

February/ March

Central Library

Events

ALL LOCATIONS OF THE DES MOINES PUBLIC LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19. NO PROGRAMS WILL BE HELD ON THAT DAY.

Kids/Families



Pokémon Scavenger Hunt

February 1-28

Become a Pokémon master at the Des Moines Public Library! We're celebrating the 30th anniversary of Pokémon with a systemwide scavenger hunt! Grab a library Pokédex while visiting the library and head to all six library locations, finding all the Pokémon in the Pokédex along the way. Turn in your completed Pokédex before March 2, and you'll be entered into a drawing for a Pokémon prize pack. Good luck on catching em' all throughout the month of February!

Fail-A-Bration

Thursday, February 5, 3 PM

You tried. You missed. You're invited! Based on the picture book *Fail-a-Bration* by Brad and Kristi Montague, this fail-a-bration is a time to brag about the shots we've missed. We'll make bad art, dance terribly, and celebrate our failures!

Reading Buddies with ARL TheraPets

Thursday, February 17, 4 PM

Visit Central Library to practice reading with an ARL TheraPet. Engaging with animals is a great way to boost confidence and reduce anxiety around learning to read. Children under 10 must have a caregiver with them while attending the program.

Little Explorers with Park-N-Play

Saturday, February 21 and March 21, 10 AM

Little Explorers has a new twist! Join us for Little Explorers with Park-N-Play, hosted by the City of Des Moines Parks and Recreation department. Drop in to the Central meeting rooms and enjoy toys, games, crafts, and activities for families at no cost. All ages welcome!



Korean New Year Family Storytime

Saturday, February 28, 10:30 AM

Join Miss Minsu for a special storytime celebrating the Korean (Lunar) New Year! We will read a story, learn more about this important holiday in Korean culture, and do a craft together.

Pride Craftopia!



Friday, March 13, 10 AM-12 PM

Drop by the Central Library and show your Pride through your awesome crafting skills! You can make friendship bracelets, rainbow loom art, fuse beads, Shrinky-Dinks, and more! We'll also have a few games out for anyone who's not in a crafty mood. Just come hang out, and you might even make a new friend!

STORYTIMES



Baby Rhyme Time

Wednesdays, 9:30 AM

Join us each week for rhymes, songs, bounces, stories, and playtime. This program is for caregivers and babies ages 0–18 months. A special bilingual session takes place on the first Wednesday of each month.

Bilingual Baby Rhyme Time

First Wednesday of the month, 9:30 AM

Join us for our monthly Bilingual edition of Baby Rhyme Time with special guest reader Miss Arlette on the first Wednesday of every month! For caregivers and babies ages 0 - 18 months.

Wiggles and Giggles

Thursdays, 10:15 AM

Enjoy a fun storytime featuring movement, music, and rhyming!

Teen

Teen Palentine's Day Celebration

Thursday, February 12, 6 PM

Grab a friend and join us for a romance-free celebration of love. Create crafty gifts for friends, family, or yourself, including origami hearts, Scandinavian woven hearts, buttons, bracelets, snow globes, and more. Snacks will be provided.

The Dealt Hand Presents: School of Adventure – Advanced Placement!

Tuesday, March 17, 3-6 PM

Take part in this large campaign, where you and your group will investigate and deal with a necromancer and his undead that are roaming the countryside! *Previous experience with Dungeons & Dragons is required. The program is designed for middle schoolers and older. Registration required.*

K-Pop Meetup

Tuesday, February 24 and March 24, 5 PM

This program is about all things K-Pop! Come every month and bring your photocards to trade, invite your friends, or meet and hang out with other fans! Enjoy snacks, other activities, and listening to music.

Teen Maker Meetup – Learn to Crochet!

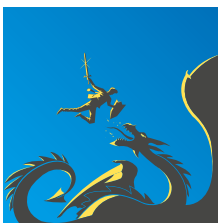


Thursday, March 19, 4 PM

Join us for an introduction to the basics of this popular fiber art! Participants will learn and practice foundational skills in a relaxed setting and receive a crochet hook to keep for continued practice. All materials and snacks provided. **Registration required.**

Adult

DMPL & Dragons



Sunday, February 1 and March 1, 12:30 PM

Thursday, February 19, and Thursday, March 26, 5:30 PM

Dungeons & Dragons is a role-playing game set in worlds of swords and sorcery where players use their imaginations to tell a story and create an adventure together. New players welcome! No commitment to play multiple sessions required.

Career Connection Center: Job Support and Digital Skills

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 10 AM-3 PM

Get help searching for a new job, navigating a website, and learning digital tools from an expert at Goodwill. Drop by at the first floor conference room for some one-on-one assistance with a variety of skills to advance your career and your life.

Writers' Workshop

Monday, February 2 and March 2, 5:30 PM

Share samples of work and receive feedback from other writers. Email your submission to Arlette at agugonzalez@dmpl.org by 12 PM the Tuesday before the program. Please include your name on the file and at the top of the submitted document. **No registration required.**

YSS Outreach Services

Tuesdays, 12-1:30 PM

The Youth and Shelter Services team will be providing street outreach services, meal and hygiene kits, and central intake assessments. Those ages 18-24, can also use YSS services to set appointments for vital documents, mental health services, and drop-in services.

3D Printer Training

Tuesday, February 3 and 17, March 3 and 24, 5 PM

Learn how to use the Bambu X-1 Carbon filament 3D printer and the Formlabs Form 3 resin 3D printer. After completing the training (and signing the Tech Central waiver), participants may then register to use either 3D printer. **Registration required.**

Drop-in Tech Help

Thursdays, 2-3 PM

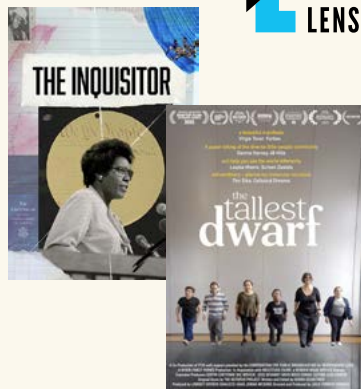
Get one-on-one assistance learning all the great things your phone, laptop, tablet, and other electronic devices can do. This is a drop-in, first-come first-served service.

StoryLab 2026



Friday, February 6 and March 6, 10 AM

Story Lab is a relaxed, supportive meetup for writers working on short stories or novels. Bring your plot questions, character issues, or story challenges, and we'll talk them through together—no reading aloud. All experience levels welcome.



INDIE LENS POP-UP SCREENING

Join us for a free screening of a renowned documentary followed by a brief discussion.

The Inquisitor: Wednesday, February 25, 6 PM

The Inquisitor explores the life and legacy of Barbara Jordan, a groundbreaking Texas congresswoman whose sharp intellect and moral clarity transformed U.S. politics. From Nixon's impeachment to civil rights battles, her voice demanded accountability.

The Tallest Dwarf: Wednesday, March 25, 6 PM

The Tallest Dwarf follows filmmaker Julie Forrest Wyman as she searches for her place in the little people community. The film delves into identity and medicine, asking whether society should change people or the structures that limit them.

The Outreach Project

Friday, February 6 and 20, March 6, 13, 20 and 27, and Monday, March 16, 1-2 PM

Connect with area organizations for resources. Community advocates will provide information about community resources like meal sites and shelters. No appointments are needed and no registration is required. For more info, go to dmpl.org/outreach-project.

Glowforge Training

Monday, February 9 and 26, March 9 and 26, 5-6 PM

Learn how to use the Glowforge Plus Laser Engraver at Tech Central! This program takes the place of the one-on-one Glowforge tutorial, so you will be fully qualified to book and use the Glowforge on your own after this program.

Art 101: Charcoal Portrait Drawing

Monday, February 9, 6 PM

This class will focus on how to analyze the head and face to render an accurate charcoal drawing. It will teach how to perceive anatomy, proportions, light, and shadow. The class will then create a charcoal portrait of a seated figure. **Registration required.**

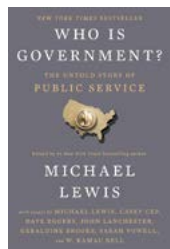
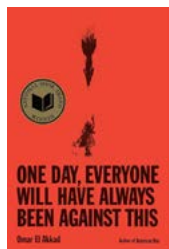
Manualidades para adultos: Decoupage | Crafting for Adults: Storage Bin Decoupage

Tuesday, February 10, 3:30 PM

Do you love to craft? Come decoupage a storage bin or bring your current piece and make some progress! **Registration recommended.**

¿Te encanta hacer manualidades? ¡Ven a decoupage un contenedor o trae tu proyecto actual y progresa! Se recomienda registrarte.

Books That Will Change Your Life: A Nonfiction Book Club



Wednesday, February 11, 6 PM – *One Day, Everyone Will Have Always Been Against This*, by Omar El Akkad
Wednesday, March 11, 6 PM – *Who Is Government: The Untold Story of Public Service*, edited by Michael Lewis

Broaden your perspective,

find new strategies for handling life's challenges, or deepen your understanding of a topic when you join us for this monthly discussion. Limited copies available at Central Library a month prior to the program.

Cricut Training

Friday, February 12 and March 12, 5 PM

Learn how to use the Cricut Maker and Cricut Venture at Tech Central! A Cricut is a smart, electronic cutting machine for DIY crafts that precisely cuts material and creates designs for personalized projects. **Registration required.**

Tech Central Open House

Monday, February 23 and March 23, 6-7:30 PM

Check out what's new in Central Library's maker lab, Tech Central. From 3D printers to laser cutters, VHS digitizing to t-shirt making, sewing to button making and more! Various crafts and demonstrations available. **Learn more about Tech Central.**

Reading Challenge Book Club

Wednesday, February 25, 10:30 AM – *A Witch's Guide to Magical Innkeeping*, by Sagnu Mandanna (Love story)

Wednesday, March 25, 10:30 AM – *Migrations*, by Charlotte McConaghy (Climate fiction)

Fill in a square on your Reading Challenge BINGO board and spend time discussing great books with fellow book lovers! A limited number of each month's books will be available to borrow from the Central Library circulation desk starting a month prior to the program.

Garden Starters



Monday, March 23, 1-3 PM

Whether you've got space in your yard or a sunny spot by a window, this drop-in program is for you. Connie from Nine Square Feet will be here with seeds, supplies, and extensive expertise to help you get started.

Harmonica Basics with Bob Pace

Sunday, March 29, 2 PM

Bob Pace, an Iowa Blues Hall of Famer, will guide you through the basics of the harmonica. Bob Pace is a 2012 Iowa Blues Hall of Fame and 2009 Iowa Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee. By the end of the class, you'll be rockin' and rollin' yourself!