The Summer Challenge is back and better than ever with new badges to earn. Starting June 10, hunt for Ypsi Bicentennial-themed geocaches, take pictures in front of wing murals at each YDL branch, go on storywalks, and take part in a fairy door scavenger hunt. You can even ride the bus for free on the weekends (see page 12). Earn 10 badges to win a prize. Kids and teens can also get a coupon for a free Insomnia cookie or an additional prize out of the treasure box every time they earn 10 or more badges.

The Summer Challenge encourages everyone to read and explore what’s happening in our community. It’s a great way to motivate kids to engage with learning and be ready for school in the fall, but players of all ages will enjoy the wide range of activities you can do outdoors, at the library, and at home.

Here’s a challenge to earn your first Summer Challenge badge: sign up!

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ood insecurity is a significant challenge in the summer months, since families lose access to school breakfast and lunch programs. To help fill that gap, YDL is partnering again with Food Gatherers to bring free lunches to kids and teens 18 years old and younger, and individuals aged 26 or younger who are enrolled in educational programs for those with disabilities.

Thank you to generous grants from the Children’s Foundation and Mullick Foundation, the Superior branch will participate in Lunch, Listen, and Learn for the first time this summer, addressing an important need within the community.

“We are excited to add the new Superior Library as a full-service location, making lunch access convenient for people across our district,” said Superior Branch Manager Mary Garboden. “We know that rising food costs are putting a strain on families, and we hope that getting a free lunch in the library will help alleviate that stress.”

The foundation grants funded the kitchenette that enables the Superior branch to host the program.

“The Children’s Foundation is proud to support construction of the community hub kitchenette and the Lunch, Listen, and Learn program for disadvantaged youth at Ypsilanti District Library,” said The Children’s Foundation’s President & CEO, Lawrence J. Burns. “These important initiatives align with our Nutritional Wellness Focus Area and fulfill an essential need in the surrounding community.”

All three YDL branches will offer free meals Monday through Friday from June 26 to August 4. There’s even a special BBQ kickoff with Food Gatherers on June 15 at Superior to learn more about the program. See the Lunch, Listen, and Learn listing on page 5 for more information.

For the full list of Summer Meal sites from Food Gatherers, visit foodgatherers.org/find-help/summer-food-service-program.

TEENS: Want to make a positive impact on your community? Receive volunteer credit while helping with our Lunch, Listen, and Learn program. Volunteer at any branch for 2–4 hours each week.

To apply, visit ypsilibrary.org/interests/teens/youth-volunteers and sign up to be a part of the Summer Youth Volunteer Corps.

HELP US CREATE A JUNETEENTH MURAL!

The Bookmobile will share resources, a storytime about the history of Juneteenth, library card signup, and much more. The Michigan Avenue branch will also be a part of the Kid’s Corner again this year.

Headlining musical acts for the celebration weekend include: Raydio (feat. Arnell Carmichael), David Banks’ Enchantment, Lord Yancy, Dames Brown, and John E. Lawrence. Get more information about the scheduled events at bit.ly/YpsilantiJUNETEENTHCelebration.
BUILDING COMMUNITY WITH YDL’S NEXT STRATEGIC PLAN

On March 22, the Library’s Board of Trustees officially adopted a 2023–25 strategic plan, along with new mission and vision statements for YDL. The new plan focuses on four strategic areas: dynamic resources; optimized facilities; advancing equity, diversity, and inclusion; and an engaged community. YDL developed the new plan using research conducted by ReThinking Libraries LLC, who collected feedback from our community and staff.

The new initiatives will be shaped through the lens of YDL’s new mission statement: The Ypsilanti District Library builds community through discovery, education, and partnerships.

You can expect to see projects that focus on improving our collections, reaching underserved communities, combating misinformation, and improving library spaces.

“Thank you to everyone across the community who gave us their feedback,” said Library Director Lisa Hoenig. “We’re thrilled with the new roadmap you helped develop, and to be getting underway!”

Keep your eye on ypsillibrary.org, social media pages, and future issues of The Loop for exciting projects we develop over the next 3 years to meet those goals.

A MORE INCLUSIVE ONLINE EXPERIENCE

In keeping with our values of equal access and diversity, we’ve refreshed ypsillibrary.org and added new tools to make it easier to access YDL’s services and resources. The homepage has been reorganized to make it easier to find what you need, and we’ve installed Recite Me, an accessibility software, to create a more inclusive online experience.

USING RECITE ME

Recite Me offers a screen reader; translations into over 100 languages; color, font, and size customization; and reading aids.

“We’re excited to offer this service to make our website more accessible to all,” said Sam Killian, YDL Community Relations Coordinator. “With magnification and language aids, along with screen reader and display tools, there’s truly something for everyone.”

To use Recite Me, click on the blue, person-shaped icon in the bottom right of any YDL web page. Then, at the top of your screen, a toolbar will appear. You can use its functions to improve your experience on YDL’s website. Learn more at ypsillibrary.org/introducing-recite-me.

WHAT’S NEW WITH THE HOMEPAGE?

We’ve redesigned the homepage to make it easier to find important information on our website. See popular new releases, preview upcoming events, and find out about important initiatives—all without scrolling!

The new homepage also makes it easier to find library news and updates, and puts the latest edition of The Loop in front of you with one click.

The menu bar has been updated to be more readable, with a more streamlined look and better organization. Explore interests, find resources, view collections, and more with increased ease.

Comments about the new tools? Visit ypsillibrary.org/contact-us to send your feedback.

THE BOOKMOBILE GOES TO LANSING!

The Bookmobile took to the highway in April to celebrate Michigan Library Advocacy Day! On April 25, library representatives from around Michigan came to the state capital to represent our public, school, academic, tribal, and special libraries.

YDL’s Bookmobile was one of a handful of bookmobiles from around the state invited by the Michigan Library Association to park outside the Capitol Building during the event. Our Outreach staff met state legislators and shared the roles bookmobiles have reaching residents who experience barriers to visiting the library.

“Bookmobiles...are pillars in our communities,” said Monica Porter, YDL’s Head of Outreach Services. “The Outreach team are mentors, advocates, [and] the gatekeepers to literacy...They are celebrities in the community!”

Enjoy pictures from the visit below.

Join YDL in the 4th of July Parade

TIME: 11am on Tuesday, July 4
PLACE: Cross Street (near the Water Tower)

The Bookmobile and YDL’s new Ford Explorer will participate in Ypsilanti’s 4th of July Parade. Don’t miss this Bicentennial year parade. Meet us on Cross Street near Oakwood between 10:30 and 10:45 to walk with us (and perhaps decorate your own bike or scooter).
GROW YOUR GARDEN SERIES: GREENS, HERBS, AND EDIBLE FLOWERS
4pm | YDL-Whittaker
Learn how to use greens and herbs to make new salads or add flavor to new dishes. We will also learn more about edible flowers, how they can be used, and what science can teach us about plants and their properties. All the classes can be learned and used in our community garden. Part of our “Grow Your Garden” series. Register online at ypsilibrary.org/events.

THURSDAY MORNING BOOK GROUP
10:30am | YDL-Whittaker
Join us on the first Thursday of the month for discussion of a variety of books. (No meeting in July or August). Copies of the book are available at the Whittaker Road branch. Circulation Desk one month before the discussion date. Questions? Contact Sheila at whittaker@ypsilibrary.org.

TUEWEN BOOK CLUB (Grades 6–8)
6:30pm | YDL-Whittaker
Join us for a monthly discussion of a shared book and enjoy a snack. Registration required. Email mitchell@ypsilibrary.org.

THURSDAY NOON BAGUETTE BREAK (Arabic)
12:30pm | YDL-Whittaker
Join us for a shared lunch to practice your Arabic skills while socializing with others. All levels of Arabic are welcome. Please register in advance.

INTERGENERATIONAL SERIES
Wednesdays, Jun 8–July 26
This class is for a community-friendly monthly introduction to dance. Seated movement and variations to accommodate different abilities will be provided. This program is for individuals with any stage of dementia. A care partner/caregiver must attend with the person living with dementia. Register online at ypsilibrary.org/events.

SUN AND SPROUTS: STEM IN THE GARDEN
6:30pm | YDL-Whittaker
Join the Washtenaw County Water Resources Conservation Commission, supported by the Vera & Joseph Dresner Foundation, at Oakbrook Park, 8460 Berkshire Dr., Oakbrook Park, for a hybrid event. We will screen and discuss a presentation on local backyard birds. We will also have a petting farm, free books, face painting, and ideas every Tuesday. Open to all, any age.

FRIDAY WALKING CLUB
10:30am | YDL-Whittaker
This is a hybrid event, we will screen and discuss a presentation on local backyard birds. We will also have a petting farm, free books, face painting, and ideas every Tuesday. Open to all, any age.

BUILDING A COMMUNITY CONNECTION THROUGH DANCE
6pm | YDL-Whittaker
This class is for a community-friendly monthly introduction to dance. Seated movement and variations to accommodate different abilities will be provided. This program is for individuals with any stage of dementia. A care partner/caregiver must attend with the person living with dementia. Register online at ypsilibrary.org/events.

MICHIGAN NOTABLE BOOK TALK
4pm | YDL-Michigan
This class is for a community-friendly monthly introduction to dance. Seated movement and variations to accommodate different abilities will be provided. This program is for individuals with any stage of dementia. A care partner/caregiver must attend with the person living with dementia. Register online at ypsilibrary.org/events.

WASHENAW LITERACY TUTORING
4pm | YDL-Whittaker
This class is for a community-friendly monthly introduction to dance. Seated movement and variations to accommodate different abilities will be provided. This program is for individuals with any stage of dementia. A care partner/caregiver must attend with the person living with dementia. Register online at ypsilibrary.org/events.

WALKING WEDNESDAYS: INTERGENERATIONAL SERIES
7pm | YDL-Whittaker
Walking Wednesdays is an all-ages walking group that aims to bridge intergenerational gaps. Meet friends who live nearby and enjoy a heart and soul healthy activity. Group will not meet July 5.

READ TO MOON THE LIBRARY DOG
5:30pm–7:30pm | YDL-Michigan
Reading to a TheraPaws dog helps children develop confidence and become better readers. Parents sign up for a 30-minute slot with Moon. Registration required: email mitchell@ypsilibrary.org.

FRIDAY WALKING CLUB
10:30am | YDL-Whittaker
This class is for a community-friendly monthly introduction to dance. Seated movement and variations to accommodate different abilities will be provided. This program is for individuals with any stage of dementia. A care partner/caregiver must attend with the person living with dementia. Register online at ypsilibrary.org/events.

YPSIWRITES WRITERS’ ROOM
6:30am | YDL-Whittaker
Join other writers for open writing time in YpsiWriters’ “Writer’s Room.” There will be prompts for inspiration and time for writers wishing to share their work and get feedback. Register online at ypsilibrary.org/events.

SUPERIOR DAY
11am–2pm | Oakbrook Park, 8460 Berkshire Dr.
Superior Day (hosted by Superior Township) will have a petting farm, free books, face painting, and ideas every Tuesday. Lunch provided.

SUMMER CHALLENGE KICKOFF
2pm | YDL-Whittaker
Kick off our STEM series activities hosted by Michigan Science Center. Supported by the Vera & Joseph Dresner Foundation and Toyota.

ENCOURAGING BACKYARD BIRDS
6:30pm | YDL-Michigan
April 2021. Founder of BIPIC Birderz of Michigan, will go over ways to help local urban birds, such as installing rain gardens, planting native plants, restoring habitats, and making your windows bird-safe.

HEALTHY AGING FOR YOUR BRAIN AND BODY
1pm | YDL-Whittaker
Learn what research has shown about lifestyle choices that may help keep your brain and body healthy as you age. Hear practical ways you can incorporate changes into a plan for healthy aging.

FIND OUT TO YOU WITH THE CREATURE CONSERVANCY
2pm | YDL-Whittaker
Kick off our STEM series with an active presentation about wildlife. See an osprey, a bumble bee, and other living specimens. A hybrid event, we will screen and discuss a presentation on local backyard birds. We will also have a petting farm, free books, face painting, and ideas every Tuesday. Open to all, any age.

CAMPS FOR KIDS
4pm | YDL-Michigan
Join the Washtenaw County Water Resources Conservation Commission, supported by the Vera & Joseph Dresner Foundation, at Oakbrook Park, 8460 Berkshire Dr., Oakbrook Park, for a hybrid event. We will screen and discuss a presentation on local backyard birds. We will also have a petting farm, free books, face painting, and ideas every Tuesday. Open to all, any age.

WEEDS IN YOUR GARDEN? IDENTIFY AND CONTROL THEM WITHOUT USING CHEMICALS
2pm | YDL-Whittaker
Join Advanced Master Gardener Carol Brodbeck to get useful information on dealing with garden weeds without using herbicides that could be harmful. We’ll look at some common weeds and how you may grow them. You may also find it interesting to learn how beneficial weeds can be.

SUPERIOR TAG [TEEN ADVISORY GROUP]
2pm | YDL-Whittaker
A collaborative teen leadership meet-up activities might include event planning or facilitating, library program creation or design, or work with our library collections. Volunteer hours available.

SUPERIOR TAP [TEEN ADVISORY GROUP]
2pm | YDL-Whittaker
A collaborative teen leadership meet-up activities might include event planning or facilitating, library program creation or design, or work with our library collections. Volunteer hours available.

SAFELY TALK ABOUT RACE & RACISM
2pm | YDL-Whittaker
A hybrid event, we will screen and discuss a presentation on local backyard birds. We will also have a petting farm, free books, face painting, and ideas every Tuesday. Open to all, any age.
FAMILY MAKER NIGHT: FAIRY DOORS
6–9pm | YDL-Whittaker
Did you know pixies live in Ypsi? Gnomes and fairy doors are magical. Participants can bring their little one. We’ll move inside in case of rain.

LITTLE ONES NATURAL PLAY (Ages 2–6)
10:30am–11:30am | YDL-Whittaker
Enjoy outdoor sensory stations near the garden with your little one. We’ll move inside in case of rain.

NATURE STEAM SPONSORED BY TOYOTA
2pm | YDL-Whittaker
Hands-on STEAM outside near the garden! 6/29: Embryology and chicken with Washtenaw County 4-H.
6/30: Design and build fairy houses with nature crafts
7/6: Learn about food webs and ecosystems with Matthew Gervais. 7/12: Make and add your favorite herbs from our garden
7/18: Learn and talk about pollinators with Washtenaw County Parks
7/25: Make a field journal and learn to observe, describe, and draw what you see
7/28: Learn about composting with Washtenaw County Waste Management and make a compost bottle
8/4: Learn perspective and ratios while engaging in plein air landscape painting A Project STEM © YDL series sponsored by Toyota.

NATURE ZINE CLUB: WORK ON YOUR ZINE
Wed, 6/28–Fri, 7/28; 1:30pm–3:30pm | YDL-Whittaker
Celebrate the summer with our zine making camp. Participants will contribute to the library by sharing their work. This is a great opportunity to meet people with similar interests. Sign up below to attend the workshop on 8/1.

SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD 1pm | YDL-Superior
6/29: Bookmobile
6/30: Bookmobile
7/6: Bookmobile
7/13: Bookmobile
7/20: Bookmobile
7/27: Bookmobile
8/3: Bookmobile
8/10: Bookmobile
8/17: Bookmobile
8/24: Bookmobile
8/31: Bookmobile

7/27: FAMILY MAKER NIGHT: FAIRY DOORS
6–9pm | YDL-Whittaker
Did you know pixies live in Ypsi? Gnomes and fairy doors are magical. Participants can bring their little one. We’ll move inside in case of rain.

8/3: NATURE ZINE CLUB: WORK ON YOUR ZINE
Wed, 6/28–Fri, 7/28; 1:30pm–3:30pm | YDL-Whittaker
Celebrate the summer with our zine making camp. Participants will contribute to the library by sharing their work. This is a great opportunity to meet people with similar interests. Sign up below to attend the workshop on 8/1.

8/3: GARDEN QUESTIONS? ASK THE MASTER GARDENER!
5pm–7pm | YDL-Whittaker
 Objects from our garden
5pm–7pm | YDL-Whittaker

8/10: TOYOTA NATURE STEAM SPONSORED BY TOYOTA
2pm–3pm | YDL-Whittaker
Learn about composting with Washtenaw County Waste Management and make a compost bottle
8/4: Learn perspective and ratios while engaging in plein air landscape painting A Project STEM © YDL series sponsored by Toyota.

8/17: GARDENING WITH CROWNING HOPE
3:30pm | YDL-Whittaker
Join Growing Hope gardener Esha and library gardener Stephanie as they explore the natural world and dive into ways to use your garden. A program for all ages wanting to get hands-on with plants and processes that you can do at home.
6/1: What is a seed?
8/1: Pickle
8/1: Natural dye

8/24: JUNIETTE CEMETERY - KID CORNER
11am | Downtown (Whittaker)
Bring a friend and celebrate Black Joy at Jeuneventhi’t’s Kid Corner Join YDL, the Bookmobile, and many other organizations on Monday to celebrate Juneteenth. Juneteenth celebration events take place from 6/17–8/19 behind Puffer Rides.

8/31: GABRIELLE HICKMANN - JUNIETTE CEMETERY PRESENTATION HOW YOU PLAY SPADES IS HOW YOU PLAY SPADAS
3pm | YDL-Michigan
Junoéleine Hickman is an Ypsilanti-based writer and artist who is nationally and globally recognized for her creative works in connecting history, information, and empathy. In honor of Juneteenth, Gabrielle presents her ethno-scientific research project, How You Play Spades is How You Live, which received an Information is Beautiful award in 2022 from the Data Visualization Society. We will also have packs of playing cards out for folks who want to play as we listen and learn. Any questions or comments? Contact librarian Aaron Smith at asmith@ypsilibrary.org to learn more.

9/1: YPSILANTI ZINE CLUB: WORK ON YOUR ZINE
6–9pm | YDL-Whittaker
This monthly book group will read through literature written by queer-identifying writers of diverse backgrounds. Books for a free all-inclusive, fiction, poetry, and graphic novel selections. Registration required. 
6/1: &Unkindness of Ghosts by Rivers Solomon
7/6: M is for Monster by Tadiao Dunn
8/3: Born Both by Hida Viloria

9/8: KID BOOK CLUB (Grades 3–5)
6–7:30pm | YDL-Michigan
Join us for a monthly discussion of a shared book and a snack. Registration required: email mlitch1@Ypsilibrary.org.

9/15: KID BOOK CLUB (Grades 3–5)
6–7:30pm | YDL-Michigan
Join us for a monthly discussion of a shared book and a snack. Registration required: email mlitch1@Ypsilibrary.org.

9/22: BREAD MAKING & LEARNING GARDENING
2:30pm | YDL-Superior
We will teach you how to make bread! Come and learn how to make bread with fresh local grains. You will get to take home a bag of flour and a bread recipe.

9/29: HEALTHY HABITS START NOW
3:30pm | YDL-Superior
Learn how physical activity and nutrition work together to keep our bodies healthy and happy. Healthy Habits for Kids! Now join us to hear about your brain and healthy food tasting.

10/6: CROSS STITCH (Ages 12–18)
3:30pm | YDL-Superior
Learn the basics of cross stitch and pick out a kit to take home. Make something beautiful and get help with your projects. You will go home with a kit with all the supplies you’ll need to start a handmade panel here and finish it at home.

10/20: PARANORMAL CLUB: EXPLORING THE UNKNOWN
3pm | YDL-Michigan
Join us for monthly presentations, discussions, and investigations into various intriguing and mystifying phenomena.

10/27: YOU’RE NOT ALONE: DEMYSTIFYING ALZHEIMER’S AND DEMENTIA
1pm | YDL-Michigan
Learn the difference between Alzheimer’s and dementia, Alzheimer’s and other mental health conditions, current research and available treatments, and ways the Alzheimer’s Association can help.

11/3: KITE & ROCKET DAY
11am–2pm | YDL-Whittaker
Celebrate the beginning of summer with the Teen Advisory Group. Play lawn games, throw water balloons, tie dye shirts, and make friendship bracelets. Bring a blanket to sit on the lawn and enjoy! We will have light refreshments, scavenger hunts, and grill veggie and beef hotdogs.

11/10: YPSILANTI WRITES DROP-IN WRITING CONSULTING
6–7pm | YDL-Michigan
Looking for one-to-one writing support? Join YpsiWriters for drop-in writing consulting to meet with a writing consultant. We can help you evaluate your writing projects. All forms of writing can be welcome, including poetry and short stories, essays, letter to the editor, flash fictions, and so much more.

12/1: THE PRINCESS AND THE PEA: BLACK AND BROWN THEATRE
3pm | YDL-Whittaker
Black and Brown Theatre returns to the Superior branch to tell the story of The Princess and the Pea. The performance by local performers from Children’s Theatre brings to life a beloved fairy tale with a new adaptation from Black and Brown Theatre that explores not only the magic and a twist on the classic fairy tale to get a new adaptation from Black and Brown Theatre that explores not only the magic and beauty but also the lessons of love and kindness that are important for a growing audience.

12/8: LUNCH & LISTEN
12:30–1:30pm | YDL-Michigan
12–18s
12:30–1:30pm | YDL-Michigan

12/15: KID SPACESHOP (Grades 3–5)
6–7pm | YDL-Michigan
Join us for a fun, educational, and creative experience. We will explore science fiction, future technologies, and space exploration. The focus will be on exploring the future of space and the impact of space travel on our planet.

12/22: GARDEN QUESTIONS? ASK THE MASTER GARDENER!
5pm–7pm | YDL-Whittaker

Event Schedule | June – August 2023 | Visit attend.ypsilibrary.org/events
**Event Schedule | June – August 2023 | Visit attend.ypsilibrary.org/events**

**INTRODUCTION TO THEATRE WITH OPEN SPOT**
2pm | YDL-Whittaker
Join us in the Open Spot for a fun hour of theatre. We’ll introduce sing, acting, and dancing through a series of fun activities. At the end of our time together our students will put on a short play that they themselves wrote.

**MANGA DRAWING**
Ages 9 – 14
2pm | YDL-Whittaker
Drop in and draw with Kam Reynolds. Hone your skills in a friendly environment while you chat with other artists.

**FAIRYTALE THEATER GROUP**
 Ages 5–9
1:30pm | YDL-Michigan
Join us while we read some fairytales favorites and sing and play! Children will learn about some common fairytales, play a theater game, and sing songs. Each week we will read stories from a different fairytales and learn ways to act, sing, and rhyme. This activity is intended for children ages 5–9 and will take place directly after our summer lunches program.

**VIRTUAL AFRICAN AMERICAN AUTHORS BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**
7pm | Virtual
Join us for lively discussions of books by African American Authors.
6/21: The Supremes Sing the Happy Heartache by Edward Moore
7/25: Upheaval: A Memoir by Jemele Hill
8/29: TBD

**OUTDOOR FUN! WITH HEALTHY HABITS START NOW**
1:30pm | YDL-Michigan
Join HSN at the library this summer to get moving and grooving and try some tasty treats! Each lesson will feature a breakdown of nutrition information that kids can then apply to the foods they eat, a physical activity to get the heart pumping and a taste test of a recipe (hopefully with items from our Community Garden!)

**MYSTERY LOVER’S BOOK GROUP**
2pm | YDL-Whittaker
Mystery lovers! Check out a new mystery title each month, We will be meeting outside at Whittaker Road, ramp chairs and water will be provided. We’ll meet in the lobby.
June 28: The Word is Murder by Anthony Horowitz
July 26: The Guest List by Lucy Foley
August 30: Gone Girl by Gillian Flynn
For more information, please contact Paula Drummond: drummond@ylpslibrary.org or call 734-482-4110 x 1306.

**BLOG BOATS: A DETROIT FERRY TALE**
2pm–5pm | YDL-Supervisor
Belle Isle, one of America’s earliest amusement parks, sparked the imaginations of Detroiters and Ontarians for more than 85 years. Mirroring Detroit’s decline and resurgence, two teams of people eagerly attempted the restoration of the island that inspired people to the island. Join us for a screening of this incredible and inspiring film, featuring a Q&A with director Aaron Schlinger after the viewing.

**MOVIES ON THE GREEN**
8pm | Snackville Village Green, 3231 Church Rd. Superior Two
Family event with playground games followed by a current family-friendly movie shown on a 20’ screen. Sponsored by Debbie Village Green & Dixon United Methodist Church. Bring your blankets, snacks, and coolers.

**WATER CONSERVATION FOR GARDENERS**
2pm | YDL-Whittaker
Learn how you can still have beautiful gardens while using less water from Advanced Master Gardener Carol Brodbeck.

**STORYTELLING THROUGH MUSIC**
2pm | YDL-Whittaker
Students from the Slayton Strings, an M-Pulse program at the University of Michigan, will show how classical music conveys stories and emotions at this performance for families featuring the violin, viola, and cello.

**CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL WATER CONSERVATION DAY**
6pm | YDL-Whittaker
Come celebrate International Plastic Bag Free Day by decorating a canvas bag. Materials are supplied and registration is required. For questions, contact Robert at rittel@ylpslibrary.org.

**SCIENCE FICTION BOOK CLUB**
7pm | YDL-Whittaker
Join us every other month for this new adult discussion group for fans of science fiction books. Copies of the books are available at the Whittaker Road branch Circulation Desk one month before the discussion dates. Questions? Contact Marianne at vandergoossenyr@ylpslibrary.org or Sheila at skoonen@ylpslibrary.org.
July 11: Mistborn: The Final Empire by Brandon Sanderson

**GARDEN YOUR SOUNDS CLOSER TO HOME**
4:30pm | YDL-Whittaker
Interested in learning how to make the sweetest bouquets, fanciest centerpieces, or how to do something else with flowers? Join other flower fanatics as we explore interesting ways to make flower arrangements using fresh cut flowers, along with other natural materials.

**STAYING SAFE ONLINE:**
**HOW TO AVOID SCAMS & SPAM**
7pm | YDL-Whittaker
We do a number of things online these days, including banking, social interactions, shopping, and more. Learn basic tips for staying safe online.

**GARDEN MANDALA ART**
Ages 12–18
4:30pm | YDL-Whittaker
Spend a relaxing time at the garden gathering and creating mandala art. Supplies will be on hand to free draw and color mandala silhouettes to wear.

**GARDEN WITH AN ADVENTURE**
4:30pm | YDL-Whittaker
Interested in learning how to make the sweetest bouquets, fanciest centerpieces, or how to do something else with flowers? Join other flower fanatics as we explore interesting ways to make flower arrangements using fresh cut flowers, along with other natural materials.

**SUNSET SHARING**
6pm–8pm | YDL-Michigan
Celebrate World Listening Day with us! Learn more about interviewing family members so you can start building your own family history. Local archivists, historians, and librarians share ways to gather these stories, keep them safe, and share them with others. You may even be interviewed yourself for the library’s oral history project.
INTRODUCE SENIORS TO MEDITATION BASICS

Lifestyle Coach, Plant-Based Culinary Instructor, 6:30pm | YDL-Whittaker

Learn to create and deliver a presentation on simple graphic and multimedia. Also learn to share and collaborate on a presentation. A Google (or Gmail) account is required.

Internet Basics: How to Search the Web

YDL-Whittaker

Learn how to send and retrieve messages, add attachments, create and manage labels and filters, add contacts, and manage your email. Participants may sign up for a Gmail account at the end of class. Basic PC, keyboard, and mouse skills required.

VEGETABLE SUCCESSION PLANTING: PLANTING INTO FALL

YDL-Whittaker

Learn to enter and edit data, format cells, use the fill handle, and create simple formulas. Basic PC, keyboard, and mouse skills required.

How to Host a Zoom Meeting (Adult)

YDL-Whittaker

Learn to create and format tips and tricks, insert images, create hyperlinks, and insert tables. Basic PC, keyboard, and mouse skills required.

INTERNET BASICS - HOW TO

YDL-Whittaker

Learn how to send and retrieve messages, add attachments, create and manage labels and filters, add contacts, and manage your email. Participants may sign up for a Gmail account at the end of class. Basic PC, keyboard, and mouse skills required.

VEGETABLE SUCCESSION PLANTING: PLANTING INTO FALL

YDL-Whittaker

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.

CHARACTER ACTOR WORKSHOP

YDL-Superior

Learn to create and format tips and tricks, insert images, create hyperlinks, and insert tables. Basic PC, keyboard, and mouse skills required.
IMPORTANT SCHOOL DATES:

- **May 25:** YCHS Graduation (EMU Convocation Center)
- **June 2:** High School Commencement (LCS)
- **June 9:** ½ day (Both)
- **June 12:** Last Day of School (YCS), ½ day Grades 6-11, ½ day (LCS)
- **June 13:** Last Day of School (LCS), ½ day

Summer break lets children unwind and enjoy time away from the structured routine of school. However, research has shown that students who do not read during the summer months can experience a significant loss of reading skills, which can have a lasting impact. To combat this problem, Lincoln Consolidated Schools is joining many area schools and libraries to offer summer programs designed to engage students in reading and prevent the summer slide.

Lincoln Elementary PTOs are once again hosting Pre-K–5 Summer Reading in the Park. Children can enjoy snacks while YDL librarians and other teachers will be on hand to help facilitate reading activities and crafts, with special visitors planned throughout the summer. A schedule of events is available on the district website at [www.lincoln1k12.org](http://www.lincoln1k12.org).

YCS is looking for school bus drivers and monitors, as well as bilingual teachers and paraprofessionals for the upcoming school year.

To apply for the position of bilingual paraprofessional, applicants must have a high school diploma or equivalent and be a bilingual Spanish speaker. Applicants must have effective language, technical, mathematical, and interpersonal skills.

TO APPLY AS A SCHOOL BUS MONITOR OR DRIVER, APPLICANTS MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

- Have a class B CDL with Passenger & SB endorsements
- Be 21 years of age or older
- Able to pass a background check
- Able to pass DOT/MDOT drug screen
- Drivers and monitors will enjoy flexible hours and competitive pay. No experience is required to apply, and training is provided.

JAZZ IN THE PARKING LOT
Saturday, July 22 at 7pm at Shadford Field
Attend the vendor fair and hear saxophonist Shelby Brown perform.

YCS BACK-TO-SCHOOL BASH
Saturday, August 19 from 12pm–3pm at Prosper Park
Find a food truck, community vendors, face painting, live music, and more!

Stay in touch with YCS over the summer by attending these great events

Michigan Activity Pass

Is the nicer weather making you want to get outside more? Your library card can help! The Michigan Activity Pass (MAP) provides discounted or free admission to parks and outdoor events all over Michigan.

Visit any of the 13 metroparks in Southeast Michigan for FREE by reserving a park pass through MAP. Play disc golf, go for a walk, go canoeing, and more. You can even rent a boat and spend a day at the beach at some of the locations.

Or spend time at a state park, such as Maybury State Park, where you can fish, bike, hike, play on the playground, and more.

If you want to step out of the Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti area, you can visit the Outdoor Adventure Center, Belle Isle, or LegoLand, to name a few.

Access your Michigan Activity Pass at [ypsilibrary.org/michigan-activity-pass](http://ypsilibrary.org/michigan-activity-pass). Input your zip code, preferred distance, home library, and the types of activities you’d like to participate in. Then, you’ll find more than 450 destinations to visit. Whether you like parks, museums, theaters, or festivals, you’ll find something in MAP.

Games, Gardening Tools, and more!

Have fun in the sun using gardening tools and outdoor games from YDL’s Library of Things collection! You can bring home bocce ball, cornhole, jumbo-size board games, or a pickleball set. If you’re hoping to get gardening, check out a pruner, a five-piece garden hand tool set, a meter that detects soil moisture and PH, and more. Want to birdwatch? Check out a pair of binoculars.

To learn more and apply, visit [ycschools.us/employment](http://ycschools.us/employment).
5 WAYS TO CELEBRATE THE YPSILANTI BICENTENNIAL

Repurposed with permission from an Ypsi Real article

Congratulations Ypsilanti on 200 years since incorporation in 1823!

1. **Major Events**
   - July 4: Ypsilanti Sesquicentennial Time Capsule Opening
   - July 16: Book Release Party: Ypsilanti Histories: A Look Back at the Last Fifty Years
   - August 19: Official 2023 Bicentennial Celebration
   - Ongoing: YpsiWrites: Love Letters to Ypsilanti

   Each of these is part of YDL's Summer Challenge, and you can earn badges by attending. Visit Ypsi200.com for full event details.

2. **History-Inspired Dining**
   Restaurants in Ypsilanti honor its past in several ways.
   - Popular breakfast spot The Bomber is decorated with WWII-themed memorabilia paying tribute to the nearby Willow Run Bomber Plant. The diner is also known as the home of Rosie the Riveter.
   - Both Sidetrack and Aubree’s Pizzeria & Grill have served the community for decades in historic Depot Town, a popular train stop between Detroit and Chicago until the mid-1980s.
   - C. King & Co. Café downtown is named after a family business that dates to 1837. This themed architectural gem serves classic American cuisine with a nod to Ypsilanti’s heritage.

3. **Visit Historic Sites & Landmarks**
   Ypsilanti’s historic district is one of the oldest and largest in Michigan, featuring architectural landmarks like the colorful Depot Town buildings and the iconic Water Tower. Thompson Block once served as a war barracks during the Civil War, and Eastern Michigan University celebrates 174 years in 2023. Several buildings date back to the 1800s, including the Ladies Library (what has now grown into the Ypsilanti District Library), First Presbyterian Church, Gilbert Mansion, Brown Chapel AME Church, and Towner House.

4. **Explore Museums & Attractions**
   - The Ypsilanti Automotive Heritage Museum, once a barrel-making shop, steel press, then dealership, now showcases Hudsons, Corvairs, and Kaiser-Frazers, preserving an important era in American history.
   - Formerly the Willow Run Bomber Plant built by Ford Motor Company, the Yankee Air Museum showcases preserved WWII aircraft and artifacts. Learn more at yankeeairmuseum.org.
   - Explore over 26,000 square feet at the Michigan Firehouse Museum.

5. **Experience Historic Tours**
   Gain new perspectives on the city’s rich history with guided monthly events. All ages and abilities are welcome. Tours are led by Stefan Szumko, an enthusiast of nature and history.
   - Monthly Riverside Rambles: Explore Ypsilanti’s past outdoors along the Huron River. Meet at the pavilion at Waterworks Park at 10:00 AM every second Monday of the month.
   - History Walking Tours: Take a new monthly guided tour exploring Ypsilanti historic neighborhoods, business districts, and more areas of Ypsilanti.

Find details about the guided tours at Ypsi200.com.
YDL RECEIVES $30,000 FROM TOYOTA TO BOOST STEM LEARNING

Get ready for more STEM at the Ypsilanti District Library! A $30,000 grant from Toyota will fund Project STEM@YDL which will bring more kits, activities, and talks from experts in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and math. The grant, which will cover a year of programming and tools, is designed to make STEM learning accessible to everyone, and will help enhance YDL’s STEM programming across all three branches.

“The library is thrilled to partner with Toyota to augment our STEM offerings,” said YDL’s Director, Lisa Hoenig. “Through this grant we’ll acquire equipment we otherwise couldn’t afford, and our talented and creative staff will make the most of it!”

The programming is especially targeted to reach K–12 students in the YDL service area (Ypsilanti Community Schools, Lincoln Consolidated Schools, and WISD). Over the year, the grant will fund:

• Nearly 40 programs (happening multiple times a week throughout the summer) with hands-on family STEM activities, covering topics like chemical reactions, robotics, sustainability, and more.
• After-school programs throughout the school year.
• Four new STEM kits for each location, to be in circulation by March 2024.
• Several large STEM programs per month, presented by community experts.

“We’re already known for our outstanding youth activities, and many more unique learning experiences are now on the way,” Hoenig said.

You can look for the new Toyota STEM logo that will mark STEM grant-funded programming throughout the year, and keep an eye on YDL’s website and social media for more information as programs and tools are finalized. You’ll see exciting STEM programming during the Summer Challenge Kickoff June 10 at the Superior branch. Michigan Science Center will be there with 10 different STEM stations to try.

“Building strong collaborations with local organizations focused on STEM education is a key part of our commitment to preparing the careers of tomorrow,” said Jeff Makarewicz, Group Vice President of Technical Resources at Toyota Motor North America - Research and Development. “The Ypsilanti District Library can help us inspire and empower young minds to become the future leaders of innovation and progress.”

MICHIGAN NOTABLE AUTHORS VISIT

This year, the Michigan Avenue branch is a stop on the 2023 Michigan Notable Books tour!

On June 5 Ghassan Zeineddine and Sally Howell, two of the editors for Hadha Baladuna: Arab American Narratives of Boundary and Belonging, will join us to read and discuss their work.

“Hadha Baladuna is a very unique and important book that shines light on our Arab American community in Michigan,” said Michigan Avenue branch Librarian Aaron Smith. “It is an honor for the Michigan Avenue branch to collaborate with organizations like The Library of Michigan, The Library of Michigan Foundation, Michigan Humanities, and the Michigan Center for the Book to bring the 2023 Michigan Notable Books Author Tour here to Ypsilantı.”

As described on the publisher’s website: “Hadha Baladuna (‘this is our country’) is the first work of creative nonfiction in the field of Arab American literature that focuses entirely on the Arab diaspora in Metro Detroit, an area with the highest concentration of Arab Americans in the US.

Editors Ghassan Zeineddine, Nabeet Abraham, and Sally Howell have assembled a cast of emerging and established writers from a wide array of communities, including cultural heritages originating from Lebanon, Palestine, Iraq, and Yemen.”

The Michigan Notable Books Tour is facilitated by the Library of Michigan. Each year, up to 20 titles are selected that are written by Michigan authors or that honor Michigan or the Great Lakes.

LEARNING NEVER GETS OLD

YDL has many resources that allow older adults to more easily navigate the library.
Did you know there’s a wheelchair for use at Whittaker and Michigan Avenue?
Browse our large print collection, use our low vision tools, check out a Tools for Living kit, and more. You can also attend one of our dozens of 55+ events this summer. Attend favorites such as Friday Walking Club, or LNGO Crafternoons. Or, try one of our new events, including Chair Yoga and Healthy Aging for your Brain and Body. YDL is also expanding its dementia-friendly events. Stop by for Building a Community Through Dance, a monthly dance class where participants learn new forms of dance in a dementia-friendly environment. To find these resources and events, visit ypsilibrary.org/interests/seniors-caregivers.

Event Details

WHEN: June 5, 6–8pm
WHERE: YDL-Michigan (229 W. Michigan Ave.)

This event will also be streamed on the library’s Facebook page and archived on the library’s YouTube channel.
This event is made possible with support from The Library of Michigan, The Library of Michigan Foundation, Michigan Humanities, and the Michigan Center for the Book.
MICHIGAN AVENUE ROAD CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

Improvements continue on the water and wastewater utilities within the M-17 and US-12 corridors in Ypsilanti

The final phase of YCUA’s project, which spans W. Michigan Avenue from Ballard Street to N. Huron Street, started in early May. Most properties along the south side of Michigan Avenue between Huron Street and Washington Street, including the Michigan Avenue branch, will have their water services relocated to an existing water main in the parking lot south of the buildings.

Properties along the north side of Michigan Avenue between Washington Street and Adams Street will have their water services connected to an improved water main in the alley and parking lot north of the buildings. Properties along the south side of Michigan Avenue between Washington Street and Adams Street will be reconnected to a new water main installed under the eastbound lanes of Michigan Avenue. The revised scope of work will lessen disruption to traffic flow along Michigan Avenue.

Access to the Michigan Avenue branch and other buildings will be maintained during the project. Although every effort will be made to minimize disruptions caused by the water and wastewater system improvements, the construction work will invariably result in some inconveniences.

The Michigan Department of Transportation will be following up YCUA’s infrastructure work with road repairs and resurfacing. The work is expected to be completed by September 2023.

Want to stay up to date about service interruptions during this project? Sign up by visiting www.washtenaw.org/alerts.

Questions regarding this project can be directed to YCUA at (734) 484-4600 or custserv@ycua.org.
DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO USES WRITING TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE COMMUNITY?

YpsiWrites is seeking nominations for the 2023 Writers of Ypsilanti. Writers of Ypsilanti are writers of all ages and genres with connections to our community whose works demonstrate why writing matters. They can be published or unpublished; what matters is their passion for writing.

In particular, YpsiWrites is looking for writers who embody the theme of “Writt[ing] for Change,” whether that change is personal, local, national, or global.

Honorees benefit from increased exposure for their writing as well as opportunities to collaborate with YpsiWrites and its engaged community of writers. Similar to previous years, YpsiWrites will select up to 10 writers to showcase and honor for the upcoming year.

Nominations will be open until June 30th. Submit yours at forms.gle/8hVbkACyD7t1UQY88.

FRIENDS OF YDL NEWS

With the addition of a Friends book cart at the Superior branch, you can browse and buy books from the Friends at any YDL location! The main book shop is located in the Whittaker branch, but at Michigan Avenue and Superior, you can find book carts with a cash box where you can browse books and purchase them to take home.

Whittaker Book Shop Hours:

- Monday ............... 2pm–8:00pm
- Tuesday ............... 6pm–8:00pm
- Wednesday .......... 10am–2:00pm
- Thursday ............ 10am–4:00pm
- Friday .................. 10am–2:00pm
- Saturday .............. 11am–5:00pm
- Sunday ................. 2pm–4:00pm

CATCH A FREE RIDE THIS SUMMER!

Whether you’re running your weekend errands, going out to eat, or planning a fun day out with the family, take a trip on the bus to earn points you can spend on the Summer Challenge prize of your choice! Enjoy free rides on TheRide every Saturday and Sunday throughout the summer with your valid Ypsilanti District Library card. Free weekend rides are available June 10–August 27. Just show your YDL card to the driver. You can also ride free with a valid Ann Arbor District Library card.

Need help navigating your trip? Each bus stop has a Text My Bus sign with easy to follow directions on how to text your bus to find out when it will arrive at your bus stop. Visit TheRide.org for rider tools that make it easy to plan your trip.

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

1900 Harris Road
Ypsilanti, MI 48198

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

YDL-BOOKMOBILE

Ypsilanti, MI 48197

HOURS
Mon–Thurs: 4–8pm

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