

KALEIDOSCOPE

Kent District Library | Information. Ideas. *Excitement!*

Winter 2021-2022



Staff Picks, *pg. 4*

2021 by the Numbers, *pg. 16*

Introducing KDL Vibes, *pg. 18*

KDaLe Returns, *pg. 20*

Want your
own tote?
Check out
page 22 for
details.

During the cold winter months, come to the library where you can enjoy quiet, warm corners to read and in-person programs to socialize. I personally invite you to venture out this winter and visit any of our 20 branches. Connecting online at **kdl.org** or using curbside pickup service also makes it easy for you to enjoy so much of what the library has to offer from the comfort of your home.

The library is your place for community and connection, enjoyment and entertainment. Your trip to the library (either in-person or online) can be a bright spot in your week. Our friendly and expert librarians look forward to chatting with you and helping you find the perfect book or other resource.

If you aren't much of a reader, give it a try. I think you might be surprised by how fun reading can be when you find the perfect book (and we have tons to choose from). Don't forget to sign up for the Let It Snow reading program for adults and teens. It's a great opportunity to earn prizes for reading. Learn more on the back page.

We are gearing up for another exciting year at KDL and we want you to be a part of it! You matter to us. Our mission at KDL is to further all people... and that includes you.

Cheers to a great 2022!

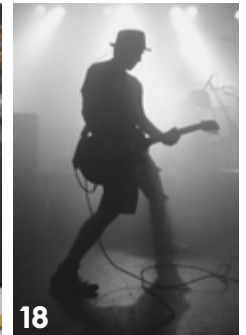


Lance Werner
Executive Director

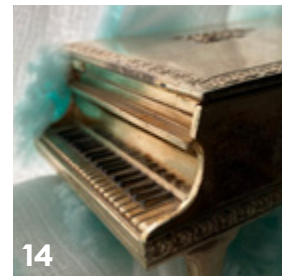
Contents



8



18



14



20

- 4 Staff Picks
- 6 20 Years of Change (and Books)
- 8 10 Ways KDL Helped Prepare My Daughter for Kindergarten
- 10 Parenting Teens through the Stresses of Adolescence
- 12 System-Wide Winter Calendar
- 14 KDL Teen Photo Challenge Winners
- 16 2021 by the Numbers
- 18 Introducing KDL Vibes
- 20 KDaLe® Returns
- 23 Welcome to KDL!

Back Cover **LET IT SNOW**
Winter Reading Program

KDL updates

Streaming Sensory Storytime

Starting this winter, KDL plans to offer **Streaming Sensory Storytime**, a virtual, multi-sensory storytime experience, for patrons who may find certain aspects of in-person storytimes to be too stimulating or overwhelming.

With pre-recorded videos that can be mixed and matched, along with optional make-at-home sensory toys, families can engage with storytime content from the comfort of their own home. New content will be uploaded quarterly starting in January, so stay tuned!



•• Your Own Corner of the Library

There are meeting/study rooms available for reservation at your local branch – and booking one is now simpler than ever! We are pleased to debut a more user-friendly reservation experience at kdl.org/private-rooms. The new platform gives patrons the power to schedule and manage their appointments at any time. Bookable up to 30 days in advance and up to three hours at a time, a private room is a great solution for when you need a little extra quiet.



Grandville Building Expansion

The new Grandville Community Commons and Library opened its doors with a ceremonial ribbon cutting on October 8. The opening comes after three years of fundraising, planning and renovating the original space, which has been expanded and updated to include over 6,500 square feet of multi-functional space, ten new private study rooms, a drive-up book drop and a fireplace lounge area, among other amenities.

Staff Picks

Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants

by Robin Wall Kimmerer

"Botanist, poet and Indigenous member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Robin Wall Kimmerer offers us the gift of seeing in this unparalleled work, which she describes as a braiding of three strands: the indigenous ways of knowing, scientific knowledge and her own story of working to bring them together in service to what matters most."

Mark | Krause Memorial Branch



Magus of the Library

by Mitsu Izumi

"This book series has beautiful artwork and a compelling story. The story is about Theo, who wants to join a magical group of librarians who are highly revered and change the world through the power of books."

Megan | Service Center



Maya and the Robot

by Eve L. Ewing

"I recommend the heartwarming audiobook *Maya and the Robot* by Eve L. Ewing. Fifth grader Maya is having a tough school year, but when she finds a robot in the neighborhood store's back room, things start to turn around. Through curiosity, research and experimentation, Maya brings Ralph the Robot to life!"

Liz | Amy Van Andel Library (Ada)



Sheets

by Brenna Thummler

"An outstanding tween graphic novel steeped in a gorgeous color palette and 90s vibes with powerful messages about family, loss, grief and endurance. Adults will love this just as much (if not more) than kids!"

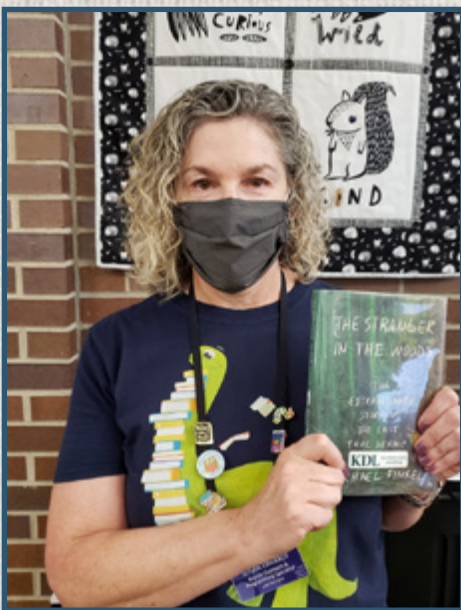
Melissa | Krause Memorial Branch



When the Stars Go Dark and Like Family: Growing Up in Other People's Houses by Paula McLain

"I read a pair of books recently that was a fascinating combo: *When the Stars Go Dark*, a novel by Paula McLain, and her memoir *Like Family: Growing Up in Other People's Houses*. Her novel follows a detective searching for missing teenage girls, while also dealing with her own trauma. While the main character from the novel reflects on her experiences growing up in foster care, it turns out that McLain's own childhood was also spent almost entirely in foster care with her two sisters. Reading her stories side-by-side, both fictional and personal, made for an intriguing portrait of a complicated childhood."

Anna | East Grand Rapids Branch



The Stranger in the Woods

by Michael Finkel

"*The Stranger in the Woods* by Michael Finkel is the true story of a 20-year-old who disappeared into the Maine woods for 27 years, where he survived by stealing from empty vacation homes and a camp. It's utterly fascinating!"

Susan | Plainfield Twp. Branch



Diana: Princess of the Amazons

by Shannon Hale & Dean Hale

"Shannon and Dean Hale are masters at writing relatable characters, even when those characters are powerful goddess heroines. This book is a great read for kids of all ages and could spark conversations between kids and parents about peer pressure, parental expectations and self-discovery."

Josh | Caledonia Twp. Branch



Judy directed by Rupert Goold

"I recently watched the movie, *Judy*. It tells the story of legendary performer Judy Garland and a series of sold-out concerts in which she performed in London in the winter of 1968. Renee Zellweger won a well-deserved Best Actress Oscar for her performance in this role. This was a sad but impressive movie that tied together the beginning and end of Judy Garland's amazing career. A must-watch movie!"

Amy | Englehardt Branch

Twenty Years of Change (and Books)



By **Kip Odell**, Programming Manager

Many years ago, I sat in a conference room with fifteen other librarians learning how to download an eBook on a brand-new shiny iPad. I remember being so pleased with my first successful download. It almost felt like a magic device.

The holidays were coming up and the eBook training day was organized so that we would all be ready to help patrons with their own new devices. Now, streaming content is something many of us do almost every day without even thinking about it.

Since then, the library has become a hub for streaming music, movies and books. This is a regular part of life for many of us. The library supported this from the beginning by providing all sorts of digital materials and assistance with technology.

This is just one of many changes I've seen in libraries in my twenty years at KDL. I think I encounter something new in my job almost every single day, which is the best thing about it.

Another change is highlighted by our KDaLe® programs. Brewery tours, home brewing classes and a tap takeover – all organized and hosted by the library system for its patrons. What a wild idea!

I'm fortunate to have been one of the first librarians to work on KDaLe, managing these fun experiences for patrons. Our goal, then and now, is to give patrons special opportunities for in-depth learning. KDaLe programs take patrons behind the scenes at their favorite breweries and connect them with professional brewers.

Libraries have always provided classes, programs and learning opportunities. Never before have libraries offered as wide an array of experiences as they do today. A season of programs at KDL now covers topics like mushroom hunting, local history, craft making, conservation and trivia contests.

What hasn't changed in the past twenty years? The joy we all have for sharing great books with others.

No matter how the world evolves, libraries and librarians want to connect you with a good book. These opportunities will always be exciting for me.

Maybe it's a long-running series like my late discovery of Craig Johnson's Longmire books. Or a favorite recent release like *Providence* by Max Barry. Or a classic I can't believe I haven't read before like *Far from the Madding Crowd* by Thomas Hardy.

As the Programming Manager for KDL, I don't make book recommendations as often as I used to, but I still get excited for any opportunity to do so. It's also why I found a way to work those into this article.

Change is constant. Technology and new ideas will always arise. I can attest, however, with twenty years of experience, that the library system will never stop improving its services, trying exciting things and recommending great reads.



Kip in 2009

Rediscover Grand Rapids

Pamela VanderPloeg, architectural researcher, author and curator of ArchitectureGrandRapids.org, takes you on a photo journey through Grand Rapids' vibrant downtown streets, sharing stories of the beautiful, historic buildings and contemporary architecture at the heart of the city's center. Her new book, *Grand Rapids Downtown Buildings*, covers over 170 buildings arranged by street in a series of short connected walks.

East Grand Rapids Branch

Program: Wednesday, Feb. 9, 6:30 PM

Exhibit: Jan. 12 through Feb. 18,

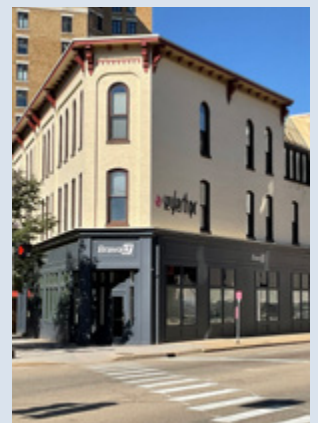
During open hours

Amy Van Andel Library - Ada Community Center

Program: Thursday, March 10, 6:30 PM

Exhibit: Feb. 21 through March 20,

During open hours



Pamela VanderPloeg is an architectural researcher and website curator of ArchitectureGrandRapids.org. She leads walking tours and teaches classes for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Aquinas College (OLLI) and is a recipient of the Grand Rapids American Institute of Architects David D. Smith Humanitarian Award.



10 Ways KDL Helped Prepare My Daughter for Kindergarten

By Sheri Glon, Data Coordinator

1.

1,000 Books Before Kindergarten (1KB4K) – Research clearly shows that children who are read to regularly have an increased vocabulary and are more prepared to learn to read themselves. One thousand books may seem like a lot, but reading just a few books before bed each night accumulates quickly. My daughter loved crossing off the animals on the charts. (She loves putting stickers on the Summer Wonder 30-Day Challenge each year as well.)

2.

Early Lit Bits Newsletter – Although I am a librarian, youth services is not my specialty. I found this monthly email newsletter very helpful, especially the books recommended by our youth staff to help foster key early literacy skills.

3.

Personalized Picks for Kids – This service takes recommendations one step further by offering a personalized list of titles based on whatever your child is interested in at the moment, or readalikes for their favorites. I recently requested a list of books about starting kindergarten to help prepare my daughter for the big day.

4.

What's Next®: Books in Series Database – Once she discovered a favorite series (Magic Tree House® is a current hit), this KDL resource became key to keeping track of which book we needed to request next.

5.

Readalongs – When mom needs a break and can't sit and read a book to her, my daughter enjoys either physical books with built-in audio players (VOX Books and Wonderbooks) or the digital versions offered through OverDrive.

6.

Launchpads – These tablets pre-loaded with educational games (and no Internet connection required) have kept my daughter occupied on many car trips to Grandma's house.

7.

KDL GO! Packs / Mission: Read! Booster Packs – Don't tell your kids, but they are actually learning while they enjoy these age-appropriate game packs. (You might learn something too – I was introduced to the "Urial" wild sheep as part of the Alphabet Zoo that my daughter has checked out multiple times.)

8.

Curbside Pickup – We started using this when KDL was closed for in-branch services due to COVID. Now it's a great convenience when we need to make a quick stop while running errands (or when someone just doesn't want to get out of her car seat...).

9.

Storytimes – Although as a working parent I wasn't able to take full advantage of KDL storytimes, we attended when we could on my vacation days. We have also watched some of the new virtual programs on KDL's YouTube channel.

10.

Playspaces – My daughter's favorite part of the library is the playspace. She loves pretending to cook food for me or building a wooden tube race track. Associating the library with fun and excitement is the first step toward building a positive relationship with the library that will hopefully last a lifetime, as it has with me.

Find out more about all of these resources at kdl.org/young-children.



As a KDL employee, I always knew that the library would be a vital part of my daughter's life, just as it had been for me in childhood and now as an adult as well. However, I was amazed at all the different resources that KDL offers to help children learn and grow and how well she was prepared to enter kindergarten this fall thanks in part to these tools.



Parenting Teens through the Stresses of Adolescence

By **Amy Barto, M.Ed.** and **Michael Wolff, PsyD, ABPdN**

Most children tend to be excited about becoming a teenager because it means they are close to being an adult. Parents, however, are often not quite as excited to enter this new stage. As adults, we understand there are parts of adolescence, like sports or hanging out with friends, that we fondly remember, but we also recall the challenges. As teens, a lot of time and energy are spent trying to find a balance between dependent and independent decision-making. It can be exhausting, and quite challenging. As parents, we do not like to see our children experience these struggles, but adolescence is a necessary time for growth. Unfortunately, some of our teens will experience anxiety or depression, which can make their teen years even harder for them – and for their parents.

In terms of teen anxiety, the family should watch their teen for being consistently worried about the future or bad things happening.

Pressure can come at a teen in seconds. Things can be said; impressions given. Teens can experience feelings of isolation, be taunted or bullied, have difficulty trying to fit in and so much more, all while their bodies and brain continue to mature. For today's teens, the Center for Disease Control suggests that between 5% and 8% meet the diagnostic criteria for an anxiety or depressive disorder. Some literature from the American Medical Association suggests that this could be as high as 10% to 20% for children and adolescents worldwide. Unfortunately, the recent pandemic has

escalated these risks. Most teens want to be around peers – in fact, peers might seem to be more important than parents – but the pandemic limited opportunities to be around each other on a regular basis. Teens were isolated and often only able to connect virtually. Many of us professionals pretended that setting up FaceTime or using other social media platforms could help to quell the tension, but for many teens the opposite was true. In fact, there is now well-developed literature that explains the vulnerabilities of teens on Instagram and other social media platforms and how these types of interactions increase the risks of anxiety and depression in teens.

So, what should families look for? In terms of teen anxiety, the family should watch their teen for being consistently worried about the future or bad things happening; avoiding specific situations; not being able to make decisions; being irritable as they think about each day; experiencing frequent headaches and/or stomachaches; exhibiting emotional fatigue; and/or never seeming to be able to settle themselves. Caregivers can also watch for their teen's need to be on social media all the time – that need to respond and to follow along with what is happening all the time because the online world may have become their “real” world.



In terms of teen depression, the family should watch their teen for being sad, hopeless and/or irritable most of the time; not enjoying things, especially things that had once caught their attention; not wanting to engage in activity; being withdrawn; changing sleep patterns; finding it more difficult to complete tasks; feeling guilty and/or useless. It is important to be attentive to these behaviors because some of these behaviors can progress into self-injurious or self-destructive behavior.

For every concern, there are also some positives! Healthy stress often motivates individuals to perform better, even though it might make us feel uneasy. A healthy level of anxiety is common among individuals who want to perform well on tests or in sporting activities. There are positive benefits in terms of alertness and being able to learn details when working to learn something new, as long as the stress is not becoming distress or an anxiety disorder.

Set up activities with family or friends. Feelings of being withdrawn or emerging depression can sometimes drive individuals to break out of their shell and have a willingness to talk to others. They might self-reflect on patterns of behavior that are not the most effective and be more willing to change. This tends to happen more with anxiety, but can sometimes happen with depression, as well.

Maintain communication with your children. In the progression between childhood and teen years, our goals as parents need to shift from directing them to guiding them. This guidance often requires more communication, as well as opportunities to help them review, think through and evaluate their decisions and actions. Helping our teens make better independent decisions and be more reflective about those decisions can help to build their confidence and increase the likelihood of success as they become adults.

Take time to do some simple things together. Cook together. Shoot some hoops. Take five or 10 minutes to sit down with your teen and ask them how things are going. Ask how you can help them.

Most importantly, start very early in managing technology. For most teens, it is more than appropriate to have technology turned off by 8:00 or 8:30 PM. Try to keep technology out of their bedrooms. Continue to emphasize the importance of in-person connections rather than being entertained by video games or other potential drama on social media. Help your teen keep a

balanced of perspective by reflecting on the accuracy of statements and their sources. Teach your teen to be respectful, even if there are disagreements.

Reach out to your child's teachers and review their progress reports (or grades). Adolescence can bring to light academic challenges that may not have appeared in elementary school, or that were thought to have been "taken care of" with supports or services in the early grades. The level of independence needed for things like reading, writing, math, organization or time management may be overwhelming for your teen, which can also lead to anxiety and/or depression.

Don't overlook the basics of healthy sleep, healthy eating and exercise! Getting outdoors and being active are positive interventions for anxiety and depression.

There are numerous resources related to anxiety available through KDL. One that Amy recommends is *Helping Your Anxious Child: A Step-by-Step Guide for Parents* (Rapee, Spence, Cobham & Wignall) which is available as an ebook or an audiobook. Though it is not specific to anxiety, she also recommends *Brainstorm: The Power and Purpose of the Teenage Brain* (Seigel) which is available in paperback or as an audiobook. Amy used information from these books to successfully parent two daughters through anxiety during their teen years.

Lastly, if you notice that adolescence seems overly stressful for your teen, or if you have concerns, be sure to reach out for support from your physician, a youth minister, a school social worker or a mental health provider.

Amy Barto, M.Ed. is a Learning Disabilities Specialist and advocate who has worked in the field of education for over 25 years. While she has had many titles over the years, her greatest accomplishments have come from being Mom to two amazing young women.



Michael Wolff, PsyD, ABPdN, is a lifespan neuropsychologist. He specializes in medical, neurodevelopmental, mental health and other conditions that influence cognitive abilities and daily life functioning.



Winter At-a-Glance Programming



ALL BOOK CLUBS REQUIRE PRE-REGISTRATION

An email address is required for registration and instructions for how to join us on Zoom. This program will be moderated by KDL staff and you will have the option of participating 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.

ONLINE

MONDAYS



Elementary Graphic Novel Book Club

Mondays, Dec. 6 & 27, Jan. 10 & 24 and Feb. 7 & 21, 6:30 PM

If you love to read and discover new books, join us for our graphic novel book club! For selected titles and to sign up for book club meetings, visit kdl.org/events.

FOR SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN.



Elementary Book Talks

Mondays, Dec. 13, Jan. 3 & 31 and Feb. 14 & 28, 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



Real Grown-ups Read YA | Book Discussion

Tuesdays, 6:00 to 7:30 PM

Calling all grown-ups who'd rather read books "for young adults!" There's no shame in checking out teen reads in this group. FOR ADULTS.

Jan. 18, *A Song Below Water* by Bethany C. Morrow

Feb. 15, *Muse* by Brittany Cavallaro

Dec. 21, *Dash & Lily's Book of Dares* by Rachel Cohn and David Levithan

TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS & THURSDAYS

Wimee's Words

Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays, Dec. 1-16, Jan. 4-27 and Feb. 1-24, 4:00 PM

Wimee's Words sparks imagination and inspires creative thinking with interactive wordplay, songs and stories; celebrates the diversity of languages and cultures; showcases technology that invites creativity and much more!

FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN.

Winter Break Programs

Coding Class with Coders4Tomorrow

Monday, Dec. 27 – Thursday, Dec. 30, 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM
Kentwood (Richard L. Root) Branch

One-time pre-registration with email is required for this program. 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.

Basic computer and internet skills are required for this 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. If possible, please bring a laptop that has Google Chrome installed. A limited number of laptops will be available for use.



Fantasy Festival

Explore a world of fantasy fun for the whole family. Make your own potent potion, plant a magic bean to take home and much more! FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN.

Tuesday, Dec. 28, 10:00 AM to Noon
Cascade Township Branch
Wednesday, Dec. 29, 10:00 AM to Noon
Caledonia Township Branch



Countdown to Happy Noon Year!

We're giving kids an exciting way to ring in the new year with a countdown, noisemakers, crafts and fun – at an hour that won't keep them up way past their bedtimes. FOR YOUNG CHILDREN.

Visit kdl.org/events for dates and times. Old school? Grab a calendar from your home branch!

FOR ALL AGES

Ready for Reindeer!

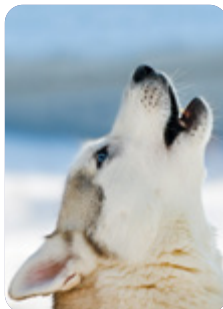
Traveling all the way from the North Pole (via Rooftop Landing Reindeer Farms), live reindeer will be visiting the library. Dress warmly and don't forget the camera!

Programs in December only!



Meet the Sled Dogs

Tun-Dra Kennels owners will talk about sled dogs, mushing equipment and the Iditarod. Families can meet the dogs and watch a demonstration outside, weather permitting.



Winter Wonder Stories

Get cozy while listening to seasonal stories, then create fun, winter-themed crafts.

SnowFest Craft Time!

Celebrate the snowy season with winter-themed craft making fun for the family.



Heart to Heart Craft Party

Roses are red, violets are blue, join our Valentine event, just for you! Celebrate Valentine's Day with crafts.

Retro Arcade & Mini Golf

Friday, Jan. 14, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

GOLF AND GAMES

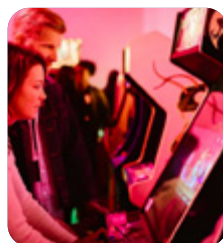
Saturday, Jan. 15, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

GAMES ONLY

Kentwood (Richard L. Root) Branch

A special after-hours event with retro arcade games, mini golf and silent disco. Minors must be accompanied by an adult.

FOR ALL AGES.



Rediscover Grand Rapids

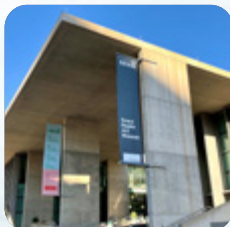
Wednesday, Feb. 9, 6:30 PM,

East Grand Rapids Branch

Thursday, March 10, 6:30 PM,

Amy Van Andel Library (Ada)

SEE PAGE 7 FOR MORE DETAILS



FOR TEENS

Anti-Valentine's Day Bash

If candy hearts and flowers make you gag, bring your disdain for the holiday to the library and bash it with us!

FOR ADULTS

Fandom Fun Trivia | Animated Movies

Team up with friends, roommates or family because Trivia is back with **Matt Eickhoff of Here's Your Host, LLC**. The game will include 4-5 rounds of themed trivia, specially created for this event. Check out HeresYourHost.com for more information.



Be Kind to Your Mind

During the Be Kind to Your Mind workshop we will learn the importance of self-compassion for your thinking and how to "de-fuse" harsh thinking. We will also practice mindful attention to our thoughts and learn the power of acceptance and gratitude to relieve stress.

What We're Learning | Tile Work

Home Repair Services of Kent

County will lead you on a hands-on tile journey. Learn how to become an expert in measuring, cutting and laying tile to make a beautiful backsplash or re-cover a floor.



Michigan Mushrooms

Local amateur mycologist and forager **Andrew Mateskon** will discuss mushrooms of Michigan, as well as mushroom biology, life cycle, edibility, dangers and related social phenomena such as Mycophobia. Participate in a Q&A session and get a close-up look at a display of dried or fresh mushrooms.



KDL Teen Photo Challenge

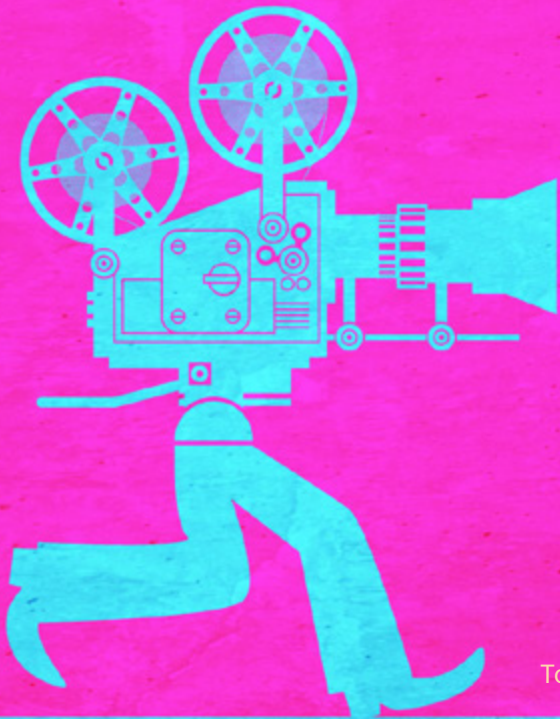
2021 WINNERS



Special Guest Judge
Ashlee McGreevy
She/Her/Hers
Visiting Professor of
Photography
Grand Valley State University

To learn more about the contest and view all the submissions, visit kdl.org/teenphotowinners.

1. **Madison Diehl** | Window Light 2. **Hannah Peraino** | Reflections 3. **Maya Siemens** | Reflection 4. **Grace Dykema** | What a Colorful World
5. **Jordan VanDyke** | Fall Leaves 6. **Sophia Feldpausch** | Miniature Landscape 7. **Colette Kanngiesser** | Nostalgia 8. **Hailey Wellman** | Railway to Autumn



2022



KENT COUNTY TEEN FILM FESTIVAL

Submissions Due
Jan. 21, 2021

Festival
Feb. 26, 2022
10:30 AM

Celebration Cinema North
2121 Celebration Drive NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49525

To submit your entries and for more information, visit kdl.org/teenfilmfestival.

SPONSORS:



Perk Pass

Guest Passes to Area Attractions

Kent District Library has partnered with area attractions to provide our patrons with access to complimentary guest passes to area museums and botanical gardens.

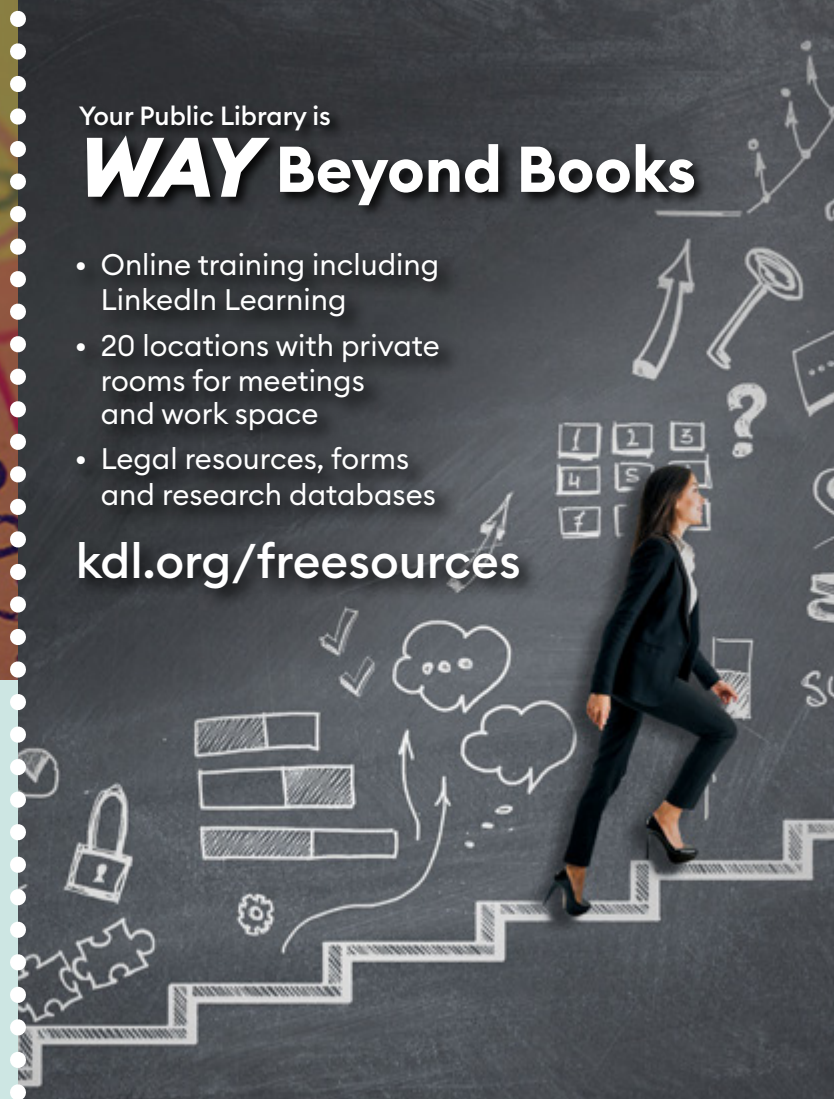
KDL patrons ages 18 and above can use their library card to reserve free passes to attractions and experiences around the county. Cardholders can reserve passes online, print their passes and visit their attraction on the date they reserved.

kdl.org/perkpass

Your Public Library is **WAY** Beyond Books

- Online training including LinkedIn Learning
- 20 locations with private rooms for meetings and work space
- Legal resources, forms and research databases

kdl.org/freesources



2021

by the numbers (so far)

Most popular physical item checkouts



The Four Winds
by Kristin Hannah
1,889 checkouts



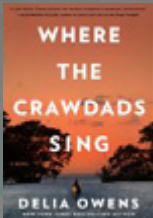
Branches were briefly closed due to a COVID-19 surge in January, but have remained open since then. Over **1 million** visitors have checked out **1.9 million** items from inside the branch.



The average KDL user has **saved \$669** by checking out physical items from the library.



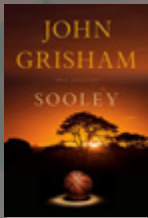
The Return
by Nicholas Sparks
812 checkouts



Where the Crawdads Sing
by Delia Owens
820 checkouts



Dog Man: Mothering Heights
by Dav Pilkey
934 checkouts



Sooley
by John Grisham
1,000 checkouts



A Time for Mercy
by John Grisham
1,065 checkouts



Dog Man: Fetch-22
by Dav Pilkey
1,065 checkouts



Guts
by Raina Telgemeier
1,074 checkouts



KDL Wi-Fi Mobile Hotspot
1,360 checkouts

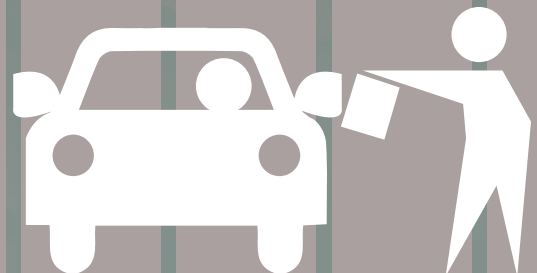


Dog Man: Grime and Punishment
by Dav Pilkey
1,361 checkouts



Over 800,000 holds placed

Curbside pickup service is here to stay!
200,000+ items checked out at 80,000+ visits





Total circulation is up **36%** year-to-date from 2020



Most popular digital (OverDrive) checkouts



The Midnight Library by Matt Haig (audio) **2,030 checkouts**



- KDL has continued to offer a mix of in-branch and online programming:
 - Almost **25,000** attendees at **1,100+** in-branch programs
 - **900+** online programs with over **50,000** attendees watching live and **180,000+** recorded viewings



Over **13,000** people completed the Summer Wonder 30-Day Challenge.



American Dirt by Jeanine Cummins **877 checkouts**



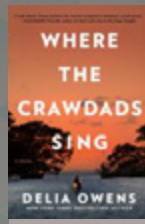
People We Meet on Vacation by Emily Henry **917 checkouts**



The Guest List by Lucy Foley (audio) **968 checkouts**



The Book of Lost Friends by Lisa Wingate **1,004 checkouts**



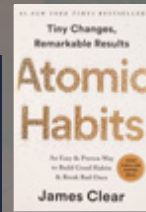
Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens (audio) **1,005 checkouts**



The Four Winds by Kristin Hannah **1,017 checkouts**



The Midnight Library by Matt Haig **1,119 checkouts**

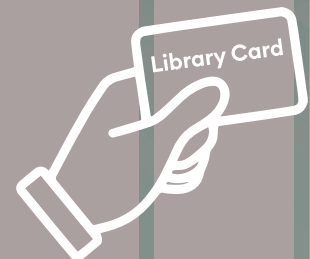


Atomic Habits by James Clear **1,192 checkouts**



The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett **1,391 checkouts**

Over **15,000** library cards issued



KENT DISTRICT LIBRARY

VIBES

LOCAL MUSIC

The background of the entire page is a dark, atmospheric photograph of a live music performance. In the foreground, a musician is silhouetted against a bright stage light, playing an electric guitar. To the right, another musician is partially visible, also in silhouette. The overall mood is energetic and artistic.

Bringing Local Music Streaming to the Communities We Serve

It is no secret that West Michigan is home to a diverse and ever-growing family of musicians. From Americana to hip-hop to electronic to metal, the west side of the Mitten State is a welcome home to internationally-known acts and up-and-comers alike. And while the community radio stations and local music publications do a fantastic job of covering these artists, many lifelong residents in the area could not name a single local act – and that truly is a shame. But this lack of awareness is not unique to West Michigan. In major cities that boast incredible music scenes, often times even the locals aren't exposed.

As a library, we're responsible for providing access to quality content to the communities we serve, which is why we are excited to introduce KDL Vibes – a commercial-free streaming service that gives local musicians a platform to share their music and gives our patrons a portal to all of the awesome music that these artists have to share. KDL Vibes is powered by MUSICat, a software that was designed by Rabble and has been adopted by libraries across the country for similar local music streaming projects. With the help of our team of curators, which is comprised of musicians and music advocates, we've been able to build a collection of albums that represents all the awesome sounds of West Michigan. Our hope is that we can help to showcase and share all of the great talent in the area, and that residents of Kent County and beyond can now dive into the eclectic music scene that is West Michigan – one that they might never have known even existed.



Key features of Vibes:

- Browse and listen to West Michigan musicians
- Available to everyone (library card not required)
- New albums added to the collection on a regular basis
- Free to use and ad free

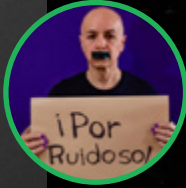
vibes.kdl.org

Meet the curators



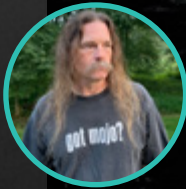
Andrea "SuperDre" Wallace

Music producer/DJ, entrepreneur and investor



Hugo Claudin

Multidisciplinary artist



Eric Green

Radio Programmer at local radio station 88.1 FM WYCE



Laura Nowe

Radio Programmer at WYCE



Jake Wunderink

Traffic & Operations Manager at WYCE



Ted Smith

Musician, owner of local music venue Tip Top Deluxe Bar & Grill



Gabriella De La Vega

Radio host, community activist



Linda "Lady Ace Boogie" Tellis

Musician, entrepreneur



David Specht

Digital Marketing Strategist at Kent District Library

All KDaLe programs are for ages 21 and up.

It's the Return of KDaLe!

Interact with local brewers and learn about the industry while tasting some delicious beverages. Enjoy the Michigan winter by brewing your own book-themed beer and tasting some past winning home brews at our Tap Takeover.

KDaLe Tours

Tour the inner workings of your favorite local breweries.



Cedar Springs Brewing Company
95 N. Main St., Cedar Springs, MI 49319
Wednesday, Jan. 5, 6:00 PM
Saturday, Feb. 5, Noon



Speciation Artisan Ales
928 Wealthy St. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506
Tuesday, Jan. 18, 7:00 PM



Gravel Bottom Craft Brewery
452 Ada Dr. SE, Ada, MI 49301
Wednesday, Jan. 26, 7:00 PM



The Mitten Brewing Company
527 Leonard St. NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504
Wednesday, Feb. 9, 7:00 PM



3 Gatos Brewery
1760 44th St. SW Suite 8, Wyoming, MI 49519
Tuesday, Feb. 22, 7:00 PM

KDaLe Home Brewing Competition

Register by Jan. 24 at kdl.org/kdale

If you think your home brew has what it takes to be crowned champion, here's your chance! Enter our 5th Annual "Book-Inspired Brewing" competition to see how your beer stacks up.

Beer submissions must be delivered by Feb. 28.
Complete rules are at kdl.org/kdale



KDaLe Tap Takeover | Horrocks Market

Friday, Feb. 4, 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Join us at Horrocks Market as we celebrate the 6th year of KDaLe with a special KDaLe tap takeover. Beer City Brewers from all over the area took us up on the challenge to create their own book-inspired beer. Winning beers from past champions of the KDaLe Home Brewing Competition will also be on tap. Sample all of these great new local brews, and meet a few of the brewers who created them. 4455 Breton Road, Kentwood.



KDaLe Trivia Night | Rockford Brewing Company

Wednesday, Feb. 23, 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Team up with friends, roommates or family for Trivia Night with Matt Eickhoff of Here's Your Host, LLC. The game will include 4-5 rounds of themed trivia, specially created for this event. 12 E. Bridge St. NE, Rockford.

KDaLe Quest Guide

Attend KDaLe programs, visit our brewery partners and win prizes! Pick up your KDaLe Quest Guide at any KDL branch and begin working towards earning a KDaLe pint glass and chances at more prizes.



For information on these programs, tours and Home Brewing Competition rules, please visit kdl.org/kdale.



Literary Libations®
Kent District Library

Thank You!

On Thursday, Sept. 16, Kent District Library hosted its **7th annual Literary Libations Gala** at the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park. We ate. We laughed. We were inspired. We raised money for a great cause.



This sold-out event had almost **300 attendees** excited to share in an evening of celebrating four amazing authors – **Catherine Coulter, Rebecca Deng, Peter Heller and Christopher Cosmos.**



Over **\$69,000** was raised to promote KDL's youth poetry programming and outreach, and we couldn't have done it without **Centennial Securities** (Title Sponsor), **Adamy Valuation** (Hemingway Sponsor), our Honorary Committee, all the table sponsors and the tireless work of the Gala Planning Committee.



Save the date for next year's **Literary Libations Gala: Thursday, Sept. 15, 2022.** You don't want to miss out on all the fun and excitement!

KDL 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

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 (ROCKFORD)

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



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

kdl.org/locations

616.784.2007

Toll-free: 1.877.243.2466 | kdl.org

On the cover



During **Let it Snow** (Jan. 3 - March 31) participants who sign up for our winter reading program will be entered into a drawing to receive a KDL canvas tote bag. Two winners will be chosen per week. If we draw your name, you will receive an email asking which KDL Branch you would like us to send your tote to! kdl.org/snow

Welcome to KDL!



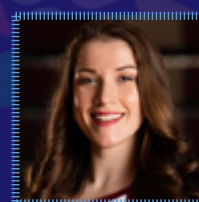
Shannon O'Rourke Kasali
Branch Librarian, Kentwood
Recommends: *All the World*
by Liz Garton Scanlon



Joshua Mosey
Assistant Branch Librarian, Caledonia Twp.
Recommends: *The Constant Rabbit*
by Jasper Fforde



Daniel VanDyke
Assistant Branch Librarian,
Plainfield Twp.
Recommends: *Lirael* by Garth Nix



Abigail Mulonas
Shelver, Cascade Twp.

Julia Cooke
Shelver, Amy Van Andel Library
Recommends: *Tales from a Traveling Couch: A Psychotherapist Revisits His Most Memorable Patients* by Robert U. Akeret

Anja Van Druenen
Shelver, Gaines Twp.
Recommends: *The Chosen*
by Chaim Potok

Amruta More
Shelver, Cascade Twp.

Quinn Davey
Patron Services Associate,
Service Center



Matt Wagenheim
Assistant Branch Librarian,
Amy Van Andel Library
Recommends: *Stranger in a Strange Land*
by Robert A. Heinlein

Anh-Thu Vuong
Shelver, Cascade Twp.

Jason Kotarski
Assistant Branch Librarian,
Amy Van Andel Library



Rebecca Reitemeier
Shelver, Cascade Twp.
Recommends: *In the Event This Doesn't Fall Apart* by Shannon Barry



Yannick Kpachavi
Assistant Branch Librarian, Comstock Park
Recommends: *The Way Of Kings* by Brandon Sanderson

Cody Ketchum
Shelver, Cascade Twp.

Noah Chun
Shelver, Cascade Twp.




Laurie Haan
Shelver, Byron Twp.
Recommends: *The Girl with the Louding Voice* by Abi Daré



Kurt Lardie
Regional Manager II, Alto and Englehardt
Recommends: *The Water Dancer*
by Ta-Nehisi Coates

Amruta More
Shelver, Cascade Twp.

Did You Know?



You can check out a Kill A Watt EZ Meter for three weeks. This device is used to accurately measure power consumption of household appliances and to determine actual cost of power consumed. Place a hold on one today.

LET IT: SNOW

January 3 – March 31



We are pleased to present Let It Snow for adults and teens.

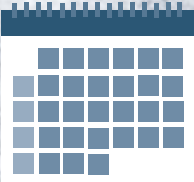
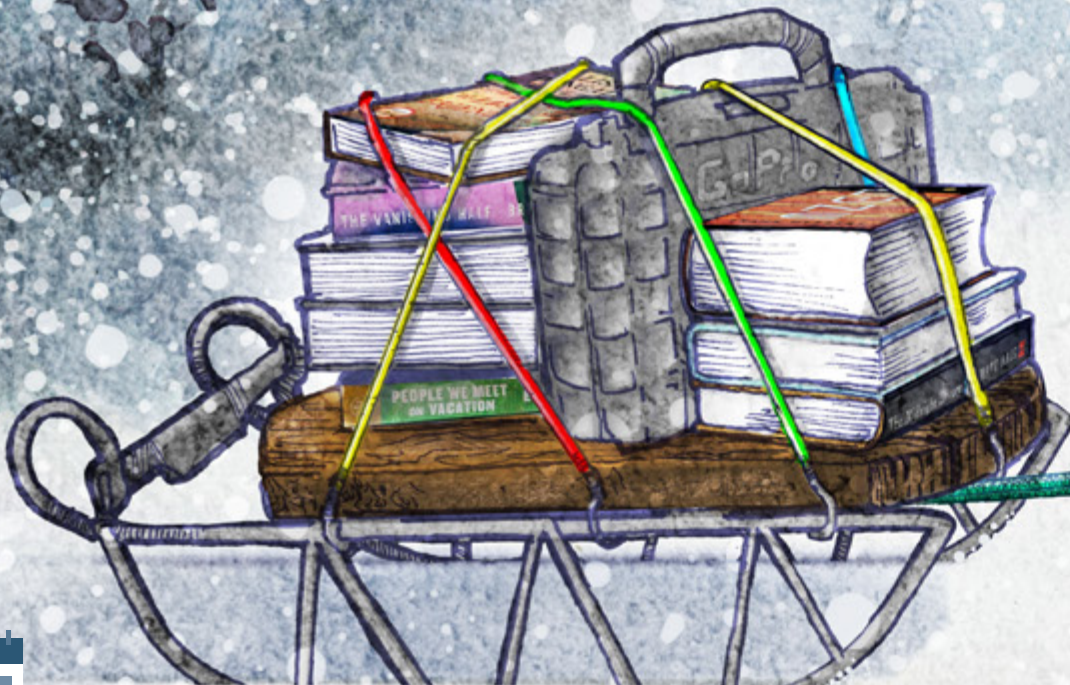
This winter reading program returns with a collectible mug for completers.

Read a minimum of six books between January 3 and March 31 to receive the 2022 Let It Snow ceramic 15 oz. mug.

Participants who finish an additional four titles will be entered into a drawing to win an iPad, an experience or other prizes.

Participate online at kdl.org/snow or pick up a printed form at any KDL Branch when the program begins.

kdl.org/snow



See all new events and programs at kdl.org/events