

TEENS

(MIDDLE-HIGH SCHOOL)

 = Registration is required

Teen Flower Power

Monday, June 16 2 - 4 p.m. Explore various art media as you assemble a still-life to both “shadow paint” and photograph.

MarioKart Tournament Friday, June 20 2 - 4 p.m.

This tournament will be played on a Nintendo Switch. You may bring your own controllers.

Himbo Treasure Hunt TTRPG Saturday, June 21 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

The local gym is in danger, and you and your super cool gym-bros must put your few brain cells together to save the town treasure.

Make a Circle Book Wednesday, June 25 1 - 2:30 p.m.

Create a unique chromatic color wheel-inspired “circle book” with the Kalamazoo Book Arts Center.

Live Clue Friday, June 27 7 - 9 p.m.

Play an after-hours, live version of the classic board game. Register with a team and try to be first to solve the mystery. Costumes are encouraged!

Messy Art Thursday, July 3 2 - 3:30 p.m.

Wear clothes you can get paint on as you try several hands-on art activities.

Embellished Cards Monday, July 7 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.

Make a beautiful piece of “stationery” as art or a creative letter to a friend. All supplies included.

To Dye or Not to Dye Tuesday, July 8 1 - 3 p.m.

Personalize some clothing with dyeing or bleaching techniques. Shirts will be supplied; registration required for shirt size.

Teen String Art

Thursday, July 10 3 - 4:30 p.m.

Pound nails into a board then string embroidery floss around them to make your own work of art.

Clark Lewis, Stunt Juggler Friday, July 11 7 - 8 p.m.

Watch Clark as he performs amazing stunts such as chainsaw juggling, daredevil balancing acts, sword swallowing, and much more!

Cracked Marbles & Glitter Gems Monday, July 14 1 - 2:30 p.m.

Heat marbles then dump them in ice water to create cool crackling effects. Add color and “bails” to turn them into pendants.

DnD One-Off: “Nope!”

Wednesday, July 16 4 - 7 p.m.

Play this fun one-off campaign where what you thought you knew about DnD gets turned on its head! Pizza/sodas included.

Stone the Crow TTRPG Saturday, July 19 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Crows are excellent thieves, but these crows aren’t after any old shiny bit of tin. Become a criminal corvid and gather your crew to pull off the biggest heist any bird has ever seen: stealing the Crown Jewels right out of the Tower of London!

Embellished Clothing & Kandi Beads

Tuesday, July 22 2 - 4 p.m.

Make colorful bracelets bring a piece of clothing to bedazzle. You can also do both!

Happy Little Paintings with “Bobbie Ross”

Thursday, July 24 7 - 8 p.m.

Don your denim, pick out your ‘fro...it’s time to paint some happy little trees! Sign up for this fun follow-along painting class! A prize will be awarded to the best Bob Ross lookalike.

Teen Game Night

Friday, July 25 6-9 p.m.

Get loud in the library after hours! Play tag, hide and seek, and the always-popular “Murder in the Library. Pizza and pop will be provided.

Play in the Mud!

Monday, July 28 2 - 3:30 p.m.

Make a clay creation with local ceramicist Cathy Green.

Make a Star Book with the Kalamazoo Book Arts Center

Tuesday, Aug. 5 1 - 2:30 p.m.

Make a unique star book that opens into a 3-D star shape with five different windows to create your deep space adventure!

Community Poetry

Monday, Aug. 11 7 - 8 p.m.

Express your creativity in a welcoming environment. You can share your own writing or read poems you love.

Manor House TTRPG Saturday, August 16 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Everyone knows you don’t want to get caught in a haunted house after dark, but what if you can’t leave? In this spooky horror one-shot, YOU are the haunting inside the house!

RECURRING PROGRAMS

Manga Night Wednesdays: July 9 and August 13 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Those interested in manga, anime, or Japanese culture can join Youth Assistant Devin for an hour of Japanese themed games and snacks. There will be different activities each month.

Dungeons and Dragons 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month 2 - 4 p.m.

Youth Assistant Dimitri will be hosting bi-weekly sessions for teens who play or are new to the game. No experience necessary!

2025 Youth Summer Reading Program

Color our World


RANSOM DISTRICT LIBRARY

June 6 - August 8 (Last day for prizes is August 15)

Get ready for a colorful summer at Ransom! There are lots of fun activities in store for kids of all ages, with an emphasis this year on art and creativity. There is something for everyone; perhaps you can try a new art technique this summer.

The most exciting part of summer is the reading program! When you read a book, write the title in the notebook we provide for you. When you have completed 5 books, bring your notebook to the Library. Staff will stamp your notebook and send you to the prize box! You can continue to do this for the whole summer. For every 5 books you read, you will earn a prize. Just think: if you read as many as 100 books, you could earn 20 prizes!

There are extra challenges along the way as well: you can also try the Rainbow Challenge (reading a book for every color) or the Paint Chip Challenge (find a book the same color as a paint sample.) There will be monthly activities that introduce you to famous artists, and Legos available in the Design Lab as well.

You may notice that some events are listed more than once. This indicates the age groups best suited to the program. Live alligators, for example, are in both the grade school and preschool sections. If you see this symbol  it means that registration is required for an activity. Registration links are available on our website’s calendar at www.ransomlibrary.org. You can also register in person or via phone at 269.685.8024. Read on to discover the fun that awaits you at the Library!



GRADE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

 = Registration is required

Science Heroes

Monday, June 9 2 - 3 p.m.

Hands-on experiments and interactive stories about how science and art intertwine.

Community Art Project

Tuesday, June 10

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Paint a stir stick that will be assembled into a piece of art to hang in the library. Ages 5-up.

Colorful Snowman Craft

Thursday, June 12 1 - 3 p.m.

What if, instead of white, snow came down in colors? Release some cool creativity and have a frozen treat, too.

William Shakespeare

Tuesday, June 17 2 - 3 p.m.

Paint a rock that will become part of a creature winding its way through the library flower bed this summer.

Exploding Watermelon

Extravaganza

Thursday, June 19 2 - 3 p.m.

Use rubber bands to put the squeeze on the mighty melon until it pops!

Music at the Blissful

Monday, June 23 2 - 3 p.m.

Music at the Blissful is a fun and entertaining music performance for kids of all ages. The audience will be on their feet with egg shakers, bubbles, and animal puppets.

Messy Art Day!

Tuesday, June 24

Elementary School: 1 - 3 p.m.
Create gooey art outdoors at the Library. Be sure to wear paint clothes for this event.

Make a Circle Book

Wednesday, June 25 1 - 2:30 p.m.
Create a unique chromatic color wheel-inspired "circle book" with the Kalamazoo Book Arts Center.

Picture Book Art : *Elmer & Pezzetino*

Monday, June 30 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Create art using squares after hearing stories by authors who did the same.

Bluegrass & Tall Tales

Tuesday, July 1 1 - 2 p.m.

The Bright Star Theatre plays Bluegrass classics and brings classic tall tales such as *Paul Bunyan* to life.

Mini-beasts in Pond Water

Wednesday, July 2 1 - 2 p.m.

Use our microscope to see the tiny creatures that live in a nearby pond.

Spinning Top Art

Thursday, July 10 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Decorate an old CD and turn it into a fun toy!

Cracked Marbles & Glitter Gems

Monday, July 14 1 - 2 p.m.

Heat marbles then dump them in ice water to create cool crackling effects. Add color and "bails" to turn them into pendants.

Live Alligators!

Tuesday, July 15 2 - 3 p.m.

The Critchlow Alligator Sanctuary is back with an exciting selection of live animals to inspire wonder.

Dot Painting

Monday, July 21 2 - 3 p.m.

Create beautiful pictures using dots of all sizes! Wear clothing you don't mind getting dripped on and drop in for some creative painting fun.

Colors of Our Natural World

Thursday, July 24 11 a.m. - noon

The Sigma Wild Nature Center will help you discover how plants & animals use color for camouflage, finding mates, evading predators, and signaling danger.

Play in the Mud!

Monday, July 28 2 - 3:30 p.m.

Make a clay creation with local ceramicist Cathy Green.

Picture Book Art: *Harold & the Purple Crayon*

Tuesday, July 29 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Make your own imaginary scene using a purple crayon.

Make a Space Mural

Mon. Aug 4 10:30 - noon

Create rockets, space stations and aliens to go on an outer space mural in the Hill Room.

Galaxy Bottles and Color Changing Slime

Tuesday, Aug. 5 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Try some out-of-this-world science and go home with two cool products of your work.

Galaxy Art

Thursday, Aug 7 1 - 2 p.m.

Learn a painting technique for making out-of-this-world art!

BEST FOR PRESCHOOL

RECURRING PROGRAMS

Story Time

Wednesdays 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

June 11 - Aug. 13

Spend the summer enjoying stories with a colorful theme! Songs, shakers and crafts will accompany the tales.

Yoga Adventures!

First Thursday of each month

(June 5, July 3, Aug. 7)

10:30-11:15 a.m.

Join Ms. Sarah as she leads the younger set through a series of poses and mindfulness activities designed just for them.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Colorful Snowman Craft

Thursday, June 12 1 - 3 p.m.

What if, instead of white, snow came down in colors? Release some cool creativity and have a frozen treat, too.

William Shakespeare

Tuesday, June 17 2 - 3 p.m.

Paint a rock that will become part of a creature winding its way through the library flower bed in this summer.

Music at the Blissful

Monday, June 23 2 - 3 p.m.

Music at the Blissful is a fun and entertaining music performance for kids of all ages. The audience will be on their feet with egg shakers, bubbles, and animal puppets.

Messy Art Day!

Tuesday, June 24

Preschool: 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Stations will be set up outside the library for kids to create art with all the gooey paint you don't want them using at home! Be sure to wear paint clothes for this event.

Picture Book Art: *Elmer and Pezzetino*

Monday, June 30 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Create art using squares after hearing stories by authors who did the same.

Spinning Top Art

Thursday, July 10 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Decorate an old CD and turn it into a fun toy!

Live Alligators!

Tuesday, July 15 2 - 3 p.m.

The Critchlow Alligator Sanctuary is back with an exciting selection of live animals to inspire wonder.

Preschool Play Group with Ms. Kelli

Thursday, July 17 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Ms. Kelli will be joining us to host a special, color-themed summer play group.

Sigma Wild Nature Center presents

Colors of Our Natural World

Thursday, July 24 11 a.m. - noon

Discover how plants & animals use color for camouflage, finding mates, evading predators, and signaling danger.

Picture Book Art featuring *Harold & the Purple Crayon*

Tuesday, July 29 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Make your own imaginary scene using a purple crayon, just like Harold!

Outer Space Light Table Exploration

Wednesday, August 6 11a.m. - 1 p.m.

The light table will be set up in the History Room for exploration of galactic wonders!