

Howard County Library System

# source

MAR/APR 2026

**Creating at the  
Library p. 10**

**ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:**  
Bauder Battle of the Books  
Author Event  
Ink & Impact Author Event  
National Library Week  
Earth Day  
TeenLive





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**Letter from the President and CEO**

As our days once again lengthen into warm weather, we invite you to express your creativity at the library, with classes for all ages that engage your imagination (p. 10). These classes - along with other programming - allow you moments to connect with others in our community, learn from each other, and have fun.

We look forward to several author events, including Ink & Impact when four women writers discuss the importance of celebrating women and their voices. Eliza Knight, Christina Kovac, Mona Shroff, and Leslye Penelope share the spotlight at Miller Branch on March 5 to talk about the stories that shape us (p. 7).

Then, the inaugural Bauder Battle of the Books Author Event happens with two of the authors whose books are featured in the big event at Merriweather in May. Ciera Burch, author of *Finch House*, and Maggie Rudd, author of *How to Stay Invisible*, speak to families about their books on April 11 at Hammond High School (p. 3).

We mark the arrival of Spring with Earth Day (p. 11) and spring break (p. 14) with many opportunities for you to learn about Mother Nature, including the Think of the Planet series in partnership with our local Sierra Club.

As we celebrate National Library Week in April, we want to hear about how you have "found joy" at the library (p. 9). You can tell us those stories any time at hclibrary.org, under the "About Us" tab. Teen Live returns for two more exciting sessions: a beach party at Glenwood and a trip to the Renaissance Faire at Savage (p. 15).

We wish to take this time to recognize the Kathleen Glascock Tribute Fund and all that Robert Glascock has contributed to the library in memory of his wife, who was a media specialist and loved putting books in the hands of children (p. 18). Its impact on our community has been both significant and sustained.

As a final note, I am honored to be named a "Black Marylander to Watch in 2026" by *The Baltimore Sun*. Serving as President & CEO of HCLS brings me a great deal of professional pride. Recognitions like this reflect the extraordinary work of our team and reinforce our commitment to shaping the future with collaboration, bold vision, and meaningful impact.

Hope to see you soon,

Tonya Aikens  
 President & CEO

**NEW! HOURS**

MON - THU	9 am - 8 pm
FRI & SAT	9 am - 5 pm
SUN	1 - 5 pm

**HOLIDAYS + CLOSINGS**

Good Friday	Apr 3
Easter Sunday	Apr 5

**LOCATIONS + NUMBERS**

HOURSplus ONLINE	410.313.7890
PHONE RENEWALS	410.313.7810
CENTRAL BRANCH 10375 Little Patuxent Parkway Columbia, MD 21044	410.313.7800
EAST COLUMBIA BRANCH 6600 Cradlerock Way Columbia, MD 21045	410.313.7700
ELKRIDGE BRANCH 6540 Washington Boulevard Elkridge, MD 21075	410.313.5077
GLENWOOD BRANCH 2350 State Route 97 Cooksville, MD 21723	410.313.5577
MILLER BRANCH 9421 Frederick Road Ellicott City, MD 21042	410.313.1950
SAVAGE BRANCH 9525 Durness Lane Laurel, MD 20723	410.313.0760
ADMINISTRATIVE BRANCH 9411 Frederick Road Ellicott City, MD 21042	410.313.7750

**TTY FOR HEARING IMPAIRED**

Central	410.313.7883
East Columbia	410.313.7770
Elkridge	410.313.5090
Glenwood	410.313.5597
Miller	410.313.1957
Savage	410.880.5867

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**MISSION:** Howard County Library System is your place to learn, grow, and connect.

**VISION:** An empowered community where all people reach their potential.

source sponsored in part by Friends & Foundation of HCLS.

**ACCOMMODATIONS:**

Appropriate accommodations made at Howard County Library System (HCLS) sponsored events for individuals with special needs, if requested at least one week in advance.

**CONTENT AND ENDORSEMENT:**

The content of HCLS publications, classes, and events does not necessarily reflect the views held by HCLS, nor does mention of companies or organizations imply endorsement.

**PHOTO/VIDEO RELEASE STATEMENT:**

Please see [hclibrary.org/about-us/photo-video-and-audio-release](http://hclibrary.org/about-us/photo-video-and-audio-release).

# Bauder Battle of the Books Author Event

Ages 8 & up, families welcome; 60 min.  
Register at [bit.ly/Bauder-BOB-26](https://bit.ly/Bauder-BOB-26)

Sat Apr 11 3 - 4 pm  
Hammond High School  
8800 Guilford Road, Columbia

Meet two 2026 Battle of the Books authors: Ciera Burch, author of *Finch House*, and Maggie Rudd, author of *How to Stay Invisible*. Books available for purchase and signing, in partnership with The Last Word

In *Finch House*, eleven-year-old Micah has no interest in moving out of her grandfather's house. To avoid packing, Micah ends up at Finch House, which is supposed to be off limits. Except when she gets there, it's all fixed up and there's a boy named Theo in the front yard. When Poppop finds her there, Micah is only met with his disappointment. By the next day, Poppop is nowhere to be found. After searching everywhere, Micah's instincts lead her back to Finch House. But once Theo invites her inside, Micah realizes she can't leave. And that, with its strange whispers and deep-dark shadows, Finch House isn't just a house... it's alive. Will she be forced to stay there forever?

**Ciera Burch** is a lifelong reader and writer. She is the author of *Finch House* and *Something Kindred*. *Finch House* was a JLG Gold Standard Selection and a *New York Times* Kids Year of Books selection. When not reading or playing video games, she can be found playing Dungeons & Dragons, eating ice cream, talking about diverse kids lit, or teaching fifth grade English. While she is originally from New Jersey, she currently lives in Washington, DC with her stuffed animals, plants, and far too many books and dice.



**Maggie C. Rudd** is the author of *I'll Hold Your Hand* and *On the Fourth of July*. In *How to Stay Invisible*, twelve-year-old Raymond and his pup Rosie are abandoned by his family. He uses his wilderness skills to survive in the woods, but as winter comes, he realizes his wits are not enough, and that perhaps it is time he starts trusting others with his secret.

Rudd is an experienced English teacher who loves writing and playing around with different styles. When Maggie isn't teaching or writing, she loves cooking, eating, and Peloton strength classes. She has two young boys and the very best dog, all of whom keep her on her toes. On any given day, you can find them tromping through the woods together, taking walks, practicing ninja skills, or reading all the books.

Bauder Battle of the Books Author Event is made possible by a generous gift from Dr. Lillian Bauder, a community leader and Columbia resident. This gift provides an in-person author event for literary enrichment for students in fifth grade as part of HCLS' annual Battle of the Books competition. Students receive a valuable opportunity to hear directly from authors of titles in their Battle of the Books list for the year.



Image Credit: *Sea Captains Carousing in Suriname* by John Greenwood



## The Colonial Tavern: A History of Making Americans

For adults.

Purchase \$30 tickets at [bit.ly/Friends-Tavern](https://bit.ly/Friends-Tavern)

Sun Apr 26 3:30 - 5:30 pm

Backwater Books, Ellicott City

Colonists of all stripes came to public houses to drink, talk, sleep, work, and conduct business, and this role made it an important setting in the political crisis that would culminate in the American Revolution. Who could enjoy the tavern, what they did there, and how they thought about it sheds light on the idea of who Americans were to become.

Explore taverns as vital sites of social-political activity in the mid-Atlantic during the Revolution, including the roles of Black bartenders and women tavernkeepers, or “Ordinaries,” in shaping public discourse. Details include specific revolutionary incidents on the mid-Atlantic seaboard.

JP Fetherston is a Ph.D candidate at the University of Maryland who is writing a dissertation about the history of African Americans and social drinking in early American history. Previously, he worked for a decade in Washington, DC as a nationally acclaimed bartender at a variety of renowned bars and restaurants. Most notable among them was the Columbia Room, winner of America’s Best Cocktail Bar in 2017. Mutual passions for storytelling and historical research drew him back to higher education to investigate why and how Americans have consumed alcohol in the past.

This project has been financed in part with funds from the Maryland 250 Commission, an instrumentality of the State of Maryland. Project contents or opinions do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the State or Maryland 250 Commission.

This ticketed event is a fundraiser for Friends & Foundation of HCLS. In partnership with Backwater Books.

## Women's History Month

### Family Story and Craft: Women’s History Month Locket

Families, Ages 6 and up. Free ticket required.

Listen to a story and work together on crafts and activities. Enjoy tales about inspiring women, then create a locket to honor a woman who inspires you.

Tue Mar 10 6:15 - 7 pm Miller

### Don’t Let History Be a Mystery: Women’s History Month

Grades 1-4. Free ticket required.

Learn all about past, present, and future leaders with stories, activities, and a craft.

Wed Mar 18 6:30 - 7:15 pm Miller

### Hidden Gems: Forgotten Women Writers

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/women-writers-cen](https://bit.ly/women-writers-cen)

Explore the rich but often overlooked works of female writers from antiquity through the 20th century.

Wed Mar 25 6 - 7:30 pm Central

### Women’s History Collaborative Quilt

Infant-age 5 with adult, older children welcome. Drop in.

Get to know some influential women from history by helping create a "quilt" of portraits to hang in the Central Branch children's department to celebrate Women's History Month.

Mon Mar 30 1 - 3 pm Central

# Business of Life

## Introduction to Managing Your Privacy

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/3M11H1I](https://bit.ly/3M11H1I)

Concerned about privacy? Unsure about accepting cookies? Review how ads target consumers online, how to limit tracking, and where to find browser settings and extensions to control how personal information is shared. Discuss some of the key features of password managers and why they're a safe and secure option.

Mon Mar 2 10 - 11 am Glenwood

## The Business of Influence and Content Creation

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/Business-of-Influence](https://bit.ly/Business-of-Influence)

Determine the difference between influencers and content creators – why that distinction matters and how each can be used strategically to grow a business or personal brand. Learn key industry terms, gain practical guidance on what to post and how to pitch to brands, and explore realistic ways to turn content into income.

Small business owners can strengthen their online presence, creators develop their interests in brand partnerships, and anyone can transform their content into real opportunity.

Zuryna Livermore is a marketing operations project manager, podcast host, and founder of Live More Agency. She also hosts Operations Unfiltered, a podcast that explores the logistics of influencer and talent management.

Thu Mar 19 6:30 - 7:30 pm Central

## Small Business and Government Contracts

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/Govt-Contracts](https://bit.ly/Govt-Contracts)

If you own a small business in Maryland and are interested in pursuing government contracts, discover the knowledge and tools needed to navigate the complex world of government contracts. Whether you're new to government contracting or looking to refine your approach, gain valuable insights and actionable strategies.

Tue Apr 7 7 - 8 pm online

## Outdoor Adventure Apps

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/4qJpWjM](https://bit.ly/4qJpWjM)

Learn about popular outdoor apps for all kinds of wilderness adventures from hiking and biking to camping and fishing. Includes useful features such as GPS navigation, nature ID, and real-time updates. Also discuss considerations for choosing apps and best practices regarding data and privacy.

Mon Apr 13 10 - 11 am Glenwood



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## Senior Resource Fair

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/3Ntc2n9](https://bit.ly/3Ntc2n9)

Howard County's senior population is growing, and many older adults face challenges such as health, wellness, safety, as well as understanding legal issues and tax benefits. Enjoy a one-stop hub for seniors and caregivers to access information about essential services, learn practical strategies for aging in place, and engage socially.

Sat Apr 18 2 - 4 pm Miller

## Job Searching in the Digital Age

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/4jRQpcc](https://bit.ly/4jRQpcc)

Learn skills and tips including how to create a successful job search that includes social profiles (especially LinkedIn), develop profiles with an image you're comfortable projecting, and create professional social media profiles that are publicly searchable. Part of the Older Adults Technology Services program via Senior Planet.

Wed Apr 22 6 - 7 pm Central



# Staff Spotlight: Zinaida (Zinka) Sirbegovic

**Instructor and Research Specialist  
at HCLS East Columbia Branch**

**How long have you been with HCLS?**

I've been here for 14 years, starting out as a customer service representative for the first nine months, then moving into research.

**What excites you the most about your work and/or HCLS as a whole?**

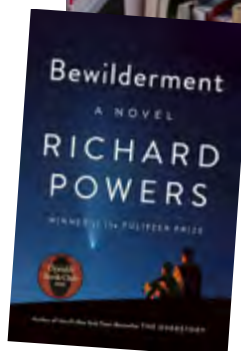
Books were my first love, and libraries were always my refuge. I love working at HCLS because it's a place where people from all walks of life can come in, simply exist, and not feel any pressure to spend money. It serves as a true community center, where everyone has access to information in all its forms, from physical books to digital resources. It is also a place where a real human connection happens. Every interaction can make a difference in someone's day, and they make a difference in my life too.

**How are you involved in the community?**

I'm building a community through the book clubs I'm lucky to lead at the library. The science fiction & fantasy book club, which has been meeting since 2018, brings together people of all ages and backgrounds. We meet both in and sometimes outside the library to share our love for something a little different and imaginative, and those conversations add richness to our lives. The nonfiction book club brings together readers who are curious about the real world and enjoy learning from it. I also run a German Conversation Club and work with our 50+ Center, where we share our love of books and learning through classes we do together. All these groups create real connections and hopefully make our community a better place.

**What's an unusual fact about you?**

I have lived in three different countries. I grew up in Bosnia, which was then part of Yugoslavia, a country that no longer exists, one shaped by many cultures but ultimately torn apart by rising nationalism and conflict. As the country began to unravel, I emigrated to Austria, where I spent my early twenties. Later, the sense of endless possibilities drew me across the Atlantic to the United States. Living in different places has shaped the life I have today and still influences how I see the world and my sense of belonging. *The Book of My Lives* by Aleksandar Hemon captures my feelings almost perfectly.



**Favorite movie or show?**

Lately, I've been obsessed with the film *The Life of Chuck*, based on the Stephen King short story. Told in three acts, it follows the life of an ordinary person and presents it in a quietly beautiful, deeply life-affirming way. The movie finds meaning in small moments and reminds you how much a single life can matter. And Tom Hiddleston dancing doesn't hurt at all.

**What was your first job?**

My first job was waitressing at a summer resort in Croatia while I was still in high school, long days serving guests, and even longer nights enjoying the summer.

**What book is currently on your nightstand?**

*Bewilderment* by Richard Powers. After reading *The Playground*, I feel the need to read everything he's written.

**Do you read more than one book at a time?**

Definitely.

**What is a book you've read that changed how you think about a topic or your life?**



One book that really stuck with me is *Siddhartha* by Hermann Hesse. I read it when I was a teenager, and there was a passage that really hit me. It talked about how, like a ship stuck on the rocks, we can get stuck in life, using everything that's happened to us as an excuse instead of figuring out how to move forward. That idea really helped me back then, and it still resonates.

**TO REGISTER FOR CLASSES:** Visit [hclibrary.org](http://hclibrary.org) > classes & events, then view the calendar, using the filters to narrow your search.

# Ink & Impact: Women's Fiction Spotlight

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/Ink-Impact](http://bit.ly/Ink-Impact)

Thu Mar 5 6:15 - 7:15 pm Miller

Join us for conversation, creativity, and connection – an evening celebrating women, their voices, and the stories that shape us all.

Books available for purchase and signing, in partnership with Queen Takes Book.



There are no female publishing CEOs in 1960's New York. And that is exactly what savvy, ambitious Bernadette Swift plans to change.

Award-winning author **Eliza Knight** shares her compelling new novel *Confessions of a Grammar Queen*. Bernadette Swift, an ambitious copyeditor in New York publishing, sets her sights on becoming the industry's first female CEO. Blocked by a sexist boss and workplace sabotage, she finds solidarity in a feminist book club at the New York Public Library. With courage, community, and unexpected romance, Bernadette fights for promotion – and equality.



"Christina Kovac masterfully combines a twisty missing-person mystery, a heartbreaking love story, and an insightful exploration of the nature of obsession and trauma. I loved this novel." – Angie Kim, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Happiness Falls* and *Miracle Creek*

**Christina Kovac**, a former DC newsroom manager, has an upcoming psychological thriller *Watch Us Fall* that dives into obsession, secrets, and the cost of truth. Lucy and her three closest friends – the Sweeties – share a glamorous Georgetown life until the disappearance of Addie's ex-boyfriend, a troubled investigative journalist. As Lucy becomes consumed by the mystery, secrets and lies within the group begin to surface. The suspenseful thriller delves into friendship, obsession, and the darkness beneath carefully curated lives.



"Striking a perfect balance between drama and romance, this is sure to please."  
– *Publishers Weekly*

Maryland romance author **Mona Shroff's** novel *The Second First Chance*, is a big, wonderful, messy love story about family, heartbreak, strength and courage.

Riya Desai and Dhillon Vora were inseparable until a tragic fire shattered their families and their bond. Years later, Riya risks her life as a firefighter while Dhillon heals animals as a veterinarian. When fate reunites them, old grief and anger resurface. A sweeping love story explores loss, courage, and finding unexpected second chances.



"Our home began, as all things do, with a wish."

In the fantasy novel, *Daughter of the Merciful Deep*, author **Leslye Penelope** introduces a vivid, magical tale rooted in memory, mystery, and the fight to protect an all-Black town from destruction. Silenced at eleven when armed riders expelled her town's Black residents, Jane Edwards has found refuge years later in Awenasa—until a dam threatens to drown it. To save her community, Jane must enter a sunken world of gods and forgotten myths, reclaim her voice, and confront the trauma she's spent years fleeing.



With lyrical storytelling and rich imagination, Penelope explores the power we must claim to save ourselves and our communities.

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**AMY TAN**  
Best known for her 1989 novel,  
*The Joy Luck Club*.

To learn more about this great American author's life, literary criticisms, reviews, and more, leap across the page to Gale Literature Resource Center.



Erica Berger/Corbis Entertainment/Corbis

## Love of Literature

### Table Read Theatre

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/4qATBux](http://bit.ly/4qATBux)

Bring a play script to life in a table-read. All participants will be cast as a character from the script and read their lines aloud. After completing the reading of the script, have a brief discussion.

Tue Apr 14 6 - 8 pm Savage

### Books Galore! (Book Talk & Treats)

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/4r3pTyO](http://bit.ly/4r3pTyO)

Immerse yourself in the world of books with an afternoon filled with engaging book recommendations and delicious treats. Whether you're drawn to the excitement of a gripping mystery or the charm of a heartwarming romance, our diverse collection has something for everyone. Share your favorite fiction and nonfiction titles, or find inspiration from others' recommendations to add to your reading list. Presented by the Office of Aging and Independence.

Mon Apr 27 2 - 3:30 pm  
East Columbia 50+ Center

### Art of the Book Discussion

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/4afWyL1](http://bit.ly/4afWyL1)

Whether you're a book club regular or a first-time participant, explore the elements of a great book discussion and talk about some titles that generated great conversation in library sponsored book clubs. Discuss tips, listen to the experiences of librarians facilitating book clubs, share your experiences, connect with the members of community book clubs, and gain practical tools to elevate your next book club experience.

Mon Apr 27 6 - 7:30 pm Miller

## Get Together

### Cookbook Corner

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/eco\\_cookbookcorner](http://bit.ly/eco_cookbookcorner)

Explore various culinary cuisines/chefs of the world. A new cuisine/chef every month. Borrow any thematic cookbook, cook some recipes, and have a culinary discussion. Store bought food may be served.

Wednesdays; 6:30 - 7:30 pm East Columbia  
Mar 18 Brunch  
Apr 15 New England cuisine

### Spice Club

Drop in at HCLS Miller Branch upstairs kiosk and pick up a free spice sample packet along with a brochure containing recipes and resources (while supplies last). A survey is provided so you can share your cooking experiences and connect with the rest of the Spice Club community. New packets available on the first of each month.

### Comedy Improv for Everyone

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/improv-at-sav](http://bit.ly/improv-at-sav)

Let loose and laugh. Learn the basics of comedy improvisation through games and collaborative story telling. Everything is made up on the spot. It's all fun and games, but side effects may include increased confidence, boosted mood, and improved public speaking skills.

Saturdays Mar 14 & Apr 25  
1 - 2:30 pm Savage

### History Relived: Rocketry & Early Space Flight

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/history-relived-gle](http://bit.ly/history-relived-gle)

Humanity has always dreamed of the stars. Join an informal discussion of three events about how we achieved that dream. In 1926, Robert Goddard, an American physicist, inventor, and engineer, successfully built and launched the world's first liquid-fueled rocket. Yuri Gagarin, Cosmonaut, became the first person to journey into outer space in 1961. Then, astronaut Alan Shepard piloted Freedom 7, the first United States spaceflight.

Tue Apr 7 11 am - 12 pm Glenwood

# National Library Week April 19-25

by Sahana Callahan, Administrative Branch

Joy isn't one-size-fits-all, but we can help you find yours at the library. During National Library Week, we're celebrating the ways our community finds joy at the library, inspired by this year's theme, **Find Your Joy**, and by librarian and literacy advocate Mychal Threats. For some, joy is getting lost in a stack of graphic novels or discovering a new favorite author. For others, it's the confidence that comes from polishing a résumé, the excitement of a packed author talk, or the simple relief of free Wi-Fi when it's needed most. Whatever joy looks like to you, you'll find it here – no barriers, no cover charge, no secret password. Just walk in.

All week long, join the celebration in our branches by adding your sticker to our Joy Meters and playing Library Joy Bingo, featuring everyday moments that make the library special. You'll also see staff sharing what brings them joy, from defending the right to read, to reaching neighbors through outreach, to helping connect people with the resources they need. National Library Week is a reminder that libraries are powered by people, built for community, and rooted in access for all.

Come find your joy with us.



## Where Do You Find Joy at the Library?

by Jean Boone, Central Branch

When you come into the library, where do you find your joy? Maybe you know exactly where it is: on the hold shelf, waiting for you, or in a meeting room where your book club or community group is getting together. Imagine the possibilities if you stray from your pre-determined path! You may stumble on some unexpected library joy waiting to be discovered, something you didn't even know you were looking for. Working at the library, I get to experience surprising moments of joy each day - catching the sweet interaction of a caregiver and child sharing a book on the couch; hearing someone's story about why a book or movie mattered to them; discovering an unfamiliar but perfect storytime book in the clean-up pile at the end of the day.

National Library Week 2026 invites all of us to explore what sparks joy at the library. If you haven't spent much time inside Howard County's six diverse branches, or even if you are a regular visitor, accept this invitation to celebrate and support our libraries.

Monday is **Right to Read Day**

when you can appreciate the vast scope of choices available to all. Drop by on Tuesday - **National Library Workers Day** - and engage the friendly expertise and welcome provided by library staff. On Wednesday - **National Library Outreach Day** - the library joy can be found out in the community as we take our bus and van into the community. On Thursday, **Take Action for Libraries Day** with Friends & Foundation of HCLS, who advocate for our library and its mission. And on Friday, come in and simply wander, allowing serendipity to bring you something new.

Start your journey to library joy with these HCLS features:

- A giant, friendly red dog at Central
- A fish aquarium at East Columbia
- A rainbow wall at Elkridge
- An alphabet whirligig at Glenwood
- A green roof reading seat at Miller
- The Hi house at Savage



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# Connect at the Library with Crafting

by Emily Bell, Central Branch

March is National Crafting Month! If you are looking to spark a little creativity or try new mediums, HCLS' adult craft classes can offer a great opportunity to explore your creative side as well as a chance to connect with other community members.

Crafting, no matter the type, is known to boost your confidence and mood, reduce stress, all while improving hand-eye coordination. Though many may consider it a solitary activity, crafting has a rich tradition of being a communal activity – think quilting bees and sewing circles. Crafting in community not only bolsters the typical benefits of being creative, but also adds motivation to complete your project and provides built-in support and inspiration should you find yourself stuck.

It can be difficult to set aside time for hobbies when life is busy and hectic, especially in a world where productivity is king. But I believe that time spent on creative tasks is time well spent. Psychologist Robert Reiner, Ph.D., agrees, "crafts make you concentrate and focus on the here and now and distract you from everyday pressures and problems."



I'm one of the instructors that teaches and plans crafty classes at HCLS Central Branch. My favorite thing about providing a supportive space for these classes is that adults of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities feel free to express themselves creatively. Crafters share their ideas and tips, make connections, and admire each other's projects at the end of class. The classes feel like a respite from the chaos of everyday life, a chance to slow down and nourish your soul.

Whether a crafting novice or expert, I encourage you to set aside some time for crafting this month. If you can, try a library craft class – learn something new or share your expertise, make a neat keepsake, and connect with your community.

## Random Crafts of Kindness: Earth Day Seed Paper

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/rcok](https://bit.ly/rcok)

Participate in some Random Crafts of Kindness! Learn about a craft, make one for yourself, and make some spares to give away to friends and other community members.

Sat Apr 11 3 – 4:30 pm Savage

## Craft Supply Swap

For everyone. Children under 8 years old must be accompanied by an adult. Information at [bit.ly/45nPtPv](https://bit.ly/45nPtPv)

Got a craft stash that needs a refresh? Swap, share, or discover new-to-you craft supplies. Bring items in good condition to pass along, or stop by just to browse. You do not need to bring supplies to participate.

Sun Apr 26 2 – 3:30 pm Central

## Diamond Painting for Adults

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/4pVUugS](https://bit.ly/4pVUugS)

Enjoy the art of diamond painting. It's more than a craft project as it calms your mind, relieves stress and allows you to explore your creative expression!

Thu Apr 30 1:30 – 3 pm East Columbia

## Listening Lounge

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/3ZENkCO](https://bit.ly/3ZENkCO)

Relax and meet your new favorite audiobook. Listen together to the first hour of a new audiobook. Bring a favorite craft or project to work on while we listen. Detailed coloring pages, colored pencils, and fidget toys provided.

Tue Mar 3 6:30 – 8 pm Savage

## Clothing Repair Clinic

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/4c5uj3U](https://bit.ly/4c5uj3U)

Learn how to extend the life of a favorite garment with one-on-one guidance on basic mending techniques such as attaching buttons, fixing seams, patching holes, and hemming. Bring a piece of clothing that needs repair; basic repair supplies provided.

Sat Mar 14 1 – 4 pm Elkridge

TO REGISTER FOR CLASSES: Visit [hclibrary.org](https://hclibrary.org) > classes & events, then view the calendar, using the filters to narrow your search.

# Hands-on in the Makerspace

by Kimberly Johanson, Glenwood Branch

I have always been a crafty person. Over the years I've explored many creative endeavors: pottery, stained glass, photography, and scrapbooking. Creating has been a way for me to relax, express myself, and connect with others, so I'm always excited to discover new tools that help bring my ideas to life.

One of the best places to do that is the library. Beyond books and research materials, HCLS offers hands-on resources that encourage creativity and learning. Two of my favorite tools are the Cricut and the Glowforge. These machines are available at the Glenwood Branch + Makerspace and open up creative possibilities people might not otherwise have access to at home.

**The Cricut** is a computerized cutting machine that can cut or draw on materials like vinyl, paper, cardstock, and leather. It's perfect for creating labels, stencils, and custom décor. To use the Cricut, bring in the materials you'd like to cut and use the Cricut Design Space application. This software allows you to combine images, text, and shapes to create custom designs that can be cut from a variety of thin materials. I often use the Cricut to make gifts, and this year I made sweaters inspired by book series for friends and family. Creating something unique and meaningful makes gift-giving on a budget rewarding.



The **Glowforge** laser cutter takes crafting to another level by precisely cutting and engraving thicker materials like wood and acrylic. Because it uses a laser, safety is essential. At HCLS, only Glowforge Proofgrade® materials are permitted. These laser-safe materials include a QR code that automatically sets the correct

speed and power, making projects easier and results more reliable. Supplies can be purchased directly from the branch, Glowforge, or from craft stores as long as they are Proofgrade® brand. I've used the Glowforge to make edge-lit acrylic signs, ornaments, keepsakes, jewelry, and more.

For those new to these tools, our makerspace offers free, project-based classes that guide participants from start to finish. Registration fills up quickly, but they're a great way to build skills and gain confidence.

## Makerspace Mondays for Teens

Mondays; 6 - 7:30 pm Elkridge

### Mar 9: Electronic Rotating Windmills

For 11 - 17. Register at <https://bit.ly/3YTGPvF>

Experiment with circuits, rotation, and blade design to see how engineers transform electricity into motion. A perfect mix of creativity, problem-solving, and sustainable science!

### Apr 13: Electric Star Nightlight

For 11 - 17. Register at [bit.ly/4sS5jTF](https://bit.ly/4sS5jTF)

Build and wire a star-shaped nightlight that cycles through seven glowing hues. Explore circuits, LEDs, and color mixing in this illuminating makerspace workshop.



### *The Sock Project: Colorful, Cool Socks to Knit and Show Off* by Summer Lee

It's the book for every crafter: beginners who want to learn, knitters who want to improve their sock skills, and anyone who wants to fill their knitting needles with jazzy colors and new designs.

### *Nifty, Gifty: Mini Crafts With Major Charm* by Alexa Pedrero

The must-have guide to creating tiny, special, homemade presents for anyone you love.

### *Magic, Mirth & Mayhem. A Magical Cozy Mystery of Yarn Shops, Secrets, and Second Chances* by Susie Swenson

When Sera Blackthorn moves to Havenwood Cove, she discovers magic, mystery, and a destiny that might just lead to the most magical second chance of all.

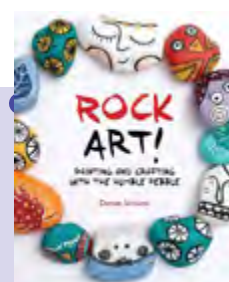


### *Spring Crafts Across Cultures: 12 Projects to Celebrate the Season* by Megan Borgert-Spaniol CHILDRENS 745.5 B

Join the fun with festive crafts that celebrate holidays from around the world.

### *Rock Art!: Painting and Crafting with the Humble Pebble* by Denise Scicluna TEEN 745.723 S

Great uses for rocks: throwing, skipping, kicking...how about painting? The varied surfaces, shapes, and sizes of rocks also make them perfect for crafts.



# Celebrate Earth Day

by Erica Coady, Miller Branch

Growing your own garden can be both joyful and deeply rewarding. It's a hands-on skill you can learn at any age and a meaningful, wholesome way to spend time with family or friends. Gardening takes many forms – from a single container on a windowsill to a plot in a community garden or a backyard oasis – and every size garden has value. With rising food costs, even a small harvest of fresh herbs or leafy greens can help cut down on grocery expenses while putting healthy food on your table.

Gardening also plays a powerful role in supporting native pollinators. Doug Tallamy, author of *Nature's Best Hope* and founder of Homegrown National Park, reminds us that residential yards across the United States collectively make up over 40 million acres. His "postage stamp gardening" initiative encourages people to plant native species no matter how small their space is. Even a single container planted with wild bergamot or butterfly weed can provide vital food and habitat for bees, butterflies, and birds.

While we should celebrate Mother Earth every day, April offers a special opportunity to take action. Whether you start a gardening project, volunteer with a local environmental

nonprofit, or attend one of the wonderful programs offered at the library, take a moment to show gratitude for this beautiful planet we call home and do something that helps it thrive.

Visit the Enchanted Garden at the Miller Branch for inspiration to get started on your own garden. This teaching garden is open to the public during regular hours. The Seed Library shares free seeds so that everyone can build their own gardens and green spaces. Donate or pick up seeds during select hours at the Miller Branch. Then, borrow some gardening tools at the DIY Education Center at ElkrIDGE Branch, where you can find everything from a hand trowel to a fence post driver.

## Think of the Planet Series

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/think-of-the-planet](https://bit.ly/think-of-the-planet)

Stay informed about key environmental initiatives and challenges with practical steps you can take to make a positive impact.

Each month, the series highlights a new topic, ranging from protecting the Chesapeake Bay and creating natural habitats for butterflies and hummingbirds, to sustainable fashion, Maryland's Five Million Trees Initiative, and rethinking our use of plastics. In partnership with the Sierra Club.

Last Tuesdays  
6:30 - 7:30 pm

Jan-Oct 2026  
Miller & online (hybrid)

### ***Human Nature: Nine Ways to Feel Our Changing Planet* by Kate Marvel**

Scientist Kate Marvel has seen the world end before, sometimes several times a day. In the computer models she uses to study climate change, it's easy to simulate rising temperatures, catastrophic outcomes, and bleak futures. But climate change isn't just happening in those models. It's happening here. ... It's happening to us. ... *Human Nature* is [an] ... inquiry into our rapidly changing Earth.

### ***The Lost Trees of Willow Avenue: A Story of Climate and Hope on One American Street* by Mike Tidwell**

A love letter to the magnificent oaks and other trees dying from record heat waves and bizarre rain, Tidwell's story depicts the neighborhood's battle to save the trees and combat climate change.

### ***All the Water in the World* by Eiren Caffall**

This captivating postapocalyptic novel is set in and around New York City's American Museum of Natural History. Global warming has resulted in a sea level rise of unforeseen proportions. When the floodgates that keep the city dry are breached during a massive hurricane, the museum is inundated with water. (Check out a review on the library's blog at [hclibrary.org](https://hclibrary.org) > about.)



### ***Our Planet!: There's No Place Like Earth* by Stacy McAnulty CHILDRENS 550 M**

Earth is home to all the plants and all the animals in the solar system, including nearly eight billion people. Humans have accidentally moved Earth's climate change into the fast lane, and she needs your

help to put on the brakes. Earthlings need Earth, and Earth needs Earthlings, so let's save Earth together!

### ***Green Queen* by Marci Peschke FIRST CHAPTER PES**

Earth Day is right around the corner, and Kylie Jean is working hard to be green and take care of the Earth.

### ***Where Have All the Bees Gone?: Pollinators in Crisis* by Rebecca E. Hirsch TEEN 595.799 H**

This offers an objective, relevant, and timely look at a global conservation crisis that has the potential to negatively impact our human food supply.

Visit the classes & events calendar at [hclibrary.org](http://hclibrary.org) for more information about these and other themed classes:

[bit.ly/HCLS-earth-day](http://bit.ly/HCLS-earth-day)

### Seed Bombs

Ages 4-10, 4 & 5 with adult

Sat Mar 7 11:30 am - 12:15 pm Savage

### How to Install a Rain Barrel

Wed Mar 18 6:30 - 7:30 pm Elkridge

### Designing Your Dream Garden

Tue Mar 24 6:30 - 7:30 pm Miller

### Community Plant Swap

Sun Mar 15 2:30 - 3:30 pm Central

### Master Gardeners Celebrating the Joy of Maryland Spring Flowers

Wed Mar 25 6:30 - 7:30 pm Glenwood

### Nature Makers: Eco Bird Feeders

Ages 5-10 with adult

Thu Apr 2 11 - 11:45 am Glenwood

### Native Garden and Tour

Sat Apr 18 2 - 3:30 pm Savage

### Earthday Fest: Caring for Our Planet

Sat Apr 18 1 - 3 pm Central

### Make It: Reusable Tote Bag

Wed Apr 22 6:30 - 7:30 pm Elkridge

### Earth Day: Plant a Seed

Wed Apr 22 5 - 5:45 pm Elkridge

### F.I.G. aka Friends in the Garden

Ages 5-8 with adult

Wednesdays Apr 22 & 29, May 6  
2 - 2:45 pm Miller

### STEAM Powered Book Club

For grades 1-3

Thu Apr 23 6:30 - 7:15 pm Miller

Discussing: *Ducks Overboard! A True Story of Plastic In Our Oceans*

### DIY Raised Garden Bed

Sat Apr 25 10 am - 12 pm Miller

### Seed Library at Miller Branch

Wednesdays; Mar 4 & Apr 15 6 - 7:30 pm  
Saturdays; Mar 21 & Apr 4 10:30 am - 12:30 pm



## Beyond Words

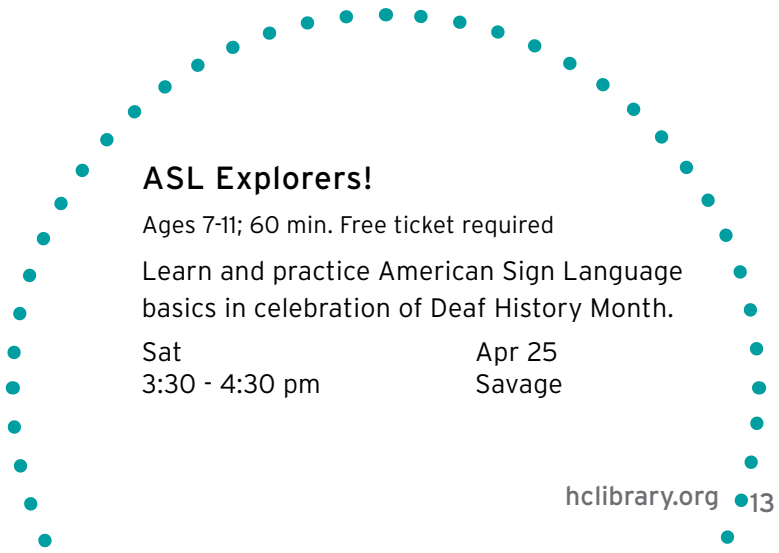
Step into the fun and active world of Beyond Words, a vibrant and inclusive monthly class designed to spark joy and ignite the imagination of people with developmental and intellectual disabilities.

Unique sessions of Beyond Words are available for children, teens and adults. In Beyond Words Jr., participants journey through five, engaging stations, including Fine Motor Skills, Creativity, Cognitive Skills, Movement, and Sensory.

- Beyond Words Jr: ages 6 - 11
- Beyond Words Teens: ages 11 - 21
- Beyond Words for Adults: ages 18+

Participants may stay for as little or as long as they want. Caregivers must stay with participants at all times.

For the full schedule of all sessions, visit [bit.ly/beyond-words-hcls](http://bit.ly/beyond-words-hcls)



### ASL Explorers!

Ages 7-11; 60 min. Free ticket required

Learn and practice American Sign Language basics in celebration of Deaf History Month.

Sat Apr 25  
3:30 - 4:30 pm Savage

# For Teens

## Greek Mythology Jeopardy

For ages 10-18. Register at [bit.ly/3YT088s](https://bit.ly/3YT088s)

Celebrate Greek-American Heritage month by participating in a game of Greek Mythology Jeopardy. Play solo or bring your friends and compete as a team for the chance to receive a prize.

Sat Mar 21 12 - 1 pm Glenwood

## Cosplay 101

For ages 11+. Register at [bit.ly/4pVpmOG](https://bit.ly/4pVpmOG)

Have you ever wanted to get into cosplay but didn't know where to start? This beginner-friendly class is for you! We cover the basics of props, wigs, costumes, and safety.

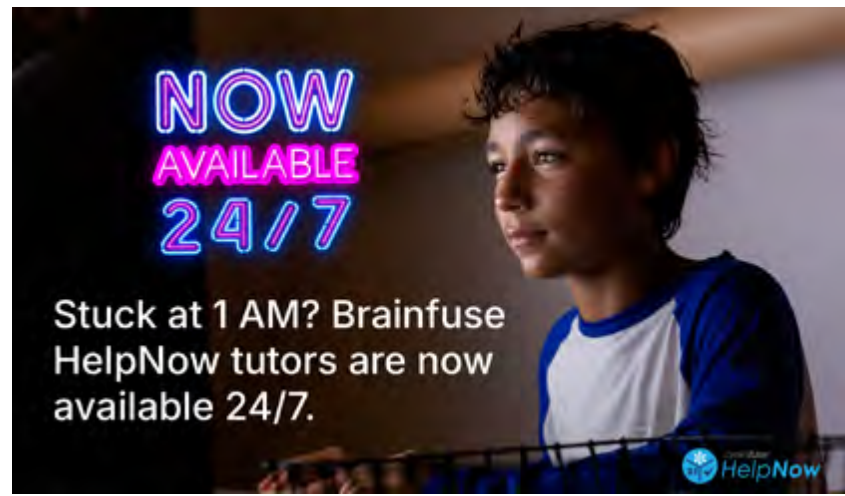
Sat Mar 28 12 - 1 pm Glenwood

## Satisfying Stained Glass Paintings

For ages 11+. Register at [bit.ly/4r7wyb9](https://bit.ly/4r7wyb9)

Use stained-glass paint to create an eye-catching, framed piece of art.

Mon Apr 6 2 - 4 pm Glenwood



## Ancient Games Reimagined

For 11 - 17. Register at [bit.ly/45USDSe](https://bit.ly/45USDSe)

Explore the rich legacy of Arab and Middle Eastern contributions to world culture by learning, playing, and creating ancient board games. Discover how strategic games like Senet (Egypt, 3100 BCE) and The Royal Game of Ur (Mesopotamia, 2600 BCE) laid the groundwork for modern games like chess and checkers. Then paint Glowforge-cut versions of Senet and The Royal Game of Ur to take home.

Sat Apr 13 2 - 3:30 pm Elkridge

## DIY Fascinators

For ages 10+. Register at [bit.ly/4r9gRjX](https://bit.ly/4r9gRjX)

Spring is in the air, and that means it is almost derby season! Get ready for the occasion by creating your own fascinator, an elaborate headpiece essential for any good Kentucky Derby 'fit.

Sat Apr 18 12 - 1 pm Glenwood

## Creepy Carrots with Ozobot

Ages 5-8. Free ticket required.

Put your engineering skills to the test! Listen to the silly story *Creepy Carrots* by Aaron Reynolds, then build a fence to protect a creepy carrot from Jasper the rabbit, in Ozobot robot form.

Wed Apr 1  
10:30 - 11:15 am & 2 - 2:45 pm Glenwood

## Wings of Fire, Wings of Fun!

Grades 3-5. Free ticket required. Ho. Co. schools closed.

Spread your wings and take flight as we celebrate the Wings of Fire series by Tui T. Sutherland. Create a craft, design a dragon, and talk about your favorite series with other fans.

Wed Apr 1 2 - 3 pm Miller



# Spring Break

## Book Bingo

Ages 5-10. Free ticket required. Ho. Co. schools closed.

Play Bingo featuring book characters and maybe win a book!

Mon Mar 30 1 - 2 & 3 - 4 pm Miller

## Adventure Through Art

Ages 3-11 with adult. Free ticket required.

Do you like to create? Do you want to learn about famous artwork? If your answer is yes, then this is the class for you. We learn about art, artist, then create our own art. Please dress for a mess.

Mon Mar 30 2 - 3 pm Glenwood

TO REGISTER FOR CLASSES: Visit [hclibrary.org](https://hclibrary.org) > classes & events, then view the calendar, using the filters to narrow your search.

# Test Taking

## Digital SAT Practice Test

For grades 9 - 12.

Preparing for the new digital SAT format? Take a Digital SAT Practice Test at Miller administered by C2 Education.

Saturdays; 10 am - 1 pm	Miller
Mar 21	Register at <a href="https://bit.ly/45ZZvxJ">bit.ly/45ZZvxJ</a>
Apr 25	Register at <a href="https://bit.ly/45LkhRR">bit.ly/45LkhRR</a>

## Practice AP Tests by C2 Education

For 15 - 17. Registration required.

Take a practice test and return the following Tuesday at 6 pm for your scores and Q&A (parents/guardians welcome at score back session). Please bring a laptop and arrive 15 minutes early.

For Mar 21 & 28 sessions: Please bring a graphing calculator and Chromebook. Write in the notes section if you will need either/both to use, and we will try to provide.

Saturdays; 10:30 am - 1:30 pm	Elkridge
Mar 7	AP Gov Register at <a href="https://bit.ly/49RwWUg">bit.ly/49RwWUg</a>
Mar 14	Language Register at <a href="https://bit.ly/3NzKJHF">bit.ly/3NzKJHF</a>
Mar 21	Calculus AB Register at <a href="https://bit.ly/49RMqb6">bit.ly/49RMqb6</a>
Mar 28	Computer or AP Physics 1 Register at <a href="https://bit.ly/49R5fen">bit.ly/49R5fen</a>



# Teen LIVE!

## Beach Bash at Glenwood

Ages 11 - 18. Register at [bit.ly/Teen-Beach-Bash](https://bit.ly/Teen-Beach-Bash)

Surf's up! Dive into the beach-themed teen takeover of the branch. Enjoy free pizza, giveaways, remote control race cars, makerspace crafts, and more. It's going to be a fin-tastic time!

Tue Mar 3 12 - 2 pm Glenwood

## RenFaire at Savage

Ages 11 - 18. Register at [bit.ly/teenlive-savage](https://bit.ly/teenlive-savage)

Huzzah for Teen Live! Enjoy an afternoon of dragons and derring-do with free pizza, snacks, and prizes, a community art project, calming crafts, and more. Get your gaming on with our Nintendo Switch and PS5, plus giant games. So, grab your wristband, collect stamps, and create connections!

Wed Apr 15 12 - 2 pm Savage

## Friendship Bracelets

Ages 8-11; 90 min. Free ticket required.

Learn how to make friendship bracelets with embroidery floss. Practice different bracelet patterns including basic knots, diagonal stripes, staircase swirls, and braids.

Wed Apr 1 3:30 - 5 pm Savage

## Conservation Conversation: Panamanian Golden Frog

Ages 6 & up. 30 min. Free ticket required.

Discover how the Maryland Zoo is protecting the Panamanian Golden Frog both here and in Panama. Presented by The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore, Zoo to You program.

Thu Apr 2 1 - 1:45 pm East Columbia

## Pixel Art Challenge

Ages 5-10. Free ticket required.

Build a picture in this Pixel Art Challenge.

Thu Apr 2 2 - 2:45 pm Central

## DIY Sticker Workshop

Ages 6-11. Free ticket required.

Learn how to make stickers using a variety of materials. Use templates or make original artwork to convert into amazing stickers.

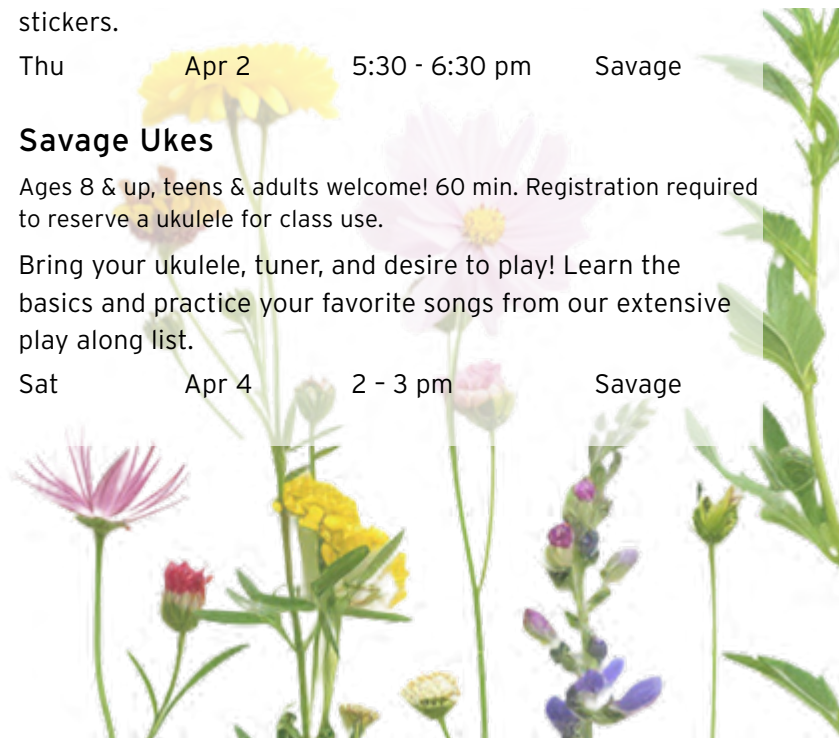
Thu Apr 2 5:30 - 6:30 pm Savage

## Savage Ukles

Ages 8 & up, teens & adults welcome! 60 min. Registration required to reserve a ukulele for class use.

Bring your ukulele, tuner, and desire to play! Learn the basics and practice your favorite songs from our extensive play along list.

Sat Apr 4 2 - 3 pm Savage



# March Madness

by Brandon Bannister, Central Branch



Every year, March Madness delivers emotion, intensity, and a pure love for college basketball and the NCAA Tournament. Fans hold their breath, brackets burst by day two, and there is always someone who insists they knew that 14-seed would pull off the upset. But imagine a different kind of tournament—one where books, movies, TV shows, and music battle it out for the ultimate title. While viewers are captivated by tip-offs and buzzer-beaters, stop by your local

HCLS branch and explore our lineup of Oscar-winning films, Grammy-winning albums, and bestselling books.

Create your own categories and matchups, round by round. Would *Forrest Gump* outrun *American Beauty*? Could *The Pelican Brief* outsmart Alex Cross? What happens when Michael Jackson's "Thriller" moonwalks up against Carole King's "Tapestry?" You can even debate who reigns supreme in young adult literature – Kwame Alexander or Jason Reynolds. How about your favorite TV show of all time? Watch *The Wire* vs. *The Sopranos* or pit *Full House* against *Seinfeld*. You can even separate drama series from sitcoms for a true showdown.

Explore our newly improved website at [hclibrary.org](http://hclibrary.org), where you can search for resources to help build your case for the greatest movie, book, or musician of all time. For book reviews, use Goodreads, Library of Congress, and Novelist to gain different perspectives. You can also receive librarian recommendations either in person or over the phone.

Looking for basketball-inspired picks? Check out the classic film *Hoosiers*, starring Gene Hackman, who coaches his team to victory. You may also enjoy Dan Hurley's new book, *Never Stop: Life, Leadership, and What It Takes to Be Great*, which is sure to get you excited for tournament season.

Throughout March, engage with your family, friends, coworkers, and library community about your favorite library materials. Visit your local HCLS branch and meet staff who are eager to help. Be on the lookout for staff picks featuring their favorite TV shows, movies, authors, and music artists. Results will be revealed during the week of the Final Four on social media.

Create your brackets and let the best book, album, movie, or TV show win. Let the Madness begin!

## ***A Damn Near Perfect Game: Reclaiming America's Pastime* by Joe Kelly**

Baseball's most outspoken fireballer brings the high heat in a book that calls out the hacks, cheats, ridiculous rules, and more that have tarnished the game – from the field of play to the clubhouse, front office, broadcast booth, and beyond – and serves up A-plus stuff on how to make baseball pure, fun, and damn near perfect.



## ***Stealing Home* by Grace Reilly**

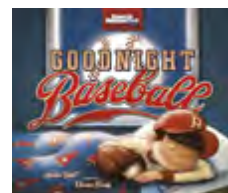
He should be focusing on baseball – not on falling for his gorgeous, grumpy roommate, especially since she's already left him once. This contemporary romance is filled with swoons, spice, sports, and second chances.



## ***Goodnight Baseball* by Michael Dahl**

E DAH

Enjoy this sweet, nostalgic goodnight to the thrill of a baseball game.



## ***Ballpark: The Story of America's Baseball Fields* by Lynn Curlee**

CHILDRENS 796.357 C

From Sibert Award honoree Lynn Curlee comes a full-color illustrated exploration of where our national pastime is played. Curlee's illustrations communicate not just information, but also excitement and sentiment.



## ***A Whole New Ball Game: The Story of the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League* by Sue Macy**

TEEN 796.357 M

Fans of *A League of Their Own* should love this interesting and informative look at the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League that operated from 1945-1954.



**TO REGISTER FOR CLASSES:** Visit [hclibrary.org](http://hclibrary.org) > classes & events, then view the calendar, using the filters to narrow your search.

# America's Pastime

by Alex Pyryt, Administrative Branch

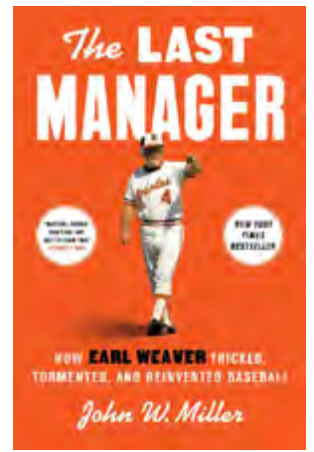
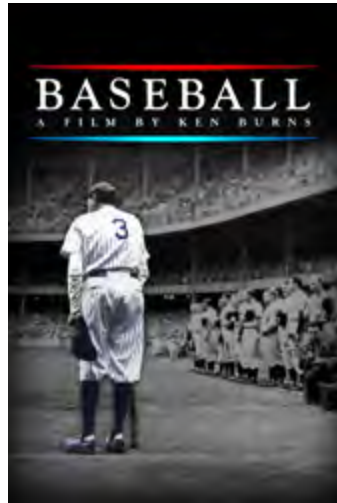
Spring is here, and with the daylight and warmer temperatures also comes the opportunity to spend time outside. Baseball is infamously “pastoral,” and unlike some other sports, it follows the seasons. You can watch again starting with the World Baseball Classic from March 5 - 17, before Opening Day of Major League Baseball happens on March 25.

Many are watching the sport anew because of the blockbuster, record-smashing World Series last year, now considered one of the greatest of all time. Reflect on baseball’s past with Ken Burns’s *Baseball*; you can find it from the library on DVD and on Hoopla BingePass, which offers a seven-day pass to various platforms and collections (including Ken Burns’ catalog) for video streaming, free with your library card.

The landmark documentary covers many of baseball’s biggest moments, players, and scandals, and it features insightful interviews with many prominent writers and celebrities. Baseball’s history mirrors American history in many instances. Take for example Jackie Robinson who, after joining the (then Brooklyn) Dodgers in 1947, became Major League Baseball’s first Black player and remains a civil rights icon to this day.

Still not sold on baseball? Try *The Baseball 100* by Joe Posnanski, which retells the story of the sport through 100 of its greatest players. (You can also try its slimmer companion volume *Why We Love Baseball: A History in 50 Moments*).

For a more contemporary look, try biographies on major players like *Sho-Time* by Jeff Fletcher on Shohei Ohtani, or *62* by Ryan Hoch about Aaron Judge, both available physically and digitally. If you prefer to experience major league baseball for yourself, you can try a digital taste with the MLB The Show video game series (The Blue Jays’ Vladimir Guerrero Jr. graces the cover of MLB The Show ‘24). The library offers copies of quite a few editions across all the major consoles.



## The Last Manager: How Earl Weaver Tricked, Tormented, and Reinvented Baseball by John W. Miller

by Kristen Blount, Administrative Branch

It’s almost that most magical time: Opening Day of MLB. Hope springs eternal and all good things are possible. Our pitchers will throw only strikes, and position players won’t make a single defensive error. Professional athletes agree that hitting at the major league level is incredibly difficult, so we won’t ask more than batting averages in the high .300s.

The Baltimore Orioles are my team, having lived for most of my life in central Maryland. The Orioles have a few of baseball’s great legends, including Brooks Robinson, Cal Ripken, Jr., and the force of nature that was manager Earl Weaver. I’m sure you have seen video footage – Weaver in the face of some home-plate ump, kicking dirt and swearing. But, where did he come from?

John Miller did extensive research into Earl Weaver’s history and shares it all in *The Last Manager*. He offers a comprehensive biography – from Weaver’s childhood in St. Louis through his retirement and induction into the Hall of Fame. Earl’s greatest disappointment was that he never actually played in The Show, having been blocked by another position player. He nevertheless made his mark on the game.

Miller makes the convincing case that Weaver was the last old-school manager, who had complete control of his team before big contracts and free agency changed the game. He was also the first modern manager, with an instinctive, groundbreaking understanding of why metrics and statistics matter. Earl experimented with a radar gun before most scouts had them.

Weaver Baseball - aka Orioles Magic - were arguably the best years in franchise history. Miller does a good job explaining just how the magic happened. You get enough numbers and stats for explanation but not so much to overwhelm the enjoyment of a great story about maybe the most competitive manager in the world. The audiobook is an excellent way to experience the story of a blue collar kid from Missouri with a head for numbers and a deep, abiding love of baseball.

See you at The Yards!



# Meet Robert Glascock

Children and teens all across Howard County have been given amazing opportunities thanks in part to the connection between the Kathleen S. Glascock Tribute Fund and Howard County Library System. Ten years ago, Robert Glascock, former Chief Academic Officer of HCPSS, set up a fund inspired by his late wife, Kathleen, to promote youth literacy in any way possible. Programs such as teen-led books clubs, author presentations for young adults, as well as resources provided for On the Road to Kindergarten, summer reading materials, books for families to keep, and literacy kits are just some of the ways this incredible fund has contributed nearly \$30,000 since its inception to the library through the Friends & Foundation. We were able to talk with Robert about his contributions and what this fund means for the community.



## How did you decide to set up this fund at the library in honor of Kathleen?

I called Valerie Gross, who was president and CEO of Howard County Library at the time, after my wife died and said I would like to do something for her with a focus on youth literacy. Kathleen inspired me with what she did for 23 years at Clarksville Middle School as the media specialist. I think it's even more important today to really connect with the youth and give them opportunities.

## What types of programs does the fund look to support?

Youth literacy is the focus of this. You can see by some of our initiatives that literacy is from preschool kids all the way until they're eighteen. Summer reading, On the Road to Kindergarten, community outreach, and early childhood initiatives - there's just so many different things happening.

## What has been your most rewarding moment since setting up the fund?

That children and students become readers, whether it's an online or hand-held book. For them to really become more of a reader and with that it becomes who they are.

## What are your hopes for the future of the fund?

To reach as many students in as many ways and to utilize our incredibly rich library system. What we have in Howard County just doesn't exist throughout the whole United States.

## Why would you encourage people to get involved?

Big or small, we really have to focus on literacy. Start a book club of your own. It's all about you and your agency. We have to stand forward for freedom of the press and books, and our democracy depends on it. That is what gives us that fluid understanding to be able to really have a community, a citizenship, and a country who will stand up. It's even more important than when we started ten years ago.

## What's one thing you would want others to know about Kathleen and the fund?

I think the Friends of the Library are wonderful with their fundraising. Just like the media center of the school, the library is the center of the community. Youth literacy is for all of us. I wanted to be an agent to move it through to get people excited and to let people get involved in any way.

# thank you!



Our sincere thanks to the individuals, organizations, and businesses for their generous financial and in-kind donations to Howard County Library System. Every effort was made to ensure the accuracy of this list of those who made contributions between Nov 1 - Dec 31, 2025. Please call 410.313.7799 to report any errors or omissions.

## \$5,000

The Common Kitchen at Clarksville Commons

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## TRIBUTES

In memory of Kathleen S. Glascock:  
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### Interested in creating your own tribute?

Simply fill out the form online at [friendshcls.org](http://friendshcls.org) > Donate. Choose Tributes, then click the box next to "Dedicate my donation in honor or in memory of someone" to begin.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions via the website.



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