

# KALEIDOSCOPE

Kent District Library | Information. Ideas. Excitement!

Summer 2021



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# Happy Summer!

There are two hobbies that are extremely popular among KDL staff members — reading and getting outside. This summer we are inviting you to share in our passions and sign up for Summer Wonder.

We are partnering with Kent County Parks to bring you some exciting new elements and activities to participate in over the summer. There will also be many of the tried-and-true elements that make KDL's Summer Wonder program so great — reading incentives, awesome programming, access to books and other library materials, fun reading goals for all ages... and it's all FREE! See pages 6-8 for more details on all the excitement.

This has been a tough year for many Kent County students. Summer Wonder is a fun way to help kids progress in their learning over the summer. Don't miss out on this opportunity to offset the summer slide that comes from being away from school.

Curi, our Summer Wonder mascot, is ready to lead you as we "get out and grow" this summer!

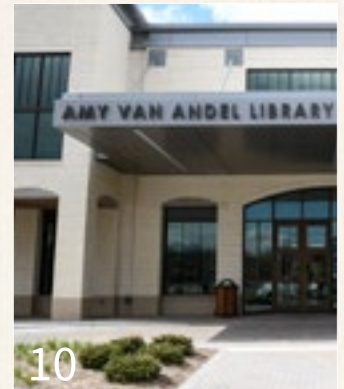


Sincerely,

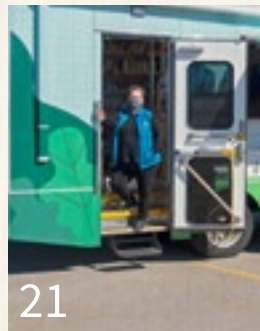
Lance Werner  
Executive Director



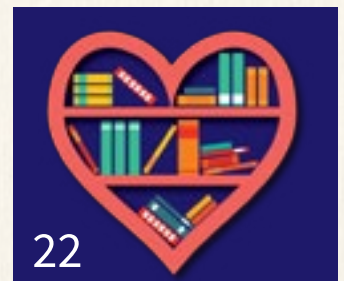
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# KDL updates



**The Grandville Branch is being renovated!** A large community space called the Grandville Commons has been added on the west side of the building and a drive-up book drop is being added on the north side. The original building is getting a refresh with new paint, flooring, study room additions, a fireplace and more. This project is expected to be completed in the fall.

## KDL CORE

**KDL is launching a new Core Collection this summer!** The Core Collection is a list of widely acclaimed perennial favorites that are easily identifiable by their spine label when browsing the collection. The KDL Core Collection consists of 100 adult titles (both fiction and non-fiction) representing well-reviewed and extremely popular books as chosen by KDL staff. Check out a Core Collection title today at any KDL branch!

More information: [kdl.org/core-collection](http://kdl.org/core-collection)



## Sora The student reading app

Sora, an OverDrive product for schools that allows students to connect to public library catalogs for ebook and audiobook materials, has been successfully implemented at Forest Hills Public Schools and Kraft Meadows Middle School in Caledonia. KDL hopes to partner with other schools who have the platform to help students easily gain access to reading materials with their student ID.

More information: [kdl.org/sora](http://kdl.org/sora)



# Mission: READ!

One massive goal. One day at a time.

Mission: Read helps instill strong reading habits and improve overall reading assessment scores. Families with beginning readers can sign up for Mission: Read at any KDL branch. For every 100 days of reading, each participant will get a planet sticker. The 500-day prize is a book and the 1,000-day prize is a digital tablet reader.

For kids in grades K-3 | [Missionread.org](https://Missionread.org)

# This is What It's All About...

"Juliette has always struggled with reading and was delayed in her phonemic awareness skills. After finally getting a diagnosis of dyslexia, I researched to get her the help that she needed. Motivating her to practice her reading was very difficult.

She started Mission: Read in January of 2019 and it has helped give her excitement to read. Now that she's getting even closer to her goal she doesn't even argue about reading and will occasionally pick up a book on her own to read. This thrills me! She went from not even knowing her letter sounds to now being able to read at a first grade level!

I'm so glad that she had the opportunity to do Mission: Read. I feel like it played an important part in providing the motivation Juliette needed to learn the important skill of reading and I couldn't be more grateful!"

Ruth | Cascade Twp. Branch patron



## A Young Reader on a Mission

"My son Nolan began participating in Mission: Read on day one. He had completed 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten (1KB4K) and was excited to get started on this program from the day it launched. He already loved books and reading, but this was something more. Mission: Read gave him a tangible, achievable goal. One thousand days seemed so far away in the beginning, but he was confident he would get there eventually!

One amazing thing I've noticed since Nolan began the program is his use of KDL's ebook and audiobook collection. He feels excited at the beginning of each month for the new comics he can download on hoopla. He goes to sleep each night listening to an audiobook he's borrowed on OverDrive. Sometimes I will go in to turn out the lights in his room and listen along. When I ask him in the morning, 'What were you listening to last night?' we have conversations about the funny books he finds in the catalog. He recently recommended a read-aloud for his class that he had listened to and thought others would enjoy. It makes me proud that he not only utilizes these resources, but is excited to share them with others.

Nolan's making huge strides and is almost finished with Mission: Read. However, I know his reading journey won't end when he completes the program in October. Books and reading are simply part of his daily life. I look forward to seeing his love of reading flourish as he grows, just as he looks forward to the Spider-Man comics he can borrow next month!"

Liz Wierenga | Branch Librarian, Amy Van Andel Library



# Read. Learn. Explore. Create.

2021 is all about nature and the world around us. This year KDL will take you on a **Summer Wonder** journey of reading, learning and exploring through the great outdoors right here in Kent County. Enjoy activities for the whole family, including outdoor scavenger hunts, park exploration and more.

Take the 30-day challenge of reading, writing and STEAM experiments. It's easy. It's fun. It's for all ages and you can participate from anywhere! Visit [kdl.org/summer](http://kdl.org/summer) to check out the challenge.

**Meet Curi!** She is excited to lead you through the exciting journey of Summer Wonder 2021. Through STEAM projects, reading and more, she will show us the path to an exciting summer.



## 30-Day Challenge for the whole family

**JUNE 1 – AUGUST 7, 2021**

Take the 30-Day Challenge! A self-guided program of reading, learning and discovery for all ages. Participate using this tracking log or online at [kdl.beanstack.org](http://kdl.beanstack.org). Be sure to pick up a Summer Wonder workbook at any KDL branch.



## Find Curi at our Kent County Parks

It's an outdoor scavenger hunt to find Curi! Five parks in the county have a special spot where a Curi sign is waiting for you. Find the signs and be entered to win some prizes. Find more information in the Summer Wonder booklet or at [kdl.org/findcuri](http://kdl.org/findcuri).





# Tracking Log

FOR ALL AGES



## 30-Day Challenge

JUNE 1 - AUGUST 7

KENT DISTRICT LIBRARY • INSIDE AND OUT

**Curi**

Summer Wonder Guide

Mark off a box (one per day) when you complete an age-based activity listed on the back. When you meet your 30-day challenge, stop in to your local branch starting July 1 and turn in your completed log to receive a special prize. All logs are due Saturday, August 7.

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6
Day 7	Day 8	Day 9	Day 10	Day 11	Day 12
Day 13	Day 14	Day 15	Day 16	Day 17	Day 18
Day 19	Day 20	Day 21	Day 22	Day 23	Day 24
Day 25	Day 26	Day 27	Day 28	Day 29	Day 30

**SUPER READERS**

If you complete your goal and would like to keep going, we will give you a **Super Reader log**, available starting July 1. After an additional 15 days of activities, you will qualify to be entered in a drawing for a **bonus \$250 Meijer gift card**. Super Reader logs are due Saturday, August 7. For all ages.

Completer information:

Name (first) \_\_\_\_\_ (last) \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Library branch \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

School (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Grade in the fall (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

### PRIZES

Everyone who completes the 30-Day Challenge will receive a prize. Birth through age 17 will get to pick out a free book and adults will receive a beach bag tote. All completers will be entered in a drawing for a gift basket and one of 16 \$250 Meijer gift cards. Limit one prize per person. **Details at [kdl.org/summer](http://kdl.org/summer).**

TEAR HERE



# Ways to complete your 30-Day Challenge

For a full list of suggestions, visit [kdl.org/summer](http://kdl.org/summer).

## Little Readers | Birth through age 4

As a parent, you are your child's first, best teacher. The Kent County Success Basics are five fun, easy and powerful ways to help your child grow. Do one activity per day for 30 days.

- **Read:** Point to words and pictures as you read.
- **Talk:** Go for a walk and point to objects you see, sing the ABCs.
- **Love:** Snuggle, rock and have quiet time.
- **Play:** Blow bubbles, roll a ball back and forth.
- **Count:** Count fingers and toes, look for shapes at the store.



Online participation powered by



## Youth | Ages 5-10

These are the ages when kids need access to books and reading the most. KDL wants to make sure that kids do not lose ground in the reading gains they've made over the school year. All of these activities will keep your child's brain active and count toward completing the 30-Day Challenge. Do one activity per day for 30 days.

- **Read** for at least 20 minutes. Choose from books, magazines, graphic novels, comics and more.
- **Write** a story, a letter, a journal entry or check out one of the writing prompts at [kdl.org/summer](http://kdl.org/summer).
- **Listen** to an audiobook or have a book read to you.
- **Do** one of the awesome & easy STEAM activities that can be found at [kdl.org/summer](http://kdl.org/summer).



## Teens and Adults | Ages 11 and up

KDL's Summer Wonder is for everyone — accept the challenge! Make these activities part of your summer routine. Do one activity per day for 30 days. For more activity ideas, visit [kdl.org/summer](http://kdl.org/summer).

- **Read** for at least 20 minutes. Choose from books, magazines, graphic novels, comics and more.
- **Write** a story, a letter, a journal entry or a poem.
- **Listen** to an audiobook or have a book read to you.
- **Do** or explore something new! Visit a new park, try a new recipe or explore a new hobby.



# Get Out & Grow!



**Sara Magnuson**  
Branch Outreach &  
Programming Specialist

Over the past year, both parents and children have spent more time on screens and sitting still than we probably want to admit. And maybe we're feeling pressured that the shutdowns and virtual schooling have left some of our kids far

behind typical grade-level benchmarks. Parents might even feel the need to continue to push screen time for learning-related activities as summer unfolds, to be sure kids stay on track with learning goals. There's no doubt those prepackaged learning modules give a sense of accomplishment and covering the necessary bases. It's also why STEAM camps, play groups and scripted activities are so popular in the summer — we're checking off learning and fun on our to-do list!

While we're still trying to maintain social distancing, how can we be sure of high-level learning opportunities without the screen time, camps or play groups? How can we know what will best keep young minds going and growing this summer?

KDL offers a variety of activities to engage and educate your children this summer. Check out our Summer Wonder Activity booklet for great STEAM ideas. But don't stop there! Think of the acronym fresh A.I.R. — Active, Imaginative, Relaxed. There is no doubt that summer sunshine and free play do wonders for the mental health and stress levels of both parents and children, but many people are unaware of how science supports play as learning.

## ACTIVE

Stay active! Early elementary students are still developing neurologically, and simple activities will help fine-tune their brains for reading and learning. Chasing bubbles, playing catch or kicking a ball all activate the spatial skills and eye development essential to being able to follow text on a page.

Playing hopscotch may seem like a simple activity, but alternating feet and repeating patterns stimulate a child to engage both hemispheres of the brain, which is essential in deciphering the meaning of text and connecting it to abstract concepts. The same thing happens when you do jumping jacks or dance moves that cross from left to right or vice versa.

Challenge your child to daily dance contests, spin around out in the sunshine and create games that encourage lots of body and eye movement. You are working the muscles and brain areas that help your child become a better learner!

## IMAGINATIVE

Use your imagination! Learning doesn't always have to feel like learning. Think of the science and math concepts involved in following a recipe and have your child help prepare a meal. Allow them to experiment with new ingredients or choose a food they've never tried before for a family meal. Have them create recipe cards to share with family members for the experiments they liked best.

Lie outside and look at the clouds. See who can find the most interesting shapes. Tying concrete thoughts to abstract images is a great way to encourage imagination, and explaining what they see allows kids to link new vocabulary to their ideas. The chance for engaging conversation with an adult is a great way for kids to explore new ideas, open up about worries or plan a new adventure.

*Continued on page 20*



## KDL Curiosity Lab on the Go [kdl.org/livestream](http://kdl.org/livestream)

**Wednesdays, June 9 & 23, July 7 & 21 and August 4 & 18, 2:00 PM**

Tag along with the KDL Lab Curiosity Crew as we highlight STEAM findings that can be discovered in your backyard, your neighborhood or your city! We will be virtually sharing some of the area's finest murals and exploring our natural settings.

FOR SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN.

# Goodbye 2020, Hello #20

Welcome to the Amy Van Andel Library



Opening our 20th location in 2020 would've been a little too perfect – and as we all found out, 2020 had other plans for us anyway. What better way to kick off 2021 than with the opening of a beautiful, brand-new library branch.





**C**omplete with our first-ever podcasting studio, state-of-the-art tutoring and meeting spaces, and, of course, a brand-new collection to fill the shelves, the Amy Van Andel Library is a little ray of light that we all need right now. The doors to the two-story, 27,000-square-foot branch opened to residents of the Ada community and surrounding areas in February. It features an abundance of sunlit space and a large courtyard where people can relax, read, learn and meet up with others.

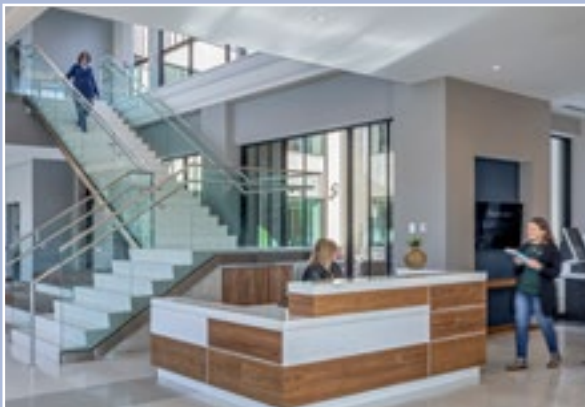
And while the first few folks to step foot into the branch may have had masks covering their faces, the biggest masks in the world couldn't have concealed the smiles that beamed from their faces at first sight of their new library and community center.

**Scan for hours,  
branch details  
and a virtual tour!**



[kdl.org/locations/ada](https://kdl.org/locations/ada)

©Justin Maconochie





NEW FOR SUMMER 2021

**THE STAY CURIOUS WITH CURI SHOW**

Tuesday, June 1,

**Mondays, June 7, 14, 21 & 28, Tuesday, July 6, Mondays, July 12, 19 & 26 and August 2, 9:30 AM**Learn what programs are taking place during the week, make some new friends and have some fun!  
FOR ALL AGES.

## MONDAYS

**WIMEE'S WORDS | MEN OF COLOR READ****Mondays, June 7 – August 30, 4:00 PM**Wimee, Uncle Jon and The Brethren (from Men of Color Read) team up on Mondays for "Wimee's Words," an interactive LIVE kids show that encourages imagination, vocabulary building, storytelling and a love of reading.  
FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN.**ELEMENTARY GRAPHIC NOVEL BOOK CLUB****Mondays, June 7 & 21, July 12 & 26 and August 9, 6:30 PM**If you love to read and discover new books, join us for our graphic novel book club! Sign up for book club meetings at [kdl.org/events](http://kdl.org/events).  
FOR SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN.**June 7:** *Katie the Catsitter* by Colleen AF Venable**June 21:** *Magical History Tour: The Great Pyramid* by Fabrice Erre & Sylvain Savoia**July 12:** *Sherlock Bones and the Natural History Mystery* by Renée Trembl**July 26:** *Mellybean and the Giant Monster* by Mike White**August 9:** *Student Ambassador: The Missing Dragon* by Ryan Estrada**ALL ONLINE BOOK CLUBS REQUIRE PRE-REGISTRATION**

An email address is required for registration and instructions for how to join on Zoom. These programs will be monitored by KDL staff and you will have the option of joining with or without video. Parents are encouraged to read book reviews of each week's chosen title in advance to determine if the book is one their child will enjoy.

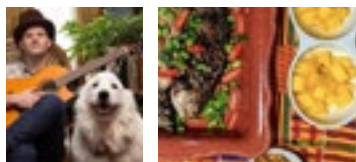
## MONDAYS (Continued)

**ELEMENTARY BOOK TALKS****Mondays, June 14 & 28, July 19 and August 2 & 16, 6:30 PM**Looking for your next great read? Tune in for expert recommendations from KDL youth staff. We'll tell you all about our favorite new books, including graphic novels, nonfiction, picture books, chapter books and more!  
FOR SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN.

## TUESDAYS

**TERRIFIC TUESDAYS****Tuesdays, June 1 – August 3, 10:00 AM**

A different exciting presenter every week featuring magic, music and more. FOR ALL AGES.

**June 1:** Feathers, Fur, Scales and Slime with Outdoor Discovery**June 8:** The Details are in the Bee Tails**June 15:** Duke Otherwise Outrageously Fun Music**June 22:** Mime Rob Reider**June 29:** Puppet Art Theater Presents *The Tale of the Dragon's Tail***July 6:** Feathers, Fur, Scales and Slime with Outdoor Discovery**July 13:** MotherLand Cooking Xperience**July 20:** Firelight Shadow Theater Presents *Me and My Shadow***July 27:** MotherLand Cooking Xperience**August 3:** Cameron Zvara Magic

## TUESDAYS (Continued)

**WHAT WE'RE READING****Tuesdays, June 1 – August 31, 6:30 PM**

Catch up on what your favorite KDL Librarians and special guests are currently reading. FOR ADULTS.

**EVENING STORYTIME****Tuesdays, June 1 – August 3, 7:00 PM**Enjoy stories, music, movement and rhymes that develop early literacy skills and encourage everyone in the family to share their love of reading.  
FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN.**TEEN TUESDAYS @ HOME**Check out [kdl.org/events](http://kdl.org/events) for instructions to log in to participate in these exciting programs provided by some of your favorite KDL Teen Librarians.  
FOR TEENS.

Teen presenters featuring crafts, anime, origami and more!

**June 8 & 22, July 6 & 20 and August 3, 2:00 PM**

Dungeons and Dragons\*

**June 8, July 13 and August 10, 6:00 PM**\*Registration required with an email address at [kdl.org/events](http://kdl.org/events)

Online Games

**June 15, July 20 and August 17, 6:00 PM**

## WEDNESDAYS

**WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS****Wednesdays, June 2 – August 4, 1:00 PM**

A different exciting presenter every week featuring magic, music and more. FOR ALL AGES.

**June 2:** Music Moves Us, Being Bilingual Rocks!**June 9:** Firelight Shadow Theater Presents *Me and My Shadow***June 16:** Mr. Jim's Balloon Animals**June 23:** Cameron Zvara Magic**June 30:** ScribbleMonster**July 7:** Firelight Shadow Theater Presents *Spin Me a Shadow, Tell Me a Tale***July 14:** Mime Rob Reider**July 21:** Mr. Jim's Balloon Animals**July 28:** The Details are in the Bee Tails**August 4:** Music Moves Us, Being Bilingual Rocks!

## WEDNESDAYS (Continued)

### VACATION STORYTIME

**Wednesdays, June 9 – August 11, 10:00 AM**

Storytimes from around the country. Join us for stories and songs from unique locations. FOR YOUNG CHILDREN AND SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN.

### KDL CURIOSITY LAB ON THE GO

**Wednesdays, June 9 & 23, July 7 & 21 and August 4 & 18, 2:00 PM**

Tag along with the KDL Lab Curiosity Crew as we highlight STEAM findings that can be discovered in your backyard, your neighborhood or your city! FOR SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN.

### WHAT WE'RE LEARNING

**Wednesdays, 7:00 PM**

Join a local presenter as they share an assortment of information, ideas and excitement, all from the comfort of your home. FOR ADULTS.



**June 2:** Invasive Species and Native Plants with the Kent Conservation District

**June 16:** Alzheimer's Association of Grand Rapids – Healthy Living for Your Brain & Body

**June 30:** Trivia with Matt

**July 14:** My Dearest Friends with DisArtNow

**July 28:** Caribbean Pirates

**August 4:** Covid Trauma and Self Care with the Grand Rapids Center for Mindfulness

### ANTI-RACISM BOOK CLUB

**Wednesdays, June 23, July 21 and August 18, 7:00 PM**

This monthly virtual book club will discuss books across genres that explore issues of race in America as a means of better understanding ourselves, our history and our community. Selected titles will be listed on [kdl.org/events](http://kdl.org/events). FOR ADULTS.

## THURSDAYS

### BABYTIME

**Thursdays, June 3 – August 5, 10:00 AM**

Delight and engage your baby with songs and a story that help your baby develop listening and language skills. FOR YOUNG CHILDREN.

### GROW WITH THE STEM GREENHOUSE!

**Thursdays, June 10 – July 22, 2:00 PM**

Join Dr. Keli Christopher this summer for 7 fun, hands-on STEM activities that you can do from home. **For instructions and materials lists go to [kdl.org/events](http://kdl.org/events).**

FOR SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN.

### HODGEPODGE REPEATS | A TEEN LIBRARIAN TALK SHOW

**Thursdays, June 3 – August 5, 4:30 PM**

Miss Monica and Miss Clare present the best episodes of the year as they talk books, games, teen happenings and more with special guests. FOR TEENS.

### TREMENDOUS THURSDAYS

**Thursdays, June 3 – August 5, 6:30 PM**

A different exciting presenter every week featuring magic, music and more. FOR ALL AGES.



**June 3:** Firelight Shadow Theater Presents *Me and My Shadow*

**June 10:** Mime Rob Reider

**June 17:** MotherLand Cooking Xperience

**June 24:** Wendy and DB's Steamy Summer Fun Songs

**July 1:** The Details are in the Bee Tails

**July 8:** Music Moves Us, Being Bilingual Rocks!

**July 15:** Duke Otherwise Outrageously Fun Music

**July 22:** Wendy and DB's Steamy Summer Fun Songs

**July 29:** Feathers, Fur, Scales and Slime with Outdoor Discovery

**August 5:** Puppet Art Theater Presents *The Tale of the Dragon's Tail*

## FRIDAYS

### CELEBRATING YOUR COMMUNITY!

**Fridays, June 4 – August 6, 10:00 AM**

A special rebroadcast of storytimes featuring community guests including artists, community helpers and those who hail from all over the world. FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN.

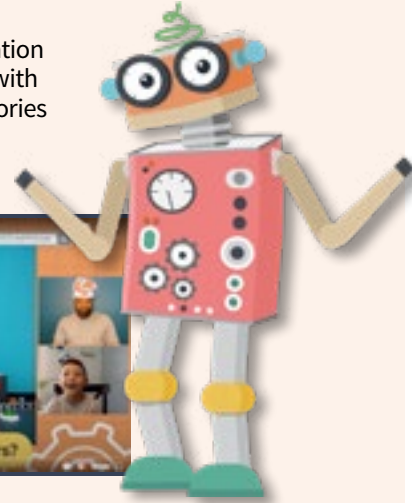
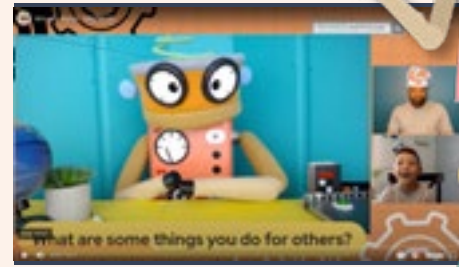
## WEEKDAYS

### WIMEE'S WORDS

**June 1 – August 31, 4:00 PM**

Wimee's Words sparks imagination and inspires creative thinking with interactive wordplay, songs, stories and much more!

FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN.



## SUMMER SPECIALS



### SUMMER WONDER BASH!

**Friday, August 6, 10:00 AM**

Celebrate a summer of reading and learning with presenters, craft ideas, music and more. FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN.

### CODING CLASS WITH CODERS4TOMORROW

**Monday, August 9 – Friday, August 13, 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM**



Coders4Tomorrow will teach the basics of Python coding in a fun way! Along with instruction from experienced undergraduate and high school coders in the essentials of Python 3, a real coding language used in industry, guest speakers and creative final projects are included to spark prolonged interest in coding. No prior coding experience is needed. **For grades 7-10.** The age requirement is in place for computing skills and problem-solving abilities.

Basic computer and internet skills and an internet connection are required for this remote class. It is recommended that all participants have basic typing ability and math proficiency in order of operations and exponents. Participants are asked to attend each day, since the material builds on the previous day.

**One time pre-registration with email is required for this week-long Zoom program. Register at [kdl.org/events](http://kdl.org/events).**

# Staff Picks

## Don't Stand So Close to Me

by Eric Walters

"It's March of 2020 and Quinn is planning the annual 8th grade spring dance when she and her friends suddenly learn in-person school is cancelled indefinitely because of COVID-19. A quick read with relatable characters and an uplifting ending, this fictional story will help young readers process the emotional difficulties of the last year."

– Jenny, East Grand Rapids Branch



## The Girl from Widow Hills

by Megan Miranda

"This is a great book full of suspense with a twist at the end. If you like thrillers like *Gone Girl*, you will enjoy this book."

– Kathy, Plainfield Twp. Branch



## A Burning

by Megha Majumdar

"Megha Majumdar creates a heartbreaking story that speaks to the current state of the world, while keeping the plot centered on a handful of characters. This debut novel is worth checking out."

– Joel, KDL Service Center



## Curiosity: The Story of a Mars Rover

by Markus Motum



"This beautifully illustrated picture book is incredibly informative, yet not too difficult for young listeners to enjoy. It inspires a sense of wonder for storytime AND provides a universe of facts for school research projects!"

– Melissa, Krause Memorial Branch

## The Echo Wife

by Sarah Gailey

"A Sci-Fi thriller in the vein of the Netflix series *Black Mirror*, but not as dark. A scientist whose husband divorces her finds out that he left her for a clone of her he secretly made behind her back. However, her life is more shattered and intertwined with the clone than she could ever imagine."

– Craig, Walker, Alpine Twp. and Tyrone Twp. Branches





## Before the Ever After

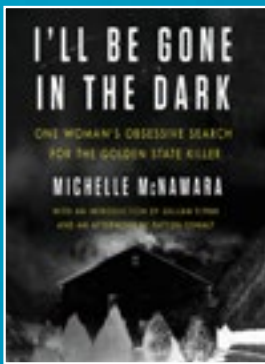
by Jacqueline Woodson

"This is a beautiful middle grade novel in verse about a young boy whose father is dealing with CTE after a career in the NFL. ZJ adores his father, but his dad is angry a lot of the time, and sometimes his dad can't even remember ZJ's name."

– Susan, Plainfield Twp. Branch

## I'll Be Gone in the Dark: One Woman's Obsessive Search for the Golden State Killer

by Michelle McNamara



"Michelle McNamara had an obsession with true crime since she was a child when a murder took place close to home. There was one case that Michelle was particularly interested in, to the point of obsession: The Golden State Killer (AKA the East Area Rapist and Diamond Knot Killer). This man was responsible for 60+ rapes and 13 murders over a decade. *I'll Be Gone in the Dark* maps the attacks and digs into witness and detective accounts in mindful and gripping detail. A truly chilling dive into a terrifying piece of California's

history. I recommend this one for those interested in true crime."

– Brittany, Walker Branch

## Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents

by Isabel Wilkerson



"In *Caste*, the Pulitzer winning journalist Isabel Wilkerson redefines the conversation by examining the ways in which rigid caste systems are determined in India, Nazi Germany and the United States, shedding light on the destructive and artificial systems that determine so much in our lives, culture and politics."

– Mark, Krause Memorial Branch



# We Asked, You Answered

**What is your favorite thing about your library?**



*Storytimes!*

*You can go to any branch, get books on any topic (and magazines) and even intra-library loan them if you can't make it to a branch farther away from where you live.*

*I love the free fun and learning for my kids.*

*I literally brag all the time about the multitude of media and experiences that KDL offers. I have friends all over the world that have come to envy it.*

*Access to books 24/7.*

*That we have so many branches to visit! Great with an almost 8 year old. Fun little day trips during the summer.*

*I love that you can look up and get in line to reserve new books before they are even available.*

*Selection and accessibility.*

*The staff is always friendly and helpful.*

*The kids section and activities.*

*Great customer service.*

*Online book holding availability.*

*Great place for an outing with kids.*

*The selection of books.*

*I personally enjoyed the plant and seed activities that you had in the spring.*

*I love the ability to get my hands on a good book without having to pay. I've learned so much for free.*

*I love that we have access to so many resources. As a new homeschooling family, the resources have been invaluable this year.*

*Even with the pandemic closures, the library has still worked hard for the community to offer as much as they can to us.*

*We have benefited so much from the reading programs, the Scholastic website that you offer, printing services and the amazing staff helping my kids to choose books.*

*I love audiobooks, Playaways and using Hoopla.*

*The AMAZING kids section! I love bringing my son to the library — we look forward to it every week.*

*I can get books from other libraries all over the state of Michigan through Mel.org.*

*I can read all my favorite manga series by either checking out a physical book or checking out an ebook on my phone.*

*I am able to do my online schooling by being able to check out a hotspot for an extended period of time.*





Presenting Sponsor:

CENTENNIAL SECURITIES

· Investments & Advice ·

Seventh Annual

# LITERARY LIBATIONS GALA

## FREDERIK MEIJER GARDENS & SCULPTURE PARK

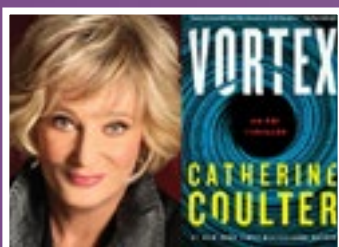
Thursday, September 16, 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM



Please join us as we celebrate the seventh annual Literary Libations Gala, which continues to be a highlight of the Grand Rapids gala season. Sponsors have the unique opportunity to provide their guests with a memorable evening of cocktails, dinner and personal reflections from bestselling authors, while helping support KDL's programs and outreach to the nearly 400,000 residents we serve.



Christopher Cosmos



Catherine Coulter



Rebecca Deng



Peter Heller

This year's fundraising goal will be to support our youth poetry programs at KDL. Helping teens and young adults to express themselves builds their confidence and fosters growth. In an increasingly complex world, it's essential that young people are provided with safe and positive ways to express themselves. Research shows that sharing emotions leads to better mental health, greater confidence and stronger relationships with others. The library delivers a multitude of writing, poetry and filmmaking programs that provide helpful structure and feedback. KDL's Write Michigan Teen Poetry Contest and Poetry Slam is one of the most powerful programs, giving teens a channel for personal expression and support of each other.



Consider partnering with us by selecting a sponsorship opportunity that works for you! Once again, table sponsorships will be available. To reserve your seat, please visit [kdl.org/gala](http://kdl.org/gala).

For more information, please contact:

**Christine Mwangi**  
**Director of Fund Development**  
616.784.2092  
[cmwangi@kdl.org](mailto:cmwangi@kdl.org)

# KDL Free Libraries

## and our **Commitment to Sustainability**



**Sara Proaño**  
Community Engagement  
Manager

We work hard to make sure that our collection has what you want! At KDL, the Collection Development Department acts like a scout, navigating and researching the vast universe of publishing houses to ensure we have a diverse and well-balanced collection. The Collection Services Department is responsible for cataloging and tagging materials to help patrons find exactly what they are looking for – and maybe even more.

According to Sheri Glon, Data Coordinator for KDL, materials have an average shelf life of eight years and will visit multiple branches before the end of their library life. I can only imagine the interesting stories that a library book could share about all the homes it has visited!

After the book has had a good shelf life and it's time to replace it with a fresh new copy, the book will be weeded out and reused, re-purposed or recycled. We believe that exercising intentionality throughout this process ensures the sustainability of our work and demonstrates good stewardship of our patrons' dollars. We also know that putting books in people's hands, no matter how, has an enormous impact on our communities by expanding our understanding of the world and helping us find our place in history. This is why we do what we do, and why we strive to do it sustainably.

## Join Us!

There are several ways that you can become involved:

- If you're part of an organization that serves or employs people who have difficulty in obtaining books, contact me at [sproano@kdl.org](mailto:sproano@kdl.org) or 616-784-2007.
- Another way to get involved is to join our team by volunteering your time to help us process weeded materials or transport them to one of our sites. If you are interested, please visit [kdl.org/volunteer](http://kdl.org/volunteer). Some organizations that partner as volunteers are Forest Hills Transition Center and ExperienceGR.
- You may also participate by donating to help us keep things moving. For more information visit [kdl.org/donate](http://kdl.org/donate).
- Hosting a neighborhood free library is yet another option. For details, visit [kdl.org/kdl-free-libraries](http://kdl.org/kdl-free-libraries) or [littlefreelibrary.org](http://littlefreelibrary.org).

Sustainability is one of the pillars in our Strategic Plan. It doesn't apply only to the way we process materials, but also to our funding strategies and the professional development of our staff. For more information about our plans for 2021-2023, visit [kdl.org/strategic-plan](http://kdl.org/strategic-plan).



Gena Rinkey visits KDL's Service Center every month to choose weeded materials for the Cannon Township Little Free Library.

# The Journey of a Library Book

**REPURPOSE:** Donations to Friends of the Library translate into services and programs.

**REUSE:** KDL Free Libraries support literacy in all ages.

**RECYCLE:** Generates a modest income for the library.

**DISPOSAL:** KDL uses conscientious and deliberate disposal practices.

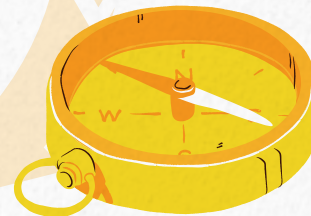


## Purchase

Where, how and what we buy increases community representation in our collection.

## Cataloging

Patrons can find things easier if we spend time thinking about what, how and why they search.



## Placement

Local branches receive materials based on the expressed needs and interests of the communities they serve.



## Shelf life

A floating collection helps manage request overflow and is useful to understand our changing communities.

## Weeding

High weeding standards ensure that materials are in good or reasonable condition to support the next step.

Each stage of the journey supports one or more of our strategic plan pillars:  
**Community Engagement | Equity-Diversity-Inclusion | Sustainability**

More information: [outreach@kdl.org](mailto:outreach@kdl.org) | 616.784.2007

**Get Out and Grow** *Continued from page 9*

## ADVENTURE

Design a treasure hunt together, complete with maps and clues. Have your child count off the steps needed to reach the next point on the map or come up with a creative way to describe a landmark in your yard or neighborhood. Counting and writing activities tied to fun opportunities won't even feel like work and will keep your child thinking of new ways they can use their developing skills.



## RELAXED

Give your child some sheets or a tablecloth and a handful of clothespins and send them outside to create a fort. They will practice engineering and architecture as they work with the space around them to create the perfect hiding place. It's just the spot to relax with a good book, daydream and enjoy the fresh air.

Garden together. Many studies have shown that working with soil strengthens a child's ability to self-regulate, improving their ability to calm themselves and concentrate. Gardens are also a great place to practice visual planning and mapping. Growing something together instills a sense of caring and responsibility as well.

Enjoy your time together this summer. Talk, walk, read and imagine. Our world of standards and benchmarks can make us all feel like we are running behind, but the moments you create together will be the ones you all remember the most.

# Selfish Happy Deeds



**Carlita Gonzalez**  
Programming Specialist

**KDL Gives Back**  
**fell in my lap**  
**born from *The Happiness Project***  
**how could I possibly end that?**

**In pursuit of happiness**  
**by giving others gifts**  
**Toys for Tots, treats for pets, we collect.**

**Don't deny the feel good vibe**  
**just keep in mind**  
**the gifts we give**  
**are bigger than you and I.**

**KDL Gives Back**  
**fell in my lap**  
**a way to connect**  
**dire community needs**  
**and "selfish happy deeds."**

**Now why would we end that?**

All Branches participate in the KDL Gives Back collection of in-kind goods in support of a local non-profit organization three times a year. Patrons and staff are encouraged to donate, for the happiness of it.



# Your Library on Wheels



**Joyanne Huston-Swanson**  
Bookmobile Operator

There's a famous movie quote that talks about a box of chocolates and never knowing what you are going to get... that's kind of what Outreach with the Bookmobile is like. Every day is different, each visit is unique, individual partnerships and collaborations vary widely — which only adds to the excitement and happiness the Bookmobile brings to patrons.

Since the Bookmobile started rolling down the roads and highways of Kent County, the team has spent more than 1,440 hours meeting new people and introducing them to all the wonderful services the Kent District Library has to offer. More than 600 different events have taken place with the Bookmobile and over 36,000 visitors have had a chance to experience this magical vehicle. Partnerships with community organizations, area schools and townships have kept the Bookmobile busy through festivals, parades, literacy and STEAM events, parent and caregiver support meetings, as well as English language learning opportunities.



Young students enjoying a bookmobile visit in 2019

Even though COVID-19 put a wrench in the schedule temporarily, the Bookmobile team has continued to build essential relationships with community members of all ages and that will remain an important focus of the Bookmobile as this library on wheels gets back to business. Keep your eyes peeled... you just might catch a glimpse of the KDL Bookmobile driving down a street near you this summer.



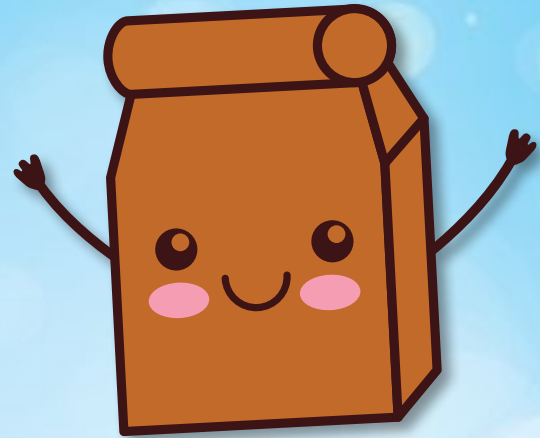
# KDL CORE



This 100-book collection consists of titles at least one year old that are close to the hearts of KDL librarians and patrons alike.

These books are popular and respected, which is why KDL has purchased shiny new copies and labeled them the KDL Core.

[kdl.org/core-collection](http://kdl.org/core-collection)



## Library Lunches to Go!

Fifteen KDL branches and the Bookmobile are partnering with Feeding America West Michigan this summer to provide free lunches for local students through age 18. The meals will be available in a “grab-and-go” format weekdays, June 14 – August 13. The meals will be available in a “grab n’ go” format weekdays, June 14 - August 13. Times vary by Library location so please check [kdl.org/lunch](http://kdl.org/lunch) for details.



Kent District Library  
[kdl.org](http://kdl.org)

FEEDING AMERICA®  
West Michigan



# Branch Locations

## ALPINE TOWNSHIP

5255 Alpine Ave. NW  
Comstock Park, MI 49321

## ALTO

6071 Linfield Ave. SE  
Alto, MI 49302

## AMY VAN ANDEL LIBRARY

7215 Headley St. SE  
Ada, MI 49301

## BOOKMOBILE

[kdl.org/bookmobile](http://kdl.org/bookmobile)

## BYRON TOWNSHIP

8191 Byron Center Ave. SW  
Byron Center, MI 49315

## CALEDONIA TOWNSHIP

6260 92nd St. SE  
Caledonia, MI 49316

## CASCADE TOWNSHIP

2870 Jacksmith Ave. SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546

## COMSTOCK PARK

3943 W. River Dr. NE  
Comstock Park, MI 49321

## EAST GRAND RAPIDS

746 Lakeside Dr. SE  
East Grand Rapids, MI 49506

## ENGLEHARDT

200 N. Monroe St.  
Lowell, MI 49331

## GAINES TOWNSHIP

421 68th St. SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49548

## GRANDVILLE

4055 Maple St. SW  
Grandville, MI 49418

## KELLOGGSVILLE

Kelloggsville High School  
4787 Division Ave S.  
Grand Rapids, MI 49548

## KENTWOOD (RICHARD L. ROOT)

4950 Breton SE  
Kentwood, MI 49508

## KRAUSE MEMORIAL

140 E. Bridge St.  
Rockford, MI 49341

## NELSON TOWNSHIP

88 Eighth St.  
Sand Lake, MI 49343

## PLAINFIELD TOWNSHIP

2650 5-Mile Rd. NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49525

## SPENCER TOWNSHIP

14960 Meddler Ave.  
Gowen, MI 49326

## TYRONE TOWNSHIP

43 S. Main St.  
Kent City, MI 49330

## WALKER

4293 Remembrance Rd. NW  
Walker, MI 49534

## WYOMING AND KDL TALKING BOOK & BRAILLE CENTER

3350 Michael Ave. SW  
Wyoming, MI 49509

## KDL SERVICE AND MEETING CENTER

814 West River Center Dr. NE  
Comstock Park, MI 49321



[kdl.org/locations](http://kdl.org/locations)

Scan with your smart phone camera for branch hours and additional information about our 20 locations.

# 616-784-2007

Toll-free: 1-877-243-2466 | [kdl.org](http://kdl.org)

# Welcome to KDL



**Laura DeJong**  
Branch Librarian,  
Plainfield Twp.

Recommends *Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus* by Dusti Bowling.



**Abby Lynn**  
Assistant Branch Librarian,  
East Grand Rapids

Recommends *The Lies of Locke Lamora* by Scott Lynch.



**Nancy Milks**  
Assistant Branch Librarian,  
Gaines Twp.

Recommends *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen.



**Kendall Hart**  
Shelver, Cascade Twp.

Recommends *The Vanishing Half* by Brit Bennett.

**Morgan Shepard**  
Assistant Branch Librarian,  
Kentwood

**Taylor Doctor**  
Shelver, Spencer Twp.

**Amra Hrnjic**  
Shelver, Kentwood

**Michelle Trisch**  
Shelver, Amy Van Andel (Ada)

# Summer Stars

Carl Sandburg - 1878-1967

Bend low again, night of summer stars.

So near you are, sky of summer stars,

So near, a long-arm man can pick off stars,

Pick off what he wants in the sky bowl,

So near you are, summer stars,

So near, strumming, strumming,

So lazy and hum-strumming.



**Do you like stargazing?** Well, that is one of the many activities you can do when you join the Summer Wonder 30-Day Challenge! Discover more inside and at [kdl.org/summer](http://kdl.org/summer).