

EAST HARTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

PROGRAMS & EVENTS

SPRING 2024

Register for Spring programs on our event calendar: www.easthartfordct.gov/library



Raymond Library

840 Main Street

860-290-4330

Mon & Fri: 9 AM - 5 PM

Tues - Thurs: 9 AM - 8 PM

Sat: 10 AM - 2 PM

Sun: 1 PM - 5 PM
until May 19

Wickham Branch

656 Burnside Ave

860-291-7760

Mon, Wed, Fri: 10 AM - 5 PM

Tues & Thurs: 1 - 8 PM



ALL AGES PROGRAMS

GREAT AMERICAN SOLAR ECLIPSE

The next Great American Solar Eclipse is coming on Monday, April 8, 2024. Attend any program in March to receive a free pair of viewing glasses. One pair of glasses per person please. Check our website and follow us on Facebook for up to the minute details about an East Hartford community viewing event and upcoming glasses giveaways.

THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF GREATER HARTFORD

Wednesday, March 6, 6:00 - 7:30 PM

Location: Raymond, Meeting Room 1

The Total Eclipse of the Sun on April 8, 2024 promises to be a spectacular event as it crosses nearly the entire United States. Sky watchers in Connecticut will see the sun covered by well over 90%. Come learn about the mechanics and clockwork that make these celestial events happen and learn about simple, easy, and safe viewing techniques that even can use to enjoy the April 8 Solar Eclipse. Presented by The Astronomical Society of Greater Hartford (ASGH.org). Register for a reminder.

THE NEXT GREAT AMERICAN ECLIPSE: DR. KRISTINE LARSEN

Tuesday, March 12, 6:00 - 7:00 PM

Location: Raymond, Meeting Room 1

The excitement of the August 2017 solar eclipse is about to be replayed in April 2024, but this time, parts of the Northeast US will get their chance to witness totality, the ultimate astronomical experience. In this non-technical talk, Dr. Larsen takes us on a tour of the five total solar eclipses she has witnessed (so far!) and helps you prepare to safely observe the April 8, 2024 event yourself.

PUPPETRY SKILL SHARE

Fridays, 3:00 - 4:30 PM

March 8 & 22, April 5 & 15, May 10

Location: Raymond, Makerspace

Patrons of all ages will have the opportunity of learning about puppets under the tutelage of librarian/puppeteer Rolande Duprey. No registration required.

MAKERSPACE OPEN HOURS

Tuesdays, 5 - 7 PM, Wednesdays, 4 - 7 PM

Thursdays, 10 AM - 2PM, Fridays, 10 AM - 1 PM

Extra Evening Hours-

Thursdays, 3:00 - 7:00 PM

March 21, April 4 & 18, May 16

Location: Raymond, Makerspace

Curious about our Makerspace? Join us for Open Hours. Makerspace staff will be on hand to demonstrate our Makerspace technologies, including 3D printers and more! For all ages.

WICKHAM: INTERSECTIONS CONCERT

Thursday, March 14, 7:00 PM

Location: Wickham Library

Join us for performances from the East Hartford Middle School Global Jazz & Creative Music Ensemble, the East Hartford High School World Drumming ensemble, and professional musicians DoYeon Kim, Michael Suddes, and Ghazi Omair. For all ages. Register for a reminder.

TINY ART SHOW AT WICKHAM

March 19 - April 16

Location: Wickham Library

Create tiny art in our programs and show it off! We will make tiny art in our Tween Art Afternoons, Family Art Nights, and Makerspace Open Hours programs. We will have it on display at the Wickham Library for four weeks. On April 16, patrons are encouraged to pick up any pieces they made to take home.

ALL AGES PROGRAMS

MAKERSPACE CREATIVE ARTS: PLAY WITH CLAY

Thursday, March 14, 6:00 - 7:00 PM

Location: Raymond, Makerspace

Come to the Makerspace and have fun playing with air dry clay to make something to take home! Registration required.

MAKERSPACE CREATIVE ARTS: SALT PAINTING

Thursday, April 25, 6:00 - 7:00 PM

Location: Raymond, Makerspace

Experiment with salt, glue, and watercolor to create a three dimensional painting with simple household ingredients. For all ages.

MAKERSPACE CREATIVE ARTS: PERLER BEAD CREATIONS

Thursday, May 9, 6:00 - 7:00 PM

Location: Raymond, Makerspace

Create your own perler bead masterpiece!
For ages 8 & up.

MAKERSPACE CREATIVE ARTS: BUTTON MAKING

Thursday, May 23, 6:00 - 7:00 PM

Location: Raymond, Makerspace

Stop by the Makerspace to make your very own pin to put on your backpack or jacket! For all ages.

CELEBRATING THE CONTRIBUTION OF IMMIGRANTS

These performances are made possible through funding from the East Hartford Commission on Culture and Fine Arts as programs celebrating the contributions of immigrants. Programs are for all ages. Register for a reminder.

TERE LUNA: MEXICAN FOLKLORIC MUSIC & DANCE

Sunday, March 17, 3:00 PM, Location: Raymond, Meeting Room 1

Tere Luna brings the rich colorful music and dance culture of Mexico to life! Tere brings audiences the best of Mexican folkloric songs and dance. Her colorful dresses, dances, beautiful songs and narratives make learning about this culture a fun and unforgettable experience.

ACROBAT LI LIU WITH ELEGANT EQUILIBRISTICS AND OTHER COOL STUFF

Tuesday, April 9, 6:30 PM, Location: Wickham, Meeting Room

Li Liu was born in the city of Shenyang in Northeast China. At the age of six, she began her acrobatic training and the following year, she was chosen to attend The Chinese National Circus School. She traveled throughout Europe, Africa, and Asia. In 2000, she came to the US with Ringling Brothers Barnum & Bailey Circus. She now works as a freelance performer.

KARIM NAGI: ARAB MUSIC, DANCE, & CULTURE

Sunday, May 5, 3:00 PM, Location: Raymond, Meeting Room 1

Join us for a performance of music and dance from Karim Nagi. Karim Nagi is a native Egyptian immigrant to the USA and a true crossover artist uniting the Arab tradition with the global contemporary world. He has released fourteen CDs and authored instructional DVDs. As a dance and drum teacher, Nagi has taught in dozens of festivals around the world.

CHILDREN & FAMILY PROGRAMS

INDOOR STORYWALK: SIDEWALK FLOWERS

March 1 - 31

Location: Raymond & Wickham Library

Come create a story for the wordless book 'Sidewalk Flowers' by JonArno Lawson. Join a child and father as they walk through the city and witness the transformation of sharing flowers. What is a wordless book? It's a story told in pictures that gives readers the chance to become a storyteller with their own words— in any language. No registration required.



READ TO THE DOGS

Saturdays, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

March 2, April 6, May 4

Tuesday, April 9, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Location: Raymond, Children's Program Room

Members of the Bright & Beautiful Therapy Dogs group will be here with their dogs. Sign up to spend time each month reading together. Reading aloud to a dog can improve fluency, confidence, and comfort around dogs. Children and teens can sign up to read to a dog for 15 minutes. Bring your own book or borrow one from the library! Registration is required. Best suited for children ages 5 and up who are reading independently.

WICKHAM: BABY AND TODDLER STORYTIME

Mondays, 10:00 - 11:00 AM

March 4 & 11, April 1 & 15, May 6 & 13

Location: Wickham, Second Floor Program Room

Join us for stories, songs, and gentle play for babies ages birth to 24 months. We'll share books, learn rhymes and song, and make friends! For babies not yet crawling, bring a blanket. Older siblings welcome. Registration not required.

SENSORY PLAY & LOOSE PARTS INVESTIGATION

Mondays, 1:00 - 4:00 PM

March 4 - May 20

Location: Raymond, Children's Program Room

Children and families are invited to join us for sensory table exploration! Our sensory table will be filled with different "loose parts" to discover, build, and play. This offers open-ended play, supports invention, problem solving, and creative thinking. Best suited for children ages 3 - 8. No registration required.

OPEN HOUSE AND FREE PLAY

Wednesdays, 9:30 - 11:00 PM

March 6 - May 29

Location: Raymond, Children's Program Room

Drop in to see what the library is all about! Beginning at 9:30 am, we will have toys and activities for you to explore together. Specialists in health and well-being will be invited each week and will be available to chat. Stay for songs and a story at 10:30 am. Best suited for ages 2 - 4 (siblings welcome). Registration not required.

LEGO PLAY DAY

Saturdays, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

March 9, April 13, May 11

Sundays, 2:00 - 4:00 PM

March 10, April 14, May 12

Location: Raymond, Children's



Use your imagination to build and create with LEGOs! Pick a design challenge card out of the bowl or make a creation of your own. Completed LEGO masterpieces will stay on display at the library for the rest of the week. Program is for all ages. Duplo blocks will be available for our youngest builders. Register for a reminder.

CHILDREN & FAMILY PROGRAMS

FAMILY ECO GROUP

Tuesdays, 4:00 - 4:45 PM

March 12, April 9, May 7

Location: Raymond, children's Program Room

Do you want to learn more about the natural world, recycling, mending, citizen science, composting? Brainstorm at our first session and learn how to make window clings to help keep our feathered friends safe from windows as they fly to make their nests. Best for elementary age children and adults. Register for a reminder.

FUN SUN SCIENCE

Monday, March 11, 2:00 - 4:00 PM

Location: Raymond, Children's Program Room

Did you know the NEXT Great American Eclipse is happening Monday, April 8? Come have fun and learn about eclipses and the power of the sun .

We'll have stations set up to explore that are best suited for grades K-5 with an adult.



BLACKOUT POETRY

Friday, April 12, 2:00 - 4:00 PM

Location: Raymond, Makerspace

Stop by and take markers to old books and find the poems hidden within the pages. For ages 8 and up. No registration required.

FAMILY STORYTIME

Fridays, 10:00 - 10:45 AM

April 19, 26, May 3, 10, 17, 24

Location: Raymond, Children's Program Room

Join us to read, sing, dance, and create together to promote and develop early literacy skills and imagination! Best suited for ages 5 and under and their caregivers. No registration required.



TEEN PROGRAMS

TEEN ADVISORY BOARD

Tuesdays, 7:00 - 7:45 PM, March 5, April 2, May 7

Location: Raymond, Teen Booths

Join the library's Teen Advisory Board. We're looking for new members to speak up and share ideas on what they want in their library. For grades 8 - 12. Please register.

JOB PREP FOR TEENS

Monday, April 8 - Friday, April 12, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Location: Raymond, Meeting Room 1

Are you between the ages of 14 - 24 and looking for help finding a job? Join us for a series of in-person workshops sponsored in partnership with East Hartford Works! Participants MUST attend at least one session to receive an invitation for Friday's Job Fair. **Registration required.**

Monday- Resume Prep and Customer Service/Personal Branding Training

Tuesday- Babysitters Training (9am-4:30pm) OR Adult & Pediatric First Aid (9am-2pm) [lunch provided]

Wednesday- Credit for Life Fair with Liberty Bank

Thursday- Communication and Teamwork

Friday- Job Fair

TEEN PROGRAMS

TEEN WRITERS CLUB

Tuesdays, 4:15 - 5:00 PM

March 12 & 26, April 9 & 23, May 7 & 21

Location: Raymond, Teen Booths

Love to write? Want to explore various types of writing? Join our writers club and express your thoughts and ideas in a variety of ways from poetry to prose!

For grades 8 - 12.

Register for a reminder.



KINDNESS CLUB

Tuesdays, 5:30 - 7:30 PM

March 19, April 16, May 14

Location: Raymond, Teen Booths

Want to give back to the community and earn service hours? Do you have an idea for a project or a group to shower with kindness? Email Cathy Potter (cpotter@easthartfordct.gov), to share it! Teens in grades 7 - 12 can join us to work on a new project each month. No registration required.

WICKHAM: ART AFTERNOON

Tuesdays, 3:00 - 4:45 PM

March 19, April 16, May 14

Location: Wickham Library

Stop by Wickham Library to create some art. We'll try a different material or technique each month. For grades 6 - 8. Register for a reminder.

IN PERSON RPG: ENCLAVE

Wednesdays, 5:00 - 7:00PM

March 20, April 17

Location: Raymond, Meeting Room 1

Put your creativity to the test in Enclave, a tabletop role-playing game where storytelling is everything. Become an agent of a mysterious organization in an infinite world where anything is possible. Work together with your peers to accomplish all manner of dangerous missions. A great first time RPG, Enclave is easy to learn but very difficult to master. Best suited for grades 6-12. Registration requested.

TEEN & ADULT PROGRAMS

READ ACROSS AMERICA CHALLENGE

March 1 - 31

Location: Raymond Library

March is read across America month! Celebrate community, diversity, and love of reading by adding to our map at Raymond Library. Each time you read a book, tell us where the story was set, and we'll add that title to our display. Participants will receive a keychain wristlet (one per person, while supplies last) Submit your completed titles to the Raymond reference desk, or email librarian Anna Eisen: aeisen@easthartfordct.gov.

MAKERSPACE PROGRAM: FOREST BOOK NOOK

Wednesday, March 13, 6:00 - 7:30 PM

Location: Raymond, Makerspace

Create a one-of-a-kind book nook diorama for your bookshelf with a glimpse into a springtime forest using natural items and recycled materials. For teens and adults. Registration required.

MAKERSPACE PROGRAM: RECYCLED PAPER ROSES

Wednesday, April 3, 5:30 - 7:30 PM

Location: Raymond, Makerspace

Learn how to make roses from old book pages and maps for yourself or someone special. Long stem, corsage, or boutonniere ready! For teens and adults. Register for a reminder.

TEEN & ADULT PROGRAMS

VIRTUAL PROGRAM: POETS READING POETRY

*Tuesday, April 30, 6:30 - 7:30 PM
Location: Virtual*

Celebrate National Poetry Month with the library! Join featured poets Marilyn Johnston, Jane Schneeloch, John L. Stanizzi, and Elizabeth Thomas on Zoom. Poets are invited to submit poems, raps, or spoken word pieces on the theme of "Garden." An open mic will follow the presentations of the featured poets. Best suited for adults and teens. Please register.

MAKERSPACE CREATIVE ARTS: DIY JIBBITZ IN TINKERCAD

*Thursday, March 28, 6:00 - 7:00 PM
Location: Raymond, Makerspace*

Come to the Makerspace and learn how to design 3D prints. Make your own custom Jibbitz for your Crocs that we will print and have available for you to pick up. Registration required. Ages 10 & up.

DIY PHOTO FRAMES

*Wednesday, May 1, 6:30 - 7:30 PM
Location: Raymond, Makerspace*

Paint, decoupage, bedazzle and more to decorate a unique photo frame. A great gift for Mother's or Father's Day! . Please register.

MAKERSPACE CREATIVE ARTS: MC ESCHER TESSELLATIONS

*Thursday, May 30, 6:00 - 7:00 PM
Location: Raymond, Makerspace*

We will transform a plain square into our own custom-painted tessellation creation. Registration required. Ages 10 & up.

MAKERSPACE CREATIVE ARTS: PAINT BY NUMBER

*Thursdays, 6:00 - 7:00 PM
March 7, April 11, May 2
Location: Raymond, Makerspace*

Have a fun and relaxing evening painting a paint-by-number. Registration required. any pieces they made to take home. Ages 10 & up.

ADULT PROGRAMS

STREAMLINE YOUR STREAMING

*Wednesday, March 6, 6:30 - 7:30 PM
Location: Raymond, Meeting Room 2A
Tuesday, April 2, 3:00 - 4:00 PM
Location: Wickham, Program Room*

Overwhelmed by streaming options? Looking to consolidate your subscriptions, save money, and still enjoy the shows and movies you love? We'll provide an overview of current streaming options, highlight the library's free digital resources, and answer questions. Please register.

CIRCLE OF SECURITY PARENTING WORKSHOP SERIES

*Thursdays, 6:00 - 7:00 PM
March 7, 14, 21, & 28, April 4, 11, 18 & 25, May 2
Location: Raymond, Children's Program Room*

Want to learn tools to better understand your child's emotional needs? ...to better support your child's ability to successfully manage emotions? Join us for an evidence-based, parent-focused workshop series by CHR staff. The series is designed to promote the development of secure attachment between you and the child in your care. Best for caregivers with children ages birth-12 years. This series of programs requires registration for all 8 sessions.

ADULT PROGRAMS

WICKHAM: AFTERNOON AT THE MOVIES

Thursdays, 2:00 - 4:00 PM

Location: Wickham, Program Room

March 12- *Aquaman and the Lost Kingdom* (PG-13): Aquaman balances his duties as king and as a member of the Justice League, all while planning a wedding. Black Manta is on the hunt for Atlantean tech to help rebuild his armor. Orm plots to escape his Atlantean prison.

April 18- *The Color Purple* (PG-13): A story of love and resilience, spanning decades and telling the tale of one woman's journey to independence. Celie faces many hardships in her life, but ultimately finds extraordinary strength and hope in the unbreakable bonds of sisterhood. Register for a reminder.

May 16 - *The Boys in the Boat* (PG-13): The inspirational true story of the 1936 University of Washington rowing team that competed for gold at the Summer Olympics in Berlin, as a group of underdogs at the height of the Great Depression as they are thrust into the spotlight and taking on elite rivals from around the world. Register for a reminder.

WICKHAM: SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT OPEN HOURS

Fridays, 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

March 15, April 19, May 17

Location: Wickham Library

Do you want to start a business but aren't sure how to get started? Are you already in business and interested in learning more about the resources available to you? Looking for support with technology? East Hartford Public Library is ready to support you! Walk-ins welcome, register for a reminder!

A GATHERING OF BEARS

Thursday, March 21, 6:00 - 7:00 PM

Location: Raymond, Meeting Room 1

Join photographer John Fast on a wilderness adventure of a lifetime to the McNeil River State Game Sanctuary in Alaska, home to the largest congregation of wild brown bears in the world. Visit the falls as fifty to sixty bears fish, fight, eat, nurse cubs, nap, and just hang out. Through his slide presentation, witness what makes McNeil River such a special place and learn about the necessary preparations if you'd like to undertake this adventure yourself. Register for a reminder.

VIRTUAL: MEET THE AUTHOR

Tuesdays, 6:30 - 7:30 PM

March 26, April 23, May 21

Location: Virtual

Join us each month to connect with local authors. Learn about their books and their journeys to publication. Each session will be recorded and archived on the library's YouTube channel for later viewing. Are you an author interested in participating? We welcome local (Connecticut) authors who write for all audiences – children, teens, and adults – to join this celebration of local literary talent. Preference for participation is given to East Hartford authors. To learn more, or to sign up as an author, e-mail librarian Rolande Duprey: rduprey@easthartfordct.gov.

BOOK CLUB: READ WITH PRIDE

Wednesdays, 6:30 - 7:30 PM

March 27, April 24, May 22

Location: Raymond, Meeting Room 2A

Looking for a safe space? Learn more about the community? Be a better ally? Join our READ WITH PRIDE book club! At each meeting, we discuss our current read and pick our forthcoming books. This book club is for adults, with facilitation by library staff. Registration required.