

MCLR Notes

VOLUME 21 NUMBER 3

DECEMBER 2025 / JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2026

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

As we enter winter, the Manchester City Library will be facing some happy challenges:

- Lead paint abatement will start in sections of the main library where paint is peeling
- A new roof will be installed at the main library
- Library space on the second floor will be rearranged at the main library
- After some delays, we will be taking the next steps at our branch's Makerspace
- We will be getting a website overhaul to be more accessible and user friendly

Of course, while all this is going on, our staff will continue to provide programming and services, and we apologize for any disruptions that may ensue. We will keep you posted along the way via our blog and various directional signs.

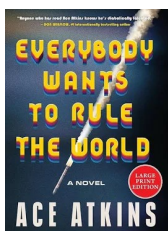
Also, in the coming year, a State Law change to the library confidentiality [law](#) allows for access to a minor's current library borrowing records. Library staff have put together an informational pamphlet to help parents easily do so from our library catalog.

May you all have a Happy and Healthy Holiday Season!

Denise van Zanten
Library Director

NEW FICTION COMING SOON!

Here's a sneak peek at some of the new fiction coming out over the next few months. It's not too early to get yourself on the waiting list for these hot titles:



Atkins, Ace – Everybody wants to rule the world

It's 1985 and fourteen-year-old Peter Bennett is convinced his mom's new boyfriend is a Russian agent who only wants to get close

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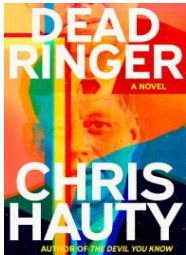
Manchester City Library

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to his mom because she works at Scientific Atlanta, a lab with big government contracts. But who is going to believe him? As Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev prepare for a historic nuclear summit in Geneva, what happens in Atlanta might change the course of the Cold War, the twentieth century, and Peter's freshman year of high school. December 2

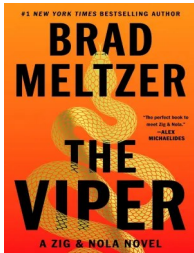
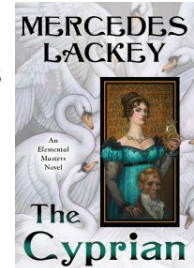


Hauty, Chris – Dead ringer

Set in present day, a disgraced former Secret Service officer and a Jesuit professor join forces to delve into the mysteries surrounding the events of November 22, 1963. Fixated on deciphering the conspiracies behind the history changing assassination, they are oblivious to the fact that the cabal is still active – and may face an end as bloody as the carnage in Dealey Plaza. Will they be able to uncover the truth in time? Or will they become two more footnotes in history? December 2

Lackey, Mercedes – The Cyprian

With her father dead, Elena's evil stepmother, a Master of Water, has bespelled her brothers into swans and plans to regain her wealth by selling Elena to the highest bidder. Alone, Elena must not only find a way to save herself, but to reverse the spell that has transformed her brothers. The latest entry in Lackey's Elemental Masters series. December 30

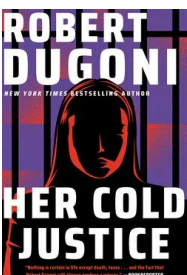


Meltzer, Brad – The viper

Andrew Fechmeier is a master of hiding. He'd better be – he's spent decades concealing a secret that could get him killed. So when he's diagnosed with a terminal disease, he heads for the local funeral home carrying the suit he eventually wants to be buried in. But then Fech is brutally murdered by someone who will stop at nothing to find a priceless object hidden in that exact suit. Can Roddy and Zig identify this killer? January 6

Butcher, Jim – Twelve months

Ghouls are prowling Chicago and taking out innocent civilians. Harry's brother is dying and Harry doesn't know how to help him. And last, but certainly not least, the Winter Queen of the Fae has allied with the White Court of vampires – and Harry's been betrothed to the seductive, deadly vampire Lara Raith to seal the deal. More than ever, the city needs Harry Dresden the Wizard – but after this last year, is there enough left in Harry to rise to the challenge? January 20



Dugoni, Robert – Her cold justice

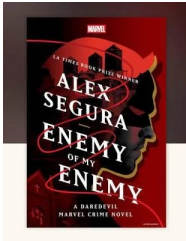
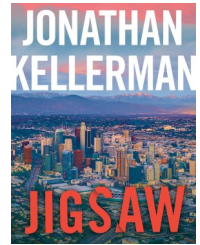
In a quiet South Seattle neighborhood, a suspected drug smuggler and his girlfriend are murdered in their home. When a young man named Michael Westbrook is accused of the brutal double homicide, his uncle JP Harrison turns to Keera Duggan to defend him. January 27

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Kellerman, Jonathan – Jigsaw

When a young woman is found dead at her kitchen table – with DNA belonging to her ex-boyfriend at the scene – psychologist Alex Delaware and Detective Milo Sturgis assume it's an open-and-shut case. But the guy has an airtight alibi. Could an enemy from his shady past have framed him? February 3

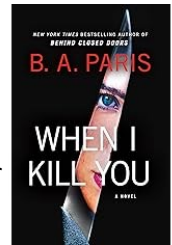


Segura, Alex – Enemy of my enemy

When the call comes in that the Kingpin and a police officer have been killed and that Frank Castle (aka the Punisher) has turned himself in for it, Matt Murdock senses holes in the narrative the media is reporting. Both criminals have been Matt's nemeses when he dons the cowl of the Daredevil, and there's no denying that New York is better off without its Kingpin and with the Punisher behind bars. And yet... February 10

Paris, B. A. – When I kill you

Fourteen years ago, she was Elle Nugent and she witnessed Bryony Sanders getting into a stranger's car. When Bryony was found murdered, Elle became obsessed with finding the person responsible. Now, as Nell Masters, she is certain someone is following her. Has someone from her past discovered her new identity? Or is there something even more deadly at play? February 17



Adult Programs

Signups are appreciated! To sign up for any of the following programs, use the links provided with the program description, or visit www.manchesterlibrary.org and click on "Upcoming Events" to view the library calendar. You can also call us at 603-624-6550 x7620.

Signing up lets us know how many people to expect for a program, allows us to send you any handouts, follow-up emails with a program recording (if being recorded), and notify you of any unexpected changes. We'll send you reminder emails, as well as any zoom links for the program.

Library Challenges!

NYT Crossword Puzzles

Daily at Main and West

There are many reasons to enjoy crossword puzzles. They offer a chance to relax, keep your mind engaged, and just have fun! We are now offering daily crossword puzzles from the New York Times at both the Main and West library branches. Pick up a puzzle during our normal business hours and challenge yourself! Monday's puzzle is always the easiest, and they get harder as the week goes on. See how you do Monday to Sunday! Answers are also provided, if you want to see how you did!



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Questions on adult programs? Call 603-792-7619 or email library@manchesternh.gov

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Stick Together Community Sticker Puzzle

Starting in December

Stop by the Rotunda to help us build a mosaic masterpiece! Grab some stickers and watch the painting emerge! This activity is great for those that enjoy paint-by-number, diamond painting, or cross stitch! This activity will start in December and will continue until completed. For questions, call Caitlin at 603-624-6550 x7620 or email cdionne@manchesternh.gov

West Library Adult DIY

Stop by the Information Desk on the Main Floor at the West Manchester Branch Library and pick up a kit. Kits are released quarterly and are available while supplies last. Kits cannot be reserved and are one per person. These kits are for adults only. View all upcoming Adult Crafts [here](#).

Tuesday January 13 – Homemade Greeting Cards



Have leftover wrapping paper or old greeting cards lying around? Take some inspiration from these craft kits and make your own greeting cards and bookmarks! Use the materials in the kits or what you have at home. These kits include cardstock, decorative paper, greeting card fronts, and ribbon. Just supply your own scissors, glue and creativity!

These creative kits will be available at the West Manchester Branch Library Information Desk starting Tuesday January 13, 2026. These kits are for adults only and are available while supplies last. For more information, call Caitlin at 603-624-6560 x 7620 or email

cdionne@manchesternh.gov.

Main Adult DIY

Stop by the Information Desk in the Rotunda for an Adult craft kit. These kits are released every other month and are available while supplies last. Due to limited supplies, kits cannot be reserved and are available on a first-come-first-served basis. One kit per person. View all upcoming Adult Crafts [here](#).

Tuesday December 9 – Scandinavian Woven Reindeer Ornaments



Ready to deck your halls with a touch of Scandinavian holiday magic?

Join us in December as we embrace that traditional folk spirit by making Scandinavian woven reindeer ornaments. Reed weaving or weaving with wheat straw has long been a cherished Scandinavian craft incorporating many beautiful shapes – from goats, hearts, stars, and of course, reindeer. Kits come with everything needed to make a fun and beautiful reindeer ornament. Decorate your home or attach it onto a holiday gift for that extra thoughtful touch. Once you get the hang of it you will want to make a whole herd!

These kits are intended for adults and will be available on Tuesday, December 9th, in the

Library Rotunda while supplies last.

Tuesday February 10 – Mexican Tin Art



Join us in February as we create thoughtful and beautiful corazones inspired by traditional Mexican tin folk art. **Milagros** (which means miracle in Spanish) are used as folk charms to symbolize a prayer, love, or something to be grateful for. This craft comes just in time to celebrate St. Valentine's Day. Make your tin hearts and think of the person or persons you care about while creating them. Give them as tokens or gifts to someone special to remind them of you. You can also keep one for yourself for empowerment and strength.

These kits are intended for adults and will be available in the library rotunda on Tuesday, February 10th while supplies last. For more information about these crafts, please contact Yvonne at 603-624-6550 ext. 7620 or email her at yloomis@manchesternh.gov.

Happy crafting!

Adult Book Clubs

Wednesday Evening Book Club

Do you like talking about books as much you enjoy reading them? Consider joining our monthly book club! We meet in the Winchell Room on the second Wednesday of the month, September through June. Meetings are held 6:30-7:30 pm and you can attend either in person or via Zoom. Selections include fiction, nonfiction and biographies, both recent and classic.

For more information, or to make a recommendation, contact Steve Viggiano at sviggiano@manchesternh.gov. Call (603) 624-6550 x 7620 to reserve a print copy of the book. To view all upcoming Book Club meetings, [click here](#).

December 10

Christie, Agatha. *And Then There Were None*. 1939, Fiction

Ten houseguests, trapped on an isolated island, are the prey of a diabolical killer. A famous nursery rhyme is framed and hung in every room of the mansion: Ten little Indian boys went out to dine; One choked his little self and then there were nine--When they realize that murders are occurring as described in the rhyme, terror mounts. Who has choreographed this dastardly scheme? And who will be left to tell the tale?

January 14

Philbrick, Nathaniel. *In the Heart of the Sea: the Tragedy of the Whaleship Essex*. 2000, Nonfiction

Recounts the story of the 1820 wreck of the whaleship Essex, which inspired Melville's classic Moby-Dick, and describes its doomed crew's ninety-day attempt to survive whale attacks and the elements on three tiny lifeboats.

February 11

Allende, Isabel. *The Wind Knows My Name*. 2023, Fiction

Traces the ripple effects of war and immigration on two children: five-year-old Samuel, whose mother puts him on a Kindertransport train out of Nazi-occupied Austria to England in 1938, and seven-year-old Anita, who boards another train eight decades later to the U.S. where she's separated from her mother.

Brown Bag Book Club

The Brown Bag Book Club meets on the last Tuesday of each month from 12:15-1:30 pm in the Winchell Room. For more information, contact David Basora at 603-624-6550 ext. 7643 or email dbasora@manchesternh.gov. To view all upcoming Book Club meetings, [click here](#).

December 30

Wilder, Thornton. *The Bridge of San Luis Rey*. 1927, 138 p. Fiction

When a rope bridge near Lima, Peru breaks in 1714, a Franciscan who witnesses the accident feels compelled to learn about the lives of the five people who were killed.

January 27

McTiernan, Dervla. *What Happened to Nina?* 2023, 328 p. Fiction

Two families are pitted against each other--one seeking justice in the disappearance of their daughter, the other desperate to clear their son's name.

February 24

Brontë, Emily. *Wuthering Heights*. 1847, 307 p. Fiction

Heathcliff, an orphan, is raised by Mr. Earnshaw as one of his own children. Hindley despises him but wild Cathy becomes his constant companion, and he falls deeply in love with her. When she will not marry him, Heathcliff's terrible vengeance ruins them all - but still his and Cathy's love will not die...



Writers Group | [Sign Up Here!](#)

**Wednesdays in the Hunt Room at 6:00 pm
December 17 | January 21 | February 18**

Join the Manchester City Library on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm for our writer's group! Meet with other writers and discuss what you're writing, critique others work, and give feedback. This group is open to writers of all abilities, aged teen and up. Please sign up to participate.

For questions, call Tess at 603-624-6550 x7620 or email tkimsey@manchesternh.gov.



Remembering Together | [Sign Up Here!](#)

**Mondays at 10:30 am, December 15 & 29, January 12 & 26, February 9 & 23
In-Person at the Senior Center, or Virtually via Zoom**

Our lives are made up of stories. The Remembering Together program offers seniors a unique opportunity to share with one another some of their memorable life stories. These stories are often a source of encouragement, mutual appreciation, perspective, and a sense of connection. Of course, there are also times when a story gives everyone a good laugh.

Please join The Mental Health Center of Greater Manchester and the Manchester City Library for a conversational group at the Senior Center on Mondays at 10:30am, December 15 & 29, January 12 & 26, February 9 & 23. Virtual attendance is also available!

For questions, call Susan Harmon at 603-624-6550 x7620 or email sharmon@manchesternh.gov



1-on-1 Computer Tutoring | [Sign Up Here!](#)

Dates and times will vary. Check calendar for availability



Warm up this winter and learn new technology skills at The Manchester City Library with a free, one hour tutoring session. The program runs from February 2nd through February 27th. Available slots are booked on a first come, first served basis. Get technology help with tasks such as basic computer skills, sending an email, browsing the Internet, and document creation and management. Can't make the times listed in the calendar? You can request an appointment at a

time convenient for you. We'll do our best to accommodate your request.

Your tutor is librarian, Amy Hanmer. She has taught computer classes and tutored many patrons over her seventeen plus years at the Manchester City Library. For questions, call Amy at 603-624-6550 x7620 or email ahanmer@manchesternh.gov

Signup for this program is required! Visit www.manchesterlibrary.org and click on "Upcoming Events" to view the library calendar. You can also call 603-624-6550 x7620 to make an appointment.

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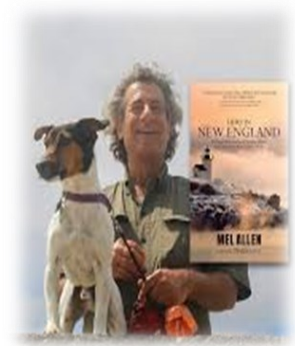
Here in New England with Mel Allen | [Sign Up Here!](#)

Tuesday January 6 at 6:00 pm

The Manchester City Library is proud to announce that local author Mel Allen will be holding a presentation about his new book *Here in New England: Unforgettable Stories of People, Places, and Memories that Connect Us All* on Tuesday, January 6th at 6 PM in the Auditorium.

Mel was a writer and editor at Yankee Magazine for many years before retiring in January 2025. Drawing on almost 50 years of experience, Mel will discuss what it is that makes the culture of New England unique, and what it means to be a "Yankee." This program will feature a slide show presentation, as well as a Q&A session towards the end. Copies of his book will be available for purchase.

For questions, call Nic Young at 603-624-6550 x7620 or email nyoung3@manchesternh.gov



The Dangerous Art of Chainsaw Sculpture | [Sign Up Here!](#)

Saturday January 10 starting at 12:00 pm

This is a free event held in the Manchester City Library Auditorium

Join us at the Manchester City Library for a fun, interesting, interactive and engaging journey through the amazing career of world-famous Master Chainsaw Sculptor, Dr. "The Machine" Jesse Green (AMERICAN CHAINSAW on National Geographic Channel, ESPN/ Disney and more.) Through an incredible series of photos, the process of creating gigantic, death-defying works of art from trees is brought to life in a BIG way! Attendees of all ages will be able to ask questions throughout and fully participate in the discussion. You've never seen anything like

it! Books will be available for purchase following the presentation.

For questions, call David Basora at 603-624-6550 x7643 or email dbasora@manchesternh.gov



Book Sale

Our Winter Book Sale will take place on Saturday, January 24, from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm in the Winchell Room. The pricing will be \$10 per average sized grocery bag. Bring your own bag or we can provide one. Fill it up with whatever materials can fit! Individual items can also be purchased for \$2 each for hardcover books and \$1 each for most other materials. All proceeds from this book sale will go towards our very popular museum pass program. For more information, please contact David Basora at 603-624-6550 ext. 7643 or email dbasora@manchesternh.gov.

Coffee Explorer

Monday, February 9 @ 9:00 am (1:00 pm @ West)

ATTENTION COFFEE LOVERS AND ENTHUSIASTS!

Introducing, Coffee Explorer! If you are like me and love your coffee, this is the perfect program for you! Coffee Explorer will provide you with opportunities to try new coffee flavors with a paired snack and treat in the comfort of your own home! All you need is a mug and hot water as Coffee Explorer has you covered! Each kit will include an individual pour-over coffee packet, creamer singles, sugar packets, a paired snack and treat, and a coffee recipe if you wish to be adventurous and creative. If this program is of interest to you, please come by

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the Reference Desk at the Manchester City Library at 9:00 am or the West Manchester Branch Library at 1:00 pm to pick up your Coffee Explorer take-home kit!

This program will last until supplies run out!

For questions, call Ann at 603-624-6550 x7620 or email aspaulding@manchesternh.gov

Candid Databases Now Available!

The Manchester City Library will be offering training in January 2026 for City of Manchester employees on Candid's nonprofit databases, GuideStar and the Foundation Directory. With **GuideStar**, you can explore detailed profiles of over 1.8 million U.S. nonprofits—find local organizations to volunteer with, donate to, or partner with, and connect those in need with vital services. For nonprofits, individuals, and city departments seeking funding, the **Foundation Directory** is a powerful tool to identify grant makers, build prospect lists, and search for scholarships, fellowships, and grants.

If you are an employee of the City of Manchester and would be interested in training, please reach out to Librarian Christina Rines, at crines@manchesternh.gov

Coming soon! Adult Reading Challenge: 26 in '26!

The Manchester City Library is excited to announce a year-long adult reading challenge! This challenge can be as laid back or as challenging as you want. Readers will have the ability to log up to 26 Reader's Choice titles and up to 26 Challenge Books over the course of the year. Challenge books are to fit a specific theme, but readers can choose the title.



This program will differ from our Summer Reading Program in that there are no minutes to log – points are earned by completing a book and logging the mission as complete. Points are used to purchase raffle tickets to our 12 monthly raffles. Prizes will consist of \$25 gift certificates to local businesses. The program will run all year and registration opens on December 15.

For more information, call Caitlin at 603-624-6550 x7620 or email cdionne@manchesternh.gov

Teen Programs

Teen Plus: Crafts

Tuesdays: December 2, January 6, February 3

6:00 pm – 7:00 pm, Winchell Room, Sign Up Here: [12/2](#), [1/6](#), [2/3](#)

Teens in grades 6-12 are invited to bring their plus 1 (or more) for some cool crafting fun. Bring your favorite adult, sibling, or friend to create our special Teen Plus monthly craft. Anyone not in grades 6-12 must be accompanied by a teen, and children under 8 must have an adult in attendance as well as a teen. Please note that the craft projects are intended for teens and adults and may not be suitable for younger children. Please register in advance to help us plan.

Teen Thursdays

Thursdays: December 4 – February 26 (no meeting 12/25, 1/1, and 2/26)

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm, Winchell Room

Every Thursday, come hang out in the Winchell Room after school. We'll have snacks, arts and craft supplies, Nintendo Switch, and other games. Once or twice a month we'll have a special structured craft or activity. For teens in grades 6 - 12.

Questions on youth services programs? Call 603-792-7628 or email library@manchesternh.gov

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Teen Movie & Pizza Nights

Wednesdays: December 17, January 21, and February 25

5:30 pm – 7:45 pm (approximate end time), Auditorium, Sign Up Here: [12/17](#), [1/21](#), [2/25](#)



Come for a movie and pizza in the auditorium, where we'll watch a teen movie on the big screen. For teens in grades 6 – 12. Movies may be rated PG-13 or PG.



Registration in advance is requested to help us plan. If you have food allergies or restrictions, let us know when you register or email Dori ahead of time at mclouthservices@manchesternh.gov. Please feel free to also email with movie suggestions you would like to watch!

Visit the Teen Services website at www.manchesterlibrary.org/teens for event updates.

Youth Services

Winter Storytimes

Winter storytimes will begin the week of January 5. **Toddler Storytime** will be on Monday Mornings at 10:00 am, for ages 18 months to 3 years. For our youngest patrons, 6-18 months, **Baby Storytime** will be on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 am. There will be two weekly sessions of **Preschool Storytime** for ages 3-5 years on Wednesday afternoons at 1:30 pm, and on Thursday mornings at 10:00 am. Storytimes are drop-in programs, with no registration required, except for Toddler Motor Time.

Toddler Storytime

Mondays, January 5th to March 23

10:00-11:00 am, Winchell Room

Families with toddlers ages 18 months to 3 years are invited to join Miss Amanda for simple stories, music, dancing and lots of playtime fun!

Baby Storytime

Tuesdays, January 6th to March 24

10:00-11:00 am, Winchell Room

Baby Storytime with Miss Karyn will be on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 am. There will be interactive stories, dancing/shaker eggs and of course, bubbles! For ages 6 months to 18 months.

Preschool Storytime

Wednesday Afternoons, January 7th to March 25; 1:30-2:30 pm, Winchell Room

Thursdays Mornings, January 8th to March 26; 10:00-11:00 am, Winchell Room

Families with preschoolers 3-5 years old are invited to join Miss Amanda for some Preschool fun! There will be longer stories, games, music, dancing and occasional crafts to take home. Please choose one session to attend of this very popular storytime.

Questions on youth services programs? Call 603-792-7628 or email library@manchesternh.gov *(continued on page 10)*

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Toddler Motor Time

Fridays, January 9 & February 20

10:00-11:00 am, Winchell Room, Sign up here: [1/9](#) & [2/20](#)

Once a month, join Miss Amanda for this fun interactive storytime. Toddlers will have fun working on their fine motor skills with various sensory activities. Toys, balls, coloring, and other sensory activities will make this program a fun and engaging playgroup for toddlers. For ages 18 months – 3 years. Registration is required.



1000 Books Before Kindergarten, Register Here

Don't forget we are offering a reading program for our youngest readers. Through READSquared, parents can register their children ages 1-5 for our 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten. You will create an account where you can enter the number of books they read, listen to storytimes, or use the several booklists that the staff have put together. Once registered, don't forget to pick up your reading bag. Kids will earn little prizes as they read towards their goal of 1,000 books before Kindergarten.

Reading Dragons & Friends visit for Winter Reading

Monday January 5 – Saturday, April 4, Ages 5-18 years

Reading Dragons & Friends is a collectable card game that you add to by reading! For Winter Reading this year, anyone ages 5-18 can register to get a reading tracker and 3 starter cards and 1 how to play card, so you can practice the basics. By logging reading, you can earn different sets of mythical creature cards each month. Go to manchesternh.readsquared.com or stop by the Children's Reference Desk to register!



Family Game Night

Tuesday Nights, Starting January 6

4:00 to 7:30 pm, Children's Room

Drop by the children's room on Tuesday nights beginning January 6 for Family Game Night. We will have different board games and puzzles for families to enjoy as you browse for books.

Kids Holiday Tea Party

Monday, December 8

10:00-11:00 am, Winchell Room, [Sign Up Here](#)

Let's celebrate the upcoming holidays (Christmas, Kwanza, Hanukkah, and Winter Solstice) with a tea party. Kids ages 2-5 years old, along with their parents and/or grandparents, will enjoy tea (juice), cookies, and holiday songs and stories. Wear your best or craziest holiday outfit. Registration is required.



Storytime at the Mall

Tuesday, December 9

11:30 am, Mall of New Hampshire

Manchester City Library Children's Room and the Mall of New Hampshire have teamed up for Storytime at the Mall. Our next Mall Storytime will be on Tuesday, December 9, 2025 beginning at 11:30 am in front of JC Penney. We will have holiday stories and a special guest. Afterwards, there is a cute craft to make and take home. Recommended for all ages. Registration is not required.

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Questions on youth services programs? Call 603-792-7628 or email library@manchesternh.gov

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Elementary Experiments

Tuesday December 9

3:30-4:30 pm, Winchell Room, [Sign Up Here](#)

Anyone grades 1-6 can join us for activities and crafts with a STEAM focus on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. This month we are exploring **Paper Power!** by making a slow-motion ball run and robot origami pincher! Remember to register so we can make sure we have enough supplies.



Polar Express Party

Saturday December 13

10:00-11:00 am, Winchell Room/Auditorium, [Sign Up Here](#)

All aboard for a magical trip to the North Pole, for those who truly believe.

We'll be taking off and you're not going to want to miss this one! Experience the magic of the season with the story, crafts, and snacking fun. Babies to Grade 5 are invited. Registration is required.

Early Elementary Art – Puzzle Ornament Painting

Tuesday, December 16

3:30-4:30 pm, Winchell Room, [Sign Up Here](#)

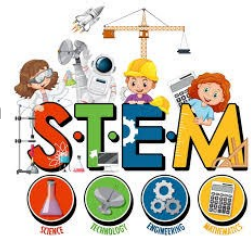
Kids in grades K-3, do you love to create fun art projects? This program is for you. Join for an afternoon of holiday art and crafting. You will be using acrylic & puffy paint as well a little glitter and other elements to make unique holiday ornaments. Registration is required to make sure we have enough supplies on-hand.

Storytime Science

Wednesdays, December 17, January 7, February 4

10:00-11:00 am, Winchell Room, [Sign Up Here: 12/17, 1/7, 2/4](#)

The Children's Room staff are excited to announce our Storytime program with SEE Science Center. Once a month, kids ages 2-6 years old are invited to join Ms. Yvonne and Ms. Becky from the SEE Science Center for Storytime Science. This storytime is based on a STEM/STEAM theme, with hands-on activities afterwards. Registration will be required to make sure that we have enough materials for everyone. Storytime Science is a program of the SEE Science Center's First Steps in Science Initiative presented by Dartmouth Health Children's.



Slime-of-the-Month Club

Wednesday, December 17

3:30-4:30 pm, Winchell Room, [Sign Up Here](#)

Kids in Grades 1-6 can sign up to make **Soap Slime!** Slime-of-the-Month Club is early this month due to the holidays, but come ready to get messy with this unusual slime! Registration is required to make sure that we have enough supplies prepared for all. Only kids in Grades 1-6 can reserve a spot.

Questions on youth services programs? Call 603-792-7628 or email library@manchesternh.gov

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Grinch Storytime

Thursday, December 18

10:00-11:00 am, Winchell Room, [Sign Up Here](#)

Join Miss Amanda for a reading of *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*. Afterwards, there will be Grinch themed crafts for the kids to make and take home. Kids ages 1-5 years old, along with their parents and/or grandparents, are welcome. Registration is required.



Ugly Sweater Murder Mystery Party

Tuesday, December 23

3:00-4:00 pm, Winchell Room, [Sign Up Here](#)

Kids ages 8 years to 18 years can sign up to question and eliminate suspects until they have clued in on the murderer, the weapon, and the motive—all with a festive twist. But beware different status effect cards that can throw off your investigation! Registration is required to make sure that we have enough characters for all participants. Only kids ages 8-teen can reserve a spot for this program.

Frosty the Snowman

Monday, December 29

10:00-11:00 am, Winchell Room, [Sign Up Here](#)

Frosty the Snowman was a jolly happy soul.... And you can be too by coming to this fantastic Snowman themed party! Join Miss Amanda for snowman games, crafts, and other chilly activities. Registration is required.



New Year's Party

Tuesday, December 30

2:00-3:00 pm, Winchell Room, [Sign Up Here](#)

Let's celebrate the arrival of 2026 with a New Year's Party on December 30, beginning at 2:00 pm in the Winchell Room. We will ring in the New Year with noisemakers, bubble wrap, confetti and fun crafts. Children ages 2-8 years old are welcome to this celebration. Registration is required.

Lego Afternoon

Friday, January 9

3:00-4:30 pm, Winchell Room

Once a month, come build with the 10,000 Lego pieces that have been donated by Lego Systems. This is a drop-in session; no registration is required. This program is for ages 3-12 years old.

Elementary Experiments

Tuesday, January 13

3:30-4:30 pm, Winchell Room, [Sign Up Here](#)

Anyone grades 1-6 can join us for activities and crafts with a STEAM focus on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. This month we are looking into **Ballast and Buoyancy** with our water bins, cork and foil! Remember to register so we can make sure we have enough supplies.

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Winnie the Pooh Party

Friday, January 16

10:00 am, Winchell Room, [Sign Up Here](#)

Join Miss Karyn and Miss Amanda as we take a trip to the Hundred Acre Woods by listening to stories about the adventures of Pooh, Christopher Robin, Piglet, Eeyore, Tigger, along with Kanga and Roo. There will be fun crafts and activities, including a Pooh scavenger hunt. This program is for kids ages 1-5 years old. Registration is required to make sure we have enough supplies for everyone. For more information, please call 603-624-6550 ext. 7628.



Time Travelers Book Club

Tuesdays, January 20 and February 17

3:30-4:30 pm, Hunt Room, [Sign Up Here: 1/20 & 2/17](#)

Young Readers in grades 2-5 are invited to join Ms. Karyn & Ms. Kristy from the Millyard Museum on a fun reading adventure through time. Each month, there will be 3 different books available based on an historical event. Readers will choose one title. The group will meet on the 3rd Tuesday of each month to discuss their books and for fun activities. Registration is required.

Slime-of-the-Month Club

Wednesday, January 28

3:30-4:30 pm, Winchell Room, [Sign Up Here](#)

Kids in Grades 1-6 can sign up to making Foil Gilding Slime, see how this very thin foil sticks to, then breaks up and folds into the slime! Come ready to get messy! Registration is required to make sure that we have enough supplies prepared for all. Only kids in Grades 1-6 can reserve a spot.



Early Elementary Art – Snowflake Art

Friday, January 30

3:30-4:30 pm, Winchell Room, [Sign Up Here](#)

Kids in grades K-3, do you love to create fun art projects? This program is for you. Join for an afternoon of Snowflake art and crafting. You will be using watercolors & salt to create colorful snowflakes. Registration is required to make sure we have enough supplies on-hand.

Valentine Tea Party

Friday, February 6

10:00 am, Winchell Room, [Sign Up Here](#)

Wear your best Valentine's outfit and join Miss Amanda and Miss Karyn for fun Valentine stories, cookies and tea (aka juice). This program is for kids ages 1-5 years old. Registration is required to make sure we have enough supplies for everyone.

Elementary Experiments

Tuesday, February 10

3:30-4:30 pm, Winchell Room, [Sign Up Here](#)

Anyone grades 1-6 can join us for activities and crafts with a STEAM focus on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. This month we are going to Celebrate the Year of the Horse by folding envelopes, loud firecrackers, and a paper horse! Remember to register so we can make sure we have enough supplies.

Questions on youth services programs? Call 603-792-7628 or email library@manchesternh.gov

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Early Elementary Art – Painted Chinese Lanterns

Friday, February 20

3:30-4:30 pm, Winchell Room, [Sign Up Here](#)

Kids in grades K-3, do you love to create fun art projects? This program is for you. Let's celebrate the Lunar New Year and paint some beautiful lantern to decorate as well. Registration is required to make sure we have enough supplies on-hand.



Celebrate Winter Break at the Library!

-Winterfest-

Monday, February 23:

Toddler Storytime: Families with children ages 18 months to 3 years are invited to join Miss Amanda at 10:00 am in the Winchell Room.

Movie Afternoon: Beginning at 2:00 pm in the auditorium. Come, watch *How to Train Your Dragon* (2010). Families are welcome.



Tuesday, February 24:

Baby Storytime: Families with children ages 6 months to 2 years are invited to join Miss Karyn at 10:00 am in the Winchell Room.

Morphs and Milestones: Come and learn about reptiles in our auditorium at 2:00 pm. Kids of all ages are invited to join Nate and Brenda to learn about snakes, turtles, and other reptiles from around the world. Through hands-on opportunities, kids will learn about the

environments they live in, what they eat, and other fun and interesting facts.

Wednesday, February 25:

Polar Bear & Penguin Party: Join us for stories, crafts, and other fun activities all about Polar Bears and Penguins from 10:00-11:00 am in the Winchell Room. We will also be watching a live penguin cam from California during the craft. Families are invited. Registration is required to make sure we have enough supplies for everyone. [Sign Up Here](#)

Preschool Storytime: Families with preschoolers 3-5 years old are invited to join Miss Amanda for some Preschool fun at 1:30 pm in the Winchell Room. Space is limited.

Slime of the Month Club will meet in the Winchell Room from 3:30-4:30 pm. Kids in Grades 1-6 can sign up to make **Snow Slime** that is fluffy and stretchy and won't make your hands cold! Come ready to get messy! Registration is required to make sure that we have enough supplies prepared for all. Only kids in Grades 1-6 can reserve a spot. [Sign Up Here](#)

Movie/Pizza Night: Teens in grades 6-12 are invited to enjoy pizza and a movie from 5:30-7:45 pm in the auditorium. Registration is requested so we know how much pizza to order.

[Sign Up Here](#)

Questions on youth services programs? Call 603-792-7628 or email library@manchesternh.gov

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Thursday, February, 26:

Preschool Storytime: Families with preschoolers 3-5 years old are invited to join Miss Amanda for some Preschool fun at 10:00 am in the Winchell Room. Space is limited.



Dragon Training Party:

Kids ages 5 to Teen who want to battle their Winter Reading Dragons & Friends, or to explore other dragon training activities and crafts can drop-in at the Manchester City Library's Winchell Room any time between 3:00-5:00 pm. Participation in the Winter Reading Dragons & Friends program is not required for Dragon Training (except to participate in the card game-sign up for your starter set any time).



Friday, February, 27:

Board Game Exploration Morning: Kids ages 8 to Teen; have you ever wanted to try a new board game, but it was too expensive, or the instructions were intimidating? Drop-in at our Board Game Exploration

morning from 10:00-11:30 am in the Winchell Room to enjoy the cool art work and clever design that goes into these games, free of charge and with guidance from staff who has played (most of) the games before!

Kids ages 3-12 can drop by from 3:00-4:30 pm in the Winchell Room for **Lego Afternoon.** Make a Lego creation from our 10,000 pieces for our display cases.



Manchester City Library

405 Pine Street
Manchester, NH 03104

Monday & Friday

9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

9:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

Saturday

9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

West Manchester Branch Library

76 North Main Street
Manchester, NH 03102

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,

Thursday and Friday

1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

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Deputy Director

Steve Viggiano

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Ken Snow

-Holiday Closures-

Main Library

Wed., Dec. 24 close @ 12pm

Thurs. Dec.25 Closed

Wed., Dec.31 close @12pm

Thurs.,Jan.1 Closed

Mon.,Jan.19 Closed

Mon., Feb. 16 Closed

West Branch Library

Wed., Dec. 24 Closed

Thurs. Dec.25 Closed

Wed., Dec.31 Closed

Thurs.,Jan.1 Closed

Mon.,Jan.19 Closed

Mon., Feb. 16 Closed