



Keene Public Library

OCTOBER 2026

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

MEL ALLEN: LISTENING TO NEW ENGLAND

Saturday, October 10
11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Heberton Hall

We are very happy to host long-time writer and editor of Yankee magazine, Mel Allen. "Listening to New England" is a 45-minute talk with images from Mel's nearly half-century of reporting and writing about the unique people and places of New England for Yankee Magazine.

Toadstool Bookshop will be on hand selling Mel's newest book *Here in New England: Unforgettable people, places and memories that connect us all*. Mel will be happy to sign your copy.

Registration is appreciated.



FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY FALL BOOK SALE

Heberton & Cohen Halls

Friday, Oct. 23, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 24, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 25, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

It's time once again for the Friends of Keene Public Library twice annual book sale! Come and shop for like-new and gently used books, puzzles, movies and more at amazing prices. All items on sale were donated to the Friends and profits support programming at the library.



HALLOWEEN TRICK OR TREAT

Friday, October 30
4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Heberton Hall

Come find out what tricks and treats those silly librarians have in store for you this Halloween. Come in costume and be sure to bring some riddles of your own to see if you can trick us.



Start by decorating your own treat bag and then visit all the service desks for spooky surprises. *This event is designed for young children and their families but all are welcome.*

BANNED BOOK READ-IN

Saturday, October 10
1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Putnam Atrium



Celebrate your right to read! KPL is hosting a read-in to support banned and challenged books. Learn about the rise of book banning and efforts to combat censorship while enjoying reading together, silently or aloud.

You can bring your own book or choose from our selection! Volunteers can also record a reading from or memory about their favorite banned books to be shared on our social media. All read-in participants will receive a free e-audiobook from Libro.fm.

Book Clubs & Events

BOOK CRUSH A ROMANCE READERS GROUP

Wednesday, Oct. 7
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!

October's Theme: Witches

THIS BOOK CLUB IS MY ALIBI: A MYSTERY & THRILLERS BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, Oct. 20
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Miller-Vincent Room

Join our mysteries and thrillers book club! Our October pick is:

The Last House of Needless Street by Catriona Ward.



In a boarded-up house on a dead-end street at the edge of the wild Washington woods lives a family of three...An unspeakable secret binds them together, but when a new neighbor moves in next door, what is buried out among the birch trees may come back to haunt them all.

Registration is greatly appreciated.
Copies of the book will be available at the circulation desk!

GREAT SHORT STORIES DISCUSSION GROUP

Tuesday, Oct. 1, 15 & 29
2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Eppes Room



Welcome to the 40th year of Great Short Stories discussion group.

10/1: Tennessee Williams, "The Resemblance Between a Violin Case and a Coffin" & Mary Ladd Gavell, "The Rotifer"

10/15: Alice Elliott Dark, "In The Gloaming" & Benjamin Rosenblatt, "Zelig"

10/29: J. F. Powers, "Death of a Favorite" & Jean Toomer, "Blood-Burning Moon"

Copies available at the reference desk.
Registration is greatly appreciated.

INFINITE WORLDS A SPECULATIVE FICTION BOOK CLUB

Thursday, Oct. 22
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.

October's Theme: Ghost Stories

It's the spookiest time of year, so of course we will be reading stories to fit the season. Whether you're a hardcore haunter or more a Casper fan, there is a ghost story for every level of horror tolerance. Visit our website or email kmcstravick@keenenh.gov for recommendations.

Registration is appreciated!



Adults

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Tuesday, Oct. 27
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Heberton Hall



Join us for the annual Community Garden Connections Harvest Festival! Come celebrate the harvest season with delicious food, community and fun.

Enjoy pumpkin decorating, connection and learn more about our partner sites.



DIGITAL RESOURCE SPOTLIGHT: TRANSPARENT LANGUAGE ONLINE

Tuesday Oct. 13
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Masiello Classroom



Join us for a monthly step-by-step demonstration of one of our featured digital resources from account creation to making the most of the features.

This month: Transparent Language Online provides an effective and engaging experience for language learners looking to build their vocabulary, practice their listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills, and maintain what they learn.

Registration required.

TECH TALK PERSONAL INFORMATION LEAKS

Thursday, October 8
6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Masiello Classroom



This month we will be joined by Deb McLaughlin, IT Systems Specialist for the City of Keene. This talk will explain how data leaks can expose personal information, including your email address and phone number.

We'll discuss how strangers and scammers obtain this information and use it for phishing, spam, and other scams. You'll also learn simple steps you can take to protect your personal information and reduce your risk.

Registration is appreciated.

ADULT CRAFT: POLYMER CLAY PENS

Thursday, Oct. 15
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Kay Fox Room



Come learn about polymer clay by making cases for ball point pens. These make great gifts and this is something you can easily replicate at home.

This program is intended for adults and teens. **Registration is required.**

Adults

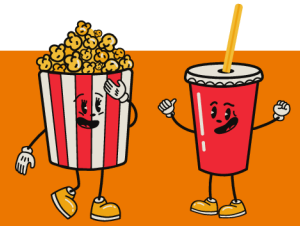


REEL NIGHT OUT

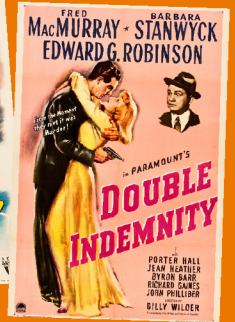
Wednesdays

Ruth Huntress Auditorium

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m



Sunset Boulevard
Dial M for Murder
Notorious
Double Indemnity



PLAY & LEARN AMERICAN MAHJONG

Wednesdays
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Kay Fox Room



Players meet weekly. Newcomers are welcome to join the beginners table. If you are curious you can just come and observe, ask questions and get an introduction to the game.

KPL FICTION AND MEMOIR WRITERS GROUP

Thursday Oct. 8 & 22
5:45 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
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.

MONADNOCK PEER SUPPORT

Monday Oct. 5
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Lobby



Get information and connect with services through Monadnock Peer Support, member-driven organization, for recovery services, mental health and wellness.

Teens

TEEN LOCK-IN: THE TRAITORS

Friday, Oct. 23
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Circulation Lobby



Hey Middle and High Schoolers! Join us for our next lock-in, where you'll participate in the ultimate social deduction game THE TRAITORS! Whether you're a Faithful trying to rule out the Traitors while working towards your grand prize, or a Traitor trying to deceive and deflect your way to victory, this game is sure to be fun for all. We'll have pizza, snacks, and LIES AND BETRAYAL AND EXCITEMENT AND INTRIGUE!

Costumes are encouraged, whether you're decked out in your Scottish Highlands best or your favorite Halloween costume. Come as a character or come as yourself!

Registration and permission slip required. Check our online calendar for details.

THE
TRAITORS
KPL EDITION

TEEN CRAFTERNOON LIGHT SWITCH COVER DECORATING

Monday, Oct. 19
3:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Timken Teen Space



Hey middle and high schoolers! Join us this month to decorate a light switch cover! Jazz up your bedroom, living room, or even your kitchen! Make a gift for a friend, put it in their room, and see how long it takes them to notice their fun, new decoration!

TEEN SIT & SCRIBBLE

Wednesday, Oct. 14
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 is 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 DROP-IN

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



Teens and tweens in middle and high school are welcome to game together every Thursday after school in the Teen Space!



Kids & Families

KIDS STEAM NOW ON TUESDAYS!

Designed for ages 6-11

Registration required.

PLUSHIE PORTRAITS

Tuesday, October 6

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

Kay Fox Room



Create a portrait of your favorite toy! Bring in a stuffed animal, action figure, or doll and practice your art skills. We'll learn about proportion, perspective, and foundational drawing techniques.

HAUNTED HOUSES

Tuesday, October 20

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

Kay Fox Room



Continue the KPL Halloween tradition! We'll build graham cracker gingerbread houses with ghostly flair to decorate for All Hallows' Eve.

KIDS COMIC CLUB

Friday, Oct. 9

4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Kay Fox Room



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!

Registration Appreciated.

Library Build-A-Rama

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.

CLIF YEAR OF THE BOOK

Saturday, Oct. 17

11:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

Cohen Hall



Author, Naturalist & Educator extraordinaire Susie Spikol from the Harris Center for Conservation Education is our special guest for this Children's Literacy Event created in collaboration with Children's Literacy Foundation (CLiF) and Wheelock School.

Susie will be reading from her recent book and presenting a fun filled interactive presentation on mushrooms! Wheelock School Librarian Cheri Nutting will be on hand to show off all the beautiful new picture books gifted to the school & the Keene Public Library through a grant from CLiF. This program is designed for elementary age children and families. **Registration is appreciated** so we can be sure to be prepared to give you the best experience.

Story Times

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

Sept 30 - Nov 18

Wednesdays

10:30 a.m.- 11:15 a.m.

Storyroom



Join us for read-aloud stories and fingerplays and may include poems, music, dramatic play, and crafts!

MUSIC STORYTIME WITH KIM WALLACH

Wednesday, Oct. 7

10:30 a.m.- 11:15 a.m.

Storyroom



Join us for a special storytime with our friend Kim Wallach, a longtime musician and educator!

STORYTIME AT STONEWALL FARM

Wednesday, Oct. 14

10:30 a.m.- 11:15 a.m.

Stonewall Farm



Meet us at the farm! Storytimes at Stonewall Farm give children and opportunity to experience farming and farm animals up close. This storytime is all about food, where our food comes from and how to grow and harvest it. We will be visiting the gardens at the farm.

All preschool story times are designed for ages 3-5. **Registration required.**

BOOK TIME WITH BABIES AND TODDLERS

Oct 1 - Nov 12

Thursdays

10:30 a.m.- 11:15 a.m.



We'll share books, rhymes, music, fun fingerplays, puppets, and get-up-and-move activities specially designed for infants and toddlers. At the end of the program, there will be a playtime when parents and caregivers share books, puzzles, or other early literacy activities with their toddlers.

NEW: PURPLE FINCH AWARDS



Based on feedback, the Great Stone Face Committee is debuting the Purple Finch reading list this year. This list is for our **third and fourth-grade** readers. Check out these **new award nominees** in the library youth department!



LADYBUG AWARD PROGRAM: COMING NOVEMBER 14



Kingsbury Makerspace

LEARN TO LASER ENGRAVE

Wednesday, Oct. 7
5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Learn what you can make with our Laser Engraver! Discover what materials can be used with our laser engraver such as acrylics, wood, leather and more. This workshop will provide you with all the information you need to start laser engraving, and walk you through a hands-on activity to laser engrave a custom graphic onto your own coaster or bookmark. All materials are provided. **Registration required.**

To participate in this workshop you must complete the online tutorial(s) at least 1 week prior to the workshop.

If you have trouble accessing the tutorials or have questions please call the makerspace directly (603 757-0621) and leave a message. We will respond within 48 hours.



BEGINNING SEWING

Wednesday, Oct. 21
5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

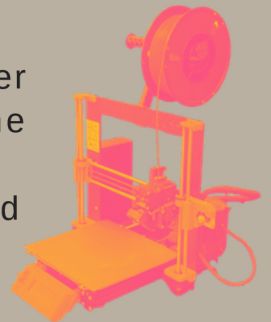
Come learn the basics of sewing by making a simple small zippered bag. To participate in this workshop please complete the online tutorial: Introduction to the Makerspace.

This workshop is intended to introduce basic sewing skills through making a zippered bag. All materials are provided. **Registration required.**



OUR SPACE IS EQUIPPED WITH:

- 3D Printers
- Laser Cutter/Engraver
- CNC Carving Machine
- Vinyl Cutter/Plotter
- Sewing Machines and Supplies
- & MORE!



Whatever you want to make, we have the tools and knowledge to help you make your ideas real!

VISIT THE MAKERSPACE!

Tues: 3 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Wed: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.

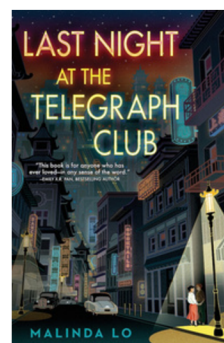
Thurs: 3 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Sat: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.



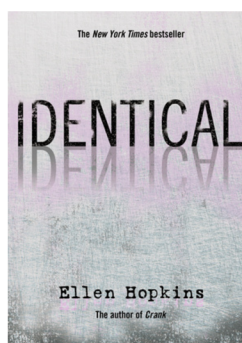
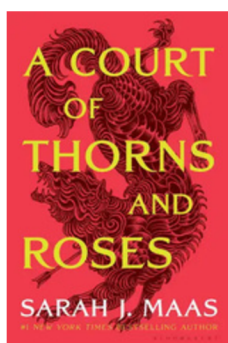
Banned Book Week

Banned Books Week was launched in 1982 in response to a sudden surge in the number of challenges to books in libraries, bookstores, and schools. Often held during September or October., the annual event highlights the value of free and open access to information and brings together the entire book community — librarians, educators, authors, publishers, booksellers, and readers of all types — in shared support of the freedom to seek and to express ideas. To read more about Banned Book Week, visit <https://bannedbooksweek.org/> **Read with us Oct. 10!**



TOP 11 MOST CHALLENGED BOOKS OF 2025

DATA COMPILED BY
THE AMERICAN
LIBRARY ASSOCIATION



BANNED BOOKS WEEK®

OCT 4-10, 2026

LET BOOKS BE

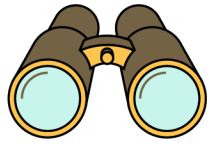
PROTECT THE
FREEDOM TO READ

[ALA.ORG/BBOOKS](https://ALA.org/bbooks)

ALA American
Library
Association



Library of Things, Garden Tools, and Outdoor Gear Collections



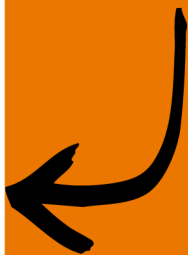
The Keene Public Library lends out a variety of equipment, gear, and tools that promote engagement, creativity, and recreation. These Items range from telescopes and sewing machines to pruning saws and snowshoes.



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.

Scan this QR code to browse our Library of Things online!





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.



Bandwagon
Summer
Series



Canterbury
Shaker
Village



Currier
Museum of
Art



Cheshire
Children's
Museum



The Eric
Carle
Museum of
Picture Book
Art



The Fort at
No. 4



Hildene: The
Lincoln
Family Home



Isabella
Stewart
Gardner
Museum



John Hay
Estate at
The Fells



Magic Wings



Manchester
Historic
Assoc,
Millyard
Museum



Mariposa
Museum



McAuliffe-
Shepard
Discovery
Center



Montshire
Museum of
Science



Museum of
Science



Museum of
Fine Arts



Mt. Kearsarge
Indian
Museum



New England
Aquarium



New
Hampshire
Historical
Society



Squam Lakes
Natural Science
Center



Strawberry
Banke
Museum



Worcester Art
Museum



VINS Nature
Center

Holiday closings and 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.

Remember: library pick-up lockers typically close at the beginning of December!

**Library Closed on Monday,
October 12th for Columbus/
Indigenous Peoples Day**



WHEN YOU VISIT

Make sure you have your library card or photo ID in order to check out materials.

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



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



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

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



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