



Library IN THE LOOP



Peoria Reads! Celebrates 20 Years in 2021

One City. One book. Different Minds.

Each year, Peoria Public Library features an important book through our annual Peoria Reads! one city, one book project. Since 2021 is the 20th anniversary, we have chosen a book particularly near and dear to our hearts – *The Library Book* by Susan Orlean.

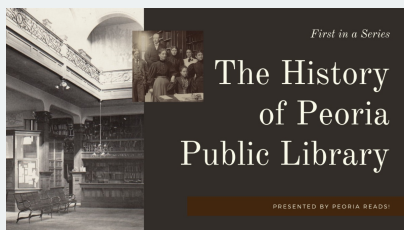
In *The Library Book*, Orlean chronicles the 1986 suspicious and destructive fire at the Los Angeles Public Library, as well as its aftermath, to highlight the crucial role libraries play in our personal lives and our communities. From the humble beginnings of libraries to their current status as a cornerstone of national identity, Orlean brings libraries - even the charred remains of one - to life. Part history. Part mystery. All heart.

As we encourage our community to read and discuss this book - kicking off this year's Peoria Reads during **National Library Week (April 4-10)** – we hope to increase awareness of the importance of libraries, in good times and bad.

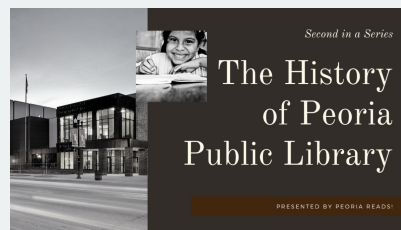
COVID has changed so much of life, including how you use your local library. We hope to use this year to remind you of all we have to offer.

We will offer a number of online programs related to our featured Peoria Reads! book, including literary and library trivia and a series of Peoria Public Library history programs featured below.

Find more events on our website at www.peoriapubliclibrary.org or on our [Facebook page](#).



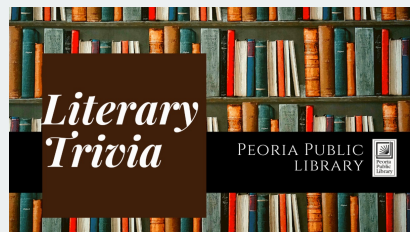
Peoria Public Library
History, Part One
Thursday, April 8
Zoom ~ 6 P.M. to 7:30 P.M.



Peoria Public Library
History, Part Two
Thursday, May 6
Zoom ~ 6 P.M. to 7:30 P.M.

Join us for a virtual trip through time as we explore the history of Peoria Public Library from 1846 to 1968. Enjoy a fascinating glimpse into photographs from the library archives as we explore the history of the Main Library.

[Register here](#)



**Peoria Public Library
Literary Trivia
Wednesday, April 21
Zoom ~ 6:30 P.M. to 7:30 P.M.**

Join us live on Zoom for a game of literary trivia. Test your knowledge of all things literary --books, authors, and of course, libraries!
Our winner will receive a gift card to a local restaurant.

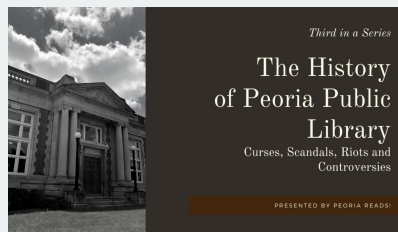
This event is hosted by Howes Party Games -- two sisters offering virtual programming in the form of entertaining games for all ages.

[Join the Zoom meeting here](#)

Meeting ID: 864 2717 7907
Passcode: booktriv

Join us as we explore the history of Peoria Public Library from 1968 to the present. We will also examine the branches and outreach programs that have been a part of the library's mission for over 100 years.

[Register here](#)



**Peoria Public Library
History, Part Three
Thursday, June 10
Zoom ~ 6 P.M. to 7:30 P.M.**

In this exciting conclusion to our History of Peoria Public Library series, we address the curses, scandals, riots, and controversies the library has been connected to.

From a curse on the land to the controversy over the Peoria City Cemetery, we will examine what original source materials have to say about these sensitive topics.

[Register here](#)

Get Travel Discounts with Your Library Card

Explore More Illinois returns April 1!

Use the power of your Peoria Public Library card to provide your family with free or discounted tickets to special attractions across Illinois - from theatre tickets to sporting events to admission to world-class museums. All you need is your Peoria Public Library card.

How to Explore More Illinois?

Log into [Explore More Illinois](#) using your Peoria Public Library card.

Browse participating attractions, select a date to visit and make a reservation. Print or download your reservation. You will need that and a photo ID.

You can have two active reservations per library card. If plans change, please cancel your reservation or it will count as being used. Remember, you cannot cancel once you print or download your reservation.

Explore More Illinois has just resumed after a hiatus during COVID. Expect more offerings to be added soon, but Peoria already has a few participating organizations, including the Peoria Park District's Golf Learning Academy and Owens Center ice skating rink.

The Peoria Riverfront Museum also has special offers through Explore More Illinois.



Remember, Peoria Public Library cardholders can also check out a day pass from any PPL location for the Peoria Riverfront Museum.

The pass includes general admission to all exhibits, galleries and daytime planetarium shows for two adults and their children or grandchildren under age 18.

*You must have a valid PPL library card.



PPL Room Reservations Resume April 5

In celebration of National Library Week (April 4-10) and our state's increasingly vaccinated community, Peoria Public Library is bringing back limited seating and meeting space reservations as of Monday, April 5.

"We're one step closer to normal operations," said Peoria Public Library Executive Director Randall Yelverton. "The fact that more

than 20 percent of Peoria County's population is fully vaccinated - and more are every day - leads us to feel comfortable allowing limited use of our meeting spaces. Of course, we will continue to follow the state's mandatory mask mandate and do all we can to provide a safe space for our patrons."

Since Feb. 1, the public has been allowed inside all Peoria Public Library locations for brief browsing and computer appointments. Curbside service has also been available throughout most of COVID and continues to be.

"Things won't be exactly as they were, but there will be many opportunities for people to come in and sit at our tables or reserve a room for small meetings," Yelverton said.

Social distancing will be required at study tables in the open areas. Each meeting room will have a capacity limit based on its square footage. Meeting rooms will only be available by reservation.

Room Reservation Details: Peoria Public Library has limited meeting spaces available BY RESERVATION ONLY.

Reserve a room the following ways:

Call: (309) 497-2143 or (309) 497-2150

Email: pplrooms@ppl.peoria.lib.il.us

Online at: <https://peoriapubliclibrary.evanced.info/spaces>

RESERVATIONS WILL ONLY BE APPROVED MONDAY-FRIDAY, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Weekend and evening reservations must be made in advance.

Capacity limits must be observed. Masks must be worn properly at all times.



YOUR LIBRARY CARD

Lifeline for Life Learners

Have you checked out our website lately?

Peoria Public Library's new website includes accessibility features allowing you to customize your experience. Make the font larger, increase the contrast, highlight links and more.

We've also added a Customer Feedback form and an easy way for you to Suggest A Purchase. We have new pages on "Information Literacy" and Community Resources. Our e-Library is also easier to find and use.

Check us out at www.peoriapubliclibrary.org

