

# VALLEY COTTAGE LIBRARY

Serving the Residents of the Nyack School District

**CURIOSITY • INSPIRATION • CONNECTION**

**Stay up-to-date! Visit [valleycottagelibrary.org](http://valleycottagelibrary.org) for new programs & updates or to sign up for our weekly email newsletter.**

**V = VIRTUAL PROGRAM   H = HYBRID PROGRAM**

**Registration is required for all programs unless otherwise noted.**

Sign Language interpretation may be available for select programs upon request.

## SUSTAINABILITY SPOTLIGHT

### Valley Cottage Community Cleanup

Show your civic pride and help spruce up your community on Saturday, April 27th from 10am-2pm as we host a neighborhood Great American Cleanup event. In conjunction with Keep Rockland Beautiful, the Library will be sending out groups of volunteers to help remove unsightly garbage and refuse from our hometown. All cleanup supplies will be provided. Community service letters will be available. Register to participate at [www.keeperocklandbeautiful.org](http://www.keeperocklandbeautiful.org). Questions? Contact Ashley Maraffino at [amaraffino@rcls.org](mailto:amaraffino@rcls.org).

\*Event will take place rain or shine. For other cleanup events around the County, see [www.keeperocklandbeautiful.org](http://www.keeperocklandbeautiful.org)

We'll also be collecting used household batteries during our cleanup event for recycling. Drop off household batteries at our tent in the parking lot. 4/27 10am-2pm.



### Plastic Bag & Film Recycling

Don't trash your plastic bags, bring them to VCL to be recycled! Drop off your plastic bags and film in the collection box in the Library's vestibule. For a full listing of acceptable plastic, visit [valleycottagelibrary.org/sustainability](http://valleycottagelibrary.org/sustainability).

### Food Scraps Composting Bags Pick-up

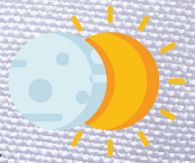
Town of Clarkstown residents can now pick up their food scraps composting bags at the Library! Bags can be picked up at the Circulation Desk. Clarkstown residents must first register for the composting program at the Clarkstown Town Hall or Highway Department. For more information on the food scraps composting program, visit: [www.clarkstown.gov](http://www.clarkstown.gov)

### Repair Café: Saturday, April 6 11am-3pm

Join us for VCL's first Repair Café, a community event where people can bring beloved but broken household items to be fixed for free by volunteer Repair Coaches, all while learning valuable repair skills, building community and keeping items out of the landfill. Visit our web site for more information and a listing of repair coach stations.

**GET READY FOR THE ECLIPSE ON APRIL 8TH AND PICK UP YOUR ECLIPSE GLASSES AT THE LIBRARY!**

*Supplied by The STAR Library Network*



## TOO MUCH STUFF

**Thursday, May 9 at 7:00pm**

The Maturely Motivated Players is a travelling troupe of seniors who bring their entertainment of adapted readings from the writing of well-known humorists to community and private venues throughout Rockland (NY) and Bergen (NJ) Counties. They offer a lighthearted look at the eccentricities of our shared experiences.

They have had the pleasure of performing their other two shows at the Valley Cottage Library. This show, **TOO MUCH STUFF**, focuses on the overwhelming amount of stuff we all accumulate and the craziness of how we try—or not—to dispose of it.



## Art & Craft Supply Swap

**Saturday, May 18, 12:00-4:00pm**

Do you have so many art and craft supplies that you don't know what to do with? Bring them to the library and swap them for supplies that you would use or would like to try.

*Leftover supplies will be donated to the Nyack Center.*

### Here's how it works:

- **Drop off your unopened or clean, gently-used supplies from Monday, May 13 through Friday, May 17** in the Library Gallery during operating hours.
- **Return on Saturday, May 18, 12-4pm** to browse supplies brought in by others, and take home what you want .
- Stick around and chat with neighbors, friends, and other art and craft enthusiasts.
- You do not need to donate something to take something.



# ADULT PROGRAMS



= VIRTUAL PROGRAM



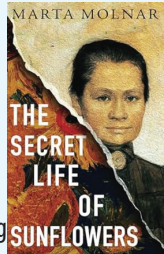
= HYBRID PROGRAM

Registration is required for all programs unless otherwise noted.

## Scholar Led Book Discussions Thursdays at 7:00pm

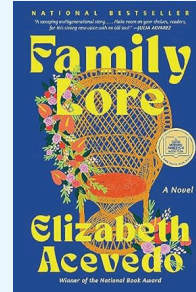
**April 11: *The Secret Life of Sunflowers* by Marta Molnar**

Led by Camille Serchuk, Professor of Art History at Southern Connecticut State University. When Hollywood auctioneer Emsley Wilson finds her famous grandmother's diary while cleaning out her New York brownstone, the pages are full of surprises. The first surprise is, the diary isn't her grandmother's. It belongs to Johanna Bonger, Vincent van Gogh's sister-in-law.



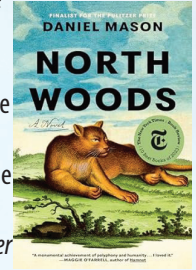
**May 16: *Family Lore* by Elizabeth Acevedo**

Led by Vara Neverow, Professor of English at Southern Connecticut State University. From bestselling, National Book Award-winning author Elizabeth Acevedo comes her first novel for adults, the story of one Dominican-American family told through the voices of its women as they await a gathering that will forever change their lives.



**June 13: *North Woods* by Daniel Mason**

Led by David Turk, retired professor of English. A sweeping novel about a single house in the woods of New England, told through the lives of those who inhabit it across the centuries—a daring, moving tale of memory and fate from the Pulitzer Prize finalist and author of *The Piano Tuner* and *The Winter Soldier*.



### Houseplant Care 101

**Tuesday, April 9 at 7:00pm**

Have you caught the houseplant bug? Struggling to keep your plants alive?

Join local plant expert, Ryan, from Foliage and Flora in Nyack to learn how to make your houseplants thrive. While you're here, leave or take a cutting from our National Library Week plant cutting swap table.

### Fantastic Figs

**Thursday, April 11 at 1:00pm**

Join Prema Goldstein, Master Gardener Intern, to learn about propagating figs in our cold climate. The workshop will include growing trees in ground as well as in pots. There will be demonstrations on the different ways of protecting the trees outdoors in winter. Discussion will include the history, quality and types of figs. There will also be cuttings available and information on how to grow them into beautiful productive trees.



### Judy Stadt presents My Rhyme My Reason My Time My Season

**Wednesday, May 22 at 7:00pm**

I have had many ups and downs during my very interesting and sometimes tumultuous lifetime and have created a series of raps or poems about how I am dealing with my life and aging, however, these raps are relatable to everyone no matter what age. I am accompanied by a sensitive jazz stand up bass player who improvises with me.



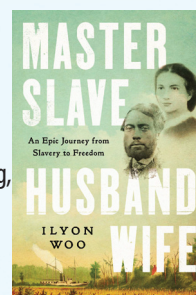
“Veteran actor JUDY STADT is a multifaceted professional artist. An actor of more than 80 legit plays, an award winning playwright, a memoirist - HIDE & SEEK, an international talk show host of THE LUNCH & JUDY SHOW! A jazz singer with legendary Sol Yaged's ensemble for several years. Produced DINNER THEATRE IN THE AFTERNOON! where she performed in nearly 100 of her original plays to seniors from all over the tri-state area. Also, an author/illustrator of several children's books, and a jewelry designer & manufacturer. In all of these endeavors she is a communicator par excellence.”

### RESCHEDULED Multi-Library Book Discussion of *Master Slave Husband Wife* by Ilyon Woo

**Monday, April 15 at 6:30pm**

The Nyack and Valley Cottage Libraries are joining forces to discuss *Master Slave Husband Wife: An Epic Journey from Slavery to Freedom* by Ilyon Woo.

The remarkable true story of Ellen and William Craft, who escaped slavery through daring, determination, and disguise, with Ellen passing as a wealthy, disabled white man and William posing as “his” slave.



## MONTHLY PROGRAMS

### Women and Money Roundtable

**Wednesdays, April 10, May 15, and June 12 at 1:00pm**

This monthly discussion group, started in the spring of 2016, offers an opportunity to learn more in a comfortable setting with other women.



The topics will vary every month to stay as current as possible. This is open to women of all levels of financial knowledge.

*This program is brought to you through a partnership between the Valley Cottage Library, Scarsdale Library, Brookfield Library, Darien Library, Fairfield Public Library, New Canaan Library, Bronxville Public Library, Purchase Free Library, and the Rye Free Reading Room.*

### Center for Safety and Change Outreach and Information

**Select Tuesdays, 3:00-5:30pm**

The Center for Safety & Change will be available in the Library's Gallery to give information and answer questions.

Center for Safety & Change provides critical services and support to women and all victims and survivors of gender-based violence and other crimes while working toward justice by creating social change.

Stop by this information table to learn more. Or visit:

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



# COOKBOOK CLUB

Join Katie and Ashley for the Cookbook Club - part book club and part potluck. Select a recipe and bring a batch to the event to share with other participants. Have dinner with us and your neighbors while learning how to cook something new. **Registration is required and is done in person at the Reference Desk beginning roughly one month before the event.**

**Wednesday, April 10 at 7:00pm**

**Flavor Kitchen** by Crystelle Pereira

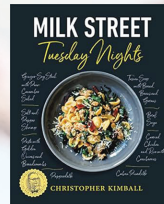
Divided into two halves - savory and sweet - the book showcases the baking that took Crystelle to the final of *The Great British Bake Off*, as well as her flair for creative savory dishes.



**Wednesday, June 5 at 7:00pm**

**Milk Street Tuesday Nights** by Christopher Kimball

At Christopher Kimball's Milk Street, Tuesdays are the new Saturdays. That means every *Tuesday Nights* recipe delivers big, bold flavors, but the cooking is quick and easy—simple enough for the middle of the week.



**ADULT (ISH)**  
because fun has no age limit  
programs for adults 18+

## Paint & Pass

**Wednesday, May 8 at 7pm**

Start a painting, pass the canvas, and help create a collaborative masterpiece—it's like a game of artistic hot potato, but way more fun and way less burn risk! Space is limited.



## Board Game Night

**Select Thursdays every month at 7pm**

**April 25, May 23, June 27**

Come play a game from our Board Game Collection or bring a favorite game of your own. Bring friends and make more!

# THE BOOK AND PUB CLUB

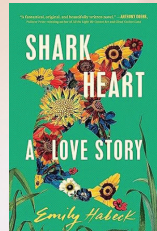
**Select Tuesdays of every month at 7:00pm**

The Book and Pub Club meets in local bars and restaurants for librarian-led book discussions over food and drinks. For participants 21+.

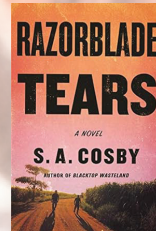
**April 16:** *The Future* by Naomi Alderman  
Prohibition River, 82 Main St. in Nyack



**May 21:** *Shark Heart* by Emily Habeck  
Prohibition River, 82 Main St. in Nyack



**June 18:** *Razorblade Tears* by S.A. Cosby  
Prohibition River, 82 Main St. in Nyack



# Shelf Indulgence Book Club

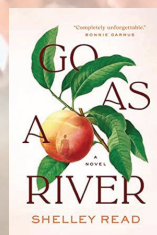
**Select Tuesdays every month at 2:00pm**

New month, new genre! Join us in person OR via Zoom to indulge in a good book while exploring different genres of literature

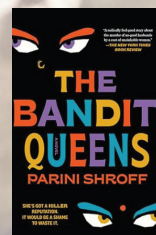
**April 9:** *The Measure* by Nikki Erlick.  
Genre: Dystopian Fiction



**May 14:** *Go as a River* by Shelley Read.  
Genre: Historical Fiction



**June 11:** *The Bandit Queens* by Parini Shroff.  
Genre: Thriller



**VCWRITES**

**First Thursdays of the month at 7:00pm**  
**April 4, May 2, June 6**

Join our librarian, Sean, for a monthly writing workshop. Participants share their work via email two weeks before the meeting, and then receive feedback at the monthly sessions. For submission guidelines and more information, please email Sean at [s.antonucci@rcls.org](mailto:s.antonucci@rcls.org).



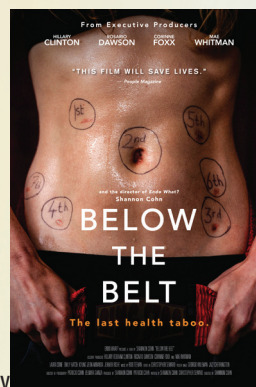
# Below the Belt Film Screening

**Tuesday, June 11 at 7:00pm**

Through the personal & inspiring stories of four women urgently searching for answers to mysterious symptoms, *Below the Belt* exposes widespread problems in our healthcare system that disproportionately affect women.

Through the lens of endometriosis, a disease that affects 1 in 9 women, the film shows how women are often dismissed, discounted & disbelieved. During the 10 years it takes to be diagnosed with endometriosis, women are often told that symptoms are in their head or part of being a woman. Due to outdated notions, they are then often treated with an array of ineffective drugs and surgeries and erroneously told that pregnancy & hysterectomy are cures. Nearly 50% of infertility cases in women are due to endometriosis & almost all are preventable.

From societal taboos and gender bias to misinformed doctors and financial barriers to care, *Below the Belt* shines a light on how millions are effectively silenced and how, by fighting back, they can improve healthcare for all women. Screening will be followed with a discussion.



# WJEJKIJIES

## Yarn Therapy

**Tuesdays at 11:30am**

If you like to knit or crochet, join our "therapy" sessions. Bring your yarn and tools. Come in to knit, crochet, and socialize. Bring friends or meet new people. Yarn donations are greatly appreciated.

## More Than Mah Jongg

**Wednesdays, 1-3:00pm**

Gather for Mah Jongg with your own equipment or explore our expansive board game collection. No registration is required. No instruction is provided. Open to beginners and advanced. All are welcome to attend.

# THE VALLEY COTTAGE LIBRARY CHILDREN'S ROOM SPRING PROGRAMS 2024

## Family Programs

### Monthly Scavenger Hunt

**Ages 12 and under.** Win a prize each month for finding the shape of the month hidden around the Children's Room! No registration.

### Take and Make Crafts

Every Monday the Children's Room will have a new craft ready for pickup! Send a picture of your completed craft to [vlckids@rcls.org](mailto:vlckids@rcls.org) to have it posted on our social media. No registration. (Available while supplies last.)

### Pegboard Art

**March 29 - April 7**

**Ages 3 and up.** Drop in all week to create pictures with golf tees on a big pegboard! No registration.

### Celebrate National Library Week: "Ready, Set, Library!"

**April 7-13**

**Ages 3 and up.** Come and create a keepsake craft! We will have favorite children's book covers available to cut, glue, draw and write about in your own unique wall hanging!

### LEGO™ Challenge, Family Style

**Monday, April 8 at 6:30pm**

**Grades K-5.** Come and build with LEGO™ bricks with your grownups and siblings on a group project, all together now! Share your creation with the group and then LEGOs™ will be displayed temporarily in the Children's Room.

### Celebrate Earth Day!

**April 15-22**

**Ages 3 and up.** Children can drop in all week to use recycled materials to create a colorful collage of something found on the Earth. No registration.



### Caring Cards & Crafts for Memorial Day

**May 1-19**

**All ages.** Drop in the Children's Room anytime to make a card for a local senior citizen honoring service men and women on Memorial Day! Decorate and write a note on your card, then we'll give them to Meals on Wheels to deliver them to seniors and brighten their day. No registration.

### Guessing Jar

**May 1-31**

**Ages 5-11 years.** Can you guess the number of items in the jar? Come to the Children's Room and fill out a slip with your contact info as well as your guess! Winners will win a prize and will be announced at the end of the month. No registration.

### Fun Family Storytime

**Monday, May 20 at 5:30PM**

**Ages 2 and up with adult(s).** PJs are optional! Bring your favorite snuggly friend and the whole family for this fun storytime.

### Magic Show!

**Monday, June 10 at 6:30pm**

**Ages 3 and up.** Nyack magician Jonathan Blair's interactive comedy magic show features incredible illusions, hilarious juggling, and coins that appear from out-of-thin-air, ending in a big finale with his famous Chinese linking rings!



## Programs for Age 5 and Younger

### Open Playtime

**Mondays from 10am-1pm**

**April 1 - June 24 (no program May 27)**

**Ages 5 and under.** It's playtime in the Storytime Room, no matter what the weather brings! A great chance to meet other local families while you enjoy books, games, toys and puzzles with your little one(s). No registration.

### Spring Baby Time

**Fridays at 10:30am**

**April 12 - May 17**

**Ages 2 mos.-17 mos. w/adult.** Weekly movement, rhymes & music. Please make alternate arrangements for other children. Register separately for every single week.

### Toddler Tales

**Tuesdays at 10:30am.**

**April 9 - May 14 (no program April 23)**

**Ages 18-35 mos. or walkers w/adult.** Weekly storytime with books and beyond! Please make alternate arrangements for other children. Register separately for every single week.

### PreK Spring Storytime on Wednesdays

**Wednesdays at 4:30pm, April 10 - May 15**

(Please choose Wednesdays OR Thursdays and register for only one weekly storytime.)

**Ages 3-5.** Great books, games, songs and crafts! Parents & siblings welcome! Register separately for every single week.

### PreK Spring Storytime on Thursdays

**Thursdays at 10:30am, April 11 - May 16**

(Please choose Wednesdays OR Thursdays and register for only one weekly storytime.)

**Ages 3-5.** Great books, games, songs and crafts! Parents & siblings welcome! Register separately for every single week.



The goal is to have read 1000 books before your child starts Kindergarten. Stop by the Children's Room any time to sign up, get more information, and your first reading record.

### Matty Roxx Music

**Mondays, April 29, May 6 & May 13 at 4:30pm**

**Ages 5 and under.** Join Matty Roxx (aka Matty Kapatty) and his guitar for age appropriate singing, movement, giggles and wiggles. Sing classic kids' songs and learn new modern ones. Awaken the senses with colored scarves, shakers and drums. Great for musical instrument and language readiness, as well as social interaction! Register separately for each week.

### Homeschool Hangout for Ages 3-5 Years

**Friday, May 3 at 1pm**

**Ages 3-5.** Join us to explore the world of bugs by reading *The Backyard Bug Book for Kids* by Lauren Davidson, then create a fun bug craft or two. This is a great chance to meet some homeschooling friends!

### Play-Doh™ Math Club

**Wednesday, May 29 at 4:30pm**

**Ages 3-5 years.** Let's have fun using Play-Doh™ to make some favorite Spring things, then we'll share them with the group. We'll also use Play-Doh™ to make patterns and pieces to do some simple math.

Registration begins on March 20 for Nyack School District patrons. Registration for out-of-district patrons begins April 1. Registration is required unless noted otherwise. Register online at [www.valleycottagelibrary.org/kids](http://www.valleycottagelibrary.org/kids), in the Children's Room, or call 845-268-7700. Please notify us of cancellations.

## PROGRAMS FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHILDREN

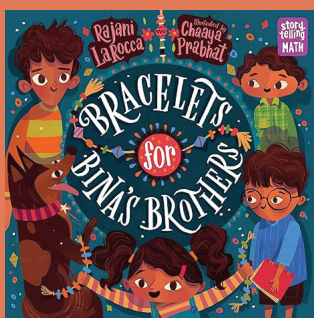
Books will be available at the Children's Room Desk one month prior to the program.

### Picture Book Worms: Book Clubs for Children Grades K-3 Select Thursdays at 4:15pm

**April 18: *Saturday at the Food Pantry*** by Diane O'Neill and illustrated by Brizida Magro. In honor of National Volunteer Month, let's read about Molly's trip to the food pantry and talk all about ways we can help our community. Then we will create a craft to give to someone to make them smile.



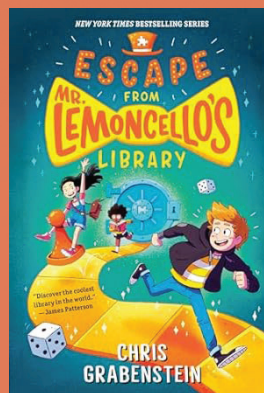
**May 9: *Bracelets for Bina's Brothers*** by Rajani LaRocca and illustrated by Chaaya Prabhat. Let's celebrate Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month by learning about the Hindu holiday of Raksha Bandhan and create our own custom bracelets.



### Graphic Novel Book Club with Mystery Games

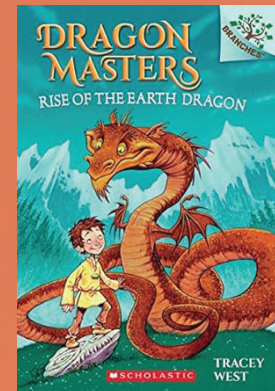
**Thursday, April 25 at 4:15pm  
Grades 3-6**

***Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library*** by Chris Grabenstein. We will discuss this very popular graphic novel, then we will play two mystery games: Detective Clues & What's in the Box?



### Fun Fiction Book Club Thursday, May 2 at 4:15pm

***Dragon Masters: Rise of the Earth Dragon*** by Tracey West. We will discuss the magical world of dragons and afterwards we will create a fire breathing dragon.



## S.T.E.A.M. PROGRAMS (SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, ART, MATH)

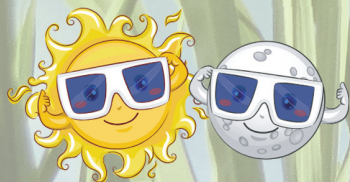
### FINE MOTOR FUN

**Ages 5 and up.** Color, write, cut and glue! Children can have fun while developing fine motor skills, eye-hand coordination, and mathematical basics. Each month the Children's Room will have new packets ready for pickup that include scissor skills, tracing activities, coloring, and more for children to do at home on their own anytime. No registration. Packets available while supplies last.

### SOLAR ECLIPSE

**Thursday, April 4 at 4pm**

**Grades K-2.** In preparation for the total solar eclipse on April 8th, we will watch a video and do a solar eclipse craft!



**PICK UP YOUR ECLIPSE GLASSES AT THE LIBRARY!**

Supplied by The STAR Library Network

### PUZZLING ECLIPSE

**Friday, April 5 at 11am**

**Grades 3-5.** We'll learn about the upcoming eclipse on April 8th, color our own solar system jigsaw puzzle, and learn simple puzzle solving techniques to put the puzzles together.

### CHILDREN'S CRAFTS PROGRAM

**Select Tuesdays at 4:30pm, April 9, May 21**

**Grades K-3.** Join us at the library to make a fun craft together! Register separately for each session. [Note- we will get a bit messy so please wear old clothes or bring a smock.]

### MARBLE ROLLER COASTER

**Monday, May 6 at 4:15pm**

**Grades 3-5.** With recycled materials, we are going to put our engineering skills to the test and build a roller coaster!



### HOMESCHOOL HANGOUT FOR AGES 6-10 YEARS

**Friday, May 10 at 1pm**

**Ages 6-10.** Join us to explore the world of bees by reading the beautiful award-winning book, *Honeybee: The Busy Life of Apis Mellifera* by Candace Fleming, then create a fun bug craft or two. This is a great chance to meet some homeschooling friends!

### LEGO™ CHALLENGE

**Select Mondays at 5pm, May 13 & June 3**

**Grades K-5.** Come and build with LEGO™ bricks – a different theme each time! Share your creation with the group and then LEGOs™ will be displayed temporarily in the library. Register separately for each program.



Registration for our Summer Programs, April 1 - June 15, will start on June 3. Registration for out-of-district patrons begins June 17.

# TEEN CORNER

Call or visit [valleycottagelibrary.org](http://valleycottagelibrary.org) to register

TEEN PROGRAMS ARE FOR GRADES 6-12 ONLY UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED.

## TEEN POETRY WORKSHOP

Tuesday, April 30 at 7pm

Join local poet and professor Brian Trimboli for an evening of poetry! Participants will have the opportunity to read, write, and discuss poetry with a published poet.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL GRAPHIC NOVEL CLUB

Select Tuesdays at 4:30pm

April 23, May 21, June 18

All middle schoolers are invited to participate in our graphic novel club! We all bring our favorite graphic novels and discuss them. Snacks will be provided.

## BE PREPARED FOR CAR OWNERSHIP

Wednesday, May 29 at 7pm

Chaya Milchtein, Automotive Educator, Journalist, and Empowerment Speaker, of Mechanic Shop Femme will be teaching an introductory class for young adults! This class will teach teens the fundamentals that should be covered before car ownership. This covers warning lights, when to tow a car, how to say no to a mechanic, and more. Register for the Zoom link.



## BATTLE OF THE BOOKS

Do you love to read? Do you love trivia, or maybe just hitting buzzers? Come join our team for Battle of the Books! This exciting competition is a college-bowl style trivia tournament about 8 books from different genres. See the Teen Page on our website for more information about the books and the big battle.

## CRAFT WITH PRIDE

Monday, June 3 at 4:30pm

Come make a Shrinky-Dink craft to show off your Pride!



## HAIKU CONTEST

In honor of National Poetry Month, try your hand at a Haiku! The winner of the contest will receive a \$25 Amazon gift card and have their poem featured on the @vcl\_pages Instagram. Submissions are open through the end of April.

## Sunday Concerts at 1:30pm

Sunday, April 7

Young Masters Recital Series: Jason Stoll



Masterwork Conversations

Sunday, April 14

Masterwork Conversations:  
Art As Antidote to AI



Trio Cabrini

Sunday, May 5

Piano Swing Summit  
featuring Loren Korevec



Jason Stoll

Sunday, June 2

Trio Cabrini

## CALL FOR ARTISTS for the Second Annual Banned Books Trading Cards Project!

Visit [valleycottagelibrary.org](http://valleycottagelibrary.org) (under the Events tab)

or scan for more information.



## Virtual Author Talk Series

Visit [valleycottagelibrary.org](http://valleycottagelibrary.org) under the "Events" tab for more information and a complete list of speakers.

Brought to you in partnership with the Library Speakers Consortium

The Foods, People, and Innovations That Feed Us—A Sweeping History of Food and Culture



with Smithsonian Curator Paula J. Johnson

Tuesday, April 2 at 2:00pm

From Murder to Atonement—Confronting My Son's Killer with Diane Foley & Colum McCann

Tuesday, April 9 at 2:00pm



A Literary Examination of Power, Love, and Art with Xochitl Gonzalez

Wednesday, April 17 at 8:00pm



# MONDAY MOVIE MATINEES AT 1:00PM

**APRIL 8**

**A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood**  
2019 | PG | 1h 49m



**APRIL 15**

**The Holdovers**  
2023 | R | 2h 13m



**APRIL 22**

**Emma**  
2020 | PG | 2h 4m



**APRIL 29**

**Yellow Rose**  
2019 | PG-13 | 1h 34m



**MAY 6**

**Corner Office**  
2022 | PG-13 | 1h 41m



**MAY 13**

**Beatriz at Dinner**  
2017 | R | 1h 22m



**JUNE 3**

**Rocketman**  
2019 | R | 2h 1m



**JUNE 10**

**Just Mercy**  
2019 | PG-13 | 2h 17m



**JUNE 17**

**The Butler**  
2013 | PG-13 | 2h 12m



## ARTISANS AND CRAFTSPEOPLE WANTED!

for our Holiday Craft Fair

**Saturday, December 7, 10am - 4pm**

Now accepting applications for the Annual Holiday Craft Fair.

We are seeking artisans and craftspeople who are proficient in their craft. Submit at **least 10** digital photos of your work for consideration to [cpape@rcls.org](mailto:cpape@rcls.org).

No phone calls please. Submission deadline is Tuesday, October 1.

## 2023 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

Dear Neighbor,

There is so much to be proud of at the Valley Cottage Library. While the preceding year was not easy for anyone working at the library, the challenges we faced were met with dedication, kindness, and determination to continue our mission to deliver high quality library services but to also push ourselves and each other to excel and elevate our services.

The library staff and community met the challenges of the February 2023 flood and the disruptions of a complete roofing project. While both events caused us to pivot services and the way we operate in a constantly changing environment, our library is now better than ever with improved, energy-efficient lighting, a solid roof, and fresh carpeting.

I hope many of you were able to participate in one or more of our community events such as our annual 'I Have a Dream Day' celebration, the inaugural Banned Books Read-a-Thon and Trading Card reception, the Children's Clothing Swap, or our popular Holiday Craft Fair.

The Valley Cottage Library was also proud to host two Nyack High School students in our inaugural For Future Reference internship program during Fall of 2023. This initiative of the library's Diversity Committee proved to be very meaningful for students and their library mentors.

Library staff were also excited to be out in our community at events such as Pride, the African-American Day Parade, school visits, and the Senior Fair.

Thank you for your support of the Library. If you haven't been in the Library for a while, we welcome you back to find out what we have in store for you. Our doors are open and we are ready to serve in both the old ways and new.

Christy Blanchette  
Library Director

Visit [valleycottagelibrary.org](http://valleycottagelibrary.org) under the About tab for the full report.

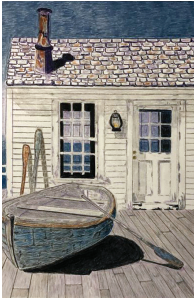
## FACTS AND FIGURES OF 2023

LIBRARY DETAILS	
62	Hours per week
4,820	Active Cardholders
100,728	Library visits
15,549	Reference questions answered
7,492	Public internet users (not including wireless)
45,958	Interlibrary loan transactions
97,026	Total physical items circulated
19,843	Total electronic items circulated
MATERIALS OWNED	
87,810	Adult, Children, & Teen books
19,890	Audio Visual materials
87	Magazine subscriptions (print)
71,644	Downloadable books (Adult, Children, & Teen)
34,825	Downloadable audio & video (Adult, Children, & Teen)
PROGRAMS	
324/4,978	Adult programs/Attendance
372/13,744	Children & Teen programs/Attendance
9,560	Children's passive programming Scavenger Hunt & Take and Make
HOMEBOUND SERVICE	
59	Deliveries of materials to residents
EARLY LITERACY PROGRAMS	
132/2,103	Sessions and attendance
ADULT DIGITAL LITERACY PROGRAMS	
77	One-on-one sessions

## IN OUR GALLERY

**APRIL:**  
MONDAY MORNING  
DRAWING GROUP  
**Art Reception**  
Saturday, April 13  
1:00-3:00pm

Janet Pirozzi Riolo,  
Cathie DeTora, Marie Maggio  
Yu-Shi Lin, Carole Braunstein,  
Ellen Rifken



**MAY:**  
JOAN KOPPEL  
**Art Reception**  
Saturday,  
May 4  
1:00-3:00pm



Contact Caroline Siecke-Pape at [cpape@rds.org](mailto:cpape@rds.org) if interested in exhibiting in the Library Gallery.

**JUNE: RIK PAUL**  
**Art Reception**  
Saturday, June 1, 1:00-3:00pm



## Celebrate National Library Week: April 7-13

### Houseplant Cutting Swap Beginning April 8

Grow your community... of houseplants! Share your beloved but overgrown plants with your neighbors while diversifying your collection. Bring in a healthy, pest-free rooted or unrooted cutting to swap for something new. Our propagation station will be located near the courtyard. For more information on the swap and how to propagate plants, visit our website.



### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Frank Dwyer, President**  
**Marjorie McLoughlin,**  
**Vice-President**  
**Michael Mark, Treasurer**  
**Melissa L. Roy, Secretary**  
**Mary Fiore, Trustee**  
**Herbert Lerner, Trustee**  
**Arlette Mooney, Trustee**  
**Christy Blanchette, Director**

The Board of Trustees is scheduled to meet April 17, May 15, June TBD at 7:30pm. The public is invited. Visit [valleycottagelibrary.org](http://valleycottagelibrary.org) to confirm the dates in the event of a schedule or venue change.

# VALLEY COTTAGE LIBRARY

*Member of the Ramapo Catskill Library System*

110 Route 303, Valley Cottage, NY 10989

845-268-7700 • [valleycottagelibrary.org](http://valleycottagelibrary.org)

Non-Profit  
US Postage

**PAID**

Monsey, NY  
Permit No. 9002

### Library Hours:

Monday-Thursday  
10am-9pm

Friday & Saturday  
10am-5pm

Sunday  
12-4pm\*

\*The Library closes on Sundays beginning on the first Sunday after Nyack schools close for summer recess and reopens on Sundays following Labor Day.

### Holiday Closings:

Sunday, March 31 - Easter

Monday, May 27 - Memorial Day

Wednesday, June 19 - Juneteenth

Resident