

CATTAILS

JUNE/JULY 2025

FROM THE OUACHITA PARISH PUBLIC LIBRARY



COLOR OUR WORLD™

Sign up for 2025 Summer
Reading Challenge!



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FROM THE ARCHIVES

FIND BILLIE THE BOOKWORM!



Our Bookworm, Billie,
is hidden six times
throughout these pages.
See if you can find all six!

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOOKSALE

The book sale is cash only and proceeds benefit the Friends of the Library, who support Library programming.

Fri., June 27th & Sat., June 28th from 9-3 p.m.

Fri., July 25th & Sat., July 26th from 9-3 p.m.

HOLIDAY CLOSURES

All Library branches close at 5 p.m. the day before a holiday closure.

JUNETEENTH - Thurs., June 19th

INDEPENDENCE DAY - Fri., July 3rd - Sat., July 4th

HEY!

Would you like to receive Cattails, the library's bimonthly newsletter, in your inbox or mailbox? Email lwyatt@oplib.org to be added to the list.



THANK YOU, OUACHITA PARISH!



On March 29, 2025, voters in Ouachita Parish faced a decision that would shape the future of the Ouachita Parish Public Library. The recent election included the renewal of funding for the library at 7.64 mills for the next 10 years. Thanks to the ongoing support of our patrons, the renewal passed. Your commitment to our community is felt by us, and we are immensely grateful to you. Because of your decision to renew funding, we are able to keep library doors open and continue to provide essential resources for everyone in the parish.

With your support, the plans for the future are both exciting and more attainable than ever. The renewed funding will allow us to grow together as a community. Libraries must evolve to meet the demands of a rapidly changing world. Your choice has allowed us to enhance our programs and resources for years to come.

On March 12, 2025, library staff, members of the Ouachita Parish Police Jury, the library board and other local officials gathered for the groundbreaking of the new Main Branch, set to open in spring 2026 at 1000 Oliver Road in Monroe. It will include innovative resources like a podcast room, makerspace and telehealth booth, as well as expanded space for larger meeting rooms and digital literacy classes. It will be a hub of learning, creativity and community, and it's all made possible because of you.

Your vote to renew funding is not only an investment in the library but also in the future of Ouachita Parish. Your support ensures that we can continue our mission. Together, we can advance literacy, inspire lifelong learning and strengthen our community. Thank you again to all our patrons for your continued support!



PODCAST ROOM



CREATION ROOM



COMPUTER CLASS

SIGN UP FOR THE SUMMER READING CHALLENGE!

COLOR OUR WORLD™



WHAT IS THE SUMMER READING CHALLENGE?

Since 1948, the Ouachita Parish Public Library has challenged its patrons to read as much as they can during the summer. What started as a reading club for children has expanded to a months-long, themed celebration for all ages. Children, teens and adults receive fun incentives for reading and for completing community challenges.

HOW DO I SIGN UP?

- 1 Get started at oplib.org/summerreading OR download the Beanstack Tracker app on your smartphone.
- 2 Make your account in the online summer reading portal, called Beanstack.
- 3 Log your reading and activities in Beanstack on the web or the app.
- 4 If you have a question or need assistance, reach out to us by visiting in person, by calling any branch or by sending an email to help@oplib.org.

 **beanstack**

WHO CAN JOIN THE SUMMER READING CHALLENGE?

Anyone! There are three age categories, with different page goals, incentives, and programs. Children ages 12 and under can join the Child Category, teens ages 13-17 can join the Teen Category, and adults 18 and over can join the Adult Category.

WHEN DOES THE SUMMER READING CHALLENGE BEGIN AND END?

The 2025 challenge runs from Sunday, June 1 through Thursday, July 31.

WHAT IS THIS YEAR'S THEME?

For 2025, we invite you to celebrate the world of art. Get ready to let your creativity shine with art-themed books, colorful activities, and more!

HOW DO I WIN PRIZES?

ADULTS

WIN PRIZES BY READING!

Log your pages in the Summer Reading portal, Beanstack. Once Beanstack has notified you, visit your local branch to claim your prizes. Prizes are available while supplies last.



TEENS

SIGN UP!

Paintbrush Pen and Paint Chip Lanyard



KIDS



GRAND PRIZES

Those who complete the Summer Reading Challenge will be entered into an end-of-summer grand prize drawing. Four adults and teens will have the chance to win one of the four prize bundles, generously donated by the Friends of the Library. For this summer's challenge, one special teen from each library branch who completes the challenge will win a Teen Branch Bundle, which includes a beginner art kit, a desktop easel and the book *Drawing for the Absolute Beginner*. Ten lucky children will also have the opportunity to win a brand-new bike through the Kiwanis Club of Greater Ouachita's "Bikes for Books" program. Get ready to read and win this summer!



TEEN BRANCH BUNDLES

For the traditional artists, this bundle includes a beginner art kit, a desktop easel, and the book *Drawing for the Absolute Beginner* by Mark and Mary Willenbrink.



TEENS

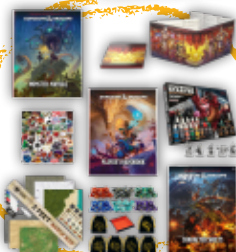
GAMER

For gamers on the go who need an adventure that can travel anywhere, this bundle includes a Nintendo Switch Lite with a travel case and a \$10 Nintendo eShop gift card.



D&D

For tabletop gamers who like to share their adventures with the whole party, this bundle includes the Dungeons & Dragons 5th Edition Core Rule Book set, adventure module book, game master folio, battle mat book, 6 sets of polyhedral dice, and 6 dice trays.



BOOKISH

For the true book nerds, this bundle includes an Amazon Fire tablet with a case, drawing tablet and snack holder, tote bag, journal and pen, candle, mug, book lamp and bookish stickers.



DIGITAL ARTIST

For digital artists, this bundle includes a drawing tablet, "How to Draw Anime and Manga for Beginners" book, and "How to Draw Comics for Beginners" book.



ADULTS

COLORS OF NATURE

For birdwatching enthusiasts, this bundle includes a smart bird feeder, an umbrella for birding in the rain, a birding journal, and *Field Guide to Birds of Eastern and Central America*.



READING COLORS YOUR WORLD

For e-reader fans, this bundle includes a Samsung tablet, a protective tablet case with a kickstand, wireless earbuds with a charging base, and an old-school library due date card blanket.



THE ART OF THE GAME

For board game enthusiasts, this bundle includes Azul, Canvas: A Board Game of Art Competition and Puzzles, The A.R.T. Project (a cooperative strategy board game), Zone of Control (a cooperative or solo-play game), Art Society (a collection board game), Modern Art (an art museum auction strategy game), and a \$50 gift card to Johnny's Pizza House.



ASPIRING ARTIST

For creative minds who love art, this bundle includes adult coloring books, a French easel, acrylic paints, brushes, canvases, and palettes, annual memberships to both the Biedenharn Museum & Gardens and the NELA Delta African American Heritage Museum, a gift card to the Nature Store at Black Bayou Lake NWR, and a gift from the Chennault Aviation & Military Museum.



SPECIAL PROGRAMS



CEREAL BOX COLLAGE WORKSHOP

OUACHITA VALLEY
Mon., July 7 at 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

MAIN
Mon., July 7 at 2-4 p.m..

Michael Albert brings his Modern Pop Art Experience for Families to Ouachita Parish Libraries this summer!!

As part of his Summer Pop Art Tour, American pop artist Michael Albert will bring his nationally known Cereal Box Collage Workshop to the Ouachita Parish Public Library on Monday, July 7.

He will lead his hands-on collage workshops, where participants—kids and parents—will have the chance to create their own masterpieces using Albert's materials of choice: cereal boxes and other colorful cardboard packaging, including cookie boxes, cracker boxes, soda cartons, and many other well-known consumer brands. As a special gift, all participants will receive a free signed poster of one of Albert's creations for joining him in this creative art-making session.

OUACHITA GREEN

Kim Paxton, Ouachita Green Education Outreach will discuss the issues of litter, recycling, and how it affects the environment. We will also make recycled bird feeders.

CARVER-MCDONALD
Tues., June 17 at 4-5 p.m.

***OUACHITA VALLEY BRANCH**
Tues., June 24 at 4-5 p.m.

STERLINGTON BRANCH
Fri., July 11 at 3-4 p.m.

*Limited to 18 patrons. Register in person or call 327-2470 and ask for the Children's Department.

Sheila Kay Downhour from Ouachita Green will be discussing litter prevention, pollution in the bayou, and its impact on local wildlife. Join us as we explore ways to 'Color Our World in Beauty!' The session will include a hands-on activity.

SEARCY BRANCH
Mon., June 9 at 3-4 p.m.



LOUISIANA JONESIE

STERLINGTON MEMORIAL
Mon., June 23 at 3 p.m.

MAIN
Tues., June 24 at 2 p.m.

OUACHITA VALLEY
Wed., June 25 at 3 p.m.

For all the budding junior archaeologists! Louisiana Jonesie will time trip you to ancient days and powerful people in the history of 3400-year-old Poverty Point. You'll discover fascinating facts and fun interactive games about how the monumental earthworks were built and how archaeologists used science to uncover that history.

Presented by the Northeast Louisiana Children's Museum under grant from the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities.

STORYTIMES

Join us for story time at the same time every week at your local library branch.

MAIN

0-24 mo. Tues. at 9:45 a.m.
18-36 mo. Thurs. at 10:30 a.m.
3-5 yrs. Tues. at 10:30 a.m.
6-12 yrs. Tues. at 4 p.m.
Family Second Sat. each mo. at 10:30 a.m.

ANNA MEYER

0-5 yrs. Wed. at 10:30 a.m.
6-12 yrs. Wed. at 4 p.m.

CARVER-MCDONALD

0-5 yrs. Mon. at 4 p.m.
6-12 yrs. Tues. at 4 p.m.

LOUISE WILLIAMS

0-5 yrs. Wed. at 10 a.m.
6-12 yrs. Tues. at 4 p.m.

OLLIE BURNS

0-5 yrs. Tues. at 10 a.m.
6-12 yrs. Tues. at 4 p.m.

OUACHITA VALLEY

0-36 mo. Tues. at 10:30 a.m.
3-5 yrs. Wed. at 10:30 a.m.
6-12 yrs. Thurs. at 4 p.m.

SEARCY MEMORIAL

0-5 yrs. Wed. at 10 a.m.
6-12 yrs. Wed. at 3:45 p.m.

STERLINGTON MEMORIAL

0-5 yrs. Wed. at 10:30 a.m.
6-12 yrs. Thurs. at 4 p.m.
(STEM Storytime)

WEST MONROE

0-24 mo. Wed. at 10 a.m.
3-5 yrs. Wed. at 10:30 a.m.
6-12 yrs. Thurs. at 3:30 p.m.

WEST OUACHITA

18-36 mo. Tues. at 10:30 a.m.
3-5 yrs. Wed. at 10:45 a.m.
6-12 yrs. Wed. at 3:45 p.m.

KIDS TOP 6 BOOK PICKS



© CSLP



Nicky: The Swamp Dog by Jacklyn Sonnier Hirshberg

Narrates the adventures of a dog named Nicky, who settles in with a swamp guide in southern Louisiana's Atchafalaya River Basin and grows up to rescue and nurture lost and injured animals.



The Noisy Paint Box by Barb Rosenstock

Throughout his life, Kandinsky, who experienced synesthesia, heard colors as sounds, and saw sounds as colors. Bold, groundbreaking works burst forth from his noisy paint box. The result? The start of abstract art.

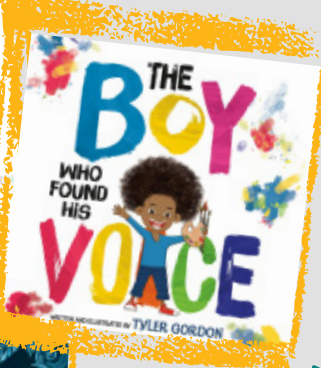
Two Green Birds by Geraldo Valério

Francisco has two green parakeets who live in a cage hanging from a guava tree in the backyard. Francisco is thrilled by the beautiful birds, but the birds will not eat, drink, or speak. Francisco may have to make a hard decision what to do with the birds.



ARTificial Intelligence by David Biedrzyck

Try as he might, Robot can't keep up with the other robots at the warehouse. But when he's sent off for reprogramming, he ends up encountering music, dancing, and ART! Will Robot be able to share his discovery and transform the warehouse...or will he be recycled?



The Boy Who Found His Voice by Tyler Gordon

There once was a young boy who had trouble with words, which made school tough. But with encouragement from his mom and a paintbrush in hand, he learns that finding your voice isn't about being perfect, it's about being true to yourself.

The Picture Visitors: A Case for the Van Gogh Agency by Christina Wolf



A mystery about a group of kids with a unique ability to jump into paintings! When a painting is stolen, the kids decide to track it down. The search turns out to be unexpectedly difficult. Why is it that when they jump into it, the painting feels wrong?

KIDS PROGRAMS



123 CREATE WITH ME Celebrate creativity with local artists in this weekly series featuring live demonstrations, hands-on workshops, and inspiring conversations about their artistic journeys.

ARTS & CRAFTS



BOOKISH & EDUCATION



GARDENS & PLANTS



EVENTS & PLAY



STEM



MOVIE EVENTS

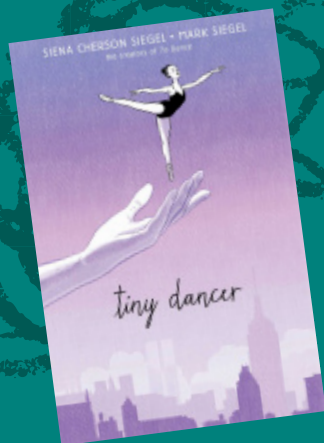


SUMMER READING KICKOFF	June 2-June 6 9 a.m.-5 p.m.	Louise Williams	FAMILY Monday, June 2nd thru Friday, June 6th - Join us for the kickoff to the 2025 Summer Reading Challenge! All week long we will have a table set up at the branch to assist patrons with signing up for the Challenge. Once signed up, the patron will receive an art-themed craft to take home and complete.
MUSIC TIME	Sun., June 1 3:30-4:30 p.m.	West Monroe	AGES 6-12 Come and join us in making your own harmonica.
SUMMER READING KICKOFF	Mon., June 2 10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Ouachita Valley	FAMILY Join us as we celebrate the first day of the Summer Reading Challenge with craft activities and games!
LEGO CLUB	Mon., June 2 4-5 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	FAMILY Come join us for Lego Club! Choose a Challenge Card and complete a fun STEM Challenge.
SUMMER READING KICKOFF	Mon., June 2 10 a.m.-1 p.m.	West Ouachita	AGES 6-12 Come sign up for Summer Reading and make a craft.
SUMMER READING KICKOFF	Mon., June 2 10 a.m.-2 p.m.	Searcy Memorial	FAMILY Join us to kick off the Summer Reading Challenge – All Jazzed Up & Color Our World! Sign up and receive a take-home craft to start the summer off right!
CRAFT TIME: WIGGLY SNAKE	Tues., June 3 3-4 p.m.	Searcy Memorial	AGES 6-12 Come paint a wooden 3-dimensional snake.
123 CREATE WITH ME	Tues., June 3 4-6 p.m.	Main	FAMILY This week's featured artist: Jansyn Jenkins.
COLLABORATIVE ART	Tues., June 3 4-5 p.m.	Ouachita Valley	AGES 6-12 Work together to make one big piece of art to hang in the library throughout the summer. Dress in paint friendly clothes. Limited to 18 patrons. Register in person or call 327-1470 and ask for the Children's Department.
SUN WITH RAINBOW RAYS	Tues., June 3 4-5 p.m.	Carver-McDonald	AGES 6-12 Craft Tuesday: Join us for a Make-and-Take activity featuring the vibrant Rainbow Rays pattern!
TWEENS & TEENS: COOKIE DECORATING	Wed., June 4 3-4:30 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	AGES 9-12 Come join us and Amy Hobbs from The Little Sweet Shoppe as we learn to decorate cookies! Space is limited, so please register in person or call 327-1382.
ALL THINGS TWEEN	Thurs., June 5 4-5 p.m.	Main	AGES 9-12 Cupcake Workshop. Sweet Southern Belle is back with an amazing design for you. Please register for this event at 318-327-1490 and ask for the Children's Department.
SUMMER READING KICKOFF: SPLATTER PAINT PARTY	Fri., June 6 3-4 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	FAMILY Kickoff Summer with a party! Bring a shirt or use our canvases to create your own painting. Space is limited, so please register in person or call 327-1382. Weather permitting.
MOVIE AND A CRAFT	Fri., June 6 10 a.m.-12 p.m.	West Ouachita	FAMILY We will be watching <i>The Princess and the Frog</i> (G) and making a frog craft.
FAIRY GARDEN FRIDAY	Fri., June 6 3-4:30 p.m.	Ollie Burns	AGES 3-5 Come help decorate our newest plants with whimsical fairies and their tiny homes
SATURDAY FUN	Sat., June 7 2-4 p.m.	Main	FAMILY Movie Matinee: <i>Up</i> (PG). Join us for a delightful movie with snacks.
MOSAIC ART	Mon., June 9 4-5 p.m.	West Ouachita	AGES 6-12 Come join us and make a fun mosaic art piece.
CRAFT TIME: TRUCKER HATS	Tues., June 10 10:30-11:30 a.m.	Searcy Memorial	AGES 6-12 Design your own trucker hat with fun patches and pins with local entrepreneur Hartley of The Good Daze. Registration is required and limited 10 participants. Call 327-1240 and ask for the Children's Department or register in person to secure your spot.
123 CREATE WITH ME	Tues., June 10 4-6 p.m.	Main	FAMILY This week's featured artist: Jansyn Jenkins.
ANNOYING SOUND	Tues., June 10 3:30-4:30 p.m.	West Monroe	AGES 6-12 Come learn how to make the most annoying sound in the world—and then see who you can annoy with your new skill!
BULLYING, PUTTING THE PIECES TOGETHER!	Tues., June 10 4-5 p.m.	Carver-McDonald	AGES 6-12 Author Rashad Bristo will be hosting a book signing for his new release, <i>Bullying: Putting the Pieces Together</i> .
DIY LIBRARY CARD HOLDERS	Tues., June 10 4:30-5:30 p.m.	Ollie Burns	AGES 6-12 Come design your own library card holder! This activity can help teach your child responsibility, and each card holder will come with a convenient lanyard.
CRAFTY TUESDAY: LADYBUG ROCKS	Tues., June 10 4-5 p.m.	Ouachita Valley	AGES 6-12 Create an adorable ladybug-painted rock! Limited to 18 participants. Register in person or call 327-1470 and ask for the Children's Department to secure your spot.
PUPPET SHOW	Wed., June 11 10:30-11:30 a.m. and 2-3 p.m.	Ouachita Valley	FAMILY Join us for a fun puppet show put on by the children's staff of Ouachita Valley Branch.
FAMILY MOVIE TIME	Thurs., June 12 2-4 p.m.	Louise Williams	FAMILY Join us for the movie <i>Ratatouille</i> (PG). Popcorn and refreshments provided.
ALL THINGS TWEEN	Thurs., June 12 4-5 p.m.	Main	AGES 9-12 STEM Day: Explore and learn through hands-on experiments, exciting challenges, and innovative activities that spark curiosity and discovery!
HIP HOP WITH AMELIA	Fri., June 13 3-4 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	FAMILY Come learn a fun hip hop routine from Amelia Haynes Littleton from Linda Lavender School of Dance. Space is limited, so please register in person or call 327-1382.
FAMILY STORYTIME BRUNCH	Sat., June 14 10:30-11:15 a.m.	Main	FAMILY <i>Lady Pancake & Sir French Toast</i> by Josh Funk
YOU MAKE IT, YOU TAKE IT	Sat., June 14 2-3 p.m.	Main	FAMILY DIY Suncatchers. Brighten up your windows with a colorful, handmade suncatcher! Use tissue paper, clear contact paper, and creativity to design their own vibrant decorations.
FAMILY MOVIE TIME	Sat., June 14 2-3:30 p.m.	West Monroe	FAMILY Join us and watch the movie <i>Trolls: World Tour</i> (PG). Snacks provided.
POPCORN AND A MOVIE	Sat., June 14 2-3:30 p.m.	Ouachita Valley	FAMILY Join us for a movie screening of <i>Inside Out 2</i> (PG)
CHILDREN'S CINEMA	Sat., June 14 12-2 p.m.	Anna Meyer	FAMILY Join us for a fun Movie Day at the library! Enjoy <i>Dog Man</i> (PG) with snacks, perfect for kids and families!

MONDAY MOVIE MANIA	Mon., June 16 10 a.m.-12 p.m.	Searcy Memorial	FAMILY Watch <i>The Princess and the Frog</i> (G). Refreshments will be provided.
MAKE IT MONDAY	Mon., June 16 3-4 p.m.	Main	AGES 6-12 Rainbow Sensory Art. Get ready for a colorful and crafty adventure! Visit with us and make a Rainbow in a Bag and try our Sticky Wall Rainbow and other fun stuff!
BRACELETS AND KEYCHAINS	Mon., June 16 3-4 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	AGES 6-12 Let's get crafty! Come make a cool bracelet or keychain with colorful clay beads. Space is limited, so please register in person or call 327-1382.
PAINTING WITH A POP	Mon., June 16 4-5 p.m.	West Ouachita	AGES 6-12 Join us to create a fun and unique piece of art on canvas—express your creativity!
STEM TIME	Tues., June 17 2-3 p.m.	Searcy Memorial	FAMILY Choose and make your own musical instrument. All materials will be provided.
123 CREATE WITH ME	Tues., June 17 4-6 p.m.	Main	FAMILY This week's featured artist: Melanie Munoz, a cartoon fanatic, who will guide you in creating your very own cartoon character.
CRAFTY TUESDAY	Tues., June 17 4-5 p.m.	Ouachita Valley	AGES 6-12 Create a colorful abstract painting inspired by artist, Alma Thomas. Limited to 18 patrons. Register in person or call 327-1470 and ask for the Children's Department.
PAINTING TIME	Tues., June 17 3:30-4:30 p.m.	West Monroe	AGES 6-12 Join us for a fun painting-by-number watercolor session! Can you guess what your painting will be as you bring it to life?
TESSELLATIONS ART	Tues., June 17 11 a.m.-12 p.m.	Carver-McDonald	AGES 6-12 Using pattern blocks or printed templates to create colorful repeating designs.
WATER SAFETY PROGRAM	Fri., June 20 2-3 p.m.	Searcy Memorial	FAMILY Chip Wells, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, will discuss the importance of water safety.
COMMUNITY PALLET GARDEN	Fri., June 20 3-5:30 p.m.	Ollie Burns	FAMILY Join us as we plant veggies and herbs for our community! A special guest will be on hand to share expert tips on how to care for plants and ensure they thrive.
SUNCATCHER SUCCULENT FLOWER POTS	Fri., June 20 3:30-4:30 p.m.	Anna Meyer	AGES 6-12 Get crafty and make your own super cool suncatcher flower pot. Paint it, plant it, and watch it shine!
SUPER SIZZLIN	Sat., June 21 2-3 p.m.	Main	AGES 9-12 Take part in a World Scavenger Hunt
ADVENTURES IN GARDENING	Mon., June 23 11 a.m.-12 p.m.	Searcy Memorial	FAMILY Kerry Heafner from the LSU AgCenter will share insights on the beauty of flowers and the important role bees play in our ecosystem.
BUTTERFLY SUNCATCHER	Mon., June 23 4-5 p.m.	West Ouachita	AGES 6-12 We will be making butterfly suncatchers.
CREATIVE CRAFTERNOONS	Mon., June 23 3:30-4:30 p.m.	Anna Meyer	AGES 6-12 Glowing Bugs craft. Get ready for a glowing good time! Kids can create their own glow-in-the-dark bug critters at the library!
123 CREATE WITH ME	Tues., June 24 4-6 p.m.	Main	FAMILY This week's featured artist: Valerie Murataya.
MAKING MUSIC	Tues., June 24 3:30-4:30 p.m.	West Monroe	AGES 6-12 Make your own Do Re Mi Straws. Create a musical notes with just two straws! Experiment with different pitches and sounds by adjusting the straws and your breath.
FIZZING COLOR EXPLOSION	Tues., June 24 11 a.m.-12 p.m.	Carver-McDonald	AGES 6-12 Mix baking soda, vinegar, and food coloring to create a fun and colorful chemical reaction!
THE LA PURCHASE GARDEN & ZOO	Tues., June 24 4-5 p.m.	Carver-McDonald	FAMILY Mark Henderson, LA Purchase Garden & Zoo Educational Director will bring animals related to the summer reading theme
ALL THINGS TWEEN	Thurs., June 26 4-5 p.m.	Main	AGES 9-12 Paper Sculptures. Paper isn't just for writing. Join us as we transform paper into incredible works of art.
KARAOKE PARTY	Mon., June 30 3-4:30 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	FAMILY Come sing to all your favorite tunes! Snacks and drinks will be provided.
FOIL ART	Mon., June 30 4-5 p.m.	West Ouachita	AGES 6-12 Join us for a fun and creative art project using aluminum foil!
TERRARIUM DAY	Mon., June 30 3-5 p.m.	Ollie Burns	FAMILY Come one, come all! Join us as we build and decorate our own terrariums! If you have a specific jar you'd like to use, feel free to bring it along!
CRAFT TIME: PURPLE COLLAGE	Tues., July 1 3-4 p.m.	Searcy Memorial	AGES 6-12 Come create a purple collage using a variety of different materials.
CRAFTY TUESDAY: COLLAGE ART	Tues., July 1 4-5 p.m.	Ouachita Valley	AGES 6-12 Create a Picasso inspired collage art piece. Limited to 18 patrons. Register in person or call 327-1470 and ask for the Children's Department.
PAINTING TIME	Tues., July 1 3:30-4:30 p.m.	West Monroe	AGES 6-12 Join us for a fun Bald Eagle Painting by Number session and create your own beautiful rendition of this majestic bird!
TWEENS & TEENS: LEARN TO DRAW	Wed., July 2 3-4:30 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	AGES 9-12 Learn to sketch from a local artist, Clara Fowler of Art Tarts. Space is limited, so please register in person or call 327-1382.
SENSORY DAY	Wed., July 2 2:30-3:30 p.m.	Ollie Burns	AGES 18-36 MONTHS Come exercise those fine motor skills with our NEW sensory bins!
ALL THINGS TWEEN	Thurs., July 3 4-5 p.m.	Main	AGES 9-12 Create your very own DIY picture frame, adding a personal touch to display your favorite memories!
MONDAY MOVIE MANIA	Mon., July 7 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Searcy Memorial	FAMILY Come join us for a showing of <i>Harold and the Purple Crayon</i> (PG). Refreshments will be provided.
LEGO CLUB	Mon., July 7 4-5 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	FAMILY Come join us for Lego Club! Kids will be able to free build, follow a tutorial, or complete a STEM challenge.
ANIMAL SCULPTURES	Mon., July 7 4-5 p.m.	West Ouachita	AGES 6-12 Join us and create fun animal sculptures—let your imagination bring these creatures to life!
MOVIE AND A CRAFT	Tues., July 8 2-4 p.m.	Searcy Memorial	FAMILY Moo, moo! It's Cow Appreciation Day! Join us for a screening of <i>Home on the Range</i> (PG). Enjoy some ice cream, and take home a fun cow-themed craft!
123 CREATE WITH ME	Tues., July 8 4-6 p.m.	Main	FAMILY This week's featured artist: Valerie Murataya.
MAKING MUSIC	Tues., July 8 3:30-4:30 p.m.	West Monroe	AGES 6-12 Come make your own kazoo and see how different sounds you can create.
CLAY & CANVAS	Tues., July 8 11 a.m.-12 p.m.	Carver-McDonald	AGES 6-12 Ginny Montgomery, an art instructor, will work with clay to design and art piece.
TESSELLATIONS ART	Tues., July 8 4-5 p.m.	Carver-McDonald	AGES 6-12 Use pattern blocks or printed templates to create colorful repeating designs.
UP: MOVIE MATINEE	Tues., July 8 3-5 p.m.	Ollie Burns	AGES 6-12 We will be watching the movie <i>Up</i> (PG) followed by a balloon experiment!
CRAFTY TUESDAY	Tues., July 8 4-5 p.m.	Ouachita Valley	AGES 6-12 Masking Tape Painting. Create a masterpiece using masking tape on a canvas! Limited to 18. Register in person or call 327-1470 and ask for the Children's Department.
FAMILY MOVIE TIME	Thurs., July 10 2-4 p.m.	Louise Williams	FAMILY Join us for the movie <i>The Princess and the Frog</i> (PG). Popcorn and refreshments provided.

 MOVIE AND A CRAFT	Fri., July 11 10 a.m.-12 p.m.	West Ouachita	FAMILY We will be watching <i>Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone</i> (PG) and making wands.
 FAMILY STORYTIME BRUNCH	Sat., July 12 10:30-11:15 a.m.	Main	FAMILY Biscuits & Books. Enjoy warm biscuits with honey, jam, or butter while listening to classic and comforting stories.
 YOU MAKE IT, YOU TAKE IT	Sat., July 12 2-3 p.m.	Main	FAMILY DIY Rainbow Sand Jar. Capture a rainbow in a jar and create a vibrant masterpiece! This craft is perfect for all ages and lets you bring a splash of color into your home.
 FAMILY MOVIE TIME	Sat., July 12 2-3:30 p.m.	West Monroe	FAMILY Come and watch the movie <i>Kung Fu Panda 4</i> (PG). Snacks provided.
 POPCORN AND A MOVIE	Sat., July 12 2-3:30 p.m.	Ouachita Valley	FAMILY Join us for a movie screening of <i>Trolls Band Together</i> (PG) and enjoy the fun and music!
 CHILDREN'S CINEMA	Sat., July 12 12-2 p.m.	Anna Meyer	FAMILY Join us for a fun Movie Day at the library! Enjoy the movie <i>Wicked</i> (PG) with snacks, perfect for kids and families!
 PAINTING WITH A POP	Mon., July 14 4-5 p.m.	West Ouachita	AGES 6-12 Join us to create a fun and unique piece of art on canvas—express your creativity!
 CRAFT TIME: TULIP GARDEN	Tues., July 15 3-4 p.m.	Searcy Memorial	AGES 6-12 Come make a terrific tulip garden craft to help color our world.
 123 CREATE WITH ME	Tues., July 15 4-6 p.m.	Main	FAMILY This week's featured artist: Melanie Munoz. Theme: Under the Sea – Get creative with sea life!
 CRAFTY TUESDAY: COLORFUL COLLAGE	Tues., July 15 4-5 p.m.	Ouachita Valley	AGES 6-12 Make a Matisse inspired collage by layering and glueing cup-out shapes. Limited to 18 patrons. Register in person or call 327-1470 and ask for the Children's Department.
 CRAFT TIME	Tues., July 15 3:30-4:30 p.m.	West Monroe	AGES 6-12 Join us to create your very own marbled painting.
 BIRD BOOGIE	Tues., July 15 11 a.m.-12 p.m.	Carver- McDonald	AGES 6-12 Making bird figurines with different color bird feathers.
 THE LA PURCHASE GARDEN & ZOO	Tues., July 15 4-5 p.m.	Carver- McDonald	FAMILY Mark Henderson, LA Purchase Garden & Zoo Educational Director will bring animals related to the summer reading theme
 READ & MAKE	Wed., July 16 3-4:30 p.m.	Main	FAMILY Let's read <i>Mix it Up</i> by Hervé Tullet and explore a fun color mixing craft inspired by the story, followed by a tasty, colorful treat!
 MAGIC SHOW BY MR. ASHLEY	Wed., July 16 2-3 p.m.	Ouachita Valley	FAMILY Bring the family for an exciting magic show performed by local magician, Mr. Ashley Clinton.
 ALL THINGS TWEEN	Thurs., July 17 4-5 p.m.	Main	AGES 9-12 DIY Rock Painting. Turn an ordinary rock into an extraordinary masterpiece with colorful designs, fun patterns, and creative expressions!
 LAVA NIGHT	Thurs., July 17 4:30-6 p.m.	Ollie Burns	FAMILY Come play <i>Floor is Lava</i> and join us for a fun lava experiment!
 ACTING CLASS	Fri., July 18 3-4:30 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	FAMILY Taylor Michiels from the Strauss Little Theater will be leading a class on all the theater basics! Space is limited, so please register in person or call 327-1382.
 CREATIVE CRAFTERNOONS	Fri., July 18 3:30-4:30 p.m.	Anna Meyer	AGES 6-12 Jumbo Pinwheels. Spin into summer fun! Join us for a super cool craft where kids can design and decorate their own jumbo pinwheels.
 COLOR YOUR WORLD WITH CHALK	Sat., July 19 9 a.m.-12 p.m.	Louise Williams	AGES 6-12 Come by the branch to decorate the sidewalks with fun, bright chalk art! Light breakfast provided.
 SUPER SIZZLIN	Sat., July 19 2-3 p.m.	Main	AGES 9-12 DIY Colorful Puzzle Craft. Create a one-of-a-kind, colorful puzzle with this easy and fun craft! Combine creativity and problem-solving, making it perfect for kids and families.
 MONDAY MOVIE MANIA	Mon., July 21 10:30-12:30 p.m.	Searcy Memorial	FAMILY Come watch the movie <i>Shrek</i> (PG). Refreshments will be served.
 FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT	Mon., July 21 4-6 p.m.	Main	FAMILY Feature Movie: <i>Harold and The Purple Crayon</i> (PG). Come out and enjoy a great movie with cool snacks!
 BOARD GAME BONANZA	Mon., July 21 3-4 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	FAMILY Let's play some classic board games! Play with your family or make some new friends.
 PAPER MACHE BOWLS PART II	Mon., July 21 4-5 p.m.	West Ouachita	AGES 6-12 Come paint your paper mâché bowls and add your personal touch!
 STEMULATING MONDAYS	Mon., July 21 3:30-4:30 p.m.	Anna Meyer	AGES 9-12 Grow a rainbow. Get ready for a magical STEM adventure! Watch science come to life as you grow your own rainbow during this fun and colorful experiment!
 123 CREATE WITH ME	Tues., July 22 4-6 p.m.	Main	FAMILY This week's featured artists: Yoland Gayden & Jessica Walker.
 STEM TIME	Tues., July 22 3:30-4:30 p.m.	West Monroe	AGES 6-12 Discover how you can create art using hot water and colorful candy—watch the magic happen!
 KALEIDOSCOPE CRAFT	Tues., July 22 11 a.m.-12 p.m.	Carver- McDonald	AGES 6-12 Make simple kaleidoscopes using cardboard tubes and reflective paper.
 MUSIC & MOVEMENT	Tues., July 22 4-5 p.m.	Carver- McDonald	AGES 6-12 Enjoy Music and Movement as you explore and experience a variety of different sounds!
 CRAFTY TUESDAY: FOIL PAINTING	Tues., July 22 4-5 p.m.	Ouachita Valley	FAMILY Create cool artwork with aluminum foil! Limited to 18. Register in person or call 327-1470 and ask for the Children's Department to secure your spot.
 ALL THINGS TWEEN	Thurs., July 24 4-5 p.m.	Main	AGES 9-12 STEM Day: Explore and learn through hands-on experiments, exciting challenges, and innovative activities that spark curiosity and discovery!
 CREATE YOUR OWN STORY	Fri., July 25 3-4 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	FAMILY Come roll the dice with us to create your own story! Use the prompts to write a silly story.
 CLAY CREATIVITY	Mon., July 28 3-4 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	FAMILY Come make your own mini sculpture with us! We'll be using colorful modeling clay to make small figurines. Space is limited, so please register in person or call 327-1382.
 PAPER MACHE BOWLS PART I	Mon., July 28 4-5 p.m.	West Ouachita	AGES 6-12 Come join us and learn how to make a paper mâché bowl
 123 CREATE WITH ME	Tues., July 29 4-6 p.m.	Main	FAMILY This week's featured artists: Yoland Gayden & Jessica Walker.
 CRAFTY TUESDAYS: PLAYDOUGH FUN	Tues., July 29 4-5 p.m.	Ouachita Valley	AGES 6-12 Let your imagination flow as we get creative with playdough.
 END OF SUMMER PARTY	Tues., July 29 3:30-4:30 p.m.	West Monroe	AGES 6-12 Come and join your friends in celebrating the end of Summer Reading. Snacks provided.
 END OF SUMMER READING PARTY	Thurs., July 31 2-3 p.m.	Searcy Memorial	FAMILY Come enjoy refreshments crafts and games as we celebrate the end of Summer Reading.
 123 CREATE WITH ME ART SHOW	Thurs., July 31 4-6 p.m.	Main	FAMILY Join us for a special art show and tell, featuring our summer artists and their participants showcasing their creative works
 CUPCAKE WORKSHOP	Thurs., July 31 4-5 p.m.	Main	AGES 9-12 Sweet Southern Belle is back with an amazing design for you! Space is limited. Call 327-1490, ext. 3041 to register.

TEEN TOP 6 BOOK PICKS

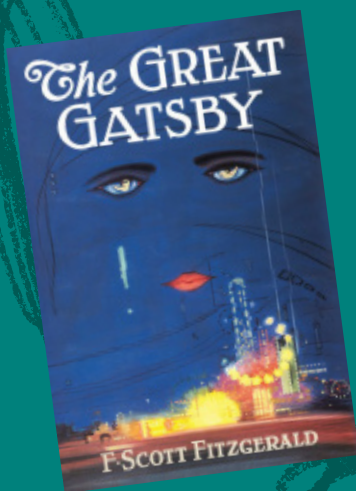


Tiny Dancer by Siena Cherson Siegel

Puerto Rican ballerina Siena attends the School of American Ballet in New York, facing pressure, self-doubt, and injury. She eventually reevaluates her path, discovering new possibilities.

Dreaming in Color by Melanie Florence

After her mother's death, young Indigenous artist Jennifer struggles with self-doubt. With the help of a mysterious mentor, she discovers the power of her art and heritage.

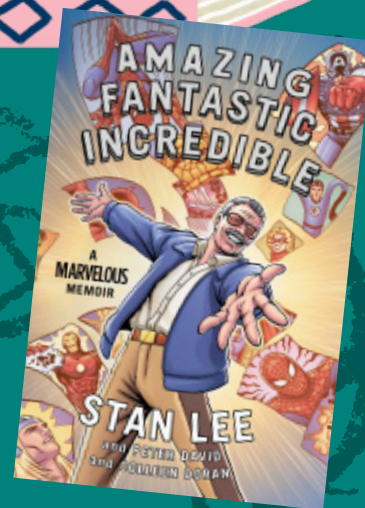


The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald

Jay Gatsby pursues wealth and his lost love, Daisy Buchanan, in the opulent yet morally hollow world of 1920s New York.

Amazing Fantastic Incredible: A Marvelous Memoir by Stan Lee

This action-packed, comic-style autobiography chronicles Stan Lee's life, from his early struggles in the industry to creating legendary superheroes like Spider-Man and the Avengers.



Wolfwood by Marianna Baer

Teenager Indigo takes a mysterious job finishing her artist mother's dark fantasy paintings, only to discover that the world of Wolfwood is real. As reality and fantasy blur, Indigo must battle deadly creatures, uncover family secrets, and decide how far she'll go to save her loved ones.



An Enchantment of Ravens by Margaret Rogerson

Isobel, a talented artist who paints for fae, makes a dangerous mistake by capturing human sorrow in the eyes of Rook, a faerie prince. Dragged into the deadly fae world, she must outwit treacherous courts, navigate forbidden romance, and fight to reclaim her freedom.



TEEN PROGRAMS

GAMES 

GARDENS & PLANTS 

ARTS & CRAFTS 

BOOKISH & EDUCATION 

EVENTS & PLAY 

VIDEO GAMES 

MOVIE EVENTS 



LIT LOOT BOXES






Teen patrons ages 12-18 can visit any branch to check out a Lit Loot Box this summer. Each box contains a variety of goodies and activities.

Just check out at least two young adult books in order to receive a box. Once you've read them, return the books to any branch, but the goodies are yours to keep! Available on a first come, first serve basis.

 SUMMER READING CHALLENGE KICKOFF	June 2-June 6 9 a.m.-5 p.m.	Louise Williams	Join us for the kickoff to the summer reading challenge. All week long we will have a table set up at the branch to assist patrons with signing up for the summer reading challenge. Once signed up the patron will receive a bookmark craft to complete at the library or take home.
 CREATIVE RECYCLING	June 2-June 30	Louise Williams	Come by the month of June to recycle old VHS containers into a fun and funky decorative storage box.
 PAINTING D&D MINIATURES	July 1-July 31	Louise Williams	Join us the month of July for access to your very own D&D miniatures. Supplies are provided.
 ART REMIX: VINCENT VAN GOGH	Tues., June 3 5:30-6:30 p.m.	Ouachita Valley	Transform famous paintings into unique works of art by adding creative touches.
 MAGAZINE COLLAGE	Tues., June 3 5:30-6:30 p.m.	Ollie H. Burns	Create your own colorful collages with magazines!
 PAINTING WITH A POP	Tues., June 3 4-5 p.m.	West Ouachita	Come join us and create a fun piece of art on canvas.
 SUMMER KICKOFF PENDULUM PAINTING	Tues., June 3 3-4:30 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	Make your own splatter style painting with a pendulum just like on TikTok!
 BUBBLE PAINTING	Wed., June 4 4:45-5:45 p.m.	West Monroe	Come make a bubble art hydrangea.
 SCRATCH ART	Wed., June 4 3:30-4:30 p.m.	Anna Meyer	Create a customized scratch art bookmark.
 TWEENS & TEENS: COOKIE DECORATING	Wed., June 4 3-4:30 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	Come join us and Amy Hobbs from The Little Sweet Shoppe as we learn to decorate cookies! Space is limited, so please register in person or call 327-1382.
 GAME ON! THURSDAYS	Thurs., June 5 3-4:30 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	Get your gaming on with your friends. Board games, card games, and Switch games are available to play!
 WIGGLY SNAKE CRAFT	Thurs., June 5 4-5 p.m.	JR Searcy	Join us to paint your very own 3-dimensional wooden snake, adding your personal touch to create a unique and vibrant piece!
 ACT TEST PREP WORKSHOP-	Sat., June 7 10 a.m.-12 p.m.	Main	Learn proven test-taking strategies, time management, and essential subject review. Space is limited, register by calling 327-1490 and ask for the Children's Department.
 DIY BUCKET HAT	Tues., June 10 5:30-6:30 p.m.	Ouachita Valley	Make a custom bucket hat. Registration is required. Please call 327-1470 or register in person to secure your spot.
 COLORFUL PAINTING CRAFT	Tues., June 10 5-6:30 p.m.	Ollie H. Burns	Create a colorful painting masterpiece on a canvas! Refreshments will be served.
 SUCCULENT CRAFT	Tues., June 10 4-5 p.m.	West Ouachita	Come join us as we make a cute succulent craft.
 PAINT! PAINT! PAINT!	Tues., June 10 3-4:30 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	Paint something fun for your room at home.
 BINGO	Wed., June 11 3:45-4:45 p.m.	West Monroe	Enjoy an afternoon of bingo! Prizes and refreshments will be served.
 SKITTLE GRAPHING	Wed., June 11 4-5 p.m.	Carver-McDonald	Come and sort candy by colors and make a bar graph.
 D&D ONE-SHOT	Wed., June 11 3:30-4:30 p.m.	Anna Meyer	Choose a pre-made character or bring your own and join us on an adventure!
 CUPCAKE WORKSHOP	Wed., June 11 12-2 p.m.	Main	Cupcake Workshop. Sweet Southern Belle is back with an amazing design for you. Please register for this event at 327-1490 and ask for the Children's Department.
 GAME ON! THURSDAYS	Thurs., June 12 3-4:30 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	Get your gaming on with your friends. Board games, card games, and Switch games are available to play!
 VIDEO GAME & VIBE	Thurs., June 12 4-5 p.m.	JR Searcy	Come have fun and play games on the Nintendo Switch with friends, and enjoy some friendly competition!
 SUCCULENT CRAFT	Tues., June 17 5:30-6:30 p.m.	Ouachita Valley	Create your own suncatcher succulent. Registration is required. Please call 327-1470 or register in person to secure your spot.
 MOVIE MATINEE	Tues., June 17 5-6:45 p.m.	Ollie H. Burns	Come join us as we watch <i>Trolls: World Tour</i> (PG) with popcorn!
 MOVIE AND A CRAFT	Tues., June 17 1-4 p.m.	West Ouachita	We will be watching <i>The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring</i> (PG-13) and making hobbit doors.
 SCULPTURE BATTLE	Tues., June 17 3-4:30 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	Have fun making a crazy shaped sculpture and then challenge others to a battle.
 RAINBOW IN A JAR!	Wed., June 18 11-12 p.m.	Carver-McDonald	Layer liquids of different densities to create a colorful density column.



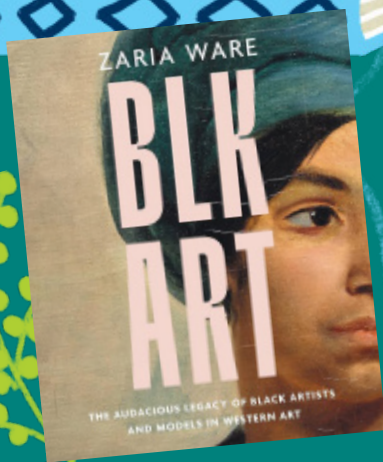
 BOOKED FOR THE WEEKEND BOOK CLUB	Fri., June 20 3:30-4:30 p.m.	West Monroe	Looking for a book club to join? Join us as we discuss <i>A Pho Love Story</i> by Loan Le.
 COMMUNITY PALLET GARDEN	Fri., June 20 3-5:30 p.m.	Ollie H. Burns	Come plant veggies and herbs for our community! We will have a special guest to help educate us on how to care for plants.
 MUSIC TRIVIA GAME	Fri., June 20 4-5 p.m.	JR Searcy	Join us as we play Professor Puzzle Ultimate Music Trivia Game.
 MUSIC AND COLORING	Sat., June 21 2-3 p.m.	Anna Meyer	Celebrate World Music Day with us as we listen to music and color.
 WATERCOLOR PROJECT	Tues., June 24 5:30-6:30 p.m.	Ollie H. Burns	Come learn how to use watercolor technique on canvas. Spaces are limited, call 327-1235 to reserve a seat!
 COSPLAY CLUB	Tues., June 24 4-5 p.m.	West Ouachita	Come join us for cosplay club. We will be learning all about paper mache.
 FAUX STAIN GLASS BOOKMARKS	Tues., June 24 3-4:30 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	Create your own awesome bookmarks designed to look like real stained glass.
 FIZZING COLOR EXPLOSION	Wed., June 25 11 a.m.-12 p.m.	Carver-McDonald	Mix baking soda, vinegar and food coloring for a fun chemical reaction.
 GARDENING & PLANTING FLOWERS	Wed., June 25 4-5 p.m.	Carver-McDonald	Join us to plant flowers of different varieties and colors in flowerpots.
 CREATE YOUR OWN COMIC BOOK PANEL	Wed., June 25 3:30-4:30 p.m.	Anna Meyer	Want to create your own superhero or villain? Come join us to create your own comic book panel!
 GAME ON! THURSDAYS	Thurs., June 26 3-4:30 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	Get your gaming on with your friends. Board games, card games, and Switch games are available to play!
 CANVAS CRAFT TOTE BAG	Thurs., June 26 4-5 p.m.	JR Searcy	Join us to paint a groovy tote bag and create a stylish, personalized accessory you can show off!
 OPEN MIC NIGHT	Thurs., June 26 5-6:30 p.m.	Louise Williams	Showcase your talents in a welcoming and supportive environment! Whether you're into music, poetry, comedy, or spoken word, this is your chance to shine. Grab the mic, share your creativity, and connect with fellow young artists. No experience necessary—just bring your passion! Light refreshments will be provided.
 MOVIE MATINEE	Sat., June 28 2-4 p.m.	Ouachita Valley	Join us as we watch <i>School of Rock</i> (PG-13). Make your own cassette tape craft while supplies last.
 MOVIE MATINEE	Sat., June 28 2-4 p.m.	West Monroe	Enjoy an afternoon showing of <i>Clueless</i> (PG-13). Refreshments will be served.
 MONDAY MOVIE MANIA	Mon., June 30 2-4:30 p.m.	JR Searcy	In honor of World Asteroid Day, come watch a showing of <i>Armageddon</i> (PG-13). Refreshments will be served.
 AFTER SCHOOL BOOK CLUB	Tues., July 1 3-4 p.m.	Ollie H. Burns	Need an idea of what to read next? Join us as we discuss different titles.
 PAINTING WITH A POP	Tues., July 1 4-5 p.m.	West Ouachita	Come join us and create a fun piece of art on canvas.
 THE ART OF TATTOO	Tues., July 1 3-4:30 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	Learn about tattoos from local artists Josie and Hannah from AO Studio who will discuss history of tattooing, aftercare, and how to choose both a design and an artist.
 DIY PICTURE FRAME	Wed., July 2 4:45-5:45 p.m.	West Monroe	Design your own picture frame!
 TINY ART SHOW	Wed., July 2 3:30-4:30 p.m.	Anna Meyer	Show off your artistic abilities in a tiny art show for the YA section of our branch!
 TWEENS & TEENS: LEARN TO DRAW	Wed., July 2 3-4:30 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	Learn to sketch from a local artist, Clara Fowler of Art Tarts. Space is limited, so please register in person or call 327-1382.
 MUSHROOM LAMP	Wed., July 2 4-6 p.m.	Main	Create your own enchanting mushroom lamp using simple materials! Join us for a fun, hands-on crafting session and bring a touch of whimsy to your space.
 GAME ON! THURSDAYS	Thurs., July 3 3-4:30 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	Get your gaming on with your friends. Board games, card games, and Switch games are available to play!
 WIND CHIME CRAFT	Thurs., July 3 3:30-4:30 p.m.	JR Searcy	Come paint a wooden tropical wind chime!
 UPCYCLED DENIM	Tues., July 8 5:30-6:30 p.m.	Ouachita Valley	Bring your creativity and a denim item of your choice. We will upcycle the denim items fabric paint, iron-on patches, and rhinestones to make a fashion statement!
 JAZZ DANCE PARTY	Tues., July 8 5:30-6:30 p.m.	Ollie H. Burns	Get your groove on with this jazz dance party with music, games, and lots of dancing! Refreshments will be served.
 MOSAIC COASTERS	Tues., July 8 4-5 p.m.	West Ouachita	Come join us and make mosaic tile coasters.
 COMIC BOOK DAY	Tues., July 8 3-4:30 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	Make your own comic book sketch. Tell a goofy story, take us on an epic adventure, fight crime in a metropolis—the possibilities are endless.
 MOVIE MATINEE	Wed., July 9 2-5 p.m.	West Monroe	Join us for an afternoon of <i>The Great Gatsby</i> (PG-13). Refreshments will be served.
 TERRARIUM PLANTING	Wed., July 9 4-5 p.m.	Carver-McDonald	Come make a flower terrarium using different materials.
 D&D ONE-SHOT	Wed., July 9 3:30-4:30 p.m.	Anna Meyer	Choose a pre-made character or bring your own and join us on an adventure!
 GAME ON! THURSDAYS	Thurs., July 10 3-4:30 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	Get your gaming on with your friends. Board games, card games, and Switch games are available to play!
 MOVIE MANIA	Thurs., July 10 4:30-6:30 p.m.	JR Searcy	It's National Kitten Day, so come watch a showing of <i>The Garfield Movie</i> (PG). Refreshments will be served.
 MOVIE AFTERNOON	Fri., July 11 1:30-5:30 p.m.	Louise Williams	Get ready for a movie afternoon of "dancing through life" at the library! We will be showing <i>Wicked</i> (PG)! Bring your friends, enjoy some popcorn, and enjoy the show.
 MINI ART MUSEUM	Tues., July 15 5:30-6:30 p.m.	Ouachita Valley	Design and decorate your own miniature art museum.
 MOVIE AND A CRAFT	Tues., July 15 1-4 p.m.	West Ouachita	We will be watching <i>The Hunger Games</i> (PG-13) and making a mini bow and arrow.
 BUTTON MAKING	Tues., July 15 3-4:30 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	Create your own unique design or choose an image from your favorite fandom to transform into a custom button—perfect for wearing or adding to your backpack!

 SWIMMING SAFETY	Wed., July 16 11-12 p.m.	Carver-McDonald	Chip Wells, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, will discuss the importance of water safety.
 CREATE YOUR OWN PET ROCK	Wed., July 16 3:30-4:30 p.m.	Anna Meyer	Join us as we take rocks and turn them into our very own 'pets.'
 GAME ON! THURSDAYS	Thurs., July 17 3-4:30 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	Get your gaming on with your friends. Board games, card games, and Switch games are available to play!
 DIY KEYCHAIN CRAFT	Thurs., July 17 4-5 p.m.	JR Searcy	Come and decorate your own keychain.
 BOOKED FOR THE WEEKEND BOOK CLUB	Fri., July 18 3:45-4:45 p.m.	West Monroe	Looking for a book club to join? Join us as we discuss <i>A Forgery Of Roses</i> by Jessica S. Olson
 FABRIC SCRAP COLLAGE	Tues., July 22 5-6:30 p.m.	Ollie H. Burns	Bring scrap fabric from your home to create wondrous collages!
 COSPLAY PROSTHETICS	Tues., July 22 3-4:30 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	Step up your cosplay game by learning how to create simple, DIY prosthetics.
 ROBOT SPINNER EXPERIMENT	Wed., July 23 4-5 p.m.	Carver-McDonald	We will make a robotic experiment using electrical wiring to move the robots.
 DIY TRINKET BOX	Wed., July 23 3:30-4:30 p.m.	Anna Meyer	Design and decorate your own trinket box!
 GAME ON! THURSDAYS	Thurs., July 24 3-4:30 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	Get your gaming on with your friends. Board games, card games, and Switch games are available to play!
 PHOTO BLOCK CRAFT	Thurs., July 24 4-5 p.m.	JR Searcy	Looking for a cute way to display a favorite photo? Paint a wooden photo block.
 OPEN MIC NIGHT	Thurs., July 24 5-6:30 p.m.	Louise Williams	Showcase your talents in a welcoming and supportive environment! Whether you're into music, poetry, comedy, or spoken word, this is your chance to shine. Grab the mic, share your creativity, and connect with fellow young artists. No experience necessary—just bring your passion! Light refreshments will be provided.
 MOVIE MATINEE	Sat., July 26 2-4 p.m.	Ouachita Valley	Join us as we watch <i>Alice in Wonderland</i> (PG). Decorate your own teacup while supplies last.
 CHRISTMAS IN JULY PAINTING	Sat., July 26 2-3:30 p.m.	West Monroe	Celebrate Christmas in July by painting a Christmas tree. Supplies will be provided. Space is limited, call 327-1365 to register.
 FIBER ARTS NIGHT	Tues., July 29 5:30-6:30 p.m.	Ouachita Valley	Do you crochet, knit, embroider, etc.? Bring your current project and show it off!
 MOVIE MATINEE	Tues., July 29 5-6:30 p.m.	Ollie H. Burns	Come join us as we watch <i>Fantasia 2000</i> (G) with popcorn!
 COSPLAY CLUB	Tues., July 29 4-5 p.m.	West Ouachita	Come join us for cosplay club and learn how to sew a plush bag charm.
 CERAMIC PAINTING	Tues., July 29 3-4:30 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	Paint whimsical ceramics and create one-of-a-kind pieces to take home—perfect for decorating your room, garden, or living room!
 BLACKOUT POETRY	Wed., July 30 3:30-4:30 p.m.	Anna Meyer	Create your own poetry from old newspapers, articles, and books.
 GAME ON! THURSDAYS	Thurs., July 31 3-4:30 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	Get your gaming on with your friends. Board games, card games, and Switch games are available to play!
 PAINT A CANVAS BANNER	Thurs., July 31 4-5 p.m.	JR Searcy	Join us to paint your own canvas banner, perfect for adding a personalized touch to your bedroom decor!

TINY ART WINNERS!



ADULT TOP 6 BOOK PICKS



BLK ART: The Audacious Legacy of Black Artists and Models in Western Art by Zaira Ware

Bring an art museum to you with this stunning book! Let your eyes take you on a tour through the history and lived experience of People of Color in this vibrant, moving, and beautiful account. You will come away with a new appreciation for art itself and for its creators.

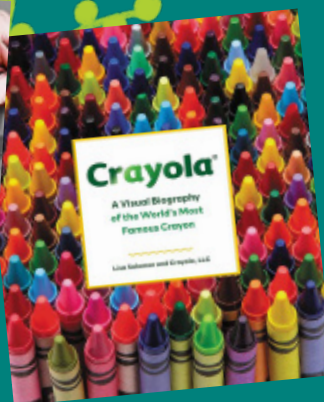
The Art Forger by B.A. Shapiro

Thirteen pieces of artwork—now valued at over \$500 million—were stolen from Boston's Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in what remains the largest unsolved art heist in history. Claire Roth, a struggling young artist, is about to uncover that this infamous crime holds far more secrets than it seems.



Crayola: a Visual Biography of the World's Most Famous Crayon By Lisa Solomon

A vibrant and colorful history of Crayola crayons, from the company's origin story, the birth of the Crayola crayon, the evolution of the iconic crayon packages, and profiles of every Crayola color from Sky Blue to Carnation Pink.



The Magnolia Palace by Fiona Davis

In 1966, when Veronica Weber visits the Frick Museum, she discovers a series of hidden messages that lead her on a hunt—one that could not only solve her financial problems but also uncover a Gilded Age murder involving the infamous Frick family.



The Marlow Murder Club by Robert Thorogood

One evening, while swimming in the Thames, Judith witnesses a murder. When the police dismiss her story, she sets out to investigate on her own—joined by Susie, a salt-of-the-earth dog-walker, and Becks, the prim and proper wife of the local vicar.

Yumi and the Nightmare Painter by Brandon Sanderson

Yumi and Painter are two very different people. Yumi comes from a verdant world of spirits and meditation, while Painter's dark-lit, tech-driven world is full of nightmares. Suddenly, however, their lives are conjoined, and they must work together to save each other's communities.



ADULT PROGRAMS

ARTS & CRAFTS



BOOKISH & BOOK TALKS



HEALTH & WELLNESS



GARDENING & PLANTS



TALKS



Games



MOVIES



EVENTS & SOCIALS



HISTORY TALKS



WRITER'S WORKSHOP	Mon., June 2	3:30-4:30 p.m.	Anna Meyer	Hone your skills as a writer and learn the craft of writing.
DISCOVER THE MEDITERRANEAN DIET	Thurs., June 5	11 a.m.-12 p.m.	West Ouachita	Join us to learn about the Mediterranean diet with LSU AgCenter Nutritionist Markaye Russell. She will present a cooking demonstration you can sample!
CAT'S TAIL GUILD	Thurs., June 5	5-7 p.m.	Main	Join us for D&D one-shots! Have questions? Email Ellen at emasters@oplib.org
SUMMER READING KICK-OFF	Sat., June 7	10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Carver-McDonald	Color Our World Summer Reading Kick-Off.
WRITE CLUB	Mon., June 9	5:30-7 p.m.	Main	Join Write Club and hone your craft.
MONDAY MOVIE MATINEE	Mon., June 9	2-4 p.m.	Ouachita Valley	Join us for popcorn and a movie. We will be showing <i>Woman In Gold</i> (PG-13). A woman fights to retrieve the famous painting Portrait of Adele Bloch-Bauer I lost to her family during World War II.
BOOK CLUB OPEN HOUSE	Mon., June 9	5:30-7 p.m.	Main	Looking to connect with new book genres to laugh, cry, rage, and kick your feet under the covers to? Join us for our 3rd annual Book Club Open House! Come get to know our Adult and YA book club leads, sign up for the door prize, and more!
FREESTYLE PAINT	Tues., June 10	3:30-4:30 p.m.	Anna Meyer	Join us as we take blank canvases and turn them into works of art!
HOOKS & BOOKS CROCHET CLUB	Tues., June 10	2-3:30 p.m.	Main	Learn crochet basics or bring your own projects. All types of needlework are welcome. The club promotes conversation, collaboration, and creativity.
STEP-BY-STEP PAINTING: CAFÉ TERRACE AT NIGHT	Wed., June 11	2-3:30 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	Come paint like Van Gogh! Join Madison DiCarlo for a fun, step-by-step acrylic painting session where you'll recreate Café Terrace at Night. No experience needed—just bring your creativity, and we'll provide the rest!
STILL-LIFE PAINTING	Wed., June 11	4-6 p.m.	Ollie Burns	Color your world by painting still-life portraits with us! All materials are provided. Space is limited. Call 327-1235 to register.
GARDENING & FLOWER PLANTING	Thurs., June 12	11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Carver-McDonald	LSU AgCenter Horticulturist Kerry Heafner will discuss tips on preparing your summer garden for a season of beautiful flowers.
HERBS AND SPICES WITH MARKAYE RUSSELL	Thurs., June 12	1-2 p.m.	Louise Williams	Join us as LSU AgCenter Agent, Markaye Russell, uses a new herb or spice to reduce sodium intake.
MOVIE MATINEE	Thurs., June 12	1-4 p.m.	Searcy Memorial	Join us as we celebrate All Jazzed Up! with the movie <i>Thoroughly Modern Millie</i> (G). Refreshments will be provided!
ADULT DUNGEONS & DRAGONS	Mon., June 16	3:30-4:30 p.m.	Anna Meyer	Join our adult D&D campaign! Friendly to both new and experienced players!
MOVIE MATINEE	Mon., June 16	1-3 p.m.	Louise Williams	Come watch our summer Movie Matinee, <i>Wicked</i> (PG)! A door prize will be given at the end of the movie. Popcorn, drinks, and candy provided.
D&D DICE BAG CRAFT	Tues., June 17	3:30-4:30 p.m.	Anna Meyer	Create and decorate a dice bag for your next D&D Adventure!

 SNAP-ED NUTRITION CLASS	Tues., June 17	1:15-2 p.m.	Anna Meyer	Join us as Tara Garlington from LSU AgCenter informs and educates us about nutrition!
 GARDENING 101 WITH LESA JAMES	Wed., June 18	2-3 p.m.	West Monroe	Interested in starting a garden? Join us as we learn gardening basics from Lesa James, proprietor of Sweet Sarah Louise Nursery & Farm.
 MOVIES IN THE AFTERNOON	Fri., June 20	1:30-3:30 p.m.	West Ouachita	Our movie will be <i>Big Eyes</i> (PG-13), a biopic of artist Margaret Keane, who lived in obscurity while her husband Walter shot to fame by claiming that he was responsible for her popular portraits of little children with saucer-like eyes.
 BINGO BONANZA	Mon., June 23	3:30-4:30 p.m.	Anna Meyer	Join us for some rousing rounds of Bingo!
 ARTIST'S CORNER: BLUE DOG PAINTING	Mon., June 23	5:30-7 p.m.	Main	Feeling Blue? Great! Come create your own Blue Dog painting with us inspired by George Rodrigue's Blue Dog. All materials will be provided. Space is limited, so sign up in advance by visiting the reference desk or calling 327-1490.
 THE ART OF MAKING SUMMER SALADS	Mon., June 23	1-2 p.m.	Louise Williams	Join us as LSU AgCenter Agent, Markaye Russell, teaches the art of creating summer salads. Space is limited. Call 327-5422 to sign up.
 CUSTOM FAN CRAFT	Tues., June 24	3:30-4:30 p.m.	Anna Meyer	Create a customized paddle fan to keep you cool during the summer!
 CHRONICLES OF YARNIA CROCHET CLUB	Tues., June 24	5:30-7 p.m.	Main	Learn crochet basics or bring your own projects. All types of needlework are welcome. The club promotes conversation, collaboration, and creativity.
 PAINT & PLANT: TILLANDSIA AIR PLANTS	Wed., June 25	2-3:30 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	Decorate your own glass globe to create a unique home for a Tillandsia air plant. Discover how to care for your air plant and how it helps purify the air around you.
 BOTANICAL MONOPRINTING	Wed., June 25	2-3 p.m.	West Monroe	Capture the essence of nature's beauty with botanical monoprinting. We will be making elegant notecards to send to friends & family.
 THE ART OF PAPER MACHE!	Thurs., June 26	11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Carver-McDonald	Artist Lindsay Carraway will teach patrons the step-by-step process of building the basic form, gluing layers of paper, and finishing by painting and embellishing.
 THURSDAY CRAFT CLUB	Thurs., June 26	1:30-3:30 p.m.	West Ouachita	We will paint a beautiful bird in a flowering tree. Be sure to wear your painting clothes! Space is limited; please register by calling 327-5414.
 COMMUNITY ART SWAP	Fri., June 27	2-5 p.m.	Main	Drop off gently used art/craft supplies June 23-26. Then come back on Friday, June 27 from 2-5 and go through all the materials. Choose supplies to take for free to help Color Your World!
 TYE-DYE CRAFT	Sat., June 28	2-5 p.m.	Main	Bring an item (or two if they are small) and Color Your Wardrobe! Natural fibers like cotton work best and won't fade as quickly. Call 327-1490 and select Option 1 for Circulation, or email Ellen at emasters@oplib.org to sign up.
 WRITER'S WORKSHOP	Mon., July 7	3:30-4:30 p.m.	Anna Meyer	Hone your skills as a writer and learn the craft of writing.
 MUSICAL COLOR BINGO	Mon., July 7	5-6 p.m.	Main	Come play a Color Our World edition of Bingo! Listen to snippets of songs with colors in them. Guess the color in the song and mark it on your Bingo card. Every Bingo wins a prize!
 HOOKS & BOOKS CROCHET CLUB	Tues., July 8	2-3:30 p.m.	Main	Learn crochet basics or bring your own projects. All types of needlework are welcome. The club promotes conversation, collaboration, and creativity.
 TREASURES OF THE BIEDENHARN BIBLE COLLECTION	Wed., July 9	2-3:30 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	Join us for a talk by Ralph Calhoun, Director of the Biedenharn Museum & Gardens, as he explores the remarkable Bibles in the Biedenharn Collection. Learn about the men and women who dedicated their lives to translating, printing, and spreading the Bible.
 GNOME PAINTING CRAFT	Thurs., July 10	3:30-4:30 p.m.	Anna Meyer	Join us as we paint ceramic gnomes. Perfect for outdoor decoration!
 WEBINAR WITH US: LAW TALKS: LANDLORD & TENANT ISSUES	Thurs., July 10	5:30-6:30 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	Join us for this informative webinar presented by Louisiana Lawyers in Libraries, where attorneys with Southeast Louisiana Legal Services will discuss what you need to know about landlord and tenant issues. After the presentation, you can ask questions.
 DISCOVER THE HEART HEALTHY DIET	Thurs., July 10	11 a.m.-12 p.m.	West Ouachita	Learn more about the Heart Healthy diet from LSU AgCenter Nutritionist Markaye Russell. She will have a cooking demonstration you can sample!
 SOAP MAKING AND SCENTS!	Thurs., July 10	11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Carver-McDonald	Owner of Jubilant Soapséition, Sadé Johnson will demonstrate the process of making natural handmade soaps from scratch.
 MAGICAL POP TART FAIRY GINGERBREAD HOUSE	Thurs., July 10	2-3 p.m.	Searcy Memorial	Join us to make a colorful Pop Tart Gingerbread House. Limited to first 20 patrons, so sign up in person or call 327-1240. Have fun decorating your own house and then enjoy eating it!
 CAT'S TAIL GUILD	Thurs., July 10	5-7 p.m.	Main	Join us for D&D one-shots! We're holding this session a little outside of our regular schedule due to Holiday Closures this month.

 THE ART OF LINE DANCING	Sat., July 12	1-2 p.m.	Louise Williams	Join us as Mrs. Terri Crawford discusses and demonstrates the history of line dancing.
 MONDAY MOVIE MATINEE	Mon., July 14	2-4 p.m.	Quachita Valley	Join us for popcorn and a movie. We will be showing <i>The Greatest Showman</i> (PG).
 ADULT DUNGEONS & DRAGONS	Mon., July 14	3:30-4:30 p.m.	Anna Meyer	Join our adult D&D campaign! Friendly to both new and experienced players!
 ART WITH ANGEL	Mon., July 14	5-6:45 p.m.	Louise Williams	Join us as Angel from DIY Joyful Creations make beautiful artwork. Space is limited. Call 327-5422 to register.
 WRITE CLUB	Mon. July 14	5:30-7 p.m.	Main	Join Write Club and hone your craft.
 D&D MINIATURE PAINTING CRAFT	Tues., July 15	3:30-4:30 p.m.	Anna Meyer	Come paint a miniature figure for your next D&D adventure!
 SNAP-ED NUTRITION CLASS	Tues., July 15	1:15-2 p.m.	Anna Meyer	Join us as Tara Garlington from LSU AgCenter informs and educates us about nutrition!
 PROJECT: COLD WAR	Wed., July 16	2-3 p.m.	West Monroe	Come learn about the Cold War on this hot day! Dr. Jennifer Dumas, Assistant Professor of Political Science at ULM, will be here to discuss the Cold War between the USA & the USSR.
 FAUX STAINED GLASS BOOKMARKS	Mon. June 16	2-3:30 p.m.	Quachita Valley	Join us as we make Faux Stained Glass Bookmarks. Please call 327-1470 to register.
 SIP & SHADE	Wed., July 16	5:30-7 p.m.	Ollie Burns	We invite you to color intricate designs as we listen to ambient jazz. Supplies and refreshments will be provided.
 THURSDAY CRAFT CLUB	Thurs., July 17	1:30-3:30 p.m.	West Ouachita	Paint a fun beach scene! Be sure to wear your painting clothes! Space is limited; please register by calling 327-5414.
 COLORFUL CHARACTERS OF FORT MIRO	Thurs., July 17	5:30-6:30p.m.	Main	Join Library staff as they portray historic characters who lived at Fort Miro, the 1791 Ouachita River trading post. Learn about a few early settlers and how they kept things interesting in what is now Monroe, Louisiana.
 FOLDED PAGE BOOK ART	Sat., July 19	1-2 p.m.	Quachita Valley	Join us as we make Book Art. Please call 327-1470 to register.
 BINGO BONANZA	Mon., July 21	3:30-4:30 p.m.	Anna Meyer	Join us for some rousing rounds of Bingo!
 MINI MANDALA CRAFT	Tues., July 22	3:30-4:30 p.m.	Anna Meyer	Join us as we decorate mini mandala designs!
 CHRONICLES OF YARNIA CROCHET CLUB	Tues., July 22	5:30-7 p.m.	Main	Learn crochet basics or bring your own projects. All types of needlework are welcome. The club promotes conversation, collaboration, and creativity.
 FLOWER ART PAINTING	Wed., July 23	2-3 p.m.	West Monroe	Paint a bouquet of beautiful flowers with upcycled materials.
 CLAY CROSS POTTERY!	Thurs., July 24	11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Carver-McDonald	Shelia Floyd will demonstrate unique handmade and wheel thrown pottery by using clay.
 MOVIES IN THE AFTERNOON	Thurs., July 24	1:30-3:30 p.m.	West Ouachita	Join us for the movie <i>At Eternity's Gate</i> (PG-13), about famed but tormented artist Vincent van Gogh as he spends his final years in Arles, France, painting masterworks of the natural world that surrounds him.
 HERBS AND SPICES WITH MARKAYE RUSSELL	Thurs., July 24	1-2 p.m.	Louise Williams	Join us as LSU AgCenter Agent, Markaye Russell, uses a new herb or spice to reduce sodium intake.
 WHAT A RELIEF!: 3D WALL ART	Thurs., July 24	5:30-7 p.m.	Main	Looking to liven up your home wall decor? Join us as we make sculptural relief art that'll really make your walls pop! Call 327-1490 to register.
 TOP 6 BOOKS DISCUSSION	Wed., July 30	5:30-6:30 p.m.	Sterlington Memorial	Hey Readers, come discuss the Top 6 Summer Reading books. Whether you've read one or all of our Top 6 Books, join us to discuss.

JOIN THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY!



Show your support for your library by becoming a Friend today. We are looking for more Friends to help with the Book Sale.

To join, please call 327-1490 or email agreer@oplib.org.

JOIN A BOOK CLUB



BOOKS & BANTER

OUACHITA VALLEY

Books & Banter is a 'new adult' romance book club and will focus on protagonists in the 18-30 age range.

Thurs., June 26 at 3-4:30 p.m. *Fourth Wing* by Rebecca Yarros
Thurs., July 24 at 3-4:30 p.m. *The Love Hypothesis* by Ali Hazelwood



ONLINE BOOK CLUB

FACEBOOK

Check online to see what book we will be reading and discussing. Join us at facebook.com/groups/OuachitaParishPublicLibrary



PAGE TURNERS

WEST OUACHITA

We discuss thrilling and suspenseful page turners.

Fri., June 13 at 2-3 p.m. *The Couple at Number 9* by Claire Douglas
Fri., July 11 at 2-3 p.m. *The God of the Woods* by Liz Moore



JUST READ

SEARCY MEMORIAL

We discuss our favorite books from all genres. Come and discuss while enjoying cookies and coffee.

Thurs., June 26 at 2-3 p.m. We will be discussing books set during the Jazz Era. Bring your favorite book and tell us all about it!
Thurs., July 31 at 2-3 p.m. We will be discussing books that explore the 'Color Our World' theme. Bring your favorite 'color' book and tell us all about it!



LOST IN THE STACKS

MAIN BRANCH

Spans genres with member selected titles, this is where books and friends meet.

Tues., June 10 at 5:30-7 p.m. *James* by Percival Everett
Tues., July 8 at 5:30-7 p.m. *Lula Dean's Little Library of Banned Books* by Kirsten Miller



RAINBOW READS

MAIN BRANCH

Rainbow Reads is an 18+ book club that celebrates diversity with books by and about our LGBTQ+ community members. For questions reach out to Ellen at emasters@oplib.org.

Mon., June 30 at 5:30-7 p.m. *This Is How You Lose the Time War* by Amal El-Mohtar **OR** *Max Gladstone or Into the Drowning Deep* by Mira Grant
Mon., July 28 at 5:30-7 p.m. *Six of Crows* by Leigh Bardugo



SCIFI FANTASY

STERLINGTON MEMORIAL

We read and discuss great scifi and fantasy books with others that enjoy them too!

Sat., June 21 at 2-3 p.m. *An Absolutely Remarkable Thing* by Hank Green
Sat., July 26 at 2-3 p.m. *House like an Accordion* by Audrey Burges



THRILLING THURSDAYS

MAIN BRANCH

Thrilling Thursdays discusses books with twists and turns that keep you on the edge of your seat.

Thurs., July 17 at 5:30-7 p.m. *The Blue Hour* by Paula Hawkins



CULTURE IN CONTEXT

MAIN BRANCH

Ready for some Culture in Context? Turn your tv off and join us as we read and discuss novels written predominantly by authors that are BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color).

Tues., June 24 at 5:30-7 p.m. *Monstrilio* by Gerardo Sámano Córdova
Tues., July 29 at 5:30-7 p.m. *The Poppy War* by R. F. Kuang



KETTLE & CAULDRON

WEST MONROE

Where stories steep and conversations flow.

Wed., June 11 at 2-3 p.m. *The Gardener's Plot* by Deborah J. Benoit
Wed., July 9 at 2-3 p.m. *Red Widow* by Alma Katsu

BOOK CLUB OPEN HOUSE



Looking to connect with new book genres to laugh, cry, rage, and kick your feet under the covers to? Join us for our 3rd annual Book Club Open House! Come get to know our Adult and YA book club leads, sign up for the door prize, and more!

DIGITAL LITERACY PROGRAMS

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😊

EXCEL BASICS
Thurs., June 26
at 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Learn about using Microsoft Excel to work with numbers and other data.

EXCEL FORMULAS
Thurs., July 10
at 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Learn how to use formulas in Microsoft Excel to calculate totals, percentages, and more.

😊

Send



e-mail



computer

ANNA MEYER

← → 🔍

Space is limited.
Call or email to register

(318) 327-1235

nflores@oplib.org

COMPUTER BASICS CLASS
Mondays at 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Learn computer basics and hone your skills to operate a computer.

PRACTICAL COMPUTER SKILLS
Tuesdays from 10:30-12:30pm
Build on basic skills to learn practical and useful computer skills.

SMARTPHONE LITERACY
*Thursdays from 10:30-12:30pm
Learn more about smartphones, including how to operate, navigate, and utilize them in effective ways.

I

**Smartphone Literacy will not meet on Thursday, June 19th.
The library will be closed in recognition of Juneteenth*

Downloading...

Cancel





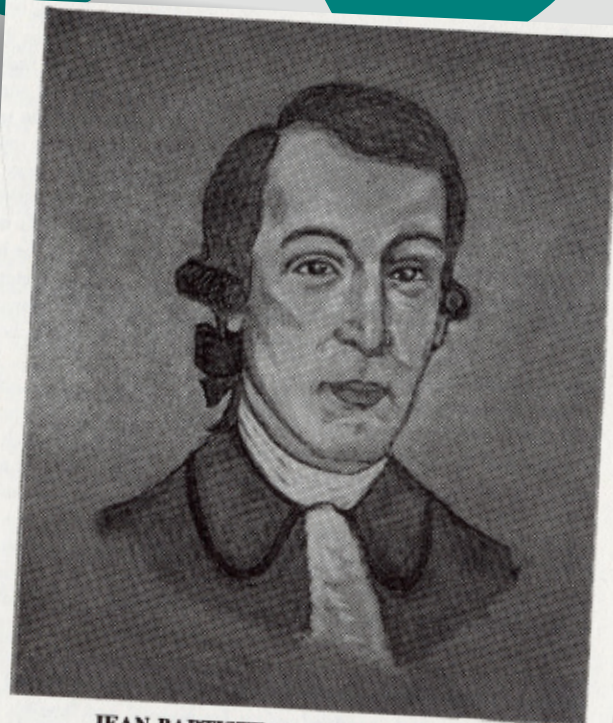
FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Library's Genealogy and Special Collections Department helps patrons research local and family history. Learn more about how to explore your own family history at oplib.org/family-local-history.

A HISTORY OF FORT MIRO

The French knew the area of Monroe, Louisiana as Prairie des Canots, a trading village on the Ouachita River. In February 1783, the Spanish Commander Jean-Baptiste Filhiol called the area The Ouachita Post. Filhiol stationed a militia at the post to both deter Americans from crossing the Mississippi River at Natchez and to avoid conflict with the Osage Native American tribe, which threatened local hunting parties. Men of arms-bearing age formed a unit that drilled at Prairie des Canots. Filhiol wanted the Spanish government to provide a fort of some kind. In a letter dated August 25, 1790, Filhiol commented that the fort would need to be large enough to accommodate four buildings: his home, the priest's cottage, a commissary and the post jail. Local timber was used and Spanish governors sent artillery pieces. Construction on the fort was completed by February 1791. Fort Miro was named after the Spanish governor Esteban Miro.

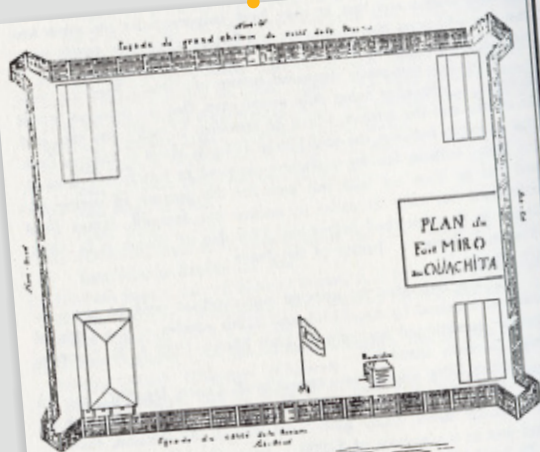
The fort was used as a place for military training, court sessions, marketing and as a place for general announcements to be posted. Money made from liquor sales was used to support the cost of firing the cannons located within the fort. This was done to intimidate the



JEAN-BAPTISTE (DON JUAN) FILHIOL
(b. 1 August 1740, Eymet, France,
d. 28 September 1821, Ouachita Parish, La.)
Author's conception of what Jean-Baptiste Filhiol, Monroe, Louisiana's founding father, possibly looked like. His son, Grammont Filhiol, resembles him in looks and body build very much.

Portrait of Jean-Baptiste (Don Juan) Filhiol, from Fort Miro: Encyclopedia of Individuals and Founding Families of the Ouachita Valley of Louisiana from 1785 to 1850 by E. R. Williams (n.d.)

Plat of Fort Miro



PLAT OF FORT MIRO BUILT ON THE PRAIRIE des CANOTS

Plat or the lay out of Fort Miro redrawn by the compiler of this work from a photograph of the original submitted by Jean-Baptiste Filhiol, in his letter to Governor Estevan Miro, 15 February 1791 (AGI, PPC, 204).

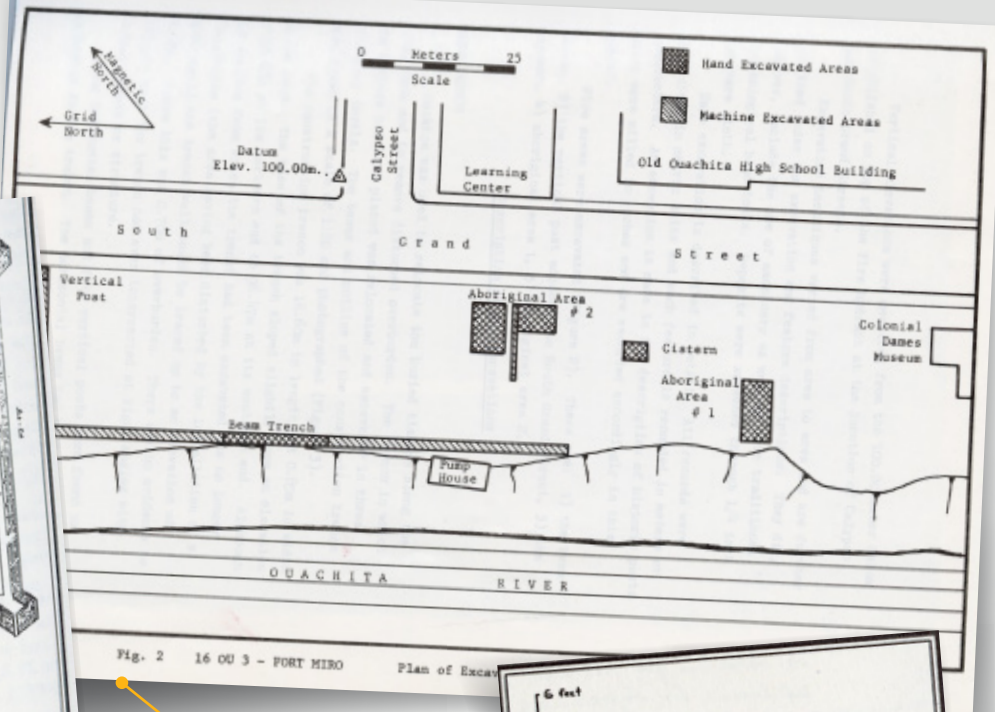
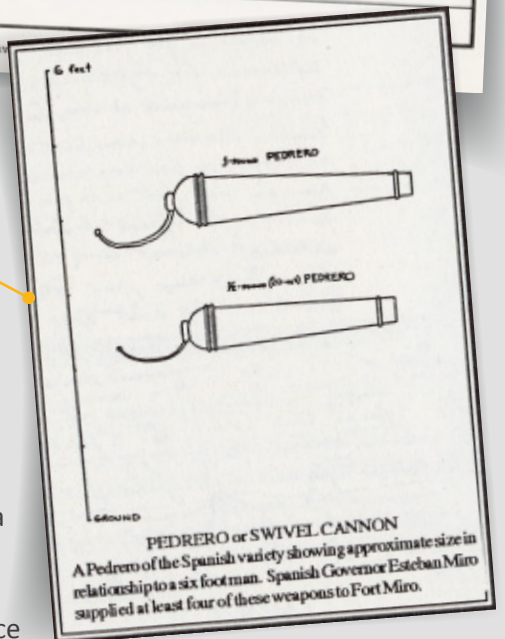


Fig. 2 16 OU 3 - FORT MIRO

Plan of Excavation

Fort Miro Excavation

Swivel Cannon



Native populations. Filhiol resigned his commission in 1800 and later that year Vincent Ferdinand Tejeiro took command. Tejeiro acted as a caretaker until 1804 when American Commander Lieutenant Joseph Bowmar arrived. Bowmar determined that the fort was on Filhiol's private property and requested a new one be built nearby. However, no mention of a new fort has been found in historic records. Fort Miro became Monroe in 1819 when the paddle wheeler, James Monroe, named in honor of President Monroe, made a trip up the Ouachita River.

The exact location of the original Fort Miro is not known. In the 1920's John R. Humble, president of the Ouachita Abstract Company and a local historian, determined through local land records that the site of Fort Miro might have been at the intersection of Calypso and South Grand streets. Unfortunately, Humble was unable to check because the Monroe Steam Laundry was located there.

By 1973, the suspected location was cleared for a planned seawall. At least two groups researched the area near South Grand, Calypso Street and the Garret Law Office to determine if this was the original location of Fort Miro. Northeast Louisiana University researchers, Glen Greene, Lorraine Heartfield and E. Russ Williams, with funding from Ouachita National Bank of Monroe excavated the area but were not able to conclusively verify the site of Fort Miro. Then in 1975, G.R. Dennis Price conducted follow-up excavations with funding from the United States Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg Branch. The City of Monroe provided labor and a backhoe but efforts to determine the exact location of Fort Miro were still not successful.

If you are interested in learning more about early Fort Miro and some of the inhabitants of the post, please join library staff July 17, 2025 at 5:30 in the Louis Locke room of the Main Branch library for "Colorful Characters of Fort Miro."

SOURCES

- Price, G. R. D., Greene, G. S., & Heartfield, L. (1976). Excavations at the site of historic Fort Miro (16OU3) in Monroe, Louisiana (Archaeological Series 1). The Research Institute College of Pure and Applied Sciences, Northeast Louisiana University.
- Williams, E. R. (n.d.). Encyclopedia of individuals and founding families of the Ouachita Valley of Louisiana from 1785 to 1850 by E. Russ Williams, Jr.

COLOR AND CREATE YOUR OWN SUMMER READING CHALLENGE BOOK MARK!



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Cut on the dashed line and fold
on the dotted line. Glue or tape it
together on the other side. Poke a
hole at the top to attach a ribbon
or string. Then use craft supplies
and markers to make a book mark
and Color Your World!

FOLD



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