



Library IN THE LOOP



Peoria Reads! 2022 Celebrates Loving Where You Live

Each year, we feature an important book through our annual Peoria Reads! one city, one book project. Now 20-plus years strong.

For 2022, we have chosen a book that helps us celebrate where we are in life — something that perhaps we all need during this ongoing global pandemic.

This is Where You Belong: Finding Home Wherever You Are by Melody Warnick will inspire you to love where you live — whether you are a lifelong Peorian or a new transplant.

In collaboration with our Peoria Reads! partners — Bradley University, Methodist College and Neighborhood House -- we will be hosting programs tied to this book throughout most of 2022 — including a virtual conversation with the author herself.

[Find more details and a list of events](#)

Key upcoming events:

Thursday, April 7 – Virtual Author Event with Melody Warnick

7 p.m. Zoom

[Register in advance for this meeting](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Free and open to the public.

Saturday, April 23 – Volunteer Fair

11 a.m. to 2 p.m., North Branch, 3001 W. Grand Pkwy.

Part of loving where you live is finding connections through volunteering. Nearly two dozen local nonprofits will be on hand to talk about the good they do in Peoria – and encourage you to join them! Free and open to the public.

Thursday, April 28 – The Art & Science of Happiness

6:30 p.m., Methodist College, 7600 N. Academic Drive, Peoria.

Explore the concept of happiness through various lenses, such as biology, philosophy, religion & culture. Why is achieving happiness important and how do you do it.

Free and open to the public.

NATIONAL ★★★ LIBRARY WEEK

APRIL 3-9, 2022

CONNECT WITH YOUR LIBRARY



National Library Week – April 3-9

As part of **National Library Week** (April 3-9), learn about all the things you can achieve with the help of your library card! Pick up a challenge sheet at any Peoria Public Library location, complete it and then turn it in by April 11 for your chance to win a gift card. One winner per PPL location.

We LOVE hearing how you love us! Post your stories via Facebook, Instagram or Twitter and tag us! Use the hashtag #NationalLibraryWeek too! First sponsored in 1958 after research showed Americans were spending less on books and more on radios, televisions and musical instruments, National Library Week was started by the American Library Association (ALA) to celebrate libraries, library workers and to promote library use and support.

This year's theme is "**Connect With Your Library**" so we hope you will visit us in person and connect with us on social media as well.

Acclaimed Author/Journalist Wil Haygood Comes to Peoria April 10

Best-selling author, prize-winning journalist, acclaimed biographer and cultural historian Wil Haygood will share the history of Black cinema in discussing his latest book, *Colorization: One Hundred Years of Black Films in a White World*.

The public is invited to join us at 2 p.m., Sunday, April 10 at Lincoln Branch, 1312 W. Lincoln Ave.
Free and open to the public.

Haygood's presentation is possible thanks to the generous sponsorship of Friends of Peoria Public Library and private donors.

Hear about the struggles and triumphs of the artists and the films, as Haygood explores Black culture and the Civil Rights movement.

The Bunny is BACK! Lincoln Branch's Famous Easter Egg Hunt Returns April 16

After two years away due to COVID, the Easter Bunny is bouncing back to Lincoln Branch on Saturday, April 16 for a spectacular Easter Egg hunt.

Staff is working as we write to fill **3,000 eggs!!!** with candy. In the past, we've had 400 children participate.

The eggs will be hidden in the lush grounds surrounding Lincoln Branch. Children in kindergarten through 3rd grade will hunt separately from the older children.

The hunt begins promptly at 2:30 p.m. so Lincoln Branch Manager Cynthia Smith hopes parents will come early. There's no rain date so if the weather is bad, staff will hand out eggs to the children.

"I know 3,000 sounds like a lot of eggs, but if we have a lot of kids like we've had in the past, they can go in five minutes," Smith laughs.

There are a number of other fun Easter-related activities this month, including making a diorama from Peeps candy, decorating paper Easter eggs and making buildings out of jelly beans. Pick up our event calendar for dates and details.



Earth Day Activities

Earth Day, celebrated every April 22, was started to promote environmental awareness and calls for the protection of our planet's resources. Peoria Public Library, in addition to offering a wealth of resources on conservation, is hosting two programs for children in honor of Earth Day.

Saturday, April 23 – Earth Day Worm Race & Storytime at North Branch

Join us the Saturday after Earth Day for a fun Worm- themed Storytime and Earthworm race. We will have an in-person story time, learn a little bit about these creatures and then finish with each child having the opportunity to race their own earthworm, that we will provide. Starts at 3 p.m., April 23. Space is limited so call 309-497-2100 to register your child. Event will be held, rain or shine!

Monday, April 25 – Earth Day Seed Bombs at Lincoln Branch

Join us as we make our own seed bombs! Supplies provided. A flower seed bomb can also be a fun DIY gift! Open to ages 12 to 18. Starts at 4 p.m., April 25.

