

Check it out...



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A Monthly Publication of the Portland Library Feb 2025

Portland Library hours:

Monday — Thursday 10:00 a.m. — 8:00 p.m.

Friday 10:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.

Saturday 10:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m.

The Library is closed on Monday, February 17th for President's Day

Alzheimer's Assoc. Educational Program Wednesday, February 19, 6:30 p.m.

The Alzheimer's Association will present **Healthy Living For Your Brain & Body** (60 minutes).

Discover important research into diet/nutrition, exercise, cognitive activity, and social engagement, and develop a plan for healthy aging. Snow date is March 5.



Registration is required.

Voices of Portland: A Black History Month Panel at Portland Middle School
Saturday, Feb 22, doors open at 12:30 p.m.

Join us at this live panel presentation sponsored by CT Humanities. Learn more on the library's website.



Adult Craft Night: Cross Stitch Wednesday, February 26, 6:30 p.m.

Learn the timeless art of cross-stitch in this hands-on workshop, perfect for beginners and those looking to refresh their skills. Join us as the instructor guides you through the basics and helps you create a beautiful design on a bookmark! Each participant will get a small kit that includes everything needed to create a cross-stitched bookmark. Snow date is March 12.
Registration is required and space is limited.



Adult Winter Reading Challenge: Winter Reading is Oh "Sew" Cozy!

Thursday, January 2 -
Friday, February 28



Portland Library's Winter Reading Challenge is back! This year's theme is a textile-based challenge that's all about staying warm and cozy.

Visit the library before February 28 and we'll give you a quilt to fill in with the books you read. Once you've read 9 books and have a complete quilt, you will have completed the challenge and will win a small prize.

Everyone who completes the challenge will be entered into a drawing. The winner will select a book (up to a \$40 value) to be added to the library's collection.

Wednesday Movie 1:00 p.m.
February 12th
Reagan



Saturday Movie Matinee
February 15th 12:30 p.m.
Amazing Grace - Aretha Franklin
will be shown in honor of Black History Month.

Coffee, hot chocolate & cookies will be served prior to the start of the movie.



Monthly Writers' Café
Saturday, Feb 15, 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

The first hour will be quiet, communal, writing time with the final 30 minutes set aside to chat about your project with fellow writers!

Youth Services News and Events

Winter Reading Challenge: Winter Reading is Oh “Sew” Cozy! Thursday, January 2—Friday, February 28



Portland Library’s Winter Reading Challenge is back!
This year’s theme is a textile-based challenge that’s all about staying warm and cozy.

Visit the library before February 28 and we’ll tag one of the quilt squares on our bulletin board with your name. Each time you check out materials (up to once per day), we’ll give you a jumbo craft stick to color and we’ll add it to your quilt square. Watch our community quilt grow as you check out books and other library materials throughout the winter! Once you’ve added eight craft sticks and have a full square, you will have completed the challenge and will win a small prize.

Congratulations to these American Library Association Award Winners!

**John Newbery Medal for the most outstanding
contribution to children's literature:**

The First State of Being by Erin Entrada Kelly

**Randolph Caldecott Medal for the most
distinguished American picture book for
children:** *Chooch Helped*, illustrated by

Rebecca Lee Kunz and written by
Andrea L. Rogers

**Michael L. Printz Award for Excellence in
Young Adult Literature.**

Brownstone by Samuel Teer

For a complete list of award winners and nominees, visit
www.ala.org/news/2025/01/american-library-association-announces-2025-youth-media-award-winners.

Snow Day at the Library Tuesday, February 18 from 10:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m.

Drop in during the day for a variety of snow day fun. Practice ice skating, have a snowball fight, create some winter-themed crafts, and sip on some hot cocoa. No registration is required.



Take Your Child to the Library Day Saturday, February 1 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



- *Crafts*
- *Activity Stations*
- *Dog Man-themed Scavenger Hunt!*

Join us for a Dog Man party in honor of the January 31 Dog Man movie release! Our reading therapy dog, Lucy, will be on site from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (appointment required) and the Portland Lions will be on site to conduct FREE KidSight Vision Screenings at the library from 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. (no appointment required).

Youth Services News and Events

Family Craft Night: Winter Bird Mosaics

Wednesday, February 12 at 6:30 p.m.

Design your own winter bird artwork using paper or old book pages, cardboard, and a variety of decorative accessories. This activity has steps that are appropriate for all ages, but a parent or guardian must be with children to help with supervision.

Registration is required and opens on Monday,
February 3 at 10:00 a.m.



Oh “Sew” Cozy Craft Club Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. February 13, 20, 27 Grades 3-5



Kids in grades 3-5 are invited to join Ms. Patty and try three different textile-based crafts. No sewing experience necessary.

February 13: Button Sewing Heart
February 20: Weaving Mini Looms
February 27: String Art

Registration for this program is required and opens on Monday, February 3 at 10:00 a.m.

Teen Programs:

Valentine's Day Love It or Leave It

Monday, February 10 at 3:30 p.m.

Whether you like it or not, we've got something for everyone:

- *Nailed It Or Failed It: Valentine's Cupcakes*
 - *Love Potions and Poisons*
 - *Piñata Valentine Bashing*

Registration is required and opens on Monday,
February 3 at 10:00 a.m. .

LGBTQ+ Teen Game Night

Join QPlus every first and third Wednesday nights for tabletop gaming, pizza and snacks, games, crafts and more. Open to ages 13-18. Free snacks! All identities are welcome!

Entangled and Ingested: An Intergenerational Cooperative Art Project

Monday, February 10 at 6:30 p.m.

Dr. Kat Owens is a plastic pollution researcher, artist and activist. She creates life-size portraits of animals harmed by plastic pollution by hand sewing film plastic onto canvas. Come learn about her process, the inspiration behind her artwork, and help her create her largest project to date, an 80-foot fin whale portrait. This program is best suited for ages 11 and up or younger kids with sewing skills.

Registration is requested.



Portland Library
www.portlandlibraryct.org



Instagram
@portlandlibraryct

More News...



February Book Club Picks

T.A.B. Talk about Books

Tuesday, February 4, 1:00 p.m.

Sankofa

by Chibundu Onuzo

1st Thursday Night Book Club

Thursday, February 6, 6:30 p.m.

Normal People

by Sally Rooney

Mystery Lovers Book Club

Tuesday, February 18, 1:00 p.m.

Harlem Shuffle

by Colson Whitehead

Thank You

Donations:

Books:

Carolyn Freeman

Memorial Fund:

Janet Lopes

Janice Wendry in memory of Shirley M. Barrett

Donald Gouin in memory of Madalyn "Sue" Gouin

Endowment Fund:

Muriel Barlow

The Peters Family in memory of Shirley M. Barrett



Ongoing Food Drive

Donate nonperishable food to be delivered to the Portland Food Bank! Fill the shopping cart with love and caring for your neighbors!

Knifty Knitters

Saturdays 10:00a.m.-12:30p.m.

The Knitters (and Crocheters) of Portland are open to new, adult members of all experience levels, beginning fiber artists welcome! Drop in at this weekly knitting circle where people share ideas, get helpful knitting tips and enjoy chatting with others who enjoy these creative hobbies.



Museum Passes & Yard Games

Check out the latest on museums for art, nature, history, and fun! We have Connect 4, Jenga and Dice yard games available for a 3 day loan period.

Go to the library website and click on Library Museum Passes or call to reserve a pass or game. Reservations are recommended.

DID YOU KNOW?

New Museum Passes

American Clock and Watch Museum in Bristol, CT. Free admission for 2 adults & 3 children. Printable pass. clockandwatchmuseum.org



Free admission for 4 people. Children must be age 7 or younger. Pass must be picked up and returned. KidcityMuseum.com

Library Meetings:

Friends of the Library

Monday, February 3, 7:00 p.m.

Library Board of Directors:

Thursday, February 20, 7:00 p.m.

To Reach the Library

20 Freestone Avenue

Portland, CT 06480

860-342-6770

Website: www.portlandlibraryct.org

Library Director

Jennifer Billingsley

jbillingsley@portlandct.org

February Book Displays at the Library:

Graphic novels, Astronomy/Stargazing, Black History Month, Books with Red Covers, and our favorite Staff Picks!

