

# KALEIDOSCOPE

Kent District Library // Information. Ideas. Excitement!

Fall 2020

What's your  
story?

**WRITE**  
MICHIGAN<sup>®</sup>  
SHORT STORY CONTEST

***The Summer of Andrea* by Susan Lovell**

2019-2020 Write Michigan Adult Published Finalist, pg. 4

**Kiddos' Corner**, pg. 8

**Fall Online Calendar**, pg. 12

**Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Our Collection**, pg. 18





# What's your story?

We sure have been living through some crazy times, haven't we?

With so many students learning from home this fall, our Write Michigan Short Story Contest might be more valuable than ever before. Encourage your children (or students) to enter. It's a great opportunity for writers of all ages to get their story published and win a generous cash prize. Learn more at [writemichigan.org](http://writemichigan.org).

As we continue to navigate through uncertainty, we want you to know that we are here to meet your needs. If you don't have access to the Internet, check out a mobile hotspot. If you are homeschooling for the first time, we have a wide variety of materials you might find helpful, and we encourage you to utilize our online programs as part of your curriculum. If you need to escape your stress for a bit with a good book or movie, we've got you covered.



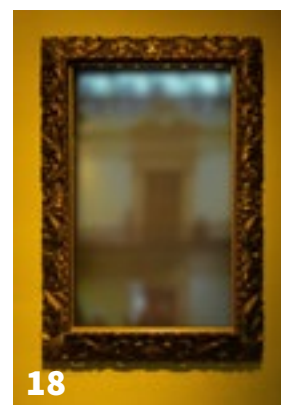
Let's press on together.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Lance M. Werner".

Lance M. Werner  
Executive Director, Kent District Library



# Contents



- 4** *The Summer of Andrea* by Susan Lovell  
2019-2020 Adult Published Finalist, Write Michigan
- 8** Kiddos' Corner – Summer Wonder Wraps
- 12** KDL Every-Week-at-a-Glance Fall Calendar
- 15** Partner Spotlight: Home Repair Services
- 17** Teen Photo Contest and Film Festival
- 18** Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Our Collection
- 20** Staff Picks
- 22** Fund Development News
- 23** Branch Hours

## About the cover:

Our Write Michigan artwork was created by Piper Adonya.

f @piperadonya  
[www.piperadonya.com](http://www.piperadonya.com)







# KDL updates



We opened our exterior book drops June 8. In the first week after the book drops re-opened, over **25,000 items** were returned and put into a 3-day quarantine before being checked in.

During the first week of curbside pickup, which launched June 15, **5,462 patrons** picked up over **32,000 items**.

During the time KDL branches were closed due to the Coronavirus, **digital circulation increased 58%** over the same time frame last year, and **database visits were up 66%**.



Despite a short delay due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the **Amy Van Andel Library and Community Center** is coming along nicely. The branch is scheduled to open early 2021.



Take an aerial tour at [kdl.org/locations/ada](https://kdl.org/locations/ada)



Adult Published Finalist, Write Michigan 2019-2020

# THE SUMMER OF ANDREA

by Susan Lovell

*This short story led the author to dig deeper into her characters and resulted in the novel Promises to Keep, available on Amazon in September.*

I'll never know if it was the familiar elegance of his cheekbone in the Tribune's Arts photo or the caption that caught me first. *The brilliant virtuoso pianist Jason Armitage will perform tomorrow night with the Chicago Symphony. The Chicago native recently returned from a concert tour in Europe where he drew rave reviews. The 29-year old Julliard graduate recently won the coveted...*

I don't need to read any more about him. I know who he is. I call my friend Phil at the Tribune praying he hasn't handed out all the concert tickets he gives to big advertisers. "You're just in time if you need only one ticket, Jennifer." I'm selfishly relieved my husband's on call.

"They tell me this Armitage is quite the musical prodigy," Phil adds. "Our music reviewer is all pumped up to hear him."

"You have no idea how grateful I am, Phil. It's a long story. I'll tell you some time."

I close my office door at *Countdown*, the weekly suburban newspaper I edit, to start a story about how surprisingly successful our paper's campaign to bring home the American hostages from Iran has been. Again this week our entire back page is an American flag in vivid red, white, and blue reading, *This flag stays up until all the hostages are home*. Every day now more and more flags appear in front windows.

But first I have to edit a reporter's article on a \$35 million gift to build a clinic for holistic medicine named Health Center for Mind, Body, & Spirit. "Doctors today treat

only the physical ailment," the donor explained, "but they need to treat the whole person. And we all know negative thinking can make us sick." My older sister Millison pops up as I read. Always 'poor me.' Always a new malady.

"But it's our spirituality that gets most neglected," the philanthropist went on. "Those moments in life when our very souls are touched..."

Suddenly my heart starts pounding. I hear my beloved grandmother saying a coincidence is a memo from God. But you have to be paying attention. The pianist. My victim sister. I lean back against the desk chair and in a slow seamlessness, my thudding heartbeat becomes the sound of horses' hooves on hard dirt...



My father had been home from the war for four years and this was the spring I had to choose which half of my heart to carve out. Millison, who'd chosen immediately, galloped ahead of me, our horses puffing out blue clouds as we rode through the woods behind our house. Now our dad's house since Mother

had moved into her parents' home six blocks away. Millison and I were riding to see the old Randall house everyone called the "Castle." We'd heard a rich family named Armitage from Chicago had bought it and fixed it up so they could move in for the summer. In Martinsville everybody knew everybody's business.

So we also knew Paul Armitage owned several skyscrapers in Chicago and his company plane would fly

him over Lake Michigan weekends to see his family. The Armitage's only child was a daughter who'd been sick and the doctor wanted her out of the city and into fresh air. But she wouldn't come without her horse.

Then some friend of a friend who once lived in Martinsville told Mrs. Armitage about the empty Randall place with a barn and horse stalls plus an exercise paddock. We knew all this too because in those days people needed something to talk about besides Communism. The best conversations in town, however, were about Martinsville's own families. Especially when their lives had gone wrong. Millison and I had learned that over the past two years.

My horse Ginger and Millison's Black Diamond shook their bridles as we stopped and stared. "I told you they'd have a swimming pool," she said in the superior tone she used with me. Even more since she'd turned 16 and I was stuck at 13.

But it was the Castle itself that stopped my breath. The rambling old brick walls had been cleaned up and restored, the boarded-up windows now sparkling in the April sun. The overgrown yard we had galloped over to outrun the neglected Castle's ghostliness was freshly sodded and sprinkled with daffodils. Still it was the turret that made it the Castle and now dominated the house. The rounded tower in one corner of the Castle was in every fantasy I'd ever read. There Rumpelstiltskin spun gold and Rapunzel unfurled her hair.

We didn't go back to the Castle until June and our cleaning lady Mrs. Cassidy asked us to. She'd taken on the Armitage family and told our dad about Andrea, the sweet daughter our age who didn't know a soul and wasn't well enough yet to get out and meet people. Besides, as Mrs. Cassidy pointed out, we were the only kids in town with horses in our back yard.

The house where we lived with Dad overlooked the woods. Our parents, probably out of guilt, had bought us each a horse when their screaming battles began running together, louder every time. Ginger and Black Diamond lived in the old chicken coop behind our house.

The day we were going to meet the Armitage girl, I was too excited to eat lunch. Millison acted like it was no big deal. But I knew she was curious too. Like my friends, hers were dying to hear about the rich girl and the redone Castle at the old Randall place.

The path to the Armitage's wound through a grove of pine trees with low branches. Sometimes we'd tie up the horses and scramble up one of the tallest trees. The fragrance of the pines called us to climb them. Millison didn't like heights but I'd wiggle straight up until I could see the Castle tower in one direction and the other way, my grandparents' roof where Mother was now living.

That first day we didn't slow down until we came into the sunlight of the Armitage place. We'd barely reined in our horses when a slight man in jodhpurs appeared and took our bridles. "I see you ladies ride Western," he said after telling us Miss Armitage was looking for us.



## What's your story?

- ***The 9th Annual Short Story Contest is underway!***
- ***Categories include youth, teens, adults and Spanish language (11 and younger).***
- ***Winners will be published and receive cash prizes.***

Writers of all ages are invited to enter for a chance to become published and win cash prizes. All entries must be submitted online by November 30, 2020 at noon. For more information, please visit [WriteMichigan.org](https://www.writemichigan.org).

*The Summer of Andrea* is an Adult Published Finalist from last year. The *Write Michigan Anthology* includes this and 23 other short story winners. The anthology can be checked out from any KDL location or purchased from Schuler Books.



“He thinks we’re bumpkins for having pommels on our saddles,” Millison sneered as we headed toward the Castle. “No,” I disagreed, as I seemed to do more lately. “He meant our saddles are pretty with the floral tooling.”

A pretty woman with blond curly hair smiled as she opened the door. “I am Helen Armitage, Andrea’s mother, and we’re so glad to see you.” Her eyes were bright buttons of cobalt blue. Behind her was an older woman with black and silver hair pulled into a neat bun. Tall and slim, she introduced herself as Vivian Armitage, Andrea’s grandmother. Her smile was honest, but lacked the embracing texture of her daughter-in-law’s.

My sense of the Castle was shiny brass and polished wood over Oriental rugs. A grandfather’s clock boomed as we entered the room upstairs. I had to swallow a gasp. Millison’s “bumpkin” jumped into my mind. The high-ceilinged room with two dormered windows had an enormous stone fireplace across one wall.

“Hi, I’m Andrea Armitage,” a dulcet voice spoke from a blue brocade chair beside the canopy bed where her mother was smoothing the covers. Millison introduced us while I stared at the palest skin I’d ever seen. Like fine silk pulled over a stitchery hoop, Andrea’s face gave the impression I could watch the blood moving through her veins.

The arresting blue of her eyes—her mother’s but with a certain serenity—shone even bluer against her white cheeks. Her hair was shiny auburn cut short with thick bangs straight across her forehead. She had on blue jeans over what I knew were English riding boots and an oversized white shirt with rolled-up sleeves making her arms even thinner. At her neck glinted a small gold cross. A barely visible line of sweat at her temples told me she’d just exerted herself. I guessed getting out of bed and dressed for us.

Then she smiled. I said it before I could stop myself. “You’ve got a space too!” I touched the gap between my two front teeth.

“Jennifer!” Millison gave me her look. I thought I heard a giggle behind me as Mrs. Armitage left the room.

“Yes, I do!” Andrea exclaimed as though she hadn’t heard my sister. Her face miraculously flushed with vigor. “Can you spit water between yours?” Andrea asked and mimicked the maneuver with her tongue. Then she extended her soft hand and as I took it into both of mine, I felt a spiritual connection to this day I can’t explain. But it was more real than the room we were in.



It never mattered again that Andrea was two years older and sickly. I was hers. I had lived with such turmoil and cruelty and meanness for so long that Andrea’s simple pureness was a balm to my bruised heart. The aura of Andrea’s fragile royalty was part of the fascination, I knew. Especially for a small-town girl. And surely I was star struck by a kind of affluence I knew only from the movies.

But it was something more elusive. Andrea’s almost musical voice, her long-fingered gestures, her way of reaching my soul with eyes that gave her an almost otherworldly incandescence. As I would later come to know her better, I understood that my first giddy fascination had not begun to catch her measure. She was kinder, funnier, wiser than I’d guessed that first afternoon.

Still absorbed in Andrea’s radiance, I was startled by the clatter of dishes as her mother and grandmother came in carrying silver trays. Andrea’s mother put three frosted sundae glasses of ice cream and chocolate sauce on paper doilies in front of us. The grandmother’s tray carried a teapot, cups and saucers, and tall glasses of ice and unopened Coke bottles.

I didn’t pretend I’d had hot tea before. Even that first day I couldn’t imagine saying anything to Andrea that wasn’t true. Hot tea became my drink of choice that day—although I drank the Coke too.

After Millison said how they shouldn’t have gone to so much trouble, Andrea laughed in her dulcimer-like voice.



“They’re not fussing. It’s their plot to fatten me up.” And she was right. Every day after that when I was there—most days—they served a rich dessert. Crème brulee. Cheesecake.

Over that summer I would gain a vocabulary of bisques and petits four. And while I was scrawny enough to use some roundness, the Armitages’ luscious calories didn’t do anything for me. I never saw they were doing anything for Andrea either.

“She’s just a spoiled rich girl,” Millison said that first day as we headed home. “She’s probably faking sickness to get attention.”

Watching her blond ponytail bobble in tandem with Black Diamond’s, I was too angry to speak. My ears felt on fire. When I finally got to my voice, we had such a fight that I kicked my horse past hers so I didn’t have to look at her anymore.

Our parents impending divorce was damaging us in different ways. Millison’s dark judgments came from what I saw as her hopelessness. My Pollyanna romanticizing drove her crazy. Later in the summer, I would wish I’d been more like Millison. Her way might have protected me from the ravages I couldn’t see coming.

Over that summer, my school friends and I spent mornings riding bikes to the public beach as they lapped up my stories of crustless cucumber sandwiches and lace linen napkins. They wondered about Andrea’s illness. I told them the truth. I’d almost forget about it because she never complained. I didn’t tell them I sometimes caught quick movements around her eyes suggesting pain. I didn’t want to think about it.

All she ever said was how sorry she felt for her parents because they’d had such fun taking her to horse shows before she got sick. They wanted more children and Andrea wanted that too. She didn’t like being an only child. She knew her father wanted a son to carry on his name.

Andrea and I talked about our friends. I relished her stories of uniforms and private schools and chauffeuring

to country club birthday parties. She laughed her silver laugh over the funny things I said my friends and I had done over the years. Tipping over an outhouse the last Halloween was a favorite. She said my friends were always welcome to come over, and I kept meaning to invite them. But I never did. I couldn’t share her.

The days Andrea felt good she’d sit on a chair by the barn and I’d lead her horse Hunter, a magnificent black Arabian, to her. My heart sang and hurt as the horse almost jumped toward Andrea, nuzzling her chin as he gently lowered his huge head into her lap. Andrea laid her face against his muscled neck, her long fingers stroking Hunter’s great forehead as the high-spirited horse stood motionless as a statue. Their silent communion felt sacred, and I had to look away.

She said I could ride Hunter any time. Ordinarily I’d have loved the chance to ride this gorgeous thoroughbred. But it seemed jinxed to me. He was her horse. What I wanted above all was for Andrea to come riding with me.

On hot days when she felt strong enough, I’d bring my suit and we’d go to the pool. She’d sit on the edge dangling

her feet while I was in the water. On one of those days I finally told her about the divorce. The fighting. That Millison and I had to choose which parent to live with and she’d immediately said our mother. But I couldn’t choose either one. Andrea listened, as she always did, with an intensity of concentration that absorbed every word I said.

Andrea splashed the turquoise water on her legs and said she wished it were different for me. She had a way of not blaming my parents or pitying me—which I’d thought I wanted. Instead Andrea seemed to take our family’s pain into herself as if through a crucible... and return it to me refined. Not removed, but endurable.

The steamy August day I had to give the lawyers my answer, I found Andrea downstairs playing her favorite Mozart piece on the grand piano. Ever since the day at the pool, she and I had talked and cried and prayed about whether I should move to Arizona with Mother or stay in Martinsville with Dad.

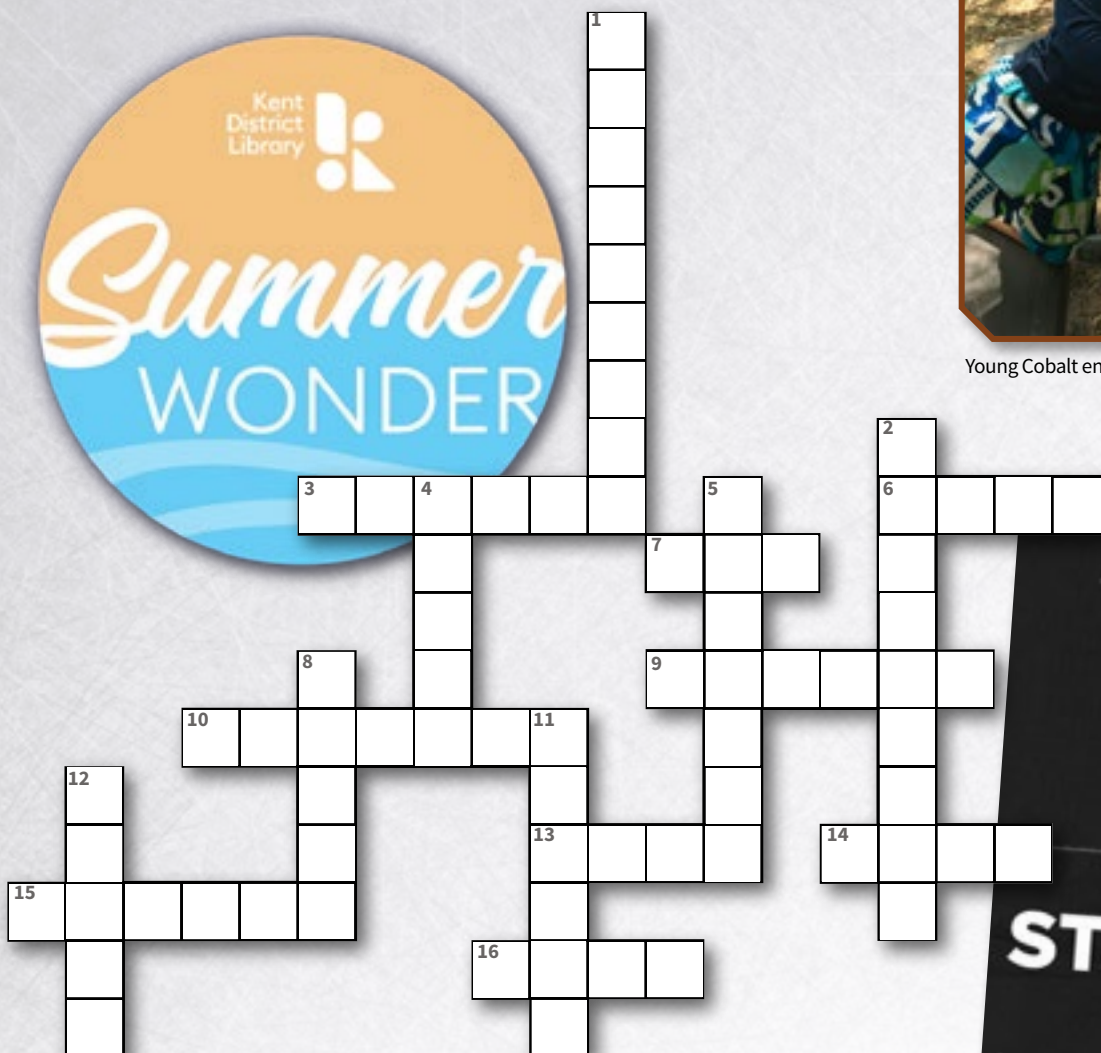
*Continued on page 10*



**Summer Wonder** is a wrap for 2020 but let's keep up with STEAM. KDL is already working on putting together a great Summer Wonder program for 2021. Here are a couple projects to keep your mind "STEAM-ing" ahead as summer draws to a close!



Young Cobalt enjoys the Summer Wonder collage project.



## Across

3. Parts of a plant or tree attached to the branches or stems
6. A low temperature, especially in the atmosphere
7. Soft, sticky matter resulting from the mixing of earth and water
9. A small creature with eight legs
10. The process or period of gathering in crops
13. Condensed moisture from the atmosphere that drops on the Earth as water
14. The natural satellite of the earth, visible (chiefly at night) by reflected light from the sun
15. Season of the year between summer and winter
16. A hoofed grazing or browsing animal, with branched bony antlers that are shed annually and typically borne only by the male

## Down

1. This term refers to the annual falling of the leaves
2. The figure of a person dressed in old clothes set up to frighten crows or birds away from crops
4. The fleshy, usually rounded red, yellow or green edible pome fruit
5. A large rounded orange-yellow fruit with a thick rind, edible flesh and many seeds
8. A color produced by mixing red, yellow and blue, as of dark wood or rich soil
11. A large mainly domesticated game bird native to North America, having a bald head and (in the male) red wattles
12. An agile tree-dwelling rodent with a bushy tail





# ARBOR ARTISTRY

## What You Need:

- White paper
- Crayons or colored chalk
- Leaves of different sizes and textures

## How to:

- Before you begin your art project, you will need to go leaf hunting! Collect as many leaves as you would like, but make sure they aren't going to crumble too easily.
- Arrange your leaves on a table or flat surface however you would like. Place the leaf with the bottom side facing up.
- Place your white piece of paper on top of the leaves.
- Use your crayons to color on the paper; you should start to see the different leaf patterns show up on the paper as you color.
- Use as many colors as you'd like and try rearranging your leaves to create different patterns.
- Can you arrange the leaves to spell your name? What other materials could you use for this activity?

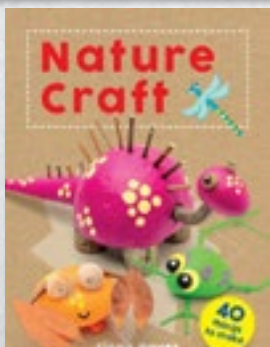


©2020 Sylvia Jane

Related titles:



A.



B.



C.

A. *Mysterious Patterns: Finding Fractals in Nature*  
by Sarah C. Campbell

B. *Nature Craft* by Fiona Hayes

C. *The Paper Playhouse: Awesome Art Projects for Kids Using Paper, Boxes, and Books* by Katrina Rodabaugh



My mother's tearful pleadings for me to move with her—my father's rational arguments not to go. Ginger, my friends, the school I loved pulled me to stay; but my mother's unhappiness called me to leave. The keyboard vanished under Andrea's slender fingers and the room became the music as I sat beside her on the bench.

"If you move," she said as if our conversation had already started, "you can't come visit me in Winnetka this fall. If you stay, you can't ride horses across the desert in December." Then she smiled her spaced grin. "You will tell the lawyers, my dearest friend, what your heart knows is best. You and I will always be friends no matter where you live. We will write and phone and visit whether it's Phoenix or Martinsville. Now," she stood up abruptly, "we're going horseback riding!"

In my stunned surprise and joy, I forgot about the lawyers. Neither did I notice Andrea wheezing until we dismounted after a blissful ride through the woods together. As we headed to the pool to soak our hot feet, her grandmother met us with medicine for Andrea. She also brought us water and two raspberry parfaits.

When I saw Andrea hardly touched hers, I had to perk her up. I took a big gulp of water, arched my neck, and spit a high stream of water through my two front teeth into the pool. Andrea's rolling giggle filled the air. "Oh, no, you don't." She filled her cheeks to bulging with water, leaned back, and spit a stream bigger and farther than mine.

I was still laughing before I realized she was coughing uncontrollably. I grabbed her in a bear hug and began patting her back when her grandmother and mother came running towards us.

The next two days were a blur of lawyers and papers and tears. In the end, I just couldn't leave home. When it was over, I went right to the pony stable and saddled up Ginger. Before I emerged from the woods I heard car doors slamming. Ginger's ears stood up. My ribs pinched.

The hearse was the only thing I saw as I half heard voices of serious men about their serious work. I next thing I knew I was standing on the grove's tallest branch. Andrea's Castle looked toy-like, the turret's windows foggy through the thickness of tears I wasn't sure would ever stop.

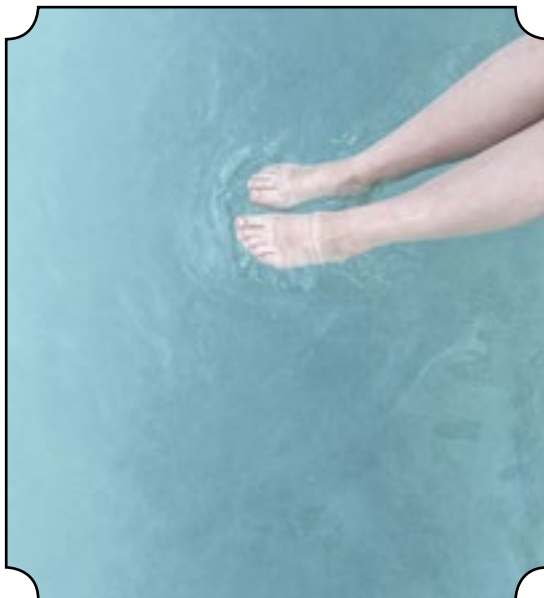


I'm the only one still seated as all around standing people clap and scream out, "Bravo!" Jason had not played a note before I knew he was Andrea's brother, the son her parents always wanted. By his age, he had to have been conceived that summer in Martinsville. Of course he was. I fight back my tears.

Suddenly, the serene blue eyes catch mine. Then he bows, half embarrassed by the adulation, his head bent in a remembered angle.

"I knew your sister, Andrea," I scribble on my program. "If I can ever bear the pain of your resemblance, I'd like to tell you about her." I add my phone number. The head usher takes my twenty-dollar bill promising to give the note to Mr. Armitage himself.

I am ready for my nightly tea.



## About the Author

Susan Brace Lovell graduated as valedictorian from Greenville High School and with honors from the University of Michigan. Susan taught English at Livonia Bentley High, Grand Rapids Junior College, Aquinas College and the University of Maryland in Germany. She also founded the East Grand Rapids weekly newspaper, *The Cadence*. She has written four local history books, two novels, and is working on a third novel, *Promises to Keep*, based on this short story. Susan is a the devoted wife of Dr. F. Raymer Lovell, and proudest possible mother of three children, six DNA grands and two married-into grands.







REMEMBER TO  
**breathe.**

**Think your photos  
are better than this?**

Flip to page 17 to learn more about our  
**Teen Photo Challenge.** Winning photos  
will be featured online and in print.





# EVERY-WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE

## MONDAYS

### 10:00 AM, Storytime

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.*

### 4:00 PM, Teen Graphic Novel Book Talks

September 28, October 26 and November 23

Learn about graphic novels that may be new to you!

### 6:00 PM, Live & Learn

September 14 – October 5 - *For adults.*



**September 14:** Adam Oster, Library of Michigan – *Michigan in the Novel*



**September 21:** Dr. Michelle Lloyd-Paige, Calvin University – *What Can I Do About Racism?*



**September 28:** Cheryl Blackington from GR Center for Mindfulness – *Building Resilience Using Mindful Self-Compassion*



**October 5:** Author Laura Holmes – *Travel Tales*

### 6:30 PM, Book Clubs OR Book Talks

If you love to read and discover new books, join us for a book talk or book club! *For school age children.*



**Pre-registration is required for book clubs;** see the event listings for more details. Parents or guardians are strongly encouraged to assist their children while navigating online programs including reviewing book club titles. Visit [kdl.org/events](https://kdl.org/events) to register.

## TUESDAYS (CONTINUED)

### 6:00 PM, Teen Tuesdays @ Home

September 8

September 29

October 13

November 10

November 17

Find activities, games and more provided by your favorite KDL Teen Librarians. *For teens.*

### 6:30 PM, What We're Reading

Catch up on what your favorite KDL librarians and special guests are currently reading. *For adults.*

## WEDNESDAYS

### 10:00 AM, Storytime

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.*

### 4:00 PM, Teen Graphic Novel Book Club

September 30, October 28 and November 25

If you love to read and discover new books, join us for a graphic novel book discussion! *For teens and adults.*



### 4:30 PM, KDL Curiosity

#### Lab Online: Ask the Expert

Every other Wednesday starting September 16

Meet in the KDL Curiosity Lab as we ask local STEAM experts some curious questions from kiddos just like you! *For school age children.*

### 7:00 PM, What We're Learning

Every other Wednesday starting September 9

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

### 7:00 PM, Anti-racism Book Club

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. *For adults.*

**September 30, *When They Call You a Terrorist:***

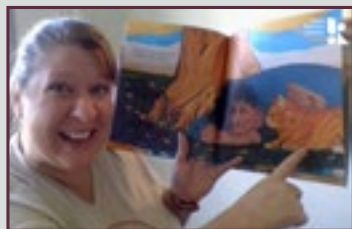
*A Black Lives Matter Memoir*

by Patrisse Khan-Cullors and Asha Bandele

**October 28, *Everywhere You Don't Belong* by Gabriel Bump**

**November 25, *The Plague of Doves* by Louise Erdrich**

## TUESDAYS



### 10:00 AM, Storytime

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.*



# SEPT. | OCT. | NOV.

IT'S ALL ONLINE!  
[kdl.org/livestream](http://kdl.org/livestream)



## THURSDAYS



### 10:00 AM, Storytime

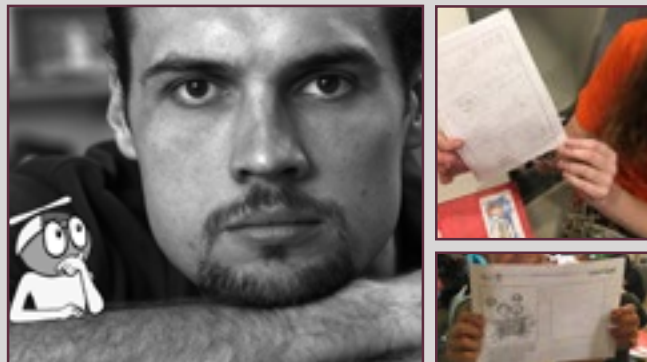
Enjoy stories, music, movement and rhymes that develop early literacy skills and encourage everyone in the family to share their love of reading.

*For families with children.*

### 7:00 PM, Rhyme Time Music and Movement

Enjoy stories, music, movement and rhymes that develop early literacy skills. *For families with children.*

## SATURDAYS



### Drawing Club (with Wade Gugino)

1:00 PM *For teens*

September 5: How to Create Your Own Cartoon Characters

October 3: Comic Strip College

November 7: Glorified Stick-Figure Graphic Novel

### 2:00 PM, Teen Book Talks

Learn about great teen books to read and other materials to enjoy through expert recommendations from KDL librarians. *For teens.*

## FRIDAYS

### 10:00 AM, Celebrating Your Community!

(Begins September 11)

A special Storytime featuring local community helpers like firefighters, police officers, doctors and more! *For families with children.*

### 7:00 PM, Author Chats

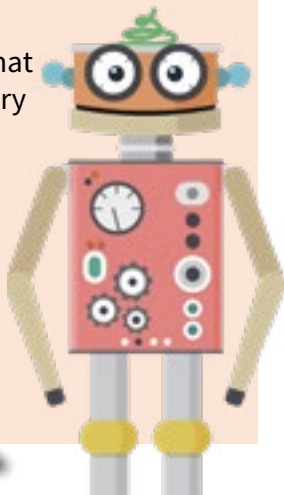
(Begins September 11)

Author interviews and conversations from West Michigan as well as winners of the Library of Michigan's 2020 Michigan Notable Books award. *For adults.*

## Wimee's Words | Weekdays, 1:00 PM

(Begins September 14)

Tune in and check out this web-based interactive LIVE kids show that encourages imagination, vocabulary building and storytelling through puppetry, music and wordplay.



## Write. Vote. Win.

**Don't miss out on this great opportunity to win \$500 and get published.**

Open to writers of all ages, with separate categories for youth, teens, adults and Spanish language (11 and younger).

Free for those 17 and younger.

\$10 entry fee for adults.

**Deadline: November 30 at noon**

**[WriteMichigan.org](http://WriteMichigan.org)**

# WIFI HOTSPOTS HELP TO CLOSE THE INTERNET GAP

**700 new hotspots added to the collection.**

“With an estimated 24,000 households without broadband access in the KDL service area, during this time of crisis, it’s important to help as many people as we can,” said Carrie Wilson, Director of Library Services at KDL. “With so many people working and learning from home, the need for internet access is greater than ever before.”



To check out a hotspot, visit [kdl.org](http://kdl.org) and search for the term “mobile hotspot.” Hotspots are available to KDL cardholders age 18 and older.





## HOME REPAIR SERVICES

RESOURCES FOR HOMEOWNERS

[homerepairservices.org](http://homerepairservices.org)

### Home Repair Services has presented popular classes at KDL branches, including a tiling workshop.



“We are a nonprofit with a mission to strengthen homeowners through critical repair support for the most vulnerable and by educating anyone else who wishes to better maintain and improve their homes. The ‘why’ of our work is simple — neighborhoods populated by successful and diverse homeowners are more stable, equitable and vibrant. Our popular workshops are known for teaching basic repair skills in an accessible way and they always include live demonstrations and, when done in person, plenty of hands-on student participation. The homeowner being able to see the skill (eyes), hear about the skill (ears) and then practice the skill (hands) has proven to be highly effective. An underlying goal with each of our programs is to increase homeowner confidence levels as a confident homeowner often correlates to a successful one.”

– Executive Director Joel Ruiter



### Tips and Techniques on Weatherization and Air Sealing

Wednesday,  
September 9, 7:00 PM  
[kdl.org/livestream](http://kdl.org/livestream)  
*For Adults.*

EXPAND YOUR MIND | LEARN SOMETHING NEW | BUILD COMMUNITY | HAVE FUN

# Live & Learn

## LECTURE SERIES



**Monday, September 14**

**6:00 PM - 7:00 PM**

### **Michigan in the Novel**

Adam Oster, from the Library of Michigan, talks about how Michigan's lengthy and colorful history provides the perfect backdrop for a wide range of literary works. Learn about the literary history of Michigan and rediscover the many great reads of our state from the early 20th century.



**Monday, September 28**

**6:00 PM - 7:30 PM**

### **Building Resilience Using Mindful Self-Compassion**

Cheryl Blackington, from the Grand Rapids Center for Mindfulness, will present ways we can all learn to be a better friend to ourselves when we are in the midst of a struggle. Participants will learn practical, simple tools they can use throughout their day.



**Monday, September 21**

**6:00 PM - 7:00 PM**

### **What Can I Do About Racism?**

Dr. Michelle Loyd-Paige, Executive Associate to the President for Diversity and Inclusion at Calvin University, will present a brief overview of the factors associated with the current state of race and racism in the United States.



**Monday, October 5**

**6:00 PM - 7:30 PM**

### **Travel Tales**

Learn how to travel your way happy with this presentation by adventure author and travel blogger, Laura Holmes. The COVID crisis has dramatically changed our approach to travel so we'll discuss the trend to vacation locally or regionally, three hot tips on where to visit in our own state, updates from the airline industry and more.

Join online at [kdl.org/livestream](https://kdl.org/livestream)



# KDL Teen Photo Challenge

[kdl.org/teens/photo-challenge](http://kdl.org/teens/photo-challenge)



**Grab your smartphones and cameras, and get ready! Compose your best snapshots of subjects that fall into three categories:**

**Abstract | Hometown Pride | Fall Landscape**

Enter for a chance to win a \$25 Meijer gift card. You may enter any or all three categories!

**Contest opens on Sunday, October 11 and closes on Saturday, October 17.**

Photos may not contain human subjects. Judges reserve the right to re-categorize any submission if deemed necessary. All photos must be taken on or after October 1, 2020.



**2021**   
**KENT COUNTY**  
**TEEN**  
**FILM**  
**FESTIVAL**

Call for Entries  
**Oct. 1, 2020**  
Submissions Due  
**Jan. 22, 2021**  
Festival  
**Feb. 27, 2021**  
**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](http://kdl.org/teenfilmfestival).

SPONSORS

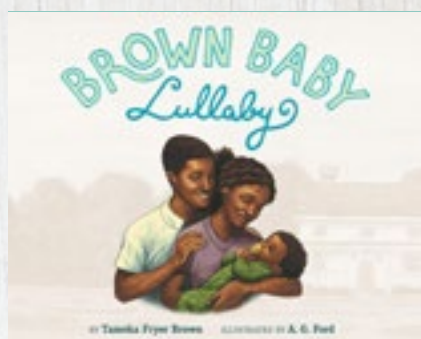
Kent District Library





# Doors, Windows and Mirrors

## Picture Books

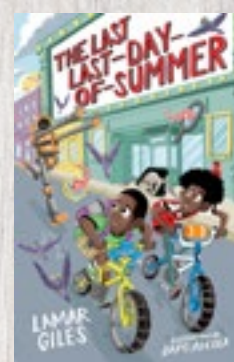


*Brown Baby Lullaby* by Tameka Fryer Brown, illustrated by A. G. Ford

*Hey Black Child* by Useni Eugene Perkins, illustrated by Bryan Collier

*Magnificent Homespun Brown: A Celebration* by Samara Cole Doyon, illustrated by Kaylani Juanita

## Chapter Books



*The Jada Jones Series* by Kelly Starling Lyons, illustrated by Vanessa Brantley-Newton

*Jake the Fake Keeps His Cool* by Craig Robinson and Adam Mansbach, art by Keith Knight

*The Last Last-Day-of-Summer* by Lamar Giles, illustrations by Dapo Adeola



The entire community benefits from having access to a diverse collection of materials. To paraphrase educator Rudine Sims Bishop, materials should act both as doors or windows for readers to see into experiences they might not have personally, and as mirrors for readers to see themselves and their experiences reflected. In that spirit, we have some books to recommend.

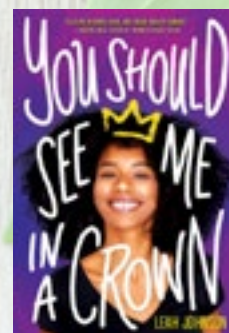
## Teen/Young Adult Books



*Not So Pure and Simple* by Lamar Giles

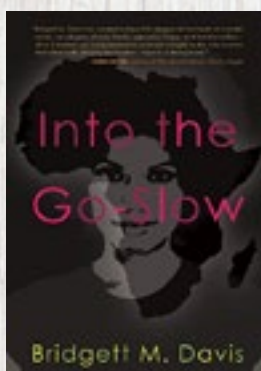


*Pride* by Ibi Zoboi

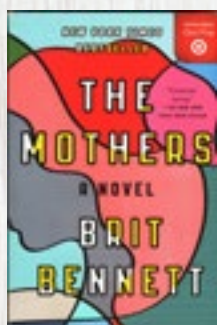


*You Should See Me in a Crown* by Leah Johnson

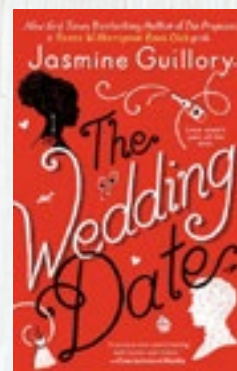
## Adult Books



*Into the Go-Slow* by Bridgett M. Davis



*The Mothers* by Brit Bennett



*The Wedding Date* by Jasmine Guillory





# Staff Picks | Books that Explore Diversity



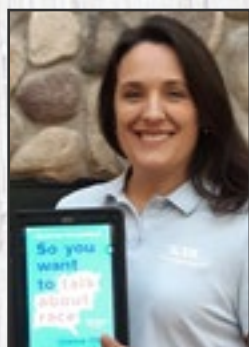
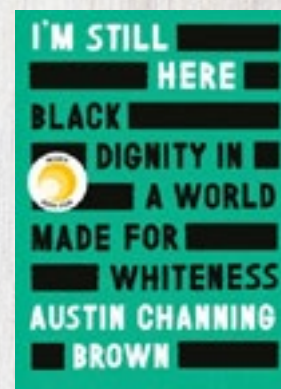
## **Stolen Justice: The Struggle for African American Voting Rights** by Lawrence Goldstone

“(This book) was an eye-opening look at the ways our laws, policies and practices have worked to keep voting rights from Black Americans from the time this country began, right up to the present day.” – Susan at Plainfield Township

## **I’m Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness** by Austin Channing Brown

“This book is so straightforward and gives great examples of micro-aggressions, small comments that make Black people feel uncomfortable, and why they make them uncomfortable. Brown is so relatable and really gives a narrative story to help give you a Black woman’s perspective. It’s a really great read for someone who has not read a lot of books about the Black or African American experience.”

– Leigh at Comstock Park



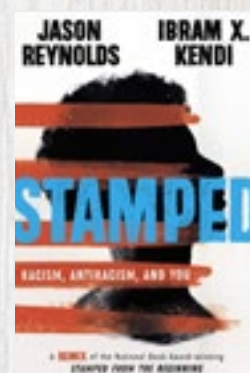
## **So You Want to Talk about Race** by Ijeoma Oluo

“*So You Want to Talk about Race* by Ijeoma Oluo may be the most important book you read this year. Oluo offers a powerful and user-friendly guide to discussing racism in America with effective bullet points to aid in examining your experience and your growth in understanding of this difficult topic.”

– Sara at Nelson Township

## **Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You** by Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi

“Written for middle and high school students, *Stamped* is a remix of Kendi’s adult book *Stamped from the Beginning*. The audiobook is excellent and lays out a history of how racism developed and has continued in the United States. Because to fight racism, you have to understand it!” – Johanna at the KDL Service Center



## **Between the World and Me** by Ta-Nehisi Coates

“*Between the World and Me* by Ta-Nehisi Coates is written as a raw and heartfelt letter from Coates to his fifteen-year-old son trying to come to terms with what it means to grow up as a Black male in 2015. The basic fear of African American parents, as Coates relays it, is that their children can be snatched away, brutalized, killed for the smallest of reasons or no reason at all. Sometimes we need to read something that helps us step outside of ourselves and this book fills that ticket.” – Kris at Grandville





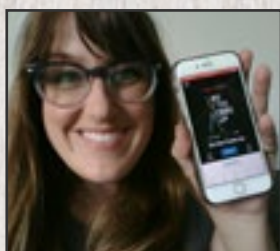
### **Momma, Did You Hear the News?** by Sanya Whittaker Gragg

"In rhyming text, this book tells the story of a young Black boy's awareness of the latest Black man who lost his life at the hands of a police officer. His parents have 'the talk' with him about how to stay safe as a young Black man in our society. The story is told in a way that is relatable to elementary-aged kids. This gently-told tale is a jolt to a white parent, like myself, knowing I will never need to have this conversation with my own children." – Julie at Byron Township

### **Red at the Bone** by Jacqueline Woodson

"This is a beautifully written story of three generations of a middle class Black family in Brooklyn. I learned more about the underlying sorrow present at all the occasions of joy, and how hard it is for a Black family to hold on to what they have to fight so hard to achieve."

– Penni at Cascade Township



### **On the Come Up** by Angie Thomas

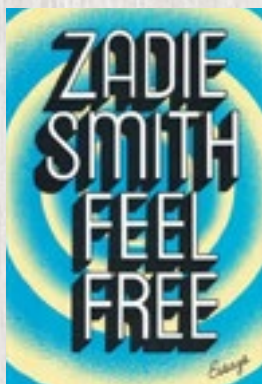
"I never appreciated or even understood how brilliant and poetic hip-hop music truly is until I read *On the Come Up* by Angie Thomas. It's the story of Bri, a sixteen-year-old rapper on the rise, and her controversial song that's gone viral. Highly recommend for readers 12-years-old and up." – Jenny at East Grand Rapids

### **The Last Black Man in San Francisco** directed by Joe Talbot

"A beautiful, quiet, poetic and powerful film about a young man's attempts to reclaim his family home in a gentrified city. It's based on the real life experiences of the main character, Jimmie Fails, whose family has lived in San Francisco for five generations, and the neighborhood once known as the Harlem of the west."

This movie does so much more than explain what gentrification is. The movie conveys the terrible feeling of knowing that not only is your home far beyond your financial means, but also that you're no longer welcome there. The film lets you know what it feels like to be, quite literally, the last Black man in San Francisco."

– Mark at Krause Memorial



### **Feel Free: Essays** by Zadie Smith

"As a queer woman of color and a citizen of the UK, Zadie Smith has refreshing and unique insight into many aspects of modern life. Her essays cover a wide range of topics and are not only interesting, but also funny and poignant. This book covers some serious topics but all in a very light feeling and easily digestible way!"

– Janine at the KDL Service Center



*The Sixth Annual*

# LITERARY LIBATIONS GOES VIRTUAL

Presenting Sponsor:

**CENTENNIAL SECURITIES**

· Investments & Advice ·

**Wednesday, September 16**

**Cocktails & Entertainment: 6:30 PM**

**Program: 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM**

Experience this rare opportunity to hear  
from these bestselling authors!



Liz Moore



Alex Kotlowitz



Stephen Kiernan

**Buy tickets online at  
[kdl.org/literary-libations](https://kdl.org/literary-libations)**

For more information, call 616.647.4146  
or email [rgoble@kdl.org](mailto:rgoble@kdl.org).



Proceeds will support KDL programs and services.



**Many thanks to the PNC Foundation** for funding the picture and board book prizes for Little Readers - ages zero to four. Thanks to their generosity, kids like Ezra and Desmond have a brand new book to take home!



Here are a couple more young readers  
with their **Summer Wonder** books!



# BRANCH HOURS



We expect our in-branch hours and curbside hours will change a couple of times in the coming months. Please visit [kdl.org/coronavirus](http://kdl.org/coronavirus) for details.

## ALPINE TOWNSHIP

5255 Alpine Ave. NW, Comstock Park 49321

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
—	12:00 to 8:00	9:30 to 5:00	12:00 to 8:00	9:30 to 5:00	12:00 to 5:00	9:30 to 1:30

## ALTO

6071 Linfield Ave., Alto 49302

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
—	9:30 to 1:30	12:00 to 8:00	12:00 to 8:00	1:00 to 6:00	9:30 to 6:00	9:30 to 1:30

## BYRON TOWNSHIP

8191 Byron Center Ave. SW, Byron Center 49315

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
—	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	12:00 to 8:00	9:30 to 5:00	9:30 to 5:00

## CALEDONIA TOWNSHIP

6260 92nd St. SE, Caledonia 49316

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
—	9:30 to 8:00	12:00 to 8:00	9:30 to 5:00	12:00 to 8:00	9:30 to 5:00	9:30 to 5:00

## CASCADE TOWNSHIP

2870 Jacksmith Ave. SE, Grand Rapids 49546

SUN*	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1:00 to 5:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 6:00	9:30 to 5:00

\*Closed Sundays in summer (Memorial Day to Labor Day).

## COMSTOCK PARK

3943 W. River Drive NE, Comstock Park 49321

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
—	9:30 to 8:00	12:00 to 8:00	9:30 to 5:00	12:00 to 8:00	9:30 to 5:00	1:00 to 5:00

## EAST GRAND RAPIDS

746 Lakeside Drive SE, East Grand Rapids 49506

SUN*	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1:00 to 5:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 6:00	9:30 to 5:00

\*Closed Sundays in summer (Memorial Day to Labor Day).

## ENGLEHARDT

200 N. Monroe St., Lowell 49331

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
—	12:00 to 8:00	12:00 to 8:00	12:00 to 8:00	9:30 to 5:00	9:30 to 5:00	9:30 to 5:00

## GAINES TOWNSHIP

421 68th St. SE, Grand Rapids 49548

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
—	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 5:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 5:00	9:30 to 5:00

## GRANDVILLE

4055 Maple St. SW, Grandville 49418

SUN*	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1:00 to 5:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 6:00	9:30 to 5:00

\*Closed Sundays in summer (Memorial Day to Labor Day).

## KELLOGGSVILLE

4787 Division Ave. S, Grand Rapids 49548

### SCHOOL YEAR HOURS:

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
—	3:00 to 6:30	3:00 to 6:30	3:00 to 6:30	3:00 to 6:30	—	—

### SUMMER HOURS:

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
—	9:30 to 6:30	12:00 to 6:30	9:30 to 6:30	12:00 to 6:30	—	—

## KENTWOOD (RICHARD L. ROOT)

4950 Breton SE, Kentwood 49508

SUN*	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1:00 to 5:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 6:00	9:30 to 5:00

\*Closed Sundays in summer (Memorial Day to Labor Day).

## KRAUSE MEMORIAL

140 E. Bridge St., Rockford 49341

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
—	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	12:00 to 8:00	9:30 to 5:00	9:30 to 5:00

## NELSON TOWNSHIP

88 Eighth St., Sand Lake 49343

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
—	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 5:00	12:00 to 8:00	—	9:30 to 6:00	9:30 to 5:00

## PLAINFIELD TOWNSHIP

2650 5-Mile Rd. NE, Grand Rapids 49525

SUN*	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1:00 to 5:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 6:00	9:30 to 5:00

\*Closed Sundays in summer (Memorial Day to Labor Day).

## SPENCER TOWNSHIP

14960 Meddler Ave., Gowen 49326

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
—	9:30 to 5:00	12:00 to 8:00	9:30 to 5:00	12:00 to 8:00	12:00 to 5:00	9:30 to 1:30

## TYRONE TOWNSHIP

43 S. Main St., Kent City 49330

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
—	9:30 to 1:30	12:00 to 8:00	9:30 to 5:00	12:00 to 8:00	1:00 to 5:00	9:30 to 1:30

## WALKER

4293 Remembrance Road NW, Walker 49534

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
—	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 5:00	9:30 to 5:00

## WYOMING AND THE KDL TALKING

### BOOK & BRAILLE CENTER

3350 Michael Ave. SW, Wyoming 49509

SUN*	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1:00 to 5:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 8:00	9:30 to 6:00	9:30 to 5:00

\*Closed Sundays in summer (Memorial Day to Labor Day).

## KDL SERVICE CENTER

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

# 616-784-2007

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

# NEW STAFF



## Sydney Khouri Patron Services Associate

One of her favorite books is  
*The Brothers Karamazov* by Fyodor Dostoevsky.



## Sarah Johnston Patron Services Associate

One of her favorite books is  
*Ready Player One* by Ernest Cline.



Open to writers of all ages, with separate categories for youth, teens, adults and Spanish language (11 and younger). Don't miss out on this great opportunity to **win \$500** and get published.

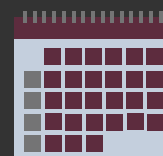
Free for those 17 and younger | \$10 entry fee for adults

Deadline: November 30 at noon

**writemichigan.org**

In partnership with

**SCHULER  
BOOKS**



See all new events  
and programs at  
**[kdl.org/events](https://kdl.org/events)**