



SPRING '26

EVENTS GUIDE

ALL BPL PROGRAMS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC | A publication of Beloit Public Library, supported by BPL Foundation.

SCHOOL AGE

43rd BookQuest Competition

Wednesday, Apr 15 | 10:30 AM-1:30 PM
Watch Beloit-area fourth and fifth graders put their reading knowledge to the test at our 43rd Annual BookQuest Competition! Cheer on these incredible young readers as they compete for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place and celebrate the joy of books, teamwork, and friendly competition.



ADULTS

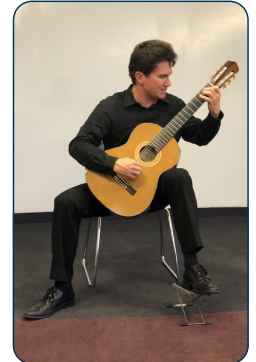
NEW! "An Evening With" Series

Mar 12 | 6:00-7:00 PM: Peter Fletcher

Mar 13 | 6:00-7:00 PM: Tamara Gaumond

Apr 17 | 6:00-7:00 PM: Brenda Cárdenas

Spend an evening with visiting artists and writers in this special spring series. Each event offers a relaxed, engaging program and plenty of inspiration for music lovers, readers, and curious creatives alike.



EARLY LITERACY

Special Earth Day Preschool Story Time

Wednesday, Apr 22 | 10:00-11:00 AM
Celebrate Earth Day with a special Preschool Story Time led by Nature at the Confluence! We'll share stories, songs, and early-literacy fun, then dig into the basics of composting—what it is, what can go in, and how food scraps and leaves turn into healthy soil. Kids will get to ask questions and explore easy, earth-friendly ideas they can try at home. Ages 2-6.



ADULTS

NEW! Spicy Book Club

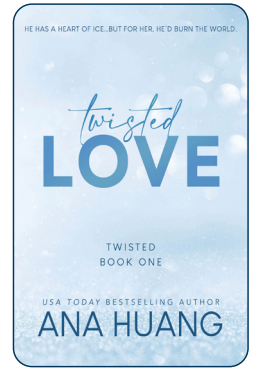
3rd Wednesdays | 5:30-6:15 PM

Mar 18: *The Book of Azrael* by Amber V. Nicole

Apr 15: *Twisted Love* by Ana Huang

May 20: *The Sherbrooke Bride* by Catherine Coulter

We're turn up the heat with bold, romantic, and page-turning reads that spark conversation and maybe even a blush or two. Mature themes will be discussed; ages 18+. Light refreshments.



TWEENS & TEENS

NEW! Teen Detectives

3rd Wednesdays | 4:00-6:00 PM

Mar 18: Who Stole the Pot O' Gold?

Apr 15: Curse of the Parrot Island Treasure

May 20: Murder at the Toadwart Inn

Help solve a murder mystery every other month in this new murder mystery game series by My Mystery Party. For grades 6-12. Snacks provided while supplies last. Registration is required. 10 players max.



ADULTS

The Civics Academy

Select Wednesdays | 12:00-1:15 PM

Mar 18: Rock County Admin. John Light

Apr 28: WHEDA CEO Elmer Moore Jr.

May: TBD

This lunch-and-learn series aims to inform residents about their local government and community and, in turn, support positive change in the City of Beloit. Bring your own lunch or be one of the first 25 to register and receive a free lunch.



Don't have a library card?

GET YOURS TODAY!

beloit public library

Monday-Thursday 9:30am-9:00pm
Friday-Saturday 9:30am-5:30pm

Library cards are FREE for residents. Bring a photo ID and proof of address, and we'll send you home with a shiny new card that opens a world of opportunity.



“An Evening With” Series



Classical Guitarist Peter Fletcher

Thurs, Mar 12 | 6:00-7:30 PM
Classical guitarist Peter Fletcher brings an evening of virtuosic and lyrical favorites, featuring selections from his new CD alongside works by Bach, Koshkin, Giuliani, Ponce, and Tansman—plus a special arrangement of the Shaker hymn Simple Gifts. Program concludes with two showpieces by Isaac Albéniz.



100 Things to Do Author Tamara Gaumont

Friday, Mar 13 | 6:00-7:30 PM
Tamara Gaumont shares highlights from *100 Things to Do in Door County Before You Die*, with travel tips, local insight, and can't-miss experiences from Wisconsin's beloved lakeshore peninsula. She'll also talk about her path to publication and the inspiration behind pursuing creative work of your own.



Wisconsin's Poet Laureate Brenda Cárdenas

Friday, Apr 17 | 6:00-7:00 PM
Enjoy readings, reflection, and a celebration of language and creativity with Brenda Cárdenas—a Milwaukee-raised poet whose work has appeared in *Poetry* and *American Poetry Review* and whose book *Trace* received the 2023 Society of Midland Authors Award for Poetry.

Hello, Bobbin! Sewing Machine 101

Mar 7 & 14 | 10:00 AM–12:00 PM

Learn the basics of using a sewing machine in this two-week series led by Bobbi Sampson. Registration required.

Mindful Mile(s)

Every Other Monday | 9:00-11:00 AM

Mar 9 & 23 | Apr 6 & 20 | May 4 & 18

Take a mindful stroll on the River Walk with us. Wear a sturdy pair of walking shoes and weather-appropriate clothing. Children must be accompanied by a responsible caregiver. Weather permitting.

Find-a-Poem Program

All of April

Celebrate National Poetry Month by finding hidden poems around the library ... and be entered in an end-of-month prize raffle. New poems will be added throughout the month.

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Thursday Apr 23 | 1:00-6:00 PM

Save a life; donate blood. For an appointment, call 1-800-733-2767 or visit redcrossblood.org.

A Community Conversation on Resilience, Mental Health, and Healing

Saturday May 30 |

2:00-3:30 PM

Author Danielle Hayter-Johnson hosts a community conversation on resilience, mental health, and healing as she discusses her recently published book, *River Shark*—a deeply personal memoir that explores resilience, survival, and becoming. Book will be available for purchase.



NEW! Spicy Book Club

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4th Wednesday Book Club

4th Wednesdays | 6:00-8:00 PM

Mar 25: *The Seed Keeper* by Diane Wilson

Apr 22: *Good Night Irene* by Luis Alberto Urrea

May 27: *A Fever in the Heartland* by Timothy Egan

Read the book, then gather with us for a discussion around the library's cozy fireplace.

Adult Jackbox Games

Last Saturdays | 3:00-5:00 PM

Mar 28 | Apr 25 | May 30

We're firing up the Jackbox party packs for an afternoon of fun, competition, and creativity. We provide everything you need to play, so just bring yourself!

Strong Families, Strong Minds

2nd Saturdays | 10:00-11:00 AM

Mar 14: Mindfulness

Apr 11: Understanding, acceptance, and inclusion

May 9: When the Helper Needs Help

Monthly support circle for families—especially those raising children with autism—to connect, share resources, and learn practical strategies like understanding behaviors, managing stress, building routines, and advocating at school.

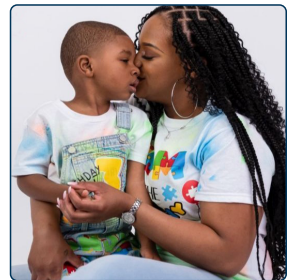
Hooks & Needles Yarn Craft Club

Every Tuesday |

6:00 PM-8:30

PM

Bring your own knitting or crocheting project, and hang out with other yarn crafters for inspiration, conversation, and collaboration.



Seed Library Series

3rd Thursdays | 6:30-8:00 PM

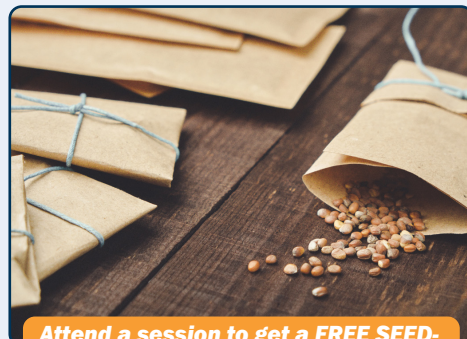
Mar 19: Garden Planning

Apr 16: Restoring a Natural Environment

May 21: Gardening for the Birds

Spring Seed Library Series programs highlight food gardening, local prairie/oak savanna restoration, and bird-friendly yards—plus free seeds to take home and an optional hands-on seed-packing workshop.

Attend a session to get a free seed-starting kit, while supplies last!



Attend a session to get a FREE SEED-STARTING KIT, while supplies last!

TEENS/TWEENS

Prank Lab

Saturday, Mar 28 | 2:00-3:00 PM

Get ready for the funniest holiday ever: April Fool's Day! We'll construct props, crafts, and jokes to fool your friends and family. Make a "disguised snack." Ages 8-12.

NEW! Mind Bloom: Teen Talks

Every Other Friday | 4:00-5:15 PM

Mar 6 & 20 | Apr 3 & 17 | May 1, 15 & 29

Unwind, laugh, talk, and just breathe for a bit in this chill, every-other-Friday hangout where teens and tweens can connect, express themselves, and explore what's on their minds in a fun, supportive space. Hosted by Family Services. Snacks provided.

Teen Creative Writing Club

Every Other Monday | 4:30-5:45 PM

Mar 2, 16 & 30 | Apr 13 & 27 | May 11 & 25

Connect with other teens who love writing stories, poems, and comics. Share your work, give and get helpful feedback, and explore new ideas together. No experience needed—just bring your creativity! Ages 13+.

Teen Advisory Board

1st Tuesdays | 4:00-5:00 PM

Mar 3 | Apr 7 | May 5

Earn an easy volunteer hour per month by sharing ideas and helping our teen programs grow. For tweens and teens. Email for more details: hfadness@beloitlibrary.org. Treats provided at each meeting.

NEW! Manga/Graphic Novel Club

2nd Wednesdays | 4:00-5:00 PM

Mar 11: *Spy X Family*

Apr 8: *Death Note*

May 13: *One Piece*

In this laid-back book club, we'll explore the world of manga and graphic novels all while making new friends. Bring your own copy of the featured title or check out a copy at the front desk (limited copies available). Snacks provided while supplies last.

Teen Craft

2nd Tuesdays | 4:00-5:00 PM

Mar 10: Watercolor Shamrocks

Apr 14: Wood Slice Painting

May 12: Beaded Plants

Craft sessions made for teens! Make a craft and meet new friends. All materials provided, while supplies last. Grades 6-12.



NEW! Teen Detectives

3rd Wednesdays | 4:00-6:00 PM

Mar 18: Who Stole the Pot O' Gold?

Apr 15: Curse of the Parrot Island Treasure

May 20: Murder at the Toadwart Inn

Help solve a murder mystery every other month in this new Teen Detectives murder mystery game series by My Mystery Party. For grades 6-12. Snacks provided while supplies last. Registration is required. 10 players max.

Teen Page Turners Book Club

Select Dates | 4:00-5:00 PM

Mar 26: *What the River Knows* by Isabel Ibañez

Apr 28: *Children of the Blood and Bone* by Tomi Adeyemi

May 27: *Dungeons & Drama* by Kristy Boyce

Love to read and want to meet fellow bookworms like you? Join our Teen Page Turners Book Club! For tweens and teens. Pick up a copy of this month's book before the meeting at the front desk.

Teen Taste Test

Select Dates |

4:00-5:00 PM

Mar 24: Pop-Tarts

Apr 9: Peeps

May 7: Pringles

Love to try new things? Stop in for this fun series where teens and tweens can taste-test a variety of



different flavors of treat and snack items and vote on their favorites. Grades 6-12.

Teen Jackbox Games Night

Every Other Thursday | 4:00-6:00 PM

Mar 5 & 19 | Apr 2, 16 & 30 | May 14 & 21

Play, laugh, and compete! We'll play trivia, drawing, and party games from the Jackbox packs. Bring your phone or tablet to play—no app needed! Snacks provided. Grades 6-12.

Gaming Club

Every Wednesday | 6:00-8:00 PM

Unwind with a fun evening of videogames using the library's Nintendo Switch and Wii. Alternatively, bring your own system—or even a favorite card game—to share with others.

MOVIES

TEEN

Teen Movie Night

Thursdays | 4:00 PM

Mar 12: *Snow White*

Apr 23: *Wicked for Good*

May 28: *Tron Ares*

Grab your friends and snacks for a movie at the library. Grades 6-12.



FAITH

Faith Film Night

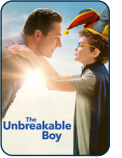
Mondays | 6:00 PM

Mar 9: *Ordinary Angels*

Apr 13: *The Unbreakable Boy*

May 11: *A Dog's Purpose*

Featuring characters and movies of different faiths.



BLACK

Black Cinema Series

Mondays | 6:00 PM

Mar 23: *Harriet*

Apr 27: *Just Mercy*

May 18: *Lee Daniel's The Butler*

Featuring iconic Black films curated by the community.



RAINBOW

Rainbow Movie Series

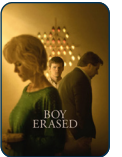
Tuesdays | 6:00 PM

Mar 3: *When Night is Falling*

Apr 7: *Spoiler Alert*

May 5: *Boy Erased*

Featuring an LGBTQ+ friendly film.



FABL

FABL Film Series

Wednesdays | 6:00 PM

Mar 4: *HIM*

Apr 1: *A Big Bold Beautiful Journey*

May 6: *One Battle After Another*

Featuring new releases.



REWIND

Be Kind, Rewind Series

Saturdays | 2:00 PM

Mar 28: *Big*

Apr 25: *Troop Beverly Hills*

May 30: *Harry and the Hendersons*

Relive the glory days with this family-friendly series.



CLASSIC

Classic Film Series

Wednesdays | 6:00 PM

Mar 18: *The Brass Bottle*

Apr 15: *Oh, God!*

May 20: *Catch Me if You Can*

Enjoy timeless films on the big screen—together.



SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN



Mo Willems Party

Tuesday, Mar 17 | 10:00-11:00 AM

Do you love Elephant and Piggy? Does the Pigeon crack you up? Celebrate Mo Willems and his fabulous characters with a special story time full of stories, songs, and fun activities.

Award-Winning Children's Books of 2025 Saturday, Mar 21 | 2:00-3:00 PM

Explore the captivating world of award-winning books as you listen and discover why they claimed top honors. Plus, unleash your creativity with a fun book-related craft. Ages 4-13.

BookQuest Competition

Wednesday, Apr 15 | 10:30 AM-1:30 PM

Watch Beloit-area fourth and fifth graders compete for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in this exciting 43rd Annual BookQuest competition!

Fabulous Frog Fables, Fairy Tales, and Festivities!

Saturday, Apr 25 | 2:00-3:30 PM

Spring in to hear fabulous stories about our Kermit-like friends, learn interesting facts, create a craft that you can use to play a game, and build and eat a fun froggy treat! Ages 6-12.

LEGO Club

2nd Mondays | 6:30-7:30 PM

Mar 9 | Apr 13 | May 11

Build as a team or work on your own creation. Be sure to bring a camera to capture your creation! Each month will bring a new challenge. Ages 5-12.

The In-Between Tutoring Services

1st Saturdays | 11:00 AM-1:00 PM

Mar 7: K5-2nd Grades

Apr 4: 3rd-5th Grades

May 2: 6th-8th Grades

This small-group tutoring program supports reading, math, and life skills through hands-on activities, games, and creative projects. Sessions are grouped by grade level. Groups are broken out by grade levels. Space is limited, so registration is required. Parents must remain in the library.

EARLY LITERACY



Preschool STEAM Lab

2nd Tuesdays | 10:00-11:00 AM

Mar 10 | Apr 14

In this fun-filled program, we explore Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Math through play! Each session teaches a different topic through hands-on games and activities. Ages 3-6. Younger siblings are welcome, but the activities may be too difficult.

Special Preschool Story Time: Earth Day!

Wednesday, Apr 22 | 10:00-11:00 AM

This special Earth Day Story Time is presented by Nature at the Confluence. Let's learn about composting and how it works. Ages 2-6.

Preschool Story Time: Evening Edition

2nd Wednesdays | 6:00-7:00 PM

Mar 11 | Apr 8 | May 13

This evening story time includes stories, songs, and fun with a new theme each month! Ages 2-6.

Music and Movement Story Time

Mondays | 10:00-11:00 AM

Develop early literacy skills with music, dancing, singing, and stories. Ages 2-6.

Preschool Story Time

Wednesdays | 10:00-11:00 AM

Enjoy stories, songs, and fun with a new theme each week. Ages 2-6.

Baby Play Date

Thursdays | 10:00-11:00 AM

Connect with other parents and your baby with simple songs and stories. Ages 0-2.

Toddler Yoga

Fridays | 10:00-11:00 AM

Follow along as staff from Stateline YMCA lead stretching, songs, and fun. Ages 0-5.



beloit public library

605 Eclipse Blvd | Beloit, WI 53511
(608) 364-2905

Hours

Monday-Thursday
9:30 a.m.-9:00 p.m.

Friday-Saturday
9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Our outside book drop, free Wi-Fi, and digital resources are always available!

Library Director

Nick Dimassis (608) 364-2917

Friends at Beloit Library (FABL)

FABL provides support to the library through the sale of donated books. New volunteer members are always welcome, as are donations of gently used books.
(608) 364-5770

friendsatbeloitlibrary@gmail.com

Beloit Public Library Foundation

Our Foundation maintains an endowment to provide funding for special projects. Make your tax-deductible donation today.

(608) 364-5774

lingalls@beloitlibrary.org

Children

Children 8 and younger should be accompanied by an adult or caregiver age 12 or older.

Accessibility

The library is wheelchair accessible and offers many assistive devices including an electric scooter, walkers, magnifiers, Hearing Loops, and a computer with features to assist persons with sight challenges. Ask any staff member about these and other assistive devices.

Stay in the Know

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram and visit our website:
www.beloitlibrary.org

