



Keene Public Library

603-352-0157
KEENEPUBLICLIBRARY.ORG
60 WINTER STREET
KEENE, NH 03431

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2026



WINTER READING! JANUARY 5 - MARCH 10

Cozy up this season for another winter of reading! Sign up online or with the Beanstack app, or pickup a reading log tracker at the library. All books or minutes, as well as activities, earn raffle tickets towards a grand prize for each age group. Relax with a warm drink, put your feet up, and READ with KPL.



TEDDY BEAR SLEEPOVER

Friday, January 23
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Youth Department

Breakfast: Saturday, January 24
10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Heberton Hall



It is that time of year again. Time for your beloved animal friends to party! Bring your beloved stuffie to our annual Teddy Bear Sleepover. Make your friend a fleece sleeping bag so they are nice and snuggly then join us around the campfire and listen to stories. Tuck your friends in for the night. Come back Saturday morning at 10:30 for a light breakfast. We will share a video of all your friends wild adventures in the library. You won't believe what they can get up to!

Registration required.

TEEN LOCK - IN ESCAPE ROOMS THE 3RD

Friday, January 30
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Check in: Atrium
Pick up: Heberton Hall



Join us for a new, unique take on escape rooms with our BREAK-IN BOXES! Compete in teams to problem solve puzzles, crack codes, and break into your box! Fight through three rounds, themed around Stranger Things, Frankenstein, and comics—quickest team wins a prize! To help us prepare for the program, please reserve your space by registering for the event in advance. Participants under 18 are also required to have a permission slip signed by their parent or guardian to attend.

BOOKBINDING ADULT CRAFT

Thursday, January 8
6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Kay Fox

Learn to design and create your own bound journal.
Registration is required.



Book Clubs & Discussions

BOOK CRUSH

Wednesdays
January 7 and February 4
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Miller-Vincent Room



Do you love love stories? Join us for Book Crush, a non-traditional book club for romance readers! Every month will have a theme related to romance tropes, conventions, and subgenres. Choose your own book to fit the theme, share your pick with other readers, and discover new titles to try!

January's theme: Dragons.
February's theme: Black Historical Romance

INFINITE WORLDS

Thursdays
January 22 and February 19
6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Booras Room



Welcome to Infinite Worlds, a non-traditional book club for adults focusing on speculative fiction! Each month we will have a set theme within which our members will select their own book to read. At our monthly meetings we will each share about our reads and discuss the topics and tropes that came up within the theme. Join a book club where you pick the book you read. Members are encouraged to pack a dinner to munch during discussion, and the library will provide dessert. From sci-fi to fantasy, dystopias to alternate histories, there are infinite worlds to explore! Register today to ensure we have enough supplies.

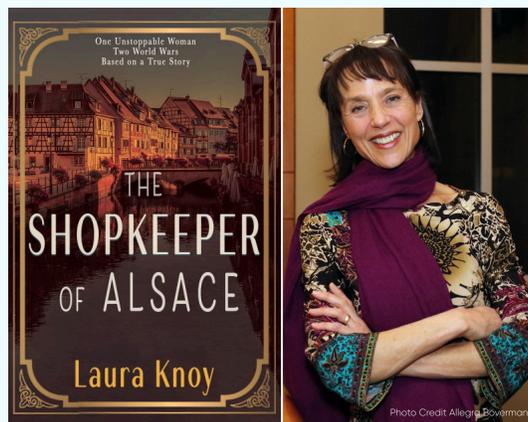
January's Theme: Fairies
February's Theme: Octavia Butler
(Select any of her novels or short story collections to share and discuss with the group.)

THE SHOPKEEPER OF ALSACE DISCUSSION WITH AUTHOR LAURA KNOY

Saturday, January 17
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Ruth Huntress Auditorium

Help us welcome award-winning journalist, New Hampshire local, and NHPR veteran Laura Knoy to talk about her debut novel: *The Shopkeeper of Alsace*, published in early November, 2025. Her novel follows Sarah, a Polish immigrant in France, and the dramatic family saga that unfolds with the beginnings of WWII. "From the Great War in Poland to the long-contested borders of Alsace to the remote refuge Sarah finds in the Cévennes mountains, *The Shopkeeper of Alsace* is an uplifting tale of family, love, resilience, and one unstoppable woman. Perfect for fans of *We Were the Lucky Ones*, *The Nightingale*, and *The Alice Network*, this dramatic debut brings to life a little-known corner of wartime history—and an inspiring real-life heroine you'll cheer for."

Laura Knoy founded New Hampshire's most widely respected and recognized public radio program, "The Exchange," which she hosted for 25 years. Laura has also worked at the national level; newscasting, hosting and reporting for NPR. We are excited to have her visit and discuss her new novel. Make sure to register and save yourself a seat!



Adults



REEL NIGHT OUT

Wednesdays
Ruth Huntress Auditorium
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m



DROP THE BALL

FEBRUARY FAVES

Remember the Titans			
Bull Durham			
Caddyshack			
Friday Night Lights			

The Imitation Game			
Taken			
Casablanca			
Gravity			

MONADNOCK PEER SUPPORT

Mondays
January 5 and February 2
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Lobby



Get information and connect with services through Monadnock Peer Support for recovery services, mental health and wellness. MPS is a member-driven organization that establishes a culture in which our members and participants feel more empowered to get support from and give support to peers.

FICTION AND MEMOIR WRITERS GROUP

Thursdays
January - February
6:00 p.m. - 7:50 p.m.
Miller-Vincent Room



Have you always wanted to write a novel, short story, or memoir? Our writers' group welcomes new members. The group provides prose fiction writers with a friendly and supportive environment to share their work. Participants learn from critiquing others and receive feedback on their submissions.

COOKIES AND COLORING

Thursdays
January - February
1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Heberton Hall



Join the crowd of adult coloring fans and find out why adults are going back to coloring. Grab a friend, sit back, and have a good time. We will provide refreshments, coloring books, and colored pencils; you bring a good conversation with your friends and fellow coloring fans.

SEA GLASS SHADOW BOX

Tuesday, January 10
6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Kay Fox Room



Beat the winter blues with a piece of the beach! Create a sea glass shadow box creation of your own design with sea glass, shells, and other beachy items to brighten up your home. All materials are provided. Space is limited; registration is required.

Teens

TEEN CRAFTERNOONS PERLER BEADS

Monday, January 12
3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Timken Teen Space



Join us this month for a craftersnoon where we'll design 3D art with perler beads! Bring your creativity and just add heat!

DIY STAMPS

Tuesday, February 24
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Kay Fox Room



Join us this month for a special school break craftersnoon where we'll be designing our own stamps using carving tools and pink erasers! Registration is recommended, as we have limited spots.

SIT & SCRIBBLE

Wednesdays
January 14 and February 11
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Booras Room



Join our teen writing group, whether you're crafting a novel, a comic, or even an exciting piece of fan fiction! This a place safe from judgment, where you can bounce ideas off each other, share your stories, and dedicate time each month to be creative.

TEEN GAMING AFTERNOON

Thursdays
January - February
3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Timken Teen Space



Game together every Thursday after school in the Teen Space!

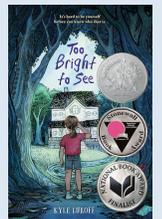
KEENE PRIDE YOUTH BOOK CLUB

Tuesdays
January 20 and February 17
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Eppes Room

There will be snacks, crafts, and the chance to talk all about this month's pick! All LGBTQ+ youth and allied youth are welcome, no matter if you read the whole book or a single page. If you need a copy of this month's pick, reach out to EGreen@KeeneNH.gov or Youth@KeenePride.org!

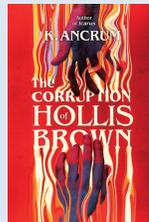
January:

Too Bright to See by Kyle Lukoff



February:

The Corruption of Hollis Brown by K. Ancrum



D&D & TEENS

Saturdays
January 24 and February 21
12:00 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.



Join DMs Teddy and Eleanor for exciting D&D oneshot adventures! Materials will be provided such as dice and note-taking items will be provided. We ask that you either come with a level-five character fully created, or use one of our pre-made character sheets.

Kids and Families

1, 2, 3 Play with Me is on a break - please take a look at our other programs!

Lego Club

Mondays
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Youth Department



Calling all builders! Come build with LEGO® bricks, we have a huge variety of bricks to encourage your imagination to go wild. Our Build-a-Rama club is open to kids of all ages.

Musical Story Time with Kim Wallach

Wednesday, January 14
and February 11
10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.
Story Room



Join Miss Kim for a story time filled with songs, music, dancing, and of course, stories! Ideal for children ages 3 - 5. Registration is greatly appreciated.

Preschool Story Time

Wednesdays
January 21 & 28 and
February 4 & 18
10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.



Preschool storytimes are geared towards pre-kindergarteners ages 3 to 5, who can sit and listen to short stories and participate in simple songs and rhymes. Storytime will always include read-aloud stories and fingerplays and may include poems, music, dramatic play, and crafts.

Baby Story Time

Thursdays
January 15 through February 19
10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.
Story Room



We'll share books, rhymes, music, fun fingerplays, puppets, and get-up-and-move activities specially designed for infants and toddlers.

Registration is greatly appreciated.

Kids STEAM

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Kay Fox

Join Miss Scout every other Thursday for a variety of STEAM programs!

Registration is required.

Ages 5 - 12

January 8: Snow Globes

January 22: Make Your Own Board Game

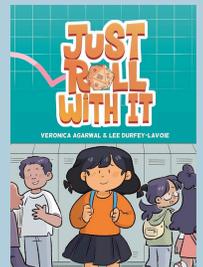
February 5: Minute to Win It Challenges

February 19: No Sew Fleece Pillows



Comic Club! With Special Guests!

Friday, January 9
4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Kay Fox



This month, creators Lee Durfey-Lavoie and Veronica Agarwal will be joining us for a virtual Q&A and presentation about how they make graphic novels! The team behind JUST ROLL WITH IT will explain their process, from scripting to cover art. Registration is appreciated.

Kids and Families

First Meeting of the Mystery Lovers Book Club

Friday, January 16
4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Story Room

Love the thrill of the chase? Join our brand-new middle grade book club (recommended for readers age 8 - 12). We will meet monthly to discuss a selection of mystery reads, along with snacks and a mystery-themed activity.

For our first meeting, please come prepared to discuss a recent mystery you've read, or maybe an old favorite you haven't been able to stop thinking about. We want to hear about it!

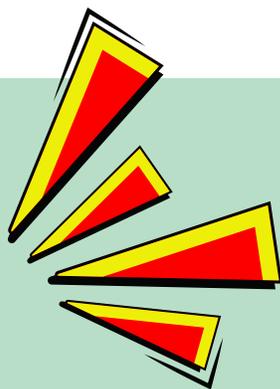
This meeting will help us all get to know each other, and learn what types of mysteries we love to read, as well as choosing a book for the February meeting. Registration is greatly appreciated!



Comic Club!

Friday, February 13
4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Kay Fox

For comic fans ages 8-12! We'll meet once a month to create together, discuss great graphic novels, and watch interviews and tutorials from our favorite artists. All skill levels are welcome, and materials will be provided! Meetings will be held on the second Friday of each month.



Family Activity Day! Celebrate Lunar New Year

Saturday, February 14
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Youth Department

Come learn about the lunar new year. This year is the year of the Horse. What zodiac animal are you? Lunar New Year is the beginning of a new year based on lunar calendars or, informally, lunisolar calendars. We will have stations for you to create lanterns, stamps, masks and more. This is a drop in Saturday program in the youth department.



Mystery Lovers Book Club

Friday, February 20
4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Story Room

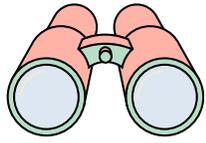


Love the thrill of the chase? Join our brand-new middle grade book club (recommended for readers age 8 - 12). We will meet monthly to discuss a selection of mystery reads, along with snacks and a mystery-themed activity. Participants are able to pick their own book from a monthly selection.

For those looking to join and receive the book for the month, please pick up your choice from the Youth Department. Registration is greatly appreciated to ensure that all participants will get the chance to choose and pick up their book for the month.



Library of Things, Garden Tools, and Outdoor Gear Collections



The Keene Public Library lends out a variety of equipment, gear, and tools that promote engagement, creativity, and recreation. These Items range from telescopes and sewing machines to pruning saws and snowshoes. Items from the Library of Things, Garden Tool Library, and Outdoor Gear Library collections can now be reserved up to 6 months in advance. To reserve an item, visit the library's website or call 603-352-0157.



Museum Passes



Museum Passes are available for check out to Keene Public Library Cardholders* through the financial support of the Friends of the Keene Public Library. Passes can be reserved in advance online through the reservation system. Some museum passes offer free admission to an individual or a group, while other passes provide admission at a reduced rate. Each pass will include the benefits in the "Details" section online. Any questions can be directed to 603-352-0157.

*Museum Passes can not be checked out by patrons of Keene State College's Mason Library or Cheshire County Special Borrowers Cardholders.



American Precision Museum



McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center



Cheshire Children's Museum



Museum of Fine Arts



Canterbury Shaker Village



Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum



The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art



New Hampshire Historical Society



Currier Museum of Art



Museum of Science



Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum



VINS Nature Center



Hildene: The Lincoln Family Home



Strawberry Banke Museum



Magic Wings



The Fort at No. 4



John Hay Estate at The Fells



Worcester Art Museum



Mariposa Museum



Manchester Historic Assoc. Millyard Museum



Bandwagon Summer Series



Montshire Museum of Science



New England Aquarium



Holiday closings and hours

Please check online for updated Makerspace hours!



Library Hours

Monday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Tuesday: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Wednesday: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Thursday: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Friday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

The library will be closed Thursday, January 1 in observance of New Year's day, Monday, January 19 in observance of Martin Luther King Day, and Monday, February 16 in observance of Presidents' Day.

For more information about programs and what the library offers, please visit our website:
KeenePublicLibrary.org



Sign up for e-newsletters and don't miss out on library happenings!



FOLLOW US

Be sure to follow us on social media for the most up to date programming, resources, information, and other fun activities. We can be found on Instagram, Facebook and YouTube @KEENEPUBLICLIBRARY



Programming made possible through the support of the Friends of Keene Public Library.
<https://friendskpl.org/>



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