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The Abington Township Public Libraries Newsletter

Fall 2022 Vol. 21, No. 2
abingtonfreelibrary.org

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Abington Free Library
1030 Old York Road, Abington, 19001
215-885-5180, abingtonfreelibrary.org
Circulation Desk ext. 112
Information Desk ext. 113
Children's Department ext. 128
Executive Director ext. 114
Office ext. 115
Adult Literacy 215-885-5183
Friends of the Library ext. 136
Monday - Thursday: 9:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Friday - Saturday: 9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Roslyn Branch Library
2412 Avondale Avenue, Roslyn, 19001
215-886-9818, abingtonfreelibrary.org
Monday: 11:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.
Tuesday & Thursday: 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Friday: 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Saturday: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Closed Wednesdays and Sundays.

The views and opinions expressed in various library programs are solely those of the presenter and do not necessarily represent the views of the Abington Township Public Library or the Friends of the Abington Township Public Library.

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VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT - TEEN VOLUNTEERS

If you've visited our libraries in the past year, you have probably noticed the decorations adorning the ceiling, circulation desk, and windows. During the winter, we had beautiful snowscapes on the windows and paper 3D snowflakes hanging from the ceiling. For the spring and summer months, paper flowers decorated the desks and spring scenes bloomed on the windows. Painted pumpkins in the fall and poofy paper flowers in the spring brightened the Roslyn Branch.

Who can we thank for all of that handiwork? Local Abington teen volunteers! The teens in this community are an incredible asset to this Library. The Abington Teen Advisory Board (Ab-TAB) meets monthly, and its members volunteer time out of their busy schedules to help plan library programs. Earlier this year they hosted a terrarium workshop for teens that had over 20 attendees. Next up is the Murder Mystery Party at the end of October.

If you attended one of our Digital Skills Ready @ 50+ tech classes recently, you

might have noticed a teen tech helper aiding the students. These teens have been crucial to helping our tech classes run smoothly. Were you one of the 700 people who attended our PrideFest or the Summer Reading Kickoff Party in June? Teen volunteers staffed tables, handed out supplies, and helped to set up and take down furniture. Maybe you have little ones at home who've found a love of reading with their Big Teen Buddy through our long-running program, Abington READS! and Roslyn READS!. Once again, you can thank our teen volunteers!

Aside from all the work they do here at the Library, teens have also volunteered their time and craft skills for other organizations, near and far. In 2021, local teens made over 3,000 cards that went on to Cards for Hospitalized Kids, a charitable organization that connects cards with hospitals to put smiles on children's faces.

Rydal Park in Jenkintown and Artis Senior Living in Huntingdon Valley



have received hundreds of cards and crafts. Just recently I dropped off over 500 paper wreaths to Rydal Park, handmade by the teen volunteers. Every resident of Rydal Park will have a bright and colorful wreath to hang on their door.

And the teens aren't done! In September they will be making decorations for the Library as we head into fall. Be sure to stop by to check out their handiwork. We feel incredibly fortunate to have all of these dedicated teen volunteers, and we can't wait to see what they do next!

- Sara Huff, Young Adult Librarian

The Abington Township Public Libraries Newsletter

Abington Township Public Library

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abingtonfreelibrary.org Fall 2022 Vol. 21, No. 2

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

We've reached that time of year when, despite the continued high temperature and humidity, you notice that the leaves are just beginning to think about turning, and if you're extra quiet, you can almost hear the sound of the school bell. The end of the summer and start of the school year is always a significant time of transition and reflection, and this year, I'm particularly grateful for the wonderful and BUSY summer we had at the Roslyn Branch Library and the Abington Free Library.

Once we reopened our doors last summer, it became abundantly clear how much you missed coming to our libraries. The numbers tell the tale.

This summer more than 500 children, teens, and adults participated in our Summer Reading Challenge online, reading books to win prizes, and 3,000 people attended over 240 programs. Over 450 people attended our first annual Summer Reading Kick-Off Party alone, and we saw more than 425 people when we took our show on the road to nearly two dozen outreach events like Abington Night Out, Summer Meals Program at the Crestmont Clubhouse, Roslyn Community Day, Montgomery County's Juneteenth Celebration, and more. I had the pleasure of attending several of these events—I got to be the (temporary) tattoo artist-in-residence at Abington Night Out!—and observed and participated in some wonderful summer reading programs—including a very loud and cathartic teen art program where we created art by hammering nails into a wooden board. I'm really proud of the work that the library staff did this summer and continue to do year round.

Beyond programs, our books were flying off the shelves this summer! Year to date, our adult books have circulated 69 percent more than last year at this time, and children's is at a whopping 147 percent—from nearly 33,000 last year to over 80,000 this year. We've had almost five times as many visitors to the library so far this year as we did at the same time last year.

All this to say, as we make our way into the fall, it feels like—and forgive me for the book metaphor, but it's an occupational hazard—we're turning the page and are at the start of a new chapter. I for one can't wait to see what happens next.

– Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Executive Director

RECENT SIGNIFICANT DONORS

The Friends of the Abington Township Public Libraries

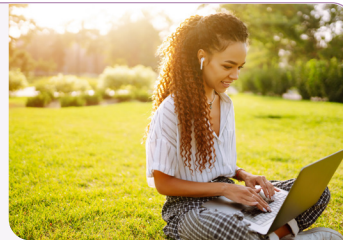
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Learn about how much our teen volunteers do for their libraries and community! See the Volunteer Spotlight on the back page.



Connect with the library wherever you are!



Borrow a HotSpot or a Connected Chromebook!

LOCAL AUTHOR EXPO

Saturday, September 24
10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.



THE FRIENDS BOOK AND PLANT SALE

Saturday, September 24
10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

VISIT MUSEUMS FROM HOME!

Weitzman National Museum of American Jewish History Presents:
Women's History Virtual Tour
Wednesday, September 14, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Salem Witch Museum Presents:
Witches: Evolving Perceptions
Wednesday, October 12, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Sign up today!



REFERENCE NEWS

Connect with the library wherever you are!



Borrow a HotSpot or Chromebook with built-in WiFi, and get connected to the Internet. Once there, go to abingtonfreelibrary.org, where you'll find the online catalog, e-resources, streaming content, and programs for all ages. Place a request on a book or DVD, watch a video on hoopla or Kanopy, read a digital magazine on Libby, read *The New York Times*, learn a new skill on LinkedIn Learning, or register for a program. We've got something for everyone.

For adults, we offer book discussions, computer classes, art classes, and more throughout the year. Some are in-person and some are virtual. Here is a sampling of programs planned for this fall and winter: Local Author Expo, a virtual program about the Eastern State Penitentiary, a virtual program presented by the Salem Witch Museum, and a wine tasting.

Sign up for the Library's e-newsletter to stay connected with the happenings at Abington Free Library and the Roslyn Branch!

Questions?

We love hearing from you! Stop by the Information Desk; call us at 215-885-5180, press 3; email us at AbingtonLibrary@mclinc.org; or try the chat link: abingtonfreelibrary.org/ask-librarian.

- The Reference Department staff

ROSLYN PROGRAMS

Celebrate our 50th anniversary on Avondale Avenue! Stop by in early October to sign our birthday card.

STITCH AND CHAT Adults and teens
Fridays 1:00–3:00 p.m.
Drop in with your handicrafts.

PLAYDATE ON AVONDALE
Most appropriate for ages 2 ½ to 6 years
Fridays starting September 9
10:30 a.m.–noon. Drop in for open playtime.

STORY TIME Ages 3-5. 10:30–11:00 a.m.
Fall I: Thursdays September 22–October 13
Fall II: Thursdays October 27–November 17.
Registration starts September 6 and October 10.

TODDLER TIME Ages 18–36 months
Tuesdays, September 27–November 1, 10:15–10:45 a.m. Rhymes, stories and play. Registration starts September 12.

YOUNG SCIENTISTS AND DESIGNERS
Grades K–3. 3:45–4:30 p.m. Tuesdays:
September 27, October 18, November 15,
December 6. Art, dinosaur dig, 3-D pens, etc.
Something new each month.
Registration starts September 12.

CREATE YOUR OWN Ages 10–14
Fridays: September 16, October 14, November 18, 4:00–4:30 p.m. Design your own Rice Krispies treats, tie dye, make a squishy, etc.
Registration starts September 6.

MEXICAN BARK PAINTINGS
Adults and teens ages 14 and up. Monday,
September 19, 7:00 p.m. All supplies provided.
Registration starts August 29.

Family Night: HOW TO CATCH A MONSTER
Ages 3–8. Monday, September 12, 6:30 p.m.
Registration starts August 29.

SMITH FAMILY OF EDGE HILL CASTLE
Monday, October 3, 7:00 p.m. Presented by
David Rowland of the Old York Road Historical Society.

Family Night: HALLOWEEN
Ages 3–8. October 17, 6:30 p.m.
Registration starts October 3.

IN A HALLOWEEN MOOD TAKE-AND-MAKES
Teens and children ages 6 and up
Kits given out October 17–24.
Registration starts October 1.

BALLOON CARS Ages 4-8
Tuesday, November 8, 11:30 a.m. – noon.
Registration starts October 24.

BUILDERS CLUB Ages 5-11
Tuesday, November 8, 1:00-3:00 p.m.
Drop in to play with bricks and more.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Please register online for all programs at abingtonfreelibrary.org/events.

FALL STORIES ON THE LAWN
Recommended for ages 1–2, with caregivers.
Tuesdays, September 13–October 11, 10:30–11:00 a.m. Grassy area off the north parking lot. Stories, songs, movement, and take-home crafts. Registration for all sessions begins September 6.

SCIENCE STORIES IN THE PARK
Recommended for ages 3–5, with caregivers.
Thursdays, September 22–October 27, 10:30–11:00 a.m. Mini-golf pavilion at Alverthorpe Park. Science-based stories and activities. Registration for all sessions starts September 15.

SNUGGLE-UP STORY TIMES (via Zoom)
Recommended for ages 2–6. Mondays,
September 26 and October 24, 6:30–7:00 p.m.
Miss Jessica will share stories, songs, and activities. Wear your PJs and snuggle up with your stuffies! Registration begins one week before each session.

CELEBRATE HALLOWEEN WITH CLASSICAL MUSIC
Ages 4–7. Caregivers welcome.
Tuesday, October 25, 6:30–7:45 p.m.
Library Community Room. Listen to classical music, pretend to be Halloween characters, play games, and make a Halloween craft. Led by Svetlana Khmel'nitsky. Registration starts October 11.

DOGGONE GOOD READERS (in person)
Grades 1–5. Saturdays, October 1, November 5, and December 3, 10:00–10:20 a.m. OR
10:30–10:50 a.m. Library Community Room. Practice reading one-on-one to a registered therapy dog! Registration for all sessions begins September 19.

DOGGONE GOOD READERS (via Zoom)
Grades 1–5. Tuesdays, October 18 and
November 15, 7:00–7:35 p.m. Read to a registered therapy dog from home or anywhere!
Registration for both sessions begins September 26.

Check the library's website for details on the following programs:

RAINBOW CONNECTIONS (via Zoom)
LGBTQ+ kids and allies in grades K–5
Second Monday evening of every month
Start and end times will vary.
Meet new friends and talk about LGBTQ+ themed books and topics in a safe space.
Registration required.

ART WORKSHOPS FOR AGES 4–7
Tuesday, November 29, 6:30 p.m. (in-person)
Tuesday, December 13, 6:30 p.m. (via Zoom)
Sessions led by Anita Thompson. Registration required.

ART WORKSHOPS FOR AGES 8–11
Tuesday, November 1, 6:30 p.m. (via Zoom)
Tuesday, December 27, 6:30 p.m. (in-person)
Sessions led by Anita Thompson. Registration required.

TRUNK OR TREAT
Ages 3 and up, with caregivers.
Saturday, October 22, 2:00–4:00 p.m.
Rain date: October 23. Library north parking lot.

November and December Story Times will be offered in the library's Community Room beginning the week of November 7.

TEEN PROGRAMS

Unless otherwise specified, programs are for "teens" in grades 6-12 and require registration. For more information, contact Young Adult Librarian Sara Huff at shuff@mclinc.org or 215-885-5180.

Ab-TAB

Third Monday of each month from 6:00-7:30 p.m. The Teen Advisory Board (Ab-TAB) is a group that helps plan library programs, as well as recommend materials to add to the Young Adult collection. Ab-TAB is a forum to have your opinions and suggestions heard, expand your leadership skills, and earn volunteer service hours. No registration required—just come by!

Q CREW

Second Tuesday of the month from 6:00–7:30 p.m. LGBTQ+ teens and allies are invited to join the Q Crew! Hang out with new friends and discuss LGBTQ+ issues in a safe space. No registration required—just come by!

HEARTSTOPPER
Thursday, September 15, 7:00–8:30 p.m.
Attention teens! Have you been swept up by the Heartstopper graphic novels and television show? Are you as obsessed with Nick and Charlie as we are? Come hang out with your fellow Heartstopper-loving teens and enjoy crafts, snacks, and more!

TEEN VOLUNTEER EVENTS
Thursday, September 22, 6:30–8:30 p.m. Sunday,
September 25, 2:00–4:00 p.m. Teens, help us decorate the Library for fall! Plus, earn service hours. No craft experience necessary.

TAKE AND MAKE: WITCHY HERBARIUM
Sign up for this Witchy Herbarium Take and Make, perfect for the Halloween season! To create an herbarium, dried flowers are arranged and suspended in oil, then displayed in clear glass bottles.

WAYS TO FINANCE COLLEGE
Thursday, October 13, 7:00–8:30 p.m.
Debbie Blume, owner of Blume College Consulting, LLC, answers your questions about how you can apply for aid and finance your college education.

VIRTUAL ART CLASS
Saturday, October 22, 1:00–3:00 p.m.
Make some spookooooky art for October with local artist Anita Martino! Kits will be available for pickup at the Library.

MURDER MYSTERY PARTY
Wednesday, October 26, 6:00–8:00 p.m.
Someone's been murdered and YOU are tasked with figuring out the crime! Or, are YOU the murderer? Find out at this event! Pizza will be provided.

TINY ART SHOW
Create a unique piece of art that will be displayed at Abington Library during the month of November. Register here: https://bit.ly/tiny_art_show_2022

ADVENTURE SIGNPOST TERRARIUMS
Thursday, November 17, 7:00–8:30 p.m.
Teens, where is adventure leading you? Camp Half Blood? The beach? Maybe the home of your ancestors? Join us for this signpost terrarium craft! Use moss, rocks, and other small trinkets to decorate it any way you'd like.

ADULT PROGRAMS

EMPOWERING YOUR HEALTH
Every third Tuesday, 10:00 a.m. – noon. South end of Library. Offered in collaboration with the American Heart Association. You can borrow a blood pressure cuff from the Library!

THE RUTH AND ROBERT ABEL BOOK AND FILM DISCUSSION GROUP
Wednesdays, 7:00–8:00 p.m. Led by Dr. Karen Weekes
September 14: Film: *The Power of the Dog*, based on the book by Thomas Savage
October 12: *Great Circle*, by Maggie Shipstead
November 9: *Hell of a Book*, by Jason Mott

Weitzman National Museum of American Jewish History Presents: **WOMEN'S HISTORY VIRTUAL TOUR** September 14, 7:00–8:00 p.m. Register to receive Zoom link.

SUNDAY'S ON MONDAY
Mondays at 10:30 a.m.
Join us solving the NYT Sunday crossword.

DAYTIME BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP
First Thursdays, 1:00 p.m.
October 6: *The Last Days of Night*, by Graham Moore
November 3: *The Personal Librarian*, by Marie Benedict
December 1: *The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry*, by Gabrielle Charbonnet

EASTERN STATE PENITENTIARY AND PRISONS TODAY
Friday, September 23, 3:00–4:00 p.m.
Register to receive Zoom link.

LOCAL AUTHOR EXPO
Saturday, September 24, 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.
Support local authors and learn about publishing a book from local experts. Shop for books for all ages and interests.
Local Authors: Contact us to register. We ask that 10 percent of your sales at the Expo be donated to the Library. Call 215-885-5180, ext. 113, or email: abingtonfreelibrary.org/contact.

FRIENDS FALL PLANT AND BOOK SALE EVENT
Saturday, September 24, 10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

TRIVIA NIGHT: SCHITT'S CREEK
Thursday, September 29, 7:00–8:30 p.m.
Calling all Schitt's Creek fans! Dress up as your favorite character! Take a selfish! Bring a group, or come solo. Registration required.

ADULTS READ YA BOOK CLUB
First Thursday of each month from 7:00–8:00 p.m. Adults, YA isn't just for teens!

DIGITAL SKILLS READY@50+™ FREE TECHNOLOGY CLASSES Registration required. Go to abingtonfreelibrary.org/tech-learning or call info desk: 215-885-5180, ext. 113.

CHROMEBOOK ESSENTIALS
Five-week course. Wednesdays and Thursdays,
September 7–October 6, 2:00–3:15 p.m.

IPAD ESSENTIALS
Five-week course. Tuesdays and Wednesdays,
October 11–November 9, 10:30–11:45 a.m.

RÉSUMÉ ESSENTIALS
By appointment: 6:00–7:00 p.m. and 7:00–8:00 p.m. every other Monday.
Meet one-on-one to get advice from an experienced manager. Bring a copy of your printed résumé to go over with our volunteer. Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/abgrresum>.

Salem Witch Museum Presents:
WITCHES: EVOLVING PERCEPTIONS
Wednesday, October 12, 7:00–8:00 p.m.
Register to receive Zoom link.

ADULT ART CLASSES Registration required.

Thursday, October 13, 7:00 p.m. In-person class: Suminagashi (Japanese marbled paper), led by Amy Grebe.

Monday, October 17, 7:00 p.m. Virtual Drawing Class: Leaf on Brown Paper, led by Anita Martino.

Monday, November 14, 7:00 p.m. In-person class: Neurographic: How does your brain process? led by Amy Grebe.

AUTHOR TALK WITH EILEEN BRILL
Wednesday, October 19, 7:00–8:00 p.m.
Eileen Brill found a letter in the wall of her Elkins Park home. Inspired, she wrote the novel, *A Letter in the Wall*. Registration required.

A TASTE OF AFRICAN HERITAGE
Thursdays, October 13–November 17, 6:00–7:00 p.m.
Register for Zoom link. Join food educator Claire Richardson as she cooks dishes from across the African diaspora. Cook along from home!

BECOME A FRIEND

The Friends of the Abington Township Libraries is a group of volunteers who support the libraries through fundraising and advocacy.



Some of the programs supported by the Friends include:

- Museum/Cultural Passes at both Abington and Roslyn Libraries
- Lucky Day Books
- Summer Reading incentives
- Furniture and equipment

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Friends Silent Jewelry Auction is coming up in November, and we need your donations now! The auction runs from November 1 until 5:00 p.m. on November 30.

From now through October 21, you may donate gently used earrings, necklaces, watches, rings, etc. Please bring them to the circulation desk at Abington Library or the Roslyn Branch. Receipts available for tax-deductible donations.

The Friends Book and Plant Sale: Saturday, September 24, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., Abington Library. All books 50 percent off BookCellar prices! Beautiful flowers, and a Native Plant Sale (Environmental Action Committee), plus raffle baskets, a bake sale, and more. A bag sale starts at 2:00 p.m. Buy a bag for \$5 and fill with as many books that will fit.

National Friends of Libraries Week: October 16-22. Visit the BookCellar to show support of the Friends!

Election Day Cookie Sale: November 8 at Abington Library.

There are many ways to help support Abington Libraries:

- Become a Friend! Join us; dues are reasonable. (abingtonlibrary.org/about-us/friends)
- Shop and donate to the BookCellar. (Blue donation cart in lobby of Abington Library.)
- Love your libraries! Visit and participate in events. (See events page on website.)

The Friends meet quarterly, next on: Saturday, September 10, and Saturday, November 12, at 9:30 a.m. in the Community Room on the lower level of Abington Library. All are welcome!

- Terry Biansco, president, Friends of the Abington Township Libraries

ADULT LITERACY PROGRAM



We train volunteer tutors and match them with students who want to improve their literacy skills. We also offer small classes where English language learners can practice English in a supportive environment.

We help adults:

- Improve their non-native English skills.
- Increase their reading, writing, or math skills.
- Prepare to pass a test – such as a high school equivalency test.
- Pass the U.S. citizenship test.

Interested in becoming a volunteer tutor? No experience is necessary. If you have skills and time to share, please give us a call. We offer new tutor trainings three times a year. The next training will be in October.

For more information, contact the Adult Literacy Office: 215-885-5183 or ablit1@yahoo.com.

– Elizabeth Sperling,
Program Coordinator

QUESTIONS? CONTACT US! 267-245-7337 (Text us)



E-Newsletter sign up



Email us



Chat with a Librarian