



# City of Denton

City Hall  
215 E. McKinney St.  
Denton, Texas 76201  
[www.cityofdenton.com](http://www.cityofdenton.com)

## Meeting Agenda

### Library Board

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Monday, October 13, 2025

5:30 PM

South Branch Library

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After determining that a quorum is present, the Library Board of the City of Denton, Texas will convene in a Regular Meeting on Monday, October 13, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. in the Meeting Room at the South Branch Library at 3228 Teasley Lane, Denton, Texas at which the following items will be considered:

#### 1. PRESENTATION FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

This section of the agenda permits a person to make comments regarding public business on items not listed on the agenda. This is limited to two speakers per meeting with each speaker allowed a maximum of four (4) minutes.

#### 2. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

- A. [LB25-066](#) Consider approval of the minutes of August 11, 2025.  
*Attachments:* [Library Board Minutes - Aug 11 2025](#)
- B. [LB25-067](#) Receive an informational report and hold a discussion about the purpose and preparation process for Story Time early literacy classes.  
*Attachments:* [Agenda Information Sheet-Story Time Programming](#)  
[Story Time 101 Presentation](#)
- C. [LB25-064](#) Receive an informational report and hold a discussion regarding the Friends of the Denton Public Libraries.  
*Attachments:* [Agenda Information Sheet-Friends](#)
- D. [LB25-063](#) Receive an informational report and hold a discussion regarding the Emily Fowler Library Foundation.  
*Attachments:* [Agenda Information Sheet-Foundation](#)
- E. [LB25-062](#) Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding the library's 2025 Fall Classes & Events.  
*Attachments:* [Agenda Information Sheet-2025 Fall Classes & Events](#)  
[Proposed Fall 2025 Classes and Events](#)
- F. [LB25-065](#) Receive a report, hold a discussion, and consider recommending approval of the following Denton Public Library Policy updates:
- Filming and Photography Operating Policy
  - Surveys and Petitions Operating Policy
  - Food and Drink Operating Policy
  - Volunteer Operating Policy
  - Outreach Services Operating Policy

- Program Operating Policy

**Attachments:**     [Agenda Information Sheet-Policy Updates](#)  
[Filming and Photography Operating Policy](#)  
[Surveys and Petitions Operating Policy](#)  
[Food and Drink Operating Policy](#)  
[Volunteer Operating Policy](#)  
[Outreach Services Operating Policy](#)  
[Program Operating Policy](#)

- G.     [LB25-061](#)     Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding:

- FY25/26 Budget Impacts
- Halloween Library Cards
- DISD Back to School
- Tonies® Tour

**Attachments:**     [Agenda Information Sheet](#)  
[FY25-26 Library Schedule of Fees](#)

### 3. CONCLUDING ITEMS

A. Under Section 551.042 of the Texas Open Meetings Act, respond to inquiries from the Library Board or the public with specific factual information or recitation of policy, or accept a proposal to place the matter on the agenda for an upcoming meeting AND Under Section 551.0415 of the Texas Open Meetings Act, provide reports about items of community interest regarding which no action will be taken, to include: expressions of thanks, congratulations, or condolence; information regarding holiday schedules; an honorary or salutary recognition of a public official, public employee, or other citizen; a reminder about an upcoming event organized or sponsored by the governing body; information regarding a social, ceremonial, or community event organized or sponsored by an entity other than the governing body that was attended or is scheduled to be attended by a member of the governing body or an official or employee of the municipality; or an announcement involving an imminent threat to the public health and safety of people in the municipality that has arisen after the posting of the agenda.

#### CERTIFICATE

I certify that the above notice of meeting was posted on the official website (<https://tx-denton.civicplus.com/242/Public-Meetings-Agendas>) and bulletin board at City Hall, 215 E. McKinney Street, Denton, Texas, on October 7, 2025, in advance of the three (3) business day posting deadline, as applicable, and in accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

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OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY

NOTE: THE CITY OF DENTON'S DESIGNATED PUBLIC MEETING FACILITIES ARE ACCESSIBLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. THE CITY WILL PROVIDE ACCOMMODATION, SUCH AS SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED, IF REQUESTED AT LEAST TWO (2) BUSINESS DAYS IN ADVANCE OF THE SCHEDULED MEETING. PLEASE CALL THE CITY SECRETARY'S OFFICE AT 940-349-8309 OR USE TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEVICES FOR THE DEAF (TDD) BY CALLING 1-800-RELAY-TX SO THAT REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION CAN BE ARRANGED.



MINUTES  
CITY OF DENTON  
DENTON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD  
Emily Fowler Central Library – August 11, 2025

After determining that a quorum was present, the Denton Public Library Board convened on Monday, August 11, at 5:30 p.m. The meeting was held at the Emily Fowler Central Library at 502 Oakland Street, Denton, Texas.

PRESENT: Kathryn Pole, Patricia Peters, Rebecca Fridley, Kerol Harrod, Ellen Sullivan, and Eva Poole

ABSENT:

Also present: Jennifer Bekker and Marcella Lunn

**1. PRESENTATION FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

None.

**2. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

**A. LB25-048** Consider approval of the minutes of July 14, 2025.

The Board accepted and approved the minutes of the July 14, 2025 meeting. Pat Peters motioned, Rebecca Fridley seconded, all in favor.

**B. LB25-049** The Board received an informational report regarding Story Time Totes literacy support initiative at Denton Public Library.

Haley Phillips, Outreach Librarian, will provide an overview and sample of the new Story Time Totes literacy support initiative.

The Story Time Totes initiative is a pilot program starting this fall. Story Time Totes are bins containing early literacy resources loaned to local licensed in-home childcare providers. The thematic bins include books and activities. They also include information sheets with literacy support tips, songs, and movement activities for providers to lead educational activities and reading with the children they care for. Story Time Totes are an all-in-one kit to equip childcare providers with resources and tools to incorporate early literacy techniques into the children's routines, perform read-aloud books and activities to support social engagement, and train caregivers in literacy education techniques. Bins are rotated among participating providers monthly September-May.

**C. LB25-050**

The Board received an informational report regarding the Friends of the Denton Public Libraries.

- There have been no changes to report since the last meeting.

**D. LB25-051**

The Board received an informational report regarding the Emily Fowler Library Foundation.

- There have been no changes since the last Library Board meeting.

**E. LB25-052**

The Board received a report, held a discussion, and considered approval of the following Denton Public Library Policy updates:

- *Circulation Services Operating Policy*

The Board held a discussion regarding the proposed additional account type and the associated changes. After some debate, Ellen Sullivan motioned, Rebecca Fridley seconded. 2 in favor, 3 opposed. The proposed update did not pass.

**F. LB25-053**

The Board received a report and held a discussion regarding:

*Summer Reading Challenge* - The 2025 Summer Reading Challenge, Color Our World, ran June 1 through July 31. This year 2,503 people registered for the program and 1,332 people completed the program, reading at least 5 hours. The completion rate was 53%. Last year a total of 2,073 people registered for the program and 1,192 people completed the program. The 2026 Summer Reading Challenge theme will be Unearth a Story and the design features dinosaurs, archaeology, and paleontology.

*Closure Reminders* - South Branch Library will close August 15 for staff training. The book return will remain open during the closure. The North Branch Library HVAC units will be replaced August 16-22. The building will be closed and the parking lot inaccessible while the cranes are working. Library staff will work at other branches during the North Branch closure. The closure postings along with information about extending holds due to the closure have made available on social media, the library website, and signs posted on entry doors at each library branch.

*PressReader™ Update* - Library staff presented about the new PressReader™ digital periodical service at the July 14, 2025, Library Board Meeting. The service was launched in July with a soft launch, with only some demonstrations to groups. In July 567 different publications were accessed, with 81 unique users logging in 162 times and opening 1,350 issues of newspapers and magazines. Marketing for the service has

begun, with bookmarks available at outreach and at branches, upcoming social media marketing, and signs near print periodicals.

### **3. CONCLUDING ITEMS**

The Meeting adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

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Kerol Harrod, Chair

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Cynthia Carter, Administrative Assistant  
City of Denton, TX

Minutes approved on: \_\_\_\_\_



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## AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

**DEPARTMENT:** Library

**ACM:** Frank Dixon

**DATE:** October 13, 2025

### **SUBJECT**

Receive an informational report and hold a discussion about the purpose and preparation process for Story Time early literacy classes.

### **BACKGROUND**

Youth Services Librarian Nanya Jackson will provide an overview of the purpose for and planning and presentation of Denton Public Library's Story Time classes.

Story Times are literacy programs for children ages 1-5 and their caregivers. The programs support early literacy skill development and prepare children to learn to read. Each library branch offers weekly Story Time programs for an 8–14-week period each program season. Breaks are taken in May, August, and December to plan and prepare for the next season's classes. Additional special Story Time classes, such as Spooky Story Time, Santa Story Time, Bilingual Story Time/Hora de Cuentos Bilingues, etc., are also scheduled each program season. Youth Services Librarians and Youth Services Library Specialists present each Story Time, which includes reading two or three books, songs, movement, activities, and puppets.

The presentation slides are attached as Exhibit 2.

### **EXHIBITS**

1. Agenda Information Sheet
2. Story Time 101 Presentation

Respectfully submitted:  
Jennifer Bekker  
Director of Libraries

Prepared by:  
Jennifer Bekker  
Director of Libraries





Denton  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

# Story Time 101





# Story Time: The Why

- Support early literacy and model best practices
- Engage children through story, song, rhyme, and movement
- Build community and foster a love of reading
- Promote library and community resources



# What is Early Literacy?

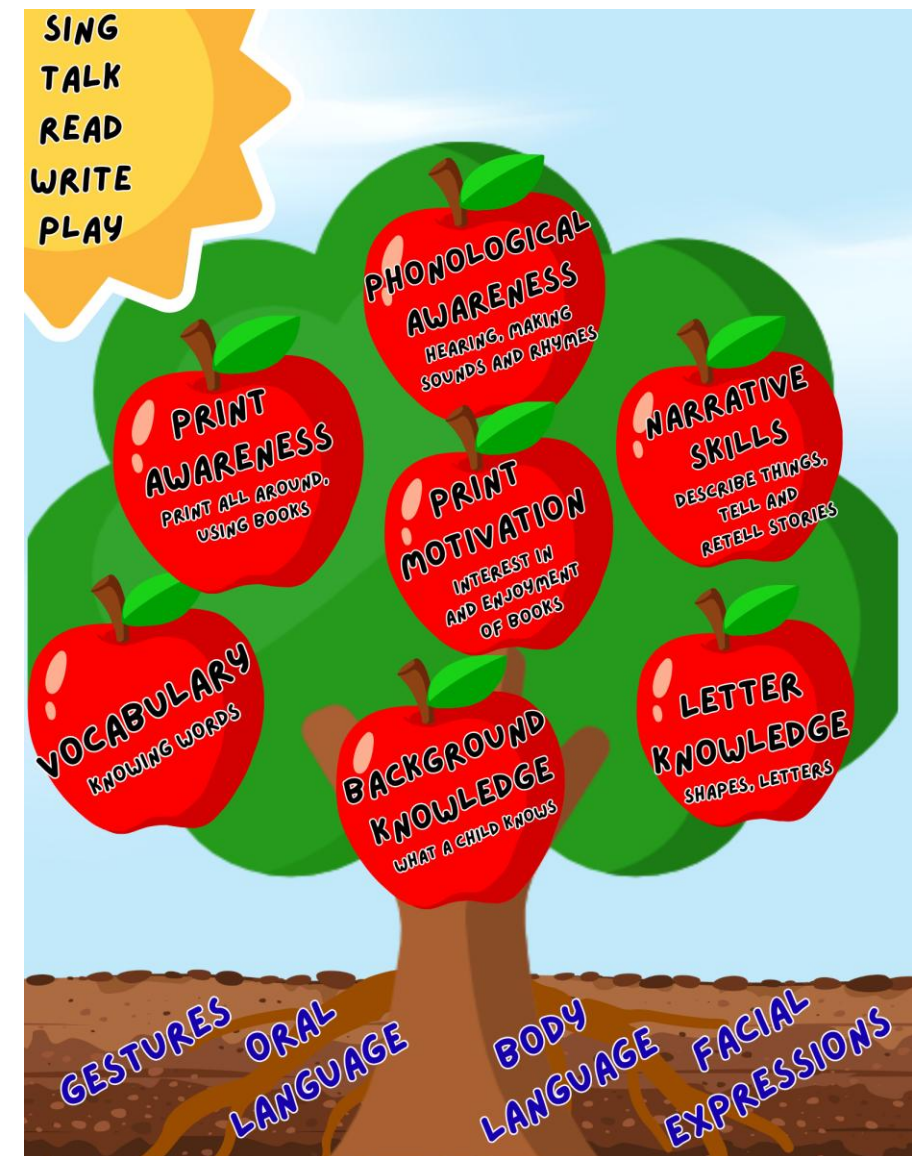
- What kids know about reading and writing before they can actually read and write.
  - Language: verbal and nonverbal
  - Print and phonemic awareness
  - Fine motor skills used for writing
  - Storytelling (useful for creative writing and reading comprehension)





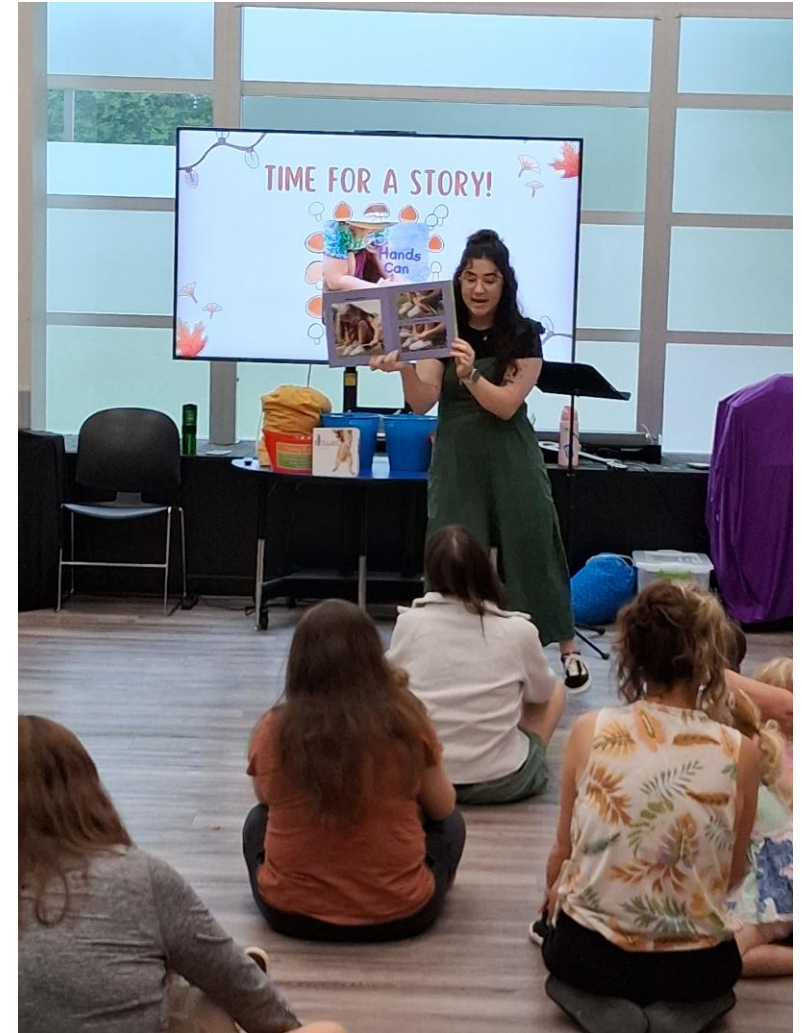
# Every Child Ready to Read

- **Talk** - Children start to learn language by hearing people talk. Listening to children is as important as talking to them.
- **Sing** - Singing slows down language. This makes it easier for children to hear the smaller sounds in words, which they will later need to sound out words.
- **Read** - Shared reading is the single most important activity to help children get ready to read.
- **Write** - Writing helps children understand that print has meaning.
- **Play** — Play helps children to think symbolically.



# Story Time: Planning

- Start from a place of joy: BOOKS!
  - Short text and clear images for shorter attention spans
  - Repetitive and interactive elements
  - Appropriate size for a group setting



# Story Time: Planning

- Break up books with interactive activities
  - Keep kids engaged and activate kinesthetic learning through movement and music.
  - Use puppets to make characters come to life and build connection
  - Intentionally choose songs, activities (magnet-graphs) and rhymes to solidify phonics and mathematical concepts, as well as increase language and print awareness.





# Story Time: Planning Considerations

- Themes and Book Flow
  - Age relevance more important than theme
  - Broader themes
- Routine
  - Consistent Opening and Closing Songs
  - Consistent Weekly Agenda/Outline
- Repetition
  - Great for developing brains
  - Enhances early literacy skills
- Flexibility
  - Adapt to audience
    - Energy and Attention







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## AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

**DEPARTMENT:** Library

**ACM:** Frank Dixon

**DATE:** October 13, 2025

### **SUBJECT**

Receive an informational report and hold a discussion regarding the Friends of the Denton Public Libraries.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Friends of the Denton Public Libraries is a nonprofit organization that supports the Denton Public Library through community service and fundraising to provide materials and equipment to improve and extend Library services. This report provides an update on the organization's activities and fundraising efforts.

Philip Baker, Friends Executive Board Member, secured a significant donation of \$25,000 from ENS Management Trust to the Friends of the Denton Public Libraries. The funds are to be used to support Denton Public Library educational and reading programs.

Library staff members are gathering information to make recommendations for funding proposals for the ENS Management Trust donation to the Friends and the annual Friends donation for 2026. The funding proposals will be presented at the October 9, 2025, Friends Executive Board meeting.

The Friends hosted their first "Members Only" early shopping day at their August 9<sup>th</sup> Big Book Sale. The extra shopping day was a success, earning \$1,130.75 during the two-hour event.

**2025 Friends Executive Board Meetings** (in North Branch Meeting Room at 5:30 p.m.)

Thursday, October 9, 2025

**2025 Friends Big Book Sales** (in North Branch Meeting Room)

Saturday, November 8, 2025

### **EXHIBITS**

1. Agenda Information Sheet-Friends

Respectfully submitted:  
Jennifer Bekker  
Director of Libraries

Prepared by:  
Jennifer Bekker  
Director of Libraries



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## AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

**DEPARTMENT:** Library  
**ACM:** Frank Dixon  
**DATE:** October 13, 2025

### **SUBJECT**

Receive an informational report and hold a discussion regarding the Emily Fowler Library Foundation.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Emily Fowler Library Foundation is a nonprofit organization that supports the Denton Public Library's mission. This report provides an update on the Foundation's activities, goals, and fundraising efforts.

The Foundation currently has a \$100,000 CD that will come to maturity in April 2026. The Foundation checking account has a balance of \$9,091.51 as of the latest statement in May 2025. The Foundation's goal is to focus on bequests or planned giving donations that can be used for large scale Library initiatives or capital projects.

Foundation Trustees met on September 10 to discuss creating updated bylaws. The Foundation currently has articles of incorporation that were last updated in 2009 when the Foundation became a separate entity from the City of Denton. Jennifer Bekker provided Trustees with example bylaws via e-mail after the meeting from other public library Foundation organizations and resources from American Library Association's United for Libraries group. Trustees will draft a preliminary document for discussion at a future meeting, with the goal to have new bylaws finalized and approved by the end of 2025. Haley Phillips provided ideas for future flash tattoo fundraiser events. The Foundation will meet again in October. The date and time are to be determined.

### **EXHIBITS**

1. Agenda Information Sheet-Foundation

Respectfully submitted:  
Jennifer Bekker  
Director of Libraries

Prepared by:  
Jennifer Bekker  
Director of Libraries



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## AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

**DEPARTMENT:** Library

**ACM:** Frank Dixon

**DATE:** October 13, 2024

### **SUBJECT**

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding the library's 2025 Fall Classes & Events.

### **BACKGROUND**

Denton Public Library observes three programming seasons, Winter/Spring, Summer, and Fall. Prior to each programming season, proposed classes and events are presented to the Library Board for discussion and approval. Library programs are developed by professional library staff members and follow the library's mission to transform lives, strengthen community, and inspire imagination. The library offers a wide range of programs for all ages and interests with events representing and responding to the needs of the diverse community it serves.

The proposed draft of 2025 Fall Classes and Events list is attached as Exhibit 2. It includes proposed programs for September-December, 2025.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Library staff recommends approval of the 2025 Fall Classes and Events list.

### **EXHIBITS**

1. Agenda Information Sheet
2. Proposed 2025 Fall Classes & Events

Respectfully submitted:  
Jennifer Bekker  
Director of Libraries

Prepared by:  
Jennifer Bekker  
Director of Libraries

**Denton Public Library**  
**2025 Fall Classes & Events**

**Early Childhood (0-5) Programs - Early Learning**

**Toddler Time**

Participate with your toddler in these special classes that promote literacy and social interaction through stories, songs, and toddler-appropriate activities. Ages 1-3 and their caregiver. Due to limited room capacity, this is a ticketed event. Tickets will be given out at service desk 30 minutes before program starts. Books of the Week: \*\*\*Books are subject to change based on availability.

<b>Tues 9/2, 9/9, 9/16, 9/23, 9/30, 10/7, 10/14, 10/21, 10/28, 11/4</b>	<b>South Branch</b>	<b>10 a.m.</b>
<b>Tues 9/2, 9/9, 9/16, 9/23, 9/30, 10/7, 10/14, 10/21, 10/28, 11/4</b>	<b>South Branch</b>	<b>11 a.m.</b>
<b>Wed 9/3, 9/10, 9/17, 9/24, 10/1, 10/8, 10/15, 10/22, 10/29, 11/5, 11/12</b>	<b>Emily Fowler</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>
<b>Thurs 9/4, 9/11, 9/18, 9/25, 10/2, 10/9, 10/16, 10/23, 10/30, 11/6, 11/13</b>	<b>North Branch</b>	<b>9:30 a.m.</b>

**Stuffed Animal Story Time and Sleepover**

Have your child bring their stuffed animal and wear pajamas to this special sleepover Story Time! We will have a fun and snuggly story time and our stuffed animals can sleep over at the library (and can be picked up before or at story time the next day). Designed for ages 1-5 and their caregivers. Books of the Week: \*\*\*Books are subject to change based on availability. Due to limited room capacity, this is a ticketed event. Tickets will be given out 30 minutes before the program starts.

**Tues 9/2 Emily Fowler 6:30 p.m.**

**Story Time**

Join us for interactive preschool classes that use stories, songs, and puppets to build early literacy skills and prepare children to learn to read. For children ages 1-5 and their caregivers. Due to limited room capacity, this is a ticketed event. Tickets will be given out at service desk 30 minutes before program starts. Books of the Week: \*\*\*Books are subject to change based on availability.

<b>Wed 9/3, 9/10, 9/17, 9/24, 10/1, 10/8, 10/15, 10/22, 10/29, 11/5, 11/12</b>	<b>Emily Fowler</b>	<b>11 a.m.</b>
<b>Thurs 9/4, 9/11, 9/18, 9/25, 10/9, 10/16, 10/23, 10/30, 11/6, 11/13</b>	<b>South Branch</b>	<b>11 a.m.</b>

**Fri 9/5, 9/12, 9/19, 9/26, 10/3, 10/10, 10/17, 10/24, 10/31, 11/7, 11/14 North Branch 11 a.m.**

[1, 2, 3, Grow with Me\\*](#)

Join us for a special 5-week class designed for parents and caregivers with young children. Enjoy quality time together while exploring engaging play activities, creative art projects, and the chance to meet new friends. Learn from community resource specialists who will share valuable insights on child development, speech and hearing, nutrition, and the importance of play and movement. Ages 1-3. \*Please register once for your family. Each registrant will be signed up for all five sessions. Registration is first-come, first-served, so sign up early to secure your spot. Ages 1-3.

**Wed 9/3, 9/10, 9/17, 9/24, 10/1 North Branch 5:30 p.m.**

[Baby Story Time](#)

Bond with your baby in classes featuring stories, songs, and activities designed to strengthen your connection and foster early literacy. Due to limited room capacity, this is a ticketed event. Tickets will be given out at service desk 30 minutes before program starts. Books of the Week: \*\*\*Books are subject to change based on availability.

**Thurs 9/4, 9/11, 9/18, 9/25, 10/2, 10/9, 10/16, 10/23, 10/30, 11/6, 11/13 South Branch 9:30 a.m.**

**Fri 9/5, 9/12, 9/19, 9/26, 10/3, 10/10, 10/17, 10/24, 10/31, 11/7, 11/14 North Branch 9:30 a.m.**

[Hora de Cuentos - Spanish Storytime](#)

Venga a la biblioteca para una hora de cuentos muy especial. Habrá cuentos, canciones y actividades, ¡todo en español! Por edades 1 a 5 con cuidador. Come to the library for a very special story time. There will be stories, songs, and activities - all in Spanish! For ages 1 - 5 with caregiver.

**Fri 9/5 Emily Fowler 10:30 a.m.**

[Family Story Time](#)

Join us for interactive preschool classes that use stories, songs, and puppets to build early literacy skills and prepare children to learn to read. For children ages 1-5 and their caregivers.

**Sat 9/6, 9/13, 9/20, 9/27, 10/4, 10/11, 10/18, 10/25, 11/1, 11/8, 11/15 South Branch 10 a.m.**

[Bilingual Story Time](#)

Join us at the library for Bilingual Story Time/Hora de Cuentos Bilingües. Once a month, we will have bilingual stories and songs! Venga a la biblioteca por Hora de Cuentos Bilingües/Bilingual Story Time. Una vez por mes, tenemos cuentos y canciones! Ages 1-5.

**Fri 9/12, 10/3, 11/7, 12/5 South Branch 10 a.m.**

[Bilingual Story Time/Hora de Cuentos Bilingües](#)

Join UNT-Dallas professor Victor Lozada for interactive classes that use stories, songs, and puppets in Spanish and English to prepare children to learn to read! Conecta con el Profesor de UNT-Dallas Victor Lozada para clases interactivas que utilizan cuentos, canciones, y marionetas en español e inglés para preparar a los niños a aprender a leer. Ages 1-5.

**Wed 9/24, 10/29, 11/12 North Branch 10 a.m.**

#### [Firefighter Story Time](#)

Join us for a special Story Time where our local firefighters will teach all about fire safety! Ages 1-5.

**Wed 10/1 Emily Fowler 11 a.m.**

**Thurs 10/2 South Branch 11 a.m.**

**Fri 10/3 North Branch 11 a.m.**

#### [Spooky Story Time](#)

Join us for this not too spooky Story Time! Come have a spooktacular good time at this Halloween-themed Story Time. Bring your little ghosts and goblins in costume and take part in a library trick-or-treat parade.

**Tues 10/14 Emily Fowler 6:30 p.m.**

**Wed 10/15 North Branch 6:30 p.m.**

**Mon 10/27 South Branch 11 a.m.**

#### [Dino Stomp Story Time](#)

A special story time for dinosaur enthusiasts. Dino-themed stories, songs, and dances will be followed by a visit from Rex, the library's big but friendly Tyrannosaurus Rex. For children ages 1-5 and their caregivers. Due to limited room capacity, this is a ticketed event. Tickets will be given out at service desk 30 minutes before program starts. Books of the Week: \*\*\*Books are subject to change based on availability.

**Tues 11/18 Emily Fowler 6:30 p.m.**

**Wed 11/19 Emily Fowler 11 a.m.**

#### [Santa Story Time](#)

'Tis the season for holiday cheer! Join us for a festive holiday Story Time featuring stories, songs, and a short visit from Santa. Make a festive ornament after Story Time to take home for the holidays! Ages 1-5.

**Tues 12/9 Emily Fowler 6:30 p.m.**

**Thurs 12/11 North Branch 11 a.m.**

**Mon 12/15 South Branch 11 a.m.**

### **Early Childhood (0-5) Programs - Literacy**

#### **Read to Rover**

Give your child an opportunity to practice reading one-on-one with a trained, certified therapy dog. This program is made possible by a partnership with the Therapy Pals of Golden Triangle. Space is limited, first-come, first-served. Ages 6-10.

**Sat 9/20, 10/18, 11/15, 12/20 South Branch 10:30 a.m.**

**Sat 9/20, 10/18, 11/15, 12/20 North Branch 2 p.m.**

### **Student Age (6-10) Programs - STEM**

#### **STEAM Explorers**

Get ready to imagine, build, experiment, and explore! STEAM Explorers is a hands-on program for curious kids who love to ask questions and try new things. Each session features a fun, new theme. With guided activities and creative challenges, elementary students will dive into the exciting world of STEAM and discover how science, technology, engineering, art, and math shape the world around us. Ages 6-10.

*Apples*

**Wed 9/17 South Branch 4:30 p.m.**

*Halloween*

**Wed 10/15 South Branch 4:30 p.m.**

*Fall*

**Wed 11/19 South Branch 4:30 p.m.**

#### **LEGO® Club**

Attention young builders! Join the excitement at our LEGO® Club, where learning, problem-solving, and endless creativity come together for a fun-filled experience. All the LEGO® bricks you need will be waiting for you at the library—come let your imagination soar and turn your ideas into awesome creations! Ages 6-10. Ages 6-10.

**Thurs 9/18, 10/16, 11/20 North Branch 4 p.m.**

#### **Spark! Engineer with Robotics**

Specialists from Texas A&M's Engineering Education Outreach program are coming to Denton Public Library for a day of engineering. Kids and teens will explore coding through robotics and circuits. See the schedule for each age group: - Grades K-2, 1:30-2:30pm - Grades 3-5, 2:45-3:45pm - Grades 6-12, 4-5pm Space and supplies are limited and are first-come, first-served Ages 6-17.



**Mon 9/22 North Branch 1:30 p.m.**

**Mon 9/22 North Branch 2:45 p.m.**

**Mon 9/22 North Branch 4 p.m.**

[LEGO® Club Monster Mash Up](#)

Attention young boos and ghouls! Join the excitement at our LEGO® Club, where learning, problem-solving, and endless creativity come together for a fun-filled experience. As a special Halloween treat, making monsters can't be beat! All the LEGO® bricks you need will be waiting for you at the library—come let your imagination soar and turn your ideas into awesome creations! Ages 6-10.

**Wed 10/22 Emily Fowler 4:30 p.m.**

[Not-So-Fright Night at the Forge\\*](#)

Learn how to bring your Halloween designs to life by making a glowing acrylic night light with the Glowforge laser printer! Ages 6-10.

**Wed 10/29 The Forge at North Branch 6-7:30 p.m.**

[Seedling Scouts: Honoring Indigenous Roots](#)

Get ready to dig in! Bring your own pumpkin and learn about its amazing history with Indigenous peoples, harvest seeds, and prepare them for Spring planting to create your very own Three Sisters Garden. Ages 6-10.

**Wed 11/5 North Branch 4 p.m.**

[Dinosaur Terrariums\\*](#)

Celebrate DiNovember at the library with Taylor Bales of True Leaf Studio. Learn about plant care and create your own terrarium perfect for dinosaur friends! Ages 6 - 10. Due to limited supplies, this program is registration only. You will be notified the day before the program if the class is cancelled for not meeting the required registration minimum.

**Thurs 11/6 Emily Fowler 6 p.m.**

**Student Age (6-10) Programs - Literacy**

[Scavenger Hunts](#)

Searching is half the fun! Look for different themed decals around the library. Turn in a completed scavenger hunt to get a fun sticker.

South:

September- Birds

October- Everything Pink

November- Fall Things

December- Sports

Emily Fowler:

September- Mermaids & Pirates

October- Ghosts

November- Story Book Characters

December- Holiday Cookies

North:

September- Woodland Animals

October- Monster Mash

November- Fall Veggies

December- Cozy Activities

### [Book Adventures](#)

This fun and engaging story time is designed especially for elementary-aged students. Get inspired through stories and self-expression! Join us for a special read-aloud of a picture book that sparks creativity, followed by an open-ended art invitation based on the story. Children will have the opportunity to make real-life connections to stories that will help them develop comprehension skills and foster a love of reading. Ages 6-10.

*After the Fall by Dan Santat*

**Thurs 9/11 South Branch 4:30 p.m.**

*Gustavo the Shy Ghost by Flavia Drago*

**Thurs 10/9 South Branch 4:30 p.m.**

*A Little Spot of Kindness by Diane Alber*

**Thurs 11/6 South Branch 4:30 p.m.**

### [Ramblin' Rita's Totally Tall Tales](#)

Hold onto your hats and bring your biggest imagination! Join the one and only Ramblin' Rita for an interactive storytelling adventure where YOU become part of the show! Perfect for ages 6-10, this high-energy performance mixes wild stories, wacky characters, and audience participation that will have everyone in on the action.

**Wed 9/24 South Branch 4:30 p.m.**

### [Rascally Ravens Drawing Workshop](#)

Join naturalist and illustrator Sheli Petersen for a special literary event featuring her whimsical picture book, 'Rascally Ravens of Greystone Farm.' Discover the mischievous ravens Carmen and Angelo, then unleash your creativity in a guided drawing lesson! Ages 6-10.

**Sat 10/18 North Branch 11 a.m.**

### [Bendy Bookworms- Gratitude & Grow](#)

A yoga story time adventure for school-aged children that blends storytelling, gentle yoga poses, and mindfulness activities to help children build gratitude and body awareness. No experience needed- just bring your imagination, comfy clothes, and a grateful heart! Yoga mats are optional. For ages 6-10. Caregivers are also welcome to participate! Books: Finding Grateful by Dianne White Yoga Bunny by Brian Russo

**Wed 11/12 South Branch 4:30 p.m.**

### **Student Age (6-10) Programs - Arts Culture and History**

#### [Art Exploration: Hojalata](#)

Join us as we explore and learn about different artists and art styles! Ages 6 - 10. Younger children welcome with caregiver participation. To Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, we'll explore the art of Hojalata, Mexican tin art.

**Sat 9/27 Emily Fowler 10 a.m.**

#### [Hispanic Heritage Story and Craft](#)

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with a colorful journey through story, music, and art. In this special story time for elementary aged students, children will explore the rich traditions and diverse cultures of Hispanic communities. We'll learn about Mola- a beautiful textile art form from Panama- and create our own kid-friendly Mola inspired craft to take home. Ages 6-10. Book- Pepe and the Parade by Tracey Kyle

**Wed 10/1 South Branch 4:30 p.m.**

#### [Pokemon Club: Ghost Types](#)

If you love Pokemon, I Choose you... to join fellow trainers for crafts, games, and more! Ages 6 - 10. Join us for a special spooky Pokémon Club celebrating our favorite Ghost Types!

**Wed 10/8 Emily Fowler 4:30 p.m.**

#### [Art Exploration: Halloween](#)

Join us as we explore and learn about different artists and art styles! Ages 6 - 10. Younger children welcome with caregiver participation. This month we'll explore Cubism with Halloween Collages!

**Thurs 10/16 Emily Fowler 4:30 p.m.**

#### [Art Exploration: Native American Weaving](#)

Join us as we explore and learn about different artists and art styles! Ages 6 - 10. Younger children welcome with caregiver participation. In honor of Native American Heritage Month, we'll explore the art of Native American weaving.

**Sat 11/8 Emily Fowler 2 p.m.**

### **Young Adult (11-17) Programs - STEM**

### [Makers Gonna Make](#)

Meet and make at the library, perfect for homeschooled teens. Each session will have different projects exploring aspects of STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math). Ages 11-17.

**Mon 9/8, 10/13, 11/10, 12/8 North Branch 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m.**

### [What's in the Sky?](#)

Solar System Ambassador Mike Davis will present about what we can see in the sky right now and where we are in the universe. Ages 11+.

**Wed 9/10 North Branch 6 p.m.**

### [Halloween and the Moon: A Cosmic Connection](#)

Solar System Ambassador Mike Davis will present about the moon in Halloween's origins (traditions, superstitions, festivals), modern Halloween culture, lunar explorations, and expeditions to the moon. Stick around after the presentation to view the Super Moon outside. Ages 11+.

**Tues 10/7 North Branch 6-7:30 p.m.**

### [Podcasting 101](#)

Learn about how to begin your own podcast! We'll go over picking topics, the basics of recording and audio editing, and more! No experience required! Ages 11-17.

**Wed 10/15 South Branch 6:30 p.m.**

### [Astrophotography](#)

Solar System Ambassador Mike Davis will present about his journey to become an Astrophotographer, including the tools he uses, and how to take and process photos. Ages 11+.

**Wed 11/12 North Branch 6 p.m.**

### [What's in the Sky?](#)

Solar System Ambassador Mike Davis will present about what we can see in the sky right now and explore galaxies beyond the Milky Way. Ages 11+.

**Wed 12/10 North Branch 6 p.m.**

## **Young Adult (11-17) Programs - Literacy**

### [Build A Story](#)

For the month of November, put your writing skills to work by building a story one sentence at a time! Stop by the South Branch Teen Room to put in your next entry and we'll collaborate on a grand story the entire month! Ages 11-17.

### [Writer's Workshop: Character Building](#)

Does your main character seem to fade into the background? Are you having a hard time making your villains someone people love to hate? Come to our workshop to learn more about what makes characters tick! Ages 11-17.

**Wed 9/24 South Branch 7 p.m.**

### [Essential Study Skills for Teens](#)

This workshop (grades 7-11) previews essential study skills using an interactive format. Participants will learn 1-2 high-impact techniques like Active Recall for memory or the Pomodoro Technique for focused work sessions. We'll also overview the full series covering time management (e.g., Prioritization Matrices), effective note-taking, the SQ3R reading method, test prep, and memory strategies including Spaced Repetition and Mnemonics. Includes practical demos & Q&A. Ages 11-17.

**Sat 9/27 South Branch 2:30 p.m.**

### [Zombie Apocalypse: Teen Preparedness](#)

City of Denton's Emergency Management team shares how you can be prepared for a zombie apocalypse. Ages 11-17.

**Tues 9/30 North Branch 4 p.m.**

### [Study Jam](#)

Study or complete projects in the Teen Room to the tune of lo-fi beats, collaborate while using whiteboards and school supplies, get energized with friends, get help from your Teen Librarian, and prepare to finish off the school semester successfully. The Teen Room is equipped with tables, chairs, power outlets, charging stations, and computers for teens to use. Ages 11-17.

**Sat 12/13 North Branch 11 a.m.-3 p.m.**

### [Writer's Workshop: Plot Building](#)

Are you not sure where to go next in your story? Are you having a hard time getting your characters in trouble or perhaps you have written them into \*too much\* trouble? This workshop is perfect for you! No experience necessary! Ages 11-17.

**Wed 12/17 South Branch 7 p.m.**

## **Young Adult (11-17) Programs - Arts Culture and History**

### [Dragon's Den: After-school Adventures](#)

Explore game systems designed to facilitate cooperative world-building and group narrative creation. We will provide the tools necessary to begin learning to play games such as Dungeons and Dragons and others like it. Ages 11-17.

**Tues 9/2, 9/16, 10/7, 10/21, 11/4, 11/18, 12/2, 12/16 North Branch 5-8 p.m.**

### [Teen Advisory Board](#)

Participate in a monthly service project benefiting the Denton community. Ages 11-17.

**Wed 9/3, 10/1, 11/5, 12/3 South Branch 6 p.m.**

**Tues 9/9, 10/14 North Branch 6:30 p.m.**

**Tues 11/25, 12/30 North Branch 1 p.m.**

### [Werewolf Mystery Game Night\\*](#)

Welcome to the village where your fellow villagers are disappearing in the night and the eerie sound of howling keens in the dark... Can you and your friends determine who the werewolves are before it's too late? Ages 11-17.

**Wed 10/8 South Branch 6-8 p.m.**

### [It Came From The Library!](#)

Come to the library and enjoy the classic horror movie Haunting of Hill House from 1959! After the movie we'll discuss how horror reflects the anxieties of society and what we can take away from the genre. Ages 14-17.

**Wed 10/29 South Branch 6-7:30 p.m.**

### [Teen Talent Show\\*](#)

Do you have a fun talent you'd like to share with your community? We've got the show for you! Whether you sing, act, juggle, or something even more unusual, we want to see what you've got! Registration is for talent show participants. Any number of attendees may view the festivities! Ages 11-17.

**Wed 11/19 South Branch 6:30-8:30 p.m.**

### [Collaborative Bad Art Night - Teen Edition](#)

Come with your friends to work on a collaborative picture with a twist. Each of you will only be able to draw a quarter of the page based on your friends work and \*nothing\* else! Ages 11-17.

**Wed 12/10 South Branch 7 p.m.**

## **Young Adult (11-17) Programs - Business Career and Financial**

### [Teen Volunteer Orientation](#)

Learn about teen volunteer opportunities and get your paperwork started. Attending Teen Volunteer Orientation is required for teens to volunteer at the library. Ages 11-17.

**Wed 9/10 South Branch 7 p.m.**

## **Adult (18+) Programs - STEM**

### [Creating Monarch Habitats](#)

Find out how to create your own backyard Monarch oasis with a representative of the Native Plant Society of Texas. From planting native, including milkweed, and providing a water source, participants will learn all the ins and outs of gardening for these amazing pollinators. Take home a free seed packet from the Seed Library to get started.

**Wed 9/3 North Branch 6:30 p.m.**

### [How To: Technology](#)

Discover more about library services, access, and resources each month for an interactive presentation. Space is limited; email [Yvonne.Kendricks@cityofdenton.com](mailto:Yvonne.Kendricks@cityofdenton.com) to register. Ages 50+.

**Fri 9/5, 10/3, 11/7, 12/5 American Legion Hall Senior Center 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

### [Beginner Bike Repair](#)

Gain skills to keep your bike in top condition! Learn how to maintain your bike from an expert, ensuring it stays road-ready for errands, commutes, or enjoyable rides, all while improving local air quality. Ages 18+.

**Sat 9/6 South Branch 11 a.m.**

### [Astronomy: The Big Bang Theory](#)

Join Ph.D. students from UNT's Department of Physics for a lecture on the Big Bang theory and the evolution of the universe. It's going to be an evening of stellar fun!

**Wed 9/24 North Branch 6:30-8 p.m.**

### [Denton Wildlife Habitat Program](#)

Want to learn more about how to support local wildlife? This class will cover the basics of our Wildlife Stewards Program and some different ways you can make your home more wildlife friendly. Learn about best practices for maintaining a habitat throughout the seasons. Presented by Sustainable Denton. Ages 18+.

**Sat 9/27 Emily Fowler 1 p.m.**

### [Texas Health Steps Orientation\\*](#)

Join an outreach counselor with the Texas Health Steps program for an informative event where you will learn how to maximize your Medicaid benefits. Whether you are new to Medicaid or have been enrolled for years, this event is ideal for anyone seeking to gain more information about their healthcare benefits and to ensure they are making the most of the available resources. Ages 18+.

**Tues 10/14 South Branch 12-2 p.m.**

### [Home Weatherization: Winter Edition](#)



Join Sustainable Denton staff to discover how simple changes can reduce your electric bills, even in extreme weather. Taking action to repair, replace, or install home fixtures will help keep the weather out and the comfortable air in. Ages 18+.

**Sat 10/18 South Branch 11 a.m.**

[Mindfulness Yoga\\*](#)

Sydney Pimentel-Rushing LPC-Associate of True Connections Counseling is proud to bring a little slice of the therapy room, to you! Enjoy a sampling of various mindfulness practices that can easily be incorporated into your everyday life. Ages 18+.

**Sat 11/15 Emily Fowler 2:30 p.m.**

**Adult (18+) Programs - Literacy**

[Rise and Shine Book Club](#)

Join us to discuss the selected fiction genre of the month. If it isn't your cup of tea, just choose something different to talk about at this casual book club. Ages 16+.

*Reader's Choice*

**Sat 9/6 North Branch 10 a.m.**

*Colorful Covers*

**Sat 10/4 North Branch 10 a.m.**

*Middle Grade or Young Adult*

**Sat 11/1 North Branch 10 a.m.**

*Historical Fiction*

**Sat 11/29 North Branch 10 a.m.**

[Romantasy Book Club](#)

Have you enjoyed the enchanting realms of A Court of Thorns and Roses or Fourth Wing, and find yourself yearning for more? From star-crossed lovers to epic quests, discuss tales of that ignite passion and the imagination. Connect with fellow romantasy fans and find your next spellbinding read. Ages 18+.

*From Blood and Ash by Jennifer L. Armentrout*

**Wed 9/10 North Branch 6:30-8:30 p.m.**

*The Very Secret Society of Irregular Witches by Sangu Mandanna*

**Wed 10/8 North Branch 6:30-8:30 p.m.**

*The House in the Cerelean Sea by T J Klune*

**Wed 11/12 North Branch 6:30-8:30 p.m.**

*Shield of Sparrows* by Devney Perrye

**Wed 12/10 North Branch 6:30-8:30 p.m.**

### Books on Tap

We're bringing book discussions to local bars & breweries. Join us to rant and rave about our favorite books or least favorite tropes. Check our staff booklist for recommendations, come with your own, or listen to what others' are reading! No required book or booklist. Ages 21+. Ages 21+.

**Mon 9/15 d20 Tavern 6:30-8 p.m.**

**Mon 10/20 Miss Angeline's 6:30-8 p.m.**

**Mon 11/17 Denton County Brewing Co. 6:30-8 p.m.**

**Mon 12/15 Harvest House (TBD) 6:30-8 p.m.**

### Creative Writing Workshop

Get writing tips and tricks to help you get started and keep you going. Learn ways to get from the beginning to the end without bloat and how to keep writing even when you don't feel the urge to write. Ages 18+

**Wed 11/19 North Branch 6:30-8:30 p.m.**

### Read to Rover: College Edition

Relax and hangout with therapy dogs as you get ready for finals week. Spending time with a therapy dog has been shown to reduce stress, lower blood pressure, and increase a sense of happiness and well-being. And the dogs love the attention. Ages 18+.

**Fri 12/5 North Branch 1:30 p.m.**

## **Adult (18+) Programs - Arts Culture and History**

### Crafter's Corner

Bring your current crafting project to work on and meet others in the local crafting community. Share ideas, get tips and inspiration, and learn something new at this come and-go program.

<b>Thurs 9/4, 9/11, 9/18, 9/25, 10/2, 10/9, 10/16, 10/23, 10/30, 11/6, 11/13, 11/20, 12/4, 12/11, 12/18</b>	<b>Emily Fowler</b>	<b>9:30-11:30 a.m.</b>
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<b>Fri 9/5, 9/12, 9/19, 9/26, 10/3, 10/10, 10/17, 10/24, 10/31, 11/7, 11/14, 11/21, 12/5, 12/12, 12/19, 12/26</b>	<b>North Branch</b>	<b>9-11:30 a.m.</b>
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### Denton County Genealogical Society

If you are a genealogy enthusiast or just curious about family history, please consider visiting the next meeting. You will meet other genealogists, share tips on how to go about the research, and learn some new information. Visitors are welcome! Ages 18+.

*TXGenWeb to USGenWeb Project® - Free Genealogy Resources at your Fingertips! presented by Paula Perkins*

**Thurs 9/11 Emily Fowler 6:30-8:30 p.m.**

*AI and Genealogy: Trouble Ahead? presented by Thomas MacEntee*

**Thurs 10/9 Emily Fowler 6:30-8:30 p.m.**

*Texas Veterans Hall of Fame Museum & the Remember Them Forever Program presented by Gary Steele*

**Thurs 11/13 Emily Fowler 6:30-8:30 p.m.**

[Cricut Sticker Class\\*](#)

Discover how to use the Cricut Maker software to create personalized stickers for your scrapbooks, journals, or family photo albums. Ages 18+.

**Mon 9/15 The Forge at North Branch 6:30-8:30 p.m.**

[Literature of Immigration\\*](#)

Join Dr. Rhone of TWU's Spanish Department for a talk at the South Branch Library in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month! She will discuss the vibrant literature of immigration, highlighting the novel "The Adventures of Don Chipote" by Daniel Venegas. This talk aims to inspire you to explore the rich stories the immigrant experience through the pen of Hispanic authors. Ages 18+.

**Thurs 9/18 South Branch 5-8:30 p.m.**

[Connections, a Genealogy Discussion Group\\*](#)

Join us for a group that explores genealogical research through discussion of articles published in the TxSGS Journal STIRPES. As a registrant, you will receive the focus article and a list of questions to guide our conversation. This group is for anyone interested in learning more about genealogical research and the historical context of their family history. Ages 18+.

*Finding Individuals in Community Histories by Hannah Kubacak, published September 2024, pages 13-18*

**Fri 9/26 Emily Fowler 11 a.m.**

*Magic Wills by Emily Coffman Richardson, published June 2024, pages 27-30*

**Fri 10/24 Emily Fowler 11 a.m.**

[Crocheted Ghost Coasters\\*](#)

Local artisan Mary Cresson will guide the experienced crocheter through a spooktacular craft! Attendees are welcome to bring their own G- or H-sized hooks and a stitch marker, but supplies will also be available at the class. Ages 18+.

**Sat 10/11 Emily Fowler 2:30-4:30 p.m.**

[Halloween Totebags\\*](#)

Learn how to use the Library's Cricut Maker software to personalize your own Halloween-themed canvas tote bag. Ages 18+.

**Mon 10/13 The Forge at North Branch 4:30-6 p.m.**

[I Seek Dead People: Genealogy Workshop \(times wrong in list\)\\*](#)

We are partnering with other libraries and genealogy societies across Texas to host this annual genealogy workshop. You can "come and go", stay for the full day or view the programs virtually. Eight presentations, recorded specifically for this event, will be streamed throughout the day. One-on-one help, and tours of Special Collections will be available. Registration and information at <https://tinyurl.com/dengenworkshop> beginning 09/19/2025. Ages 18+.

*From Names to Narratives: A Simple Guide to Writing presented by Hannah Kubacak*

**Fri 10/17 Emily Fowler 9 a.m.**

*Following a Civil Case Through Documents Filed in Court presented by J. Mark Lowe*

**Fri 10/17 Emily Fowler 10 a.m.**

*Jakten - Researching Your Scandinavian Ancestors presented by Carl Smith*

**Fri 10/17 Emily Fowler 11 a.m.**

*The Stories of Our Lives: Beginning Your Family History presented by Curt Witcher*

**Fri 10/17 Emily Fowler 12:45-2:15 p.m.**

*Research Road Trips: Productive for You, Fun for Family presented by Jessica Horne Collins*

**Fri 10/17 Emily Fowler 2:15 p.m.**

*Resources for New Orleans Area Genealogical Research presented by Stephen Stuart*

**Fri 10/17 Emily Fowler 3:30 p.m.**

*Family Trees Get Smart: AI as Your Genealogy Assistant presented by Sherri Taggart Ahmadzadeh*

**Fri 10/17 Emily Fowler 4:30 p.m.**

*All in the Family: Using Collateral Research to Build Your Family Tree presented by Sandra Crowley*

**Fri 10/17 Emily Fowler 5:45 p.m.**

[Murder in the Stacks\\*](#)

Love a good crime scene? Join us to help solve a murder mystery in the library. Ages 18+.

**Tues 10/21 Emily Fowler 6:30-8:30 p.m.**

[Hocus Pocus Friendship Bracelets](#)

Make your own spooky friendship bracelets with decorative Halloween beads. Bracelets are great way to express your own supernatural style and make great tokens to share with other Halloween fans.

**Wed 10/22 North Branch 6:30-8 p.m.**

[Around the World in 80 Graves, presented by Tui Snider](#)

From Texas to Transylvania, the Arctic Circle to the South Pacific—Tui Snider's photo-laden talk, based on her memoir is a globe-trotting adventure filled with quirky encounters, meaningful friendships, and surprising revelations. Discover how cemeteries shaped Tui's view of life. This engaging presentation celebrates cemeteries as sacred spaces that connect and inspire the living. Perfect for history buffs, genealogists, nature lovers, and curious travelers alike. Ages 18+.

**Thurs 10/23 Emily Fowler 7 p.m.**

[Gnome Ornaments\\*](#)

Make your own pom-pom yarn gnome ornaments to decorate your home for the winter holidays. Supplies provided by the library. Ages 18+.

**Tues 12/2 North Branch 10 a.m.-12 p.m.**

**Wed 12/10 South Branch 1-3 p.m.**

[Pressed Flower Ornaments](#)

Join Sustainable Denton to learn how to save old flowers through pressing and use them to create unique ornaments! Ages 18+.

**Sat 12/6 Emily Fowler 11 a.m.**

**Adult (18+) Programs - Business Career and Financial**

[Small Business Connections\\*](#)

Make connections, share experiences, and exchange ideas with other local entrepreneurs and small business owners. Ages 18+.

**Tues 9/23, 12/16 North Branch 4:30 p.m.**

[First Time Homebuyers Seminar\\*](#)

Buying your first home is an exciting milestone—but it can also feel overwhelming. This presentation will guide you through the essential steps of homeownership, from understanding your budget to navigating the mortgage process. We'll break down key considerations, common pitfalls, and insider tips to help you make informed decisions with confidence. Ages 18+.

**Thurs 10/9 South Branch 4:30-8:30 p.m.**

#### [NCTC Resources for Small Businesses](#)

Join Carla McGuire from North Texas Central College (NCTC) to learn about the CareerCircuit grants program for small business and non-profits. Find out what other resources NCTC's Small Business Development Center (SBDC) has that will benefit your small business!

**Tues 10/14 North Branch 10 a.m.**

#### [Reference Solutions for Business Expansion\\*](#)

Discover how to use the U.S. Business and Consumer Modules to target specific groups of businesses or individuals who will most likely be interested in your products or services. Learn how to identify the ideal geography of potential new customers, learn key contacts, research competitors and much more.

**Tues 10/28 North Branch 10 a.m.**

#### [Estate Planning Essentials\\*](#)

Join us for an informative and engaging presentation on the importance of estate planning—no matter your age or life stage. Led by Morgan Darling of Morgan Darling Law, this program breaks down the essentials of wills, powers of attorney, healthcare directives, and more. Whether you're just starting out, raising a family, or thinking about retirement, you'll learn why planning ahead matters and how to take simple steps to protect yourself and your loved ones. Ages 18+.

**Thurs 11/13 South Branch 6-8 p.m.**

### **General (All Ages) Programs - STEM**

#### [Fall Local Ecology](#)

Join the Petal Project for tips on how to get started enjoying nature around you this fall. Find out about local hiking areas and trails with helpful preparation tips. Includes beginner information on identifying different plants, birds, and animals you may encounter and apps to learn more about nature while you explore.

**Wed 9/17 North Branch 6:30 p.m.**

#### [Quakertown Park Birdwalk\\*](#)

A birdwalk through Quakertown Park with Sustainable Denton co-leading.

**Sat 10/11 Emily Fowler 9:30 a.m.**

## **General (All Ages) Programs - Literacy**

### **Denton StoryWalks®**

Visit our StoryWalk® on the Square and StoryWalk® at Fred Moore Park this summer! Thanks to partnerships with local businesses on Denton Square and the Parks and Recreation Department, these stories are available for families to read, walk, and visit the outdoors. For more information, visit [library.cityofdenton.com/screens/dpl\\_storywalk](http://library.cityofdenton.com/screens/dpl_storywalk)

### **Winter Reading Challenge**

Cozy up and immerse yourself in the magic of reading this winter! Our Winter Reading program is back and perfect for all ages. Read at least three books between December 1-January 31, and you'll earn a virtual badge, plus gain an entry for a chance to win a reading prize bag stuffed with books and reading swag. Embrace the winter spirit by attending a library event or participating in your favorite winter activities to earn additional badges.

### **Cozy Up with Cocoa & Cookies**

Celebrate the Winter Reading Challenge with a sweet treat at the library! Drop in for a cozy cup of hot cocoa, a delicious cookie, and winter-themed fun for all ages. Whether you're picking up a book or just want to warm up, everyone is welcome to join the cheer. Cocoa and cookies will be available while supplies last.

**Fri 12/19 Emily Fowler 1-3 p.m.**

**Fri 12/19 North Branch 1-3 p.m.**

**Fri 12/19 South Branch 1-3 p.m.**

## **General (All Ages) Programs - Arts Culture and History**

### **Make and Take: Ghost Paintings**

Drop in the library and paint ghostly images onto ordinary scenes to make your own haunted paintings. Scenes included from famous haunted Denton locales like Old Alton Bridge and Emily Fowler Central Library. All Ages. Sat-Mon. Oct. 25-27 North Branch

**Sat 10/25 - Mon 10/27 North Branch**

### **Puzzle Mania**

Love to work on puzzles? Celebrate International Games Month with Puzzle Mania. There will be a room full of puzzles for people to drop-in and work on.

**Sat 11/22 North Branch 10 a.m.-5 p.m.**

### **Noon Year's Eve**

Join us at the library to ring in the New Year at noon! Our Noon Year's Eve celebration is packed with exciting games, creative art projects, balloons, and plenty of laughter. It's a fantastic event that promises fun for the entire family! Don't miss out on the excitement! All ages.



**Wed 12/31 North Branch 11 a.m.**



# City of Denton

City Hall  
215 E. McKinney Street  
Denton, Texas  
[www.cityofdenton.com](http://www.cityofdenton.com)

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## AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

**DEPARTMENT:** Library

**ACM:** Frank Dixon

**DATE:** October 13, 2025

### **SUBJECT**

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and consider recommending approval of the following Denton Public Library Policy updates:

- Filming and Photography Operating Policy
- Surveys and Petitions Operating Policy
- Food and Drink Operating Policy
- Volunteer Operating Policy
- Outreach Services Operating Policy
- Program Operating Policy

### **BACKGROUND**

The following policy updates are recommended to the Library Board:

#### **Filming and Photography Operating Policy-Exhibit 2**

The redline draft shows proposed clarifying language.

#### **Surveys and Petitions Operating Policy-Exhibit 3**

The redline draft shows proposed clarifying language.

#### **Food and Drink Operating Policy-Exhibit 4**

The redline draft shows proposed clarifying language.

#### **Volunteer Operating Policy-Exhibit 5**

The redline draft shows proposed clarifying language.

#### **Outreach Services Operating Policy-Exhibit 6**

The redline draft shows proposed clarifying language.

#### **Program Operating Policy-Exhibit 7**

The redline draft shows proposed clarifying language.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Library staff recommends approval of the policy updates.

## **EXHIBITS**

1. Agenda Information Sheet
2. Filming and Photography Operating Policy
3. Surveys and Petitions Operating Policy
4. Food and Drink Operating Policy
5. Volunteer Operating Policy
6. Outreach Services Operating Policy
7. Program Operating Policy

Respectfully submitted:  
Jennifer Bekker  
Director of Libraries

Prepared by:  
Jennifer Bekker  
Director of Libraries



## DENTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

### FILMING AND PHOTOGRAPHY OPERATING POLICY

Approved by Denton Public Library Board, August 8, 2011  
Reviewed by the Library Management Team, November 2, 2023

The duty of fulfilling the Library's mission is the first priority of the Denton Public Library and the filming and photography described below is allowed only to the extent that it does not interfere with the provision of library services and is consistent with the Library's Mission Statement and Rules of Conduct.

Persons entering library facilities are allowed to take video/photos in public areas of library buildings. However, filming and photography cannot impede public access to municipal facilities. Any person who violates the library's Rules of Conduct Operating Policy or creates a nuisance such that regular library business is disrupted shall be required to immediately cease all activities and leave the library under the provisions of the Library Rules of Conduct Operating Policy.

Any persons filming or photographing on library premises have sole responsibility for gaining all necessary releases and permissions from persons who are filmed or photographed. The Library undertakes no responsibility for obtaining these releases.

Library staff may terminate any photo session that appears to compromise public safety or security.

#### **Definitions**

The terms "photograph" or "photography" means any method including photography, filming, videotaping or any other process of still image or audiovisual capturing in any method used now or in the future that is subject to the United States Copyright Act. (17 USC 101 et. Seq.)

#### **Exterior Photography**

Photographing the exteriors of library buildings does not require permission. However, photography may not impede visitors or staff entering or exiting ~~to or from~~ any library building premises.

#### **News Media Photography**

While the Library has an open-door policy for news media photographers and reporters who are doing stories or projects that directly involve the library and its programs, advance notice to the Branch Manager for such photography is encouraged.

#### **Commercial Photography**

The Library does not permit commercial photography on or in its facilities. This includes, but is not limited to, using library buildings, grounds or interiors as a ~~stageset~~stage set for

~~portraiture~~, model photography, and product photography. It includes photography or filming used to advertise goods or services unrelated to the Library for commercial sale or promotion.

~~Photography using makerspace photography equipment is permitted. Makerspace photography equipment may be used for commercial use in makerspace areas.~~

### **Research Photography**

The Library permits research photography of its materials and resources. Researchers and journalists are responsible for obtaining their own permissions when photographing copyrighted material in the library. Additional permissions may need to be obtained from the Denton Public Library Genealogy and Local History Department in order to photograph materials or items in special collections. Permission to reproduce materials from this area may in some cases be denied. Customers should discuss photography needs with a staff member in these areas before planning your project to obtain advance authorization.

### **Amateur Photography**

Casual amateur photography and videotaping is permitted in library facilities for customers and visitors wanting a remembrance of their visit. The use of additional equipment such as lighting is not permitted. Individuals are asked to honor requests of others to not be included in photos or film. ~~Photos of minors are prohibited without the permission of their parent or guardian.~~

### **Movie Industry**

The Library will permit use of its facilities by the movie or music industry for filming major entertainment projects where a library setting is called for, if the project does not interfere with the mission of the Denton Public Library, is in accordance with the rest of this policy and does not advertise or promote commercial products. Filming may not be related to political campaigns or to partisan issues, because the Denton Public Library wishes to avoid any appearance, no matter how slight, of impropriety or impression of political preference. This project must have an approved City of Denton Film Permit, with details worked out in advance with the ~~Library Director~~ Director of Libraries. Such filming may take place only during hours when the library is closed, and all equipment must be removed during the Library's operating hours.

### **Filming and Photography of Library Programs**

Using library programs as interview venues or as backdrop for personal or professional use is prohibited. Researchers, students, or other agencies should seek permission from the Branch Manager and ~~Library Director~~ Director of Libraries before filming or photographing library classes and programs for assignments or publication.

The Library may utilize photos and videos from public programs and events at Library facilities and Library spaces on its website and in Library publications. Photos, images and videos submitted to the Library by users for online galleries or contests may also be used by the Library for promotional purposes. To ensure the privacy of all individuals,

including children, images will not be identified using full names or personal identifying information without written approval from the photographed subject, parent or legal guardian.

**Photography for Groups and Non-Library Events in the Meeting Room**

Groups arranging meetings in the library meeting facilities may arrange for photographers and news media during their event. Photography for such events is restricted to the space reserved by the group and may not take place in other areas of the library.



## DENTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

### SURVEYS and PETITIONS OPERATING POLICY

Approved by Denton Library Board, August 6, 2003  
Library Board approved revision, September 11, 2023

Groups or individuals wishing to conduct surveys and/or petition drives in the Denton Public Library shall make a request to the Branch Manager. Denton Public Library requests at least two weeks notice in advance of desired dates of petition drives or surveys.

~~The Library reserves the right to limit the number of surveys~~Surveys and petitions are limited to one event at a time per library facility. -in each library location at one time. To reduce impact to library operations, surveys requiring personal contact, signatures, and conversation ~~should~~will be conducted outside library facilities, but not blocking access to sidewalks, doors, or parking. Groups are limited to one day of survey or petition per month per library facility. No tables, seating, or equipment will be provided by the Library.

Persons conducting surveys or petitions shall not block, hinder or otherwise impede customers or staff. No surveys or petitions are allowed within staff areas, or any interior spaces such as stairways, hallways, or restrooms. Persons conducting surveys may not enter meeting, study, or program rooms ~~without staff approval.~~

Library staff may not assist in conducting surveys or petitions from non-Denton Public Library or City of Denton sources.

Signs or related marketing materials must be approved by the Branch Manager or their designee.

Any person who does not abide by the conditions stated above, violates the library's Rules of Conduct Operating Policy, or ~~who~~ creates a nuisance such that regular library business is disrupted shall be required to immediately cease all activities and to leave the library premises under the provisions of the library's Rules of Conduct Operating Policy.



## DENTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

### FOOD AND DRINK OPERATING POLICY

Approved by the Denton Library Board on December 5, 2002  
Reviewed by the Library Management Team, January 23, 2025

**POLICY STATEMENT:** The Denton Public Library maintains a food and drink directive to aid in the preservation and care of library resources and electronic equipment, to maintain a pest-free building and damage-free furnishings, to reduce litter and to ensure a clean environment for all customers.

~~Customers are expected to pick up after themselves by discarding trash in appropriate containers and notifying staff immediately of any spills. Patrons are expected to "leave no trace" and take responsibility for maintaining a clean environment by removing crumbs, wiping off sticky surfaces, and cleaning up after themselves. All trash must be deposited in trash or recycle receptacles throughout the library~~

#### **Drinks**

Nonalcoholic drinks are permitted but are limited to containers with lids or plastic bottles with screw tops.

#### **Food**

Snack sized prepackaged foods are permitted. ~~Snacks are defined as small portioned packaged foods which can easily be eaten dry and with the hands. Messy or greasy foods that can damage library materials and facilities or aromatic or noisy foods may be distracting to others are not permitted.~~

Food is not permitted in makerspaces or other areas designated by signage.

#### **Enforcement**

Library staff will ask customers violating these policies to dispose of their items or leave the library. Refusal to cooperate is an infraction of the Library's Rules of Conduct and may lead to further action on part of the staff.







## **DENTON PUBLIC LIBRARY**

### **VOLUNTEER OPERATING POLICY**

Approved by the Denton Library Board, April 14, 2005  
Library Board approved revision, July 10, 2023

**POLICY STATEMENT:** The Denton Public Library Volunteer Program is designed to expand and enhance public service to the community. Volunteers, both adults and youth, generally provide support services to paid staff and/or work on special projects.

Volunteers are identified as persons who regularly perform duties or tasks for the Library without wages or benefits. Volunteers will not take the place of paid staff but will provide special, unusual, or supplemental services.

The Library shall designate a Volunteer Coordinator for each library location to oversee the supervision of volunteers. Each department that uses volunteers shall designate employees to train and supervise volunteers.

Adult volunteers are recognized by the public as representatives of the Library and shall be guided by the same work, behavior, and dress code as employees. Each volunteer will be expected to meet the overall strength demand of the functions performed during a typical workday. Volunteers shall participate in a regular evaluation process, ~~and~~ will work under an at-will status, and may be discharged with or without cause or notice. All volunteers ages 16 and over are subject to a background check.

All volunteers must agree to a minimum time commitment of 12 hours annually. Adult volunteers must view the video "DPL 101: Volunteer Basics," follow the instructions to complete a volunteer background check and create an account for the COD on-line volunteer database. Youth volunteers must, ~~complete a volunteer application form, and~~ be age 11 or older and also commit to 12 hours annually. Volunteers under 18 years of age must have written permission from a parent or guardian to volunteer for the Library, signing the Volunteer Agreement and Release and Background Check Authorization forms.

Summer Reading Challenge youth volunteers may wear appropriate summer wear in good taste, including shorts.

All volunteers will comply with City of Denton volunteer processes and procedures.



## DENTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

### LIBRARY VOLUNTEER GUIDELINES

Approved by the Denton Library Board, April 14, 2005  
Library Board approved revision, July 10, 2023

- ~~Anyone interested in volunteering must attend an orientation session as part of the application process. Orientations are held monthly.~~
- Volunteers must sign in at the service desk [or using the COD volunteer app](#) at the start of the shift and sign out at the end of shift.
- Library volunteers are required to wear identification badges when working in the library and to return them to the coordinator when they resign.
- Library volunteers will advise the supervisor concerning absences, changes in work schedule, or vacation.
- Library volunteers will notify the supervisor and the volunteer coordinator of the intention to vacate the volunteer position so that a replacement can be sought.
- The supervisor and the volunteer coordinator will assist with training, job assignments, questions, and concerns.
- Adult Library volunteers will dress according to the personal appearance policy of the City of Denton.
- A library volunteer is to keep confidential what he or she has seen a library customer check out.
- Volunteers should refrain from chatting excessively with staff and customers, especially about personal matters.
- Library volunteers will turn off cell phones while working. Personal phone calls should be made before or after working.
- Library supplies and materials are for use in the library by staff and volunteers during normal working hours. All materials and supplies are to be left in the library at the end of each workday.
- All library materials must be checked out on a valid library card.



## DENTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

### ~~DPL2Go~~ OUTREACH SERVICES OPERATING POLICY

Approved by Library Management Team, March 2, 2023  
Library Board approved, March 13, 2023

~~DPL2Go~~ Outreach Services focuses on building visibility, providing equitable access, and strengthening relationships within the City of Denton community. Library staff initiate, develop, and strengthen community relationships to enrich the lives of Denton residents through ~~Q~~outreach ~~s~~Services and programs.

~~DPL2Go~~ Outreach Services prioritizes equitable opportunities to community members who are unserved or underserved due to physical, economic, social, transportation, geographic, or other barriers.

Outreach ~~S~~services are an extension of Denton Public Library. All policies that govern Denton Public Library also govern outreach activities and events.

Outreach Services must take place within the service area of Denton City limits or at Denton ISD campuses. No library outreach events may take place at private residences.

Recurring or new outreach service activities in partnership with local businesses or organizations may require the completion of the ~~DPL2Go~~ Outreach Services Partner Agreement.

Outreach ~~s~~Services request forms must be received ~~no less than at least~~ two weeks ~~prior and no more than four months prior to~~ the date requested. A request does not guarantee library participation. A library staff member will respond to requests submitted within two business days.

The level of ~~e~~Outreach ~~s~~Services provided is dependent on library resources available, including staff time. Resources dedicated to each event will be considered on a case-by-case basis as staffing levels and supplies are available.

~~DPL2Go~~ Outreach Services ~~may prioritizes participate in~~ events that are free or open to the public.

The library reserves the right to cancel or modify outreach activities on short notice if an activity conflicts with the primary purpose of library ~~Q~~outreach ~~s~~Services, poses a safety risk to library staff or outreach participants, or participation drops below a sufficient number to justify the outreach effort.

Regular communication with community partners and library staff is essential to ~~e~~Outreach ~~s~~Services. Event specific goals for ~~e~~Outreach ~~s~~Services will be routinely

reviewed by partners and library staff. Partnerships that are not mutually beneficial to all parties may be modified or discontinued.



## **DENTON PUBLIC LIBRARY**

### **PROGRAM OPERATING POLICY**

Library Board approved revision, Oct. 14, 2024

Library programs, classes, and events (collectively referred to as “programs”) are an extension of library services, designed to promote and complement the library’s other collections. Denton Public Library is guided by the principles outlined in this document, aiming to provide clear guidance to library staff and inform the public about the principles that underpin library programming.

#### **Mission Statement:**

Denton Public Library transforms lives, strengthens community, and inspires imagination.

#### **Vision Statement:**

Denton Public Library empowers the community by providing inclusive services and resources which inspire innovation, imagination, and lifelong learning.

#### **Statement of Intellectual Freedom and Censorship**

The Library refrains from taking sides on public issues or promoting particular beliefs or viewpoints through its programs. It does not endorse opinions expressed by outside presenters or groups, ensuring programming represents various sides of contentious topics.

Adults are the best and final arbiters of what is appropriate for themselves. It is the parent and/or legal guardian, and only the parent and/or legal guardian, who may determine the appropriateness of their child, and only their child, attending any programming. Parents and/or legal guardians have sole responsibility for what their children read, view, or hear. Library staff and associated authorities do not serve in loco parentis (in place of parents.)

The Denton Public Library supports intellectual freedom and subscribes to the Library Bill of Rights and its interpretative statements, including “Library-Initiated Programs and Displays as a Resource: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights” (2019).

#### **Library Programming Priorities**

Denton Public Library is committed to offering comprehensive programming that:

- Provides quality experiences for all ages that encourage discovery, learning, and enrichment
- Champions literacy and knowledge for library users and the Denton community
- Strengthens community and provides inclusive access for all
- Inspires imagination through innovative experiences to expand horizons
- Upholds intellectual freedom by presenting a variety of perspectives and content

- Utilizes data and analysis to inform program selection, development, and evaluation

Programs are designed to serve people of all ages, backgrounds, and beliefs, without making value judgments about what individuals find relevant, helpful, or enjoyable.

### **Programming Responsibility**

Professional library staff are responsible for programming development, selection, and execution.

The Director of Libraries holds final responsibility for all library programming.

### **Partner Programs and External Presenters**

The library may partner with other agencies, organizations, and educational institutions for cooperative programming when it aligns with the library's mission. Presenters affiliated with commercial enterprises may provide general knowledge without directly promoting their businesses. Purely commercial programs are not permitted.

### **Criteria for Programming**

Library staff consider a number of criteria when planning programs:

- Alignment with the library's mission, vision, and strategic goals
- Relevance for the intended audience
- Representation of underrepresented segments of the Denton community
- Relevance to popular trends and current events
- Scarcity of programming in high-interest subjects
- Justification of programming expenses, staff time, and space based on anticipated attendance and outcomes
- Opportunities for collaboration with external partners and volunteers
- Duplication of or competition with existing outside community events
- Outcomes utilizing data and analysis and evaluation of previous programs

The capacity for programming is finite, and popular programs may be discontinued or placed on hiatus to allow for redevelopment or the introduction of new programming. The library is not obligated to provide a specific format or style of programming ~~at-in~~ any given calendar season.

No fees will be charged for attendance at library programs.

Use of the library's public meeting rooms by an organization or individual to hold a public event is not a library program and must follow the guidelines set out in the **Denton Public Library Meeting Room Policy**.

### **Organization of Programming**

Programming is primarily organized by target audience age range. For ages 5-17, target audiences are identified by their corresponding grade level in the public school system.

Age groups are:

- Birth-18 months
- 18 months-3 years
- 3 years-5 years
- Kindergarten-5<sup>th</sup> Grade
- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade-12<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Adults (18+)
- Seniors (65+)
- All Ages

The library acknowledges that not all programs within a target [age](#) audience will be universally deemed relevant or appropriate by all users. Determining the appropriateness of any program for minors is the sole responsibility of the parent or guardian.

The library plans programs for three seasons: Spring, Summer, and Fall. Programs are ideally planned at least six months in advance.

### **Audience Participation Expectations**

The library reserves the right to cancel programs as deemed necessary and will make every effort to notify the public in advance. Programs scheduled on a day when the Library is closed due to inclement weather are automatically cancelled. Rescheduling is at the discretion of the library staff.

The library reserves the right to use video or photographs taken of program participants for internal use, publication, promotional outlets, and evaluation purposes.

Attendees of all ages are expected to abide by the **Denton Public Library Rules of Conduct**. Parents are responsible for managing their children's behavior during programs and abide by the **Unattended Children Operating Policy**.

Library staff recognizes that children may sometimes display behaviors that are disruptive for a program situation. Parents will be asked to calm the child or leave the room with the child in the event of problem behavior. Once the child is no longer displaying these behaviors, they may return to the program.

Programs tailored to a specific audience as noted in the program description (e.g. English Language Classes for non-English speakers or a breastfeeding support class for parents and caregivers of newborns) may restrict participation accordingly.

Some programs ~~may~~ require pre-registration or tickets to [comply with safety and capacity requirements](#), manage [resources, attendance](#) and ensure a quality experience. The library reserves the right to deny participation to late arrivals, even if a ticket was ~~reserved~~ [received or reservation was made](#).

A library card is not required to attend a program, but patrons attending programs are



encouraged to apply for a card to take full advantage of all the library resources.

### **Age Limits for Programs**

Programs are open to the public unless, but may be specified for a particular target audience. The library reserves the right to restrict participation to ensure a quality experience for the intended audience. Age criteria will be noted in the program description.

- **Youth programs:** Designed for children (generally birth-5<sup>th</sup> grade) and caregivers with specific age groups listed in the program's description. Adults are only permitted if accompanying children or with prior approval.
- **Teen programs:** Generally, grades 6-12. Specific age groups listed in the program description, with no adult or young child attendance unless approved for special circumstances.
- **Adult programs:** For adults ages 18+, with no children allowed without prior approval.
- **All Ages Programs:** Suitable for multiple age groups, with specific ages noted in the program description as necessary.

Attendance may will be limited when safety or program success requires it, with priority given attendance prioritized on a first-come, first-served basis, either through registration, ticketing, or at the door. The staff member in charge of the program will determine when a program has reached capacity. A staff member or sign will indicate when program attendance has reached capacity.

### **Sale of Materials During Library Programs**

Ancillary materials, such as CDs or books related to the program, may be sold at library programs by outside presenters with prior approval from the library. Sales must be for items that promote literature, literacy, or culture and align with the library's mission. Presenters are encouraged to donate 10% of proceeds to the Friends of the Denton Public Libraries.

### **Groups Attending Programs**

Childcare centers or other organized groups must make arrangements with the library at least two weeks in advance to ensure space is available. Caregivers must follow child-to-caregiver ratios set by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services Minimum Standards for Child-Care Centers.

### **Tours**

Tours must be scheduled at least two weeks in advance.

### **Refreshments**

Refreshments may be served at programs, provided they are from a kitchen certified by the City of Denton Consumer Health Department or purchased pre-packaged from a store. At least one full-time public services staff member at each library location will maintain a valid Food Handler's Certification for events requiring food handling.

### **Evaluation of Programs**

Library staff will conduct regular evaluations of programs and services to make sure the needs of the community are being met within staff limitations and budgetary restrictions.

### **Objections to Library Programs**

The library welcomes public feedback on its programs. ~~Sponsorship of a library~~ Library sponsorship hosting of a program does not imply endorsement of its content or the views expressed. Programs will not be excluded or cancelled solely because they are considered controversial.

Concerns should first be addressed to the coordinating staff member. If unresolved, Denton residents may submit a **Statement of Concern** form. Programs subject to objections will remain on the calendar pending final action.

- After receipt by a librarian, the completed and signed form will be dated and submitted to the Director of Libraries.
- The Director will keep City Administration and the City Attorney's Office informed throughout the process.
- Review and response timelines may be modified in exceptional circumstances.
- The Director or assigned representative will receive a report about the program plan and observe the program if it has not yet occurred.
- Objections to library programs will be evaluated as to whether or not the programming is in line with this policy.
- The complainant will receive the Director's response within three (3) months unless exceptional circumstances arise. The Director's decision is final unless timely and properly appealed as provided in this Operating Policy.
- If unsatisfied, the complainant may appeal in writing to the Denton Public Library Reevaluation Appeal Committee, comprised of members of the Denton Library Advisory Board, within 30 days of the date of the Director's response letter.
- The Director will supply each Appeal Committee member with all documentation relevant to the evaluation process.
- The Appeal Committee will review the appeal ~~that~~ the next regularly scheduled meeting if the appeal is submitted at least 30 days before the next scheduled Board meeting. If the appeal is not submitted ~~within~~ at least 30 days before the scheduled Library Board meeting, the appeal will be heard at the following Board meeting. Appeals will be evaluated as to whether or not the completed evaluation was in line with this policy.
- The Appeal Committee's decision is final and will be communicated in writing to the complainant by Library Administration.

Once a decision is final, the program or program series will not be eligible for further reevaluation for five years.



**DENTON PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**STATEMENT OF CONCERN  
FOR LIBRARY PROGRAMS OR DISPLAYS**

Library Board approved revision, Oct. 14, 2024

*Note: If you wish to request reconsideration of an item in the library's collection, please use the Reconsideration of Library Materials Form.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I reside or own property within the city limits of the City of Denton

☐ I have a current borrower account at the Denton Public Library

Library card # \_\_\_\_\_

**Program or display on which you are commenting:**

Name/Description: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Branch: ☐ Emily Fowler Central Library ☐ North Branch ☐ South Branch

Presenter/Performer (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Intended Audience: ☐ All Ages ☐ Adult ☐ Teen ☐ Children

Any other descriptive information \_\_\_\_\_

Please list your reasons for filing this request. Please be as specific as possible. (You may attach pages to this form if needed.)

What brought this program or display to your attention?

Have you attended the entire program or event or viewed the entire display? Have you attended another event with this presenter?

Did you share your concerns with library staff at the program/branch? What was their response?

In what way could this program or display be of value?

Please suggest alternative events, displays, or services that could provide similar information on this topic or support in this area to the community.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return the completed form to the Director of Libraries, [library@cityofdenton.com](mailto:library@cityofdenton.com).

# Library Bill of Rights

The American Library Association affirms that all libraries are forums for information and ideas, and that the following basic policies should guide their services.

I. Books and other library resources should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people of the community the library serves. Materials should not be excluded because of the origin, background, or views of those contributing to their creation.

II. Libraries should provide materials and information presenting all points of view on current and historical issues. Materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.

III. Libraries should challenge censorship in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.

IV. Libraries should cooperate with all persons and groups concerned with resisting abridgment of free expression and free access to ideas.

V. A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views.

VI. Libraries which make exhibit spaces and meeting rooms available to the public they serve should make such facilities available on an equitable basis, regardless of the beliefs or affiliations of individuals or groups requesting their use.

VII. All people, regardless of origin, age, background, or views, possess a right to privacy and confidentiality in their library use. Libraries should advocate for, educate about, and protect people's privacy, safeguarding all library use data, including personally identifiable information.

Adopted June 19, 1939, by the ALA Council; amended October 14, 1944; June 18, 1948; February 2, 1961; June 27, 1967; January 23, 1980; January 29, 2019.

Inclusion of "age" reaffirmed January 23, 1996.

Although the Articles of the *Library Bill of Rights* are unambiguous statements of basic principles that should govern the service of all libraries, questions do arise concerning application of these principles to specific library practices. See the documents designated by the Intellectual Freedom Committee as Interpretations of the Library Bill of Rights.

## **Library-Initiated Programs and Displays as a Resource: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights**

Library-initiated programs support the mission of the library by providing users with additional opportunities for accessing information, education, and recreation. Article I of the *Library Bill of Rights* states, “Books and other library resources should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people of the community the library serves.” Library displays increase awareness of programs, resources, and services.

Library-initiated programs include, but are not limited to, lectures, displays, exhibits, community forums, performing and visual arts,<sup>1</sup> participatory workshops, technology programming, creative learning programming, wellness programs, story times, continuing education, fairs and conventions, book clubs, discussion groups, demonstrations, and presentations for social, cultural, educational, or entertainment purposes. Library-initiated programs may take place onsite at the library, off-site at other locations, or online, and may be provided by library workers, volunteers, or partners. Libraries may also choose to promote their programs, services, and resources through displays and digital signs.

Library-initiated programs and displays utilize library worker expertise for community interests, collections, services, facilities, and providing access to information and information resources. They introduce users and potential users to library resources and the library’s role as a facilitator of information access. The library may participate in cooperative or joint programs with other agencies, organizations, institutions, or individuals to facilitate information access in the community the library serves.

Libraries should not discriminate against individuals with disabilities and shall ensure they have equitable access to library resources. Library-initiated programs and displays should comply with all applicable laws, including the standards and requirements of The Americans with Disabilities Act and state and local disability accessibility guidelines.<sup>2</sup> If a program is held in a location not controlled by the library, the library should assure that the space is accessible to all users. If users overflow designated event areas during library events, libraries should secure accessible public spaces (e.g., ramps, pathways, and emergency exit routes) to ensure access and safety for everyone. Reasonable accommodations should also be made to have interpretation or real-time captioning for the deaf or hard of hearing at library-initiated programs when needed or requested by library users.

“Socially excluded, marginalized, and underrepresented people, not just the mainstream majority, should be able to see themselves reflected in the resources and programs that libraries offer.”<sup>3</sup> Libraries should actively seek to include a variety of programming options representing diversity of genres, formats, ideas, and expressions with a multitude of viewpoints and cultural perspectives that reflect the diversity in our communities. Library-initiated programs that cross language and cultural barriers introduce community members to the library’s resources and provide access to information. Libraries serving multilingual or multicultural communities should make efforts to accommodate the information needs of those who speak and read languages other than English, including advertising for such events.

Concerns, questions, or complaints about library-initiated programs and displays are handled according to the same written policy and procedures that govern reconsiderations of other library resources. These policies should apply equally to all people, including, but not limited to, library users, staff, and members of the governing body. The policies should set forth the library's commitment to free and open access to information and ideas for all users.

Programs should not be canceled because of the ideas or topics of the program or the views expressed by the participants or speakers, nor should library workers censor or remove displays because someone may disagree with the content. Library sponsorship of a program does not constitute an endorsement of the program content or the views expressed by the participants or speakers, any more than the purchase of resources for the library collection or curation of a display constitutes an endorsement of the resources content or its creator's views. Libraries should vigorously defend the First Amendment right of speakers and participants to express themselves.

Article V of the *Library Bill of Rights* states, "A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views." The right to use a library encompasses all the resources the library offers, including the right to attend library-initiated programs. Libraries create programs for an intended age group or audience based on educational suitability and audience interest; however, restrictions on participation based solely on the gender, chronological age, or educational level of users violate this right and should be enforced only when not doing so would adversely impact the safety of the participants or interfere with the intended purpose of the program. Parents and guardians may restrict their own children's access to library programs, but no person or organization can interfere in others' access and participation. A parent or guardian may discuss their child's access to and participation in library programs with their child, but may not impose those decisions on others, including other people's children.

Libraries should not deny access to library-initiated programs if patrons owe the library for overdue fines or other fees. If libraries charge program participants for supplies used, they should make every effort to reduce economic barriers to participation.

Any collection and retention of program participants' personal information should be on an opt-in basis only. While attendees may need to demonstrate their eligibility to attend the program by showing a library card or student ID, they should not be required to share their personal information in order to attend a library program.

<sup>1</sup> "Visual and Performing Arts in Libraries: An Interpretation of the [Library Bill of Rights](#)," adopted February 13, 2018, by ALA Council.

<sup>2</sup> "Services to People with Disabilities: An Interpretation of the [Library Bill of Rights](#)," adopted January 28, 2009, by the ALA Council; amended June 26, 2018.

<sup>3</sup> "Equity, Diversity, Inclusion: An Interpretation of the [Library Bill of Rights](#)," adopted June 27, 2017, by the ALA Council.

Adopted January 27, 1982, by the ALA Council; amended June 26, 1990; July 12, 2000; June 26, 2018 *under previous name* "Library-Initiated Programs as a Resource"; and June 24, 2019.





# City of Denton

City Hall  
215 E. McKinney Street  
Denton, Texas  
[www.cityofdenton.com](http://www.cityofdenton.com)

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## AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET

**DEPARTMENT:** Library

**ACM:** Frank Dixon

**DATE:** October 13, 2025

### **SUBJECT**

Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding:

- FY25/26 Budget Impacts
- Halloween Library Cards
- DISD Back to School
- Tonies® Tour

### **BACKGROUND**

Library department proposed budget changes have the following impacts to the department in the new fiscal year.

- Library training and travel reduced to only required training for staff already serving on state or national committees or as required for accreditation.
- Hoopla Digital Services cancelled. CloudLibrary eBooks and digital audiobooks remain funded at the same amount as FY24/25.
- ~10% reduction in physical collection budget.
- Cancellation of CollectionHQ and ESP collection analysis software.
- Adding a room management software solution.
- Retaining Brainfuse Homework Help online tutoring service.
- Minor updates to the Schedule of Fees reflecting increased supply costs. The approved schedule of fees is attached as Exhibit 2 with redline edits to show the changes.

The library is offering Denton Halloween themed library cards again this year. Two designs were available starting October 1. The library has purchased 500 of last year's design and 500 of the new Halloween design. Patrons with existing accounts can purchase a replacement card with the design of their choice for \$2.00. New library cardholders will have the option to choose either Halloween design or the traditional Denton courthouse design when they create their accounts.

Library staff and volunteers participated in the Denton ISD Back to School Fair at LaGrone Academy, engaging with 1,050 students and family members. Staff shared information about activation of student Books2Go accounts for parents who opted their students into the service, online resources and digital collections, and other library services to support students and families.

Denton Public Library will be one of three Texas stops on the Tonies® Tour. Tonies are a screen free option for children to enjoy stories read by their favorite characters. Once a figurine is placed on the soft square speaker box, a story is read aloud. Children can listen or read along with favorite children's book

characters such as Pete the Cat, Elephant & Piggie, Llama Llama, and more. The Tonies® Tour features a van with a pop-up program demonstrating Tonies and providing early literacy tips for caregivers. Denton Public Library will also release new Discovery Kits with Tonies® for check out after the event. The event will be held this fall at the North Branch Library. The date and time will be announced once the event is finalized.

**EXHIBITS**

1. Agenda Information Sheet
2. 2025-2026 Library Schedule of Fees

Respectfully submitted:  
Jennifer Bekker  
Director of Libraries

Prepared by:  
Jennifer Bekker  
Director of Libraries

**Denton Public Library**  
**~~2023~~2025-20246 Schedule of Fees**

**Lost or Damaged Item Fees** *Loss or damage to library materials*

Lost DVD or Music CD case (complete)	\$ <del>6</del> 7.00
Lost Audiobook Case (complete)	\$12.50
Damaged DVD or Music case	\$ <del>1.50</del> 2.00
Damaged Audiobook case	\$8.00
Damaged or missing barcode	\$1.00
Lost or damaged RFID tag	\$ <del>0.50</del> 1.00
Lost or damaged CD/DVD/Audiobook cover/insert	\$3.00
Lost or damaged audiobook CD	\$10.00 per CD
Lost or damaged Discovery Kit container	\$1 <del>50</del> .00
Lost or damaged ILL Strap	\$2.50
Lost or ruined Discovery Kit components	\$5.00, \$10.00, \$20.00, \$40.00, \$60.00, \$80.00, or \$100.00 per item as indicated in each Discovery Kit
Lost or ruined materials	Cost for item as noted in the item record

**Library Cards and Account Fees** *Fees for replacement cards and non-resident accounts*

Replacement card	\$2.00
Non-resident card	\$50/year or \$25/6 months

**Collection Agency Fees** *Fees for collection agency contacting patron regarding outstanding charges*

Accrued charges between \$10.00 and \$24.99	\$3.25
Accrued charges \$25 and over	\$9.85

**Printing and Copying Costs** *Fees for printing and copying*

Black & White	\$0.10/page
Color	\$0.25/page
3D Printing	\$0. <del>75</del> 20/40-grams

**Makerspace Material Costs** *Fees for makerspace material supplies*

Laminating	\$0.50/linear foot
Miscellaneous Materials	\$1.00, \$2.50, \$5.00, \$10.00, \$15.00, \$20.00, or \$25.00 per item as indicated on displayed sample materials

**Retail\*** *Sale of supplies to the public*

USB drive	\$5.00
Earbuds	\$1.00

*\*Sales taxes apply to retail sale items.*