

# LOOK HERE FIRST

February 2025 Newsletter | Volume 34, No. 2 | framinghamlibrary.org



**Celebrate National Comfy Day at your local Library** February 20, All day | Main Library & McAuliffe Branch

Come celebrate National Comfy Day with us. Dress in your coziest clothes and curl up with a good book in any corner or nook! Slippers, flannel, and PJs welcome.

Relax, unwind, and stay as long as you like. Snacks and warm beverages to be provided at both libraries throughout the day.

## Framingham Public Library Foundation News

Thanks to the many people and organizations who have supported FPLF projects. February 2025 marks the 9th anniversary of the opening of the McAuliffe Branch Library, our first project and the first City building with solar panels. The FPLF's goal is to continue to support capital projects involving the two libraries and the Bookmobile.

For more information about the FPLF, email Ruth Winett at rwinett@ rcn.com. To make a donation, go to www.fplf.org or send a check to FPLF, 49 Lexington Street, Framingham, MA 01702.



# National Opera Day Matinee: La Bohème

#### February 8, 2PM | Main Library, Costin Room | 2008, NR, 1h 55m

Celebrate National Opera Day with *La Bohème*. Set in Paris in the 1830s, this opera is a true romantic tragedy, telling the love story of Mimi and Rodolfo. Come see what is unquestionably the most popular opera of all time!

#### Ronny Le Blanc presents New England UFOs

#### February 11, 7PM | Main Library, Costin Room

Join Discovery Channel's Ronny LeBlanc from Expedition Bigfoot and Paranormal Caught On Camera as he dives into the world of UFOs and UAPs here in New England.

# Artist Talk: The Miniatures of Abraham Megerdichian

#### February 27, 6:30PM | Main Library, Costin Room

Abraham Megerdichian was a machinist who, in his free time, re-machined scrap metal into miniature interpretations of everyday objects. Join us for a presentation of his life and art and see a selection of over 400 objects on display at the Main Library February 15–27.

Both the Main Library and McAuliffe Branch are closed on Sunday, February 16 and Monday, February 17 for Presidents' Day.

#### Main Library

49 Lexington Street 508.532.5570 Monday–Thursday 9–9 Friday–Saturday 9–5 Sunday 1–5 Christa McAuliffe Branch Library 746 Water Street 508.532.5636 Monday–Thursday 9:30–9 Friday–Saturday 9:30–5 Sunday 12–4 Sign up for email updates of Library news and events at framinghamlibrary.org!

Funding for Library programs is provided in part by the Friends of the Framingham Library.













# Lifelong Learning Lecture: What Would Lincoln Do? Division in American Political Life

February 13, 7PM | Online via Zoom Explore a moment of division in US history and learn from the leadership of Abraham Lincoln in addressing, and ultimately resolving, the divisions of his time as a guide for solutions for ours. Join the Lifelong Learning Lecture mailing list to receive the Zoom link.

# Spark Lab: Origami Love Letters February 14, 2PM | Main Library, Spark Lab

Let's celebrate Valentine's Day folding origami love letters. Come learn three styles of letterfolds. Space and supplies are limited. **Registration required** and opens on January 30.

# Art Journal Jam for Adults February 18, 6PM | Main Library, Spark Lab

Bring your own art journal or sketchbook and prepare to get messy! Join us for this casual, unstructured session exploring the possibilities of art journals. No experience required. Supplies are provided, but feel free to bring your favorite medium to work in. Space is limited. **Registration is required**.

# McAuliffe Craft Ladies: Altered Bottles

#### February 19, 7PM | McAuliffe Branch, Community Room

Come decorate bottles with sheet music, decorative paper, twine, and wooden cutouts. A string of lights will provide the finishing touch. Space and supplies are limited. **Registration required**.

# AARP Tax Assistance

#### February 22, 9:30-2:45PM (by appointment only) | McAuliffe Branch, Community Room

IRS trained and certified AARP tax volunteers can help you prepare your 2024 federal and state income tax returns. Intended for those of low to middle income with special attention given to those 60+. **Register for an appointment now!** 

# Bachata: Learn & Dance

#### February 22, 3PM | Main Library, Costin Room

Join us for our monthly Bachata at the library! Beginner-friendly and inclusive. No partner necessary. Sign-up to join our **Dance Class mailing list** to stay on top of upcoming dance classes.

## Bob Dodd Sunday Concert: Chester Brezniak and Olga Rogach February 23, 3PM | Main Library, Costin

Room & YouTube

Join us for this month's Bob Dodd Sunday Concert, featuring clarinet and piano duo Chester Brezniak and Olga Rogach. Doors open at 2:30. Refreshments provided.

# Virtual Reality: MLK—Now Is the Time

#### February 24 & 26, 2–7PM | McAuliffe Branch, Community Room

Experience this immersive journey exploring the key themes of Dr. King's speech and see how his message still resonates today. To reserve a 45 minute time slot, please call the McAuliffe Branch at 508.532.5636 or register online.

## **Painted Cork Coasters**

## February 25, 6–8PM | McAuliffe Branch, Community Room

Join us to create your very own cork board coasters, perfect for adding a personalized touch to your home. Using acrylic markers and paint, decorate your coasters with unique designs, patterns, or whatever inspires you. Come unleash your creativity, and take home a functional piece of art. Drop-ins welcome.

# Lifelong Learning Lecture: Lord Byron: Still Worth Reading February 27, 7PM | Zoom only

Though his poetry is not often taught nowadays, on the 200th anniversary of his death, it's a good time to celebrate Lord Byron's considerable talent. Join Dr. Helen Heineman to examine his short life and lasting work. Sign up for the Lifelong Learning Lecture mailing list to receive the Zoom link.

# **BOOK DISCUSSIONS**

Join the mailing list for one, two, or all of our book discussions! Learn which books are chosen for each meeting and receive Zoom links for online discussions. **Find sign-up forms online**.

Main Library Book Discussion: *Rules of Civility* by Amor Towles February 4, 7PM | Online via Zoom | Join mailing list.

March 4: Bear: A Novel by Julia Philips

McAuliffe Book Discussion (Evening): *Shark Heart* by Emily Habeck February 11, 7PM | McAuliffe Branch, Community Room | Join mailing list.

March 11: Blink by Malcolm Gladwell

Science Fiction Book Discussion: *The Psychology of Time Travel* by Kate Mascarenhas February 12, 7PM | Main Library, Costin Room & Zoom | Join mailing list.

March 12: Land of Milk and Honey by C. Pam Zhang

**Queer Reads Book Discussion:** *Bury Your Gays* by Chuck Tingle February 18, 7PM | Main Library, Costin Room | Join mailing list.

March 20: A Marvelous Light by Freya Marske at McAuliffe Branch

**McAuliffe Book Discussion (Morning):** *Ethan Frome* by Edith Wharton February 20, 10AM | McAuliffe Branch, Community Room | Join mailing list.

March 18: North Woods by Daniel Mason





# FILMS

#### McAuliffe Matinee: Casablanca

February 12, 1PM | McAuliffe Branch, Community Room | PG, 1942, 1h 42m "A cynical expatriate American cafe owner struggles to decide whether or not to help his former lover and her fugitive husband escape the Nazis in French Morocco."

#### McAuliffe Matinee: The Finest Hours

February 19, 1PM | McAuliffe Branch, Community Room | PG-13, 2016, 1h 57m "The Coast Guard makes a daring rescue attempt off the coast of Cape Cod after a pair of oil tankers are destroyed during a blizzard in 1952."

#### Musicals at McAuliffe: Bye Bye Birdie

February 20, 1PM | McAuliffe Branch, Community Room | G, 1963, 1h 52m "A rock singer travels to a small Ohio town to make his 'farewell' television performance and kiss his biggest fan before he is drafted."

#### Monday Matinee: Conclave

February 24, 2PM | Main Library, Costin Room | PG, 2024, 2h "When Cardinal Lawrence is tasked with leading one of the world's most secretive and ancient events, selecting a new Pope, he finds himself at the center of a conspiracy that could shake the very foundation of the Catholic Church."

# **ONGOING EVENTS**

#### **Tone & Stretch**

\*Mondays, 4:30PM | Zoom New members join our mailing list to receive weekly email reminders.

#### \*No class February 17

#### Stretch & Relax

Wednesdays, 4:30PM | Zoom New members join our mailing list to receive weekly email reminders.

#### **One-on-One Career Services**

Thursdays, 9AM–1:30PM | Zoom only Email career coach Ed Lawrence at elawrence@minlib.net to schedule an appointment.

#### Monthly Free Practice Interview Group

February 12, 3–4:30PM | Main Library, Children's Program Room

Drop in to our monthly practice interview group led by Ed Lawrence.

#### Writing Together on Wednesdays

February 5 & 19, 7PM | Main Library, Children's Program Room

Bring your writing tools and join us as we build a local community of writers.

#### Release, Relax, Reinvigorate: Meditation with Leslie

February 20, 10AM | Online via Zoom Enjoy a half-hour meditation session with Leslie Gabriele. Join our mailing list to receive monthly email reminders.

#### Veterans At Ease Coffee Hour

February 21, 10AM | McAuliffe Branch, Community Room

Join local veterans for free coffee and refreshments.

Yarn Social Clubs Wednesdays, 10AM and 2nd & 4th Saturdays, 10AM | Main Library

Wednesdays, 6PM | McAuliffe Branch

# Puzzle Swap

February 24, 7PM | McAuliffe Branch

# YOUNG ADULTS

#### Weekly Minecraft Collaborative Build

Wednesdays, 1–3PM | Online | Grades 4–12

Every Wednesday, work on a group build in creative mode. You must be accepted on the Minecraft server to participate. For more information, visit framinghamlibrary.org/minecraft.



#### Maker Mondays: DIY Squishies February 3, 10 & 24, 3PM | Main Library, Spark Lab | Grades 6–12

Cut out your own squishy friend from memory foam and paint it however you like. Come one week to make something simple, or come back several weeks in a row to make an elaborate masterpiece!

## **Early Release Day Movie** February 6, 12:30PM | McAuliffe Branch | Grades 5–12

It's an early release day, so we provide some movies and popcorn, and you choose what we watch.



# Alphabet Soup—Queer Teen Hangout

February 6, 6–7PM | Main Library, Teen Room | Grades 6–12

#### February 20, 6–7PM | McAuliffe Branch, Teen Room | Grades 6–12

A twice monthly meeting for LGBTQIA+ and allied teens to hang out and do arts and crafts. On the first Thursday, meet at the Main Library, and on the third Thursday, meet at the McAuliffe Branch.

#### Video Game Hangout

February 21, 3PM | Main Library | Grades 6–12

Play video games and eat snacks!

#### Music Bingo

February 22, 2–3PM | Main Library, Teen Room | Grades 6–12

Join us at the Main Library for an afternoon of Music Bingo! Test your knowledge of music from a variety of genres.

# LITERACY UNLIMITED

#### **Tutor Information Session**

February 6, 1PM | Main Library, Costin Room or online via Zoom

Interested in volunteering as a tutor for adults learning English? Come to the Literacy Unlimited Information Session on Thursday, February 6 to learn about our free tutor training course.

Discover how you can help promote language and literacy skills for adults in the Framingham community and beyond. No prior teaching experience or foreign language skills required.

To learn more about our program and to register for the Information Session, visit framinghamlibrary.org/literacy.

# SUPPORTERS

# Friends Monthly Book Sale

February 15, 10AM–3PM | Main Library

Friends members may enter the sale at 9:30AM. If you've come to previous sales, we look forward to seeing you soon. If you've never been, give it a try. We know you'll be pleased with the breadth and volume of our offerings.

**Can't Make the Book Sale?** The Friends Bookstore is open during library hours.

**Did You Know?** Proceeds from the Friends Book Sales directly support the library and its community by raising money to expand resources and services. We go the extra mile to fund classes, concerts, films, museum passes, and more.

# MAIN LIBRARY CHILDREN'S SPECIAL EVENTS

## Black History Month Look-and-Learn Activity

#### All Month | Children's Room

Look around the room to learn about Black activists, authors, and trailblazers in STEM. See if you can find them all!

#### Lunar New Year Community Celebration

#### February 1, 11AM | Costin Room | All Ages

Join us in a community celebration of Lunar New Year with activities, crafts, and performances by students at Walsh Middle School and Framingham High School.



#### Mother Goose on the Loose

February. 3, 10, & 24, 5:30PM | Children's Room Registration closed. Check back for the next session!

## Year of the Snake Craft

February 3, 11AM | Spark Lab | Ages 3+ Create a silly snake for this year's Lunar New Year animal!

## Hora de Cuentos en Español con Sohli y Raquel 8 de febrero, 2PM | Children's Room

Acompáñenos para escuchar historias divertidas y hacer manualidades temáticas. Todas las edades son bienvenidas. Se recomiendan las manualidades para niños mayores de 3 años.

## Valentine Making

#### February. 10, 5PM | Spark Lab | All Ages

Come make your own valentines for the special people in your life! Stamps, gems, and other card making materials are available.

# Rosa Parks Craft

#### February 13, 2PM | Spark Lab | Ages 3+

Learn about Black History Month while making a Rosa Parks inspired craft.

#### Lego Build

#### February 13, 4PM | Spark Lab | Ages 5+

Make a Lego creation each month, using our spinning wheel of ideas or using your imagination!

#### Mandarin Storytime and Craft

February 15, 3PM | Children's Room | Ages 3–5 Join Jing for a storytime and craft spoken in Mandarin!

# Kids Paint Afternoon

#### February 18, 2PM | Spark Lab | Ages 7+

Hang out and paint a chosen winter scene on canvas. Juice and snacks provided! Get a raffle ticket from the Children's Desk within 30 minutes of the program to secure your spot. Space is limited.

## Air Dry Clay Workshop

#### February 19 & 20, 1:30PM | Spark Lab | Ages 8+

Come to this two session program to create your own clay piece! Day one (Feb. 19), craft your clay piece and leave it at the library to dry. Day two (Feb. 20) you can paint your piece and take it home!

## Keep Framingham Beautiful Storytime

#### February 20, 10AM | Children's Room | Ages 3–5

This special storytime is hosted by Keep Framingham Beautiful, who will read books on caring for the earth with a fun activity and craft afterwards!

## Winter Cookie Reading Club Wrap-Up Party

February 22, 2PM | Spark Lab & Children's Room | Ages 0–12 Join us for a cookies and hot cocoa party with prizes and more to wrap up our winter reading program!

# MCAULIFFE BRANCH CHILDREN'S SPECIAL EVENTS

# Black History Month Look-and-Learn Activity

#### All Month | Children's Room

Look around the room to learn about Black activists, authors, and trailblazers in STEM. See if you can find them all!

#### **Open Color**

February 5, 3:30PM | Craft Room | All Ages Drop in to color printed out pictures and do fun mazes and word activity sheets!

#### Meta Vaux Warrick Fuller Clay Sculptures

February 6, 1:30PM | Craft Room | All Ages

In honor of Black History Month, let's create our own sculptures in memory of Meta Vaux Warrick Fuller, Framingham native and an African-American artist who participated in the Harlem Renaissance. With air dry clay, let your imagination fly!

#### The Poop Museum

#### February 8, 10AM | Community Room | All Ages

The Poop Museum is coming to the Library! Do you know who's the world's messiest pooper? The animal that has poop attack powers? The animal that uses poop as protection? Who's the rainbow pooper? The animal that has to hold its poop ALL winter long? Come learn from Susie Maguire, Poop Expert, as she teaches you all this and more!

#### Mandarin Storytime and Craft

#### February 8, 2PM & February 22, 3PM | Community & Craft Rooms | Ages 3–5

Join Jing for a storytime and craft spoken in Mandarin!

#### Love Bugs

#### February 14, 3:30PM | Craft Room | All Ages

Join in and get bit by the Love Bug this Valentine's Day!







# Vacation Week Movie: The Wild Robot (2024)

# February 18, 11:30AM | Community Room | All Ages

After a shipwreck, an intelligent robot called Roz is stranded on an uninhabited island. To survive the harsh environment, Roz bonds with the island's animals and cares for an orphaned baby goose. Rated PG; 101 mins; Closed captions provided.

# Jean-Michel Basquiat Crown Paintings

# February 21, 11AM | Craft Room | Ages 5+

Come celebrate Black History Month by creating paintings inspired by Jean-Michel Basquiat using crayons and paint.

# Winter Cookie Reading Club Wrap-Up Party

February 22, 10AM | Craft Room | Ages 0–12

Join us for a cookies and hot cocoa party with prizes and more to wrap up our winter reading program!

# Toddler Craft: Noise Shakers

#### February 26, 11AM | Craft Room | Ages 2+ Fill a tube with different materials and then decorate to make your own noise shaker!

# Lego Build

# February 27, 3:30PM | Craft Room | Ages 5+

Make a Lego creation based on each month's theme.

# TWEEN EVENTS

#### Kids' Chess Club

February 4, 5PM | Main Library, Homework Center

#### February 18, 5PM | McAuliffe Branch, Community Room

This Chess Club is an informal group welcoming everyone from new players to junior chess masters! Chess boards are provided—or bring your own! Staff are available to help with questions, but do not teach chess.

# Spark Lab Satellite: STEM Dinosaurs

February 20, 2PM | McAuliffe Branch, Craft Room | Grades 4–8 Build these 3D Dinosaurs and learn about electricity and motors! Registration required.

## **Tinker Thursdays**

February 27, 6PM | Main Library, Spark Lab | Grades 4–8 Join us the last Thursday of each month to create, using items from our makerspace! Every month we bring out different materials and tools.

# **ONGOING EVENTS**



# Winter Cookie Reading Club

#### December 1–February 22 | Main Library & McAuliffe Branch Children's Room | Ages 0–12

For every book you read, fill out a "cookie" and fill up the glasses of milk in the Children's Rooms! Sign up anytime from December to February. On February 22, we host a cookies and hot cocoa party with prizes and more to wrap up our winter reading program!

# Weekly Storytime for Ages 3–5

Mondays at 10AM | McAuliffe Branch, Children's Room

Thursdays at 10AM | Main Library, Children's Room

Drop in every week for age-appropriate stories and a craft.

# Baby Storytime for Ages 0–2

Tuesdays at 10AM | McAuliffe Branch, Community Room

# Fridays at 10:30AM | Main Library, Costin Room

Sing and play with words, rhyme, and puppets!

February 2025						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Black History Month Look-and-Learn Activity All Month @ Main and McAuliffe Look around the room to learn about Black activists, authors, and trailblazers in STEM. See if you can find them all!		Book Buddies: Reading to Dogs Sat. Feb. 1, 11:30AM @ McAuliffe (Arden) Sat. Feb. 8, 11AM @ Main (Duncan) Sat. Feb. 15, 12PM @ McAuliffe (Cosmo) Tue. Feb. 18, 11AM @ Main (Duncan) Wed. Feb. 19, 11AM @ McAuliffe (Duncan)		Winter Cookie Reading Club Wrap-Up Party Sat. Feb. 22 10am @ McAuliffe & 2pm @ Main Join us for a cookies and hot cocoa party with prizes and more!		1
						Lunar New Year Community Celebration 11am @ Main
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Year of the Snake Craft 11am @ Main	Kids' Chess Club	<b>Open Color</b> 3:30pm @ McAuliffe	Meta Vaux Warrick Fuller Clay Sculptures 1:30pm @ McAuliffe		The Poop Museum 10am @ McAuliffe Hora de Cuentos en Español 2pm @ Main
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
* ÿ	Valentine Making 5pm @ Main	Parachute Play 11am @McAuliffe	Rosa Parks Craft 2pm @ Main	<b>Lego Build</b> 4pm @ Main	PomPom Play 11:30am @ Main Valentine's Craft: Love Bugs 3:30pm @ McAuliffe	Mandarin Storytime and Craft 3pm @ Main
16 🔨	17 🔨	18	19	20	21	22
Sorry, We're Closed	Sorry, We're Closed	Movie: The Wild Robot 11:30am @ McAuliffe Kids Paint Afternoon 2pm @ Main Kids' Chess Club 5pm @ McAuliffe	Air Dry Clay Workshop: Day 1 1:30pm @ Main	Air Dry Clay Workshop: Day 2 1:30pm @ Main Spark Lab Satellite 2pm @ McAuliffe	Jean-Michel Basquiat Crown Paintings 11am @ McAuliffe	Winter Cookie Reading Club Wrap-Up Party 10am @ McAuliffe 2pm @ Main
23	24	25	26	27	28	
			Toddler Craft: Noise Shakers 11am @ McAuliffe	Fizzy Hearts 11am @ McAuliffe Lego Build 3:30pm @ McAuliffe Tinker Thursdays 6pm @ Main	Finger Painting 11:30am @ Main	
Weekly Storytime (Ages 2-5) McAuliffe: Mondays, 10-10:30am Main: Thursdays,10-10:30am 2/20 - Special guest @ Main: Keep Framingham Beautiful			<b>Weekly Baby Storytime</b> (Ages 0-2) McAuliffe: Tuesdays, 10-10:30am Main: Fridays, 10:30-11am			

# **Book Buddies: Reading to Dogs**

February 1, 11:30AM | McAuliffe Branch, Craft Room (Arden) February 8, 11AM | Main Library, Children's Room (Duncan) February 15, 12PM | McAuliffe Branch, Craft Room (Cosmo) February 18, 11AM | Main Library, Children's Room (Duncan) February 19, 11AM | McAuliffe Library, Craft Room (Duncan)

Improve your reading skills by reading aloud to your new Book Buddy. Registration required. Call or drop by to sign up for a time slot.

# Baby Sensory Crafts

Fun, safe, & simple sensory activities to help your baby explore.

Parachute Play Ages 0–3 February 11, 11AM | McAuliffe Branch, Community Room

**Fizzy Hearts Ages 2–4** February 27, 11AM | McAuliffe Branch, Craft Room

PomPom Play Ages 1–4 February 14, 11:30AM | Main Library, Children's Room

Finger Painting Ages 1–4 February 28, 11:30AM | Main Library, Children's Room

# **Ongoing Early Childhood Alliance Events**

Play, Learn, & Grow Together Tuesdays 10AM | Sign up here!

Let's Go to Kindergarten Fridays 12PM | Sign up here!

I'm Duncan. Will you read to me?

