Colorful Dream is a family-friendly exhibition by contemporary fine art photographer Adrien Broom. Designed to evoke and capture a sense of childhood fantasy, Broom’s work is deeply rooted in fairy tales and mythology, and takes the viewer on a journey through the entire spectrum of the rainbow.

The exhibit will run at YDL-Whittaker from September 1 through October 20. During that time many family-friendly events will be held, including a screening of La La Land, a Mad Hatter Tea Party, a Tiny Art Show, and more! There will also be ongoing activities you can do anytime you stop by the library, as well as activities you can do at home (see pages 2–3).

About the Artist
Over three years in her studio, Broom constructed eight individual sets composed of objects evoking the essence of each respective color. She then photographed a young girl exploring and traveling through each world, passing through small portals that lead her on a journey through a red world, then orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, and lastly a rainbow world encompassing all the colors. Encountering creatures, characters, and vivid landscapes, Broom’s protagonist finds worlds lush, joyful, and sometimes startling.

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The evening of July 1, downtown Ypsilanti experienced a torrential rain storm. It left streets flooded and damaged numerous businesses. YDL’s Michigan Avenue branch suffered a catastrophic flood as the historic building’s roof drains were overrun with water. Although we lost fewer than 100 books, extensive demolition has been required to dry the internal structures of walls, floors, and ceilings. Buried layers of lead paint meant the remediation had to be conducted with great care. As of this writing we still await the all-clear that the building is safe and completely dry.

The temporary closure of YDL-Michigan is heartbreaking. Everyone recognizes the branch as a vital resource and downtown hub. I will post regular progress reports as more is known. Please visit ypsilibrary.org/michigan-avenue-branch-closure for photos and updates. Thank you for your concern, your patience, and your dedication to YDL. We are determined to restore service as soon as possible, and build back better than before.

– Lisa Hoenig, Director

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EXPLORE “A COLORFUL DREAM”

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Ypsilanti District Library
5577 Whittaker Road
Ypsilanti, MI, 48197
Non-profit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Permit No. 658
Ypsilanti, Michigan
EORW1880D
RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

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FALL 2023
WWW.YPSILIBRARY.ORG
5577 Whittaker Road
Ypsilanti, MI, 48197
Non-profit Org.
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Creative Writing Makes Creative Kids 9
To celebrate the exhibit, check out these big events, ongoing activities, and things you can do from home!

**RAFFLE**
Guess the number of colored gumballs and win the whole jar, plus a free copy of The Secret Lives of Colour.

**ANY-TIME ACTIVITIES AT YDL**
September 1–October 20
See below.

**LA LA LAND SCREENING ON THE LIBRARY LAWN**
September 8 | 8pm
See below.

**SENSORY STATIONS**
September 15 & 16 | 11am
Let the exhibit inspire your little ones to make colorful art with a variety of media.

**EXPLORE THE FAIRY TALE WORLD, THEN MAKE YOUR OWN!**
October 7 & 14 | 2pm
The Doodles Academy team will help you brainstorm settings, characters, and magical elements that could come from a fairy tale. See page 6 for details.

**FAIRY WINGS & CROWNS**
September 23 | 2pm
Decorate fairy wings and crowns, then wear them (along with other props and costumes we’ll have on hand) for digital photo ops in enchanted lands.

**ENJOY FROM HOME**
You can experience the joy of this exhibit from home using your Kanopy and Hoopla accounts. On Kanopy, watch Cracking the Colour Code, a three-part series examining the science behind color. On Hoopla, listen to our custom playlist and revisit classic favorites, such as Purple Rain, Yellow Submarine, Red Red Wine, and more!

**FEATURED ACTIVITIES**

**LA LA LAND SCREENING ON THE LIBRARY LAWN**
September 8 | 8pm
Bring a blanket and join us on the lawn for a huge outdoor screening of the award-winning film La La Land, starring Ryan Gosling and Emma Stone. Winner of six Academy Awards and seven Golden Globes, this music-filled masterpiece follows the story of an aspiring actress and a musician determined to follow their dreams. With cinematography reminiscent of “a dreamscape grounded in an old Hollywood Technicolor fantasy,” La La Land is a vibrant celebration of hope, dreams, and love. Rated PG-13. Popcorn and Sno-cones available while supplies last.

**MAD HATTER TEA PARTY (Ages 4+)**
September 24 | 2pm
Join your mad friends for an Alice-in-Wonderland-themed tea party outside! Decorate your Mad Hatter hat and then enjoy “tea” and cookies served by your Wonderland librarians.

**YOUTH ACTIVITIES**
Put on wings and have a woodland tea party on mushroom stools, play with our new fairy dollhouse, build your own woodland scene with Duplos, and tell a story with fantasy-themed puppets. Or, you can play I Spy through the Colorful Dream exhibit and then claim a sticker at the Youth Desk.

**EXPLORE “A COLORFUL DREAM” - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**
YDL EMAILS TAILORED TO YOU!

Get information about the specific library events and resources that you want to hear about.

Along with a monthly email featuring our upcoming notable events, we’ll be sending more regular emails with library events, news, and resources related to specific interests. Want to hear more about YDL crafting activities or resources for seniors? What about gardening or teen programs? Visit ypsilibrary.org to change your preferences and select all the categories that appeal to you.

YPSILANTI DISTRICT LIBRARY | THE LOOP

Fall 2023

NATIONAL LIBRARY CARD SIGN-UP MONTH

September is Library Card Sign-up Month. Discover the resources available to everyone with a YDL card at ypsilibrary.org!

BEYOND THE BOOKS

Use your library card to access more than just books and movies:

- Michigan Activity Pass: Whether you’re looking for an educational experience or a brain break, find a fun activity and get free or discounted activities using MAP.
- Research Resources: Access powerful databases with your library card. For kids, ABCmouse and Britannica School are great tools. Teens and adults, use Academic Search Complete, Learning Library Express, Masterfile Complete, and Opposing Viewpoints in Context for your academic research needs. Find more research resources at ypsilibrary.org/research.
- The Library of Things Collection: Need a sewing machine, game, or gardening tool? Check one out from our LOT at ypsilibrary.org/lot.

UNLEASH YOUR INNER PHOTOGRAPHER WITH YOUR SMARTPHONE

October 15 | 2pm
This workshop by Jeffrey Smith will teach anyone—regardless of age, experience, or tech skills—how to capture stunning photos using only their everyday smartphone camera.

ALICE IN WONDERLAND BOOK DISCUSSION

October 1 | 2pm
Originally published in 1865, this beloved Victorian classic has captured the hearts and imaginations of readers of all ages for generations. In this enchanting book, the curious and adventurous Alice falls down a rabbit hole and discovers a whimsical and surreal world filled with talking animals, bizarre creatures, and fantastical landscapes.

With its clever wordplay, vivid imagery, and playful storytelling, Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland remains a timeless classic that continues to inspire and delight readers of all ages. All attendees will receive a free copy of Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland.

TINY ART SHOW (Ages 12+)
September 21 | 7pm
Register for supplies at the Whittaker Road branch starting Aug 31 to make your own work, or join us Sep 21 to work with a group to create your masterpiece. Return your creation by Sep 28 to include in our Tiny Art Show in the Whittaker Adult area from Sep 30 – Oct 15.

THE STRANGE AND WONDERFUL WORLD OF DREAMS
October 4 | 7pm
Join Dr. Alan Eiser from Michigan Medicine as he delves into the research and explores how and why humans dream, the meaning of dreams, and how they affect creativity and inspiration.

FANCIFUL CAKES
October 7 | 4pm
Teens, use your imagination to make and decorate colorful, fanciful mini layered cakes.

Gardening & Sustainable Living (Quarterly):
Sign up for our Seed Library email, which features gardening tips and book selections.

If you have questions or feedback, please contact Community Relations Coordinator Sam Killian at 734-879-1303 or skillian@ypsilibrary.org.

Select from any (or many!) of the following categories:

- Kids & Parents (Weekly)
- Teens (Monthly)
- Seniors (Monthly)
- Creatives & Crafters (Monthly): For anyone who loves art, books, movies or crafting.
- Community (Monthly): Use this email to stay up-to-date about civic engagement, community assistance, and business and entrepreneurship.

libraries are an essential element of our daily lives! Did you know there are over 123,000 libraries in the U.S.? Over 9,000 of those are public libraries.
A COLORFUL DREAM: PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT BY DORIEN BROOM
YDL-Whittaker
A Colorful Dream is a family-friendly exhibition by contemporary photographer Dorién Broome. Designed to evoke and capture a sense of childhood fantasy, Broome's work is deeply rooted in fairy tales and mythology, taking the viewer on a journey through the entire spectrum of the rainbow. See page 3 for more details.

CSSW ELDER ABUSE TRAINING - COMMUNITY WORKSHOP
2pm | YDL-Whittaker
This training discusses the different types of abuse, signs to look out for, and actionable steps we can all take to prevent elder abuse in our community.

HOUSEPLANTS, HERBS, AND CUTTINGS: BRINGING THEM INDOORS
2pm-4pm | YDL-Whittaker
Learn basic financial concepts and how to assess the person's needs, and how to develop financial plans for the future. Presented in partnership with the Ann Arbor Area SCORE office. Join these virtual classes on Zoom to help establish and improve your business skills and services. Register online or call 482-4110 x 2411.

THE ROAD TO BLACK POWER
YDL-Whittaker
A hybrid event; we will view a traveling photography exhibit. Presented in support of A Colorful Dream. Jeffrey Smith provides hands-on lessons on how to capture stunning photos using only your smartphone camera. University of Michigan photographer and video producer Jeffrey Smith provides hands-on lessons in photography basics and simple tips for camera settings. Bring your (fully charged) phone. Presented in support of A Colorful Dream traveling photography exhibit.

EXPLORING POETIC DEVICES
YPSIWRITES FALL “CAMPFIRE” 3: WORKSHOPPING AND REVISING
11am–12:30pm | Virtual
In this final “campfire,” explore devices and forms to think about radical revision (significant changes in form) and basic editing (to strengthen poetic images or lines).

EDMUND FITZGERALD: THE SONG - GORDON LIGHTFOOT TRIBUTE
YDL-Whittaker
Gordon Lightfoot, a Canadian folk singer and songwriter, is known for his classic songs about Ontario, the Great Lakes, and the ironies of a doomed ship and her families, and the ironies of a doomed ship. Presented in support of the Edmund Fitzgerald Society. Gordon Lightfoot celebrates the music of the Edmund Fitzgerald. The story of this massive freighter is one of the most famous maritime legends of all time. Lightfoot's songs have become a soundtrack for the story, and his music has inspired a generation of younger artists. Gordon Lightfoot is a Canadian folk singer and songwriter, best known for his classic songs about Ontario, the Great Lakes, and the ironies of a doomed ship and her families. His music has become a soundtrack for the story of the Edmund Fitzgerald, a massive freighter that sank on Lake Superior in 1975. Lightfoot's songs have inspired a generation of younger artists. His music is a tribute to the spirit of exploration and perseverance that defined the era of Great Lakes shipping. Gordon Lightfoot is a Canadian folk singer and songwriter, best known for his classic songs about Ontario, the Great Lakes, and the ironies of a doomed ship and her families. His music has become a soundtrack for the story of the Edmund Fitzgerald, a massive freighter that sank on Lake Superior in 1975. Lightfoot's songs have inspired a generation of younger artists. His music is a tribute to the spirit of exploration and perseverance that defined the era of Great Lakes shipping. Gordon Lightfoot is a Canadian folk singer and songwriter, best known for his classic songs about Ontario, the Great Lakes, and the ironies of a doomed ship and her families. His music has become a soundtrack for the story of the Edmund Fitzgerald, a massive freighter that sank on Lake Superior in 1975. Lightfoot's songs have inspired a generation of younger artists. His music is a tribute to the spirit of exploration and perseverance that defined the era of Great Lakes shipping.

Signs of Alzheimer’s and What to Do If You Notice Them
YDL-Whittaker
Alzheimer’s and other dementias cause memory, thinking, and behavior changes that interfere with daily living. Learn about common warning signs of Alzheimer’s and what symptoms to look for in yourself and others.

SMALL BUSINESS SAVVY: SOMETHING SIMPLE STEPS TO FLOOR MANAGEMENT CONTRACTS
6:30pm-8pm | Virtual
Learn about the fundamental steps and techniques you can use to successfully obtain federal contracts. For those who want to start or own a small business. Presented in partnership with the Ann Arbor Area SCORE office. Join these virtual classes on Zoom to help establish and improve your business skills and services. Register online or call 482-4110 x 2411.

LIVING WITH ALZHEIMER’S: FOR CAREGIVERS - EARLY STAGE
11am | YDL-Whittaker
In an early stage of Alzheimer’s disease, families face new questions as they adjust. This four-week program created for caregivers provides practical answers to the questions that arise in the early stage.

YPSIWRITES FALL “CAMPFIRE” 3: WORKSHOPPING AND REVISING
11am–12:30pm | Virtual
In this final “campfire,” explore devices and forms to think about radical revision (significant changes in form) and basic editing (to strengthen poetic images or lines).
ADULT MEETUPS

GARDEN DEMO/HOW TO MAKE IT: CREATING A THANKSGIVING FLORAL CENTERPIECE 2pm | YDL-Superior
See how Advanced Master Gardener Carol Borden creates a festive centerpiece of flowers and some green leaves purchased from a grocery store.

SUNDAY, NOV 13 2023 3pm–5pm | YDL-Superior
Thanksgiving Gratitude Tree 2pm–4pm | YDL-Superior
Learn about how to make a Thanksgiving display with torn leaves so that on Thanksgiving, your family and loved ones can stop by to see all the people, places, and things that they’re grateful for. Register at ypsilibrary.org/events. Contact Robert at 734-482-4110 x 1306.

WEDNESDAY, NOV 29 10:30am–12pm | YDL-Superior
PAUL KELLER ENSEMBLE HOLIDAY JAZZ CONCERT 2pm | YDL-Superior
The Paul Keller Ensemble is back! Celebrate the holiday season with good cheer and swinging jazz.

WEDNESDAY, NOV 29 1pm–2pm | YDL-Superior
BASIC LITERACY COMMUNITY TUTORING 3pm–5pm | YDL-Superior
Washtenaw Literacy is offering free drop-in tutoring for: mindful writing, support with reading, writing, computer skills, work skills, and GED prep.

THURSDAY, NOV 30 10am–11:30am | YDL-Superior
CHAIR YOGA
For all levels. This class is done seated in the chair and standing alongside the chair. We will use slow, mindful movements to support brain health, muscle strength, balance, and flexibility.

FRIDAYS, NOV 10 10am–11:30am | YDL-Superior
LEGO FITNESS WITH GERALDINE POWELL
Join fitness instructor Jerry Powell each week for a mid-day workout. Designed for ages 55+, but open to all adults who would enjoy a gentle workout. Register online at ypsilibrary.org/events.

FRIDAYS, DEC 8 10am–11:30am | YDL-Superior
BASICS BODY RAVEN
An introduction to Tai Chi

FRIDAYS, DEC 15 10am–11:30am | YDL-Superior
GUARDIAN'S YOGA
A class for adults and kids ages 8 & up.

SATURDAY, DEC 17 10am–12pm | YDL-Superior
INTERGENERATIONAL ART SERIES: LIGHT UP 3D SHADOW BOXES
Join us for an intergenerational program, we welcome all participants ages 8 & up to share this learning experience together.

INTERGENERATIONAL ART SERIES: EMBROIDERY FOR EVERYONE
2pm–4pm | YDL-Superior
Learn embroidery with basic stitch instruction and foundation. As an intergenerational program, we welcome all participants ages 10 & up to share this learning experience together.

SATURDAY, DEC 17 1pm–2:30pm | YDL-Superior
FANCIFUL CAKES
Make your favorite fairy tale come to life with a work of art.

MONDAY, DEC 19 5:30pm–7pm | YDL-Superior
INTERGENERATIONAL ART SERIES: GARDENING WITH GROWING HOPE MARKETPLACE
Using peppers, tomatoes, and other garden ingredients from the library’s community garden, participants will design a mini garden. Teens will learn how different hot sauces are made, create their own hot sauce blend, and taste their hot sauces judged in a fiery battle to the finish! Participants will walk over to the Growing Hope farm, teens and ongoing projects. As an intergenerational program, we welcome all participants ages 8 & up to share this learning experience together.
Event Schedule | September – November 2023 | Visit attend.ypsilibrary.org/events

UPSIDE DOWN PASTRIES
3:00pm–4:30pm | YDL-Whittaker
Learn to use puff pastry to make sweet and savory upside down pastries.

YPSILANTI ZINE CLUB: WORK ON YOUR ZINE SKILLS, ADD TO YDL’S ZINE COLLECTION
9pm–11pm | YDL-Whittaker
A space to work on zines together; share techniques and ideas, and make zine friends. Basic art materials will be provided. Find out how you can contribute your own zine to YDL’s growing zine collection for adults and teens.

CERING YOUR GROW
10:30am–12pm | YDL-Michigan Plaza
Get hands-on experience with different gardening techniques, time to practice a new skill, and take-home supplies. Registration is encouraged so that we can prepare enough materials.

GROW YOUR GARDEN
10:30am–12pm | YDL-Michigan Plaza
Get hands-on experience with different gardening techniques, time to practice a new skill, and take-home supplies. Registration is encouraged so that we can prepare enough materials.

SOAR INTO SCIENCE
12pm–1pm | YDL-Whittaker
In this presentation, you'll learn about the science behind flying kites and how different kite designs affect their flight. You’ll get to try building and flying your own kite, and you’ll learn how to build a kite that flies best in your own backyard.

FINDING YOUR INNER VOICE
TEEN GREAT STORIES BOOK
Tuesdays, Oct 3 & 17; Nov 7 & 21
Meet other fans to watch anime, chat, and try hands-on activities, including a chance to try out YDL’s winds tunnel. A Project STEM @ YDL series sponsored by Toyota.

ANIME CLU
Join a drop-in D&D game with fellow adventurers! Bring your own character, roll a new one, or be a total newbie to the RPG experience. All levels of players are welcome.

UPSIDE DOWN PASTRIES
Saturdays, Sep 30; Oct 28
Meet twice each month to help the library facilitate, library promotion, graphic design, activities might include event planning or work with our library collections. Volunteer help registering. Please contact K.C. Dixon for a one-shot adventure once a month! For experienced adventurers aged 14–18.

KIDS & PARENTS
TEEN MEETUPS

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**STORIES & FUN FOR LITTLE ONES**

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**KINDERCOUNTERT**
10 & 11am | YDL-Superior
No worries about wiggly tots sitting still for a concert—kids 5 and younger can dance and move to live music and stories with musicians from the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra.

**JAZZ STORYTIME**
11am–12pm | YDL-Whittaker
Blazo! with Wiffle jumps YDL Librarian Jodi for a jazz-themed storyline with movement, songs, and a book.

**RADICAL REPTILES WITH LESLIE SCHELLE**
11am–12pm | YDL-Whittaker
Through a story time tour, reptiles, and up-close investigations of shells, scales, and specimens pre-schoolers will discover what makes these often misunderstood animals unique.

**MOVEMENT STORYTIME**
11am–12pm | YDL-Whittaker
Don’t sit still! Join us for an active expression of story time with yoga and movement games.

**LITTLE ONES DANCE WITH CHRISTINA SEARS-ETTER**
11am–12pm | YDL-Whittaker
Dancers will engage in basic, fun motor activities, and creative play with props and pathways, as well as build strength, balance, and flexibility and spark problem-solving and imagination.

**TECH HELP**

**ONE-ON-ONE TECH HELP FOR SENIORS (55+)**
YDL-Whittaker and YDL-Superior
Call 734-482-4110 x384 or email brightget@ypsilibrary.org to schedule a one-hour class, person, or virtual session at Whittaker. To schedule a session at Superior, call 734-482-4110 x2431.

**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 document. A Google (or Gmail) account is required. Register online or call (734) 482-4110 x2441.

**GOOD USER BAD USER**
Virtual
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 x2441.

**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 x2441.

**MICROSOFT EXCEL - INTERMEDIATE**
YDL-Whittaker
Learn advanced techniques and formulas using Excel’s PivotTable feature. Participants should have basic PC, keyboard, and mouse skills and an understanding of creating formulas and how cells are referenced within Excel. Register online or call (734) 482-4110 x2441.

**MICROSOFT WORD - INTERMEDIATE**
YDL-Whittaker
Learn commands 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 x2441.

**MICROSOFT EXCEL - PivotTables (Adult)**
YDL-Whittaker
Learn to create and format table, image, charts, and number cells. Also, learn to share and create an Excel PivotTable feature. Participants should have basic PC, keyboard, and mouse skills. A Gmail account is required. Register online or call (734) 482-4110 x2441.

**INTERNET BASICS - HOW TO SEARCH THE WEB**
YDL-Whittaker
This class covers the browser toolbar and menu options, managing your favorite websites, using search tools and techniques, Basic PC, keyboard, and mouse skills required. Register online or call (734) 482-4110 x2441.
Lincoln and Ypsilanti Community Schools are collaborating with Toyota and Eastern Michigan University (EMU) to prepare youth for the careers of tomorrow.

As part of a $110 million initiative dedicated to Toyota’s Driving Possibilities, the Toyota USA Foundation is granting nearly $10 million over the next five years in southeast Michigan. Earlier this year, YDL received $30,000 as part of this initiative to offer more STEM programming and purchase more STEM equipment.

For the school districts, most of the Driving Possibilities funding will be directed to a community-focused STEM Institute with both Ypsilanti Community and Lincoln Consolidated districts for elementary, middle, and high school students and their families. The Institute will be led by EMU and governed by the partners. It will provide support services, curriculum, and activities to integrate STEM into the daily experiences of children and families.

“STEM education and programs like Driving Possibilities in Michigan are crucial for preparing our students for success in the rapidly evolving job market,” said Alena Zachary-Ross, Superintendent of Ypsilanti Community Schools. “By fostering skills in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, we are equipping our students with the tools to not only thrive but also drive innovation in their chosen fields.”

The proposed general programming to be offered by the STEM Institute includes both classroom curriculum and field trips, speakers, camps, and exploration of Career Technical Education for the next generation entering STEM careers.

Driving Possibilities is designed to be an equitable collaboration to increase STEM awareness, excitement, and interest in a promising career in a STEM-related field. It aims to simultaneously address current and emerging needs and community interests as the program grows and evolves.

To better understand the needs for these programs, Toyota USA Foundation is funding a transportation study with Community Transportation Association of America (CTAA). The study will help provide future mobility solutions, including for the communities near the Ypsilanti and Lincoln schools.

“With the generous support of Driving Possibilities and support from other local partners, our LCS community is not only fostering excellence in STEM education but also advancing our collective efforts as a community towards realizing the competencies outlined in our Portrait of a Graduate,” said Robert Jansen, of Lincoln Consolidated Schools. “Together with our amazing partners, we are building a strong foundation in STEM education, empowering every child in the Lincoln Consolidated Schools community to not only meet but surpass their full potential.”

To learn more about Toyota’s $110 million dollar commitment to Driving Possibilities, visit ToyotaEffect.com for the latest information.

NEW YCS START TIMES

Using information from a recent transportation survey, YCS has implemented staggered start times for its students. This will help ensure everyone has the transportation they need to get to school. See the graphic below for details.
Our profession—known for its welcoming and inclusive approach to helping people access information—has been targeted and disparaged, with librarians being called “pedophiles” and “groomers,” among other names. Librarians have long served as both the keepers of information and the protectors of our right to privately access that information. We select, organize, and make available information in its many formats, and, without bias, allow citizens to arrive at their own informed conclusions. In short, our libraries are the places where our residents can freely become informed. Love it or hate it, if you can’t access it, you don’t have an opportunity to form an opinion. Censorship thus happens when some people or groups succeed in imposing their personal, political, or moral values on others. Protecting the freedom to read is a core tenet of librarianship, and we are prepared to continue this fight every day. For as Pericles wrote in c. 425 BC, “Freedom is the sure possession of those alone who have the courage to defend it.” Your YDL librarians have that courage.

Want to know the most challenged books of 2022? Look no further:• Gender Queer: A Memoir by Maia Kobabe
• All Boys Aren’t Blue by George M. Johnson
• The Bluest Eye by Toni Morrison
• Flamer by Mike Curato
• (tie) Looking for Alaska by John Green
• (tie) The Perks of Being a Wallflower by Stephen Chbosky
• Lawn Boy by Jonathan Evison
• The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie
• Out of Darkness by Ashley Hope Perez
• (tie) A Court of Mist and Fury by Sarah J. Maas
• (tie) Crank by Ellen Hopkins
• (tie) Me and Earl and the Dying Girl by Jesse Andrews
• (tie) This Book Is Gay by Juno Dawson

CREATIVE WRITING MAKES CREATIVE KIDS

Olding kids into adaptable problem solvers can be as easy as giving them a writing prompt! YDL works with organizations like 826michigan to help kids access their creative sides, and the benefits could be far reaching.

“Writing is a process of discovery and engagement. It connects us to the world and to each other,” said 826michigan’s Amy Sumerton. “The confidence young writers develop enables them to reach their goals, encourages them to dream outrageously, and empowers them to build a better world.”

YDL and 826michigan will host an after-school writing lab this fall and continue to support the YpsiWriters’ Writer’s Room. These spaces allow children (and adults) to get feedback, freewrite, and make friends. In July, YDL and 826michigan even joined forces to host a Dungeons and Dragons-style game and writing extravaganza.

These opportunities are increasingly needed in the community. When 826 National surveyed hundreds of teachers in 2022, they graded the writing education system in their schools a D- and said that 70 percent of the writing they did with students was to convey or explain information; only 30 percent was creative.

A recent Gallup poll found that creativity can benefit students in many ways, including promoting adaptability and problem-solving, building confidence, and creating lifelong learners. The poll found that 87 percent of teachers and 77 percent of parents agree: teaching that incorporates creativity has the biggest impact.

“Equal access to quality writing education is the best way to give students the tools they need to understand themselves, authentically connect with one another, and access the power within themselves to build a better world,” Sumerton said. “826michigan’s after-school writing lab is a community-built writing space for students ages 8–16. Students meet regularly with 826michigan staff and volunteers to write and publish their own original stories and build their own toolkit of writing habits and strategies. At the end of their time, students’ work will be published in a book. The program runs Mondays at the Superior Branch beginning in October. Students should plan to attend weekly. Learn more at 826michigan.org/programs/after-school-writing-lab.

“My favorite part of writing is when I feel confident about writing stories and I finally finish and I feel good about it. I like that you can write whatever you want and get creative. For example, I could write a story about a dog that meets a dragon princess.

And the princess was raised by dragons. My advice to other writers is: Don’t try to add details other people do. Be yourself.”

—Moslee Vandeventer
8 years old, Ypsilanti International Elementary School (YIES)
GETTING ALZHEIMER’S HELP

Did you know?

YDL offers accessibility resources for older adults, people with mobility issues or vision impairments, and other unique needs. The library provides home delivery service, magnifier tools, an on-site wheelchair, an accessibility toolbar on our website, and other useful tools. Visit ypsilibrary.org/seniors-caregivers or ask us!

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YDL RECEIVES ALA GREAT STORIES CLUB GRANT

Grant will allow librarians to lead book clubs with underserved teens

YDL has been selected as one of 58 libraries nationwide to take part in the Great Stories Club, a program providing the opportunity for historically underserved youth to read, reflect, and share ideas on topics that resonate with them. This competitive grant is offered by the American Library Association (ALA) with support from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH).

“We are very excited to make this program available to Ypsilanti youth who are facing challenges,” said YDL Teen Librarian Kelly Scott, who managed the grant application.

As part of the Great Stories Club, staff from YDL will work with a small group of teens to read and discuss stories that explore questions of race, equity, identity, and history. Book discussions will be led by experienced YDL teen librarians in cooperation with staff from Ozone House. YDL has worked with Ozone House in the past on programs like PrideZone.

There are two themes for the book clubs. The books curated for the theme “Deeper than Pride” will include

THE POET X by Elizabeth Acevedo;
I AM ALFONSO JONES by Tony Medina;
AMERICAN STREET by Ibi Zoboi; and
ANGER IS A GIFT by Mark Oshiro.

The books curated for the theme “Deeper than Our Skins: The Present Is a Conversation with the Past” will include BETWEEN THE WORLD AND ME by Ta-Nehisi Coates; DREAMING IN INDIAN: CONTEMPORARY NATIVE AMERICAN VOICES, edited by Lisa Charlebo y and Mary Beth Leatherdale; MOTHER OF THE SEA by Zetta Elliott; and ALWAYS RUNNING: LA VIDA LOCA: GANG DAYS IN L.A. by Luis J. Rodriguez.

“The selected titles thoughtfully align with the themes of the Great Stories Book Club and will provide thought-provoking conversations that are extremely relevant to today’s teens,” Scott said, “Hopefully this will empower positive change and growth not only for the young adults involved, but for the community at large.”

The titles were selected to inspire young people—especially those facing difficult circumstances or challenges—to consider “big questions” about the world around them and their place in it.

YDL received two $500 programming stipends, one per theme, and 11 copies of each of the selected books, which will be gifted to the book club participants. YDL will also receive online training and an array of program resources and support throughout the grant term.

Gatherings of the Great Stories Club at YDL will begin October 3. More information, including how to register and participate, will be available at ypsilibrary.org or by contacting 734-482-4110 x 1329.

Since 2006, ALA’s Great Stories Club has helped libraries engage young adults with accessible, thought-provoking literature. To learn more about the Great Stories Club, please visit ala.org/greatstories.

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GETTING ALZHEIMER’S HELP

Fall programs dealing with these topics:

See pages 4 – 7 for more details

Nov. 1
10 SIGNS OF ALZHEIMER’S AND WHAT TO DO IF YOU NOTICE THEM
11am | YDL-Whittaker

Nov. 2, 9 & 16
LIVING WITH ALZHEIMER’S: FOR CAREGIVERS - EARLY STAGE
11am | YDL-Whittaker

In the early stage of Alzheimer’s disease, families face new questions as they adjust. This three-part program provides practical answers to the questions that arise in the early stage.

Nov. 8
UNDERSTANDING AND RESPONDING TO DEMENTIA-RELATED BEHAVIORS
11am | YDL-Whittaker

Learn about some of the common triggers for behaviors associated with dementia, how to assess the person’s needs, and how to intervene effectively.

D id you know that the FDA has fully approved the first drug shown to slow down Alzheimer’s disease? This means the drug, Leqembi, is now covered by Medicare, making it easier to get and much more affordable for seniors.

Because the drug slows down the progression of the disease rather than reversing it, it’s still important to recognize the signs of Alzheimer’s. The earlier a person is diagnosed, the better. That’s why the library is working in partnership with the Alzheimer’s Association to help make information about recognizing signs of Alzheimer’s and living with an Alzheimer’s or dementia diagnosis more easily accessible.

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CATCH UP WASHTENAW: DON’T WAIT, VACCINATE!

A message from the Health Department

According to the Washtenaw County Health Department, vaccination rates have fallen locally, leaving children and our community at risk for preventable diseases and outbreaks.

Statewide, the number of toddlers current on their vaccinations has fallen by about 5% in the last two years, which leaves roughly 52,000 children vulnerable to vaccine-preventable illnesses. In Washtenaw County, the percentage of toddlers current on their recommended vaccinations dropped about 4% from 2019–2022. Among adolescents in Washtenaw County, coverage is down 9%.

Preventing illness with vaccines is especially important for children and families with special health needs or conditions.

Working together, we can protect health and prevent unnecessary illness and outbreaks in Washtenaw County. Get vaccinated at your doctor’s office, pharmacy, or call the Health Department at 734-544-6700, visit www.washtenaw.org/health or email health@washtenaw.org.

Need a ride? Free transportation is available to anyone needing a ride to a vaccine appointment. Call 844-900-4892 and use the code “Vaccinate Washtenaw.”

Follow the Health Department on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, or NextDoor to stay up to date on health in Washtenaw (@wcpublichealth)! Sign up for email updates at http://bit.ly/WCHD555.

GET READY TO VOTE!

Keep your eye out for members of the The League of Women Voters Washtenaw County, who will visit YDL-Whittaker in September to provide voting information. Tuesday, Sept. 19th (National Voter Registration Day); and Saturday Sept. 23, LWV volunteers at the Whittaker branch will offer contact information for elected officials and voter registration.

They will also have information about the implementation of Proposal 2, which voters approved last November. Changes include 9 days of in-person voting before election day; permanent and automatic receipt of an absentee ballot, with postage paid in both directions; minimum required number of absentee ballot return boxes; and more.

If you’ve moved recently, haven’t voted in several years, or need to verify that your voter registration is up to date, visit vote411.org to find out.

More information about LWVWC is at my.lwv.org/michigan/washtenaw-county.

YPSI STORIES LATEST

Hear about the local fight for LGBTQ rights

Episode 20 of the Ypsi Stories podcast shares conversations with prominent LGBTQ activists. From 1997 through 2002, the LGBTQ community in Ypsilanti fought for their rights in the form of a Non-Discrimination Ordinance for the City. The result of this struggle was one of the first Non-Discrimination Ordinances in Michigan, with protections for LGBTQ Ypsilantians.

In 2019, Ypsilanti teenager Miriam Berman Stidd interviewed campaign veterans, and Normal Park neighbors, Lisa Bashert, Beth Bashert, and Lisa Zuber, for a podcast project in her communications class at Washtenaw International High School. Hear that episode in its entirety, as well as a new discussion with those activists about how things have changed.

The newest episode of Ypsi Stories is available wherever you get your podcasts, and at ypsilibrary.org/ypsistories.

EARN MONEY ON A YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Michigan Organization on Adolescent Sexual Health (MOASH) seeks youth ages 13–24 to join their youth advisory councils (YACs)! MOASH is a 501c3 non-partisan organization that provides services to educators, health professionals, parents, administrators, youth, and community organizations to advance sexual health, identities, and rights.

The YACs are groups of young people working together to advance adolescent sexual health in Michigan while building personal and professional knowledge and skills. YACs are youth-driven, with support from adult MOASH staff facilitators and youth co-facilitators. Youth are paid $20/hour for their involvement.

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**NEW AT YDL**

**YDL RECEIVES GUITAR DONATION FOR LIBRARY OF THINGS**

YDL-Superior received a 3/4 scale Yamaha guitar to include in the Library of Things, thanks to Ann Arbor Alumnae Chapter of Sigma Alpha Iota International Music Fraternity.

**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

Mark your calendars for September 15–16 to shop the Friends of YDL pop-up book sale in the Whittaker branch lobby! Find great deals on gently used books, DVDs, and music CDs. See what the Friends have in store for you!

On Saturday, November 18, the Friends will hold a special Holiday Sale from 11am–3pm. Stop by for great deals on gifts for those hard-to-shop-for loved ones on your holiday list.

**FRIENDS OF YDL BOOK SALES**

**NEW VEHICLE ON THE ROAD**

See if you can spot the Library’s new Ford Explorer on your next drive! Thanks to the generosity of Gene Butman Ford, it’s got YDL’s distinctive look. Library staff use the Explorer every day to run errands and deliver holds to our branches. It also serves as our new Books on Wheels vehicle. If you are unable to get to the library due to physical limitations, you may qualify for this FREE home delivery service. Learn more at ypsilibrary.org/home-delivery.

**YREWARD**

**YDL-BOOKMOBILE**

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<th><strong>YDL-WHITTAKER</strong></th>
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