The Des Moines Public Library has launched a refreshed website for the first time in six years. We asked you, our users, for feedback. Hundreds of you responded, allowing us to build a website that better serves you. With a new calendar, revised menus, and bright, clean layout, you’ll want to visit dmpl.org time and time again. Here are a few of the many things you should know about the new site:

**Find an eBook, eAudiobook, and movie on the Stream & Download page**
You can take the library with you wherever you go when you borrow an eBook, eAudiobook, or eMagazine, or watch a streaming movie on Kanopy. The new Stream & Download page puts all of our eBook, eAudiobook, eMagazine, and streaming video services on one page.

**Reserve one of our meeting rooms for a special event**
For the first time, you can book one of our meeting rooms online. Meeting rooms can host large groups, and our study rooms and small conference rooms are great for smaller gatherings. You can see what the rooms look like online and fill out a simple form to get the reservation process started.

**An all-new “How Do I” page**
We took our most frequently asked questions and put them on one page to make finding the answers easier. If you need to know how to place a hold, pay a fine, or suggest something that you can’t find for our collection, the “How Do I” page will let you know. Additionally, an “Ask a Librarian” button on the front page means it’s easy to ask any questions we didn’t cover in “How Do I.”

We’d love to hear what you think about the website. Spend some time on the site, click around to some of our new pages, and give us your thoughts. Please share your feedback by contacting us at LIB-Marketing@dmpl.org. We look forward to hearing from you!

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**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Program**

**Monday, January 20, 4:00 PM, Forest Avenue Library**

Join the Forest Avenue Library and the Des Moines community as we honor the memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and remember the principles and beliefs for which he fought. The keynote speaker for this year’s program will be Des Moines Public Schools Board member Dwana Bradley. The library will be partnering with the After School Arts Program (ASAP) and local artist Jill Wells again this year to have a hands-on art activity where youth and their families can contribute to a commemorative MLK mural that will be up throughout Black History Month. We will also recognize students that took part in the creative writing and art displays discussing the legacy of Dr. King.

NOTE: All library branches will be closed for the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. The Forest Avenue Library will be open only for the program, with doors opening at 3:30 PM.
Snail Mail Social
Wednesday, December 4, 6:00 PM, East Side Library
Do you remember the excitement of receiving a beautifully addressed letter in the mailbox? Take an hour away from email and texting to join us for an evening of old-fashioned letter and card writing. All the supplies you’ll need to create a beautiful piece of correspondence will be available, including the stamps to mail them (two per attendee). We’ll have some hot apple cider to sip as well. Supplies are limited and will be assigned on a first come, first served basis.

Warm Reads for Winter Book Sale
Thursday-Saturday, December 5-7, Central Library
We’re opening our back room for you to explore! Come to the Central Library and find hundreds of items available for purchase. We’re selling donated and withdrawn books for all ages, CDs, DVDs, audiobooks, and many more items. It’s the perfect opportunity to find a heart-warming book during the chilly winter. There’s bound to be a treasure for you or a loved one!

Meet the North Side Staff!
Thursday, December 5, 11:00 AM, North Side Library
Meet the North Side Library staff during a cheery morning program. We’ll have a light breakfast set up during a meet-and-greet. Musical entertainment will be provided by Clear Joy Music Ensemble, a musical duo consisting of sisters Elaina and Anna Steenson. It’ll be a great chance to meet your neighborhood library staff in a casual environment.

Rainbow Meetup!
Thursday, December 5, 5:00-7:30 PM, East Side Library
Thursday, January 2, 5:00-7:30 PM, East Side Library
Thursday, February 6, 5:00-7:30 PM, East Side Library
Join us for an all-ages meet-up to connect with LGBTQ community members and allies! Learn about upcoming events, listen to music by Queer artists, and check out LGBTQ Books by Queer authors and about Queer characters. Coloring sheets, snacks, and beverages available while supplies last. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

Sounds of the Season
Thursday, December 5, 6:30 PM, Franklin Avenue Library
Enjoy our annual concert of holiday cheer. Two groups from Roosevelt High School will perform during the night. The Roosevelt High School Chamber Choir will be under the direction of Devon Steve, and the Da Capo A Cappella Jazz Choir will be under the direction of Rose Dino. This production of holiday-themed music is always delightful and fun!

Giant Board Games: Codenames
Thursday, December 5, 6:30 PM, Central Library
If you enjoy the table-top version of board games, you’ll love the life-sized version. This month, come play a giant version of Codenames! Give one-word clues that bring your teammates closer to cracking the code, but be careful so you don’t accidentally help the enemy. Snacks will be provided. For adults.
Sit n’ Stitch

Saturday, December 7, 1:30 PM, North Side Library
Saturday, January 4, 1:30 PM, North Side Library
Saturday, February 1, 1:30 PM, North Side Library

Spend a few hours with other crafters and work on your knit, crochet, or needle craft projects. Please bring your own supplies and projects with you. Snacks, beverages, and pleasant company provided. No instruction is provided. Children ages 12+ must come with parent/guardian. Sit n’ Stitch meets on the 1st Saturday of every month.

Free Friday Flicks at Franklin

Aladdin (2019) - Friday, December 6, 1:30 PM, Franklin Avenue Library (Rated PG)
Game Night – Friday, January 3, 1:30 PM, Franklin Avenue Library (Rated R)
The Lion King (2019) – Friday, February 7, 1:30 PM, Franklin Avenue Library (Rated PG)

Join us at the Franklin Avenue Library during our monthly movie series. This winter, we’ll be showing the new versions of Aladdin and The Lion King, two live-action remakes of classic animated Disney movies, as well as Game Night, a black comedy about a game night that turns into a real-life mystery starring Jason Bateman and Rachel McAdams. This movie series is geared toward adults, and some films may not be appropriate for children. Please refer to the ratings.

Kung Fu Panda Kickin’ Off the New Year

Tuesday, December 31, 10:30 AM-4:30 PM, East Side Library

What’s the best way to wind down 2019? Spending time with Po, Li Shan, Master Tigress, and all your favorite Kung Fu Panda friends. We’re airing a Kung Fu Panda marathon by showing all three movies beginning at 10:30 AM (all are rated PG). We’ll also be creating panda masks and playing with floam as we enjoy light refreshments all day. 2019 will be history and 2020 is a mystery, but it’s always a gift to have fun with Kung Fu Panda!

Bad Art Night:

Winter Gift Edition
Monday, December 9, 6:00 PM, East Side Library

Join us for an evening of winter-themed bad art at the East Side Library. This all-ages event will showcase your creativity. Materials will be provided for you to make a “bad” piece of art—use your creativity to make your best winter-themed Pinterest fail or “messterpiece.” Each team will have about 30 minutes to create their work, then each piece of art will be put into our exhibition for all to vote. Three “winners” will receive fun prizes. Light refreshments will be provided. Make some art and gift to a friend!

Star Wars Bingo

Thursday, December 12, 4:00 PM, Franklin Avenue Library

Prepare for The Rise of Skywalker by playing Star Wars Bingo at the library! Whether you are a brand-new fan or you know the details of every character, you’ll have a ton of fun playing this game. Feel free to wear a costume as well! Prizes will be awarded to the winners.

The Gift of Story

Saturday, December 14, 2:00 PM, North Side Library

Irish-American storyteller Maureen Korte is commonly seen at Des Moines Public Library branches across the city, sharing folk tales, myths, and anecdotes from around the globe during special storytimes. Now, she’s coming to the North Side Library with a special seasonal program that’s perfect for all ages. Come hear her as she tells cheery and heart-warming winter-themed and Christmas-themed stories and learn what makes stories as important a gift as anything else this holiday season.
Team Puzzle Challenge  
Wednesday, January 22, 6:00 PM, East Side Library

Join us for a spirited night of puzzle piecing competition! Each team will work the same 100-piece puzzle, competing against a 60-minute clock to be the quickest to complete it... or to come really close! The three fastest teams will select a themed basket full of goodies as a prize. We will have 10 puzzles for 10 teams which will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Family teams, group teams, even a team of one—all are welcome to test their puzzle piecing skills.

The Election of 2020: Looking Back, Looking Forward  
Thursday, January 23, 5:00-7:45 PM, Franklin Avenue Library

Dr. Dennis Goldford, a Professor of Political Science at Drake University, will compare and contrast the 2016 and 2018 elections with what could happen with an eye toward 2020. As Dr. Goldford provides some explanations for past results, he’ll set the stage for the tasks both major political parties have this next year, including nationally and locally. Dr. Goldford has written three books regarding political science topics, including one that’s available at the library: The Constitution of Religious Freedom.

Understanding White Privilege  
Monday, January 27, 6:30 PM, Franklin Avenue Library

White privilege is a term fraught with tension and misunderstanding. Join us for this non-judgmental, informative look at what it means, how it started, and what we can do about it together. Kevin Gannon, aka The Tattooed Professor, is the presenter. He is Director of the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning and Professor of History at Grand View University, and is well-known for his social media presence, @TheTattooedProf on Twitter.

AARP Tax Preparation Assistance  
Wednesdays and Saturdays through April 15, 10:00 AM-3:00 PM, East Side Library

Visit the East Side Library each Wednesday and Saturday to receive help with your taxes, provided by volunteers from AARP. These experienced volunteers are trained to help you find credits and deductions that you may be missing out on. Volunteers will help out on a first-come, first-served basis, and all are welcome.

A History of Modern Art  
Monday, February 10, 6:30 PM, Franklin Avenue Library

The term “modern art” roughly covers art created from the mid-19th century to the mid-20th century. Join us over the course of five weeks as we hear Natalie J.A. Benson discuss the styles and movements most identified with the era. Popular modern artists include Vincent van Gogh, Pablo Picasso, Edvard Munch, and others. Benson has an interdisciplinary Ph.D. from the University of Iowa in Modern French Art and Literature. Guests may come to any or all five of the sessions, and no registration is required.

Coffee & Collage  
Wednesday, February 12, 6:00 PM, East Side Library

Using books, magazines, and other sources, we’ll create quirky and creative collages with various paper backgrounds. Design greeting cards, bookmarks, and large pieces of art while enjoying hot beverages and delicious pastries. No experience necessary, no registration required, and all materials will be supplied. Join us for an afternoon celebrating imagination and the creative process.

History of Colleges in Highland Park  
Saturday, February 29, 2:00 PM, North Side Library

The city’s north side was once the center of higher education in Des Moines. Discover the life and times of the old Des Moines University (no relation to the current medical school) and Highland Park College at the North Side Library. Local historian Lisa Taber will share her research on the history of the two schools during this special program. She’ll share photos of the old campus that used to sit where Park Fair Mall is now located and discuss the rise and fall of the schools.
Over 300 people had the rare opportunity to see John Sandford, New York Times best-selling author and Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, at the Foundation’s October 1 fundraiser. Upon receiving the 2019 Iowa Author Award, Sandford described the important role libraries played in his life and encouraged the audience to contribute to public libraries.

While in conversation with Des Moines Register Iowa Columnist Courtney Crowder, Sandford, a master storyteller and author of 52 books, shared anecdotes about his books, characters, and writing process - amazing his fans and earning new fans.

Attendees received copies of his book, Bloody Genius, and enjoyed speaking with Sandford while having their books autographed.

Photography by Steve Pope

2019 Friend of Literacy Awarded to the Polk County Board of Supervisors

The Polk County Board of Supervisors is a long-standing advocate of education, literacy, and equity in our community through its generous support of the Des Moines Public Library. The Board of Supervisors is thankful for the work of the Library: “Your programming and beliefs have created a social infrastructure that serves as a place of civility, information, and shared culture for all.”
Your Support Has a Positive Impact

With the support of contributors like you, the DMPL Foundation adds value to everyone’s library experience by enhancing library services, collections, technology, and programs.

87% of Des Moines Public Library programming is supported by the DMPL Foundation and our generous and caring donors!

$100 or less

Every gift counts and makes a difference. One half of DMPL Foundation donations are $100 or less.

Please give in a way that works for you

Enclosed Donor Envelope
Fill in your information and drop the envelope in the mail.

Online Donations
It’s easy: Go to dmpl.org/foundation
Click on Donate Now!

Tribute Gifts
Celebrate family and friends with a donation as a gift for holidays, birthdays, weddings, anniversaries, or other life milestones. Or make a memorial gift in memory of special people in your life.

Des Moines Public Library Foundation Endow Iowa Fund
Donate to this fund at the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines and receive an Iowa tax credit of 25% of your gifted amount. A variety of gifts qualify, including cash, real estate, appreciated securities, and outright gifts of retirement assets. Endow Iowa charitable gifts must be made through the Community Foundation, 1915 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50309, 515-883-2626, or online at www.desmoinesfoundation.org.

Please consider a gift to the Des Moines Public Library Foundation.

Leave a Legacy
By designating a planned gift today – you will make a difference in the future. Planned gifts can show a lifetime of caring and be in the form of a bequest, gift of life insurance, stocks or annuities. Please contact Foundation Executive Director, Dory Briles at 515-412-0180.

IRA Charitable Rollover
Donors 70 ½ and older can transfer up to $100,000 of qualified IRA assets to the Library Foundation without being subject to federal income taxes. Money you transfer in this distribution reduces the amount required in your minimum distributions.

“It’s a Visit”
Tuesday, December 3, 12:00–1:15 PM,
Central Library Meeting Room Wing
Elaine Estes, former Des Moines Public Library Director, presents a history of Clement Clark Moore’s poem “A Visit from Saint Nicholas” later called “The Night Before Christmas.” A favorite book, it has been illustrated by almost every major illustrator.

Estes will display her large collection of “The Night Before Christmas” books. The Library Foundation will host a holiday tea. For more information call Dory Briles at 515-412-0180.

Your Support Matters
Tax dollars alone cannot deliver all the library services people depend on. The DMPL Foundation exists to connect with donors like you who can provide gifts that guarantee the library remains a vital, life-changing part of our community.
Thank You to Our Donors

The following donations were received by the Des Moines Public Library Foundation from August 1, 2019 through October 22, 2019. We apologize for any errors or omissions. Please contact us, and we will make corrections.

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Michelle Kirchhoff Capman
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Simply go to dmpl.org/foundation and click on Donate Now.
Now Available: Book Club Sets

Everyone loves a good book club. It’s a great excuse to get together with friends, socialize, and enjoy some delicious refreshments. The Des Moines Public Library is now offering dozens of book club sets, ensuring your group will never run out of fun reads. Best of all, these book sets are free! You don’t have to buy a book just for the book club.

Some things to know about book clubs sets:

- Each set contains 10 books and discussion notes in a clear tote bag.
- Each set checks out for 60 days.
- You may reserve sets in advance online at dmpl.org/bookclubsets.
- Sets will be shipped to the branch of your choice, and may be returned to any branch.
- You may also browse sets at the Franklin Avenue Library, where they are housed.

Several dozen different books are available, from Margaret Atwood’s latest release, *The Testaments*, to Jacqueline Woodson’s new novel, *Red at the Bone*, to classics like *Fahrenheit 451*. To view a full list of books, go to dmpl.org/bookclubsets.