February Calendar of Events for Adults

This February, you can crochet coasters with Kristen (2/3), attend one or more of our five book discussions, learn about the reintegration of pro football in 1946 (2/10), and reflect on the history of the Harlem Renaissance (2/15). Find a full listing of our February programs below with details on attending.

You can reach us Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday from 1 p.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

Note: Most newsletters will be clipped at the bottom when they reach your inbox. Please make sure you click on [Message clipped] View entire message at the bottom of your email for the full newsletter.

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, events for parents are in yellow, and events for assorted age

We appreciate support from the White Plains Library Foundation for many of our programs. Events funded by the Foundation are noted with an ⭐.
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.

**Lunchtime Meditation @ the Library**

**Wednesday, February 2, 9, 16, 23**

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 the Zoom link, click on the date(s) you wish to attend: 2/2, 2/9, 2/16, 2/23.*

**Taller de Escritura en Español**

El martes, 11 de enero–1 de marzo

7:00–8:30 p.m.

Un taller de escritura creativa en español que se enfoca en descubrir la belleza de cada historia mientras discute los temas y la cultura de las historias. Para asistir, [visite nuestro sitio web](#).

A creative writing workshop that focuses on uncovering the beauty of each story as you discuss the themes and culture within the storylines while you improve your Spanish-speaking ability.

**English Conversation Group**

**Wednesday, February 2 & 16**

**Spanish for Beginners, Level 2**

Wednesdays, February 2 through April 27

7:00–8:30 p.m.
2:00–3:00 p.m.
ESL speakers, come practice your English conversation skills in this fun, supportive virtual setting! Feel free to bring your own conversation topics. For the Zoom link, click on the date(s) you wish to attend: 2/2, 2/16

Poetry Slam & Open Mic
Wednesday, February 2
7:00–9:00 p.m.
Join Zork and Kristen for the First Wednesday Poetry Slam! Pre-registration is required to try and accommodate as many poets as possible. Register here to attend or perform. Please be sure to provide an active email address as we will contact you to confirm whether you will be performing or just attending. Adults & teens welcome!

Taller Camino a la Iniciativa Empresarial
El jueves, 3 de febrero
6:00–8:00 p.m.
¿Quieres conocer qué necesitas para empezar tu propio negocio en Nueva York? En este taller virtual gratuito que realiza WEDC con la Biblioteca Pública de White Plains aprenda sobre: Las características de un empresario exitoso, qué implica ser un dueño de negocio, qué se necesita para abrir su propio negocio, quienes serán sus clientes y su competencia, donde conseguir permisos y licencias para su negocio, recursos que WEDC ofrece para ayudarlo a tener éxito y mucho más.
Quick n Easy Crochet Coasters
Thursday, February 3
7:00–8:00 p.m.
Get cozy with a crochet coaster for your cup of tea or coffee. Join Librarian Kristen to learn how to create a simple chain crochet coaster using crochet supplies and a hot glue gun. No previous crochet experience required. Registration is limited and required. Those signed up will be notified when they can pick up their bag of program supplies from the Library. Click here to register. Adults and Teens welcome!

Future is Female Book Discussion
Monday, February 7
2:00–3:00 p.m.
Ellen O'Connell, White Plains resident and retired English teacher, will moderate a discussion of Passing (1929), by Nella Larsen of the Harlem Renaissance. This candid and moving exploration of race and identity is the inspiration for the recent Netflix film of the same title. The 2021 Signet Classic edition is introduced by Brit Bennett, author of The Vanishing Half (2020), itself an intricate and deeply emotional treatment of the same topic. Passing is available in the Library's print collection. OverDrive/Libby has the eBook and digital audiobook.
Individual Tech Help
Wednesday, February 9
10:30–11:30 a.m. &
Tuesday, February 15
2:00–3:00 p.m.
Need help with a general computer issue or have questions about a particular piece of technology? Ask Digital Media Specialist Austin Olney in this virtual assistance program. Whether a beginner or advanced user, all are welcome. Register in advance for the date(s) you wish to attend: 2/9, 2/15. Please be sure to provide your email address.

† 1946: The Reintegration of Pro Football
Thursday, February 10
7:00–8:00 p.m.
This webinar highlights the four players who broke the NFL’s color line and the owner who drew up the bigoted design. Presented by John Vorperian, Host/Executive Producer of cable show BEYOND THE GAME. Click here for the Zoom link.

‡ The Harlem Renaissance
Slow Reading
Book Discussion
Monday, February 14 & 28
2:00–4:00 p.m.
For the Winter and Spring sessions, the group will engage in a detailed exploration of the short stories of Anton Chekhov, often viewed as the originator of the contemporary short-story form. Read "Peasant Women" and "Sweetheart" for 2/14 and "On Official Business" and "In the Cart" for 2/28. All stories can be found in Anton Chekhov’s Selected Stories (2014). Leading the group is Ellen Lambert, who has a Ph.D. from Yale in English and taught high-school English at The Dalton School for over 25 years. Feel free to contact Ellen at ellenzlambert@gmail.com or 914-582-4050 with any questions. For the Zoom link, click on the date(s) you wish to attend: 2/14, 2/28.

Harlem flourished in the 1920s, energized by the Great Migration of African Americans from the South who were looking for jobs in New York City. As we embark on a journey through the art of the Harlem Renaissance, our virtual showcase will include: a look at the diverse styles of artists working in Harlem from the 1920s to 1940s; an overview of two generations of Harlem Renaissance artists; an understanding of how contemporary African American artists stand on the shoulders of these breakthrough artists. Presented by Rena Tobey. Click here to register.

Zoom Tips & Tricks
Wednesday, February 23
2:00–2:30 p.m.
Participants of this session will learn tips and tricks for attending (and hosting) Zoom events. Click here to register.
Digital Library Resources
Wednesday, February 16
10:30–11:00 a.m.
Join Digital Media Specialist Austin Olney and learn about popular online library resources. Beginners are encouraged, all are welcome.
For adults, parents.
Register in advance here.

Short Story Book Discussion Series
Thursday, February 24
2:00–4:15 p.m.
Join Librarian Barbara Wenglin as we launch our Winter/Spring 2022 Short Story Series using the same anthology from the fall, 100 Years of the Best American Short Stories, focusing on the theme of "family matters." For this session, read the classic James Baldwin 1958 story, "Sonny's Blues" (p.181), a Black History Month selection. A conflicted Black algebra teacher in 1950s Harlem confronts his younger brother’s drug addiction, arrest, and recovery through his soulful music. Anthology is available to borrow in print, also as an eBook in Hoopla and Libby. Program made possible with support of the Friends of the Library. Click here to register.

Book 'Em
Wednesday, February 23
2:30–3:30 p.m.
Library Director Brian Kenney will lead a discussion of Russ Thomas' *Firewatching*. "The richness of Tyler's character and the vividness of his negotiation of his own sexuality and the casual bigotry in his community are effective...This is a rewarding entertainment. A good detective in an incendiary procedural."—*Kirkus Reviews*. This title is available in print, as well as an *eBook* and *audiobook* on Libby. For information on joining, click [here](#).

**Forever Young Adult Book Club**

**Thursday, February 24**

**7:00–8:00 p.m.**

Forever Young Adult is a group for YA fans who are a little less "Y" and a bit more "A." Whether you're a regular YA reader or you need a break from your usual "To Read" list,
all are welcome! We will discuss *Instructions for Dancing* by Nicola Yoon at this session. This book is available in **print** and as an **eBook** and **audiobook** from OverDrive/Libby. This book club is made possible by a partnership between Yonkers Public Library and White Plains Public Library. For information on attending, [click here](#).

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This newsletter is sponsored by the [White Plains Library Foundation](#).

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