



## CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS

The new Superior library on Harris Road is beginning to take shape! On November 1st the final steel beam was installed, and crews are working on exterior stud walls, as well as curbs and gutters for the parking area. Steel roof trusses are delayed, but expected by the end of 2021.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the Next Chapter Capital Campaign to date. Contributions help ensure the new library includes everything our community wants and needs, despite today’s high costs and unpredictable supply chain. Currently all gifts up to \$100,000 are being matched by a generous anonymous foundation donor, so they have twice the impact.

As of November, our campaign has raised \$1.67 million of its \$2 million goal. Gifts to YDL are tax deductible, and it’s easy to give! Visit [ypsilibrary.org/nextchapter](https://www.ypsilibrary.org/nextchapter), or mail checks to YDL at 5577 Whittaker Road, Ypsilanti MI 48197. Thank you for supporting your library!

Lisa Hoenig, *Director*

## REFLECTING BACK, PLANNING AHEAD

In January 2017, the Board of Trustees adopted a 5-year strategic plan for YDL. Developed with community input, the plan focused on improvements in five areas: Diversity and Inclusiveness, Effectiveness of Programs, Facility Equity, Fiscal Health, and Marketing and Communications. With the dedicated hard work of our entire staff, we are very proud of the results achieved.

Some of the changes we’ve made are very visible. We launched the current library logo and this newsletter, *The Loop*, in 2017. A new website design followed in 2018. Our bookmobile got a colorful facelift that markets the library wherever it goes.

Another strategic plan initiative rebranded our summer reading program. The Summer Challenge was introduced in 2017 and has become a community staple, remaining

popular even when held virtually during the pandemic.

In November 2018 you overwhelmingly voted to support a new library millage. This helped restore the library’s budget to fiscal health. As a result, YDL finally broke ground on the new Superior Township library, expected to open in the second half of 2022.

Other changes have been more subtle or behind the scenes altogether. Delayed slightly by the pandemic, a staff team has developed a comprehensive Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion recommendation for the Board’s consideration in early 2022. We conducted a space utilization study at the Whittaker and Michigan Avenue libraries that will guide future improvements. Another team of staff developed a program proposal and evaluation process to ensure the events we offer are those you truly want and need.

We launched a mobile app, implemented text notifications for holds, and put a new room reservation and event registration system in place. Tools to make staff more efficient and effective include an improved phone system, a new email platform, and a helpdesk for reporting technical or maintenance issues.

You can review the entire 2017-2021 strategic plan at [www.ypsilibrary.org/about/connect/strategic-plan](https://www.ypsilibrary.org/about/connect/strategic-plan).

In 2022, YDL will work to develop a new strategic plan, our roadmap for what’s ahead. We want YOUR input! Be on the lookout for upcoming surveys and community conversations. Thank you in advance for sharing your ideas with staff, Trustees, and the Strategic Plan Steering Committee that we’ll convene when the process begins.

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# EXPERIENCE “EVICTED”

February 1 – March 31, 2022 at YDL-Whittaker

In 2017, Princeton sociologist and MacArthur “Genius” Matthew Desmond published *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City*. Hailed as “wrenching and revelatory” (*The Nation*), *Evicted* transformed America’s understanding of poverty and economic exploitation with its “unforgettable scenes of hope and loss.”

*Evicted* went on to earn multiple awards, including the Pulitzer Prize, the National Book Critics Circle Award for Nonfiction, and many more.

Inspired by Desmond’s book, the Evicted exhibition brings visitors into the world of low-income renter eviction, challenging us to face the enormity of one of 21st-century America’s most devastating problems.

Developed in collaboration with designers MATTER Architecture Practice and mgmt. design, Evicted uses specially-commissioned visual infographics to introduce numbers and statistics to help us better understand the causes for and

ramifications of chronic eviction. The exhibition also highlights ways that some local and state governments and nonprofits are intervening to upend the cycle of chronic evictions, such as Right to Counsel laws and new affordable housing projects. Visitors will leave armed with ideas for enacting change in our own community and helping alleviate the downward spiral for those already living on the economic edge.

During Evicted’s stop in Ypsilanti, YDL will host book discussion groups, film screenings, leaders from local organizations working on affordable housing initiatives, and representatives from Legal Services of South Central Michigan to examine evictions in Washtenaw County – both in the past and since the pandemic’s eviction moratorium ended in August, 2021.

Evicted is sponsored by the National Building Museum.

# WASHTENAW READS

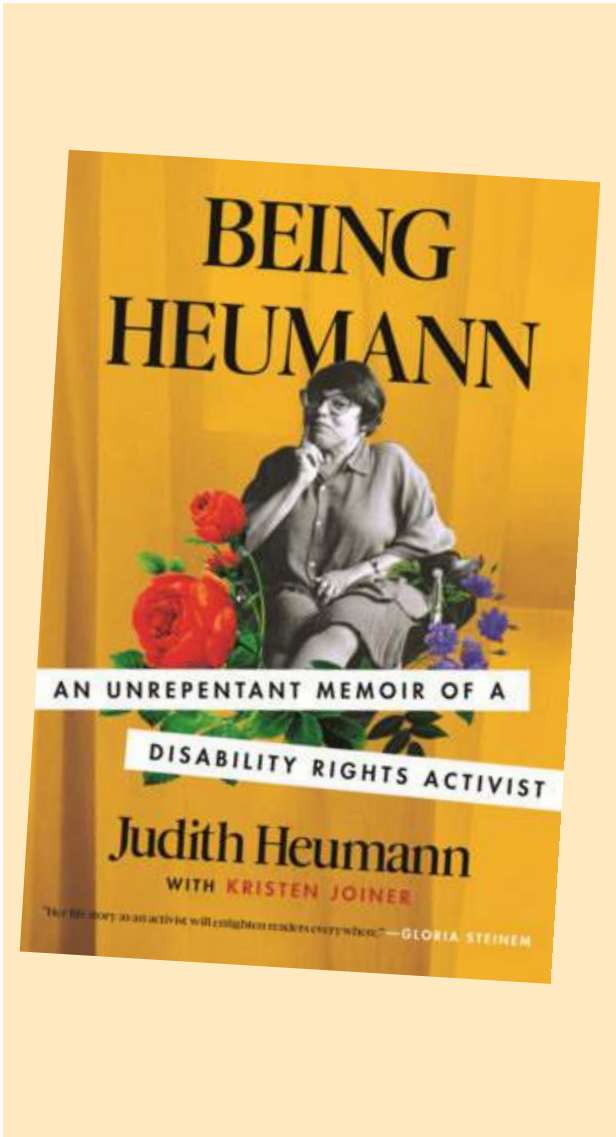
The 2022 Washtenaw Read is *Being Heumann* by Judith Heumann. In this empowering memoir, Heumann shares her spirit and her story as a disability rights advocate, from her childhood experiences with prejudice and “invisibility” to her eventual role as Special Advisor for International Disability Rights in the White House.

Paralyzed by polio as a baby, Heumann was recommended for a life of institutionalization. Her parents, however, were orphans of the Holocaust. Knowing what happened to disabled children in German institutions, they had no intention of following that advice. But beginning in 1953, when she was denied access to public school and called a “fire hazard,” Heumann found the world was not designed to accommodate her. With her mother’s fierce advocacy leading the way, Heumann slowly gained access to education, camp, university, and employment, eventually becoming a driving force in the passage of the Americans With Disabilities Act.

Heumann’s thoughtful and poignant memoir reminds us all that an accessible world is everyone’s right. Her courageous life is a testament to the power of advocacy.

Copies of the book are available to check out from YDL.

Judith Heumann is an internationally recognized leader in the Disability Rights Independent



Living Movement. Her work with a wide range of activist organizations has contributed greatly to the development of human rights legislation and policy benefiting disabled people. Connect with her on Twitter (@judithheumann) and Facebook ([TheHeumannPerspective](#)).

# HOLIDAY CHEER AT YDL

YDL is offering festive activities to get you in the holiday spirit. See below for some indoor and outdoor events where you can harness your holiday cheer, or even process difficult emotions to help the holidays look a little brighter. For more on these events, see pages 4–7.



## HOLIDAY LIGHTS AT MICHIGAN AVENUE

Come to the Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony on **Friday, Dec. 3 at 6pm** in **Library Plaza** at **YDL-Michigan**. Enjoy caroling with the YCHS Choir and the Ypsilanti Community Choir while sipping hot chocolate and decorating cookies. Santa will join us for the tree lighting and a photo op in his sleigh! The light display will remain throughout the season for photo opportunities and enjoyment, including photos in Santa’s sleigh.



## PAUL KELLER ENSEMBLE HOLIDAY JAZZ CONCERT

The popular Paul Keller Ensemble is back in concert on **Sunday, Dec. 5 at 2pm** at **YDL-Whittaker**, sponsored by the Friends of YDL. Enjoy some holiday favorites and a few new arrangements from this seven piece band as Paul Keller and his merry musicians joyfully celebrate the holiday season with good cheer and swinging jazz. Space is limited. Registration is required.



## DIY HOT COCOA BOMBS (18+)

At **3:00pm Dec. 4** at **YDL-Michigan**, put hot cocoa mix and additional mix-ins inside DIY chocolate shells to make hot cocoa bombs fit for gifting (or keeping) for a chilly day. Registration is required.



## GRIEVE WELL DURING THE HOLIDAYS

At **7pm on Dec. 6**, watch an interactive, one-hour, virtual workshop to learn about grief and helpful tips for navigating grief during the holidays. In partnership with GrieveWell. Register online for the Zoom link.



## MAKE SNOW GLOBES

**Dec. 8 and 11**, there will be opportunities for children of all ages to make their own snow globes at **YDL-Michigan**. Registration is required since supplies are limited.



## WINTER STEAM

**Dec. 20–22** and **Dec. 27–29** stop by the **YDL-Whittaker** Youth Department each afternoon for a different activity you can explore on your own to get creative or develop your STEM skills. See page 5 for featured activities.



# ONE YEAR OF YPSI STORIES!

It has officially been one year since the first episode of the Ypsi Stories podcast. The 13 episodes so far cover a wide range of topics related to Ypsilanti’s history, from its infrastructure and development to personal narratives about Black liberation and women’s rights.

Reference librarian Shoshanna Wechter is the creator and host of Ypsi Stories. Wechter had the idea to start a podcast during the pandemic. As a result of YDL’s closure she realized the importance of engaging with the public.

“[We wanted] to give them some of the same experiences they had gotten when we’d been open,” said Wechter. “The Ypsilanti District Library has always brought in speakers to present on Ypsilanti history, and these are popular programs, so what better way than a podcast to bring Ypsilanti history to our patrons in the age of social distancing.”

Not only is the podcast entertaining and informative, it is also a valuable resource for researchers. “The library is creating primary sources in the form of interviews of Ypsilantians’ personal experiences, and is contributing to the intellectual heritage of Ypsilanti,” Wechter said.

One of the goals of the podcast is to bring light to lesser known stories, “whether it’s a

story making the invisible visible, highlighting the infrastructure that underlies our community, a story from a nondominant racial, gendered, or class-based lens, or a personal narrative thought to be too current to be considered part of history by many,” she added.

Podcasting is an increasingly popular mode of storytelling, and YDL is one of many libraries across Michigan using this medium to start a dialogue with the community. In fact, *American*



*Libraries* featured Ypsi Stories in its November issue as part of an article on how library podcasts examine local history. Ypsi Stories is one of a handful of library podcasts from across the country featured in the article.

In that piece, Wechter explained that the podcast was “an opportunity to showcase different experiences, narratives, and histories that you don’t normally see in a history book or even from local history organizations.” The Ypsi Stories podcast has over 1,700 plays from people looking to absorb that history.

Going forward, Ypsi Stories will continue working with local historians and community members to tell stories from multiple perspectives.

December’s episode will share the history of the Kiwanis Club of Ypsilanti. In January, hear about the Washtenaw County African American Genealogical Society and African American genealogy as a whole. In February, coinciding with Black History Month, you’ll get the history of discriminatory housing laws in Ypsilanti.

New episodes are released on the first Wednesday of each month. Ypsi Stories is available at [ypsilibrary.org/ypsistories](https://ypsilibrary.org/ypsistories) and wherever you find your podcasts.

# KANOPY IS HERE!

The newest addition to YDL’s growing list of digital resources, Kanopy, is ready for streaming. Use Kanopy to find nearly 30,000 movies and other videos to inspire, educate, and entertain. Free to library cardholders, Kanopy’s unique selection offers something for everyone, from award winning indie films to important and timely documentaries, to foreign films, popular cinema, children’s shows, and more.

“We are so thrilled to offer Kanopy to our community,” said YDL Assistant Director Julianne Smith. “Patrons will love the critically-acclaimed movies, award-winning foreign films, and inspiring documentaries, as well as the popular Great Courses catalog and Kanopy Kids. With 10

borrows per month and the ability to download the Kanopy app right to your TV or streaming device, I think we will have some very happy library customers!”

With your YDL account, you get 10 credits each month. Once you create your account and log in, you will see a “play credit counter” at the top of the screen that lets you know how many credits you have remaining. A play credit is logged once at least 5 seconds of a video has been played. After a play credit is logged, you will have 3 days (72 hours) to watch the video as many times as you would like without using another play credit. If you use all available play credits for the month you will next be able to

play videos on the 1st of the next month, when your play credits reset.

Feel free to watch as many videos from Kanopy Kids as you’d like; videos from the Kanopy Kids section do not require any play credits to view. You’ll also occasionally see a “Credit-Free” shelf on the Kanopy homepage. You will be able to view the videos on this shelf without using any of your play credits.

To get started with Kanopy, visit our website or go to [kanopy.com](https://kanopy.com).



**Now Streaming**  
Thoughtful Entertainment

*I Am Not Your Negro*

**Kanopy is now available at your public library!**

Over 30,000 movies, documentaries, and kid favorites

**kanopy**



**Here are some of the great films you can watch with Kanopy:**

- **COMEDY:** *What We Do in the Shadows*
- **HORROR:** *Midsommar*
- **DRAMA:** *The Bookshop*
- **DOCUMENTARY:** *I Am Not Your Negro*
- **FOREIGN LANGUAGE:** *Seven Samurai*
- **CLASSIC:** *Dial M for Murder*
- **ROMANCE:** *The Tomorrow Man*
- **ANIMATION:** *Loving Vincent*
- **SHORT:** *The Phone Call*
- **SCI-FI:** *Under the Skin*
- **THRILLER:** *Eye in the Sky*
- **KIDS:** *Don't let the Pigeon Drive the Bus*
- **SERIES:** *Alone*
- **MINISERIES:** *Roots*



# Dec - Feb Events

**Dec 1**

## SMALL BUSINESS SAVVY: ART MARKETING

**6:30pm | Virtual**

Calling all artists! Learn how to formulate a plan, strategy, and tactics to sell art at fairs, galleries, virtual galleries, or through a variety of online channels. This series is presented in partnership with the Salem South Lyon District Library and the Ann Arbor area SCORE office. Register online for this virtual session. For more information, email Paula Drummond at [drummond@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:drummond@ypsilibrary.org) or call 734-482-4110 x 1306.

**Dec 1, 8 & 15; Jan 19 & 26; Feb 2, 9, 16 & 23**

## VIRTUAL SCHOOLWORK SUPPORT AT THE LIBRARY IN PARTNERSHIP WITH 826MICHIGAN

**4:00pm | YDL-Whittaker & YDL- Michigan**

From the library, students ages 7–18 work with trained, background-checked volunteers who will support them as they complete any schoolwork and study for tests. YDL staff will be available in the youth departments to help students get connected to the Zoom session. Arrive by 3:45 to get set up. Register at [tinyurl.com/826Registration21-22](https://tinyurl.com/826Registration21-22) and choose Ypsilanti District Library from the drop-down menu. Contact Megan Gilson at [megan@826michigan.org](mailto:megan@826michigan.org) for more information.

**Dec 2, Jan 6, Feb 3**

## THURSDAY MORNING BOOK GROUP

**10:30am | YDL-Whittaker**

Copies of the book are available at the Whittaker Road branch Circulation Desk one month before the discussion date. Please contact Sheila at [skonen@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:skonen@ypsilibrary.org) with questions.

**Dec. 2:** *The Map of Salt and Stars* by Jeyn Joukhadar

**Jan. 6:** *Being Heumann: An Unrepentant Memoir of a Disability Rights Activist* by Judith Heumann—Washtenaw Reads 2022 title

**Feb. 3:** *A Raisin in the Sun* by Lorraine Hansberry

**Dec 2, 9 & 16; Jan 13, 20 & 27; Feb 3, 10 & 17**

## LOVE OF LEARNING CLUB

**1:00pm | YDL-Whittaker**

Connect with other families while engaging in themed activities each week inspired by a nonfiction and/or picture book. Perfect for ages 6–9, but the whole family is welcome. The themed activity each week includes STEM or art projects and library skills perfect for anyone who is home schooling.

**Dec 2, Jan 6, Feb 3**

## CORNER CHATS AT YDL - TEEN MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS

**4:00pm | YDL-Michigan**

A mental health therapist and social worker will answer anonymous questions about mental or physical health in an informal group chat at the library! Join live or virtually to discuss issues surrounding teens in the community and we'll serve snacks while we discuss the questions that we receive. Submit questions anonymously through the event link on the online YDL calendar.

**Dec 2, 9 & 16; Jan 13, 20 & 27; Feb 3, 10, 17 & 24**

## SAT MATH PREP

**4:30pm | Virtual**

Our SAT math prep tutor Geetha Elangovan returns to help high school students prepare for the math portion of the SAT. Register for access to the Zoom link. Supporting materials and worksheets will be available for participants to pick up at the library. Call 734-879-1304 or email [jodi@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:jodi@ypsilibrary.org) with questions or to schedule pickup of materials.

**Dec 2, Jan 6, Feb 3**

## TWEEN BOOK CLUB (Grades 6–8)

**6:30pm | YDL-Michigan**

Join us for a monthly discussion of a shared book and enjoy a snack.

**Dec 2:** *The Cardboard Kingdom* by Chad Sell

**Jan 6:** *The Extraordinary Education of Nicholas Benedict* by Trenton Lee Stewart

**Feb 3:** *Scythe* by Neal Shusterman

REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

Email [mitchell@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:mitchell@ypsilibrary.org).

**Dec 3**

## HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING: SINGING, SANTA, AND SUGAR COOKIES

**6:00pm–7:30pm | YDL-Michigan**

Join us for cookie decorating, hot chocolate, songs, and a photo op with Santa in his sleigh! (See page 2 for details).

**Dec 4 & 18; Jan 15 & 29; Feb 12 & 26**

## SATURDAY MORNING MINDFULNESS WITH DR. TONI PRESSLEY-SANON

**9:00am | Virtual**

Start your weekends off mindfully with a thirty minute session that allows you to center, breathe, and just be. Beginners are welcome. Sessions will be led by Dr. Toni Pressley-Sanon from EMU. If you need help using Zoom, email Paula Drummond at [drummond@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:drummond@ypsilibrary.org) or call 734-482-4110 x1306.

**Dec 4**

## FAMILY BIRDING WALK

**2:00pm | YDL-Whittaker**

Hike down the Ford Lake boardwalk and look for birds like redheads, pintails, scoters, canvasbacks, and many more. Dress warmly! Meet at the Grove Street Entrance to the boardwalk. Hosted by the Washtenaw Audubon Society who will bring spotting scopes and binoculars.

**Dec 4**

## DIY HOT COCOA BOMBS

**3:00pm | YDL-Michigan** (Ages 18+)

Use hot cocoa mix with additional mix-ins inside DIY chocolate shells to make these hot cocoa bombs fit for gifting or keeping for a chilly day. Supplies are limited, and registration is required. For questions, email Kim at [krowe@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:krowe@ypsilibrary.org) or call 734-482-4110 x 1385.

**Dec 5**

## PAUL KELLER ENSEMBLE HOLIDAY JAZZ CONCERT

**2:00pm | YDL-Whittaker**

Paul Keller and his merry band of musicians joyfully celebrate the holiday season with good cheer and a swinging jazz performance. All ages welcome. Space is limited. Registration is required. Sponsored by the Friends of YDL. (See page 2 for details).

**Dec 6**

## GRIEVE WELL DURING THE HOLIDAYS

**7:00pm | Virtual**

This interactive workshop will provide helpful tips for navigating grief during the holidays. You will also make a written plan for managing grief during this challenging time of year. Register for this free workshop at [attend.ypsilibrary.org/events](https://attend.ypsilibrary.org/events). This virtual webinar is managed by Christy Miller, a licensed clinical social worker with more than 20 years of experience as a psychotherapist for individuals, groups, and families. GrieveWell staff will be available to answer questions and provide additional resources during the webinar.

**Dec 6**

## INTRODUCTION TO SELLING ITEMS ON EBAY

**6:30pm | YDL-Whittaker**

Join us for step-by-step instructions on how to list items for sale on Ebay. Get the basics on creating listings including pricing, adding photos, shipping options, and more. It is recommended that you create a free Ebay account before attending the class. Register online or call 734-482-4110 x2411 if you need help. Space is limited.

**Dec 7 & 14**

## ZUMBA & STRENGTH TRAINING

(Ages 55+)

**12:00pm | Virtual**

Join us for a fun, energetic fitness series with trainer Jerry Powell of Lifestyle Fitness. This class combines the high energy of Zumba with the effectiveness of strength training for the ultimate workout. This class is designed for adults ages 55 & up, but is open to all adults who would enjoy a gentler workout. Register to receive the link for this online class.

**Dec 7–Feb 22**

## KNITTING PLUS

**6:00pm | YDL-Michigan**

Meet with other yarnies and share your projects and ideas every Tuesday. Open to all, any handcraft welcome!

**Dec 8, Jan 12, Feb 9**

## FAMILY MAKER NIGHT

**6:30pm | YDL-Michigan**

Enjoy spending time as a family exploring themed science and art-based activities every second Wednesday. Children of all ages are welcome, accompanying adult preferred. Please reserve a spot for each person making the craft to be sure we have plenty of supplies.

**Dec 8:** Snow Globes

**Jan 12:** Disco Balls

**Feb 9:** Fairy Doors

**Dec 8, Jan 26, Feb 23**

## VIRTUAL MYSTERY LOVER'S BOOK GROUP

**2:00pm | Virtual**

Mystery lovers check out a new mystery title each month in these virtual meetings.

**Dec 8:** *The Hunting Party* by Lucy Foley

**Jan 26:** *The Floating Admiral* by Certain Members of the Detection Club

**Feb 23:** *The Silver Pigs* by Lindsey Davis

For more information or help using Zoom, please email Paula Drummond at [drummond@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:drummond@ypsilibrary.org) or call 734-482-4110 x 1306.

**Dec 9**

## FAMILY LEARNING INSTITUTE

**7:00pm | YDL-Whittaker**

Join the Family Learning Institute for their first annual Celebration of Reading, with read alouds by Mayor Lois Richardson, UM athletes, and a youth poetry slam performance. Ideal for elementary school students and their families. Attendees will receive a free book to take home. See page 8 for details.

**Dec 10, Jan 14 & 28, Feb 11 & 25**

## LNGO CRAFTERNOONS (Ages 55+)

**2:00pm | YDL-Michigan**

Join us for a lighthearted afternoon where the goal is to engage your mind, connect with others, work on a project, and play with a new technique. We'll be meeting in person, socially distanced. All supplies provided.

**Dec 10:** Resin Ornaments

**Jan 14:** Macrame' Wall Hanging

**Jan 28:** Quilled Snowflakes

**Feb 11:** Beaded Bear

**Feb 25:** Puzzle Pieces Framed Mirror

**Dec 11**

## FAMILY CRAFT: SNOW GLOBES

**2:00 & 4:00 pm | YDL-Michigan**

Make a snow globe! All supplies provided. Children of all ages welcome; accompanying adult preferred. Attend at 2 or 4 pm. Please reserve a spot for each person who will attend. Space is limited to 15 people per session. Will be accompanied with an YpsiWrites activity.

**Dec 11**

## FINALS STUDY SPACE

**1:00-3:00pm | YDL-Whittaker**

Drop in and find a quiet space to study for finals independently or with other teens. Snacks provided to refuel your energy!

**Dec 11**

## WRITING AS A GIFT WITH YPSIWITES

**1:00pm–3:00pm | YDL Michigan & YDL-Whittaker**

Stop by the youth departments to make cards for friends and family. Find stations with YpsiWrites writing prompts, ideas, supplies, and instructions for creating a variety of writing gifts. After the program, extra supplies will be bagged and available to pick up and use at home while supplies last. At **YDL-Michigan**, this will accompany the snow-glob making craft.

**Dec 11, Jan 8 & 22, Feb 12 & 26**

## YDL GUITAR CLUB FOR ADULTS

(Ages 18+)

**10:00am | YDL-Michigan**

Guitar Club is for players of all levels. All stringed instruments are welcome.

**Dec 14; Jan 11 & 25; Feb 8 & 22**

## TAG - TEEN ADVISORY GROUP

**4:30pm | YDL Michigan & YDL-Whittaker**

Gain experience, earn service hours, and help serve area teens by joining TAG! Plan and implement library programs, design new services and spaces, look for funding opportunities and write grants, and meet new friends! We'll meet in-person, COVID rates permitting, and provide a Zoom link for some meetings. Apply online at [ypsilibrary.org/teen-advisory-group](https://ypsilibrary.org/teen-advisory-group).

**Dec 15**

## SMALL BUSINESS SAVVY: E-COMMERCE

**6:30pm | Virtual**

An overview of E-Commerce for those interested in setting up an E-Commerce business. We'll look at basic websites, integrated platforms like Shopify, and confined platforms like eBay. This series is presented in partnership with the Salem South Lyon District Library and the Ann Arbor Area SCORE office. Register online for this virtual session. For more information, email Paula Drummond at [drummond@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:drummond@ypsilibrary.org) or call 734-482-4110 x 1306.

**Dec 15, Jan 19, Feb 16**

## KIDS BOOK CLUB (Grades 3–5)

**6:30pm | YDL-Michigan**

Join us for a monthly discussion of a shared book and enjoy a snack. REGISTRATION REQUIRED: Email [mitchell@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:mitchell@ypsilibrary.org).

**Dec 15:** *Dear Mr. Henshaw* by Beverly Cleary

**Jan 19:** *CatStronauts: Mission Moon* by Drew Brockington

**Feb 16:** *Because of Winn-Dixie* by Kate DiCamillo

**Dec 16, Jan 20, Feb 17**

## THIRD THURSDAY CRAFT CLUB (18+)

**7:00pm | YDL-Michigan**

Join us for creative projects fit for adult craft enthusiasts.

**Dec 16:** Make a custom planner or journal

**Jan 20:** Button art

**Feb 17:** Flower arranging

Space is limited and registration is required.

For questions, contact Sheila at [skonen@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:skonen@ypsilibrary.org).

**Dec 18, Jan 15, Feb 19**

## WASHTENAW AFRICAN AMERICAN GENEALOGY SOCIETY VIRTUAL MEETING (WAAGS MEETING)

**10:30am | Virtual**

A welcoming environment for those interested in genealogy tips, techniques, and historical facts in order to efficiently trace their ancestry, using helpful genealogy websites. All skill levels welcomed. Meetings will be virtual until further notice. Email Joy Cichewicz at [joy@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:joy@ypsilibrary.org) to receive your Zoom invitation.



**Dec 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29**

**WINTER BREAK STEAM**

**2:00pm–4:00pm | YDL-Whittaker**

Stop by the youth department for projects to keep you busy over the break. Each afternoon we'll put out supplies for a different STEAM activity to help you create, explore, and learn.

**Monday, Dec 20:** Stained glass paper art

**Tuesday, Dec 21:** Snap circuits

**Wednesday, Dec 22:** Water tension STEM

**Monday, Dec 27:** I Spy Challenge

**Tuesday, Dec 28:** Fiber art

**Wednesday, Dec 29:** Lego building challenge



**Dec 21, Jan 18, Feb 15**

**TEEN SUBSCRIPTION PACKS**

**Schedule pickup during regular YDL Hours**

Bored at home? Sign up for YDL's teen subscription packs and get a surprise package (that our teen interns select) that will include a book and other cool snacks, activities, and gifts surrounding a different topic each month. Subscribe today, then stop by the library once a month to snag your swag at the YDL branch of your choice. Don't forget to tune into the accompanying podcast produced by YDL teen interns. Teen Subscription Packs are available starting the third Tuesday of the month. Sign up at [ypsilibrary.org/packs](https://ypsilibrary.org/packs). Questions? Email [teens@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:teens@ypsilibrary.org).

**Dec 21, Jan 18, Feb 15**

**GRAPHIC NARRATIVE CLUB**

**7:30pm | Ypsi Alehouse**

Discuss graphic narratives—from ancient hieroglyphs to modern Manga, and everything in between.

**Dec 21:** *Witch Boy* by Molly Ostertag

**Jan 18:** *One Hundred Nights of Hero* by Isabel Greenberg

**Feb 15:** *Seek You* by Kristen Radtke

**Jan 4**

**NATIONAL TRIVIA DAY CONTEST**

**6:00pm | YDL-Whittaker**

Celebrate National Trivia Day by competing in a Trivia night competition at the library. Register your team of up to 6 people or register as an individual and we will place you on a team. Snacks and drinks will be provided, and awards will be won! Topics will range from Pop Culture to Literature and everything in between. Registration required. Call 734-482-4110 x2411 or email [neil@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:neil@ypsilibrary.org).

**Jan 9**

**SAFELY TALK ABOUT RACE & RACISM  
BLACK LIVES MATTER: FOCUS ON THE WHY, NOT THE WHAT**

**2:00pm | YDL-Whittaker**

This series screens films that provide the opportunity to safely engage and understand the ways racism has functioned historically and continues to work in the present. This month we will view several YouTube videos to take a fresh look at the Black Lives Matter movement and why it exists. After the viewing, La'Ron Williams, local storyteller and peace activist, will facilitate an open, honest discussion about race and racism. Light refreshments served.

**Jan 12**

**SMALL BUSINESS SAVVY: THE BUSINESS MODEL CANVAS - A ONE PAGE BUSINESS PLAN**

**6:30pm | Virtual**

New to the small business world? Want to improve your plan but don't have a lot of time or money? Learn to capture the key ingredients of your business idea (and how it will work) on a single page using the Business Model Canvas. This series is presented in partnership with the Salem South Lyon District Library and the Ann Arbor area SCORE office. Register online for this virtual session. For more information, email Paula Drummond at [drummond@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:drummond@ypsilibrary.org) or call 734-482-4110 x 1306.

**Jan 13–Feb 17**

**LEGO MEETUP**

**4:30pm–5:30pm | YDL-Whittaker**

We'll have the Legos out every week. Free build or try one of our building challenges!



**Jan 13 & 27; Feb 10 & 24**

**READ TO PADDINGTON THE LIBRARY DOG**

**6:00pm | YDL-Michigan**

Reading to a therapy dog helps children develop confidence and become better readers. Sign up for a 10-minute slot with the library dog. REGISTRATION REQUIRED. Email [mitchell@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:mitchell@ypsilibrary.org).

**Jan 15, 29; Feb 12**

**ANIME CLUB** (Ages 12+)

**1:00pm | YDL-Whittaker**

Members of TAG host a monthly meetup for teens to gather, watch anime, draw, and chat.

**Jan 15**

**PET A THERAPY DOG!**

**1:00pm | YDL-Whittaker**

De-stress after the holidays by spending time with a dog therapy team from Therapaws of Michigan. Who doesn't like to pet a friendly dog? This Therapaws program is aimed at adults, but teens and younger children are welcome too.



**Jan 16**

**BEACHCOMBING FLORIDA BEACHES**

**2:00pm | YDL-Whittaker**

Come see (and touch carefully!) a variety of beach finds from Carol Brodbeck, who's been beachcombing for many years. You'll see a variety of seashells, sponges, corals, crab shells, sand dollars, starfish, sea urchins, horseshoe crabs, shark's jaws, and more at this family friendly event. Be sure to wear your tropical shirt and beach hat!

**Tuesdays, Jan 18–Feb 22**

**LNGO BEGINNER HIIT FITNESS**

**12:00pm | Virtual** (Ages 55+)

Jerry Powell leads an invigorating full body HIIT (High Intensity Interval Training) workout, followed by 30 minutes of stretch and balance work. The workout incorporates all areas of the body. Some work with weights and a chair is included. Designed for ages 55 & up, but open to all adults who would enjoy a gentler workout. Register online to receive the Zoom link.

**Jan 18–Feb 22**

**GRAPHIC NOVEL BOOK CLUB**

(Grades 2–5)

**4:30pm | YDL-Whittaker**

Over the course of several weeks, hear a graphic novel read aloud. Talk about your favorite parts while making art. Try out different mediums with other fans of graphic novels. We will start with reading *Sheets* by Brenna Thummler then vote on the next book.

**Jan 20, Feb 17**

**SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

**1:00pm | YDL-Whittaker**

Participants contribute to the library by sharing ideas and resources.

**Jan 20–23**

**FRIENDS OF YDL ANNUAL BOOK SALE**

**6:00pm–8:00pm | YDL-Whittaker**

It's the Friends of YDL Annual Book Sale! Book sale prices are \$1 for hardcovers, 25 cents for paperbacks, and 50 cents for oversize paperbacks. Jan. 23 bags of books will be available for \$4, and some books will be sold for a reduced price. January 20 from 6–8pm is a members only preview sale. Memberships will be available for purchase at the door!

**Jan 20:** 6–8pm (Members only preview sale)

**Jan 21:** 11am–5pm

**Jan 22:** 11am–3pm

**Jan 23:** 1–4pm

**Jan 20–Feb 3**

**READING, AND WRITING, ABOUT WRITING: A VIRTUAL BOOK CLUB**

**6:30pm | Virtual**

This virtual book club, led by Bright Futures Director Lynn Malinoff, will meet on three Thursdays to discuss *Writing Down the Bones* by Natalie Goldberg. You can purchase your own copy of the book or borrow it through YDL. During the sessions, use the book's deck of writing prompts to inspire your writing. Bring paper or a journal and your favorite pens or pencils! We'll also hold a drawing each week for a copy of the *Writing Down the Bones Deck: 60 Cards to Free the Writer Within*. Register online.

**Jan 22**

**SUPERHERO TRAINING ACADEMY**

**2:00pm | YDL-Whittaker**

Based out of Detroit, Superhero Training Academy empowers youth and their families to find their own inner strengths. Through fun, exploratory games and guided activities, the whole family will grow stronger together. Discover your inner superhero!

**Jan 22**

**TEEN AFTER HOURS PARTY**

**6:00pm–8:00pm | YDL-Whittaker**

If you pick up a January subscription pack, you'll get supplies to use at home to refuel and refocus for the new year. Join us at the library for more activities related to the theme that you can do to reconnect with others and look forward to a better 2022. Make a time capsule, play games to win prizes, enjoy music, snacks, and more. Hosted by the Teen Subscription Pack Interns and TAG.

**Jan 25 & Feb 1**

**YOUTH CRAFT TIME: ORIGAMI MOBILES DIY PAPER MOBILES**

**6:15pm | YDL-Michigan**

This decorative crafting project combines painting and folding paper to make a delicate mobile. This project is for those who want to learn basic origami as well as to create a beautiful decorative item to hang in your room or home. Supplies are limited, so registration is required. This is the same program, offered twice; come to whichever session is most convenient. Register online or contact Madelynne at [mbrown@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:mbrown@ypsilibrary.org) for questions.



**Jan 25 & Feb 22**

**VIRTUAL AFRICAN AMERICAN AUTHORS BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**

**7:00pm | Virtual**

Lively discussions of books by African American Authors.

**Jan 25:** *Raybearer* by Jordan Ifueko

**Feb 22:** *Blood Grove* by Walter Mosley.

Register online for the Zoom link. Need help?

Email Paula Drummond at [drummond@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:drummond@ypsilibrary.org) or call 734-482-4110 x 1306.

**Jan 26**

**SMALL BUSINESS SAVVY: SUCCESSION PLANNING FOR THE SMALL BUSINESS**

**6:30pm | Virtual**

This program will consider why a succession plan is vital to ensuring the start and continued success (and growth) of your business. Review transfer of ownership, unexpected events, financial heirs, and retirement. This series is presented in partnership with the Salem South Lyon District Library and the Ann Arbor area SCORE office. Register online for this virtual session. For more information, email Paula Drummond at [drummond@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:drummond@ypsilibrary.org) or call 734-482-4110 x 1306.

**Jan 28, 6:00–9:00pm; Jan 29, 1:00–4:00pm**

**RESCUING DEMOCRACY 2022—BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!**

**Virtual**

What threads connect the January 6, 2021 raid on the U.S. Capitol with America's history of White supremacy and White nationalism? How great is the chance that we will become an authoritarian state? Discuss and answer these questions and more in the latest in a series of community conversations offered by Washtenaw Faces Race, an all-volunteer, inter-racial, interdisciplinary group that works to dismantle racial hierarchy and promote racial equity in Washtenaw County.



**Jan 29**

**OUTDOOR STEM WINTER EDITION**

**3:00pm | YDL-Whittaker**

Outdoor science doesn't have to end when the days get cold. Bundle up and join in with these fun outdoor activities. Blow bubbles and watch them freeze, drink warm drinks, make ice art, and more.



**Jan 30**

**BE MINE, VALENTINE: ILLUSTRATION AND TEXT WORKSHOP**

**2:00pm | YDL-Whittaker**

Learn to make some sweet doodles and write in various texts to make your Valentines the best yet! Led by illustrator Yen Azzaro, you will learn how to use simple shapes to draw people, animals, and heart-shaped characters to create fanciful cards for your loved ones. Paper, stickers, and pens provided. Feel free to bring your own embellishments too!



**Feb 1–Mar 31**

**EVICTED EXHIBIT**

**During regular hours at YDL-Whittaker**

Exhibits are returning to Whittaker Road! Inspired by Matthew Desmond's book, *Evicted*, the exhibit brings visitors into the world of low-income renter eviction, showing the enormity of one of 21st-century America's most devastating problems. Sponsored by the National Building Museum and developed in collaboration with designers MATTER Architecture Practice and mgmt. design, *Evicted* includes specially commissioned visual infographics to introduce visitors to the numbers and statistics that will help them better understand the causes for and ramifications of chronic eviction. Stay tuned for future book discussions and guest speakers during the exhibit. More details on page 2.





Feb 1 & 15

**U OF M BUSINESS & ENTREPRENEURSHIP WORKSHOP TEEN LEADERSHIP SERIES**

4:00pm | [YDL-Michigan](#)

U of M is partnering with YDL to lead a Business BootCamp Workshop series for teens! Business BootCamp is a non-profit group of University of Michigan Ross School of Business students that aim to inspire and mentor young students in the metro-Detroit area. Through engaging workshops with a personalized and interactive curriculum, students can be equipped with the foundations of business, leadership, and entrepreneurship and be empowered to explore new career pathways. Register online.



Feb 5

**I, TOO HEAR AMERICA SINGING: A POETRY WRITING WORKSHOP**

11:00am | [Virtual](#)

Explore how poetry can help writers of all skill levels unpack and reconsider personal experiences and moments in history. We'll collaboratively close-read poems, learn about poetic forms and devices, and write and share poetic responses to what we care about most deeply. Register online for this virtual workshop facilitated by poet David Boeving.



Feb 5

**BIG FAMILY BUILD**

2:00pm–4:00pm | [YDL-Whittaker](#)

Use our blocks, Legos, and other building items to create your own structures. Try one of our building challenges or have fun free building! Activity stations for all ages.

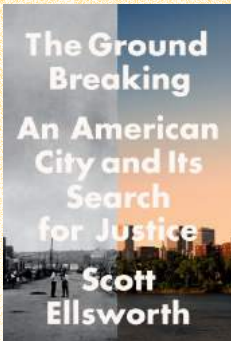


Feb 6

**THE TULSA RACE MASSACRE AND THE SEARCH FOR JUSTICE WITH PROFESSOR AND AUTHOR SCOTT ELLSWORTH**

2:00pm | [YDL-Whittaker](#)

In the spring of 1921, Tulsa's infamous "Black Wall Street" was wiped off the map and erased from the history books. Hear the story of what happened. Learn about the ongoing archaeological saga, the search for the unmarked graves of the victims of the massacre, and the fight to win restitution for the survivors and their families. Formerly a historian at the Smithsonian Institution, Professor Ellsworth is the author of *The Ground Breaking*, the story of the lost history of how the massacre was covered up and of the individuals who fought to keep the story alive. He is also the author of *The Secret Game*, *The World Beneath Their Feet*, and *Death in a Promised Land*, his groundbreaking account of the 1921 Tulsa race massacre.



Feb 7

**NATIONAL SEND A CARD TO A FRIEND DAY**

5:30pm–8:30pm | [YDL-Whittaker](#)

Celebrate National Send a Card to a Friend Day by stopping by the library! We'll supply all the materials and even mail the card for you. You just need a friend's address and some kind words to write. While supplies last.



Feb 9

**SMALL BUSINESS SAVVY: NAILING THE PITCH - A GUIDE TO PRESENCE**

6:30pm | [Virtual](#)

On the quest for funding? You need more than just technical knowledge, you also need presence and bearing. This workshop discusses the importance of your brand, belief, and passion, the importance of body language, and the importance of knowing you are the message. This series is presented in partnership with the Salem South Lyon District Library and the Ann Arbor area SCORE office. Register online for this virtual session. For more information, email Paula Drummond at [drummond@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:drummond@ypsilibrary.org) or call 734-482-4110 x 1306.

Feb 12

**YPSIWWRITES VALENTINES**

1:00pm | [YDL-Whittaker](#) & [YDL-Michigan](#)

This Valentine's Day, celebrate (and create) writing that conveys love, concern, support, gratitude, and other strong feelings with help from YpsiWrites! At different stations in the Youth Department, you'll find YpsiWrites writing prompts, ideas, supplies, pretty paper, and instructions for writing a meaningful love letter for friends and family. After the program, extra supplies will be bagged and available to pick up and use at home while supplies last.

Ongoing

**YPSIWWRITES VIRTUAL WRITING SUPPORT**

Request any time | [Virtual](#)

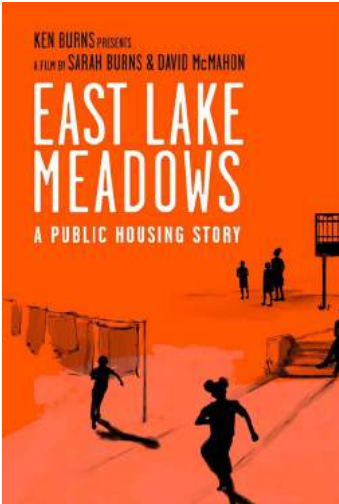
Have your writing reviewed by an YpsiWrites Virtual consultant. Get feedback on your writing and strategies for development and revision on any kind of writing. Get written feedback or schedule a video meeting to discuss your work with a trained volunteer. Visit [YpsiWrites.com](https://ypsiwrites.com) to schedule a video meeting or submit a piece of writing. This program is made possible by a partnership with YpsiWrites, an initiative from YDL and EMU's Office of Campus and Community Writing.

Feb 13

**SAFELY TALK ABOUT RACE & RACISM EAST LAKE MEADOWS: A PUBLIC HOUSING STORY**

2:00pm | [YDL-Whittaker](#)

This series screens films that provide the needed opportunity to safely engage and understand the ways racism has functioned historically and continues to work in the present. This month's documentary will be Ken Burns' *East Lake Meadows: A Public Housing Story*, which gives voice to some of the most marginalized people in our society and raises critical questions about how we, as a nation, have created concentrated poverty and limited housing opportunity for African Americans, and what can be done to address it. After the film, La'Ron Williams, local storyteller and peace activist, will facilitate an open and honest discussion about race and racism. Light refreshments served.



Feb 17

**THE SCIENCE OF HAPPINESS**

7:00pm | [Virtual](#)

Learn from Dr. Peggi Tabor, a certified integrated wellness coach, about research on happiness, and how to increase and maintain your experience of it. Leave this talk with a tool kit of both psychological and physiological behaviors designed to increase and maintain your experience of happiness. Registration is required. This program will be uploaded to the library's YouTube channel and available for one week.

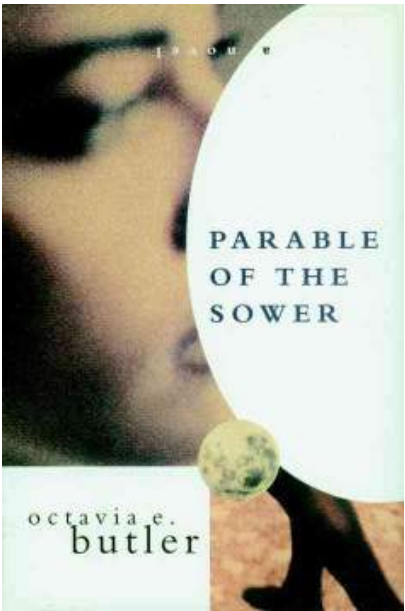


Feb 19

**IT ALL SEEMED SO FAR AWAY THEN, OR THE FUTURE IS BLACK WOMEN**

10:00am | [Virtual](#)

Octavia Butler's novel, *Parable of the Sower*, was published in 1993 and set in the year 2024. We are just three years from the moment in which the novel is set. In this book talk, discussion, and writing session, Dr. Toni Pressley-Sanon, EMU professor of Africology, will lead us in an exploration of what Butler might have considered in constructing the dystopian world portrayed in the book and consider its relevance in society today. This event is presented in partnership with YpsiWrites and the University Musical Society (UMS) as part of the Parable Path A2-YPSI Community Read. Register online for the Zoom link.



Feb 19

**ART WALK**

1:00pm–3:00pm | [YDL-Whittaker](#)

Take a walk around the Youth Department of the library to see the work of Black artists from the United States. Get inspired and make your own art at stations where you can explore different media.

Feb 23

**SMALL BUSINESS SAVVY: STARTING A COTTAGE INDUSTRY BUSINESS**

6:30pm | [Virtual](#)

Have you ever been told that you've made something good enough to sell? Learn about starting your Cottage Business, from state requirements to packaging to the marketing effort needed to be a success and how to determine your costs and structure. This series is presented in partnership with the Salem South Lyon District Library and the Ann Arbor area SCORE office. Register online for this virtual session. For more information, email Paula Drummond at [drummond@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:drummond@ypsilibrary.org) or call 734-482-4110 x 1306.



Feb 26

**PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN RESOURCE FAIR**

12:00pm–2:00pm | [YDL-Whittaker](#)

Meet representatives from local preschools and kindergartens, visit with early literacy experts and parent groups, and let your little one explore some hands-on sensory stations to build school-readiness skills.



# Tech Help

**ONE-ON-ONE TECH HELP FOR SENIORS (55+)**

Call 734-482-4110 x1384 or email [brigitte@ypsilibrary.org](mailto:brigitte@ypsilibrary.org) to schedule a one-hour in-person, phone, or virtual session.

Dec 1, 10:30am; Jan 20, 6:30pm; Feb 5, 2:00pm

**MICROSOFT PUBLISHER - BASICS**

[YDL-Whittaker](#)

Learn the basics for creating greeting cards, flyers, and calendars including page layout and formatting text and images. Basic PC, keyboard, and mouse skills required. Register online or call (734) 482-4110 x2411.

Dec 4, 2:00pm; Jan 6, 6:30pm; Feb 16, 10:30am

**MICROSOFT WORD - BASICS**

[YDL-Whittaker](#)

An introduction to word processing. Learn to enter, format, select, copy, paste, and edit text. Basic PC, keyboard, and mouse skills required. Register online or call (734) 482-4110 ext. 2411.

Dec 7, 7:00pm; Jan 26, 2:00pm

**GOOGLE CALENDAR - BASICS**

[YDL-Whittaker](#)

Learn the basics for setting up your Google Calendar to schedule and manage your events and appointments, share event information, and send notifications/reminders to your devices. Basic PC, keyboard, mouse skills, and a Google (or Gmail) account is required. Register online or call (734) 482-4110 x2411.

Dec 8, 10:30am; Jan 8, 2:00pm; Feb 1, 6:30pm

**MICROSOFT EXCEL BASICS**

[YDL-Whittaker](#)

A basic introduction to spreadsheets. Learn to enter and edit data, select cell ranges, format cells, use the fill handle, and create simple formulas. Basic PC, keyboard, and mouse skills required. Register online or call (734) 482-4110 ext. 2411.

Dec 9 & Jan 8, 10:30am; Feb 15, 2:00pm

**GOOGLE DOCS FOR BEGINNERS**

(Adult)

[Virtual](#)

Learn to format, select, copy, paste, and edit text. Also, learn to share and collaborate on a document. A Google (or Gmail) account is required. Register online or call (734) 482-4110 x2411.

Dec 11, 2:00pm; Jan 13, 6:30pm; Feb 23, 10:30am

**MICROSOFT WORD - INTERMEDIATE**

[YDL-Whittaker](#)

Learn to create and format tables, insert images, create bulleted and numbered lists, and insert tabs. Basic PC, keyboard, and mouse skills required. Register online or call (734) 482-4110 ext. 2411.

Dec 11 & Feb 2

**FROM BOOMERS TO ZOOMERS: ZOOM PRACTICE FOR SENIORS (55+)**

10:30am–11:30am | [Virtual](#)

Learn the basics of navigating the Zoom meeting interface. While working with other seniors, you can see yourself on camera, test your microphone, learn to chat, and more. Register online or call (734) 482-4110 x2411. After you register, you'll get an email (1–2 days in advance of the session) with the following information: Zoom link, meeting ID/passcode, and attached handouts.

Dec 14, 6:30pm; Feb 16, 2:00pm

**GMAIL - BASICS**

[YDL-Whittaker](#)

Learn how to send and retrieve messages, add attachments, create and manage labels and filters, add contacts, and manage junk email. Participants may sign up for a Gmail account at the end of class. Basic PC, keyboard, and mouse skills required. Register online or call (734) 482-4110 x2411.



**Dec 15, 10:30am; Jan 22, 2:00pm; Feb 8, 6:30pm**

### MICROSOFT EXCEL - INTERMEDIATE YDL-Whittaker

In this intermediate class, learn to apply functions, filter data, create charts, and print worksheets. Basic PC, keyboard, and mouse skills required. Register online or call (734) 482-4110 ext. 2411.

**Dec 16 & Jan 22, 10:30am; Feb 22, 2:00pm**

### GOOGLE DOCS TIPS & TRICKS (Adult) Virtual

Explore more advanced features of Google Docs including: headers and footers, tabs and indents, inserting breaks (page, section, and column), finding and replacing text, and voice typing. A Google (or Gmail) account and prior Google Docs experience required. Register online or call (734) 482-4110 x2411.

**Dec 18 & Feb 9, 10:30 am; Jan 25, 2:00pm**

### HOW TO HOST A ZOOM MEETING (Adult) Virtual

Learn the basics for hosting a Zoom meeting from start to finish. Topics include: scheduling, securing and starting your meeting, inviting participants, using host controls, Zoom etiquette, and basic troubleshooting. Register online or call (734) 482-4110 x2411.

**Dec 18, 2:00pm; Jan 12, 10:30am; Feb 24, 6:30pm**

### MICROSOFT POWERPOINT - BASICS YDL-Whittaker

Learn to create and add graphics and multimedia to a presentation. Basic PC, keyboard, and mouse skills required. Register online or call (734) 482-4110 ext. 2411.

**Dec 21 & Feb 5, 10:30am; Jan 6, 2:00pm**

### GOOGLE SHEETS FOR BEGINNERS (Adult) Virtual

Learn to enter and edit data, format cells, and create simple formulas. Also, learn to share and collaborate on a spreadsheet. A Google (or Gmail) account is required. Register online or call (734) 482-4110 x2411.

**Dec 28 & Feb 19, 10:30am; Jan 13, 2:00pm**

### GOOGLE SHEETS TIPS & TRICKS (Adult) Virtual

Explore more advanced features of Google Sheets including: using formulas, conditional functions and formatting, sorting, filtering and linking data, and defining a print area. A Google (or Gmail) account and prior Google Sheets experience required. Register online or call (734) 482-4110 x2411.

**Jan 11, 7:00pm; Feb 26, 2:00pm**

### GOOGLE DRIVE - BASICS YDL-Whittaker

Learn to navigate Google Drive's interface. Also, learn to create, store, organize, access, and share your files/folders online. Basic PC, keyboard, mouse skills, and a Google (or Gmail) account is required for hands-on training. Register online or call (734) 482-4110 x2411.

**Jan 11, 2:00pm; Feb 26, 10:30am**

### GOOGLE SLIDES FOR BEGINNERS (Adult) Virtual

Learn to create and deliver a presentation and add graphics and multimedia. Also learn to share and collaborate on a presentation. A Google (or Gmail) account is required. Register online or call (734) 482-4110 x2411.

**Jan 12, 2:00pm; Feb 3, 7:00pm**

### COMPUTER BASICS - GETTING STARTED YDL-Whittaker

Learn the parts and proper use of the computer and Windows basics including opening/closing applications and managing files/folders. Basic PC, keyboard, and mouse skills required. Register online or call (734) 482-4110 x2411.

**Jan 19, 2:00pm; Feb 10, 7:00pm**

### INTERNET BASICS - HOW TO SEARCH THE WEB YDL-Whittaker

This class covers the browser toolbar and menu options, managing your favorite websites, and using search tools and techniques. Basic PC, keyboard, and mouse skills required. Register online or call (734) 482- 4110 x2411.

**Jan 27, 6:30pm; Feb 19, 2:00pm**

### MICROSOFT EXCEL - PIVOT TABLES (INTERMEDIATE) YDL-Whittaker

Learn to perform simple data analysis using Excel's PivotTable feature. Reorganize and summarize selected columns and rows of data in a spreadsheet to extract desired information. Basic PC, keyboard, mouse skills and an understanding of creating formulas and how cells are referenced within Excel is required to take this class. Register online or call (734) 482-4110 ext. 2411.

# Storytimes

**Mondays, Jan 10–Feb 14**

## JUMPSTART KINDERGARTEN

(Ages 4–6)

**10:30am | YDL-Whittaker**

Stop by the Youth Department for storytime and activity stations that build school readiness skills.



**Tuesdays and Wednesdays, Jan 11–Feb 16**

## DISCOVERY TIME: LITTLE ONES 2–4 YEARS OLD

**10:30am | YDL-Whittaker**

Learn a variety of preschool readiness skills, from ABCs to kindness, at fast-paced storytimes filled with music, movement, fingerplays, and books. To keep capacity lower, we'll offer repeat read aloud/music sessions twice each week, with exploratory, play-based process art or STEM activities in between. Attend Tuesday OR Wednesday and do the activity before OR after the read aloud. Look for an empty yoga mat when you arrive. If all the mats are full, visit the Youth Department to do the day's activities, then hear the second read aloud.

**Thursdays, Jan 13–Feb 17**

## BABY TIME

**10:30am | YDL-Whittaker**

Join other parents and babies for tummy-time play, social time, and simple read alouds and songs. Designed for pre-walkers.

**Thursdays, Jan 13–Feb 17**

## PRESCHOOL STORY TIME

**10:30am | YDL-Michigan**

Preschool story time will include a variety of music, movement, and hands-on activities. We'll read picture books, get some wiggles out, sing, and have fun.

**Thursdays, Jan 13–Feb 17**

## YOGA STORYTIME FOR FAMILIES

**6:00pm | YDL-Whittaker**

Each week a different book will inspire our movements, as well as our breathing and mindfulness exercises. We'll wind down on a calm note, readying your family for a relaxing and easy bedtime. Yoga mats will serve as a protective surface for our movement, and help us maintain physical distance from others.



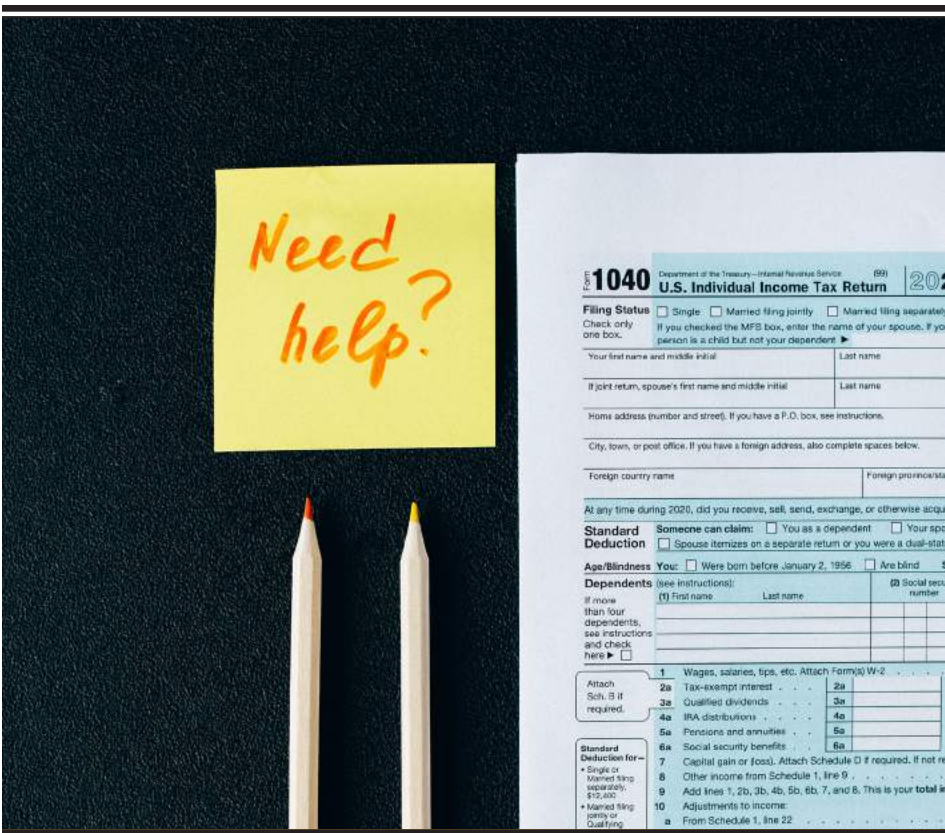
**Fridays, Jan 14–Feb 18**

## READ SING PLAY LITTLE ONES

(1–3 Years Old)

**10:30am | YDL-Whittaker**

Learn colors, shapes, and numbers through music and movement. Each week we'll read a book and sing movement songs. Afterward, parents can stay and chat while kids play nearby. Look for an empty yoga mat when you arrive. If all the mats are full, visit the Youth Department and wait for play time!



# TAX PREP RESOURCES FROM YDL

For many years, YDL has served as a site for free tax preparation. While we plan to continue this service in a COVID-safe manner, at the time of publication, details for free tax prep are still being worked out.

In the meantime, we've updated our Tax Help page with resources and tips you can use. Visit [ypsilibrary.org/taxprep](https://ypsilibrary.org/taxprep) for updates on the tax help services that may be available at YDL, along with additional resources to help you prepare your taxes.



# YDL CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAYS ON:

**Friday, December 24, 2021**

Christmas Eve

**Saturday, December 25, 2021**

Christmas Day

**Sunday, December 26, 2021**

Day after Christmas

**Friday, December 31, 2021**

New Year's Eve

**Saturday, January 1, 2022**

New Year's Day

**Sunday, January 2, 2022**

Day after New Year's



# SCHOOLS

## STRIVING FOR EQUITY IN EDUCATION

A return to in-person learning this fall has inspired Lincoln Community Schools and Ypsilanti Community Schools to focus their efforts on district-wide equity initiatives. Both school districts are working to incorporate more social justice and social-emotional learning topics into their curricula to inspire and assist students during this unprecedented time.

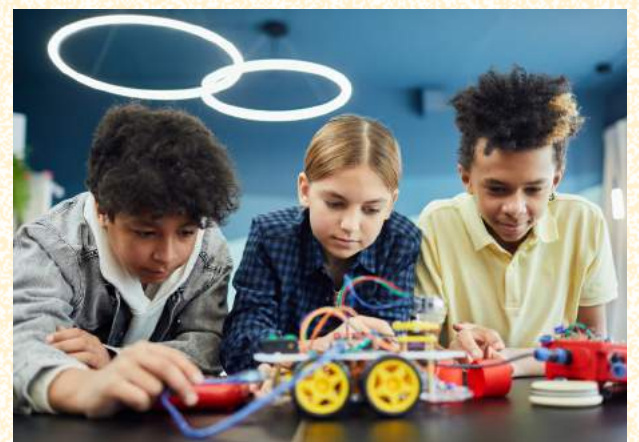
YCS is helping students create home libraries they can see themselves in, thanks to a Literacy Excellence Accelerates Performance (LEAP) grant from the United States Department of Education. This grant provides funding for diverse books that students get to keep, enhanced media centers, support for afterschool clubs and the Grizzly Learning Camp, and classroom-based coaching support.

At Lincoln, teachers and administrators are working to create welcoming environments for everyone. Through a grant to LCS, the Michigan Association of School Administrators (MASA) has started an 18-month-long professional development series, “Beyond Equity: Creating

‘Social Justice Leaders for Change’ in Michigan Schools.” For this series, LCS teachers and administrators will take a course on social justice and education, participate in a district assessment, and develop a plan to support diversity, equity, and inclusion. After this plan is implemented, the district and MASA will assess the results.

Accessibility and early literacy are also key parts of the focus on equity. Groups from both districts are meeting regularly to discuss strategies for improving literacy, and at LCS early literacy coaching is available for teachers. Through classroom observation and collaboration, coaches will work with teachers to develop early literacy skills in their students. Coaches may also co-teach or provide resources to students and teachers.

Not only is early literacy a key skill, but biliteracy is a focus of the school districts as well. Seven accomplished YCS students—Jessica Bukasa,



Angie Nicole Hernandez-Euceda, Elliott Lucas Henderson, Mariela Esmerelda Pacay-Hernandez, Fanta Kaba, Jose Alberto Medina Ramirez, and Issa Kalilou Yattassaye — were recently awarded the Seal of Biliteracy by the Michigan Department of Education. This is the first time any YCS student has received this award, which recognizes high school graduates who have displayed proficiency in one or more languages other than English.

In tandem with these equity initiatives, the need for social-emotional learning has never been clearer. Both YCS and LCS have made efforts to incorporate this into their curricula. At YCS, part of the LEAP grant will go toward professional development and social-emotional lessons in the classroom. The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) has also issued a grant to LCS that provides professional development sessions about the five social-emotional learning competencies.

To ensure that social-emotional learning is integrated into the curriculum for students K–12, two lesson planning resources will be used — Second Step for elementary and middle school students and TRAILS for high school students. Students will take an assessment before and after these lessons, and mental health resources will be available.

### FROM THE SCHOOL CALENDARS:

**December 10**

Early release for LCS

**December 20–31**

Holiday Break for LCS and YCS

**January 3**

Classes resume for LCS and YCS

**January 17**

No school, Martin Luther King Jr. Day for LCS and YCS

**January 19–21**

Half day for LCS HS and MS students (Exams)

**January 24**

No school, Teacher Records Day for LCS

**February 09**

Count Day for YCS

**February 11**

Early release for LCS

**February 18**

Early release for YCS

**February 21**

Midwinter Break/Presidents Day for YCS and LCS



## CELEBRATE LITERACY WITH THE FAMILY LEARNING INSTITUTE

Join the Family Learning Institute at [YDL-Whittaker](#) on December 9 at 7pm for their first annual Book and Poetry Reading Night. This event will feature Ypsilanti Mayor Lois Richardson, a youth poetry slam, and read alouds by University of Michigan athletes.

“We are all aware how difficult the pandemic has been on our kids—and reading development has certainly been a challenge,” said Collyer Smith, Engaged Community Member with The Family Learning Institute. “Mayor Richardson will spark enthusiasm as she shares her passion reading her favorite book. In addition, young Poetry Slam artists will perform, as well as a very special video done by the University of Michigan Cheerleaders, to support our kids in becoming excited, and motivated, to seek out books that will inspire them.”

Book and Poetry Reading Night is free, and families will receive a grab bag of food and a free book to take home.

## TEXT AND LEARN FOR KINDERGARTEN





# SCHOOLS

## MORE KITS ARE COMING!

Youth Department staff have partnered with local experts to create some brand new kits for the YDL collection. Staff at UM's Matthaei Botanical Garden's Gaffield Children's Garden donated natural items for two new nature play kits, and the American Institute of Architects Huron Valley Chapter donated engineering and design toys for more architecture kits that will be available in the coming months (see photo below). The architecture kits will include KEVA Maker Bot Maze kits, books on architecture, blocks, straws, and other building materials and ideas.

In the meantime, YDL has more than 50 other kits to choose from, but they are so popular you might not find one on the shelf! With so much use, librarians regularly spend time going through the kits to make sure they are in good condition, replacing pieces, and planning new ones. In addition, YDL librarians have also been working to enhance diversity and inclusion within the kits. They consider the toys and the authors of books to include, and have created a few kits that focus on aspects of our community's diversity, too.



Youth Librarian Jodi Krahneke poses with Anne Cox from the Michigan Architectural Foundation next to the components that will form YDL's new architecture kits. The components were donated by the Michigan Architectural Foundation, the Rae Dumke Development Fund, the Baldwin Public Library, and AIA Huron Valley.

AS A REMINDER, OUR KITS GENERALLY FALL INTO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:

1. **PLAY KITS** are designed for little ones and include four books, plus themed games and toys to help your child develop early literacy skills for school readiness.
2. **STEM KITS** are for school-aged kids and are filled with tools, toys, and a book or two to help kids learn about science, technology, engineering, and math through exploratory play.
3. **SENSORY KITS** are great for all kids, but they are designed with the needs of kids who are on the spectrum in mind.
4. **OUR NEWEST ADDITION... READING KITS**, with sets of leveled readers and games to help build the skills kids need to read on grade level. We already have five kindergarten Reading Kits ready to go and will be adding first grade kits soon.

Visit [ypsilibrary.org/kits](https://ypsilibrary.org/kits) to see the full list of kits and reserve one to check out to use at home for three weeks.

## TEEN INTERNS AT YDL

In October, seven new interns, representing many different high schools and areas of YDL's district, joined the Teen Subscription Pack team. The new interns are working in teams to help create YDL's monthly themed packs for teens. They're also helping to promote the project by recording and editing podcasts and planning events to bring youth together around each theme. The internships are possible through a Generator Z grant that YDL's Teen Advisory Group helped write. The goal is to provide more free take-home activities and conversation starters for teens to de-stress, learn skills, get creative, and

be the change through occasional social justice themes. Pack themes this season include Find Your

Aesthetic, Snow Day, and the New Year. Interns are planning an after-hours party on Saturday, January 22, 6-8pm at **YDL-Whittaker** with games, prizes, art activities, snacks, music, and more to give teens a chance to meet up in a casual, safe space and connect with others. Events will alternate between libraries. Watch the events calendar for new opportunities to come together around a monthly theme. Bus tokens available on request. Meet the interns, sign up for a pack, and hear the podcast at [ypsilibrary.org/packs](https://ypsilibrary.org/packs).





# STAY HEALTHY THIS WINTER

## Stop the Spread of COVID-19!

As of November, Washtenaw County was still at a high level of community transmission. To help prevent the spread of COVID-19, you can:

- Get the COVID-19 vaccine. The Health Department recommends COVID-19 vaccines for everyone 5 and up! Find a free vaccine clinic near you by visiting <http://bit.ly/vaxwchd> or calling 734-544-6700.
- Wear a mask in indoor public spaces when local transmission rates are high.
- Follow isolation guidance if you test positive and quarantine guidance if you're exposed.
- Avoid others if you feel sick and get tested if you have COVID-19 symptoms.

Stay up to date on the latest COVID-19 information by visiting [www.washtenaw.org/covid19](http://www.washtenaw.org/covid19) or by following the Washtenaw County Health Department (@wcpublichealth) on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, or NextDoor. You can also email the Health Department at [health@washtenaw.org](mailto:health@washtenaw.org) or call 734-544-6700.

## Prevent Flu: Get a Flu Shot & Wash your Hands

Winter means flu season. The Washtenaw County Health Department urges everyone six months and older to get vaccinated against flu. Getting a flu shot is especially important this year during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Flu shots, good handwashing, covering your cough, and staying away from others when sick can prevent the spread of flu.

Symptoms of the flu include: coughing, runny or stuffy nose, muscle or body aches, sore throat, headache, fatigue, fever and/or chills. The flu can affect anyone, but older adults, children, and individuals with chronic health conditions are at greater risk for severe complications from flu.

Flu vaccines work to prevent serious illness, hospitalization, and death due to the flu. Getting vaccinated also protects the people around you, who may be more likely to get seriously ill from flu. Get vaccinated at your doctor's office or local pharmacy. See [www.washtenaw.org/flu](http://www.washtenaw.org/flu) for updates.



## #WishYouKnewWashtenaw – Winter Mental Health

The winter season can be hard for some, and it can be hard to reach out for help when it's needed most. It's important to remember that asking for help does not make us weak, it does not make us a burden, and it does not make our progress any less meaningful.

If you need mental health support and have questions about where to find it, call the CARES

team at 734-544-3050. CARES offers 24-hour help with any mental health concern or question. The Health Department also has a local resource guide with information on different mental health resources at <https://bit.ly/wcsupportmh>.

Want to see more mental health info and resources? Follow @wishyouknewwashtenaw on Instagram.



## COVID-19 testing from YCS

Cold and flu season are in full swing, and every family deserves to feel healthy and safe. Ypsilanti Community Schools is offering two types of COVID-19 testing for students and their families. PCR testing, which takes 24 – 48 hours, is available by appointment. Antigen testing is available without an appointment and takes only 15 – 30 minutes for results. YCS is looking for volunteers to help with testing, so please email [acash9@ycschools.us](mailto:acash9@ycschools.us) for more information.

# WASHTENAW WINTER WARMING SHELTERS

On a given night in Washtenaw County, there could be hundreds of people experiencing homelessness. That's according to data from the Washtenaw County Office of Community & Economic Development (OCED).

That's why OCED and the Shelter Association of Washtenaw County are working to provide options around Washtenaw County for people who need shelter during the winter months. Their Winter Program runs through March 31 with day and night-time shelter options (pending weather conditions).

The Freighthouse is available from 8am to 6pm, Monday through Thursday. Located at 100 Market Place in Ypsilanti, the shelter is available through March 31.

During the evenings, shelters are available around the area. Contact Housing Access of Washtenaw County (HAWC) to obtain a referral to the Delonis Center. Call 734-961-1999 during regular business hours, or after 5pm visit the Delonis Center at 312 W. Huron St. in Ann Arbor. From there you will be able to get a referral.

Individuals are provided a safe place to sleep each night and can access a wide variety of services, including meals, case management, medical care, and, most importantly, help finding permanent housing.

Whether you call Housing Access of Washtenaw County or visit the Delonis Center for shelter, you will be connected to a network of almost 30 organizations to help you with moving into safe,

**WORRIED THE EVICTION MORATORIUM HAS ENDED? FOLLOW THESE HELPFUL STEPS!**



permanent housing. For anyone who needs it, transportation from the Delonis Center is provided to additional offsite facilities.

This year, social distancing protocols mean beds are limited, and it won't be possible to serve everyone in need (see the sidebar for more help options). It's recommended that you stay with friends or family members whenever possible, but enhanced health and safety practices (including masks) will be in place, and additional offsite locations will be opened when necessary to ensure adequate social distancing.

There are a variety of additional daytime shelter accommodations 7 days a week. Call 734-662-2829 for the most up to date information and locations.

Because there is a severe shortage of housing resources in Washtenaw County, HAWC is not able to help all people who are experiencing a housing crisis. More options for help:

*Veterans experiencing a housing crisis, contact the Veteran Administration (VA) at 1-877-424-3838.*

*Youth (ages 10–20) experiencing a housing crisis, contact Ozone House at (734) 662-2222.*

*If you are experiencing domestic violence, contact SafeHouse Center at (734) 995-5444.*

## STEP 1: APPLY FOR COVID-19 EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE (CERA)!



Apply online at [michigan.gov/CERA](http://michigan.gov/CERA). For paper applications or for assistance, contact HAWC at 734-961-1999.



## STEP 2: ATTEND YOUR COURT DATE!

If you get notice of court dates, show up! When you show up, Legal Services can represent your court case until there has been time for CERA applications to be processed, and for landlords to receive back rent.

## STEP 3: DO NOT MOVE OUT!



If you move out of your rental unit, you will be deemed ineligible for CERA. Remember to remain in your rented space and do not vacate until your CERA application has been processed.



## STEP 4: IF YOU MISSED YOUR FIRST COURT DATE, CALL LEGAL SERVICES!

If you were unable to make your first court date, call Legal Services of South Central Michigan (LSSCM) for free legal advice and representation at 734-665-6181 (Washtenaw County Office).



# COMMUNITY PARTNERS



## PREPARING THE FUTURE OF OUR PUBLIC TRANSIT

Representatives from TheRide have held public feedback sessions about TheRide 2045, their long-range plan for the future. More learning opportunities about the long-range plan will be available in the coming months, and details will be available at [TheRide.org](https://theride.org).

In the meantime, winter is upon us and that means cold weather, snow, and ice. With bad weather, some delays may occur. You can sign up for TheRide’s MyAlerts system at [TheRide.org](https://theride.org). With MyAlerts, you can select the route(s) you use,

and you will receive an email directly if your route is detoured.

Remember to leave extra time for the morning commute, especially on snowy days. If your bus stop is blocked due to snow or ice, please wait at the nearest cleared spot.

During the winter season, TheRide has holiday hours for the Christmas and New Year holidays. Stay up to date on [TheRide.org](https://theride.org) or follow them on Facebook and Twitter.

## NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS OF YDL

Mark your calendars for January 20–23, and attend the Friends of YDL January book sale at [YDL-Whittaker](https://ydl-whittaker.org)! Pay \$1 for hardcovers, 25¢ for paperbacks, and 50¢ for oversize paperbacks, with even more special deals available during the sale.

January 20 from 6–8pm will be a members-only preview. Memberships will be available for purchase at the door, so it’s the perfect time to join the Friends and help make library events possible.

On January 23 there will be bags of books available for \$4, and some books will be sold for a reduced price.

### FULL BOOK SALE HOURS:

**Thursday, January 20:** 6 – 8pm  
(Members only preview sale)  
**Friday, January 21:** 11am– 5pm  
**Saturday, January 22:** 11am– 3pm  
**Sunday, January 23:** 1– 4pm



If you’re interested in becoming a volunteer, please fill out the application at [ypsilibrary.org/volunteer-at-the-friends-book-shop](https://ypsilibrary.org/volunteer-at-the-friends-book-shop).

Since the book shop at [YDL-Whittaker](https://ydl-whittaker.org) has resumed normal hours of operation, the Friends need volunteers. There are plenty of ways to help, like assisting with book shop sales and sorting the generous donations the Friends receive. Whatever your availability, your assistance is greatly appreciated.



### BOOK SHOP HOURS OF OPERATION:

MONDAY	2–6:00pm
TUESDAY	1–5:00pm
WEDNESDAY	10am–2:00pm
THURSDAY	10am–4:00pm
FRIDAY	10am–2:00pm
SATURDAY	11am–5:00pm
SUNDAY	2–4:00pm

## MEETING ROOMS REOPEN

Need a space to study, take a call, or join a meeting? Meeting rooms at YDL are open for use again. There is also a new reservation and calendar system that allows same-day reservations, and will help avoid overbooking the spaces. Reserving a room is required, but it’s quick and easy to do, either on our website or at our new kiosks at Whittaker Road and Michigan Avenue.

To reserve a room online, visit [reserve.ypsilibrary.org/reserve](https://reserve.ypsilibrary.org/reserve), or click on “Meeting Rooms” under the Services tab of our website. Currently, all rooms are available for reservation except for the Community Room and room 1C at [YDL-Whittaker](https://ydl-whittaker.org).



Once you click on your preferred time and room, you’ll see additional information about the space, including an image and description of the room, a list of available resources, and maximum capacity.

If you see an empty room in the library, you can reserve it from one of our self-serve kiosks. These can be found on the 1st and 2nd floors of [YDL-Whittaker](https://ydl-whittaker.org) (next to the self-service printing

stations on each floor) and in the lobby at [YDL-Michigan](https://ydl-michigan.org). Kiosk reservations will look similar to booking on our website, but you can conveniently make reservations right from the library!

## FREE FOOD ASSISTANCE IN WASHTENAW COUNTY

Scan this QR code, visit [www.foodgatherers.org/findfood](https://www.foodgatherers.org/findfood), or call Food Gatherers at 734-761-2796 for help finding free groceries, meals, and SNAP application help.





# MEET THE 2021 WRITERS OF YPSILANTI

Adapted from an article by Sarah Rigg published October 6 as part of Concentrate Media’s On the Ground Ypsilanti segment. The original article can be viewed at [concentratemedia.com](https://concentratemedia.com).

Author’s note: I had begun work on this story weeks before I found out I had also been named a 2021 Writer of Ypsilanti. Our editorial team decided to have me complete the article to celebrate my fellow honorees.

Eight Ypsilanti-area writers were named to the YpsiWrites Writers of Ypsilanti cohort for 2021.

The Writers of Ypsilanti program began in 2019 and has honored a handful of community members each year since then, with a new motto for each cohort. This year’s motto was “Write Now.” The writers are A.M. Dean, Frankie Koni, Brent Miller, Ayesha Nadeem, Kierra Owens, Sarah Rigg, Debbie Taylor, and William Teepen. “The Writers of Ypsilanti are writers of any age who live or work in, or have significant ties to, the Ypsilanti area,” YpsiWrites co-founder Ann Blakeslee said.

This year’s honorees use writing in their everyday lives in a variety of ways, from a children’s author to a playwright to a teenager who writes grants.



DEBBIE TAYLOR  
Photos courtesy of Doug Coombe

Taylor is the author of two children’s books, *Sweet Music in Harlem* and *Over in Motown*. She lives in Pittsfield Township but calls Ypsilanti’s Brown Chapel A.M.E. her church home. Taylor says she’d like to use her nomination as a Writer of Ypsilanti as a platform to advocate for literacy.

“Writing can be such a good way to share your story and your feelings during these peculiar times we’re in,” Taylor said.

Ypsilanti resident Teepen writes articles for “Fresh Prints,” the newsletter of Ypsilanti’s self-help mental health center, Fresh Start Clubhouse. He has also helped the clubhouse work on its business plan and other documents that will help the organization establish its nonprofit status.



WILLIAM TEEPEN  
Photos courtesy of Doug Coombe

Teepen says he uses writing to process current events or personal life experiences. He has covered topics such as trauma and consent for “Fresh Prints.”

“I like to take a problem or issue I’m dealing with and write about it for other people in more generic terms,” he says.



FRANKIE KONI  
Photos courtesy of Doug Coombe

2021 honoree Koni began writing poetry in fifth grade and turned out a book of poetry for a school contest. They have had four poems published in “Asylum” magazine, an online publication that bills itself as a “radical mental health magazine.”

“I write some semi-autobiographical poetry about mental health and sexuality,” Koni says. “I get a form of catharsis out of poetry that I don’t get out of much else.”

Koni says being named a Writer of Ypsilanti has inspired them to start a daily poetry practice again and launch a Facebook page dedicated to their poetry.



AYESHA NADEEM  
Photos courtesy of Doug Coombe

Nadeem was nominated by Ypsilanti District Library librarian Jodi Krahnke for Nadeem’s work with the library’s teen advisory board.

“The best writing experience of mine this last year has been learning to write grants,” Nadeem says. “I feel powerful, knowing that my words will translate into real change.”

Dean is an Ypsilanti-based playwright and novelist who has had numerous plays and musicals premiere in Ypsilanti, and serves as the literary manager for Neighborhood Theatre Group.

“Right now I am working on a second draft of a novel I finished about a decade ago,” Dean says.

Owens, 15, is a poet and an active member of the Ypsilanti-based nonprofit Educate Youth. She was nominated by that organization’s founder, Gail Wolkoff. In the nomination form, Wolkoff called Owens “an excellent role model of young Black women on their journey of the power of words.”

Owens produced a written piece about police brutality that she shared with Ypsilanti Police Chief Tony DeGiusti “to share her firsthand experiences of what it is like to be a young woman of 15 living on the Southside of Ypsilanti,” Wolkoff says.



BRENT MILLER  
Photos courtesy of Doug Coombe

Miller began volunteering with YpsiWrites in March 2020 doing one-on-one tutoring with YpsiWrites and creating various guides for the organization, such as

book club reading guides, a scavenger hunt project in collaboration with First Fridays, and a guide to finding and corresponding with a pen pal.

Miller writes instructional materials as an instructional designer at the National Center for School Safety, a program of the University of Michigan’s School of Public Health. He also writes fiction in his free time and hopes to spend November revising the first draft of a novel he’s written.

He says he loves YpsiWrites’ emphasis on the idea that everyone is a writer.

“If you send text messages or emails or fill out your taxes, you’re a writer,” he says. “I’m glad YpsiWrites is encouraging others to embrace that they, too, are writers.”



WWW.YPSILIBRARY.ORG



## LOCATIONS & HOURS

### YDL-WHITTAKER

5577 Whittaker Road  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

#### HOURS

Mon-Thurs: 9am–9pm  
Fri and Sat: 10am–6pm  
Sun: 1–5pm

### YDL-MICHIGAN

229 West Michigan Avenue  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

#### HOURS

Mon-Thurs: 9am–9pm  
Fri and Sat: 10am–6pm

### YDL-SUPERIOR

8795 MacArthur Blvd  
Ypsilanti, MI 48198

#### HOURS

Locker pick up and curbside service

### YDL-BOOKMOBILE

Ypsilanti, MI 48197

#### HOURS

Curbside service

Board meetings are generally held on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm. They are open to the public. Visit [ypsilibrary.org/board](https://ypsilibrary.org/board) for updated meeting schedules, agendas, and minutes.

Visit [ypsilibrary.org/contact-us](https://ypsilibrary.org/contact-us) or 734-482-4110

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