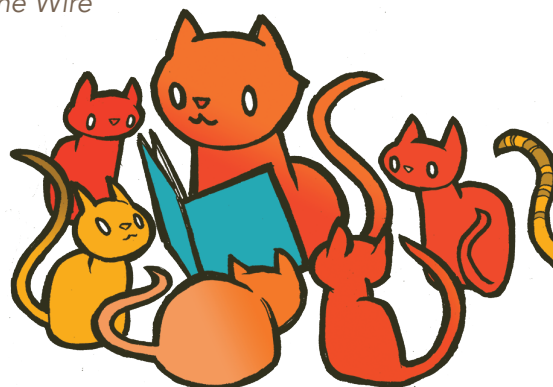


Sargon Kelyana
Information Specialist

"We see our regular patrons at the community stops, along with new patrons. A lot of people can't get to the library, so we come to them. The bookmobile gives us an opportunity to go out into the community and bring the library to people there. Everyone on the bookmobile team is awesome, and it's so nice to see how much patrons appreciate the service we provide. And I like driving it!"

What Sargon's reading: *Will to Live: Dispatches from the Edge of Survival*, Les Stroud

What he's watching: *Boardwalk Empire*, *The Wire*



Kassy Trejo
Bookmobile Assistant

"Community stops are nice because there's a view, you're gonna see greenery, you're gonna see people, you're gonna see neighborhoods, so it's inviting to me. And I like to see our regular patrons!"

What Kassy's reading: *The Total Eclipse of Nestor Lopez*, Adrianna Cuevas

What she's watching: *Magi: The Labyrinth of Magic*



Eli Chavez
Bookmobile Assistant

Eli's kids think it's very cool that their dad works on a bookmobile, and while he misses having young patrons onboard to introduce them to so many fun books, he agrees that visiting the curbside community stops has provided people with a great opportunity to become a bookmobile regular!

What Eli's reading: *Defying Hitler: The Germans Who Resisted Nazi Rule*, Gordon Thomas and Greg Lewis

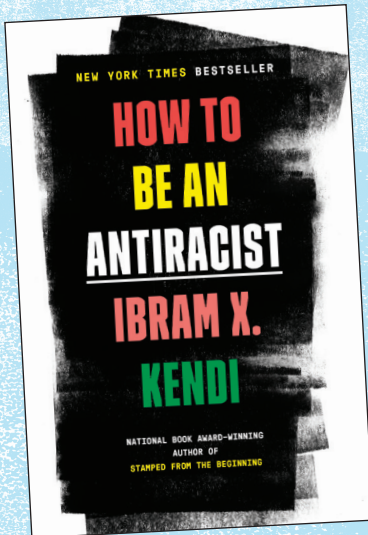


Check for the new winter schedule: skokielibrary.info/bookmobile

RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

An Evening with **IBRAM X. KENDI**

Monday, November 9, 6–7 pm
skokilibrary.info/kendi



Ibram X. Kendi is an award-winning author, historian, and one of the country's leading antiracist voices.

He will discuss his book *How to Be an Antiracist*, which asks us to think about what an antiracist society might look like and how we can play an active role in building it. It is an essential book for anyone who wants to go beyond an awareness of racism to the next step of contributing to the formation of a truly just and equitable society.



The *New York Times* calls *How to Be an Antiracist* “the most courageous book to date on the problem of race in the Western mind.” Kendi is the founding director of Boston University's Center for Antiracist Research and was recently named one of *Time* magazine's 100 most influential people in the world.



This evening conversation will be moderated by Natalie Moore, who covers segregation and inequality for Chicago's WBEZ. To register for this event, complete the Zoom registration form found on the library's online calendar to receive your unique attendee link (skokilibrary.info/kendi).

Presented by Arlington Heights Memorial Library, Aurora Public Library District, Deerfield Public Library, Glencoe Public Library, Highland Park Public Library, Lake Villa District Library, Northbrook Public Library, Schaumburg Township District Library, Skokie Public Library, Vernon Area Public Library, and Wilmette Public Library.