



THE FOUNTAIN

FOUNTAINDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT NEWSLETTER



WINTER
2025-2026



JANUARY 12–FEBRUARY 28

ADULTS

READ OR LISTEN FOR 500 MINUTES TO WIN GREAT PRIZES!
AGES 18 AND OLDER

TEENS

READ OR LISTEN FOR 360 MINUTES TO EARN A FREE BOOK AND
ENTRY INTO THE GRAND PRIZE DRAWING! GRADES 6–12

CHILDREN

PICK UP A GAME BOARD FROM THE CHILDREN'S DESK, AND EARN
PRIZES AS YOU COMPLETE CHALLENGE ACTIVITIES. MAKE IT
AROUND THE GAME BOARD TO GET A VOUCHER FOR A FREE
BOOK FROM THE FRIENDS BOOK CELLAR. AGE 0–GRADE 5



New Horror Fiction Collection Unleashed

Get chilled and thrilled all year long with our new adult Horror Fiction collection now available on the 3rd floor! Whether you're a fan of psychological terror, classic monsters or eerie tales that keep you up at night, we've brought together more than 600 spine-tingling titles to haunt your TBR list. There's something waiting in the shadows just for you... if you dare to explore!

Chicago Tribune CHICAGO SUN-TIMES Bolingbrook Reporter

DIGITAL NEWSPAPERS AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

Need News Now? Try Our Digital Newspapers

Stay informed anytime, anywhere with digital access to popular regional and local newspapers right at your fingertips. In addition to PressReader, where you can browse hundreds of newspapers and magazines from around the world, we recently added new eResources to help you stay connected to the news happening nearby.

Explore the Chicago Community Collection, featuring full digital access to content from Chicago's local, regional and national news sources, including *Chicago Sun-Times*, Bolingbrook's *The Reporter* and much more.

Want to read the *Chicago Tribune*? We have four ways to access their content:

- **Chicago Tribune Website:** Get unlimited access to chicagotribune.com without paywalls.
- **Chicago Tribune Daily Papers:** Read digital versions of daily *Chicago Tribune* newspapers, including *Evening Edition*, *Daily Southtown*, *Naperville Sun*, *The Beacon-News* and more.
- **Chicago Tribune Research Portal:** Search indexed articles from the *Chicago Tribune* from 1985 to today.
- **Chicago Tribune Historical Archive:** This historical newspaper provides online, easily-searchable coverage of the politics, society and events of the time between 1849 and 2000.

Stay connected. Stay current. All from the comfort of home. Visit fountaindale.org/resources to start reading today!

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Studio 300 Hours

Monday–Thursday: 10 a.m.–8:30 p.m.

Friday–Saturday: 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

Sunday: 12:30–5:30 p.m.

Studio 300 opens at 1 p.m. on the last Monday of each month.

Unleash Your Creativity in Studio 300

Take your maker projects to the next level with our DIY desktop fabrication machines and maker technology. To get started, complete your Studio 300 orientation, and then take our maker machine training courses to gain full access to our Maker Lab machines. Learn more at fountaindale.org/makertraining.

Available Maker Machine Training Courses:

- Brother ScanNCut & Canvas Workspace App
- Brother PE900 Embroidery Machine
- ELEGOO 3D Printer
- Glowforge Laser Cutter
- Sawgrass Sublimation Printer & Mug Press
- Silhouette CAMEO & Silhouette Studio App
- Vacuum Former



Take-It Make-It Kits:

3D Penguin Family **R**

Tuesday, December 2

Create your own adorable 3D penguin family shadowbox. Each kit includes pre-cut pieces that are ready to assemble. One kit per library card.



Wooden Ornament Gifts **R**

Thursday, December 4, 7 p.m.

Learn the basics of the Glowforge to create a wooden ornament to give to someone special in your life.



Handmade Holiday Cards **R**

Tuesday, December 16

6:30 p.m.

Use Studio 300 maker machines to create handmade cards for friends and family. Get hands-on experience with the die cutters and Silhouette Cameo.



Valentine's Date Night **R**

Tuesday, February 10, 6 p.m.

Love is in the air and on tote bags! Skip the crowded restaurants this Valentine's Day season, and create something personal and long-lasting by using Canva and Studio 300's sublimation printer to personalize your own tote bag. Popcorn and candy will be provided.



Monogrammed Hats **R**

Wednesday, February 18, 7 p.m.

Use the free-arm embroidery machine to make a custom monogrammed hat.

ADULT COMPUTERS & TECHNOLOGY

Photography



Photography Club **D**

**Thursdays, December 11, January 8 & February 12
6:30–8 p.m.**

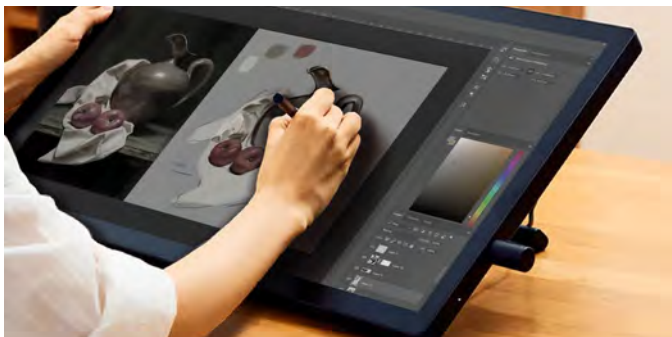
Join this club for all levels of photographers to learn, share and discuss photography.

Understanding Light **R**

Tuesday, February 17, 7 p.m.

In this hands-on class, explore how light shapes around objects and different ways to modify lighting. Bring your own camera, or take pictures with your phone to see the brilliant results.

Illustration & Graphic Design



Digital Still Life Drawing **R**

Thursday, January 22, 7 p.m.

Learn the basics of drawing in Photoshop with Studio 300's Wacom tablets. This workshop will introduce you to the brush tool and layer management, all while working directly from a still-life composition.

Design Basics: Creating Brand Identity for Social Media **R**

Thursday, February 5, 7 p.m.

Struggling to make your social media look more polished and consistent? We'll help you bring your brand together. Whether you are a small business owner, artist or content creator, learn how to design your style guide, colors and fonts to create a more cohesive brand.



Family Winter Selfies November 30–December 20

Visit Studio 300 to capture your own holiday memories at our winter-themed selfie station. Share your photos with friends and family on holiday cards and social media.

To reserve your one-hour time slot, call 630.685.4260.

No photographer provided. Please use your own phone or camera, or check out a camera if you've taken Studio 300 orientation. Orientation is not required to use the space.

Music & Sound

Record Ready: Audio Setup for Beginners **R**

Thursday, January 15, 7 p.m.

Curious about podcasting, music recording or voiceover work? Join us for a hands-on workshop where you'll learn how to create and use a basic audio recording setup. We'll cover microphone types, proper placement, sound levels and how to use Studio 300 equipment to capture clean, professional audio.

Studio 300 Orientation

Gain access to Studio 300's full range of equipment and unique creative spaces by completing our online orientation. Once completed, and after gaining verification from Studio 300 staff, you can fully use all of our amazing resources. Get started with the virtual orientation anytime at fountaindale.org/orientation.

Please note, in addition to completing the orientation on their own, patrons 12–17 years of age must have a parent/guardian complete the training and also grant permission before the youth has access to Studio 300.

Questions? Please contact Studio 300 at 630.685.4260.

ADULT COMPUTERS & TECHNOLOGY

Computers



COMPUTER CLASSES 6:30 P.M.

Join us for hands-on Microsoft Office and basic computer classes for beginners. Please bring a pen to take notes.

Tuesday, January 6: Excel
Monday, January 19: Google Sheets
Thursday, January 29: PowerPoint
Wednesday, February 18: Word
Monday, February 23: Excel

Register at the 3rd Floor Service Desk, call 630.685.4176 or visit fountaindale.org/events.

AI: ChatGPT and Beyond **R**

Tuesday, December 9, 6:30 p.m.

We'll look at the most-discussed AI tech and speculate on the future implications of AI on the workplace and society.

Introduction to AI **R**

Thursday, December 18, 7 p.m.

Discover how AI works and explore foundational AI concepts. Learn about the rise of generative AI and how to perform tasks with it. Understand the capabilities and limitations of AI tools and how to integrate them.

TV & Video

Stop Scrolling, Start Rolling: Film It Right **R**

Tuesday, January 20, 7 p.m.

Want to create videos for YouTube, school projects or just for fun? In this beginner-friendly workshop, learn how to do a basic setup and shoot a video using Studio 300 equipment to create better social media videos.

ShortHaus Cinema: Spike Lee **D**

Tuesday, February 3, 7–8 p.m.

Join others in exploring and discussing the style, techniques and themes of a particular filmmaking auteur and their body of work in short films. Discussions can range from a director's oeuvre to specific formal elements and how to achieve them. Attendees are also invited to bring in their own short films and videos, finished or in-process, to be shared and critiqued.

Cut to the Beat **R**

Thursday, February 19, 7 p.m.

Learn video editing basics in Premiere Pro and how to cut to the beat of the music to make dynamic videos for maximum impact.



'Scopes in the City by Adler Planetarium

**Thursday, February 12
6–8 p.m.**

Join us as we host Adler Planetarium astronomers and educators, bringing the museum—and the universe—a little closer to you! With 'Scopes in the City, Adler astronomers and staff lead a free telescope observing program right here at our library.

Weather permitting.
Drop in.

Eventos para Adultos

Grupo Conversacional de Inglés de Literacy DuPage D
(Zoom)

Todos los Miércoles, 10–11:30 a.m.

Únase a un grupo de conversación para practicar Inglés en un ambiente relajado en Zoom. Los nuevos estudiantes de Inglés pueden llamar a Literacy DuPage a 331.472.7160 para un tutor en persona. (Sin registro previo.)

Artesanías en Español R

Martes, 7 p.m.

Únase a nosotros para divertirse con emocionantes manualidades presentadas en Español. Se proporcionarán suministros. Para más información, visite la página fountaindale.org/eventos.

27 de Enero: Colgador de Puerta de Madera con Forma de Corazón

24 de Febrero: Retrato en Vitral

Eventos para Niños y Familias

Family Lotería D

Jueves, 18 de Diciembre, 6–7 p.m.

¡Únase a nosotros para una noche de diversión con Spanish Ladder mientras las familias juegan a la Lotería para ganar premios!



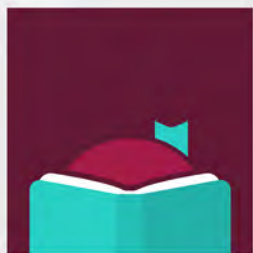
Noche de la Familia D

Lunes, 12 de Enero–4 de Mayo, 6:30–7 p.m.

Únase a nosotros para una hora de cuentos bilingüe en Español, presentada por The Language Labs.

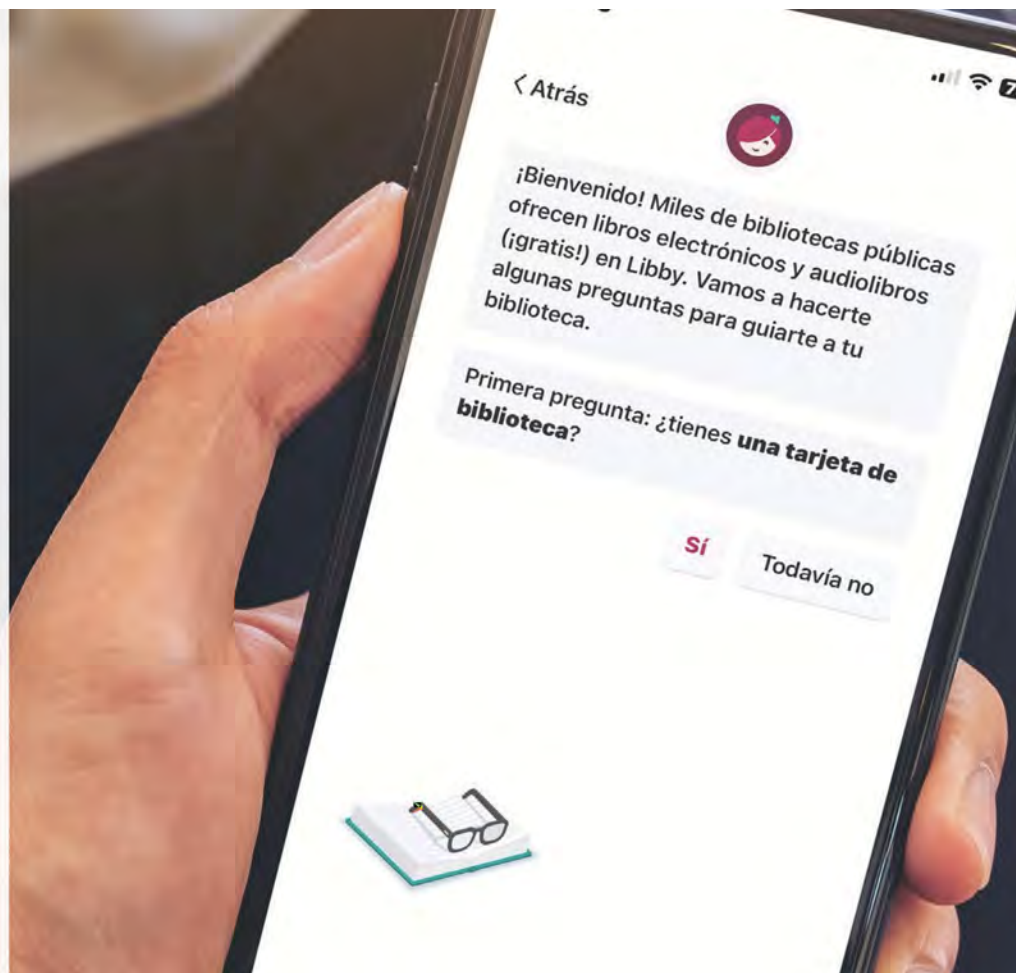
Disfrute de libros electrónicos y audiolibros en Español en cualquier momento y en cualquier lugar.

fountaindale.org/digital



Libby.

La aplicación de lectura de la biblioteca



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Join us for a month-long celebration for the entire family! See page 21 for children and family events.

For Adults

Reclaiming the Narrative: Restoring Black Voices to the Story of Joliet Special Exhibit D

February 3–26

African Americans called the Joliet region home before its incorporation in 1852. They have built up the community, found jobs and enjoyed life in the Des Plaines River Valley. In spite of this long history, the Black community has often been on the periphery of historical narratives. This exhibit highlights four African American organizations that have made significant contributions to the region's diversity.

Drums, Banjos and 808s with Kelly Campos R (Zoom) **Thursday, February 4, 7 p.m.**

African American music is filled with rhythm, melody and innovation. Musician and storyteller Kelly Campos will take you through a partial history of its evolution from the ancestral music of the Motherland to a unique expression of the African American experience.

Black History Month Movie Screening: Sinners D **Thursday, February 19, 6–8:30 p.m.**

Ages 18 and older

Set in 1932 in the Mississippi Delta, the film stars Michael B. Jordan in dual roles as criminal twin brothers who return to their hometown where they are confronted by a supernatural evil. Rated R.



Ayodele Drum and Dance **Sunday, February 15, 2–3 p.m.**

Welcome the Ayodele Drum and Dance group as they bring a culturally enriching West African dance and live drum experience. All ages welcome. Drop in.

For Teens



Fashion Forward: Ann Cole Lowe R **Tuesday, February 3, 6 p.m.**

Get inspired by fashion designer Ann Cole Lowe! Create your own fashion designs using fun fabrics and other craft materials.



Graffiti Art Inspired by George F. Baker III D **Monday, February 9, 4–5 p.m.**

Use acrylic paint pens to create your own graffiti art based on murals painted by George F. Baker III.

Glow Up! Art Inspired by Mickalene Thomas D **Monday, February 23, 4–5:30 p.m.**

Get bold, get sparkly, get inspired by the colorful art of Mickalene Thomas as you decorate your artwork with rhinestones!



Early Learning Expo

Saturday, February 21 • 11 a.m.–1 p.m.

Our Early Learning Expo is your one-stop event for everything early childhood! Whether you're planning for preschool or looking for support for your little one, don't miss this chance to explore, connect and get ready for your child's learning journey!

- Chat with local preschool and daycare providers
- Discover early childhood programs and services
- Connect with other families in the community
- Play fun games to win prizes

Formerly known as Preschool Round-Up, this year we're expanding beyond preschool to include more community partners who support families with young children in all areas of early development and care.

Reading, Writing & Publishing



Visit fountaindale.org/bookclubs to view our book club selections. Titles will be available at the 3rd Floor Desk one month before the book club meets.

Chills & Thrills Book Club D

**Wednesdays, December 3, January 7 & February 4
3–4 p.m.**

Get chilled and thrilled with a good mystery.

X Meets Y Book Club D (Zoom)

**Saturdays, December 13, January 3 & February 14
2–3 p.m.**

Discuss exciting books with other Gen X and Y readers.

Coffee & Conversation Book Club D

**Tuesdays, December 16, January 20 & February 17
10:30–11:30 a.m.**

Looking for something to wake you up in the morning? Join us for a stimulating morning book discussion.

Great Reads Book Club D

**Wednesdays, December 17, January 28 & February 25,
7–8 p.m.**

Join us to discuss the latest book chosen by the group. We read fiction, mystery, biography, history and everything in between.

Silent Book Club D

Monday, January 26, 7–8 p.m.

Arwa Yemeni Coffee, 704 E. Boughton Road

Join us for a silent book club! Bring your own book, or choose one of ours to read. Relax, read and feel free to purchase a delicious drink.

Love Lit Book Club D

Monday, February 16, 7–8 p.m.

Join us to talk about fun and flirty romance titles.



JANUARY 12–FEBRUARY 28

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fountaindale.org/winterreading

Winter Writing Retreat D

Tuesday, December 9, 6:30–8 p.m.

Are you a writer looking to escape the daily grind and dive deep into your creative work? Join us for a writing retreat designed to bring writers together for a blend of solitude and community, creativity and comfort. Please bring your own writing tools to work on your own writing projects.

Start Your Year with Journaling R

Tuesday, January 13, 7 p.m.

Start off your year with a new way of journaling. Bullet journaling, daily poetry, a music playlist or Obsidian—journaling doesn't need to be confined to one style. Find the journaling style that suits you best, so you can keep a record of where you are in life throughout 2026.

Fountaindale Writers D

Thursdays, January 29 & February 26, 7–8 p.m.

Meet other writers, share tips, get encouragement and celebrate the art of writing. New members are always welcome.

**The Fountain Pen Anthology 2026**

Calling all writers! Submit your stories to be included in *The Fountain Pen*. You may submit up to three works or 3,000 words maximum. Send your submissions to studio300submission@fountaindale.org by Friday, April 24.

Arts & Crafts



Take-It Make-It Kits

Stop by the 3rd Floor Desk to pick up a craft kit, while supplies last. One craft per adult. You must be present to receive the kit.

December 1: Popsicle Sled Ornament

December 21: New Year's Eve Ball-Drop Sign

February 13: Ramadan Shaker Craft



DIY Zen Garden R

Wednesday, January 14, 6:30 p.m.

Find your Zen in the New Year! Join us to make your own Zen Garden to quiet your mind after all of the holiday hecticness!



Needleworker's Group D

Tuesdays, December 2, 16, January 6, 20, February 3 & 17
10 a.m.–noon

Join us to work on cross stitch, embroidery and counted canvas projects and to socialize and snack in a warm and friendly environment.



Paper Crafting with Melisa R

Tuesdays, 6 p.m.

Join Melisa Martinez, paper crafter extraordinaire, for an evening of paper-based crafts!

January 20: 3D Winter Snow Globe

February 10: Valentine Gnome Pop-Up Card



Pinecone Tree Slices R

Monday, December 15, 7 p.m.

Join us as we create a mini winter wonderland with pinecones and tree slices.



Winter Book Tree Craft R

Thursday, January 22, 6 p.m.

Join us for a cozy, winter craft where we'll turn old book pages into beautiful, eco-friendly holiday trees!



Festive Fairy Door Craft R

Thursday, December 18, 6 p.m.

Craft your own adorable fairy door for the holidays! Small enough to tuck into a stocking, but enchanting enough to be a seasonal décor staple—let the fairies in with this magical holiday accent!



Burlap Button Heart Art R

Thursday, February 12, 6 p.m.

Take some time to make a unique and enchanting piece of DIY art for your sweetheart or to just put on your own wall!



Painted Pot Penguin D

Wednesday, January 7, 6–8 p.m.

Have a blast making little penguins to put around the house! What a fun way to get excited about the colder months!



Needle Felted Book Bird Craft R

Tuesday, February 17, 6 p.m.

Join Natasha Lehrer Lewis of Esther's Place to create an adorable Book Bird while learning the art of felting in this delightful hands-on session.

Home & Lifestyle

Holiday Tech Gifts R (Zoom)

Monday, December 1, 6:30 p.m.

Find out all the hottest gadgets and gifts available this holiday season. From smart homes and phones to toys and oddities, check out the cool options for your family's (or your own) wish list!



Cooking with Chef Maddox R

Thursdays, 7 p.m.

Learn to cook amazing meals that are sure to impress your friends and family. Recipes will be provided.

January 15: Basic Pastry Custards/Mousses

February 5: Super Bowl Snacks for Tailgating

Sewing with Kellie Chase R

10 a.m.

Learn how to sew a variety of projects. Please bring a sewing machine, thread, scissors and pins. All other supplies will be included. Please have basic knowledge of your sewing machine.

Friday, January 30: Six Pocket Bag

Monday, February 2: Winter Applique Block

How to Use a Sewing Machine R

Sunday, February 1, 12:30 p.m.

Kellie Chase is here to teach you how to use your sewing machine. Bring in your machine to learn the tips and tricks you need to get the most out of your machine.

Business, Career & Finance



Financial Literacy Part 1: Do's & Don'ts of Retirement Planning R

Tuesday, December 2, 6:30 p.m.

Having a secure retirement doesn't happen by itself. It takes a plan. Learn ways to help achieve retirement saving success and how to avoid the most common retirement planning mistakes.

Financial Literacy Part 2: Principles of Personal Finance R

Tuesday, January 13, 6:30 p.m.

Financial literacy provides you with the knowledge and confidence to make informed and better decisions with your money. Learn the basics of budgeting, investing and navigating a turbulent economy.

Home Preapprovals 101 R

Tuesday, February 3, 6:30 p.m.

Betty Cano will explain the approval process when purchasing your first home.

Genealogy, History & Culture

Lessons Learned from the Hard Winter R (Zoom)

Thursday, December 11, 7 p.m.

In the winter of 1880–1881, Laura Ingalls Wilder and her family survived an eight-month ordeal of blizzards, deprivation and isolation in the sparse Dakota Territory. Historian Laura F. Keyes will portray Wilder, several years after that winter, and discuss how it formed her story *The Long Winter* and how it taught her to have faith, hope and ask for help when you need it.

Genealogy Club R (Zoom)

Wednesdays, 11 a.m.

January 14: The Power of People: Voices via Petitions

February 11: Homesteading: Land for All



Love Stories from History R (Zoom)

Wednesday, February 11 7 p.m.

Award-winning romantic comedy filmmaker Lorrissa Julianus shares true stories to delight and entertain. From the happily-ever-after that Cleopatra's

daughter found with an African prince to the dramatic love lives of Picasso, Gertrude Stein, Jonas Salk and many more. The course of historical love never did run smooth!

Movies, Music & Entertainment



The Seeds of Action Eco-Film Series **R** Thursday, December 4, 6 p.m.

Join us and the Conservation Foundation as we watch *Food, Inc. 2* and examine different aspects of our ecosystem. After the film, enjoy a discussion amongst a panel of local leaders to explore the topics discussed in the film.

20s & 30s Board Game Night **R** Mondays, December 8, January 12 & February 9 6:30 p.m.

Join us at the library to play some board games! Bring your favorites or borrow one from our collection.

Film Club **R** Tuesdays, January 27 & February 24, 7 p.m.

Love talking about movies? This movie club is for you. At the beginning of each month, we pre-select a film, so you have ample time to watch it before the meeting. Then we'll gather to critique and discuss the film in-depth.

ShortHaus Cinema: Spike Lee **D** Tuesday, February 3, 7–8 p.m.

Join others in exploring and discussing the style, techniques and themes of a particular filmmaking auteur and their body of work in short films. Discussions can range from a director's oeuvre to specific formal elements and how to achieve them. Attendees are also invited to bring in their own short films and videos, finished or in-process, to be shared and critiqued.

Health, Sports & Fitness



R&B Line Dancing **R** Sundays, December 7, January 11 & February 8, 3 p.m.

Join the Lines N' Motion dance team for a session of our popular R&B line dancing program.

Just for Seniors

Join us for these special events just for adults ages 55 and older. A light lunch will be provided at each event. Registration closes one day before each event. Drop-ins are welcome but are not guaranteed a lunch.

Holiday Sing-Along **R** Thursday, December 11, noon

Musician Larry Conklin will play songs of the season and some other popular tunes for you to tap your toes to and join in with singing.



The Sweetest Job Ever: My Time in the Candy Industry **R** Thursday, January 22, noon

Historical Presenter Jim Gibbons will discuss his years as a sales representative for the E.J. Brach & Sons Candy Company. From the enticing chocolate smell of the plant to the eye-twinkling displays in the stores, Gibbons will present all the tricks of the trade that help you, the buyer, select your treats.



Celebrating the Lunar New Year **R** Thursday, February 19, noon

The upcoming Lunar New Year season lasts from February 17 to March 3. Educator Yvonne Wolf will tell us about the rites, activities, symbols and foods associated with it and how you can participate in your own home. Whether it is your first time celebrating this cross-cultural festival or part of your annual routine, ride with us as we saddle up for the Year of the Horse.

All programs are for teens in grades 6–12 unless otherwise noted.



Vortex Hours

Monday–Thursday: 2–8:30 pm.

Friday: 2–5:30 p.m.

Saturday: 11 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

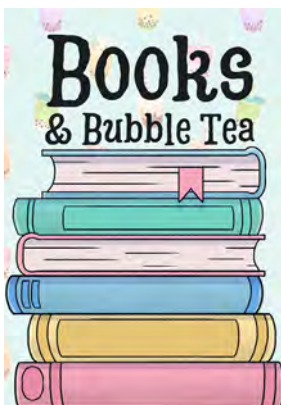
Sunday: noon–5:30 p.m.

The Vortex will open at 11 a.m. on Valley View School District holidays and 1 p.m. on Valley View School District early release days. Visit the 2nd Floor Desk to browse the collection outside of regular hours.

Reading, Writing & Publishing

Teen Reads

Looking for something to read? Our Teen Services staff is here to help. Check out Teen Book Bites on Instagram, TikTok and YouTube. Visit fountaindale.org/teenreads to browse our handpicked collection of books perfect for teens. Covering a wide range of genres and topics, there's something here for everyone! Find more recommendations on our blog or Instagram.



Books & Bubble Tea **R**

Thursdays, January 22 & February 19, 6 p.m.

Grades 9–12

Let's talk books! Join us to discuss your favorite teen fiction, nonfiction and graphic novels, get recommendations from staff, drink bubble tea and enjoy tasty snacks!

Gaming & Contests



Virtual Reality Game Play **D**

Thursday, January 8, 4:30–6 p.m.

Ages 12–18

Explore virtual reality through exciting games and immersive experiences. Whether you're dodging obstacles or battling in a virtual arena, this is your chance to test out VR tech and have a blast with friends—no experience needed!

Trading Card Afternoon **D**

Thursday, January 15, 4:30–5:30 p.m.

Want to learn to play a new trading card game or pit your own deck against another? Love to look at cool cards? This is your chance to get your game on!

Role-Playing Adventures: Mechas & Monsters **R**

Thursday, February 12, 6 p.m.

Pilot powerful mechas and face off against giant monsters in a thrilling, action-packed role-playing adventure. Battle colossal beasts to save the world in this one-shot collaborative game.



JANUARY 12–FEBRUARY 28

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FREE BOOK AND ENTRY INTO THE GRAND PRIZE
DRAWING! GRADES 6–12

fountaindale.org/winterreading

Volunteering

Book Recommendations

Do you need volunteer hours? Submit book reviews to earn service hours. We're looking for book recommendations from our teen readers to post on Instagram. Visit fountaindale.org/teenvolunteer to get started recommending your favorite books. You'll receive one service hour for every recommendation you submit.



Cards for Hospitalized Kids **D**

Saturdays, December 6, January 10 & February 14
3–4 p.m.

Create handmade cards and send encouragement to kids in need. All cards will be sent to Cards for Hospitalized Kids (CFHK) to brighten someone's day.

Teen Volunteering **R**

Saturdays, December 13 & January 31, 3 p.m.

Volunteer your time by preparing crafts and materials for programs, assisting in organizing and/or cleaning program supplies, photocopying, cutting paper and more. We also need volunteers for special events. View all of our opportunities at fountaindale.org/events.

TEEN VOLUNTEERING DAY

Monday, February 16

Join us for a day of volunteering opportunities so you can give back to your community. You may only volunteer for a maximum of three hours.

Reading & Math Buddies **R**

10:45 a.m.

Spend an hour reading or listening to stories and playing math games with kids in the Children's Department.

Cards for Hospitalized Kids **D**

11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

Create handmade cards and send encouragement to kids in need. All cards will be sent to Cards for Hospitalized Kids (CFHK) to brighten someone's day.

Black Innovation: A STEM Escape Room **R**

12:30 p.m. & 2:30 p.m.

Assist with program setup and cleanup, and supervise children at activity stations.

Teen Volunteering **R**

3 p.m.

Prepare crafts and materials for programs, assist in organizing and/or cleaning program supplies and more.

Finals Week • December 8–14



The end of the semester is almost here! Stop by the Vortex to study, take a break and gear up for finals. While you're studying, answer a trivia question and spin the prize wheel! Limit one spin/prize per teen per day, while supplies last. Participants can enter a special Finals Week drawing for a fun prize.



Hot Chocolate Bar **D**

Tuesday, December 9
4–5:30 p.m.

Ready for that perfect winter vibe? Build your ultimate hot chocolate at our DIY bar, then hang out for a cozy craft and a fun, teen-friendly movie with friends!



Level Up! Board Games & Puzzles **D**

Thursday, December 11
4:30–6 p.m.

Drop in for an afternoon of board games, puzzles and chill vibes—perfect for relaxing and taking a study break! Snacks provided.

Arts & Crafts



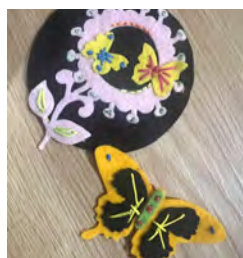
December 1–14

Get ready to show off your artistic talents in our Tiny Art Show. Beginning Monday, December 1, stop by the Vortex to pick up a mini art kit, while supplies last, and create your masterpiece. Return your finished piece to the Vortex by 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, December 14. We'll vote for our favorite and award the winner a special prize! We'll display everyone's work in the Vortex through January 5.





Ceramic Gingerbread House Painting R
Monday, December 8, 6 p.m.
Grades 4–8
 Using acrylic paint, decorate your very own ceramic gingerbread house that you can display year after year!



Felt Patches R
Saturday, January 24, 2 p.m.
 Learn basic sewing techniques to create a one-of-a-kind felt patch perfect for your backpack!



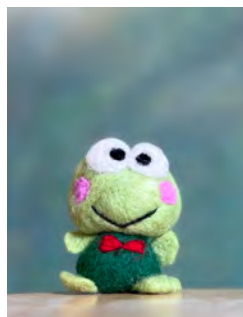
Wood Slice Art: Owls D
Wednesday, December 17
4–5 p.m.
 Whooo's crafty? Join us for a fun DIY project that's a real hoot as we turn simple wood slices into adorable hanging owls!



Watercolor Animal Constellations R
Thursday, January 29, 6 p.m.
 Paint a starry sky filled with an animal constellation using watercolors and masking fluid.



Teen Paint Party: Northern Lights R
Saturday, January 17, 2 p.m.
 Want to try your hand at painting a beautiful work of art? Join us for an afternoon of fun and creativity as we paint a themed art piece. All experience levels are welcome.



Felted Frog R
Tuesday, February 17, 4:30 p.m.
 Learn the art of needle felting with Natasha Lehrer Lewis of Esther's Place. Create your own adorable wool frog in this fun, hands-on class!



Winter Clay Creations D
Wednesday, January 21, 4–5 p.m.
 Build your own mini snowman—no snow required! Use air-dry or polymer clay to sculpt and decorate a frosty friend that's all your own.

MAKER KITS IN THE VORTEX

Draw your own manga characters, design jewelry or make a friendship bracelet for your bestie with our maker kits!



Movies & Entertainment

Anime Afternoon **R**

Wednesdays, December 3, January 7 & February 4 4:30 p.m.

Hang out in the Vortex while we watch anime, talk about manga and enjoy Japanese snacks!

Teen Movie Friday **D**

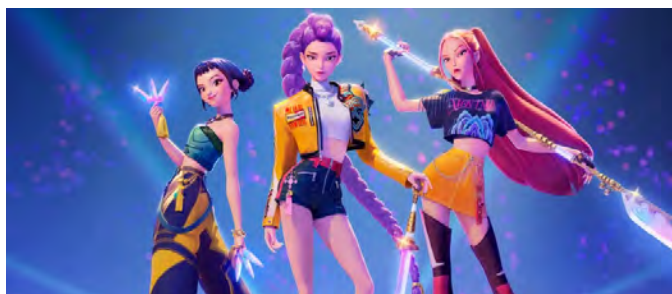
Fridays, December 5, January 9, 23 & February 6 & 20 3–5 p.m.

Join us in the Vortex to watch the latest and greatest teen-friendly movies!

Winter Break Movie Marathon **D**

Mondays, December 22 & 29, 2–6 p.m.

Chill in the Vortex during winter break and watch some of your favorite movies and more!



Save the Honmoon **R**

Tuesday, January 13, 6 p.m.

Grades 4–8

Complete *KPop Demon Hunters*-themed craft and trivia stations to make a special Norigae charm and save the Honmoon.

Stuffed Animal Tea Party **R**

Monday, January 26, 6 p.m.

Join us for an evening of tea, fancy snacks and a movie with your favorite stuffed animals. Don't have one? We've got you covered with a stuffed frog friend you can build yourself!



Bloom Boom: DIY Seed Bombs for Pollinators **R**

Thursday, February 26 4:30 p.m.

In this fun, hands-on workshop, we'll show you how to make wildflower seed bombs using native pollinator-friendly seeds. Toss them in your yard or community space and watch them bloom into a pollinator paradise.

STEAM & Maker

Handmade Holiday Cards **R**

Tuesday, December 16, 4:30 p.m.

Utilize Studio 300 maker machines to create handmade cards for friends and family. Get hands-on experience with the die cutters and Silhouette Cameo.

DIY Tumbler Stickers **R**

Tuesday, January 20, 4:30 p.m.

Create personalized stickers using Canva software and Studio 300's Brother ScanNCut maker machine, and then decorate an 18-ounce tumbler!

STEM Explorers: Motion, Forces & Real-World Mechanics Using LEGOs **R**

Saturday, February 7, 10 a.m.

Grades 6–8

Join The Bolingbrook STEM Association for fun and exciting challenges using LEGO Education tools. Through hands-on activities, experiment with concepts like force, mass and motion and apply creative thinking and problem-solving as you design, test and share your solutions.

DIY Lunar New Year Puppet: Galloping Horse **R**

Tuesday, February 24, 4:30 p.m.

Create a moving puppet to celebrate the Year of the Horse!

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Fashion Forward: Ann Cole Lowe **R**

Tuesday, February 3, 6 p.m.

Get inspired by fashion designer Ann Cole Lowe! Create your own fashion designs using fun fabrics and other craft materials.

Graffiti Art Inspired by George F. Baker III **D**

Monday, February 9, 4–5 p.m.

Use acrylic paint pens to create your own graffiti art based on murals painted by George F. Baker III.

Glow Up! Art Inspired by Mickalene Thomas **D**

Monday, February 23, 4–5:30 p.m.

Get bold, get sparkly, get inspired by the colorful art of Mickalene Thomas as you decorate your artwork with rhinestones!

CHILDREN & TWEENS

Events are for children of all ages unless otherwise noted. Children's Services offers more programs than just the ones in this program guide! Visit fountaindale.org/events, or pick up a paper calendar from our desk for the full list of children's programs that are available.

Storytimes D

Storytimes run January 12 to May 9 and are for all ages unless otherwise noted. Drop in; no registration required.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Saturday
Baby Storytime 9:30–9:50 a.m. Ages 0–18 months	Baby Storytime 9:30–9:50 a.m. Ages 0–18 months	Baby Storytime 9:30–9:50 a.m. Ages 0–18 months	Baby Storytime 9:30–9:50 a.m. Ages 0–18 months	
Storytime 10–10:30 a.m.	Storytime 10–10:30 a.m.	Storytime 10–10:30 a.m.	Storytime 10–10:30 a.m.	Storytime 10–10:30 a.m.
Storytime 11–11:30 a.m.	Storytime 11–11:30 a.m.	Storytime 11–11:30 a.m.	Storytime 11–11:30 a.m.	
Noche de la Familia 6:30–7 p.m. Presented by The Language Labs	Sensory Storytime R 6:30–7 p.m.	Storytime 6:30–7 p.m.	Storytime 6:30–7 p.m.	

Community Storytimes

Community storytimes are best suited for children ages 2–6, but all children are welcome to attend. Children must be accompanied by an adult. For questions, please call Outreach Services at 630.685.4230.

IKEA Storytime R

Wednesdays, December 3, January 7 & February 4
10:15 a.m.

IKEA, 750 E. Boughton Road

Join us in the Swedish Restaurant for stories and songs. IKEA will provide milk and cookies for each child after our stories are complete. Registration opens two weeks before each event date. Register at fountaindale.org/ikea or in person at each event. To register online, you must first create a free IKEA Family account.

NEW! Storytime at the Illinois Aviation Museum D

Saturday, December 6, 9:30–10 a.m.

Illinois Aviation Museum

130 S. Clow International Parkway

Soar on over for a fun and engaging plane-themed storytime. Don't forget to check out all of the interactive exhibits in the museum once storytime ends.

NEW! Storytime at Arwa Yemeni Coffee D

Mondays, December 8, January 12 & February 9
9:30–10:30 a.m.

Arwa Yemeni Coffee, 704 E. Boughton Road

Bring your little ones to storytime at Arwa Yemeni Coffee. Enjoy a special, fun-filled hour of stories and literacy activities.

Storytime at Wholey Granoly R

Tuesday, December 9

Thursdays, January 22 & February 26

9:30 a.m.

Wholey Granoly, 714 E. Boughton Road

Join us for a free, engaging storytime experience for your little ones. Each child will receive a special treat when our stories are complete. Registration opens two weeks before each event date.

Storytime at the Museum D

Thursdays, December 11, January 8 & February 12

9:30–10:30 a.m.

Bolingbrook Historical Museum, 444 E. Briarcliff Road

Spark your child's imagination with stories, songs and other fun activities. Storytime is geared towards preschoolers but great for all ages. Admission is free.

Chick-fil-A Storytime D

Thursdays, December 18, January 15 & February 19
9:30–10:30 a.m.

Chick-fil-A, 245 N. Weber Road

Enjoy preschool stories, puppet plays and songs.

Wonderful Winter Events

Wilderness Explorers: Hibernate R

Monday, December 1, 4:30 p.m.

Grades K–5

Adventure is back! Earn special winter badges at this exploration of the fascinating world of hibernation!

Ceramic Gingerbread House Painting R

Monday, December 8, 6 p.m.

Grades 4–8

Using acrylic paint, decorate your very own ceramic gingerbread house that you can display year after year!

Frog and Toad's Friendly Terrarium R

Thursday, December 11, 4:30 p.m.

Grades 3–5

Create a home inside a small terrarium for your own Frog and Toad to have tea together.

Winter Wonderland on the Bookmobile

Saturday, December 13, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Target, 1188 W. Boughton Road

Join us for music, stories and games as our Bookmobile transforms into a winter wonderland! Bring your friends and family—let's make this a magical winter day to remember!

LEGO Club D

**Saturdays, December 13, January 10 & February 14
1–3 p.m.**

Bolingbrook Historical Museum, 444 E Briarcliff Road

Grades 1–5

Head to the Bolingbrook Historical Museum for some LEGO fun! You can build with friends or try one of our building challenges. We supply the bricks and you supply the imagination.

Make a Mug R

Tuesday, December 16, 4:30 p.m.

Grades K–5

Decorate a ceramic mug for yourself or a friend using unique designs.



Minecraft by Arrayscape Gaming: Gingerbread Mania R

Friday, January 2, 2 p.m.

Grades 3–5

Join Arrayscape Gaming in a special Minecraft world! Play hide-and-seek in a gingerbread mansion before decorating your own gingerbread home! No Minecraft account required to attend.

Mindfulness for Kids D

Wednesday, January 7, 4:30–5:30 p.m.

Grades K–5

Take a deep breath in and out, and enjoy a relaxing journey of kid-friendly meditation and mindful activities.

Poetry Café R

Thursday, January 8, 4:30 p.m. &

Monday, January 19, 6 p.m.

Grades 3–5

Discover famous poetry and get inspired to write your own! Start your poem at our writer's workshop, then come back for our Poetry Café night to share your poems with friends and family.

Baby Ballers D

Friday, January 9, 10–11 a.m.

Ages 0–18 months with an adult

Babies, have a ball at the library! Enjoy fun games and activities designed to support motor skill development.



Sensory Night: Cozy Caves D

Tuesday, January 13, 5:30–7 p.m.

Discover warm, cozy caves at the library! Children of all ages with autism, neurodivergence and physical disabilities can explore sensory-friendly stations before enjoying our Sensory Storytime.

Be a King D

Monday, January 19, 2–3 p.m.

Grades K–5

Celebrate Dr. King's legacy at a special birthday party with service projects that kids can do to give back to the community.

Who Would Win? Ultimate Zodiac Showdown R

Thursday, February 12, 4:30 p.m.

Grades K–5

Explore the animals behind the Chinese zodiac as we dive into the year of the Horse! Legend says that the zodiac cycle was decided by a race...but who would win in real life?

Movies, Music & Entertainment

Bluey Terrier Triplets' Towers **D**

Tuesday, December 2, 4:30–5:30 p.m.

Grades K–2

"In the name of Scotland!" Work together to build and protect a tower that will make Bluey's friends, the Terrier Triplets, proud!



A Wicked Sing-Along **D**

Tuesday, December 30

4:30–5:30 p.m.

Grades K–5

Defy gravity with us as we sing along to our favorite *Wicked* songs! Enjoy some wicked crafts and snacks at this fun celebration.

Bollywood Babies **D**

Friday, January 30, 10–10:45 a.m.

Ages 0–3 with an adult

Dance the morning sleepies away! Babies and caregivers, you are invited to an upbeat Bollywood music and dance party!



A KPop Demon Hunters Sing-Along **D**

Monday, January 5, 2–3 p.m.

Grades K–5

Enjoy an afternoon of *KPop Demon Hunters*-themed snacks and crafts while singing along to your favorite HUNTR/X and Saja Boys songs!

Save the Honmoon **R**

Tuesday, January 13, 6 p.m.

Grades 4–8

Complete *KPop Demon Hunters*-themed craft and trivia stations to make a special Norigae charm and save the Honmoon.

Family Events

Family Handprints Keepsake **D**

Monday, December 15, 4:30–5:30 p.m.

Age 0–Grade 5 with an adult

Create a lasting family memory! Explore different stations that combine your family's handprints into an art piece you will cherish.



Family Lotería **D**

Thursday, December 18, 6–7 p.m.

Grades K–5 with an adult

Join us for a night of family fun with Spanish Ladder as you play Lotería for prizes!

Cocoa Café: Family Board Games **R**

Monday, December 29, 4:30 p.m.

Grades K–5 with an adult

Enjoy a fun-filled afternoon of board games and hot cocoa!



JANUARY 12–FEBRUARY 28

PICK UP A GAME BOARD FROM THE CHILDREN'S DESK AND EARN PRIZES AS YOU COMPLETE CHALLENGE ACTIVITIES. MAKE IT AROUND THE GAME BOARD TO GET A VOUCHER FOR A FREE BOOK FROM THE FRIENDS BOOK CELLAR.

AGE 0–GRADE 5

fountaindale.org/winterreading

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Toy Planet Galaxy D

Wednesday, January 28, 4:30–5:30 p.m.

Grades K–5

Imagine a planet of your own, then create it using canvas, paint and mini toys! Your creation will be added to our bulletin board galaxy, inspired by Yinka Shonibare's *Alien Toy Painting*.

The Magnificent Hats of Mae Reeves R

Monday, February 2, 4:30 p.m.

Grades K–5

Design and create your own unique hat inspired by the fabulous Mae Reeves.

Ada Twist Scientist: STEM Stations D

Thursday, February 5, 4:30–5:30 p.m.

Grades K–5

Science is the best! Explore STEM stations with everyone's favorite scientist, Ada Twist.

Dress to Impress: A Celebration of Black Fashion R

Monday, February 9, 4:30 p.m.

Grades K–5

From Dandyism to Streetwear, we're celebrating Black Fashion, Roblox style!

Make Your Mark: The Tattoos of Jacci Gresham D

Tuesday, February 10, 4:30–5:30 p.m.

Grades 3–5

Celebrate the pioneering work of the first Black female tattoo artist and then design your own (temporary) tattoos.

Honeybees of Charles Henry Turner D

Wednesday, February 11, 4:30–5:30 p.m.

Grades K–5

Buzz! Buzz! Buzz! Join us for an afternoon of art as we explore the colorful world of Charles Henry Turner and his honeybees.

Ella-Palooza D

Friday, February 13, 1:30–2:30 p.m.

Ages 3–5 with an adult

Shake hands with friends! Come join us as we celebrate Ella Jenkins, the first lady of children's music.

Black Innovation: A STEM Escape Room R

Monday, February 16, 1–3:30 p.m.

Grades K–5 with an adult

Challenge our escape room inspired by some of history's greatest Black scientists! Our STEM puzzles will put you and your family to the test as you race to unlock the prize. Time slots available every 30 minutes.

Preschool Art: Sam Gilliam's Paintings D

Thursday, February 19, 1:30–2:30 p.m.

Ages 3–5 with an adult

This art workshop offers young artists the chance to explore unique painting techniques and create a masterpiece inspired by Sam Gilliam's *White and Black Paintings* series.

The Get Down: A Celebration of Rap and Hip-Hop D

Monday, February 23, 4:30–5:30 p.m.

Grades K–5

Everyone put your hands up! We're celebrating the greatest of the greatest in hip-hop and rap with crafts, activities and a whole lot of fun!

Stories in Stained Glass R

Tuesday, February 24, 4:30 p.m.

Grades K–2

Share your story through art in the style of stained-glass artist Samuel A. Hodge.

Betty Blayton's Abstract Collages R

Wednesday, February 25, 4:30 p.m.

Grades K–5

Inspired by Betty Blayton's abstract art, make a circular collage that represents your feelings in a unique way.

Curate Art Like Naomi Beckwith D

Thursday, February 26, 4:30–5:30 p.m.

Grades 3–5

Design your own museum art exhibition just like Naomi Beckwith, the chief curator of the Guggenheim Museum.

Preschool Play: An Afternoon with Doc McStuffins D

Friday, February 27, 1:30–2:30 p.m.

Ages 3–5 with an adult

The doctor is in! It's time for a stuffie check-up during this fun preschool playtime inspired by *Doc McStuffins*.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Outreach Services provides library services to our community's preschools, elementary schools, community centers, senior centers, neighborhoods and events.



Awesome Events at Ashbury's

Join us on Tuesday from 5 to 7 p.m. at our Bookmobile community stop at Ashbury's at Boughton Ridge, 335 E. Boughton Road.

December: Stuff the Bookmobile

December is the month of giving. Help us collect non-perishable food items for our Micro Pantry by bringing a non-perishable food item to our Ashbury's Bookmobile community stop. Enjoy a free book and a snowflake ornament as a thank you for your warm generosity.

January: Hygge

January is a great month to get into hygge! Hygge is a Danish word that emphasizes warmth, coziness and wellbeing. Check out a book from our Hygge display on the Bookmobile, and receive a free mini hygge kit to get you started.

February: Audiobook Challenge

Looking for a fun way to fit more reading into your day? Join our Audiobook Challenge! Listen to one audiobook in February using a Playaway or our digital collection apps: Libby, hoopla and Boundless. Need help? We have guides and tech support on the Bookmobile. Enter to win a pair of JBL wireless earbuds just for participating!

Home Delivery Service

Patrons of all ages who reside within the Fountaindale Public Library District are eligible for Home Delivery Service if they are confined to their residences either temporarily due to illness or accident or permanently due to illness, disability or other mobility issues. Upon request, Outreach staff can also provide help with selecting materials and locating information on a specific topic. Patrons who qualify for Home Delivery Service may request books, audiobooks, DVDs, Playaways, magazines, music CDs and more! For questions or to sign up for Home Delivery Service, please contact Outreach Services at 630.685.4230 or outreach@fountaindale.org.

Special Events on the Bookmobile

Winter Wonderland on the Bookmobile

Saturday, December 13, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Target, 1188 W. Boughton Road

Join us for music, stories and games as our Bookmobile transforms into a winter wonderland! Bring your friends and family—let's make this a magical winter day to remember!

Rubber Ducky Day on the Bookmobile

Saturday, January 10, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Target, 1188 W. Boughton Road

Come celebrate National Rubber Ducky Day on the Bookmobile with a day full of ducky fun! Play Ducks in a Pond for a chance to win a prize, get creative and decorate your own rubber duck, explore the Bookmobile with a duck scavenger hunt and take the Rubber Duck Challenge.

Winterfest

Saturday, January 24, 11 a.m.–2 p.m.

Annerino Community Center, 201 Recreation Drive

Join us on the Bookmobile at the Bolingbrook Park District's Winterfest celebration! There will be giveaways, activities and winter fun for everyone!

Library Shelfie Day on the Bookmobile

Wednesday, January 28, 10–11 a.m.

Best Buy, 315 N. Weber Road

Strike a pose and snap a shelfie with your favorite books for a chance to win a free book and book bag! It's the perfect way to show off your love of reading and the Bookmobile! Don't miss this chance to have fun, take photos and pick up some great freebies!



Happy Birthday, Pokémon!

Saturday, February 28, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Promenade Mall, 619 E. Boughton Road A

Join us on the Bookmobile to celebrate Pokémon's 30th birthday with a party you won't want to miss! Make a Pokémon button, enjoy cupcakes, a scavenger hunt and Pokémon card giveaways, while supplies last. Wear your favorite Pokémon costume and bring your cards to show off or trade with other Pokémon fans.



The Book Cellar

Support The Friends by visiting the Book Cellar on the lower level of the library and purchasing items in two rooms full of gently used fiction and nonfiction books in good-to-excellent condition. Cash or check payments only.

Book Cellar Hours:

Tuesday: 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Thursday: 4–8 p.m.

Sunday: 1–5 p.m.

Donations

The Friends of Fountaindale are looking for donations to add to the Nook and Book Cellar. If you have gently used books to donate, please bring them to the Information Desk in the lobby.

Please visit fountaindale.org/donations for more information, including a list of items the Friends will not accept.

Book Nook

Support the friends by purchasing books and other materials from the Nook located on the 1st floor next to Meeting Room A. The Nook is regularly stocked by the Friends, and you can pay for your purchases at the Circulation Desk.

How Do the Friends Support the Library?

The Friends of Fountaindale Library have provided financial support for library materials, services and events for more than 30 years.

You can make a difference by becoming a Friend of Fountaindale! Please consider supporting your library by simply completing and returning the membership form with payment to the library or Bookmobile.

APPLICATION FOR FRIENDS MEMBERSHIP

Return this form with payment to the Book Cellar during store hours, or mail it with a check (payable to Friends of Fountaindale Library) to:

Friends of Fountaindale Library
300 W. Briarcliff Road
Bolingbrook, IL 60440

Please indicate your membership level:

- ☐ Student \$2/year
- ☐ Senior (age 60+) \$4/year
- ☐ Fountaindale Employee \$4/year
- ☐ Individual \$6/year
- ☐ Family \$10/year
- ☐ Business/Organization \$40/year
- ☐ Lifetime \$100 (One-time payment)

Please print clearly:

Name

Address

City, State, ZIP

Phone

Email

Thank you for supporting the Friends!



300 W. Briarcliff Road, Bolingbrook, IL 60440
630.759.2102 • fountaindale.org



Library Closings

Christmas Holiday

Wednesday, December 24
Thursday, December 25

New Year's Holiday

Wednesday, December 31
Thursday, January 1

Library Hours

Mon–Thu: 9 a.m.–9 p.m.
Fri–Sat: 9 a.m.–6 p.m.
Sun: noon–6 p.m.

Book Drops

Library main entrance and north side
Ashbury's, 335 E. Boughton Road
First Presbyterian Church, 180 N. Weber Road

Holds Pickup Lockers

Library main entrance
Bolingbrook Recreation and Aquatic Complex (BRAC), 200 Lindsey Lane

Board of Trustees

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Marcelo Valencia, Vice President
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Kathryn J. Spindel, Treasurer
Meraj Alam, Trustee
Jim Daunis Jr., Trustee
Sarah M. Siska, Trustee

Board Meetings

Third Thursday of each month; 7 p.m.
Held at the library; open to the public

Executive Director

Paul Mills
630.685.4157
pmills@fountaindale.org

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2024-2025 Annual Report Now Available

Check out our highlights from the year!
Scan the QR code, visit
fountaindale.org/annualreport or pick up a
copy inside the library.

