An old piece of folk wisdom reminds us that a single-strand rope is much more easily broken than one braided of many strands. The whole of such a braided cord has strength far greater than even the sum of its threads.

At CALS, we try to approach meeting the community’s needs with this truth in mind. We actively cultivate collaboration with a host of partners from all around the community in order to keep braiding those invisible ties that collectively support our culture, our neighborhoods, and our families better than any of us can do acting alone.

This is an even more powerful truth in a digital era when it seems that so many forces are intent on fraying the community’s bonds by sowing conflict, division, and fear. The public library has always stood in the center of the community, encouraging collaboration—braiding and rebraiding the cords of connection — inviting partners and our community members to discover the strength of dialogue and teamwork.

As you read the news in this quarterly, we hope you will be encouraged by our many dynamic, library-based partnerships that are striving to make our neighborhoods stronger, richer, and happier places to live. And if you can point us in the direction of new partnerships to forge, please contact me at ncoulter@cals.org.

Here are a couple of examples I’m proud of Little Rock for accomplishing recently. Be Mighty Little Rock, coordinated by our CALS library staff, brought together an unprecedented number of major community partners to combat youth hunger this summer, including the City of Little Rock, the Little Rock School District, the city Parks and Recreation Department, the Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance, and Rock Region METRO. Those partnerships are continuing in exciting ways with more nutrition and health programs. This fall, another partnership will allow the Arkansas Arts Center to teach many classes in CALS branches, as the center begins a massive two-year remodeling process that will close down its usual space. By hosting the AAC in our well-equipped public meeting spaces, we can assist this vital cultural institution to keep its connection with the people of our city.

These major collaborative efforts produce clear benefits for our community, but there are also scores of other partnerships happening every day at CALS that enrich our neighborhoods and our people’s lives. Whether we are jumping in to enhance the fun of Goat Fest in Perryville, teaming up with Arkansas Women’s Outreach to support women’s health needs, or hosting classes in crucial business skills from the Arkansas Small Business and Technology Development Center, we see every day the benefits that people realize from our collaborations.

We hope you will join your own strand to the many threads that run through this publication, telling the story of how our people come together for progress and for hope. You are a vital part of the braided strength that we support, and we welcome you to our CALS community.
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*All feature articles, event photography, and cover photography by Rosslyn Elliott.*
children & family programs

Programs listed here include only regular meetings (weekly unless otherwise indicated). Find many more branch library events online at cals.org.

children’s library

Drum Circle
Sun | 2-3 pm

Little Kids in the Kitchen
Mon | 10 am | ages 2-5

STEAM Team
Tue | 4 pm | ages 7-12

Nature Crafts
Wed | 4 pm | ages 7-12

Tail-Waggin’ Tutors
Thu | 3:30-5 pm

fletcher library

-maker Monday
Mon | 3:30-4:30 pm

-Pamper & Polish
Tue | 3:30-4:30 pm

-Thematic Thursday
Thu | 3:30-4:30 pm

Word Puzzle Wednesday
Wed | Sep 4; Oct 2; Nov 6 | 3:30-4:30 pm

Wilderness Wednesday
Wed | Sep 11; Oct 9; Nov 13 | 3:30-4:30 pm

Wii U Wednesday
Wed | Sep 18; Oct 17; Nov 20 | 3:30-4:30 pm

World Culture Wednesday
Wed | Sep 25; Oct 23; Nov 27 | 3:30-4:30 pm

After-School Program
ages 6-12 | Mon-Fri | 4-5 pm

Afternoon Antics
Sat | 3 pm | ages 5-12

maumelle library

Artsy Smartsy
Mon | Sep 2; Oct 7; Nov 4 | 10:30 am

Snack ‘n Play
Mon | 3:30 pm

K-5 Kids
Wed | 3:30 pm

Family Movie Day
Fri | 3:30 pm

Word Puzzle Wednesday
Wed | Sep 4; Oct 2; Nov 6 | 3:30-4:30 pm

Wilderness Wednesday
Wed | Sep 11; Oct 9; Nov 13 | 3:30-4:30 pm

mcmath library

Tail Waggin’ Tutors
Sat | Sep 14; Oct 12; Nov 9 | 2-3 pm

milam library

Crafternoon
Tue | 3:30 pm | ages 5-10

nixon library

Afternoon Adventures
Tue | 4:15-5 pm

Afternoon Movies
Wed | 4-5:30 pm

Toy Library
Wed, Fri | 11:15-11:45 am

rooker library

Movie Monday
Mon | 4-5:30 pm

Happy Homeschoolers
Tue | 2 pm

Crafternoon Delight
Thu | 4-5 pm | ages 5-12

sanders library

STEAM Power
Tue | 3:30-4:30 pm | ages 5-10

Master Builders
Thu | 3:30-4:30 pm | ages 5-10

Tinker Time
Fri | 10:45-11:15 am

terry library

After-School Club
Mon | 4 pm | ages 8-12

LEGO Jr. Makers
Wed | 4 pm | ages 5-12

Chess & Checkers Club
Thu | Sep 12; Oct 10; Nov 14 | 4 pm | ages 8-18

Tail Waggin’ Tutors
Thu | Sep 19; Oct 17; Nov 21 | 4 pm | ages 6-18

thompson library

LEGO® Crew
Mon | 4-5 pm | ages 5-12 (except
Sep 9; Oct 14; Nov 11)

Tail Waggin’ Tutors
Mon | Sep 9; Oct 14; Nov 11 | 4-5 pm | ages 5-8

Kids Café
Tue | Sep 17; Oct 15; Nov 19 | 4 pm | ages 6-18

Destination Exploration
Wed | 4 pm | ages 5-11

Little Kids Dance Party
Fri | 10-11 am | ages 5 & under

williams library

After-School Antics
Tue | Sep 10; Oct 8; Nov 12 | 4 pm | ages 5-12

Family Dinner Night
Thu | Sep 5, 19; Oct 3, 17; Nov 7, 21 | 5:30 pm | families

Used Book Sale

Main Library Basement | Library Square | 100 Rock St.

Thu | Nov 7 | 5-7 pm (Friends of CALS members only)

Fri | Nov 8 | 10 am-6 pm (Friends of CALS may enter at 9 a.m.)

Sat | Nov 9 | 10 am-4 pm (Friends of CALS may enter at 9 a.m.)

Memberships available at the door.

Who are Friends?

For over 50 years, Friends have provided support through advocacy, fundraising, and promotional programs. As a Friend of CALS, you play a vital role in the success of your library. Join today at cals.org/friends.
Get Your Goat On!
CALS Milam Library Celebrates Goat Fest with Perryville

On Saturday, October 5, the town of Perryville will host the wildly popular Goat Fest, an event that annually brings thousands of visitors to enjoy goats in costume, parades, goat theater, goat yoga, demonstrations, and vendors selling whimsical products such as goat’s milk soap bedecked with horns.

This year, the CALS Max Milam Library in Perryville is again joining the goat party with its own contribution. Branch Manager Allen Jarvis is looking forward to the big day.

“We’re here to serve the community and be part of it, and sometimes, that means we get to do fun things like Goat Fest!” Jarvis said. “Goat Fest will be down at the city park, so we’ll be taking our Storytime down there. It’s a chance to show what we have to offer to the community, so they know what resources we have for them, which includes books, but also lots more. And Goat Fest goes beyond just being a community event—it’s an all-Arkansas event.”

CALS programmer Trinity Neeley will be running the Storytime. “Bringing a Storytime to Goat Fest is great because everybody’s so excited about Goat Fest!” Neeley said. “Having a story in Reader’s Theater style like “Three Billy Goats Gruff” can get everybody’s gears turning in more than one direction. Then they may decide they want to check out some more folk tales for their kids.”

Neeley appreciates the way that Goat Fest brings people together from all over central Arkansas and beyond. “I’m always excited to see all the people who come to Goat Fest from all over our library service area!” Neeley said. “They’re always happy to see us because they sometimes don’t realize that the Max Milam Library is part of the Central Arkansas Library System. Then they realize they can use their cards all over the whole library system and check out and return things at all the branches, not just their own neighborhood branch.”

Come out to the Goat Fest, say hello at the Storytime, then stop in at the CALS Max Milam Library on Saturday, October 5.

For more information on the 2019 Goat Fest, check out www.facebook.com/ArkansasGoatFestival/For contact information or directions to the CALS Max Milam Library and its many free resources, see cals.org/milam-library/ or call 501-889-2554.

storytimes
Groups meet weekly unless otherwise noted.

**brooks library**
Sat | 10:30 am | ages 10 & under (2nd & 4th Sat)

**children’s library**
Wed, Thu | 10 am & 10:30 am | ages 5 & under

**main library**
Tue | 10:30 am | babies
Thu | 10 am | toddlers
Thu | 11 am | preschoolers
Fri | 10:30 am | ages 5 & under
Sat | 10:30 am | families

**maumelle library**
Tue | 10:30 am | preschoolers
Tue | 10:30 am | age 6-11 (homeschoolers)
Wed | 10:30 am | babies, toddlers

**mcmath library**
Fri | 10:30 am | preschoolers

**milam library**
Tue | 10:30 am | preschoolers

**nixon library**
Wed | 10:30 am | preschoolers
Fri | 10:30 am | babies, toddlers

**rooker library**
Tue | 10:30 am | babies, toddlers, preschoolers

**sanders library**
Wed | 10 am & 10:45 am | toddlers
Fri | 10 am | preschoolers

**terry library**
Mon | 9:30 am | babies
Mon | 10:30 am | toddlers
Tue | 9:30 am | toddlers
Tue | 10:30 am | preschoolers
Tue | 11:30 am | ages 3-5
Thu | 9:30 am | babies
Thu | 10:30 am | preschoolers
Thu | 11:30 am | ages 3-5

**thompson library**
Mon | 9:30 am | babies, toddlers
Mon | 10:30 am | preschoolers
Wed | 10 am | preschoolers
In the past year, Be Mighty Little Rock created a mighty partnership of many organizations across the city to help kids, teens, and their families. CALS administered the program, and with the help of crucial partners, Be Mighty connected kids and teens with nutritious meals throughout the summer months.

Be Mighty meal sites serve young people all year round, but summer months are a special high-risk time for food insecurity. Kids who ordinarily get much of their nutrition through school meals during the school year may face family challenges during the summer that leave them hungry. So we were excited to find that our CALS meals sites had served an amazing 50 percent more summer meals to make sure kids stayed healthy all summer. We are thankful to our partners at the Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance and the Little Rock School District for making this campaign possible.

Summer meals served at CALS meal sites
A major help to many families was the crucial Be Mighty LR partnership with Rock Region METRO that allowed many families with transportation challenges to get to the meal sites where food was being served. CALS distributed 1,200 Be Mighty METRO passes that provided kids, teens, and caregivers unlimited rides on any Rock Region METRO Route from June 1-July 31 resulting in 16,792 rides.

CALS staffer Kay Kay DeRossette coordinated the program and was delighted by the results. “It meant a lot to hear from parents that the Be Mighty program had helped their kids and teens so much. It wasn’t just the healthy food, but also the access to transportation that helped families get to the grocery store, the way the kids started asking for fruits and vegetables at home, and the way some families said that the whole summer was better because the kids were out doing active programs instead of sitting in front of digital screens all day. That was exactly what we had hoped Be Mighty would do for our local young people.”

Families loved our end-of-summer celebration at War Memorial Splash Pad, which featured a cookout, sprinklers, the LR Fire Department, and team sports, games, and dances. It was the perfect way to end an epic summer for the Be Mighty kids.

After-school meals at CALS branches
Be Mighty Little Rock is a citywide campaign to connect kids and teens 18 and under to free meals and make sure no young person goes hungry. After-school meals will be offered at several CALS branches, as well as other locations throughout Little Rock. To help children stay active and learn, activities such as cooking, reading, or exercise programs and games are offered at meal sites.

Be Mighty LR is currently looking for volunteers interested in facilitating nutrition literacy curriculum at after-school meal sites this fall. All after-school meal sites are required to offer enrichment activities with their meal program, so your volunteer help is vital to help us keep feeding young people.

For more information, visit BeMightyLittleRock.org
Starting Your Family History Research? Get the Basics Here at CALS

Who am I? How did I end up here?
A fascination with family history sometimes begins with simple personal curiosity. Most people don’t know their complete family trees, and a mysterious past naturally leads to questions: Were my ancestors rich or poor? Did they overcome hardship? Did a certain talent or health problem run in my family?

Genealogy provides answers to questions of identity
When we have questions about our past that we want to answer, where do we start? With so many online and print sources available, knowing how to find reliable information can feel like finding the proverbial needle in the haystack.

Free introductory how-to sessions
CALS offers free, expert help every month from our resident genealogist, Rhonda Stewart. In her small group presentation,

“Finding Family Facts,” Rhonda introduces new researchers to the process of finding reliable information and to the many resources at the Research Room in the CALS Roberts Library. “Finding Family Facts” takes place on the second Monday of each month at the CALS Roberts Library from 3:30-5 pm.

“Finding Family Facts” now coming to your library branch
Now you can learn the basics of family research all across the CALS system! This fall, the popular workshop will travel around the branches, starting with the following dates in three Little Rock locations. Stay tuned for more visits across our 14 branches.

Fletcher Library | Sep 12 | 10-11:30 am
Terry Library | Oct 10 | 10-11:30 am
McMath Library | Nov 14 | 10:30 am-noon

Nexus Nook at CALS Main Library Named Best of Arkansas 2019

The Nexus Nook coffee shop here at CALS Main Library has been honored as an Arkansas Times Editors’ Pick for BEST PLACE TO DRINK COFFEE, LISTEN TO MUSIC, AND BE SURROUNDED BY BOOKS YOU CAN’T BUY.

The editors praised the “bookish bistro” with “real music” as a “soothing spot with a good read” and a place to “bliss out.” And we totally agree about our partners, Nexus Coffee & Creative, and the wonderful space they’ve created for relaxing, reading, or chatting with friends, your kids, or your business associates at the Main Library in downtown Little Rock.

In a humorous nod to the perils of bookstores for book lovers, the AR Times editors quip about the advantages of “books you can’t buy,” but of course, the even better news is that you can have those books without buying them, because this is, after all, a public library. After you bliss out for a while skimming books at the Nexus Nook with cappuccino in hand, you can just saunter over to the check-out station, whip out your library card, and take all those lovely books, movies, or CDs home with you at no charge.

Come check it out yourself, where the menu includes Nexus favorites such as lattés, teas, and iced coffee as well as pastries and snacks. Nexus can also provide catering for your meetings and parties at the library, and if you haven’t yet tasted their rich, pure coffee roasts, you have a treat in store!

Stop by the CALS Main Library to visit the Nexus Nook and savor some books, music, conversation, and aroma for yourself. It’s the perfect spot for a break before, during, or after work—and you’ll also have the free wi-fi access available at all CALS libraries.

The Nexus Nook is open Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the CALS Main Library at Library Square in downtown Little Rock.

For more information or catering requests, contact Nexus Coffee & Creative at (501) 295-7515 or nexuscoffee@gmail.com.
Local teacher Jeff Davidson had a vision for his summer workshop for teenagers. He wanted to share his fascination with city planning by teaching teens to look closely at the urban world around them, in order to understand how and why their city looks the way it does today. So Davidson designed a fascinating role-playing curriculum in which each student would assume a role such as Chief Architect, Planning Commissioner, Sustainability Commissioner, or Engineering Director. Together, the teens would engage in active learning including guest talks from architects, a visit with the Little Rock city planning department, and a trip to look at historical maps of Little Rock in the CALS Roberts Library Research Room.

Teens work with historic maps of Little Rock at CALS Roberts Library

We caught up with the engaged bunch of teens as CALS archivists showed them huge new city maps and neighborhood records. For many of the students, the encounter with the historical materials was their favorite part of the project thus far. “I really enjoyed seeing the old documents,” Aiden said. “You don’t usually get to do that!”

Mr. Davidson knew that they had come to the right place. “I wanted them to experience local city planning and I knew the Roberts Library had lots of documents and maps. We’re studying how cities evolve and why, and what are the values of a city planner. In the process, we study aspects of architecture, environment, history and more.”

Learning to see the values behind a city’s design

Davidson’s course went much deeper than simply subject knowledge or career education, however. “The project teaches them to see the values at work in the city planning process, such as walking vs. driving, or individual vs. community,” Davidson said. “We’re not telling them what to think, but instead helping them realize that there are so many different philosophies at work in city planning. Tomorrow, they will get to do their own digital city-building game!”

Student Maxx contemplated the old map in front of him. “It’s interesting to see how the city has changed,” he said. “What they’ve added or destroyed, and how they shifted away from the grid system. I think the I-30 bridge across the river was a good addition!”

Another young man discussed the values behind a controversial planning decision in Little Rock history: the building of I-630 that split apart a thriving African American neighborhood. “I don’t know if the people who planned the construction of I-630 had the best motives,” he said. “I don’t know if I would have stuck with that plan.”

Student Olivia was enthusiastic about the chance to work with the historical materials. “I like to see how the cities looked back then. It’s kind of cool how the city evolved. And I get to look at really cool things that are over a hundred years old!”

SLUFY enrichment program for youth uses library resources to spark teen learning

Mr. Davidson taught this workshop through the Summer Laureate University for Youth (SLUFY), a summer program sponsored by the UA Little Rock Jodie Mahony Center for Gifted Education, which this year celebrated a historic 40th anniversary. This program encourages talented students to study unique topics with expert teachers as they interact with motivated peers.

The buzz in the library Research Room between students, adults, and CALS archivists was energizing— it was clear...
that thanks to the dynamic curriculum, these teenagers had seen the relevance of the past to the present and plugged into the city planning process. As proof, we only had to overhear the student Planning Commissioner say to his friend with charming conviction, “The solution to traffic isn’t to make more roads—it’s to make better public transportation!”

Students and teachers from all schools and homeschooled are welcome in the CALS Roberts Library Research Room, where trained archivists can help locate materials or give research tips. For more information or to set up a visit, call Heather Zbinden at (501) 320-5744. Lesson plans for K-12 are also available to assist teachers and students.

For more information about the SLUFY summer program, see https://ualr.edu/slufy/.

**teen programs**

Programs listed here include only regular meetings (weekly unless otherwise indicated). Find many more branch library events online at cals.org.

**children’s library**

**Tech Lab**
Mon | 4 pm

**main library**

**After-School Program**
Mon-Fri | 4-5 pm

**Teen Program**
Sat | 2 pm

**maumelle library**

**Café Olé**
Mon | 3:30-4:30 pm

**Home Grown Teens**
Tue | 10:30 am

**Teen Time Tuesdays**
Tue | 3:30-4:30 pm

**mcmath library**

**Wii Wednesday**
Wed | Sep 4; Oct 2; Nov 6 | 6-7 pm

**Anime Night**
Wed | Sep 25; Oct 23; Nov 27 | 6 pm

**milam library**

**Pizza on Us**
Tue | Sep 3; Oct 8; Nov 5 | 3:30 pm

**nixon library**

**Another Teen Time**
Tue | 5:30-6:30 pm

**Teen Time**
Fri | 4-5:15 pm

**rooker library**

**Wii Play Game Day**
Wed | 4-5 pm

**Kids Karaoke**
Fri | 4-5 pm

**Art Project**
Sat | Sep 28; Oct 26; Nov 23 | 11:30 am

**sanders library**

**Bored Games**
Mon | 4-5:30 pm

**Teen Time**
Tue, Thu, Fri | 4-5:30 pm

**D&D Wednesdays**
Wed | 4-5:30 pm

**terry library**

**Voluntary Teens**
Wed | 4 pm

**thompson library**

**Teen Advisory Board**
Mon | Sep 2, 16; Oct 7, 21; Nov 4, 18 | 4 pm

**Teen Time**
Tue | Sep 3; Oct 8; Nov 5 | 4-5 pm

**Teen Trivia**
Fri | Sep 6; Oct 4; Nov 1

**Crafty Creations**
Wed | Sep 11, 25; Oct 9, 23; Nov 13, 27

**Game Day**
Fri | Sep 13, 27; Oct 11, 25; Nov 8, 22

**Teen Tech Time**
Thu | Sep 26; Oct 24; Nov 28
**adult programs**

Programs listed here include only regular meetings (weekly unless otherwise indicated). Find many more branch library events online at cals.org.

### Adult Programs

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<th>Program</th>
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<td><strong>Conversational English &amp; Spanish</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Harlem’s Boot Camp</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Quilting</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Meditation at Main</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Table Top Tuesdays</strong></td>
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<td><strong>REEL Talk</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Make &amp; Take Crafts</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Art Night</strong></td>
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<td><strong>milam library</strong></td>
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<td><strong>nixon library</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Movie Monday</strong></td>
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<td><strong>rooker library</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Jewelry Class</strong></td>
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<td><strong>sanders library</strong></td>
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<td><strong>terry library</strong></td>
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<td><strong>thompson library</strong></td>
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<td><strong>williams library</strong></td>
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**because you give, our library thrives**

**FIND OUT HOW.**

**www.cals.org/foundation**
No Limitations: Art Class Inspires David to Discover His Gifts

David Johnson loves bowling and has trophies to prove it. He loves the Arkansas Razorbacks. And now, thanks to his work in art classes at CALS, a caring family, and a dedicated health care professional, David also has a passion for art.

David is 35 and has Down Syndrome, which presents him with a different set of abilities and challenges than most people. David also has an infectious smile, which comes out when he poses for a picture with his finished works of art.

**CALS art classes bring growth through the challenges of Down Syndrome**

In early 2019, David started taking art classes at the CALS Fletcher Library with CALS programmer Susie Sward. His mother, Sharon, also helps him with art activities, and she praised David’s experience with the CALS art program. “Susie’s so great and he just meshes with her class. Susie explains it, but then everybody does what they want.”

Sharon added that the freedom of Sward’s art classes allows David to progress at his own pace without frustration, and to use his imagination to create his own unique pieces that bring together skills as he learns them.

David has the help of a Direct Support Professional, Kerri, who also appreciates the way Sward’s teaching has helped David grow through his artistic experiences.

“Susie encourages you to use your own style. She gives good background information and takes it step by step,” Kerri said.

**Starting with simple, solid colors leads to new skills and complex imaginative work**

David has come a long way since he began his art work. At first, in a rock-painting activity, he would simply paint the rocks all one color. But as he became more engaged in the creative process, he started to add polka dots on his rocks. From there, he progressed quickly—the next thing Kerri and Sharon knew, he was mixing colors. Then he used premade letters to spell his name on his art. He made a “Go Hogs!” sign to honor his beloved Razorbacks. And best of all, he started to independently use his new skills to envision new types of art. In one of Sward’s classes, he combined his new skills to create paintings featuring appealing patterns of dots, rectangles, and hearts. “He created that completely out of his own imagination while we were in class together,” his mother said.

David’s love for art is clear. When asked for his favorite color, he responded “Black,” but then added, “Orange. Green. Red.”

Sharon chuckled. “He likes them all!”

“I like it!” David said. He especially likes using the brushes. He is proud of his work and hangs his paintings on his wall in his bedroom. He said that the paintings make him feel happy. “I like to take pictures on my phone,” he said, describing the pleasure of showing his works to friends through his phonecam.

Kerri is delighted by what David has gained from his art classes. “David gains so much confidence with his painting and crafting. He has learned to get out of his comfort zones, accepting that he can “color outside the lines,” being ok with getting messy, not being so regimented, and just the pride of being able to show people his talent.”

**Unlocking the gift of creativity**

The gift of creative freedom is the most precious part of the class, Kerri pointed out, and that is a gift that art class brings to everyone, no matter what their abilities. “From the first rock David painted,” Kerri said, “he knew that he himself could design and create whatever HE wanted to make— with no boundaries or limitations.”

Kerri is delighted by what David has gained from his art classes. “David gains so much confidence with his painting and crafting. He has learned to get out of his comfort zones, accepting that he can “color outside the lines,” being ok with getting messy, not being so regimented, and just the pride of being able to show people his talent.”

**CALS art and crafting classes are offered at the 14 branch libraries across the Central Arkansas Library system. For class times, see the events calendar at cals.org. For information on the art classes at the CALS Fletcher Library branch, contact Susie Sward, Assistant Branch Manager at (501) 663-5457.**
It can be easy to take women’s health needs for granted: many of us women can walk into stores, purchase any feminine hygiene supplies we need, and spend the day as comfortably as possible with the supplies of our choice. But for women suffering from serious financial challenges, job loss, or homelessness, that simple need for supplies can turn into a source of great anxiety and daily shame. Now, CALS is partnering with Arkansas Women’s Outreach to bring to women in our community the supplies that grant comfort and dignity for their menstrual health.

Main Library pilot program offers hygiene supplies for women in need

Thanks to Arkansas Women’s Outreach, CALS will be able to offer women’s hygiene supplies at the Main Library through a pilot program that will later expand to branch locations all across the library service area in central Arkansas. Additional programs and an award-winning film will help address the ongoing stigma surrounding women’s menstrual health—a stigma that causes health problems, social problems, and shame where none should exist. The goal of both the supplies and the programming is that all women should be treated with respect and humanity in having access to basic hygiene supplies, as well as access to women’s health education.

Private effort from library staff turns into search for partners

Crystal Edwards, Adult Programmer at the CALS Main Library, saw the need to help women in our community and reached out to partners.

“Our department at Main Library has been providing pads and tampons to the public for a couple of years that staff members were purchasing out of pocket,” Edwards said. “We kept a small box behind the desk and refilled it when necessary.”

When another staff member suggested that the library system expand the effort, Edwards began to consider contacting Arkansas Women’s Outreach, a group already known for its successful work in the area of women’s hygiene. “Then I found out that the Teen Department at Main Library had also been handing out products bought by staff!” Edwards said. “So we were all working on it in our own areas.” Edwards started to brainstorm with colleague Katherine O’Bryan, Teen Programmer, to envision a new programming effort and to reach out for partners.

Arkansas Women’s Outreach extends its crucial work to more women through CALS

Pam De Gravelles, president of Arkansas Women’s Outreach, was delighted to hear from Edwards and O’Bryan, as there had also been similar plans developing on the AWO side.

“One of our Strategic Plan goals for AWO for the next four years is to extend our reach. We always thought the library would be a great partner,” De Gravelles said. “Then, before we even contacted CALS, they contacted us, and we thought it was a match!”

Arkansas Women’s Outreach has attracted community support and external grants with its mission to supply basic hygiene items such as pads, tampons, or wipes. That fundraising strength and access to supplies can work in perfect tandem with the close proximity of many CALS library branches to their neighborhoods, and the relationships that CALS staff develop with their branch visitors.

“The library will allow us to expand our reach because a lot of people need our product, and we can’t get to them all,” De Gravelles said. “The library will have 14 different access points in the community starting with the pilot program at the CALS Main Library. It’s a perfect blend of our resources and volunteers and the library’s reach and staff.”
Lack of hygiene supplies should not be a source of shame for any woman

De Gravelles described the pressing need for those women who are in difficult straits such as homelessness that affect their access to hygiene products.

“For feminine hygiene, these women have to steal, hide, and go without. Or, they have to use whatever they find, and that’s dehumanizing. We thought, what if we can just bring a little dignity back for them? What if they can have some choice, even about what they use, just like other women do when they shop? It’s a win for everyone when people get their dignity back.”

De Gravelles was delighted to find like-minded partners at CALS “It was such a match when we met Crystal and Katherine.” She is also enthusiastic about the additional programming, such as the kickoff featuring the recent Oscar-winning documentary *Period. End of Sentence* and the planned educational programs.

**Oscar-winning documentary short film will raise awareness, decrease stigma**

Crystal Edwards chose the film *Period. End of Sentence.* as a natural enhancement to the new partnership and effort to support women in the community.

“I knew that the film had won the Oscar for Best Documentary Short. I also knew that it was about the stigma surrounding menstruation, and the challenges faced by young women, so it fit perfectly for our project,” Edwards said. “We plan to have a discussion panel afterward. The film shows a rural area in India where there’s still a lot of stigma, lack of knowledge, and lack of education about the issue. There’s a moment when a filmmaker asks what a period is, and the camera focuses on a girl’s face, and she looks so ashamed. Everybody can relate to that. Some girls won’t even tell their parents when they start, and instead they try to buy their own supplies.”

**Helping teens enter a new stage of life with confidence**

CALS Teen Programmer Katherine O’Bryan is familiar with the challenges faced by teen girls surrounding women’s hygiene.

“It totally makes sense for the teens to participate in this programming because they’re just coming into this phase of their lives, when all the women’s health issues become important,” O’Bryan said. “And some of our teens are homeless. They’re better at hiding homelessness than adults because they’re often embarrassed about it. So one sign that they may be struggling is if they come in and repeatedly ask for these kinds of hygiene products. They come into the teen bathrooms and see our signs in the bathroom, then they come ask. The sign is like us making the first move to acknowledge the need and the issue. Because when you acknowledge it, everybody takes a deep breath of relief that we can talk about it.”

O’Bryan is looking forward to the chance to open many conversations and help teens feel more comfortable taking care of their health. “In the coming months, we’re going to set up some women’s health programming for the teens. But for Gen Z, it’s good to take a humorous approach. They want this kind of information, but they want it presented in a way that’s not so serious.”

The kickoff for the new partnership will take place with the screening of Academy Award-winning *Period. End of Sentence.* on October 7th at 7 p.m. at the CALS Ron Robinson Theater, followed by a discussion panel.

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**Oxford American Presents South Words**

**Exceptional Authors, Live Onstage**

2019-2020 Season at Ron Robinson Theater in Little Rock

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Author/Spokeperson</th>
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<td>Oct 15 2019</td>
<td>Sarah M. Broom</td>
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For more information, visit [OxfordAmerican.org/Events](http://OxfordAmerican.org/Events)
SPECIAL EVENTS

book fair

**Self-Published and Small Press Book Fair**
Main Library Darragh Center | Sat | Nov 9
This biennial event allows the public to meet and hear directly from a wide variety of authors and a few select small press representatives. Books are available for purchase. The SPSP book fair is an excellent opportunity for networking with self-published authors.

**Special Screenings**
CALS Ron Robinson Theater
doors open 6 pm | shows start 7 pm

- **Adaptation**
directed by Spike Jonze and inspired by Susan Orlean’s *The Orchid Thief*
Fri | Sep 27 | Free
In conjunction with Susan Orlean’s personal visit to CALS on Sep 28, CALS presents this stunningly original comedy based on her work that seamlessly blends fictional characters and situations with the lives of real people.

- **Period. End of Sentence.** *(2018, NR)*
Mon | Oct 7 | Free
This Oscar-winning film examines the stigma surrounding menstruation.

- **The Gospel According to Al Green**
Fri | Nov 15 | $5
A rare screening of Robert Mugge’s 96-minute portrait of soul singer, gospel preacher, and Arkansas music legend Al Green filmed at a concert in Washington, D.C. and a church service in Memphis, TN.

- **The Last Waltz**
Fri | Nov 22 | $5
A film screening celebrating “one of the most important cultural events of the last two decades” *(Rolling Stone)*. Martin Scorsese’s *The Last Waltz* celebrates The Band’s historic 1976 farewell concert and features Arkansas music legends Levon Helm and Ronnie Hawkins.

movies

CALS Ron Robinson Theater
doors open 6 pm | shows start 7 pm

- **The Goonies** *(1985, PG)*
Fri | Sep 6 | $5

- **3D BingoFlix: Robot Monster** *(1953, NR)*
Thu | Sep 12 | $5

- **Fight Club** *(1999, R)*
Thu | Sep 26 | Free

- **Ghostbusters** *(1984, PG)*
Fri | Oct 4 | $5

- **The Rocky Horror Picture Show** *(1975, R)*
Fri | 9:30 pm | $5
4 shows! Oct 4, 11, 18, 25

- **The Nightmare Before Christmas** *(1993, PG)*
Fri | Oct 11 | $5

- **Beetlejuice** *(1988, PG)*
Fri | Oct 18 | $5

- **Hocus Pocus** *(1993, PG)*
Fri | Oct 25 | $5

- **Sing-A-Long: The Wizard of Oz** *(1939, PG)*
Sat | Nov 2 | $5

- **V for Vendetta** *(2005, R)*
Tue | Nov 5 | $5

- **This Is Spinal Tap** *(1984, R)*
Fri | Nov 8 | $5

- **BingoFlix: Manos: The Hands of Fate** *(1966, NR)*
Thu | Nov 14 | $5

- **The Stephen King Rules! Book Club presents: A Pet Sematary double feature**
Sat | Nov 16 | doors open at 4:30 pm $5 for both
Pet Sematary *(1989, R)* | 5:30 pm
Pet Sematary *(2019, R)* | 7:30 pm

- **The Public** *(2018, PG-13)*
Thu | Nov 21 | $5

**Hitchcocktober Fest**

7 PM (doors open at 6 pm) | $5

Thu | Oct 17: **Vertigo** *(1958, PG)*

Tue | Oct 1: **North by Northwest** *(1959, NR)*

Tue | Oct 22: **The Birds** *(1963, PG-13)*

Tue | Oct 8: **Rear Window** *(1954, PG)*

Tue | Oct 29: **Psycho** *(1960, R)*
Susan Orlean, Annual Fred K. Darragh Program
CALS Ron Robinson Theater | Sat | Sep 28 | 6:30 pm
Susan Orlean’s moving explorations of American stories have earned her a reputation as one of America’s most distinctive journalistic voices. A staff writer for *The New Yorker* for over twenty years and a former contributing editor at *Rolling Stone* and *Vogue*, her novel *The Orchid Thief* inspired the film *Adaptation*. Orlean will speak about her recent *New York Times* bestseller *The Library Book*, an exploration of the history, power, and future of public libraries. Free admission, please reserve tickets at www.cals.org.

Walter E. Hussman Jr., Annual J.N. Heiskell Program
CALS Ron Robinson Theater | Thu | Oct 10 | 6:30 pm; reception 6 pm
Walter E. Hussman Jr., is the publisher of the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette* and a third-generation newspaperman whose family acquired a chain of newspapers stretching from Tennessee to Missouri. As publisher of the *Arkansas Democrat*, in 1991, Hussman purchased the assets of the *Gazette* and began publishing the *Democrat-Gazette*. Hussman will speak about the newspaper industry, including the recent decision to transition the *Democrat-Gazette* to a digital-only format on Mon-Sat. Free admission, please reserve tickets at www.cals.org.

Susan N. Herman, CALS Speaker Series
CALS Ron Robinson Theater | Thu | Oct 24 | 6 pm
Susan N. Herman was elected President of the American Civil Liberties Union in October 2008, after having served on the ACLU National Board of Directors, as a member of the Executive Committee, and as General Counsel. Herman holds a chair as Centennial Professor of Law at Brooklyn Law School. Her talk is titled “A Democrat and a Republican Walk into a Bar: Civil Liberties and Non-partisanship.” Co-sponsored by the University of Arkansas Clinton School of Public Service. Free admission, reservations are requested at clintonschool.uasys.edu.

Legacies & Lunch: Stacey McAdoo
“Using Passion and Poetry to Close the Opportunity Gap”
Main Library Darragh Center | Wed | Sep 4 | noon-1 pm
Encore presentation: CALS McMath Library | Mon | Sep 23 | 6 pm

Legacies & Lunch: Rachel Patton
“Arkansas’s Most Endangered Historic Places”
Main Library Darragh Center | Wed | Oct 2 | noon-1 pm
Encore presentation: CALS Fletcher Library | Tue | Oct 22 | 6 pm

Hot Club of Cowtown
CALS Ron Robinson Theater
Fri | Sep 13 | 8 pm (doors open 7pm) | $25
Western swing-gypsy-jazz trio Hot Club of Cowtown features Violinist Elana James, guitarist Whit Smith, and bassist Jake Erwin, inspired by the music of Django Reinhardt and the hoedowns, traditional tunes, and Western swing of Bob Wills & the Texas Playboys. Featuring a tribute to Levon Helm and The Band! Tickets at www.cals.org.
When Books Carry Kindness

Bestselling Author Delia Owens Touches Listeners at CALS

“I learned from a library book that crawdads don’t really sing. I learned from my mother that if you go far enough out in the wilderness, you will hear them anyway. And my mother was right. We need to go way out yonder where the crawdads sing, because that is where our secrets lie.” Delia Owens

A book is like a message in a bottle, sent by its author to an unknown reader, in the hope that somewhere, the message will connect with the person who needs to read it. Through the novel Where the Crawdads Sing, author Delia Owens created a powerful connection with a massive readership that made the book a #1 national bestseller for 20 weeks. And on July 21, Owens made a personal appearance at the CALS Ron Robinson Theater to talk to the many fans who showed up in response to the power of her work.

Author’s experience of loneliness brings compassion for others

Owens spent years working in isolated conditions as she studied wildlife in Africa. As a result of her experience, Owens became fascinated by the effect of loneliness and isolation on the human psyche. Her novel focuses on an abandoned young girl named Kya who lives alone in the wild until her loneliness triggers a tragedy and a mystery. Called fierce and hauntingly beautiful, the novel struck a personal chord with readers everywhere.

Donna Sheppard of Hot Springs came to hear Owens because the theme resonated with her so strongly. “The story impacted my life so much, because I dealt with issues of abandonment myself,” Sheppard said. “Delia Owens is an amazing person and she is so good at portraying character. I was spellbound. And in every interview, she reveals more of who she is as a person.”

When science meets deep empathy

Sheppard was proven correct by Owens’s talk, which mesmerized with a unique combination of science and deep empathy shaping the author’s thoughts. Owens described the social impairment that develops in people who are lonely and isolated, pointing out that loneliness is an epidemic human condition, not just a problem for those in the wilderness. The theater was humming with connection: the message in a bottle had been received, and in the question-and-answer period, readers testified to their shared experiences. The crowd seemed like a gathering of old friends who had known each other for years—and what started it all and created this palpable bond among strangers, across thousands of miles, was a book.

Books dissolve boundaries, create intimacy

The power of books to connect people and encourage friendship showed in the book clubs that attended the talk. Seven members of the Sister Chicks book club, together for an impressive 20 years, came out to hear Owens. They had already read the book and were moved by what Owens had to say in person.

“It makes her so lovable and safe as a person that you can see what caused her to write her books,” said Betty, one book club member.

Another member, Rebecca, appreciated the additional insight brought by hearing the author speak. “I loved seeing that her training as a researcher and a scientist played into her story development and all the detail in the book.”

At the long book-signing line after the talk, Delia Owens greeted each person with care—smiled, laughed, sometimes even hugged or whispered with each person who passed through. The power of kindness was palpable: there was no room for loneliness that day in the Ron Robinson Theater. Owens’s visit made it clear that books can indeed carry kindness out into the world, spread empathy, and build communities. In a lovely poetic twist, by writing about loneliness, Owens proved that books are part of how we fight it.

The appearance by Delia Owens was made possible by funding from the Arkansas Center for the Book at the Arkansas State Library and by support from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Coming soon: Susan Orlean, Author of The Library Book and The Orchid Thief

Susan Orlean, the bestselling author hailed as a “national treasure” by The Washington Post, will appear at the CALS Ron Robinson Theater on September 28 to speak on topics related to The Library Book, her latest work. Described as “a dazzling love letter to a beloved institution,” The Library Book explores the unsolved mystery of the devastating fire in the Los Angeles Public Library in 1986, and the armies of volunteers and emergency personnel who fought together to save the books. Orlean’s luminous prose and insightful research tell a larger story of how public libraries provide us with so much more than books, and why, now more than ever, libraries are essential to the mind and soul of our country.
Banned Books Week Celebrates Freedom to Read with *Fight Club*, Soap-Making, Writing Contest

Join us for our annual celebration of Banned Books Week, during which entertaining CALS events will commemorate the battle against censorship! Groups that resist book-banning have protected classic works such as *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*, and *Lord of the Flies*. These books that address important themes often contain disturbing scenes, as they reflect realistic challenges and situations in our world. But without disturbing us, authors would not be able to convey important truths such as the violence and injustice caused by racism, or the mistreatment of the mentally ill. Banned Books Week honors freedom of choice for individuals, as well as the freedom to write on and read about important cultural topics even when those topics have the power to offend.

This year, Banned Books Week at CALS will center on *Fight Club*, the powerful 1996 novel by Chuck Palahniuk. The 1999 film adaptation starring Brad Pitt, Ed Norton, and Helena Bonham Carter became wildly popular after its release on DVD, spawning cultural catch phrases such as “The first rule of Fight Club is: you do not talk about Fight Club.” But what caught the public imagination about the story was its exploration of masculine identity in a world dehumanized by consumerism, where many people are trapped in low-paid, meaningless, and even unethical work in the service of corporate profit. These themes have grown increasingly relevant in the decades since the novel’s publication, and the problems identified by Palahniuk are driving many cultural and political debates in 2019.

**Banned Books Week Highlights:**

**Fight Club Writing Contest - $300 Prize**
Contest opens September 1 and closes September 20. Pound out an entry and win $300! Find rules at cals.org/banned-books-week. Winner will be announced at the film screening on September 26.

**Crazy Free Books: Fight Club**
Starting September 4, 30 free copies of *Fight Club* by Chuck Palahniuk are free for the taking. Contact SixBridgesBookFest@cals.org.

**Soap for All! Soap-Making Demo with Tammy Sue Pope**
Tue | Sep 24 | Dee Brown Library | noon
Soap-making and The Paper Street Soap Company are featured in *Fight Club* as a source of income and as a springboard to several memorable episodes. Film fans and craft lovers alike will enjoy this demonstration by Artisan soap-maker Tammy Sue Pope, the featured soap maker for Moss Mountain Farm.

**Fight Club Screening Featuring Visit from Pro Fighter Roli DelGado**
Thu | Sep 26 | CALS Ron Robinson Theater
Roli DelGado at 6 p.m. | screening at 7 p.m.
Before a screening of the popular film version of *Fight Club*, UFC and Bellator professional fighter and jujitsu competitor Roli DelGado will appear in person. Meet him and get a few fighting tips!

DelGado was featured on *The Ultimate Fighter* Season 8. Then join us for the screening and the announcement of the writing contest winner, in our state-of-the-art Ron Robinson Theater with the best concession prices in town, including craft beer, wine, hot dogs, and more!

More Banned Books events will take place at our CALS branch libraries, including:

**Two-part Altered Book Project for Teens**
Thompson Library | Thu | Sep 19 & 26 | 4 pm
We’ll use damaged books and creatively alter them to illuminate ideas and promote intellectual freedom. Materials will be provided.

**Harry Potter Trivia Night for Teens**
Terry Library | Wed | Sep 25 | 5:30 pm
Compete with your friends. Harry Potter prizes will be awarded!

For more Banned Books events around the library system, see www.cals.org.
In 2019, our CALS Summer Reading Club smashed all previous records for participation! And just as importantly, kids and adults all over the city had a blast with “A Universe of Stories,” including our space-themed programming and our online reading log that allowed patrons to earn fun rewards for reading, watching movies, or attending summer events. At the end of the summer, everybody who participated got a free ticket to Library Night with the Arkansas Travelers! The summer finished with a perfect ballpark twilight filled with cotton candy, popcorn, and home runs.

Registrations in 2019 soared an astonishing 27% higher than in 2018!

One special aspect of Summer Reading Club is the teamwork that makes all kinds of stimulating free programs happen, all over the library’s service area. Our 14 library branches hosted onsite events such as live reptile visits from Arkansas State Parks, puppet shows from talented local entertainers, and neat galaxy painting classes for adults or kids, taught by our enthusiastic CALS art programmers. But we didn’t just stay onsite. Children’s programmers went out to schools around central Arkansas to teach summer STEM classes in circuit building, where the kits and gadgets met with an excited crowd of kids who dove into their roles as electrical engineers.

Adults, kids revel in the fun as aliens invade, famous astronomer speaks

Meanwhile, on the planetary system called Library Square downtown, an alien invasion was afoot as elaborately-costumed characters from Star Wars descended on our showings of all six Star Wars films at the CALS Ron Robinson Theater. And that wasn’t all: science fiction met science fact when popular astronomer Phil Plait brought his nationally renowned humor and expertise to a fascinating presentation for all ages about the possibility of life on other planets.

Readers find logging books and events online brings nostalgia, rewards

Patrons also enjoyed the online recordkeeping reward system that allowed them to earn badges and fun prizes for the books they read or for attending Summer Reading Club events.

Melissa M. liked the fun of logging her reading and events online. “It did give me a feeling of
nostalgia—there was a summer reading program at my hometown library when I was a kid, and there were prizes you could earn by reading certain numbers of books." Her favorite read during the summer was the “Rivers of London” series by Ben Aaronovitch, a mystery series featuring a rookie policeman who becomes an apprentice sorcerer and investigates supernatural crimes in London.

Rachel R. logged books with her children and loved watching their reactions. “This is my second year doing the online SRC,” she said. “I also do the paper bingo sheets for my older two children, but I like logging the books through the phone app, as well as events, activities, and movies through the website. My children get excited when I log the books I read to them, and they love seeing the badges they earn during SRC.”

Avid reader Casey H. praised the logging system as very user-friendly. “I like that you can log as much or as little detail as you’d like for each book, movie or event. That was nice because it didn’t cut into my reading time! I think it’s amazing that you have the digital downloads as well for the reader on the go.”

Marrian G. jumped at the chance to do Summer Reading Club even as a new arrival to the CALS area. “I just moved here in March, but I love to read, so I signed up! I usually go online and mark “in progress” or “completed.” It keeps track of what I’ve read. And if I need to, I can recommend them to other people!”

**Staff teamwork and dedication across 14 branches led to record-breaking year**

Ellen Samples, the CALS Coordinator who headed the effort for Summer Reading Club, praised the large-scale cooperation from so many staff members across the library system. “So many people get involved, from the librarians and programming staff who plan events, displays, and decorations, to the people behind the scenes making sure that supplies are delivered, events are promoted, and books are re-shelved. It’s a great time of year for teamwork, and it truly takes everyone working together to make it happen for our patrons.”

The surging popularity of Summer Reading Club is wonderful for our community as more and more people get involved in promoting the joy of reading and of stories. After an astronomical success like SRC 2019, we can only imagine the heights we’ll reach with next year’s club, when SRC 2020 will invite you to “Imagine Your Story” with fantasy, fairy tales, and mythology!
TECH CLASSES

21st century skills

CREATE YOUR WEBSITE WITH WORDPRESS
Over three sessions, learn how to create and manage a website using the WordPress content management system.

HELLO WORLD: INTRO TO CODE
Learn basic techniques and concepts of writing computer programs--and write your first program!

HELLO WORLD: OBJECT-ORIENTED CODE
After learning the basics in Hello World: Intro to Code, expand your skills with object-oriented programming.

digital library

YOUR DIGITAL LIBRARY: eBOOKS, AUDIOBOOKS, AND MORE
Get the scoop on checking out eBooks, audiobooks, and magazines to enjoy for free on your tablet, smartphone, or e-reader through OverDrive and Flipster.

YOUR DIGITAL LIBRARY: VIDEO, MUSIC, AND MORE
Use your CALS card to get free access to great content online, including video streaming and unlimited audiobooks with RBDigital and music with Freegal.

LIBRARY RESOURCES FOR THE JOB HUNT
Find out about the digital library resources that can make your job hunt more effective, including resume-building, professional development, and other useful tools.

CALS 101: FIND IT ALL AT CALS.ORG
The CALS website is a great place to find our huge collection of books and other materials, but there’s so much more you can do! In this brief session, you’ll learn how to confidently navigate the website to access entertainment, research tools, and library resources; to purchase event tickets; and much more.

dynamic data

DATA-BASICS
Learn to use Microsoft Access and other database systems to organize information and discover the essentials of SQL (Sequenced Query Language)—the database programming language. No previous coding experience required.

MICROSOFT EXCEL PART 1: THE BASICS
Learn how to enter information, format text and numbers, sort and filter, and use basic formulas.

MICROSOFT EXCEL PART 2: FORMULAS, CHARTS, AND DATA VALIDATION
Master more advanced formulas, charts, data validation, AutoFill, and more.

MICROSOFT EXCEL PART 3: PIVOT TABLES, LOOKUP, AND MORE
Employ PivotTables to find patterns in your data, use the VLOOKUP function, troubleshoot problems with formulas, and more.

computer essentials

INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTERS
Are computers a mystery to you? This class starts at the most basic level, so you can learn how--and why--to use a computer.

BASIC COMPUTING
Explore topics like search, common computer programs and file types, and using the file manager.

KEYBOARDING BASICS
Go from “hunt and peck” to typing without looking at the keyboard in this self-paced course with practice time.

SURF SECURE
Learn to protect your personal information and your privacy in the digital world.

For class times and dates, please see our events calendar at cals.org

photography

PHOTO RESTORATION WITH ADOBE PHOTOSHOP CC: LEVEL 1
Discover techniques to restore old and damaged photos: repair fading, tears, mold, and other wear, correct exposure, replace backgrounds, fill missing body parts.

SMARTPHONE PHOTOGRAPHY
Learn the strengths and limitations of your smartphone’s camera to take pictures that really stand out.

ADOBE PHOTOSHOP CC FOR BEGINNERS
Level 1: Learn basic skills like correcting colors and lighting, scaling and cropping photos, and working with layers. Level 2: Use layers and apply gradients, styles, and effects to layers. Create and edit masks and channels.
book clubs
Book clubs are open to adults unless otherwise noted.

bookstore at library square

AFTER HOURS: A LITERARY BOOK CLUB
Mon | Sep 19 | 6 pm
Animals Eat Each Other by Elle Nash

STEPHEN KING RULES!
Fri | Sep 27; Oct 25; Nov 22 | 6 pm
Sep: Christine
Oct: Cycle of the Werewolf
Nov: Pet Semetary

brooks library

MOVIE VS BOOK CLUB
Sat | Sep 28; Oct 26; Nov 30 | noon-1 pm
Sep: The Girl on the Train by Paula Hawkins
Oct: The Handmaid’s Tale by Margaret Atwood
Nov: To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee

fletcher library

PAGE TURNERS BOOK CLUB
Wed | Sep 11; Oct 9; Nov 13 | 6:30-7:30 pm
Sep: All Over but The Shoutin’ by Rick Bragg
Oct: Nomandland by Jessica Bruder
Nov: Music Shop by Rachel Joyce

BOOK JUNKIES BOOK GROUP
Tue | Sep 17; Oct 15; Nov 19 | noon-1 pm
Sep: A Prayer for Owen Meany by John Irving
Oct: A Confederacy of Dunces by Peter O’Toole
Nov: Edie: American Girl by Jean Stein

maumelle library

2ND MONDAY BOOK CLUB
Mon | Sep 9; Oct 14; Nov 11 | 7-8 pm
Sep: 19 Minutes by Jodi Picoult
Oct: Perfect Peace by Daniel Black
Nov: All Over but the Shoutin’ by Rick Bragg

mcmath library

BOOK CLUB AT THE END OF THE UNIVERSE
Mon | Sep 2; Oct 7; Nov 4 | 6:30-7:30 pm
This sci-fi and fantasy discussion group has no assigned reading.

GIRLFRIENDS BOOK & BRUNCH CLUB
Sat | Sep; Oct; Nov | 2-3 pm
Our group has no set schedule. Contact library for dates and titles.

milam library

ADULT BOOK CLUB
Thu | Sep 26; Oct 24; Nov 28 | 12:30-1:30 pm
Sep: My Sister’s Keeper by Jodi Picoult
Oct: Brisa by Paulo Coelho
Nov: reader’s choice

COOKBOOK BOOK CLUB
Sat | Sep 28; Oct 26; Nov 30 | 12:30-2:30 pm
We’ll talk about a different cookbook each month. Contact the library for titles.

nixon library

TRUE STORIES BOOK CLUB
Thu | Sep 12; Oct 10; Nov 14 | 2-3 pm
Sep: Breaking Night by Liz Murray
Oct: Beautiful Boy by David Sheff
Nov: Dead Wake by Erik Larson

NIXON BOOK WORMS
Tue | Sep 24; Oct 22; Nov 26 | 6:30-7:30 pm
Sep: Americanah by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
Oct: Killers of the Flower Moon by David Grann
Nov: Between the World and Me by Ta-Nehisi Coates

BOOK CHAT
Thu | Sep 26; Oct 24; Nov 21 | 1-2 pm
We discuss books we’ve read, are reading, or would like to read and share with the group.

sanders library

BOOK CHATS
Tue | Sep 3; Oct 1; Nov 5 | 2-3 pm
Share and discuss books you are currently reading.

PAGE TURNERS
Thu | Sep 5; Oct 3; Nov 7 | 10:30-11:30 am
Sep: Exit West by Mohsin Hamid
Oct: Crossing the Line by BiBi Belford
Nov: Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine by Gail Honeyman

terry library

PIZZA PLUS A PAPERBACK
Thu | Sep 5; Oct 3; Nov 7 | 5-6 pm
Ages 8-12 talk about books, eat pizza, and participate in book-themed activities.

SUSPICIOUS MINDS BOOK CLUB
Thu | Sep 5; Oct 3; Nov 7 | 6:15-7:30 pm

BOOK LOVERS’ BOOK CLUB
Tue | Sep 17; Oct 15; Nov 19 | 11 am-noon
We read fiction and nonfiction. Contact the library for titles.

thompson library

COOKBOOK CLUB
Fri | Sep 13; Oct 11; Nov 8 | 11:30 am-1 pm
We’ll share recipes centered around a theme each month. See the branch calendar for details.

EVENING BOOK CLUB
Tue | Sep 17; Oct 22; Nov 19 | 6:30-7:30 pm
Sep: Call the Midwife by Jennifer Worth
Oct: reader’s choice: Agatha Christie
Nov: reader’s choice: classics

vino’s brewpub

WORD VIRUS BOOK CLUB
Sat | Sep 14; Oct 12; Nov 9 | noon-2 pm
Sep: Redshirts by John Scalzi
Oct: The Luminous Dead by Caitlin Starling
Nov: Trail of Lightning by Rebecca Roanhorse

williams library

NONFICTION BOOK CLUB
Tue | Sep 3; Oct 8; Nov 5
Read a book of your choice and discuss it with the group.

KIDS BOOK CLUB
Tue | Sep 5, 19; Oct 3, 17; Nov 7, 21
Read a book of your choice and discuss it with the group.

FICTION BOOK CLUB
Tue | Sep 21; Oct 19; Nov 16
Read a book of your choice and discuss it with the group.

INSPIRATIONAL BOOK CLUB
Tue | Sep 26; Oct 24; Nov 28 | pm
Read a book of your choice and discuss it with the group.
Miguel Lopez is Vice President of Community Development and Hispanic Resource Officer at First Community Bank. In his spare time, he enjoys volunteering in the community. Miguel also enjoys cycling and competing in triathlons, having most recently completed the Ironman in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

What are you reading at the moment?
At the moment, I am burying my nose into Leadership in Turbulent Times by Doris Kearns Goodwin, who is in my opinion the best historian of our time. I first discovered Goodwin, like most, through her magnum opus, Team of Rivals. In that book, she provides us with a sweeping survey of Lincoln and his cabinet that contributes a great deal to our understanding of Lincoln’s character and political dexterity. It makes us long for men of such integrity, goodness and insight. In her new book, Goodwin explores the lives of four of the most transformative presidents of our nation’s history; Lincoln, LBJ, and Teddy and Franklin Roosevelt. She writes another masterpiece on how good leaders become great leaders and how burning personal ambition can be elevated into driving ambition for a cause greater than self.

What book or other media do you keep coming back to again and again?
I am all over the map when it comes to my reading selection. I am an autodidact, so I usually pick a subject I am completely ignorant on and then read everything I can get my hands on to get a better understanding of it. Having said that, I do have two authors that I always find myself going back to for guidance, inspiration, and insight. Those are George Orwell and Pablo Neruda. Neruda’s poetry moves me like no other. How lucky are we that he put his love for Matilde on paper for us to read? When I have had a long day, nothing beats his poetry to put me to bed.

Orwell’s novels 1984 and Animal Farm, are timely (perhaps prophetic) reads, even more so today than when they were first published in 1949 and 1945 respectively. However, it is in his essays where Orwell really stands out. I love reading his essays, for their insight but also his command of the English language. My favorite one is titled “Politics and the English Language.” I make a point to read it at least twice a year.

What role has reading played in your life?
Suffice it to say, my mind needs books like a sword needs a whetstone.

The Bookstore at Library Square Now Featuring Jimmy’s Serious Sandwiches
Our used book store that benefits the library system, the Bookstore at Library Square, offers a wide selection of used and new books as well as literary and humorous gift items.

But now there’s more: tucked inside the first floor of our downtown building, convenient to all attractions, is Jimmy’s Serious Sandwiches, already widely known in Central Arkansas for its delicious, healthy sandwiches, soups, and salads. This is healthy gourmet food, but fast enough to fit your lunch schedule!

Tasty fresh sandwiches include chile-rubbed salmon, pork loin & swiss, NY strip steak, Thai hot and spicy chicken breast, and well-loved classics such as clubs, Italian chicken, turkey & guacamole, and more. And don’t miss the national-award-winning “The Garden” sandwich with mushrooms, spinach pate, swiss, cheddar, provolone, and sunflower seeds on pumpernickel.

Soups include healthy daily choices like mushroom with barley, black bean, and vegetarian tomato as well as fruit, potato, or pasta salad, chips, and scrumptious baked desserts.

Stop by on your lunch break to check out the rest of the menu, grab some used books from the Bookstore, and browse over the most delicious, healthy, quick lunch in town!

Jimmy’s Serious Sandwiches also offers catering for your business meetings and events, so call at (501) 666-3354 to arrange gourmet food for every taste. The Central Arkansas Library System offers many free or low-cost, state-of-the-art meeting spaces of all sizes to the public at our Library Square campus and in our branches.
Tool Library Provides Free Resources to Fix Your Home, Car, or Bike

Need to find a giant mallet to use just once for a fence you’re putting in at home? How about some wire cutters or a voltage meter? Whether you need to do some painting, drywalling or those bushes need pruning, you can find the tools to do it at the new CALS tool lending library. You can even use a machine to read your car’s engine codes!

Located at the CALS Dee Brown Library in Little Rock, the tool library allows any card-holding CALS patron 18 and older to check out up to 5 tools at a time, or 3 power tools. The library already holds a wide variety of tools, including rakes, shovels, a pole saw, drills, hammers, trowels, dropcloths, wrenches, car repair gadgets, and safety gear of all kinds. More tools will be entering the catalog soon, including large lawn care power tools.

The tool library also includes a bike repair station outdoors that is accessible at all hours. One Saturday each month, a bike mechanic will be present during tool library hours to hold an open workshop in bike repair (September 21, October 19, November 16).

Books on repairs of all kinds are also part of the tool library and can be checked out to help with projects.

While the tool library is usually staffed on Mondays from 4-8 p.m., Tuesdays from 6-8 p.m., and Saturdays from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., tool pickup and return is also available by appointment during the library’s normal hours of operation.

To browse our tool collection, go to the CALS catalog at cals.org and filter your search by checking “3D object” in the left-hand column. Or, simply type in the name of the tool you need into the online CALS catalog to see if that type of tool is available, e.g. “tile nippers.”

The CALS Dee Brown Library is located at 6325 Baseline Rd, Little Rock, 72209. For more information, please call (501) 568-7494.

You and Your Library

Lorrie B., Personal Trainer

Lorrie has lived in Little Rock for 40 years and runs her own business as a personal trainer.

“I have been a CALS champ for quite some time. The obvious reason is that I read a lot of books, and because of the library, I don’t have to buy them! And not just paper books, but audio books and ebooks too. Then there are also DVDs, shows, all kinds of things to check out. I could have made so much money betting people who were sure that they could not watch Game of Thrones from the library! But you can! All seven seasons, right now, you can get at the library!”

“I love it that you can get online and request whatever book you want. Then you have the whole library to choose from, not just your branch. You can go online and request a book, then you have 7 days to pick it up. After you finish, you can return it to any branch! Let’s say you’re going on a trip and you forgot to request something on hold. You can use one of the digital apps, OverDrive or RB Digital, and have what you want to listen to or read in seconds.”

Free audiobooks from RBdigital

Want to check out free audiobooks with your digital device, anytime, anywhere? Central Arkansas Library System card holders can listen to over 30,000 digital audiobooks from RBdigital, with more titles added every month.

To get started using your CALS library card, visit https://cals.org/listen-to-an-audiobook/. After following the instructions to set up your free account using your library card, you can then check out your free audiobooks with the mobile app, the website or RBdigital’s desktop apps for your Mac or PC.
library square
100 rock street

Main Library
918-3000
M/Tu/W/Th: 9 am-8 pm | F/Sa: 9 am-6 pm | Su: 1-5 pm
Inside: Nexus Coffee nook

Bobby L. Roberts Library of Arkansas History & Art
inside: Butler Center for Arkansas Studies and The Galleries at Library Square
320-5700
M/Tu/W/Th/F/SA: 9 am-6 pm

The Bookstore at Library Square
918-3093
M/Tu/W/Th/F/SA: 9 am-5 pm
Inside: Jimmy’s Serious Sandwiches

CALS Ron Robinson Theater
320-5715
hours vary based on scheduled events

branches

2 Millie M. Brooks Library
13024 Hwy 365 S. | Wrightsville | 537-3186
M/Tu: 10 am-7 pm | Th/F: 10 am-6 pm | Sa: 10 am-2 pm

3 Dee Brown Library
6325 Baseline Rd. | Little Rock | 568-7494
M/Tu/Th: 10 am-8 pm | W/F: 10 am-6 pm

4 Hillary Rodham Clinton Children’s Library & Learning Center
4800 West 10th St. | Little Rock | 978-3870
M/Tu/W/Th/F/SA: 9 am-6 pm | Su: 1-5 pm

5 John Gould Fletcher Library
823 N. Buchanan St. | Little Rock | 663-5457
M/Tu/W: 9 am-8 pm | Th/F: 9 am-6 pm

6 Maumelle Library
10 Lake Pointe Dr. | Maumelle | 851-2551
M/Tu/W/Th: 10 am-8 pm | W/F: 10 am-6 pm

7 Sidney S. McMath Library
2100 John Barrow Rd. | Little Rock | 225-0066
M/Tu/W: 10 am-8 pm | Th/F: 9 am-6 pm

8 Max Milam Library
609 Aplin Ave. | Perryville | 501-889-2554
M/W/Th/F/Sa: 10 am-6 pm | Tu: 10 am-8 pm

9 Esther DeWitt Nixon Library
703 W. Main St. | Jacksonville | 457-5038
M/W/F/SA: 9 am-6 pm | Tu/Th: 9:30 am-8 pm

10 Oley E. Rooker Library
11 Otter Creek Ct. | Little Rock | 907-5991
M/W/Th: 10 am-8 pm | Tu/F/SA: 10 am-6 pm

11 Amy Sanders Library
10200 Johnson Dr. | Sherwood | 835-7756
M/W/F/Sa: 9:30 am-6 pm | Tu/Th: 9:30 am-8 pm

12 Adolphine Fletcher Terry Library
2015 Napa Valley Dr. | Little Rock | 228-0129
M/W/Th: 9 am-8 pm | Tu/F/SA: 9 am-6 pm

13 Roosevelt Thompson Library
38 Rahling Cir. | Little Rock | 821-3060
M/Tu/W/Th/F/SA: 9 am-6 pm

14 Sue Cowan Williams Library
1800 Chester St. | Little Rock | 376-4282
M/W/F/SA: 10 am-6 pm | Tu/Th: 10 am-8 pm

LOCATIONS

CALS CENTRAL ARKANSAS LIBRARY SYSTEM
CALS.ORG
#DevotedtotheCurious