



Dear friends,

This holiday season sure looks different than last year's, but we hope you're still finding ways to celebrate. For us, without a doubt the best place to get started is in Michele B's kitchen. Michele is a veritable Gingerbread House Master, and spent a weekend recording [this Gingerbread House Tutorial](#) to inspire and instruct. She's been making them since she got married (thanks to a wedding gift from her parents in an undisclosed year) and has instructed many of us in the fine art of gingerbread-house-making over the years. Thanks to the pandemic, this year we've captured her wisdom on video! Take a look... and feel the season's spirit take hold.



We even added [these gingerbread house molds](#) to our growing Library of Things collection. Check them out! Snap a pic of your gingerbread house and we'll add it to our [online gallery](#). Email it to us at info@yorkpubliclibrary.org or tag us on Facebook.

Happy and Healthy Holidays to you and yours from everyone at York Public Library!

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What's Happening at YPL

Teaching 2020: A Talk with Greg Smith

Thursday, December 3 @ 7:00 PM

Online

As information and narratives from the government, news outlets, and social media continue to contradict each other, it's more important than ever before to discern truth. This is challenging enough for adults, but how are the issues conveyed to Maine's youth? Join educator Greg Smith to learn about how he addresses polemic issues with balance and inquiry, enabling students to make educated decisions about who to trust.

Greg Smith is a Social Studies teacher and faculty liaison for the Civil Rights team at Kennebunk High School.



This is an online event held via ZOOM. [Click here](#) to register.

VIRTUAL Trivia Night with Matt Howell

Thursday, December 10 @ 7:00 PM

Online

Grab some eggnog and settle into your favorite armchair for York Public Library's first VIRTUAL Trivia Night! Matt Howell will emcee this "anything goes" trivia event, so prepare to laugh... and for your competitive side to rear its ugly head! From the comfort of home, compete individually or form a team with members of your household and get those fingers ready: the faster you click, the more points you'll be awarded.



THE PRIZE: It's beautiful. It's festive. And it will remind you of 2020 for many holiday seasons to come (pictured to the right). Our friends at York Beach Beer Company and SoMe Brewing have also donated FREE flights of beer to the Trivia Night winner with the most points (of course, the individual must be 21 or older).

This is an online event held via ZOOM. [Learn more](#) about Trivia Night or [REGISTER HERE](#).



American Red Cross Blood Drive

Friday, December 11 @ 10:00 AM - 2:30 PM

YPL Community Room



The need for blood is constant and only volunteer donors can fulfill that need for patients in our community. Nationwide, someone needs a unit of blood every 2 to 3 seconds and most of us will need blood in our lifetime. One pint of blood can save up to 3 lives. Please consider donating and help keep our community strong!

[Sign up to give blood here.](#)

Old Age, Retirement, and the Pandemic: New Poetry from Tom Carnicelli

Thursday, December 17 @ 7:00 PM

Online



York resident Tom Carnicelli will give a reading of poems from his third collection, *Older Still*. In his **first two** collections, he explores old age and retirement. In his new book, he continues in that vein, but branches out to explore the experiences of other people too, such as this year's high school seniors. There are also ten poems about the pandemic, but as he writes in his preface, Carnicelli does not write "seriously depressing poems."

Tom Carnicelli taught English at UNH for 46 years, retiring in 2013. He has lived in York since 1971, and has served on a number of town and local organizations. In 2019, he received a lifetime service award from the Town of York.

This is an online event held via ZOOM. [Click here](#) to register.

Virtual Meditation

December 2, 9, 16 @ 4:00pm

Online

Holiday stress? Pandemic fatigue? Tune in to weekly meditations with area practitioners (almost) every Wednesday at 4 p.m. To join a meditation, click [here](#) ahead of the session to participate via

Zoom. Miss a class? Check out recordings of past sessions and more information about our practitioners by [clicking here](#).



On Display: Handcrafted Ornaments

Through December 12

Upper Level, York Public Library



Between now and December 12th, York Public Library has a special display of handcrafted holiday ornaments and decorations. Three talented artists, Ann Chase, Susan Jablonski, and Frannie Niles, loaned their needlepoint ornaments to showcase community creativity and inspire the festive spirit. Meredith Elvidge and Pamela Wallis share wreath and elf decorations to complete our holiday decor. Call the library to make an appointment to check out these treasures while you're in browsing or using the computer.

For more upcoming events, check out our website!

Stay tuned for upcoming programs and events in your inbox, and remember to check our [website calendar](#) for all the latest happenings at York Public Library!

Have an idea for a program? Email us at info@yorkpubliclibrary.org to share thoughts and suggestions.



New in Kids & Young Adults

Pre-K Recommendations from Miss Kathleen, Miss Katie, and Miss Barb

Are you and your young one tackling the [1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Challenge](#)? Our Children's Librarians have some recommendations just for you! [Here are some of their favorite books](#). They make great gifts, too!

Want more reading suggestions? *We have oodles. Just ask!*



STEAM "Grab and Go" Bags

Get ready! S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) Grab and Go bags are COMING SOON to Curbside Pickup! Our fabulous intern, Miss Lynn, has designed brilliant to-go kits to bust up boredom, and she even made [this trailer](#) that is sure to pique your interest. Brew up some STEAM as a family, and follow along as Miss Lynn shows you fun experiments you can do using materials you can find around the house or in one of our convenient pre-made kits. Grab and Go kits and accompanying videos will be ready for lift-off within the next couple of weeks!



Virtual Parent Cafés *NEW TIME!*

December 3, 10 & 17 @ 10:00 AM

Online



Join York Public Library and Patrice Leary-Forrey from Kids Free to Grow to connect with other parents nurturing newborns and toddlers. We'll chat about child development, community support, and any other parenting issues you might have on your mind. Even in COVID-times we can stay connected as a community.

Bring a friend!

[Click here](#) to join any Virtual Parent Café on ZOOM.



Read More from YA and Children's

Catch up on all the latest from our Youth Librarians in this month's [YA Newsletter](#) and [Children's Newsletter](#).

Whatcha Reading?

This month's READ WOKE: Immigration



This month, we're reading books focusing on immigration. To find a great read, peruse the Challenge resources on [Beanstack](#) and check out [YPL's book lists](#) too. Read at your own pace and take on the monthly challenges in any order you like. We welcome the participation of all ages, and we encourage you to discuss the books you read with those around you, including us! Share your thoughts with us at info@yorkpubliclibrary.org.

Book Club Bonanza

Lately we've had an uptick in requests for a YPL book club. We love to read, and we love to talk about books, so we're planning to begin one or more book clubs starting in the coming weeks. Why not welcome 2021 with a renewed focus on reading! [Fill out our survey](#) to help us decide what kind of book groups we should plan.



Love Your Library this #GivingTuesday



December 1, 2020 is #GIVINGTUESDAY!

Giving Tuesday is a global day of giving. Donate securely through our Facebook page and Facebook could match your donation up to 100%! And, while the company's matching donations will cap at \$7 million, your gift in any amount helps us mitigate costs associated with becoming the library we aspire to be—the library that better serves the needs of area residents. [Donate now through Facebook](#), or [make a secure donation on our website](#).

Coming Soon...

Ukulele Workshops are Back This January for 4th-6th Graders!

January 9, 16, 23 & 30 @ 10:30 AM

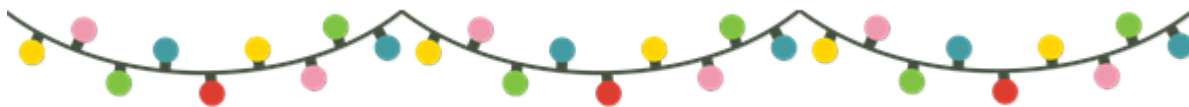
Online

Is your 4th-6th grader interested in learning an instrument? How about the ukulele? Register for our FREE 4-week introductory workshop with [Mountain Road Music's Shea Ellis](#). Use your own ukulele or borrow one from the Library. Space is limited so [register early](#)! Call 207-363-2818 with any questions.



The 2021 CAMDEN CONFERENCE

We are excited to share that once again, York Public Library will be participating in The 34th Annual Camden Conference. Stay tuned to learn more about YPL's January events in [The Camden Conference 2021: THE GEOPOLITICS OF THE ARCTIC: A REGION IN PERIL](#).



December Holiday Hours

York Public Library is closed:

**December 24, 25, and 26
and January 1 for the holidays.**

Current Hours & In-Person Services



Curbside Pickup hours:

Tuesday 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Wednesday 4 – 7 p.m. (**park and enter lobby**)

Thursday 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Friday 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Saturday 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Browsing and Computer Appointments

Tuesday 2:15 – 5 p.m.

Wednesday 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Thursday 2:15 – 5 p.m.

Friday 2:15 – 5 p.m.

Saturday 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Visits are limited to 30 minutes.

YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY

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