



# Library IN THE LOOP



## Happy Holidays from all of us at Peoria Public Library!

Whether you celebrate Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Christmas or prefer Krampus, Peoria Public Library has something for you. We're making ornaments and other holiday crafts at every location, but we're also catching the Gingerbread Man at Lakeview, hosting a Christmas light scavenger hunt at Lincoln and bringing back our Winter Solstice Luminary StoryWalk at North.

Check out all of these events and more on our [website events calendar](#) or pick up a paper copy at any location.

Of special note, Peoria Public Library is partnering with the Center for Prevention of Abuse to provide warm winter clothing to the needy. We will collect new scarves, gloves, hats and more through December 18 on our Giving Trees. Find one at each branch.

## Celebrate the 10th Anniversary of Lincoln Branch's Transformation

Peoria Public Library's Lincoln Branch will celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of an expansion that more than tripled the size of Peoria's only Carnegie library with an open house on Friday, Dec. 10.

Join us from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Dec. 10 for light refreshments and recognition from library and community officials.

"Each of our locations brings something special to our community," notes Peoria Public Library Executive Director Randall Yelverton, "Lincoln Branch is the only other location outside of Main Library with a dedicated computer lab, and our staff has brought enviable STEM programming to the city's South Side because of it." Added Yelverton: "Thanks to partnerships with our schools and area nonprofits such as the Boys & Girls Club and more, Lincoln Branch staff has built strong connections with the children and teens in this area. They're like family."

Built in 1910, Lincoln Branch is Peoria's only Andrew Carnegie library. The addition in 2010, part of a \$28 million modernization effort across Peoria's entire library system, expanded its footprint from 4,570 square feet to 16,300 square feet.

The expansion "didn't change how we did things, but it did make things more accessible, and it allowed us to reach more people," notes Lincoln Branch manager Cynthia Smith. "We never could do the programming or reach the children we do now with the space we had before."

NORTH BRANCH | DECEMBER 8-12

# SEASON'S SAVINGS!

MCKENZIE ROOM BOOK SALE

DON'T MISS OUR FIRST EVER BIG BOOK SALE AT THE NORTH BRANCH! THE MCKENZIE ROOM WILL BE TAKEN OVER BY THE FRIENDS OF PEORIA PUBLIC LIBRARY AND MOUNTAINS OF BOOKS OF ALL KINDS!

## Community Concerts

Peoria Public Library is hosting two free community concerts this month at Peoria Public Library North Branch, 3001 W. Grand Pkwy.

### Wednesday, Dec. 15

The Water Stompers bring the spirit of Mardi Gras to Peoria with traditional New Orleans jazz from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in North Branch's McKenzie room.



### Sunday, Dec. 19

We're showcasing something unique this month as part of Music in the McKenzie series. Come hear Bones Jugs, a jugband like you've never experienced. This duo from Champaign-Urbana plays everything from the steel pan to the xylophone. Their music is a mix of acoustic Americana, calypso, ragtime, blues, Bluegrass, Dixieland and more. Come hear for yourself from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in North Branch's McKenzie room.



WINTER SOLSTICE LUMINARY

# StoryWalk®

AT NORTH BRANCH

**WINTER SOLSTICE LUMINARY CRAFT**  
**Sunday, December 19 | 2:00 - 4:00 pm**  
Decorate a luminary and then come back the next night to see it beautifully lit up along with others along our StoryWalk. We will provide all the supplies.

**STORYTIME & LUMINARY STORYWALK**  
**Monday, December 20 | 4:30 - 7:00 pm**  
Join us around our cozy fireplace for a story celebrating the arrival of winter, and then enjoy our luminary walk on our StoryWalk. We'll provide hot cocoa!

## Reading Inspiration for Now and the New Year

It's cold. It's dark. Wintertime is the best time to lose yourself in a good book. But it can also be a good time to find yourself with a good Book Club.

Peoria Public Library has two new book clubs starting in January, joining the ranks of the nearly dozen book clubs we already host.

Welcome to our Adult-ish Book Club, the next chapter of what was our YA for Adults Book Club. We still like YA, but we've grown to wanting to explore other genres as well. Join us if you want to discover and discuss popular books in a relaxed setting. We don't mind if you haven't finished the book, as long as you don't mind if we give away the ending. **Adult-ish Book Club** will meet every third Tuesday of the month from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Lakeview Branch, 1137 W. Lake Ave.

Come in person or join us via Zoom instead. Email [programming@ppl.peoria.lib.il.us](mailto:programming@ppl.peoria.lib.il.us) for the Zoom link.

January's Book: *The Lost Apothecary* by Sarah Penner



Come January, we will also debut our **Diverse Voices Book Club**, which will discuss books that open our eyes to the lives of marginalized people so we can better understand our neighbors. Diverse Voices Book Club will meet every first Wednesday of the month from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Lakeview Branch, 1137 W. Lake Ave. Come in person or join us via Zoom instead. Email [programming@ppl.peoria.lib.il.us](mailto:programming@ppl.peoria.lib.il.us) for the Zoom link. January's Book: *The Prophets* by Robert Jones Jr.

We'd love to know if there is a book club you'd like that we don't have. Please fill out [this brief survey](#) and give us your feedback. We promise to take any and all ideas seriously.

**Happy reading!**



### RSVP Early for Room Reservations

Just a quick reminder that room reservations fill up quickly, especially near the end of the year. Peoria Public Library has everything from study rooms to a large auditorium available for you to reserve - for free. We do have a few stipulations, such as no solicitations, but we welcome you to use our meeting rooms for all of your educational, cultural, civic or charitable needs.

You can reserve a room in advance online by creating a free "Spaces" account.

If you made your reservation online, you can easily cancel your request via your "Spaces" account or by phone or email - [pplrooms@ppl.peoria.lib.il.us](mailto:pplrooms@ppl.peoria.lib.il.us) or (309) 497-2143 or 497-2150.

For a SAME DAY cancellation, please call the library location directly.

Our reservation software system — SPACES — is experiencing issues with email reminders and confirmation emails, as well as password reset functionality. If you experience one of these issues, you may call the Programming Department at (309) 497-2143 or 497-2150 to make a reservation.

With the holidays approaching, please try to make your reservations in advance.

