

KALEIDOSCOPE

Kent District Library | Information. Ideas. Excitement!

Summer 2021



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Happy Summer!

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

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

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

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

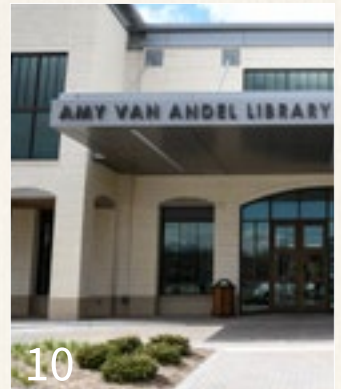


Sincerely,

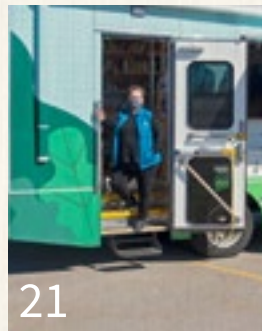
Lance Werner
Executive Director



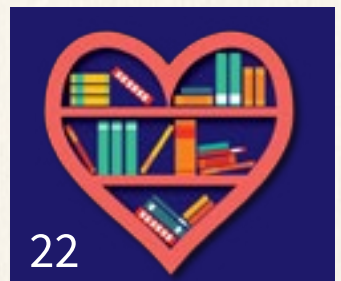
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KDL updates



The Grandville Branch is being renovated!

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

KDL CORE

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

More information: kdl.org/core-collection



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

More information: kdl.org/sora



Mission: READ!

One massive goal. One day at a time.

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

For kids in grades K-3 | Missionread.org

This is What It's All About...

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

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

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

Ruth | Cascade Twp. Branch patron



A Young Reader on a Mission

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

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

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

Liz Wierenga | Branch Librarian, Amy Van Andel Library



Read. Learn. Explore. Create.

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

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

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



30-Day Challenge for the whole family

JUNE 1 – AUGUST 7, 2021

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



Find Curi at our Kent County Parks

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





Tracking Log

FOR ALL AGES



30-Day Challenge

JUNE 1 - AUGUST 7

KENT DISTRICT LIBRARY • INSIDE AND OUT

Curi

Summer Wonder Guide

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

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Day 1 | Day 2 | Day 3 | Day 4 | Day 5 | Day 6 |
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| Day 25 | Day 26 | Day 27 | Day 28 | Day 29 | Day 30 |
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SUPER READERS

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

Completer information:

Name (first) _____ (last) _____

Age _____ Phone _____ Library branch _____

Email _____

School (if applicable) _____

Grade in the fall (if applicable) _____

PRIZES

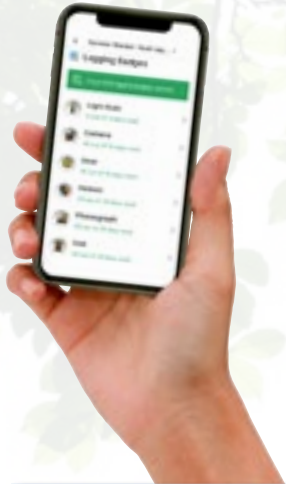
Everyone who completes the 30-Day Challenge will receive a prize. Birth through age 17 will get to pick out a free book and adults will receive a beach bag tote. All completers will be entered in a drawing for a gift basket and one of 16 \$250 Meijer gift cards. Limit one prize per person. **Details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



Ways to complete your 30-Day Challenge

For a full list of suggestions, visit kdl.org/summer.

Little Readers | Birth through age 4



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

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



Online participation powered by



Youth | Ages 5-10



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

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

Teens and Adults | Ages 11 and up

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

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

Get Out & Grow!



Sara Magnuson
Branch Outreach &
Programming Specialist

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

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

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

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

ACTIVE

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

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

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

IMAGINATIVE

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

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

Continued on page 20



KDL Curiosity Lab on the Go

kdl.org/livestream

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

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

FOR SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN.

Goodbye 2020, Hello #20

Welcome to the Amy Van Andel Library



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





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

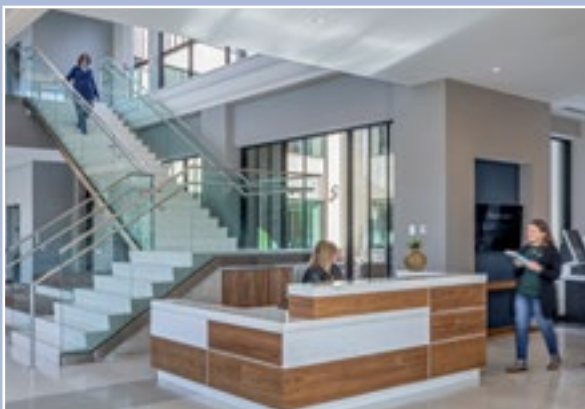
And while the first few folks to step foot into the branch may have had masks covering their faces, the biggest masks in the world couldn't have concealed the smiles that beamed from their faces at first sight of their new library and community center.

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



kdl.org/locations/ada

©Justin Maconochie





NEW FOR SUMMER 2021

**THE STAY CURIOUS
WITH CURI SHOW**

Tuesday, June 1,

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

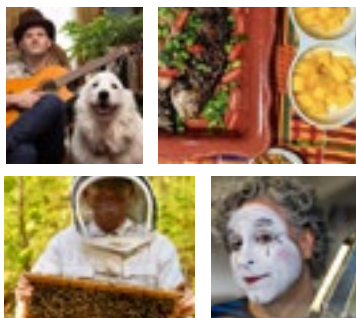
MONDAYS

**WIMEE'S WORDS | MEN
OF COLOR READ****Mondays, June 7 –
August 30, 4:00 PM**Wimee, Uncle Jon and The
Brethren (from Men of Color
Read) team up on Mondays for
“Wimee’s Words,” an interactive
LIVE kids show that encourages
imagination, vocabulary building,
storytelling and a love of reading.
FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN.**ELEMENTARY GRAPHIC
NOVEL BOOK CLUB****Mondays, June 7 & 21,
July 12 & 26 and August 9,
6:30 PM**If you love to read and discover
new books, join us for our graphic
novel book club! Sign up for book
club meetings at kdl.org/events.
FOR SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN.**June 7: Katie the Catsitter**
by Colleen AF Venable**June 21: Magical History Tour:**
The Great Pyramid by Fabrice Erre
& Sylvain Savoia**July 12: Sherlock Bones**
and the Natural History Mystery
by Renée Trembl**July 26: Mellybean and the Giant
Monster by Mike White****August 9: Student Ambassador:**
The Missing Dragon by Ryan
Estrada**ALL ONLINE BOOK CLUBS REQUIRE PRE-REGISTRATION**An email address is required for registration and instructions for how to join on Zoom.
These programs will be monitored by KDL staff and you will have the option of joining
with or without video. Parents are encouraged to read book reviews of each week's
chosen title in advance to determine if the book is one their child will enjoy.

MONDAYS (Continued)

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

TUESDAYS

TERRIFIC TUESDAYS**Tuesdays, June 1 –
August 3, 10:00 AM**A different exciting presenter
every week featuring magic,
music and more. FOR ALL AGES.**June 1:** Feathers, Fur, Scales and
Slime with Outdoor Discovery**June 8:** The Details are
in the Bee Tails**June 15:** Duke Otherwise
Outrageously Fun Music**June 22:** Mime Rob Reider**June 29:** Puppet Art Theater
Presents *The Tale of the Dragon's Tail***July 6:** Feathers, Fur, Scales and
Slime with Outdoor Discovery**July 13:** MotherLand
Cooking Xperience**July 20:** Firelight Shadow
Theater Presents *Me
and My Shadow***July 27:** MotherLand
Cooking Xperience**August 3:** Cameron Zvara Magic

TUESDAYS (Continued)

WHAT WE'RE READING**Tuesdays, June 1 –
August 31, 6:30 PM**Catch up on what your favorite
KDL Librarians and special guests
are currently reading. FOR ADULTS.**EVENING STORYTIME****Tuesdays, June 1 –
August 3, 7:00 PM**Enjoy stories, music, movement
and rhymes that develop early
literacy skills and encourage
everyone in the family to
share their love of reading.
FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN.**TEEN TUESDAYS @ HOME**Check out kdl.org/events
for instructions to log in to
participate in these exciting
programs provided by some of
your favorite KDL Teen Librarians.
FOR TEENS.Teen presenters featuring crafts,
anime, origami and more!
**June 8 & 22, July 6 & 20 and
August 3, 2:00 PM****Dungeons and Dragons***
**June 8, July 13 and
August 10, 6:00 PM***Registration required with an
email address at kdl.org/events

Online Games

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

WEDNESDAYS

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS**Wednesdays, June 2 –
August 4, 1:00 PM**A different exciting presenter
every week featuring magic,
music and more. FOR ALL AGES.**June 2:** Music Moves Us, Being
Bilingual Rocks!**June 9:** Firelight Shadow
Theater Presents *Me and My
Shadow***June 16:** Mr. Jim's
Balloon Animals**June 23:** Cameron Zvara Magic**June 30:** ScribbleMonster
July 7: Firelight Shadow
Theater Presents *Spin Me a
Shadow, Tell Me a Tale***July 14:** Mime Rob Reider**July 21:** Mr. Jim's
Balloon Animals**July 28:** The Details are
in the Bee Tails**August 4:** Music Moves Us,
Being Bilingual Rocks!

WEDNESDAYS (Continued)

VACATION STORYTIME

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

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



KDL CURIOSITY LAB ON THE GO

Wednesdays, June 9 & 23, July 7 & 21 and August 4 & 18, 2:00 PM
Tag along with the KDL Lab Curiosity Crew as we highlight STEAM findings that can be discovered in your backyard, your neighborhood or your city! FOR SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN.

WHAT WE'RE LEARNING

Wednesdays, 7:00 PM

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



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

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

June 30: Trivia with Matt

July 14: My Dearest Friends with DisArtNow

July 28: Caribbean Pirates

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

ANTI-RACISM BOOK CLUB

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

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

THURSDAYS

BABYTIME

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

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

GROW WITH THE STEM GREENHOUSE!

Thursdays, June 10 – July 22, 2:00 PM

Join Dr. Keli Christopher this summer for 7 fun, hands-on STEM activities that you can do from home. **For instructions and materials lists go to kdl.org/events.** FOR SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN.

HODGEPODGE REPEATS | A TEEN LIBRARIAN TALK SHOW

Thursdays, June 3 – August 5, 4:30 PM

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

TREMENDOUS THURSDAYS

Thursdays, June 3 – August 5, 6:30 PM

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



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

June 10: Mime Rob Reider

June 17: MotherLand Cooking Xperience

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

July 1: The Details are in the Bee Tails

July 8: Music Moves Us, Being Bilingual Rocks!

July 15: Duke Otherwise Outrageously Fun Music

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

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

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

FRIDAYS

CELEBRATING YOUR COMMUNITY!

Fridays, June 4 – August 6, 10:00 AM

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

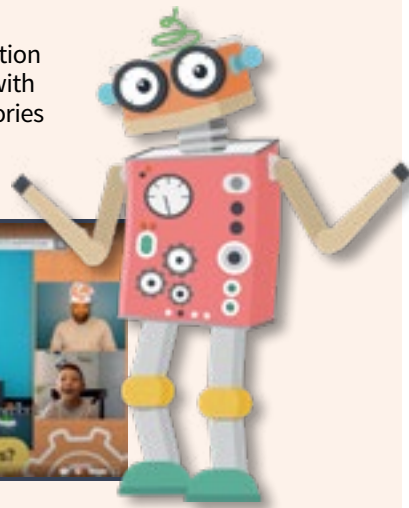
WEEKDAYS

WIMEE'S WORDS

June 1 – August 31, 4:00 PM

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

FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN.



SUMMER SPECIALS



SUMMER WONDER BASH!

Friday, August 6, 10:00 AM

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

CODING CLASS WITH CODERS4TOMORROW

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



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

Basic computer and internet skills and an internet connection are required for this remote class. It is recommended that all participants have basic

typing ability and math proficiency in order of operations and exponents. Participants are asked to attend each day, since the material builds on the previous day.

One time pre-registration with email is required for this week-long Zoom program. Register at kdl.org/events.

Staff Picks

Don't Stand So Close to Me

by Eric Walters

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

– Jenny, East Grand Rapids Branch



The Girl from Widow Hills

by Megan Miranda

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

– Kathy, Plainfield Twp. Branch



A Burning

by Megha Majumdar

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

– Joel, KDL Service Center



Curiosity: The Story of a Mars Rover

by Markus Motum



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

– Melissa, Krause Memorial Branch

The Echo Wife

by Sarah Gailey

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

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





Before the Ever After

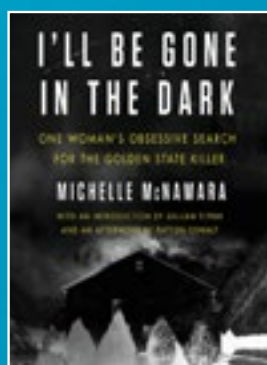
by Jacqueline Woodson

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

– Susan, Plainfield Twp. Branch

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

by Michelle McNamara



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

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

– Brittany, Walker Branch

Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents

by Isabel Wilkerson



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

– Mark, Krause Memorial Branch

We Asked, You Answered

What is your favorite thing about your library?

“

Storytimes!

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

I love the free fun and learning for my kids.

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

Access to books 24/7.

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

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

Selection and accessibility.

The staff is always friendly and helpful.

The kids section and activities.

Great customer service.

Online book holding availability.

Great place for an outing with kids.

The selection of books.

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

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

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

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

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

I love audiobooks, Playaways and using Hoopla.

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

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

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

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

”



Presenting Sponsor:

CENTENNIAL SECURITIES

Investments & Advice

Seventh Annual

LITERARY LIBATIONS GALA

FREDERIK MEIJER GARDENS & SCULPTURE PARK

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



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



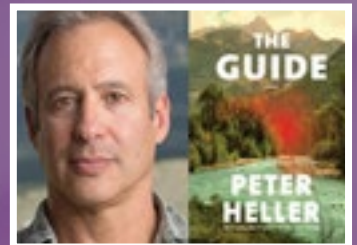
Christopher Cosmos



Catherine Coulter



Rebecca Deng



Peter Heller

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



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

For more information, please contact:

Christine Mwangi
Director of Fund Development
616.784.2092
cmwangi@kdl.org

KDL Free Libraries

and our Commitment to Sustainability



Sara Proaño
Community Engagement
Manager

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

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

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

Join Us!

There are several ways that you can become involved:

- If you're part of an organization that serves or employs people who have difficulty in obtaining books, contact me at sproano@kdl.org or 616-784-2207.
- Another way to get involved is to join our team by volunteering your time to help us process weeded materials or transport them to one of our sites. If you are interested, please visit kdl.org/volunteer. Some organizations that partner as volunteers are Forest Hills Transition Center and ExperienceGR.
- You may also participate by donating to help us keep things moving. For more information visit kdl.org/donate.
- Hosting a neighborhood free library is yet another option. For details, visit kdl.org/kdl-free-libraries or littlefreelibrary.org.

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



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

The Journey of a Library Book

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

REUSE: KDL Free Libraries support literacy in all ages.

RECYCLE: Generates a modest income for the library.

DISPOSAL: KDL uses conscientious and deliberate disposal practices.

REPURPOSE

RECYCLE

REUSE

DISPOSAL

Purchase

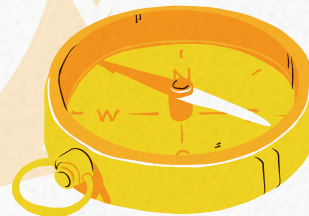
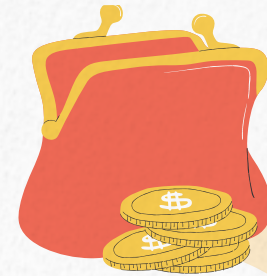
Where, how and what we buy increases community representation in our collection.

Cataloging

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

Placement

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



Weeding

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

Shelf life

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

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

More information: outreach@kdl.org | 616.784.2007

Get Out and Grow *Continued from page 9*

ADVENTURE

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



RELAXED

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

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

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

Selfish Happy Deeds



Carlita Gonzalez
Programming Specialist

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

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

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

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

Now why would we end that?

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



Your Library on Wheels



Joyanne Huston-Swanson
Bookmobile Operator

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

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



Young students enjoying a bookmobile visit in 2019

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

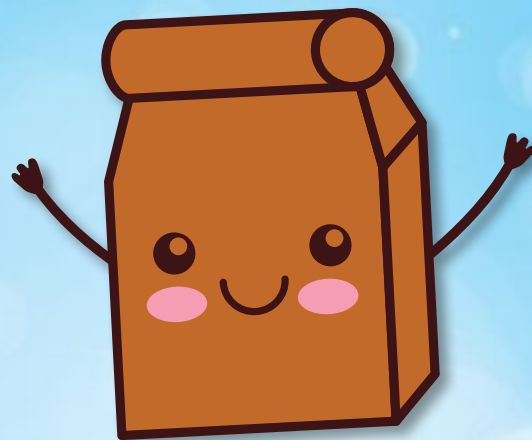




This 100-book collection consists of titles at least one year old that are close to the hearts of KDL librarians and patrons alike.

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

kdl.org/core-collection



Library Lunches to Go!

Fifteen KDL branches and the Bookmobile are partnering with Feeding America this summer to provide free lunches for local students through age 18. The meals will be available in a "grab-and-go" format weekdays, June 14 – August 13. For locations and more information, visit kdl.org/lunch.



Kent
District
Library
kdl.org

FEEDING
AMERICA



Branch Locations

ALPINE TOWNSHIP

5255 Alpine Ave. NW
Comstock Park, MI 49321

ALTO

6071 Linfield Ave. SE
Alto, MI 49302

AMY VAN ANDEL LIBRARY

7215 Headley St. SE
Ada, MI 49301

BOOKMOBILE

kdl.org/bookmobile

BYRON TOWNSHIP

8191 Byron Center Ave. SW
Byron Center, MI 49315

CALEDONIA TOWNSHIP

6260 92nd St. SE
Caledonia, MI 49316

CASCADE TOWNSHIP

2870 Jacksmith Ave. SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546

COMSTOCK PARK

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

EAST GRAND RAPIDS

746 Lakeside Dr. SE
East Grand Rapids, MI 49506

ENGLEHARDT

200 N. Monroe St.
Lowell, MI 49331

GAINES TOWNSHIP

421 68th St. SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49548

GRANDVILLE

4055 Maple St. SW
Grandville, MI 49418

KELLOGGSVILLE

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

KENTWOOD (RICHARD L. ROOT)

4950 Breton SE
Kentwood, MI 49508

KRAUSE MEMORIAL

140 E. Bridge St.
Rockford, MI 49341

NELSON TOWNSHIP

88 Eighth St.
Sand Lake, MI 49343

PLAINFIELD TOWNSHIP

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

SPENCER TOWNSHIP

14960 Meddler Ave.
Gowen, MI 49326

TYRONE TOWNSHIP

43 S. Main St.
Kent City, MI 49330

WALKER

4293 Remembrance Rd. NW
Walker, MI 49534

WYOMING AND KDL TALKING BOOK & BRAILLE CENTER

3350 Michael Ave. SW
Wyoming, MI 49509

KDL SERVICE AND MEETING CENTER

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



kdl.org/locations

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

616-784-2007

Toll-free: 1-877-243-2466 | kdl.org

Welcome to KDL



Laura DeJong

Branch Librarian,
Plainfield Twp.

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



Abby Lynn

Assistant Branch Librarian,
East Grand Rapids

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



Nancy Milks

Assistant Branch Librarian,
Gaines Twp.

Recommends *Pride and Prejudice*
by Jane Austen.



Kendall Hart

Shelver, Cascade Twp.

Recommends *The Vanishing Half*
by Brit Bennett.

Morgan Shepard

Assistant Branch Librarian,
Kentwood

Taylor Doctor

Shelver, Spencer Twp.

Amra Hrnjic

Shelver, Kentwood

Michelle Trisch

Shelver, Amy Van Andel (Ada)

Summer Stars

Carl Sandburg - 1878-1967

Bend low again, night of summer stars.

So near you are, sky of summer stars,

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

Pick off what he wants in the sky bowl,

So near you are, summer stars,

So near, strumming, strumming,

So lazy and hum-strumming.



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