December 2020 Virtual Calendar of Events

Last month we launched our Grab&Go Kits, and they have really taken off. We've got some exciting kits that will be available this month--including our new kits for adults--so make sure to keep an eye on our website for the list of different options. Kits will be available in our lobby while supplies last. Simply grab one and go! This month sees the return of Andrei Bezzubikoff's Tarde de N Spanish conversation group for intermediate level Spanish speakers to practice pronunciation. We're also celebrating the Hour of Code movement with a Code Heroes Camp for grades 6-8, a Coding Resources session for parents, as well as a Binary Coding program for kids to go along with one of our Grab&Go kits! Those are just a few highlights for this month. Join us on Zoom (made possible through support from the White Plains Library Foundation) with a variety of virtual events presented by Library staff and local experts. Find a full listing of events below with details on attending.

And don't forget, you can reach us Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 914-422-1400, by texting WPPL to 66746, or by emailing us anytime.

Ideas for programs or activities? Send them my way.

Take care,
Brian Kenney
Library Director
bkenney@whiteplainslibrary.org

To attend a virtual event, either register through the provided link or, if attendance is open, visit the link for information on joining on the date the event occurs. Adult events are in orange, kids and family events are in yellow, teen events are in green, and events for assorted age groups are in blue. NOTE: To increase security in youth-focused programs, we are now requiring attendees to have a Zoom account to login to the event.
Creating an account is easy and free.

Curt's ESL Pharmacy
Tuesday, December 1
4:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Pharmacist-turned-ESL instructor Curt Constable fills your English prescription with a fun class blending pronunciation, grammar, vocabulary and current events. He will cover a different topic in English each month. Participants should be at a "high beginner" or "low intermediate" level of English.

For information on joining, click here.

College Admissions with Collegewise
Wednesday, December 2
6:00-7:30 p.m.
This presentation will walk you through different priorities to consider as you build your list of colleges. It also highlights specific resources to use as you start your research during a time when traditional methods – like college visits – are unavailable.

Ages 2-6
Tuesday, December 1, 8, 15, & 22
Thursday, December 17
11:00 – 11:35 a.m.
Virtual storytime with Trove Librarians for ages 2-6.

For information on joining, click on the date(s) you wish to attend: 12/1, 12/8, 12/15, 12/17, 12/22.

Lunchtime Meditation @ the Library
Wednesday, December 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30
12:00-12:45 p.m.
Brief beginning instruction followed by meditation. No experience or special equipment needed. A variety of guest instructors will lead the program.

For information on joining, click on the date(s) you wish to attend: 12/2, 12/9, 12/16, 12/23, 12/30.

Relax with Reiki
Wednesday, December 2
7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Join Andrea Deierlein for an experience with Reiki, a natural healing practice from Japan that brings balance to body, mind, and...
Register in advance here. Please be sure to include your email address.

Storybook Dancing
Thursday, December 3
10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
Steffi Nossen School of Dance presents Virtual Storybook Dancing!

For information on joining, click here.

Reading to End Racism
Thursday, December 3
6:00–8:00 p.m.
Continuing on the theme of courageous conversations, YWCA has partnered with the White Plains Public Library for the Reading to End Racism book club. For this book club conversation, we will be reading and discussing Charlene A.

For information on attending, click here.

100 YEARS OF THE BEST AMERICAN SHORT STORIES

Short Story Book Discussion
Thursday, December 3 & 17
2:00-4:15 p.m.
Join librarian Barbara Wenglin to explore intriguing selections from the exciting new series anthology, 100 Years of the Best American Short Stories, edited by Lorrie Moore (2015). The book is available in print through our catalog and as an eBook in Hoopla as well as Libby and Overdrive. For 12/3, read "Friend of My Youth" by Alice Munro (p.452). For 12/17, read "The Third and Final Continent" by Jhumpa Lahiri (p.544)

To register in advance, click here.

spirit. Get a taste of Reiki and learn tools to help you shift from stressed to calm. Andrea, a recommended practitioner and teacher of the International House of Reiki, practices in person and online. For more information, see thrivereiki.com. This program is supported by the White Plains Library Foundation.

For information on attending, click here.

For information on joining, click here.
Carruthers' book *Unapologetic*. This book is available through our catalog.

For information on attending, click here.

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**English Conversation Group**  
Friday, December 4, 11, & 18  
2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

For ESL speakers. Come practice your English conversation skills in this fun, supportive virtual setting! Feel free to bring your own conversation topic.

For information on joining, click on the date(s) you wish to attend: 12/4, 12/11, & 12/18.

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**Bilingual Music Time**  
Friday, December 4 & 18  
11:00 – 11:45 a.m.

Join Nancy Hershatter for a fun bilingual music program! This program is supported by the White Plains Library Foundation.

For information on joining, click on the date(s) you wish to attend: 12/4 & 12/18.

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**Virtual Book Club for Teens**  
Friday, December 4  
6:30-7:30 p.m.

Join librarians Kat and Lauren for a book discussion and a trivia game. This month's book is a Project LIT title, *Scythe* by Neal Shusterman. The book is available on OverDrive and in print at the library. Teens in grades 6 through 12 are welcome to attend.

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**Rock out with Spencer!**  
Monday, December 7 & 21  
11:00 – 11:45 a.m.
Rock out with Spencer from wherever you are! This program is supported by the White Plains Library Foundation.

For information on joining, click on the date(s) you wish to attend: 12/7, 12/21.

Code Heroes Camp
Monday through Friday, December 7-11
4:30 – 6:00 p.m.
Take part in a Week of Code with the Code Heroes Camp! This program focuses on creating amazing experiences with code to educate our community on the effects of cyberbullying. Students will address the impacts of cyberbullying and design a choose your own adventure game that presents a variety of different cyberbullying scenarios. Each group will brainstorm and storyboard their scenarios, create custom graphics, and code their games using Scratch!

The Digital Arts Experience is providing this program in partnership with AT&T and The Westchester Library System. For Grades 6-8.

Register in advance here. Registration is for the entire week of the program Dec. 7-11.

Future is Female Book Discussion
Monday, December 7
2:00-3:00 p.m.
Ellen O’Connell, White Plains resident and retired English teacher, will moderate a discussion of Everything Inside, a short story collection by Edwidge Danticat. Available in the Library’s collection and digitally on OverDrive & Libby.

For information on joining, click here.

Zoom Basics

Virtual Tech Help
Tuesday, December 8 & 29
4:00–5:30 p.m.
Wednesday, December 9
10:30-11:15 a.m.
Learn the basics of Zoom and how to join library programs. There will be several tips and tricks for the platform discussed as well.

Register in advance [here](#).

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Need help with a general computer issue or have questions about a particular piece of technology? Pick Digital Media Specialist Austin Olney’s brain during this virtual assistance program. Whether a beginner or advanced user, all are welcome.

Register in advance for the date(s) you wish to attend and please be sure to provide your email address: 12/8 12/29

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Book 'Em
Wednesday, December 9
2:30-3:30 p.m.

*Nothing More Dangerous* is available in print and as a CD audiobook from our physical collection, and as an eBook and audiobook from OverDrive and Libby.

For information on joining, [click here](#).

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Tech for Parents: Coding Resources
Thursday, December 10
5:00 – 5:45 p.m.
In concert with the national “hour of code” movement, the library is offering a related program with a special twist: it is for parents. Digital Media Specialist Austin Olney will be breaking down some of the major resources available to young programmers, whether experienced or first-timers. All are welcome!

Register in advance [here](#).
Virtual Table Top Games
Monday, December 14
4:30-6:00 p.m.
Play table top games virtually with Erik and Ashley. The event will be hosted on Zoom and the games will be played on boardgamearena.com. Please make a free account on boardgamearena prior to the event.

For information on joining, click here.

Digital Library Resources
Tuesday, December 15
4:00-4:45 p.m.
Learn about various resources that the White Plains Public Library and larger Westchester Library System have to offer.

Register in advance here.

Slow Reading Book Discussion
Monday, December 14 & 21
2:00-4:00 p.m.
Featured on December 14 is "Big Boy Leaves Home" by Richard Wright. Featured on December 21 is "Fire and Cloud" by Richard Wright. Lambert has a Ph.D. from Yale in English and taught high-school English at The Dalton School for over 25 years. Contact Ellen at ellenzlambert@gmail.com or 914-582-4050 for details. Both stories can be found in Uncle Tom's Children (1938), which is available in our collection. Both eBook and digital audiobook can be accessed through OverDrive and Libby.

For information on joining, click on the date(s) you wish to attend: 12/14 & 12/21.

How Did I Get Here?
Careers with Verisk
Virtual Chess Club
Wednesday, December 16
4:00-4:45 p.m.
Youth in grades 6-12 are welcome to play chess online with each other in this fun, new event. Discuss chess strategy and challenge Austin Olney (Schmiegle) to a match.

Register in advance [here](#).

Virtual Youth Meet-up
Thursday, December 17
5:00-5:45 p.m.
Have a computer or smartphone? Join Austin Olney (Schmiegle) in a new, virtual world for teens using the Roblox platform. Participate in a variety of fun activities with friends!

Register in advance [here](#).

Analytics
Tuesday, December 15
6:00-7:00 p.m.
Join us for a virtual career panel for teens with members of the Spend Informed Analytics & Data Science team at Verisk Financial | Argus.

For information on attending, [click here](#).

Red Door Readers
Thursday, December 17
1:00-3:00 p.m.
In conjunction with Gilda’s Club Westchester, we are offering a book discussion group for cancer survivors, their families and caretakers. Registration is required. After registering, you will be sent the Zoom link the Tuesday before the discussion. This month's book is Z, A Novel of Zelda Fitzgerald by Therese Anne Fowler, a fictional account of Zelda and her husband, F. Scott Fitzgerald, legends of the Jazz Age, and members of the Lost Generation, along with Gertrude Stein and Ernest Hemingway. The book is available in [print](#) and as a [digital audiobook](#) through OverDrive.

Register in advance [here](#).
The College Experience
Friday, December 18
4:00-5:00 p.m.
Get ready for college with Mary Ellen Garcia, from SUNY Purchase. Mary Ellen will talk about financial aid and how to manage your college costs, Educational Opportunity Programs, transitioning from high school to college, and important resources during your Freshman year.

For information on attending, click here.

Music with Graham Clarke
Monday, December 28
11:00 – 11:50 a.m.
Take part in a fun, interactive virtual concert featuring goofy children's music and rock and roll. For ages 2-8.

For information on attending, click here.

Tarde de Ñ
Wednesday, December 30
7:00-8:00 p.m.
Leave your shyness behind and come join Andrei Bezzubikoff for Tarde de Ñ. In this class, Andrei offers topics of discussion in Spanish, giving participants the opportunity to practice pronunciation. Participants must speak Spanish at an intermediate level. Registration is required.

Binary Coding
Wednesday, December 30
10:30 – 11:15 a.m.
Learn about the fundamental backbone of all computer systems and see how they are nothing more than a vast system of switches. This program is congruent with Gr. 4-8 STEAM Grab&Go Kits through the Trove.

Register in advance here.
Elements of 3D Design and Printing
Monday through Wednesday, December 28–30
2:00 – 3:30 p.m.
Learn basic techniques for 3D Design using Tinkercad, a free, online CAD program. All designs made in the class will be printed for free and available to pick up. No experience with 3D design is necessary. This program is supported by Con Edison and the White Plains Library Foundation.

Register in advance here.