From the Director

Take life one day at a time

As we near the end of 2020, life continues to look very different from life a year ago. As a country, as a world, we continue to battle the COVID-19 pandemic and work to keep as many people safe and healthy as possible. To that end, the Orion Township Public Library has made a number of changes. In order to continue to serve and engage a thriving community of lifelong learners safely, we have had to limit how many people can be in the library building at one time. Therefore, we have been offering a number of new services, like Curbside Pickup of materials and Take and Make projects. Although we may be tired of Zoom meetings, we also continue to offer some programs virtually. Please know that our staff continues to work tirelessly for our library—answering the phone calls and the emails—to keep everyone as informed as possible.

As the director, I monitor the changes with the state, the county, and the pandemic on a daily basis. I work with the Library Board of Trustees to make decisions that are in the best interest of our library staff and patrons. Some of you have reached out to me with questions, and I encourage you to do so. We may not be able to accommodate all of your desires at this time, in the interest of safety, but know that we are doing our best.

If nothing else during this time, I encourage all Orion residents to READ. And if you are uncertain about the facts that you are reading, give us a call at the library. Misinformation, disinformation, or “fake news” as it is often called is everywhere. In the Fall issue of this Orion Living magazine, we included an article to help you distinguish between the various types of information you may read. Read all that you can, analyze what you read, and make the best decisions for yourself and your family that you can during this time.

Finally, I have found it helpful to take life one day at a time. I know that may sound cliché, but I try to make the most of every day right now. I hope you can too. If we can help, do not hesitate to reach out. You can reach me directly at kknox@orionlibrary.org, and the most recent information about the library will be posted at orionlibrary.org.

Karen

General Info

Notary Services

As of this printing, we are unable to provide notary services. If this changes, we will update the information at orionlibrary.org.

Upcoming Library Closings

Thanksgiving: Wed, Nov 25 (closed at 5 pm), Thurs, Nov 26, Fri, Nov 27
Christmas: Thurs, Dec 24, Fri, Dec 25
New Year’s: Thurs, Dec 31, Fri, Jan 1

For a calendar of all library events please visit the Events tab at orionlibrary.org.

Thank you!

The library board is extremely grateful to all those who support our library through various forms of donations. Due to the pandemic, we were unable to gather and celebrate. However, we found new ways to say ‘Thank you!’ and we sure appreciate each and every donor who has supported us over the past year. Visit orionlibrary.org/donations if you are interested in donating to the Library, or contact the library director at 248-693-3000 x430.

Department Numbers

Adult 248-693-3001
Outreach 248-693-3000 x411
Teen 248-693-3000 x414
Youth 248-693-3002

Check out our Library Wishlist at orionlibrary.org/library-wishlist! This web page lists some of the many things that the library would like to purchase, but they are beyond the scope of our budget. If any of the items on the list are of interest to you, perhaps you could donate to the cause. Donating is easy and can be done right online.
General Federation of Women’s Clubs—Lake Orion (GFWC)
Do you like to have fun? Do you like to volunteer in your community? Come join the GFWC! For more info, contact Renee at 248-701-8821.

Grant Dollars at Work
The Orion Township Public Library’s mission is ‘to serve and engage a thriving community of lifelong learners’ and our vision is ‘to be known for more than books.’ In order to accomplish this mission and vision, our staff members and librarians on our Grants Team work hard applying for grants to help supplement our funding for innovative programming and services.

In 2020 alone, Orion Township Public Library has been awarded over $8,000 from organizations such as the Institute of Library and Museum Services and the Library of Michigan. Thanks to this grant money, we have been able to provide new services such as Memory Kits for individuals with Alzheimer’s or dementia and their caregivers, a Sensory Kit for children with special needs or sensory seeking kids, and programming such as the Joe Reilly Outdoor Concert. And there is still more to come as we prepare to offer mobile Wi-Fi hotspots and Chromebooks for check out to those with limited in-home internet and computer access.

Thank you to our Grants Team who worked tirelessly all year to get these fantastic grants, the Institute of Library and Museum Services, and the Library of Michigan for helping us continue our mission.

Library Service Updates

Curbside Pickup
Weather permitting, Curbside Pickup is available from 9:30 am–8:30 pm Monday through Thursday and 9:30 am–4:30 pm Friday and Saturday, and Sundays from 1 pm to 4:30 pm. Hold requests can be placed online or by phone and when the items are available, you will be notified by email, phone call, or text message. When you arrive at the library, you will pull into one of our three numbered parking spots located in the side parking lot and send a text message to the number posted on our curbside pickup signage. Items will be checked out by library staff and be delivered to you in a paper bag with a receipt. Staff will deliver the bag to your trunk or through an open car window. Staff will not accept return items or fines during this transaction. Items must be returned to one of the drop boxes and fines must be paid online.

Appointments Available
In addition, appointments are available to have an exam proctored or to use a study room as an individual. We are continuing to schedule individual appointments for patrons to use computers in the library, or for patrons to access our library Wi-Fi network with their personal devices. 45-minute appointments are available Monday through Thursday from 9:30 am to 8:30 pm, Friday and Saturday from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm, and Sundays from 1 pm to 4:30 pm. Appointments are also available to print, scan, fax, and copy documents. (Please bring cash as needed, exact change preferred for fax and copier, cc payment available for printing.) All equipment is disinfected between patrons, and the computers will have disposable plastic coverings on the keyboard. Hand sanitizer will be available for patron use as well. Patrons are limited to one appointment per day. All patrons with appointments are required to wear a mask and respect social distancing requirements. To schedule an appointment, or if you have any special needs or requests regarding these appointments, please call us at 248-693-3000 x545.

For a complete list of library services that are available please visit orionlibrary.org.
PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

All Take and Make supplies for youth, teen, and adult programs will be available on a first come, first served basis in the lobby starting at 9:30 am on the day of the program.

Take and Make: Winter Workshop
Sat, Dec 12
While we won’t have a visit from Santa this year, the library is still here to bring you some holiday cheer for all ages! Stop by to pick up a special Take and Make kit to celebrate our annual Winter Workshop.

- Youth—LIVE Winter Bounce and Boogie | 11 am
- Youth—Take and Make for Preschoolers and Elementary ages
- Teen—Harry Potter Wizard Crackers
- Adult—Greeting card kits—A kit with supplies to make custom greeting cards
- Makerspace—Felt holiday ball ornaments—Get in on the needle felting craze with these seasonal felt ornaments

Patron Highlight: Lionel Train Exhibit

Collector shares his love of trains

Dennis Lakomy and his wife, Darlene Frederick, entertained visitors at the library’s Winter Workshop in 2019 with their traveling Lionel train exhibit.

Dennis created this traveling exhibit after his wife told him he was collecting too many trains. Once packed up and loaded, Dennis and Darlene can travel around to local community organizations to help bring people together.

“We’ve set up at local senior communities, assisted living homes, elementary schools, and libraries.” Dennis enjoys bringing his set around the community, even though it’s an all-day event for him and Darlene. “The set up starts before we even get to the location. We have to pack the set into the travel containers, pack the car, then unload once we get there.”

Even though they have to do this packing at the end of the day as well, they wouldn’t change a thing. The enjoyment they get from letting people of all ages take turns operating the train set makes it all worth it. Dennis says operating the remote train is approachable for all ages and abilities, from young children to special needs individuals to people in wheelchairs.

This is also the reason Dennis figured the library would be a great place to set up his traveling display.

“People of all ages utilize the library; it’s a common ground for all ages and abilities.” Dennis enjoys the library because he can just explore and learn, without any idea of what to looking for. Sharing and teaching people about his traveling exhibit can be just that for just about anyone.

Dennis’s collection started when he was just 10 years old, when his Dad bought him his first set as a hobby they could do together. He’s been collecting ever since, and even still has the original table his dad built him all those years ago. The library is looking forward to hosting Dennis and Darlene and the traveling exhibit next year at the 2021 Winter Workshop.
Orion Living

Take and Make: Tie-Dye Masks
Sat, Dec 5
Pick up a kit to create a colorful tie-dye mask for you to enjoy or gift to a friend or family member. Each kit will have two masks for you to dye.

Virtual: Superhero Trivia
Wed, Jan 20 | 7 pm | Register online
Gather a team to test your knowledge of all-things superhero! Families and groups of friends of all ages are welcome to participate in this super virtual event. Prizes will be awarded to the top teams.

Virtual: Board Game Night
Mon, Jan 25 & Feb 22 | 6:30 pm
Join us on Board Game Arena to play a variety of popular board games virtually.

Reading Challenges for all Ages

50 Books in 52 Weeks
The Orion Township Public Library challenges you to read 50 books in 52 weeks in 2021, starting on January 1st! This ongoing program will run the entirety of 2021, and participants will have the opportunity to win fun prizes all year long depending on how many reading challenges you complete.

All 50 reading challenges are different. You may be asked to read a book published in 2021, read a book based on a true story, or to read a book recommended to you by a friend. You can also listen to audiobooks to complete any of the 50 challenges throughout the year.

For more information and to register visit orionlibrary.org/50-books-in-52-weeks.

Teen Winter Reading Challenge
Dec 18–Feb 5
Stay cozy this winter with our Teen Winter Reading Challenge. Summer reading might be over, but there are plenty of books to curl up with while the snow is falling. Participants will have the opportunity to win fun prizes by completing reading challenges ranging from reading with a friend, to reading a holiday themed book. Prizes will consist of books and gift cards to local Lake Orion businesses. All prizes will be random drawings and the more challenges you complete, the more prizes you can win.

For more information and to register visit orionlibrary.org/teens/winter-reading. Happy reading!

1000 Books Before K and 500 Books by 5th
Do you want your child to love reading? We have two great programs that help children become lifelong readers! The 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program encourages parents and caregivers to provide positive, nurturing experiences by reading aloud to their children regularly. The 500 Books by 5th grade encourages children to begin and continue to read independently throughout elementary school. By inspiring reading for fun, we are helping to develop strong reading skills that last and also fostering a lifelong desire to continue to learn. Register your child today at orionlibrary.org/youth, and start tracking every book they read or listen to. 1000 Books Before Kindergarten participants earn prizes for every 100 books that are logged, and 500 Books by 5th Grade participants earn prizes for every 50 books logged. Once awarded by a Youth Librarian online, prizes can currently be picked up through Curbside Pickup at the library.

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Winter 2021 | Orion Living
Adult Services

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Virtual: Snowy Owls in Michigan
Sun, Dec 6 | 2 pm
(recording available Dec 6–13)
Naturalist Andrew Nowicki will present a photo tour of owls commonly seen in Michigan. Learn about these birds’ incredible adaptations and how you can experience them around your own home.

Virtual: Alzheimer’s Caregiver Support Group
Tuesdays | Dec 8, Jan 12, Feb 9
10:30 am
This monthly support group for individuals who care for those with Alzheimer’s disease and other related dementia is led by a trained facilitator and sponsored by the Michigan Alzheimer’s Association.

Virtual: Michigan Works
Tuesdays | Dec 8, Jan 12, Feb 9
1–3 pm
Oakland County Michigan Works! Pontiac will assist you with upcoming workshops, youth and adult programs, resume ideas, job searches, interview skills and much more. They can point you in the right direction for inquiries about local resources. Contact Beth Sheridan at esheridan@orionlibrary.org or 248–693–3000 x411 to set up your Zoom appointment with a staff member from Michigan Works.

Virtual: Isolation during the Pandemic: Especially for Seniors
Tue, Dec 8 | 3 pm
(recording available Dec 8–15)
While isolation has affected everyone’s mental health this year, it is especially hard for senior citizens who need to quarantine to stay safe. Join Dr. Nicole Lawson of the Oakland Community Health Network, Kristen Nelson, chair of the Oakland County Senior Isolation Taskforce, and Cameron McClure, chairperson of the Oakland County Senior Advisory Council, as they speak on, give practical advice about, and share resources to help on this timely topic.

Virtual: Writer’s Workshop
Wednesdays | Dec 9, Jan 13, Feb 10
7 pm
Meet the second Wednesday of each month and connect with a group of like-minded writers to learn from each other, share ideas, and practice your writing skills. For the winter quarter this group will meet online.

Book Discussions

New members are always welcome!

Virtual: Cook the Book | 7 pm
Mon, Dec 7: Sister Pie by Lisa Ludwinski
Mon, Feb 1: My Prairie Cookbook by Melissa Gilbert
You select and prepare a recipe from the cookbooks chosen, and meet virtually to discuss recipes from that month’s cookbook. Please either put on hold or inter-loan your own copy of the cookbook for each meeting; call 248–693–3001 if you need assistance acquiring a cookbook.

Virtual: Monday Evening Book Discussion | 7 pm
Mon, Dec 21: Lillian Boxfish takes a Walk by Kathleen Rooney
Mon, Jan 18: As Bright as Heaven by Susan Meissner
Mon, Feb 15: The Tattooist of Auschwitz by Heather Morris

Virtual: Book Bunch Book Club | 1 pm
Wed, Dec 9: Virgil Wander by Leif Enger
Wed, Jan 13: The 7 1/2 Deaths of Evelyn Hardcastle by Stuart Turton

Wed, Feb 10: The Peculiar Miracles of Antoinette Martin by Stephanie Knipper

Virtual: Thursday Afternoon Book Club | 1:30 pm
Thu, Dec 17: Bring Your 2020 Favorite
Thu, Jan 21: Save Me the Plums by Ruth Reichl
Thu, Feb 18: The Guest List by Lucy Foley

Virtual: Dine, Drink, and Discuss | 7 pm
Mon, Jan 25: The Guest List by Lucy Foley
Mon, Feb 22: Untamed by Glennon Doyle
The 2020 Postcard Project
Sat, Dec 19
With this mail art project, capture your thoughts and feelings about this unique moment in time by creating a postcard-sized piece of art and writing a message to your future self about 2020. Artists will return their postcards to the library, we will scan them for our local history collection, and the postcards will be mailed back to their creators in December 2021.

Call-In: Weekly Meditation Sessions @ the Library
New meditations every week
Jan 4–Feb 22
Relaxation is just a phone call away. Learn and practice meditation with our free dial-in program, facilitated by local RTY 200 & Yoga Therapy instructor Jess Dues, owner of Pushna Wellness. Call 248-287-8028 anytime to access each session. Sessions will change weekly focusing on a different calming topic. Patrons will be able to access past weeks’ meditations via our website.

Take and Make: Book Letters
Sat, Jan 9 | Register online
Memorialize your favorite book covers on stand-up letters! Tell us some of your favorite book covers and choose a letter. We will supply you with a 6 inch letter and graphics to cover your letter.

Virtual: Healthy Living for your Brain and Body
Mon, Jan 11 | 6:30 pm
Science provides insights into how to make lifestyle choices that can help keep your brain and body healthy as you age. Join Deb Archer from the Alzheimer’s Association as she presents research in the areas of diet and nutrition, exercise, cognitive activity and social engagement, and helps you incorporate these recommendations into a plan for healthy aging.

Virtual: Orion Historical Society (OHS)
Mondays | Jan 11, Feb 8 | 7 pm
(No meeting in Dec)
Come to an OHS meeting to learn about our township’s history and work on projects to preserve the past. Newcomers are always welcome! For the winter quarter this group will meet online.

Virtual: Intro to 3-D Printing
Thu, Jan 14 | Register online
Using an interactive video from Lynda.com, learn to design and print 3-D objects with Tinkercad. You can use the library’s 3-D printer from home!

Take and Make: Hand Painted Wood Slices
Sat, Jan 16
Wood, paint, and brushes will be provided in this take and make kit for you to pick up and enjoy at home.

Virtual: Tech Help
Our IT staff is available to help you with any of your technology needs via phone, email or video chat. Eric can troubleshoot issues with your devices, make product and service recommendations, and teach you how to do specific tasks. Please contact him at 248-287-8019 or ehayes@orionlibrary.org to schedule a 20-minute virtual meeting.

Virtual: Communicating Effectively with Individuals with Dementia
Mon, Feb 8 | 6:30 pm
As people with Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias progress in their journey and the ability to use words is lost, families need new ways to connect. Join Debra Archer from The Alzheimer’s Association to explore how communication takes place when someone has Alzheimer’s and identify strategies to help you connect and communicate at each stage of the disease.

Take and Make: Yarn ‘Love’ Signs
Sat, Feb 13
Learn to make a yarn wrapped ‘Love’ sign for Valentine’s Day with Creativebug.com.

Virtual: Abraham Lincoln: A New Birth of Freedom
Available Feb 21–27
Join us for a virtual presentation as Kevin Wood portrays President Abraham Lincoln, one of our nation’s most beloved and esteemed historical figures. This presentation will cover the entire period from Independence through the Civil War, especially the 12 turbulent years from 1854–1865. It also includes Lincoln’s inspiring personal story.

Take and Make: Leftover Kits
Sat, Feb 27
Whether you’re an adult, teen, or kid we have a program for you! Starting at 9:30 am, kits from extra programs the library did throughout the winter will be available for you to pick up and enjoy.
OUTREACH SERVICES

No Contact Home Delivery
We have always delivered books to Orion Township residents who are unable to physically visit the library, but we have expanded that service to include anyone who is uncomfortable leaving their home and visiting the library due to the pandemic. The first step to becoming a No-Contact Home Delivery patron is to fill out the online application on our website, or call 248-693-3001. You can put holds on items yourself in our catalog, or let us know what you like and we can introduce you to new authors and/or request materials for you. On delivery day, library staff will safely place a bag containing the items outside your door; all returned items are quarantined before circulating again.

NEW Memory Kits
Funded by a Library of Michigan Public Library Services grant, we now offer Memory Kits for you to check out and enjoy with your loved one who has memory issues. The relaxing DVDs, photos, and activities in these kits are designed to help your loved one recall and reminisce. By helping them to recall positive experiences and memories from the past, the Memory Kits will not only validate the individual’s self-worth but also help you and your loved one connect. Each kit includes a DVD with looped sections of beautiful pictures accompanied by relaxing music, photo and activity cards to be used to stimulate conversation, and tactile objects such as art activities or puzzles. Memory Kit themes range from seasons, to handyman/homemaker memories, to dogs or cats, to farms or great outdoors memories. Borrow one via curbside today! To put a Memory Kit on hold, search our catalog using the keywords ‘Memory Kit.’

Our “Adopt a Little Library” program seeks volunteers
You will stock and maintain your Little Library throughout the year. Contact Lori Morris, our Volunteer Engagement Specialist if you are interested at lmorris@orionlibrary.org.

Are you in a bit of a reading rut?
We have several reading recommendation tools available to help you select your next great read.

- What to Read Next
  orionlibrary.org/what-to-read-next
  Online list of recommended reads by genre. Simply click on your favorite genre and browse our collection.

- NoveList Plus
  orionlibrary.org/resources-a-z
  Reading recommendations based on your favorite book or even author read-alikes.

- Your Next Few Books
  orionlibrary.org/your-next-few-books
  Fill out a short form asking questions like your favorite and least favorite genre and a librarian will get your request and create a custom reading list for you with at least five recommendations.

- Book Bundles
  orionlibrary.org/book-bundles
  Fill out a book bundle request form found on our homepage and a librarian will place a custom bundle of books on hold for you to enjoy. If there is a title the Orion Library doesn’t own but you would like us to purchase it, you can fill out a ‘Purchase Consideration Request’ at orionlibrary.org/purchase-request and our librarians will review it for our collection.

Virtual: English Language Learning Conversation Group (ELL)
Wednesdays | 10:30 am
(no meeting Dec 23 or 30)
ELL conversation group is open to all who wish to practice their English language skills in a relaxed and informal setting. The topics vary widely, and it is a great learning experience as well as an opportunity to meet people.

Sign up for Library Programs at orionlibrary.org/calendar or call 248-693-3000
MAKER SERVICES

Education looks very different this year with so many students utilizing remote learning. While virtual classrooms are a great opportunity to learn new skills and try new learning techniques, many students are missing out on hands-on experiences. We have many resources to help students and parents fill the gap left by remote learning.

Makerspace programs have become popular in schools and libraries because they combine technical and subject knowledge with creativity and collaboration. Makerspaces give users an outlet to create something physical with their knowledge and skills, a task that is challenging when not learning in person. Even though our physical Makerspace is unavailable, we still offer engaging maker services and programs to the community.

Our Take and Make kits have been extremely popular over the summer and fall. These kits, often following a fun theme, include the supplies and instructions on a variety of electronic, chemistry, and craft projects like paper circuits, miniature robots, crystal growing, and bracelet making. In addition to the Take and Make kits, we have several online resources to promote the computer skills needed to thrive in a makerspace. Lynda.com offers dozens of classes on how to use image and video editing, 3-D design, and coding software. CreativeBug.com emphasizes the craftier side of the makerspace with guides for projects like sewing, papercraft, painting, and even food projects. Makerspace projects are a fun and unique way to learn, and we hope you will take advantage of the maker services offered at the library.

JUST FOR TEENS

All Take and Make supplies will be available on a first come, first served basis in the lobby starting at 9:30 am on the day of the program.

Virtual: Geek Club
Tuesdays | Dec 1, Dec 15, Jan 5, Jan 19, Feb 2, Feb 16 | 6:30 pm
Geek Club is a casual hang-out for teens who enjoy anything from anime, comics, video games, board and card games, D and D, crazy YouTube clips and more! For the virtual winter session, we will be exploring Jackbox games, digital escape rooms, teen trivia, etc., stop by and meet some new friends. New faces always welcome!

Take and Make: Harry Potter Wizard Crackers
Sat, Dec 12
A Wizard Cracker is a magical kind of Holiday cracker that wizards often gift to each other around December that holds a small gift inside. We will supply the supplies and you create at home to give to a fellow wizard of your choosing!

Take and Make: Food in a Mug
Sat, Jan 9
While you curl up with your Winter Reading Challenge book, don’t forget the comfort food to match. We will supply the dry ingredients for both dinner and dessert in a mug. Supplies will be handled with CDC guidelines.

Take and Make: Stranger Things Perler Bead
Sat, Jan 23
For all you Stranger Things fans waiting for Season 4, here is a craft to get you through the dark days of waiting for your favorite characters to come back to the screen. Perler bead Holiday light pattern!

Take and Make: Lara Jean inspired Valentine’s Day Craft
Sat, Feb 6
Valentine’s day is coming up, let’s celebrate Lara Jean style! You do not need a Peter Kavinsky in your life to tackle this craft; from friends to grandparents, all will love this handmade valentine!

Virtual: Alex Thomas and Friends
Available Feb 14–20
Learn to draw fun caricatures of some of your favorite characters led by a puppet instructor! Whether you are just beginning or more advanced, this workshop will teach you the tips, tricks, and techniques of caricature drawing. The link will be available on our calendar in the program description box, and on our website home page. Have fun!
**YOUTH SERVICES**

**PARENT PROGRAMS**

**Virtual: 123 Play with Me Parent and Child Online**

December 2020 | No registration required

Visit **orionlibrary.org/youth** all throughout December for daily activities, tips for early literacy learning, and fun interactive elements during the month of December. Watch videos from librarians and other early childhood professionals that answer some of the most common questions about little kids and learning.

**Virtual: 20th Annual Preschool and Child Care Fair**

Wed, Feb 17 | 6 pm | Register online

Parents, are you searching for the right preschool or child care? Register to get a link to our virtual preschool and child care fair. Lake Orion and Oxford area providers will provide links, information, yearly schedules, and age requirements at this virtual fair. Click on the library link for a checklist of what to look for in preschool or child care, along with a link to our preschool and child care directory.

**FAMILY PROGRAMS**

All Take and Make supplies will be available on a first come, first served basis in the lobby starting at 9:30 am on the day of the program.

**Take and Make: Disguise a Gingerbread Man Contest**

Tues, Dec 1
Pick up your gingerbread man at the library and build a disguise for him using materials you have at home using characters from books, movies or graphic novels. Email a photo of your incognito gingerbread man to youth@orionlibrary.org. We will pick a winner who will get a surprise gift card.

**Take and Make: Mystery Maker Projects**

Thu, Dec 3
Pick up a kit with a variety of maker-space projects for families to complete together.

**Take and Make: New Year’s Party Prep**

Wed, Dec 30
Get your New Year’s party started with these fun projects. The whole family can work together to get the house ready for the party of the year.

**Take and Make: Home Obstacle Course**

Sat, Jan 9
Do you need to get some energy out? Pick up supplies to create your own home obstacle course.

**Virtual: Family Magic with Cameron Zvara**

Sun, Jan 17 | 2 pm
Register online

Gather your family for some awe-inspiring and astonishing interactive magic with Cameron Zvara! Register to receive the Zoom link prior to the show and meet us online for a fun afternoon!

**Take and Make: Do You Want to Build a Snowman?**

Sat, Jan 30
Who doesn’t want to build a snowman? These fun crafts will help you create some adorable snowmen regardless if there is snow outside.

**Take and Make: Chinese New Year**

Thu, Feb 11
Celebrate the Year of the Ox with these fun Chinese New Year crafts.

**Take and Make: Spread the Love**

Sat, Feb 13
Create some fun love-inspired crafts that you can share with those around you.

**Take and Make: Leftover Kits**

Sat, Feb 27
Whether you’re an adult, teen, or kid we have a program for you! Starting at 9:30 am, kits from programs the library did throughout the winter will be available for you to pick up and enjoy.

All Family Programs sponsored by the Friends of the Library
PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

**Virtual:**

**Winter Weekly Storytimes**

Join us for Live virtual storytimes with age-appropriate stories, songs, finger plays, puppets, and activities the weeks of Nov 30–Dec 14, 2020 and Jan 4–Feb 22, 2021. Siblings are welcome. Storytimes will be held online via Zoom. Register online to receive a link to each program.

**Itsy Bitsy Babies**

Tuesdays | 10 am | Birth–12 months

Babies experience the sounds and structure of language through rhythm, rhyme, and repetition.

**Toddler Time**

Mondays | 10 am | Ages 1 & 2

Ones and twos develop social, emotional, and language skills through movement, stories, songs, and rhymes.

**Preschool Pals**

Wednesdays | 10 am | Ages 3–5

Preschoolers build vocabulary, language development, and listening comprehension with stories, rhymes, songs, movement, and creative expression.

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**Virtual: Bounce and Boogie**

Saturdays | Jan 9 & Feb 6 | 10 am | Ages 0–5

Register online

A music and movement-based program just for ages 0–5! Join us as we dance, groove, jump, and move to our favorite songs and rhymes!

**Virtual: Sleepy Storytime**

Mondays | Dec 14, Jan 11, Feb 8 | 6:30 pm | All ages

Register online

A virtual bedtime story brought to your house! All you need is your jammies, blanket, and favorite stuffed animal for some evening storytime fun!

**Virtual: SENSEsational Storytime**

Fridays | Dec 18, Jan 15, Feb 12 | 12 pm | All ages

Register online

A welcoming, interactive environment designed for children with special needs and sensory seeking kids.

**Take and Make: Pick Up STEAM—Winter**

Tue, Dec 8

Pick up STEAM is a preschool friendly science, math, and learning series. There will be experiments, fun, crafts, and math all centered on the winter season.

**Take and Make: Dino Discovery**

Thu, Dec 17

Become an archeologist as you excavate dinosaur bones! Dino-themed crafts also included.

**Virtual/Take and Make: Sunshine & Rainbows**

Fri, Dec 18 & Mon, Dec 21 | 10 am | Register online, limit 20

Join Ms. Halli for a live virtual storytime all about sunshine & rainbows! Sign up for a Take and Make kit available Dec 18 with fun crafts and activities, then attend our live Zoom storytime on Dec 21.

**Take and Make: Marshmallow Mania**

Thu, Jan 21

Who doesn’t love a good marshmallow? This STEAM kit is full of marshmallow crafts and activities that are sure to please.

Sign up for Library Programs at orionlibrary.org/calendar or call 248-693-3000

Winter 2021 | Orion Living
Save the dates are all encouraged to attend along the way. Mentors and teams other teams to discuss the books about our virtual Battle of the Books. Get all your questions answered to attend registered for Battle of the Books Thu, Jan 4, 6:30 pm Must be registered by January 2, 2021. Participants must be in fifth grade and live or go to school in Lake Orion. The titles this year are full of adventure, fun, resilience, and humor. You are guaranteed to find a new title that you will enjoy. The battle will encourage teamwork and test your knowledge of these titles! Individual members must be registered by January 16, 2021.

Virtual: Battle of the Books Halfway Meetup
Thu, Jan 14 | 6:30 pm | Must be registered for Battle of the Books to attend
Get all your questions answered about our virtual Battle of the Books. Meet with librarians and other teams to discuss the books along the way. Mentors and teams are all encouraged to attend.

Save the dates:
• Thu, March 11 | 6:30 pm Virtual: Final All Team Meetup
• Sat, March 20 | 11 am Virtual: Battle of the Books Competition
• Week of March 22 | TBD 6:30 pm Virtual: Victory Party

Take and Make: There’s No Place Like Gnome
Mon, Dec 21
Every home should have a gnome. Pick up the supplies to create your own gnome. Some basic sewing skills are required.

Take and Make: Superhero Showdown
Sat, Jan 16
It’s a bird, it’s a plane…It’s a superhero party! Pick up a kit to create your own superhero inspired crafts.

Take and Make: Celebrate Black History Month
Thu, Feb 4
Learn together about some famous Black Americans with activities and crafts.

Take and Make: No–Sew Sock Worms
Tue, Feb 16
Calling all book worms! Pick up a kit to create an adorable stuffed worm. No sewing skills required.

Take and Make: Pets
Sat, Feb 20
It’s ‘Love Your Pet Day,’ so let’s celebrate with some fun pet–themed crafts!

Three things I learned from my mom

by Jan Thomas, Friends president
When I became president of the Friends of the Orion Township Library, I shared with my fellow board members that my mom, who passed away in 2009, played a big part in my love of reading and of libraries. She loved and used our library in my hometown in Indiana, not only for the books, but also for the experiences it provided her. Every Monday, you could find her at our library with her friends in the quilt guild working on quilts and projects, preparing for their quilt shows, and having fun. I have such fond memories of visiting with them on Mondays at the library. As we kick off 2021, I am reflecting on a few words of wisdom my mom shared with me as I was growing up.

Pay yourself first: Throughout my childhood, youth and beyond, my mom was adamant about the importance of paying myself first with my financial gifts and earnings. Whether it was putting pennies in my piggy bank as a child to contributing to my retirement savings plan as an adult, I would hear her words, pay yourself first. And once that was done, it was important to meet my financial obligations and also give to causes that are important to me, just like she did by giving to her church and other causes that meant something to her.

We Take Care of Our Own: My mom’s youngest sister, my Aunt Jane, was...
We support library programming!
Did you know the Friends of the Orion Township Library has donated over $240,000 to programming since 2011, plus over $50,000 additional donations for renovations and gifts since 2017? Here are a few of the programs Friends gifts support:

- Adult, Teen, Youth & Outreach Services Programming
- Battle of the Books—Elementary & Middle School
- Summer Reading Program
- Team Trivia at the C-Pub
- Author Visits
- Speakers & Performers
- National Library Week celebration

not able to live independently due to a developmental disability. She lived with my parents and me after my grandmother died—my whole life—until Jane’s death in 2008. Jane was a childhood friend for me and all my cousins through several generations, and we all share stories of swinging with her under the grape arbor and singing church songs. She loved drawing and eating anything sweet, especially orange slices. As a young kid, I remember asking my mom why Jane lived with us. My mom’s response, we take care of our own. I don’t know how, but at such a young age, I knew that was important. Those words remained with me, and I can still hear my mom say it, we take care of our own. It’s something that I hold dear and try to keep at the forefront in my life for not only my immediate family, but my extended family, friends and community.

Leave a mark, but not a stain: When I was in elementary school, I received an autograph book as a gift that I could use to have friends and family sign. My first autograph in my book came from my mom, may your life be like a snowflake, leave a mark but not a stain. I tell you, as a kid who was approaching junior high, that’s not the message I was looking for then. Yet, those words remained with me, and as I’ve revisited and reflected on that message over the years, what a gift it is that I hold near and dear to my heart. Leave a mark but not a stain.

As you kick off your new year, I hope you have time to reflect on those things that are important to you and look forward to the possibilities of the year ahead. And I hope you remember that our library, its staff and the people who use the library provide endless opportunities for you to experience and connect around those things that are important to you. On behalf of the Friends of the Orion Township Library, I want to wish a happy new year to you!

Become a friend for free through April 2021!
As we announced previously, the Friends of the Orion Township Library are offering free memberships now through April 30, 2021. Current memberships have automatically been renewed for this year. Those new prospective members who are interested in joining the Friends of the Orion Township Library can go to orionlibrary.org/friends/membership/ join. Questions? E-mail the Friends at friends@orionlibrary.org or check us out online at orionlibrary.org/friends.

Help the Friends
Remember that you can designate the Friends of the Orion Township Library as your charity of choice with your Amazon Smile & Kroger Rewards accounts.

Friends of the Orion Township Library Board
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