

# SSPL

engage - entertain - educate - empower



## PROGRAM GUIDE

September & October, 2025

### ART & MUSIC, & MOVIES

#### Handcraft Meet-Ups

Tuesdays, Sept. 2 - Oct. 30\* | 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. \*No program on Oct. 14. Register online.

#### Sewing Skills: Sewing Machines

Friday, Sept. 5 | 10-11:30 a.m. | Community Room

This class for absolute beginners will go over sewing machine basics—from understanding markings and dials to threading, cleaning, and adjusting your machine. Some sewing machines will be provided, but participants are encouraged to bring their own machine if they have one. Register online.

#### Song Swap with Jeff Walton

Mondays, Sept. 22 & Oct. 20 | 6:30-8:45 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!**

#### Make It Sew! Pyjama Pants

Friday, Oct. 10 | 10 a.m.- 1 p.m. | Community Room

Learn how to sew your own pair of pyjama pants in this class for beginners. Sewing machines will be provided. Participants are asked to bring 3 yards of flannel or woven cotton fabric of their choice. All other tools and notions will be provided. Register online.

### BOOK GROUPS & LITERATURE DISCUSSIONS

#### Read with Pride

Thursday, Sept. 4 | 7-8 p.m. | Community 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. Co-sponsored by Saratoga PRIDE. Register online. **Teens welcome too!**

#### Read Against the Machine

Mondays, Sept. 8 & Oct. 6 | 7-8 p.m. | Computer Lab

Read Against the Machine is an ongoing reading group that meets the first Monday of each month and focuses on non-fiction titles that examine social issues of all types. Register online.

#### Better Off Read

Tuesdays, Sept. 9 & Oct. 14 | 11 a.m.-12 p.m. | Friends Coffee Shop

Better Off Read meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 11 a.m. in the Susman Room. Join us for a monthly book discussion covering mostly mysteries but includes variety of genres. Check our website for titles. Register online.

#### Book Club is My Alibi

Wednesdays, Sept. 10 & Oct. 8 | 7-8 p.m. | Community Room

A 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, Sept. 11 & Oct. 9 | 5:30-6:30 p.m. | Online with Zoom

Join this online librarian-led poetry discussion group! A handout of poems for discussion will be available at the information desk prior to the meeting, and will be emailed to registrants. Register online.

#### Her Story Book & Discussion Group

Thursdays, Sept. 11 & Oct. 9 | 6-7 p.m. | Friends Coffee Shop

In this group, we'll explore the various experiences of women over time and across the globe. Topics may include the following: Mental Health, Women in Business, Women Across the Globe, Motherhood, and more. Register online.

#### Books & Tea Discussion Group

Thursdays, Sept. 18 & Oct. 16 | 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

Thursday, Sept. 18 | 7-8 p.m. | Friends' Coffee Shop

Friday, Oct. 17 | 2-3 p.m. | Community 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. Co-sponsored by Healing Springs. Register online.

#### Read with Pride & Her Story Crossover Event

Thursday, Oct. 9 | 6-7 p.m. | Friends' Coffee Shop

Read with Pride and Her Story team up to discuss *In the Dream House* by Carmen Maria Machado. Register online.

Please visit our online Events Calendar for monthly book discussion titles or scan the QR Code here.



### COMPUTERS & TECHNOLOGY

#### Apple for Everyone

Tuesdays, Sept. 9 - Oct. 28 | 9:30-11 a.m. | Computer Lab or Online

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



# COMPUTERS & TECHNOLOGY

## Digital Legacy & The Law:

### Planning for Your Online Afterlife

Tuesday, Sept. 9 | 6:30 - 8 p.m. | Community Room

Join us for an informative session on digital legacy—what happens to your online accounts, digital assets, and personal data after you pass away. Explore how to take control of your digital presence, including managing passwords, social media accounts, cloud storage, and more. Register online.

# HEALTH & WELLNESS

## Tuesdays to Thrive: Nourishing Mind and Body

Every Tuesday from 2:30-3:30 p.m. Please register for each event individually.

### intenSati | Sept. 2 & Oct. 7

Combines a high-energy workout with the power of positive thinking.

### Bokwa | Sept. 9 & Oct. 14

Dance the digits with this dynamic cardio workout.

## Medicare Education for Seniors

Saturday, Sept. 27 | 10-11 a.m. | Community Room

Are you approaching Medicare eligibility or helping a loved one navigate their options? Join us for a free, no-pressure seminar designed to provide clear, accurate, and practical information about Medicare. No registration.

# LITERACY & LANGUAGES

## Beginning English Language Learning

Mondays, Sept. 8 - Oct. 27 | 10 a.m.-12 p.m. | Susman Room

This class is for both beginning and intermediate level English speakers, whether you know few English words, or are becoming more fluent. We will work together as a learning community to assist each other in improving English comprehension, reading, writing and speaking. Attending all classes will help you progress faster. No registration.

## English Conversation Circle

Thursdays, Sept. 11 - Oct. 30 | 10-11:30 a.m. | Glasby Room

Do you want to practice speaking English with others? Join this weekly English Conversation Circle, led by one of our experienced library literacy volunteers. Students help pick the topic of discussion. The focus is on speaking, gaining English fluency, and participating in a learning community! Register online.

# LOCAL INTERESTS & COMMUNITY

## Escape Room: Downtime for Adults

Mondays, Sept. 8 - Oct. 27\* | 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, and the sensory cart, and relax socially with other adults. No minors will be in the space during the adults-only hours. \*No program on Oct. 13. No registration.

## Mah Jongg Practice

Tuesdays, Sept. 9 & Oct. 28 | 9:30-11:30 a.m. | Community Room

Come practice your Mah Jongg skills by playing here at the library! All experience levels are welcome to join in on the fun. Mah Jongg sets will be provided. Register online.

## Brown Bag Lunch Lecture Series

A Veteran Speaks: Oscar Kemp of the 115th NY and the Grand Army  
Thursday, Sept. 11 | 12-1 p.m. | Community Room

75 Years - The History of Saratoga Springs Public Library  
Thursday, Oct. 9 | 12-1 p.m. | Community Room



These local history programs are offered in partnership between the Saratoga Springs Heritage Area Visitor Center and the Saratoga Springs Public Library. Please register online to attend in-person or virtually.

## Digital Newspaper Access

Mondays, Sept. 8 & Oct. 6 | 9:30-11:30 a.m. | New & Popular Area

Did you know the Saratoga Springs Public Library has digital newspaper subscriptions that allow you to access news behind a paywall for FREE? Drop by the New & Popular area to learn more. No registration.

## Yoga for Bone Health | Sept. 16 & Oct. 21

Unite body and mind with balancing poses that support bone strength.

## Mindfulness Meditation | Sept. 23 & Oct. 28

Guided practice exercises that help you learn strategies to dramatically shift the experience of your life.



## Intermediate English Language Learning

Tuesdays, Sept. 16 - Oct. 28 | 5:15-6:45 p.m. | Glasby Room or Online

If you feel confident in using some basic English phrases, and join with others to increase your English comprehension and fluency! Learn through listening, reading, writing, conversation and some fun interactive projects. This class is offered both online and in person. Register online.

## English Conversation Class

Wednesdays, Sept. 17 - Oct. 29 | 10 a.m.- 12 p.m. | Glasby Room

This class is for English learners who are improving, and have some English fluency. The experienced instructor will lead the participants in discussions and introduce new vocabulary, grammar, and idioms, according to student interest. Register online.

## Repair Café

Saturday, Sept. 13 | 1-4 p.m. | Community Room

Toss it? No way! Bring an item that needs repair and work with a Repair Café coach to fix it. One repair per household. Co-sponsored with Sustainable Saratoga. No registration.

## National Voter Registration Day

Tuesday, Sept. 16 | 10 a.m.-1 p.m. | New & Popular Reading Area

The League of Women Voters of Saratoga County will be registering voters and answering voter registration questions as part of National Voter Registration Day.

## We The People: Democracy Check-In

Wednesday, Sept. 17 | 7-8 p.m. | Community Room

On this Constitution Day, Skidmore Professor Beau Breslin is back to answer topical questions about our government systems and how current events relate to the history of our constitution. Get answers to your most pressing government procedure questions, and become a more informed and engaged citizen. Register online.

## Citizen Preparedness: Natural or Man-Made Disasters

Thursday, Sept. 18 | 1-2 p.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. No registration.

**ON THE COVER:** The image in the heading of this Program Guide is from the library "Book Parade" in 1950, when local school children moved books from the Athenaeum to the new library on Broadway.

## LOCAL INTERESTS & COMMUNITY

### Bagels & Barks

Fridays, Sept. 19 & Oct. 31 | 10-11 a.m. | Community Room  
Stop in for a bite to eat and meet and greet with several therapy dogs and their owners. No registration. **All Ages Welcome!**

### Film Screening: REUSE!

#### Because You Can't Recycle the Planet

Tuesday, Sept. 23 | 6:30-8 p.m. | Community Room  
In celebration of Climate Preparedness Week, join us for a screening of this eye-opening and inspiring documentary that challenges the myth of recycling as the ultimate solution to our waste crisis. REUSE! follows "reuse edutainer" Alex Eaves on his journey across 48 states, where he discovers creative, practical, and often fun ways people are rethinking waste. Register online.

### Blood on the Clocktower

Wed., Sept. 24 & Tues., Oct. 28 | 6:30-8:30 p.m. | Community Room  
Join us for a game or two of Blood on the Clocktower! "Blood on the Clocktower is a game of murder and mystery, lies and logic, deduction and deception for five-to-twenty courageous players and one devious storyteller." Register online.

## TRAVEL & THE GREAT OUTDOORS

### Greenland: A Voyage Through Scoresby Sound

Thursday, Sept. 18 | 7-8 p.m. | Community Room  
Join us for an unforgettable evening as Adirondack Mountain Club chapter member James Thompson shares highlights from his September 2024 expedition cruise through Scoresby Sound on Greenland's rugged east coast. Co-sponsored by the Adirondack Mountain Club. No registration.

### Please Go Away! Planning Your Vacation Online

Wednesday, Oct. 22 | 10 a.m.-12 p.m. | Computer Lab  
Ready to plan your next travel adventure? Join librarian and avid traveler Rhona Koretzky on an interactive tour through the new world of travel. We will explore planning your trip your way whether it be by land, sea or air. Discuss the latest information about traveling safely. Come with your ideas for a trip you are planning or travel from your armchair. Let's get out there! Register online.



This October, Saratoga Springs Public Library will be celebrating its 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Look for this icon in this Program Guide, as well as upcoming information about our October 24<sup>th</sup> Diamond Jubilee Event.

### Studying UFOs in the Name of Science

Wednesday, Oct. 1 | 7-8:30 p.m. | Community Room  
Join University at Albany Professors Matthew Szydagis and Kevin Knuth as they share their efforts to build a scientific field around unidentified anomalous phenomena (UAPs), formerly known as UFOs. Register online.

### Haunted Saratoga Walking Ghost Tour

Wednesday, Oct. 15 | 2-3:30 p.m. | Exterior Library Grounds  
Join us on a walking tour, led by Joe Haedrich, proprietor of Haunted Saratoga Ghost Tours, for an informative and creepy stroll through our paranormal past that starts and ends at the library. Register online.

### Community Job Fair

Thursday, Oct. 23 | 3-5 p.m. | Community Room  
Meet representatives from several local businesses who are seeking to grow their workforce. Apply for jobs on the spot. Use the library computer and printing area if you need to print your resumé. All are welcome! No registration.

*On the Road*



### On the Road with SSPL Mobile Outreach

We're taking the library to YOU! Check out and return items, sign up for a library card, learn how to download e-books, enjoy family activities, and more!

### Greenfield Farmers' Market

Thursdays, Sept. 4 & 18 | 4-7 p.m.

### Greenfield Senior Center

Thursdays, Sept. 11 & Oct. 9 | 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

### Greenfield Town Park

Mondays, Sept. 22 - Oct. 20 | 4:30-6 p.m.

### Saratoga Farmers' Market - High Rock Park

Saturdays, Sept. 27 & Oct. 25 | 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

### Dan's Derby - Gavin Park

Saturday, Oct. 4 | 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

**FOR MORE PROGRAMS & RESOURCES,  
VISIT [WWW.SSPL.ORG](http://WWW.SSPL.ORG) OR FOLLOW US**



## PROGRAMS FOR TEENS

### Teen Crafternoons and Take-and-Make Craft Kits

Multiple Dates, Times, & Locations | Visit [www.sspl.org](http://www.sspl.org)  
We've got lots to keep your hands busy and your creative juices flowing this spring. Visit our online Events Calendar at [www.sspl.org](http://www.sspl.org).

### Teen Advisory Board Meetings

Mondays, Sept. 8 & Oct. 6 | 7-8 p.m. | Glasby Room  
Calling all teens entering grades 7-12! This is your chance to make the Teen Room YOUR space, and earn community service while doing it! Join us if you're a teen interested in having your voice heard. Register online.

### Teen World Tours

Wednesdays, Sept. 10 & Oct. 1 | 3-4 p.m. | Teen Room  
Teens, take a trip around the world—without leaving the library! Students in grades 7-12 are invited to the Teen Room each month to sample the snacks, create a craft, and discover the culture of a new country. Earn a sticker for your library 'passport' each time you participate! In September, we'll visit Mexico, and Germany in October. No registration.

### Dungeons & Dragons

Saturdays, Sept. 13 & 27; Oct. 11 & 25 | 1:30-3:30 p.m. | Teen Room  
Calling all adventurers in grades 7-12! Join us in the Teen Room for our biweekly D&D campaign. Space is limited. Register online.

### Fall Volunteer Information Meeting

Sunday, Sept. 21 | 1-2:15 p.m. | Susman Room  
Our teen volunteers do more than just help with tasks—they bring their unique talents to our library! Teens in grades 7-12 are invited to our info meeting to learn how they can get involved. To volunteer this Fall, teens must attend a one-hour training with Teen Librarian. Register online.

### Teen Bite Club: Edible Eyeballs

Wednesday, Oct. 15 | 3-4 p.m. | Teen Room  
The first rule of Teen Bite Club... you have to eat what you make! Teens in grades 7-12 are invited to craft their own creepy, edible eyeballs using donuts, marshmallows, candy, and more. No registration.

### Teen Halloween Party

Monday, Oct. 27 | 6:30-8 p.m. | Teen Room  
Join Teen Librarian AnnaRae and SSPL's Teen Advisory Board for a night of spooky fun! Enter the costume contest, make Halloween bracelets and buttons, devour some tasty treats, and watch a spooky movie. Costumes are optional! No registration.

**WWW.SSPL.ORG**



# HIGHLIGHTS FOR CHILDREN, TEENS, AND FAMILIES

## Nintendo Switch Gaming

Fridays, Sept. 5 - Oct. 24\* | 4-5 p.m. | Children's Room

Come play video games on the library's Nintendo Switch! This program is for kids in grades K-6. \*No program 9/26. No registration.

## Homeschool Hangs

Wednesdays, Sept. 10 & Oct. 15 | 2-3 p.m. | Community Room

Homeschooling families with kids in grades K-6, come hang out and learn about a new subject each month. In September, we'll be working with chromatography and in October, we'll learn how to love ourselves more. Register online.

## Library Goes to Town

Fridays, Sept. 12 & Oct. 17 | 10:30-11:30 a.m. | Multiple Locations

Join our Children's Librarian, Kristine, as she travels around Saratoga Springs with a super fun story time. In September, we'll visit the Tang Teaching Museum at Skidmore College and the Creekside Classroom at Saratoga Spa State Park in October. Story time is intended for children ages 2-5 but siblings are welcome with accompanying adult. Register online.

## Minecraft Creative Club

Mondays, Sept. 15 & Oct. 6 | 4:30-5:30 p.m. | Computer Lab

Kids entering grades 4-8 are invited to join us to play Minecraft in creative mode. This peaceful event will focus on a different building theme at each meeting. Register online.

## Minecraft Survival Club

Mondays, Sept. 15 & Oct. 6 | 5:30-6:30 p.m. | Computer Lab

Kids entering grades 4-8 are invited to join us to play Minecraft in survival mode. Hone your survival skills by gathering resources, crafting, and possibly fighting monsters or playing PVP games against other players. Register online.

## Neurodiversity Club

Tuesdays, Sept. 16 & Oct. 7 | 4:30-5:30 p.m. | Community Room

Kids and teens in grades K-12 who are neurodivergent, plus 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

Wednesdays, Sept. 17 & Oct. 22 | 4:30-5:30 p.m. | Community Room

Beginning readers discover a new chapter book series every month at the Bookmark Bunch. This program is for kids in grades K-4. Register online.

## Meet & Greet with Wildlife

Wednesdays, Sept. 17 & Oct. 22 | 5:30-6 p.m. | Community Room

Join us for an informal Meet and Greet with a Barred owl in September and an Armadillo in October. Our wildlife handlers will answer any questions they may have. This program is for children and their families. Register online. **All ages welcome!**

## Bagels & Barks

Fridays, Sept. 19 & Oct. 31 | 10-11 a.m. | Community Room

Stop in for a bite to eat and meet and greet with several therapy dogs and their owners. No registration. **All Ages Welcome!**

## Kids Build, Caregivers Connect

Mondays, Sept. 22 & Oct. 20 | 4:30-5:30 p.m. | Community Room

Neurodivergent children in preschool through grade 4 who enjoy Legos, magna tiles, blocks, and more - join us to build and create in an environment that embraces and celebrates all neurodiverse identities! While kids build, parents and caregivers will have the opportunity to connect with each other. Co-Sponsored by SUNY Empire State University Center for Autism Advocacy. Register online.

## SSPL Visits the Saratoga Farmers' Market

Wednesdays, Sept. 24 & Oct. 29 | 3-5 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.

## Great Give Back: Halloween Costume Drive for Franklin Community Center

Wednesday, Oct. 1 - Friday, Oct. 24 | Open Hours | Children's Room

We are collecting Halloween Costumes for the Franklin Community Center. Bring gently-used donations to the Children's Room.

## Write a Spooktacular Story

Wednesday, Oct. 1 - Friday, Oct. 31 | Open Hours | Children's Room

Do you like spooky stories? Do you like to write and draw? Help us decorate the library by writing and illustrating your own spooky story. Pick up a handout at the Children's Desk for writing prompts to get you started. Drop off your stories at the Children's Desk anytime from October 1-31, and we'll hang them up around the library. Every participant will receive a small spooky prize. For ages K through 6. No registration.

## Chess Club

Wednesdays, Oct. 1, 15, & 29 | 6:30-7:30 p.m. | Children's Room

Kids in grades 2 and up are invited to join the Chess Club. Beginners are welcome. Librarians and volunteers will be on hand to help with skill-building. Register online.

## Avatar Day

Thursday, Oct. 2 | 10:30-11:30 a.m. | Community Room

Join us in celebrating 20 years of the award-winning series Avatar the Last Airbender. We will have crafts, games, and prizes for proving your Avatar knowledge or coming in costume! Children in grades K-6 and their families are welcome. No registration.

## Intro to Embroidery: Haunted House

Saturday, Oct. 11 | 3-4:30 p.m. | Community Room

Kids in grades 4 through 8 are invited to learn some basic embroidery techniques and create a haunted house! Register online.

## 75th Birthday Scavenger Hunt

Sat., Oct. 11 - Sat., Oct. 25 | Open Hours | Children's Room

The library is turning 75! Look for 13 birthday party guests and collect the letters they are bringing. Solve the secret birthday message for a special prize!



## Celebrate! Library Families

Sunday, Oct. 12 | 1:30-2:30 p.m. | Community Room

Join us for a special party featuring juggler Bryson Lang to celebrate Saratoga Springs Public Library's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary! For kids and families. No registration.



## Leaf Scavenger Hunt and Indigenous Peoples' Day Talking Stick Craft

Monday, Oct. 13 | 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. | Community Room

Celebrate Indigenous Peoples' Day and explore Congress Park, site of the Saratoga Native American encampment over 100 years ago. Wilton Wildlife Preserve & Park will lead us on a leaf scavenger hunt. We'll return to the library to use some of the natural materials we have collected to craft a Talking Stick. For grades K-5 with an accompanying adult. Register online.

## Haunted Saratoga Walking Ghost Tour

Wednesday, Oct. 15 | 4-5:30 p.m. | Exterior Library Grounds

Join us on a walking tour, led by Joe Haedrich, proprietor of Haunted Saratoga Ghost Tours, for a family-friendly, informative, and creepy stroll through our paranormal past that starts and ends at the library. Register online. **Teens welcome too!**

## Owl Prowls at Wilton Wildlife Preserve & Park

Thurs., Oct. 23 & Fri., Oct. 24 | 7-8:15 p.m. | Wilton Wildlife Preserve

Learn owl calls, and then go for an Owl Prowl walk to listen for these nighttime predators. Afterwards, each participant will receive an owl pellet to dissect at home. Register online.

## Halloween Trick or Treat

Friday, Oct. 31 | 11-11:45 a.m. | Children's Room

Children, accompanied by a caregiver, are invited to attend a brief story time and then adjourn to the main floor of the Children's Room for a short activity and a trick-or-treat opportunity. Costumes are optional. Please bring your own treat bag. No registration.

Scan the QR Code for our Events Calendar and more information on the following offerings:

- Story Times
- Take-Home Craft Kits
- Paws4Reading
- Drop-In Crafts

