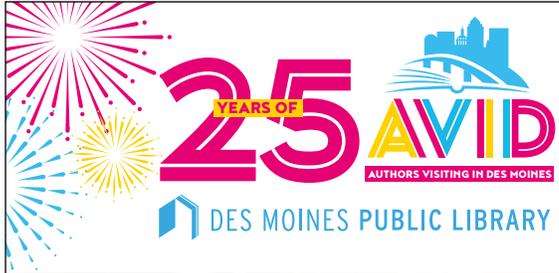


# April/May

## Central Library

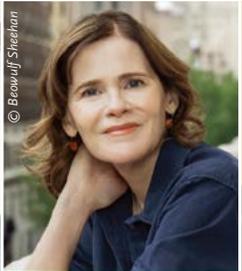
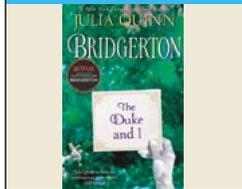
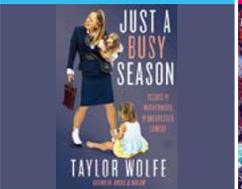
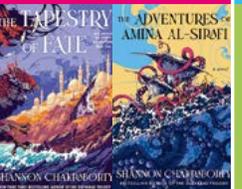
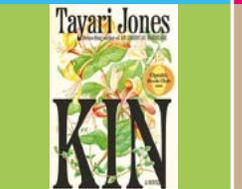
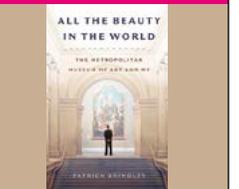
# Events

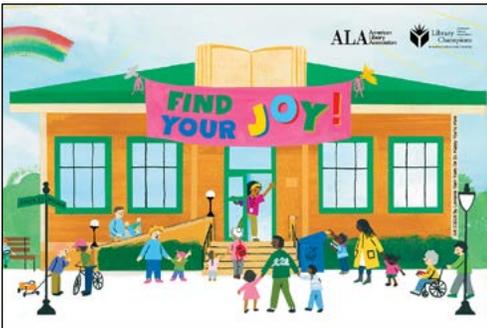
ALL LOCATIONS OF THE DES MOINES PUBLIC LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED ON SUNDAY, APRIL 5, SUNDAY, MAY 24, AND MONDAY, MAY 25.



The 25th anniversary of Authors Visiting in Des Moines (AVID) is upon us! This milestone year features a romance world superstar in Julia Quinn, a literary icon in Tayari Jones, a groundbreaking partnership with the **Des Moines Arts Festival** and **Des Moines Art Center**, and much more.

Mark your calendars for these six events and get ready for an incredible season of celebrating reading and the arts in Des Moines! Doors open approximately 1 hour before each event. Doors will open at 5:15 PM for Julia Quinn's event.

 <p>© Chandran Wick Photography</p>	 <p>© BeauJiff Sirehan</p>	 <p>DSM BOOK FESTIVAL</p>		 <p>© Julie Yarborough</p>	 <p>DES MOINES ARTS CENTER DES MOINES ARTS FESTIVAL</p>
<b>JULIA QUINN</b>	<b>MARIA SEMPLE</b>	<b>TAYLOR WOLFE</b>	<b>SHANNON CHAKRABORTY</b>	<b>TAYARI JONES</b>	<b>PATRICK BRINGLEY</b>
					
<b>TUESDAY, APRIL 7</b> <b>7 PM</b> <b>HOYT SHERMAN PLACE</b> 1501 WOODLAND AVENUE	<b>THURSDAY, APRIL 16</b> <b>7 PM</b> <b>CENTRAL LIBRARY</b> 1000 GRAND AVENUE	<b>SATURDAY, MAY 2</b> <b>7 PM</b> <b>FRANKLIN EVENT CENTER</b> 4801 FRANKLIN AVENUE	<b>THURSDAY, MAY 14</b> <b>7 PM</b> <b>CENTRAL LIBRARY</b> 1000 GRAND AVENUE	<b>MONDAY, JUNE 15</b> <b>7 PM</b> <b>CENTRAL LIBRARY</b> 1000 GRAND AVENUE	<b>SATURDAY, JUNE 27</b> <b>11 AM</b> <b>CENTRAL LIBRARY</b> 1000 GRAND AVENUE
<b>DMPL.ORG/AVID</b>					



## Celebrate National Library Week – April 19-25!

Meet up with fellow library lovers to celebrate National Library Week! A traveling coffee cart will be visiting all six DMPL locations throughout the week with free coffee and light pastries, while supplies last. Enter door prize drawings for “I’m a library advocate” mugs and Rosie plushies. Mark your calendars for when the cart will be at your branch, and plan to celebrate National Library Week with us!

### Monday, April 20

- 10-11 AM – Forest Avenue Library
- 12-1 PM – North Side Library

### Wednesday, April 22

- 10:30-11:30 AM – South Side Library
- 12:30-1:30 PM – Central Library\*

### Thursday, April 23

- 9:30-10:30 AM – Franklin Avenue Library
- 11:30 AM-12:30 PM – East Side Library



## Celebrate NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

April 19-25, 2026

**¡DÍA DEL NIÑO!** **DAY OF THE CHILD!**

Activities include: Books, Meet Rosie Reader, Folkloric Dancers, Balloon Art, Glitter Tattoos, Piñatas, and Carousel Rides.

**FREE**



### Día del Niño Celebration! / ¡Celebración del Día del Niño!

Saturday, April 25, 10 AM-12 PM

Join us at Union Park for FREE activities for the whole family: books, piñatas, carousel rides, glitter tattoos, balloon art, folkloric dance groups, and so much MORE!

Día is an international celebration of the joy found in early childhood and reading. This year, the Des Moines Public Library and its community partners are celebrating together!

*¡Acompáñanos en Union Park para actividades y recursos comunitarios GRATIS para toda la familia: Libros, piñatas, paseos en carrusel, tatuajes de purpurina, arte de globos, bailadoras folklóricas y muchas más!*

*Día es una celebración internacional de la alegría que uno siente durante su niñez y primeras etapas de lectura. ¡Este año, Des Moines Public Library (la biblioteca) y tus socios comunitarios están celebrando juntos!*



## Let's Talk DMPL

Join your neighbors and staff for community conversations at all of our libraries in May! Share what matters to you about the DMPL, imagine what's possible, and help shape our future. Stay tuned — dates will be finalized in the near future.

# Kids/Families

## Little Explorers

Saturday, April 18 and May 16, 10 AM

Drop into the Central meeting rooms and enjoy toys, games, crafts, and activities for families at no cost. All ages welcome!

## Build Piñatas to Break Barriers: a Bilingual Event with Prevent Child Abuse Iowa

Wednesday, April 15, 4 PM



Build piñatas from recycled materials while strengthening family bonds. This bilingual workshop (Spanish and English) promotes creativity, connection, and positive communication through hands-on activities. For ages 6-11, though all ages are welcome.

*Construyan piñatas con materiales reciclados mientras fortalecen los lazos familiares. Este taller bilingüe (español e inglés) promueve la creatividad, conexión y comunicación positiva a través de actividades prácticas. Todas las edades son bienvenidas.*

## Movie Watch Party: *The Secret Life of Pets*

Friday, April 24, 10:30 AM-12 PM

Join us for a viewing of *The Secret Life of Pets* and pet-themed crafts! Movie is rated PG.

## Reading Buddies with ARL TheraPets!

Tuesday, April 21 and May 19, 4 PM

When you're learning to read, practicing out loud can be daunting! 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.

## Model Train Display with DesMoiNTrak

Saturday, April 25, 10 AM-5 PM

Sunday, April 26, 12-2 PM



All aboard! Trains are taking over the Central Library! Visit the library to see a huge model train display set up by the DesMoiNTrak modular railroad club. The N-scale model railroads will be featured in the meeting rooms for train lovers of all ages to enjoy.

SIMPLE STEPS TO EARLY LITERACY: READ WRITE SING PLAY TALK

# STORYTIMES

Our DMPL Storytimes incorporate the five Simple Steps:  
**READ WRITE SING PLAY TALK**  
These easy steps help prepare your child for learning success.

Find a List of Storytimes at:  
[dmpl.org/storytimes](http://dmpl.org/storytimes)

Schedule subject to change. Please check the website. There will be a storytime break from May 18-May 31. Storytimes will resume June 1.

## STORYTIMES

### Baby Rhyme Time

Wednesdays, 9:30-10 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.

### Wiggles and Giggles

Thursdays, 10:15-10:45 AM

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

## Teen



### VolunTeen Work Time

Wednesday, April 1 and May 13, 4-5 PM

If you're between the ages of 12-18 and looking for a fun and rewarding volunteer opportunity, give the library a try! We would love to have your help.



### K-Pop Meetup

Tuesday, April 21, 5 PM

This program is about all things K-Pop!

### Blooming with K-Pop

Saturday, May 2, 2 PM

Kick off Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month at Blooming with K-pop! Enjoy friendship bracelet making, photocard trading, a photo booth, and toploader deco station. Dance, play bingo, and get your hands on some fun freebies while supplies last.

These programs are open to teens and adults.

# Adult

## 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.

## 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.

## Outreach Project

**Fridays except for May 8, 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](http://dmpl.org/outreach-project).

## Russian Conversation Club

**Saturdays, 1-2 PM**

This conversation club is both for native speakers and those wanting to learn Russian. Topics of conversation are meant to be light. Get to know other members of your community or assist those wanting to learn Russian.

## Writers' Workshop

**Monday, April 6 and May 4**

Share samples of work and receive feedback from other writers. Email your submission to Arlette at [agugonzalez@dmpl.org](mailto: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 Printing Class

**Tuesdays, April 7 & 21, May 5 & 19, 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.**

## Cricut Training

**Thursday, April 9 and May 14**

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.**



## Storylab 2026

**Friday, April 10 and May 8**

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.



## Central Library's 20th Birthday Bash

**Wednesday, April 8, 2-4 PM**

Celebrate the Central Library building at 1000 Grand turning 20 years old! Hear from new library director Melissa McCollum, enjoy refreshments, take your picture at the photo wall, and explore displays about the library's history.

## Des Moines Public Library: The First 160 Years

**Wednesday, April 8, 6 PM**

The Des Moines Public Library has been serving the community for 160 years. Join us as we celebrate Central Library's 20th anniversary by exploring the library's full history, from its earliest days as a subscription library to the present day.

## Central Library Architectural Tour

**Monday, April 6, 5 PM**

**Tuesday, April 7, 11 AM**

**Thursday, April 9, 2 PM**

Join us for a one-hour behind-the-scenes tour of the Central Library to help us celebrate the 20th birthday for the building.

## STARTING SMART: What You Need to Know Before Launching Your Business

Saturday, April 11, 10:30 AM

Learn how SCORE's free mentoring and resources can help you prepare, plan, and move forward with confidence. This session helps aspiring entrepreneurs understand what it really takes to start a business—from planning and finances to mindset and support.

## DMPL & Dragons

Sunday, April 12 and May 3, 12:30 PM

Thursday, April 23 and May 21, 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.

## Glowforge Training

Monday, April 13 and May 11, 5 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.

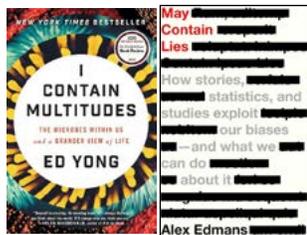
## Manualidades para adultos | Crafting for Adults

Tuesday, April 14 and May 5, 3:30 PM

In April, decoupage a storage bin or bring your current project and make some progress. In May, make a DIY drawstring pouch or bring your current project and make some progress!

*En abril, ven a decoupage un contenedor o trae tu proyecto actual y progresa. En mayo, ven a hacer una bolsa de cordón ajustable o trae tu proyecto actual y progresa.*

## Books That Will Change Your Life: A Nonfiction Book Club



Wednesday, April 15, 6 PM –

*I Contain Multitudes*, by Ed Yong

Wednesday, May 13, 6 PM –

*May Contain Lies*, by Alex Edmans

Broaden your perspective, find new strategies for handling life's challenges, or deepen your understanding of a topic when you join us for a monthly conversation

around a life-changing nonfiction book.

## Language of Life: An Introduction to Writing Poetry

Monday, April 20, 6 PM

Join author Tom Montgomery Fate for a free introductory poetry workshop during National Poetry Month. Learn craft strategies, review poetic models, and try writing your own poems while discovering how poetry works.

## Reading Challenge Book Club

Wednesday, April 22, 10:30 AM – *You Didn't Hear This From Me*, by Kelsey McKinney

Wednesday, May 27, 10:30 AM – *Kin*, by Tayari Jones

Complete a category each month in the 2026 Reading Challenge while chatting about books with fellow book lovers.

## Tech Central Open House

Monday, April 27, 6 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.](#)



## Indie Lens Pop-Up Screening: The Grocery List Show

Tuesday, April 28, 6 PM

Join us for a free screening of *The Grocery List Show*, followed by a discussion. Hosted by Top Chef contender Chrissy Camba, this documentary explores five international grocery stores and the communities they serve through food and family recipes.



## New DART Routes: An Open House

Friday, May 1, 2-4 PM

The countdown is on — DART changes all bus routes in June for more frequent service all week long! Join us for an open house to chat with DART staff about new routes, receive trip planning support, and enjoy light refreshments. Printed materials provided.

## Editing 101

Thursday, May 7, 5:30 PM

No matter what you write, your work needs editing. Join DMPL staff member and former manuscript editor Laura Zeitner as she walks you through the three stages of editing and what to expect from each one. Come prepared with any questions you may have.

## Big Book Sale

May 8-10

Hunt for treasures at Central Library's BIG BOOK SALE. Find books for all ages, A/V items, and special finds including furniture in the Book Sale room and meeting room wing. All proceeds support library programs.



- Friday: 10 AM-5:30 PM
- Saturday: 10 AM-4:30 PM
- Sunday: 12pm-3:30 PM
- Monday: 9 AM-2 PM

## Korean Mythology Escape Room

Monday, May 11, 6:45 PM

A new exhibit of Korean artifacts is being unveiled in less than an hour, but the centerpieces have gone missing! Finding them means confronting creatures of ancient myth. Help discover where the Dokkaebi tiles were taken and save the exhibit. **Registration required.**

## Blues Storytelling Concert

Sunday, May 17, 2 PM

Experience the blues through music and storytelling with vocalist Tina Haase-Findlay and guitarist Rob Lumbard. These Iowa performers blend soulful vocals, Piedmont-style guitar, and musical history in an intimate performance. Arrive early to claim the limited seats.