

SSPL

engage - entertain - educate - empower



PROGRAM GUIDE

May & June 2024

ART, MUSIC, & MOVIES

Make It! Crafting Series

Friday, May 3 & 24 | Susman Room

This time around our Make-It Series will offer two opportunities for crafting: Crochet Dish Cloth (5/3) and Flower Frog (5/24) Register online.

Handcraft Meet-Ups

Tuesdays, May 7 - June 25 | Noon-1 p.m. | Online

Join our informal online knitting and handcrafting meet up. This gathering is a perfect opportunity to knit, crochet, embroider or do other handwork while chatting with others who are working on their own projects. Register online.

Paint with Patrice

Wednesday, May 8 | 5:30-7:30 p.m. | Community Room

Patrice Jarvis-Weber will guide participants in an enjoyable 2-hour painting session. Paint with Patrice workshops are designed for beginners but open to all artistic abilities. Register online.

Song Swap with Jeff Walton

Mondays, May 20 & June 24 | 7-9 p.m. | Community Room

Grab your favorite acoustic (or electric!) instrument, bring your love of music, and join us for an informal song swap led by local musician, Jeff Walton. Feel free to bring your own tune to play and share. Register online. *Teens welcome too!*

BOOK GROUPS & LITERATURE DISCUSSIONS

Read with Pride Book Group

Thursdays, May 2 & June 3 | 7-8 p.m. | Susman Room

Read with Pride is an ongoing reading group that meets the first Thursday of each month and reads fiction and nonfiction from the LGBTQ+ community. Register online. *Teens welcome too!*

Book Club is My Alibi

Wednesdays, May 8 & June 12 | 7-8 p.m. | Glasby Room

A new book group for fans of true crime! Join us for a different book discussion each month. Please check our Events Calendar for titles. Register online.

Poetry Café

Thursdays, May 9 & June 13 | 5:30-6:30 p.m. | Online

Join this online librarian-led poetry discussion group! In May, we'll discuss Clint Smith's *Above Ground* and in June, *The Best American Poetry of 2023*. Register online.

Better Off Read

Tuesdays, May 14 & June 11 | 11 a.m.-12 p.m. | Glasby Room

Join us for a monthly book discussion covering a variety of genres, including some narrative nonfiction. Better Off Read meets on the second Tuesday of the month. Register online.

Make it Sew Tote Bags

Thursday, May 23 | 10:00 a.m.-1 p.m. | Community Room

Learn how to sew your own tote bag for all of your grocery and book-toting needs in this class for absolute beginners. Sewing machines will be provided. Canvas fabric, tools, and notions will be provided, but attendees may bring one yard of canvas or duck fabric of their choice if they wish. Register online.

Mozart's Cosi: An Elusively Ironic Tale of Love Tested

Wednesdays, June 5 & June 12 | 12-1 p.m. | Community Room

Tom Denny, retired Skidmore music professor, will lead this two-part exploration of the unique and controversial place *Così fan tutte* holds in the opera repertoire. Discover how Mozart used music to shape the drama, sharpen the comedy, and amplify the emotions onstage. Learn how Mozart navigated the intrigues of the Viennese imperial opera houses. Carry these new perspectives into the theater as you enjoy a live festival performance by Opera Saratoga of the entire opera. Register online.

Sewing Skills: All About Fabric & Open Sewing Lab

Friday, June 14 | 10-11:30 a.m. | Susman Room

Lost a button? Skirt hem coming loose? Shirt coming apart at the seams? Learn some basic sewing techniques for repairing clothing and household items to improve the longevity of your textiles. Thread and tools will be provided, along with scrap fabric to practice on. Register online.

Opera Saratoga Free Family Show

Saturday, June 15 | 11 a.m.-12 p.m. | Community Room

Families belong at the opera! Enjoy favorite scenes and songs from *Guys and Dolls* and *Così Fan Tutte* at these free family presentations from our friends at Opera Saratoga. With a sensory-friendly area, feel no stress that your kids need to sit still to experience music and storytelling. Register online. *All Ages Welcome!*

Books & Tea Discussion Group

Thursdays, May 16 & June 20 | 3:30-4:45 p.m. | Susman Room

Books and Tea is an ongoing reading group that meets the third Thursday of each month. Copies of each month's book selection may be obtained in the Reading Group Collection or by placing holds from the online public catalog. Register online.

A New Chapter

Fridays, May 17 & June 21 | 2-3 p.m. | Susman Room

A New Chapter is an ongoing reading group that reads fiction across all genres. This reading group is a collaboration between Healing Springs Recovery Center and SSPL to provide a space for people in recovery to meet and connect, but all are welcome to attend. Register online.

Summer Book Buzz

Thursday, June 27 | 12-1 p.m. | Community Room

Kick off summer reading by learning about great new books coming out this summer. Our librarians will highlight the summer's blockbuster releases and underground faves so that you can find your next favorite read. No registration required.

FOR MORE PROGRAMS & RESOURCES, VISIT WWW.SSPL.ORG OR FOLLOW US



COMPUTERS & TECHNOLOGY

Half-Hour One-on-One Computer or Device Help

Multiple Dates & Times | Computer Lab

Have questions about devices, apps, or software applications? Register online for a 30-minute one-on-one help session to get some tech tips and assistance.

Senior Planet Classes from AARP

Multiple Dates & Times | Please Check Events Calendar

Saratoga Springs is offering multiple opportunities for seniors to become more acquainted with technology through classes that cover everything from online shopping to using Zoom, and LOTS more! Don't miss out on these programs. Register online.



HEALTH & WELLNESS

An Introduction to Sound Therapy

Friday, May 3 | 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. | Community Room

Join Claudia from Yoga Mandalí for a sound therapy demo and informational session, with time for Q&A. Register online.

Bokwa Dance Moves

Tuesday, May 7 | 2:30-3:30 p.m. | Community Room

Bokwa is a unique Dance Cardio fitness program that accommodates people of all ages and fitness levels. Participants dance structured movements based upon letters and numbers, and move to the sounds of popular music. No set choreography to learn. If you love to dance (like nobody's watching), you will love Bokwa. If you can walk, you can do Bokwa. Register online.

Yoga for Bone Health with Jael Polnac

Fridays, May 10 & June 14 | Noon-1 p.m. | Community Room

Join us to practice the poses and techniques proven to protect and improve your bone health. This class is appropriate for beginners as well as experienced students. Register online.

HOME & GARDEN

Plant Based Meals for Spring with Deb Czech

Tuesday, May 7 | 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | Community Room

Celebrate the arrival of spring with this hands-on class where you will combine fresh fruits and vegetables with other wholesome food, topped with flavorful dressings and sauces. Participants will be able to sample the dishes they prepare in the class! Register online.

LITERACY & LANGUAGES

Beginning English Language Learning

Mondays, May 6 - 20 & June 3 & 10 | 10 a.m.-12 p.m. | Glasby Room

This class is for beginning level English learners. Opportunities for speaking, writing, interacting with peers, reading and listening will be created. Efforts will be made to address the different English fluency that students bring. Regular attendance is expected and appreciated! Register online.

Intermediate Level English Class

Tuesdays, May 7 - June 25 | 5:15-6:45 p.m. | Glasby Room

Join this intermediate-level English language class, for adult learners who have achieved basic fluency. Continue building your English speaking, listening, reading and writing skills. Attendance at all classes is requested. Register online.

LOCAL INTERESTS & COMMUNITY

Local History Fair

Thursday, May 2 | 12-4 p.m. | Community Room

Whether your interest is in genealogical research, historical interpretation, preservation, or learning about our local history, stop in and visit with representatives from organizations in the Greater Capital District area who are engaged in preserving, researching, and teaching history. More than a dozen local museums, historic sites, historical societies, and archives will be on hand to answer questions and engage with the public. No registration required.

Apple Enthusiasts

Tuesdays, May 7 - June 25 | 9:30-11:30 a.m. | Computer Lab

Apple Enthusiasts is a hybrid all-things-Apple chat group, where you can bring your device, app, or software questions to get some answers. Register online.

Adult Minecraft Meetup

Thursdays, May 16 & June 20 | 7-8:30 p.m. | Computer Lab

Do you play Minecraft and want to meet other Minecraft players at the Library? Build peacefully in creative mode, play with friends, or fight creepers in survival mode. All are welcome, including beginners! Register online.

intenSati: Workout for the Body & Mind

Mondays, May 20 & June 17 | 5:30-6:30 p.m. | Community Room

intenSati combines movement from Martial Arts, Yoga, and Aerobic Dance while shouting positive affirmations. The name of each pose or move is a positive attitude participants visualize, such as "Willpower," "Strong," and "Brave." This program is for all levels. Register online. **Teens welcome too!**

Medicare Education for Seniors

Saturday, May 11 | 10-11 a.m. | Glasby Room

Join us for an informational seminar to educate seniors about Medicare, Part A, B, and D, to review Medicare Supplemental plans, and to review Medicare Advantage plans, Part C. Register online.

Mindfulness Meditation with Susan Meyer

Mondays, May 20 & June 24 | 7-8 p.m. | Online

Mindfulness meditation is a refuge that provides grounding, clarity, and calm that are so vital for navigating challenging times. Register online.

Advocating For Native Plants in Your Community

Tuesday, May 28 | 6-7 p.m. | Community Room

We can do a lot more to support pollinators than just planting some milkweed. Discover strategies for getting your town, city or homeowner's association excited about native plants and pollinators. Find out how to help your community be pollinator-friendly in this educational presentation provided by Jennifer Michelle from Wild Ones of the Capital Region, NY. Register online.

English Language Conversation Class - Intermediate/Advanced

Wednesdays, May 4 - June 12 | 10 a.m.-12 p.m. | Glasby Room

This course is intended for learners, intermediate or above. Conversations will be sparked around current events, learner-chosen topics and short stories. Regular attendance is strongly encouraged. Register online.

Bagels & Barks

Friday, May 3 | 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. | H. Dutcher Community Room

It's the return of Bagels and Barks! Stop in for a bite to eat and meet and greet with several therapy dogs and their owners. Local chapter-certified therapy dogs will be in attendance. Socialize with humans and canines while taking part in activities, and learn about the certification process. This program is brought to you in partnership with North Country Paws For Obedience. No registration is required. **All Ages Welcome!**

LOCAL INTERESTS & COMMUNITY

Canines & Kiddos

Saturday, May 4 | 2-4 p.m. | Community Room

Partnering with local therapy dogs, canines and kiddos brings education to the entire family. Working to provide support to families on proper interactions, care, greeting, and body language for kiddos and canines. This program is part 1 of a 4-part series. You do not need to attend all 4 programs. Register online.

Escape Room: Downtime for Adults

Mondays, May 6 - 20 | 9:30-11:30 a.m. | Teen Room

Adults of all abilities are welcome in the Teen Room only during our specially scheduled time. Enjoy gaming, board games, puzzles, coloring, the sensory cart and relax socially with other adults. No minors will be in the space during the adults only hours. No registration required.

Mah Jongg Open Play

Tuesday, May 7 | 10-11:30 a.m. | Community Room

Come to the library for open-play Mah Jongg! All experience levels are welcome to join in on the fun. Mah Jongg sets will be provided. Register online.

Brown Bag Lunch Lecture Series

Thursdays, May 6 & June 13 | 12-1 p.m. | Community Room

This community lecture series is in partnership with the Saratoga Springs Heritage Area Visitors Center, and is meant to highlight the rich history, culture and traditions of the Saratoga area. Programs attract an audience of mostly locals who are interested in area history and learning about their community. Register online.

Citizen Preparedness: Natural or Man-Made Disasters

Saturday, May 11 | 10:30-11:30 a.m. | Community Room

The NY Citizen Preparedness Training Program teaches residents to have the tools and resources to prepare for any type of disaster, respond accordingly and recover as quickly as possible to pre-disaster conditions. The training course will provide an introduction to responding to a natural or man-made disaster. Register online.

Enzo Ferrari: An Obsession with Speed A Conversation About the Man and his Machines

Wednesday, June 5 | 7-8:30 p.m. | Community Room

The Saratoga Automobile Museum is stopping by the Saratoga Springs Public Library to present an engaging and educational program centered around their feature exhibition, "Enzo Ferrari: An Obsession with Speed." The presentation will provide fascinating insight into the life and legacy of the iconic automotive figure, Enzo Ferrari. Register online.

Bikeatoga Mobile Repair Vehicle

Tuesday, June 11 | 5-7 p.m. | Exterior Library Grounds

Bring your bike for a free tune-up or stop and grab free safety equipment, like lights and helmets. Kids and adults are welcome. The event will take place near the ramp on Putnam Street. Rain Date: Thursday, June 11th. No registration required.

TRAVEL & THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Connecting to Nature with Thomas Mowatt

Wednesday, May 15 | 7-8:30 p.m. | Community Room

Join us for a fascinating presentation describing the topics of Bioregionalism and Environmental Connectedness Theory. Bioregionalism is a philosophy that suggests political, cultural and economic systems are more sustainable if they are organized around naturally defined areas. Co-sponsored by the Adirondack Mountain Club. No registration required. *Teens welcome too!*



PROGRAMS FOR TWEENS & TEENS

We also invite Teens to several of our Adult Programs. Always check the Adult Section of this Program Guide, as well as our Events Calendar at www.sspl.org.

Teen Crafternoons and Take-and-Make Craft Kits

Multiple Dates, Times, & Locations | Please Check Events Calendar at www.sspl.org

Whether it's fun with Perler Bead Frames, Origami, Friendship Bracelets, Button Making, and more! — we've got lots to keep your hands busy and your creative juices flowing this spring.

Teen National Bubble Tea Day Celebration

Wednesday, May 1 | 3-4 p.m. | Teen Room

April 30th marks the day to appreciate bubble tea in the U.S.! Teens in grades 7-12 are invited to the Teen Room to celebrate this national holiday in style by creating their own boba tea. While supplies last. No registration required.

Teen Advisory Board Meeting

Mondays, May 6 & June 3 | 6:30-8 p.m. | Teen Room

Calling all teens! This is your chance to make the Teen Room YOUR space, and earn community service while doing it! Join us for a monthly meeting of teens interested in having their voices heard at the library. Register online.

Neurodivergent in College

Tuesdays, May 7, 21 & June 4, 18 | 7-8 p.m. | Online

Participate in this 4-part interactive webinar series, "Neurodivergent in College: Navigating the Transition from High School." The series is geared for Neurodivergent high schoolers, high schoolers with disabilities, and their families/supporters. Register online. *Parents welcome too!*

Teen Late Night Library Lock-In

Friday, May 10 | 5:30-9 p.m. | Children's Room

Ever wanted to hang out at the library after hours? Then this is the place for you! Teens and Tweens in grades 7-12 are invited to our Library Lock-in, hosted by our Teen Advisory Board. This is not an ordinary Library program. There will be pizza, games, crafts, a pillow fort, an epic series of tag, and more! Register online.

Neurodiversity Club

Tuesdays, May 14 & June 11 | 4:30-5:30 p.m. | Community Room

Kids and teens in grades K-12 who are neurodivergent, along with their friends and families, are invited to join us at Neurodiversity Club. Have fun and make connections in a welcoming environment. Register online.

Sophie the Golden Retriever Visits the Teen Room

Wednesdays, May 15 & June 12 | 3:30-4:30 p.m. | Teen Room

Come de-stress from school and pet a therapy dog! Sophie the Golden Retriever will visit the teen room to hang out and snuggle with teens. No registration required.

Minecraft Mondays (and Sunday)

Sunday, May 19 & Monday, June 10 | 4:30-5:30 p.m. | Computer Lab

Kids in grades 4-8, join us for Minecraft Monday. Each meeting, we will work on a different challenge or activity in either creative or survival mode. Register online.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES



Story Time Science

Friday, May 3 | 10:30-11 a.m. | Crawshaw Story Room
Kids ages 3-5 and a caregiver, join us for a short story time followed by a related activity that focuses on age-appropriate science concepts. No registration required, but space may be limited based on room capacity.

Make a Get Well Card for Allie, Our Paws4Reading Pal

Saturday, May 4 | 1-3 p.m. | Children's Room
Stop by the Children's Room any time between 1 - 3 p.m. and make a "Get Well" card for Allie, our Saturday Paws4Reading Therapy Dog. Allie hurt her leg and will return in July. Meanwhile, there will be some of our other therapy dogs will take her place. No registration required.

Hallway Art

Sunday, May 5 & Friday, June 7 | Multiple Times | Crawshaw Story Room
We need YOU to help spruce up the Children's Room hallway with some spring-themed art! Make us pictures of flowers, vegetables, or anything you'd find blooming in spring. Ages 4 to 12 are welcome. No registration required.

SSPL Visits the Creekside Classroom

Wednesday, May 8 | 10:30-11:15 a.m. | Saratoga Spa State Park
Preschoolers, ages 2-5, accompanied by an adult, are invited to visit the Saratoga Spa State Park's Creekside Classroom Environmental Education Center. The program will begin with some butterfly-related stories, followed by a craft. Environmental Educator, Allie Schweizer, will lead families on a brief nature hike. There will be an opportunity to explore the center as well. Register online.

Homeschool Hang: Make a Board Game

Wednesday, May 8 | 2-3 p.m. | Community Room
Homeschooling families with kids in grades K-6, come hang out and design your own board game. Use your creativity to come up with a theme, make a set of rules, and design your game board and pieces. Work alone or in a small group. No registration required.

Library Goes to Town

Friday, May 10 | 10-11 a.m. | Ndakianna Education Center
Join our Children's Librarian, Kristine, as she travels around Saratoga Springs with a super fun story time. Ndakianna offers people of all ages programs and exhibits focusing on regional Native American understandings, Adirondack culture, wilderness skills, and awareness of the natural world. Story time is intended for children ages 2-5 but siblings are welcome with accompanying adult. Register online.

Pinkalicious Story Time Tea Party

Saturday, May 11 | 10:30-11:30 a.m. | Crawshaw Story Room
Join us as we celebrate Mother's Day weekend by reading *Mother's Day Surprise*, a Pinkalicious book by Victoria Kann. We'll make princess wands and crowns. Wear something pink, if you'd like. Every child receives a Pinkalicious book to take home. We'll enjoy peach iced tea, and of course, cupcakes. Recommended for children ages 3-9. Register online.

Llamas in the Library

Sunday, May 12 | 2-3:45 p.m. | Community Room
Families are invited to get up close and personal with some llamas from Nicole Truman's Maverick Llama Farm and learn some llama facts. Read *Is Your Mama a Llama*, color a llama picture, and make a bookmark with llama fiber. A limited number of families will be admitted in 15 minute time slots. Register online.

Neurodiversity Club

Tuesdays, May 14 & June 11 | 4:30-5:30 p.m. | Community Room
Kids and teens in grades K-12 who are neurodivergent, along with their friends and families, are invited to join us at Neurodiversity Club. Have fun and make connections in a welcoming environment. Register online.

The Bookmark Bunch: Kids Magazine Edition

Wednesday, May 15 | 4:30-5:30 p.m. | Crawshaw Story Room
Join us for a monthly party for beginning readers. Kids magazines are a treasure trove of articles and games that keeps new readers reading. We'll read through copies of Highlights Magazine and then play a digital version of *Highlights* famous Hidden Pictures puzzles as a group on a big screen. We'll also enjoy some ice cream. This program is for kids in grades K-4 and is limited to 12 participants. Register online.

Minecraft Sandbox

Fridays, May 17 & June 21 | 3:45-4:45 p.m. | Computer Lab
Not old enough for Minecraft Mondays? Kids in grades 1-3, we heard you! Come try out Minecraft at the library and play freely in Creative Mode. There are limited computers so you must register; and if you can't make it, please let us know so we can open the spot for someone else. Register online.

Family STEAM Day: Circuits

Saturday, May 18 | 3-4 p.m. | Community Room
Work together with your family to learn the basics of circuitry! Try our snap circuit kits, then make your own paper circuits. For kids in grades K-6 and their families. No registration required.

**FOR A FULL SCHEDULE, VISIT OUR
EVENTS CALENDAR AT WWW.SSPL.ORG**

Minecraft Mondays (and Sunday)

Sunday, May 19 & Monday, June 10 | 4:30-5:30 p.m. | Computer Lab
Kids in grades 4-8, join us for Minecraft Monday. Each meeting, we will work on a different challenge or activity in either creative or survival mode. Register online.

Family Movie Friday: The Lego Movie

Friday, May 24 | 10-11:30 a.m. | Community Room
You're invited to a matinee showing of *The Lego Movie* (2014), with a simple craft and coloring pages also available. Open to all ages. No registration required.

Saratoga Springs Public Library Visits the Farmers' Market

Wednesdays, May 29 & June 22 | 3-6 p.m. | High Rock Park
Visit the Saratoga Farmers' Market at High Rock Park and make a craft with a Children's Librarian. No registration required.

Homeschool Karner Blue Butterfly Walk at Wilton Wildlife Preserve

Thursday, May 30 | 1-2 p.m. | Wilton Wildlife Preserve & Park
Homeschooled children in grades K-6, accompanied by an adult, are invited to attend a Karner Blue Butterfly story, craft, and walk led by an Environmental Educator from Wilton Wildlife Preserve & Park. Please dress for the weather. Register online.

Karner Blue Butterfly Walk at Wilton Wildlife Preserve

Thursday, June 6 | 1-2 p.m. | Wilton Wildlife Preserve & Park
Preschoolers ages 2-5, accompanied by an adult, are invited to attend a Karner Blue Butterfly story, craft, and walk led by an Environmental Educator from Wilton Wildlife Preserve & Park. Siblings are welcome. Please dress for the weather. Register online.

Uncurling Cursive

Wednesday, June 12 | 4-4:45 p.m. | Crawshaw Story Room
Come in and spend some time learning or practicing cursive handwriting in a low-pressure environment. From decorating posters to reading historical documents, this loopy script has many uses! Recommended for Grades 1 - 5. Register online.

Storytime with the Sunflower Society

Saturday, June 22 | 9-9:45 p.m. | Pitney Meadows Community Farm
Meet us at Pitney Meadows Farm for a special story time with an SSPL librarian. No registration required.

Magical Birthday Buddy Book Launch Bash with Mr. Twisty

Saturday, June 22 | 1-2 p.m. | Community Room
Join us for an afternoon filled with joy and wonder, as we throw a birthday party for everyone with a birthday! Mr. Twisty will dazzle and delight with his Super Silly Magic Show, followed by a special reading of the enchanting *Birthday Buddy* book. Plus, get an up-close look at the magical Birthday Buddy plush that inspired it all! Register online.

Amazing Adventures in Science with The Dirtmeister

Friday, June 28 | 11 a.m.-12 p.m. | Community Room
Join us for the return of master storyteller and award-winning author Steve "The Dirtmeister" Tomecek and his fun-filled interactive science show! Volunteers from the audience can help recreate some of the greatest scientific discoveries in history, using simple household items. Children and their families are welcome. No registration required.

Meet and Greet with Saratoga's Mounted Patrol Horses

Friday, June 28 | 3:30-4:30 p.m. | Exterior Library Grounds
Come to the grassy area at the Henry Street side of the library and line up to meet Saratoga's Mounted Patrol horses and their handlers. You may ask questions and pet the horses. For all ages. No registration required..

**We also offer these programs in May & June check our
Events Calendar at www.sspl.org for dates & times.**

- Story Times
- Music & Movement
- Paws4Reading
- Drop-In Crafts
- Toddler Time
- Take Home Craft Kits
- Baby Bounce
- Afterschool Art

**Scan the QR Code
for our Calendar**



**The 2024 Summer
Reading Program,
"Adventure Begins
at Your Library"
runs from
June 17 - August 30.**