

*Gifts  
for the  
Season*  
p. 23



The Central Arkansas Library System serves the educational and entertainment needs of Pulaski and Perry County residents, with 15 unique library branches and our flagship campus, Library Square in downtown Little Rock. Card holders enjoy access to more than one million items, including books, audiobooks, ebooks, DVDs, periodicals, databases, telescopes, bird-watching kits, and even fishing poles. Our virtual branch, [cals.org](http://cals.org), is open 24/7, allowing patrons to download ebooks, audiobooks, music, magazines, movies, and TV shows.

## A Spirit of Generosity

The holiday season provides us with the chance to focus on generosity and giving.

Public libraries are built on the spirit of generosity. That spirit shows in every CALS staff member who gladly assists our many visitors, and in every member of the public who supports our mission to provide learning and opportunity for all.

As we enter the giving season, many of us begin the exciting but challenging process of hunting down the ideal gift for family and friends. We have some creative solutions for gift givers that you may not know about yet, right here at our downtown Library Square campus.



The Galleries at Library Square offer handcrafted jewelry, pottery, craftwork, paintings, and sculpture by Arkansas artists. Our Bookstore at Library Square is filled with quirky, witty gifts that please book lovers and humorists alike. And while you're there, you can stock up on used books at deep discounts while your purchases support our public library mission.

There are other ways you can support the library during our holiday giving season. While we focus on giving by offering free music, craft programs, joyful gatherings for kids, and places for people to feel warm and welcome while reading a good book, we hope you will consider donating to the library system. Your financial contribution or your volunteered time can make a big difference to help us help others. To find out more about how to give or volunteer, visit [cals.org](http://cals.org) and click our Donate tab, or call (501) 918-3025.

For over one hundred years, you have been supporting our mission, which has now grown to help the people of our two counties through fifteen library branches and our downtown entertainment and learning center at Library Square. We thank you for your past generosity, and we look forward to your continued support of our community works and partnerships.

In this issue, you will read stories about the many gifts, rewards, and fun activities that our library system brings to adults, youth, and families. We hope those stories will inform you about exciting people, projects and upcoming events in our community, and also bring some light and inspiration into your new year.

## Table of Contents

### Welcome to CALS

#### Family

Arkansas Arts Center Brings New Art Displays, Creative Classes to CALS 6

#### Teens

Security and Kindness for Teens 8

#### Adults

Getting Spicy at Ladies' Salsa Night 10

Believing in Second Chances at Record-Sealing Day 12

#### Special Events

Special Screenings and Movies 14

Art, Lectures, and Music 15

Silas House to Speak on Love, Faith, and Judgment in His Novel *Southernmost* 16

Saving Our Community Memories: Arkansas River Flood of 2019 17

#### Community

Chef and Doctor Make a Cooking Lesson Dream Team 18

#### Tech Classes

Classes 20

Book Clubs 21

#### Check it Out

What Are You Reading? Janelle Lilley 22

All-Spanish Video Streaming Delights with Telenovelas, Movies 22

Unique, Thoughtful Gifts for Your Choosy Loved One 23

*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](http://cals.org).

### children's library

**LITTLE KIDS IN THE KITCHEN**  
Mon | 10 am | ages 2-5

**STEAM TEAM**  
Tue | 4 pm | ages 7-12

**TAIL-WAGGIN' TUTORS**  
Thu | 3:30-5 pm

### dee brown library

**DINNER AND A MOVIE**  
Sat | Dec 28; Feb 8

### fletcher library

**PAMPER & POLISH**  
Tue | 3:30-4:30 pm

**THEMATIC THURSDAY**  
Thu | 3:30-4:30 pm

**WORD PUZZLE WEDNESDAY**  
Wed | Dec 4; Feb 5 |  
3:30-4:30 pm

**WILDERNESS WEDNESDAY**  
Wed | Dec 11; Jan 8; Feb 12  
3:30-4:30 pm

**Wii U WEDNESDAY**  
Wed | Dec 18; Jan 15; Feb 19 |  
3:30-4:30 pm

**WORLD CULTURE WEDNESDAY**  
Wed | Jan 22; Feb 26 | 3:30-  
4:30 pm

### main library

**AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITY**  
ages 6-12 | Mon-Fri | 4-5 pm

**AFTERNOON ANTICS**  
Sat | 3 pm | ages 5-12

### maumelle library

**ARTSY SMARTSY**  
Mon | Dec 2; Jan 6; Feb 3 |  
11:30 am

**SNACK 'N PLAY**  
Mon | 3:30 pm

**K-5 KIDS**  
Wed | 3:30 pm

**FAMILY MOVIE DAY**  
Fri | 3:30 pm

### mcmath library

**TAIL WAGGIN' TUTORS**  
Sat | Dec 14; Jan 11; Feb 8 |  
2-3 pm

**LEGO CLUB**  
Mon | Dec 23; Jan 28; Feb 25 |  
6pm

**CRAFT & SNACKS**  
Tue | 3 pm

**FAMILY ART NIGHT**  
Mon | Dec 9; Jan 14; Feb 11 |  
6-7pm

**EAT & LEARN AT THE LIBRARY**  
Wed | Dec 11; Jan 8; Feb 12 |  
6-7 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

**MOOVIN' AND GROOVIN'**  
Wed | 10:45-11:15 am

**MASTER BUILDERS**  
Thu | 3:30-4:30 pm |  
ages 5-10

**TINKER TIME**  
Fri | 10:45-11:15 am

no programs Dec 14-Jan 7

### terry library

**AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB**  
Mon | 4 pm | ages 8-12

**LEGO JR. MAKERS**  
Wed | 4 pm | ages 3-13

**POKEMON CLUB**  
Thu | Jan 23; Feb 27 | 4 pm |  
ages 7-18

**CHESS & CHECKERS CLUB**  
Thu | Dec 12; Jan 9; Feb 13 |  
4 pm | ages 8-18

**TAIL WAGGIN' TUTORS**  
Thu | Dec 19; Jan 16; Feb 20 |  
4 pm | ages 6-18

### thompson library

**LEGO® CREW**  
Mon | 4-5 pm | ages 5-12 (except  
Dec 9; Jan 13; Feb 10)

**TAIL WAGGIN' TUTORS**  
Mon | Dec 9; Jan 13; Feb 10 |  
4-5 pm | ages 5-8

**KIDS CAFÉ**  
Tue | Dec 17; Jan 21; Feb 18 |  
4 pm | ages 6-18

**DESTINATION EXPLORATION**  
Wed | 4 pm | ages 5-11

**LITTLE KIDS DANCE PARTY**  
Fri | 10-11 am | ages 5 & under

**SENIORS AND JUNIORS**  
**GAME DAY**  
Mon | 2 pm

### williams library

**JUST CRAFTING AROUND**  
Tue | Dec 17; Jan 21; Feb 18 |  
3 pm | children

**AFTER-SCHOOL ANTICS**  
Tue | Sep 10; Oct 8; Nov 12 |  
4 pm | ages 5-12

**LET'S MOVE**  
Wed | Dec 11; Jan 8; Feb 12 |  
3 pm | children

**SNACK ATTACK**  
Thur | Dec 5; Jan 2; Feb 6 |  
3 pm

**FAMILY DINNER NIGHT**  
Thu | Dec 5; Jan 2; Feb 6 |  
6 pm | families



**Grinchfest**  
**Monday, December 23**  
**9:30 am & 11 am**

How The Grinch Stole Christmas!  
 read by Craig O'Neill

Dress in your Whoville attire  
 Carols • Crafts • Photos

Reserve your free tickets at  
**CALS.org.**

Hillary Rodham Clinton  
 Children's Library & Learning Center  
 4800 W. 10th Street • Little Rock

**CALS** CENTRAL  
 ARKANSAS  
 LIBRARY  
 SYSTEM

**Food for Fines**

**December 2-8**

Bring undamaged, boxed or canned,  
 non-perishable food items to any CALS branch  
 to offset overdue library fines up to \$10.

All food will be donated to the Arkansas Food Bank or  
 Partners for Progress in Perryville.

Fines accrued for billed items or replacement fees are  
 not eligible under this program.

## storytimes

Groups meet weekly unless otherwise noted.

### children's library

Wed, Thu | 10 am & 10:30 am | ages 5 & under

### fletcher library

Tue | 10 am | babies, toddlers, preschoolers  
 Thu | 9:30 am | babies, toddlers, preschoolers

### 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 | babies, toddlers, 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 | toddlers  
 Fri | 10 am | preschoolers  
 no programming Dec 14-Jan 7

### 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 | preschoolers  
 Thu | 9:30 am | babies  
 Thu | 10:30 am | preschoolers  
 Thu | 11:30 am | babies, toddlers, preschoolers

### thompson library

Mon | 9:30 am | babies, toddlers  
 Mon | 10:30 am | preschoolers  
 Wed | 10 am | preschoolers  
 Thu | 6 pm | babies, toddlers, preschoolers

# Arkansas Arts Center Brings New Art Displays, Creative Classes to CALS



Stunning new works of art have sprouted up all over the library system, thanks to our new partnership with the Arkansas Arts Center. In addition to loaning artworks, the AAC is sending its expert teachers to several library locations to provide art instruction for students of all ages, as well as theater classes for children.

The Arts Center has begun an ambitious two-year remodeling process that has closed down its usual facility. By hosting the AAC in our well-equipped public

spaces, CALS can assist this vital cultural institution to stay connected with the people of our community during the remodeling process.

AAC Museum School art instructor Robert Bean recently taught both Intermediate Drawing and an Urban Sketchbook class at our downtown campus, Library Square. Bean finds many benefits in the partnership with the library system.

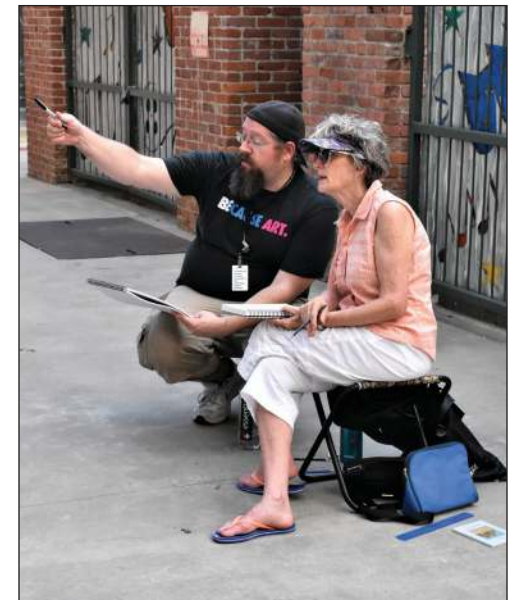
“I think having access to the CALS facilities opens up a new way of looking for us,” Bean said. “It puts us in a new environment, a place where ideas that might not have made it off the shelf in a regular studio all of a sudden hop down and have legs to dance on. There are new things for us to look at, things to be inspired by. And I personally love being surrounded by books, so it feels comfortable to me, it feels powerful. It’s like there’s a new idea around every corner.”

Students in the Urban Sketchbook class were full of praise for the benefits of the class and Bean’s approach to teaching.

“I’ve been taking a lot of drawing classes with Robert,” said student Tricia. “But this class makes you draw quickly rather than just working in one small area for hours and hours. So it makes you see things differently. It’s more interesting sometimes to draw from real things than having to draw from a picture or a still life.”

Class members appreciate Robert Bean’s support and expertise as a teacher. “Robert is a wonderful teacher,” Maria said. “Already, he comes by and is giving me pointers, and I’m like, oh yeah! I see that! He’s a really positive teacher.”

Student Rodney is uniquely qualified to know good teaching, as Rodney is himself a high school art teacher. “Here we are out in this open space working – Robert is giving us some insight and some tasks, and when he’s walking around, he’s very





nurturing. He’s always able to see the good. He has a critical eye, but he never imposes it on you in a harsh way.”

Rodney has his own compelling reasons for taking the class even though he is already an experienced artist and teacher. “I’m one of those people who feels that if I’m asking someone to do something, I should be able to do it myself. Because in art you’re really just putting yourself out there on display, and sometimes it does fail! That’s what I do on a daily basis—I’m asking people to put themselves out there, to put out their own signature, who they are. And that’s a lot to ask of people and not be able to do it yourself. Putting myself in that position allows me to be more empathetic with my students and to understand what they’re going through.”

Robert Bean described the rewards of his work in his interaction with students. “The lightbulb moments. That short little spark in time where you can just see the world shift just a little bit in the eyes of the student. You can see that the world has changed for them, at least in how they perceive it. It’s a little deeper, a little more interesting. And we have some of the most engaged students at the (AAC) Museum School, so you get to see this happen fairly often.

Meanwhile, at the Hillary Rodham Clinton

Children’s Library, more AAC classes were taking place for children in both art and theater. A sunny Saturday morning saw groups of little ones crowding around their teacher to use their imaginations to tell their own stories. Bigger kids

played theater games with an energetic coach in the library’s performance amphitheater.

Rivka Kuperman, Production Stage Manager at the Arkansas Arts Center Children’s Theatre, commented on the advantages of the CALS Children’s Library as a setting for classes. “The partnership with CALS has allowed us to enrich our environment for youth theatre classes. Not only do we have access to a beautiful amphitheater style space, but also have the advantage of being surrounded by children’s literature, which is at the core of everything we do. It’s so easy to grab a book, tell a story, and inspire students to play and create together.”

Many area residents who have grown up with the top-quality productions of the AAC Children’s Theatre will be happy to know that the work of these professional dramatists goes on, and will continue to benefit our area children during the remodeling of the Arts Center.

For more information on the AAC classes in art and theater at CALS, please visit <https://www.arkansasartscenter.org/how-to-register>.

# CALS CON

A CELEBRATION OF ALL THINGS FANDOM



Saturday,  
March 7  
10 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Library Square

Can't Wait?  
Try **Fandom February:**

<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: #e67e22;">Children’s Library</p> <p>Pokemon Club   Fridays in February, 4 p.m. Pokemon Game Day   Sat, Feb 29, 2 p.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: #e67e22;">McMath Library</p> <p>Frozen II Party   Sat, Feb 22, 2-3 p.m. Minecraft Party   Wed, Feb 26, 6-7 p.m.</p>
<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: #e67e22;">Fletcher Library</p> <p>Harry Potter Celebration   Sat, Feb 29, 2-4 p.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: #e67e22;">Sanders Library</p> <p>Fandom Star Wars   Sat, Feb 22, 3-5 p.m.</p>

# Security and Kindness for Teens

If you need to feel better and see some real human kindness, come hang out with our security guys after school. As the kids come into Main Library for our afternoon activities, Jimmy high-fives every one. And he talks to them and cares.

“How was your day?” Jimmy asks. “It’s the weekend! Your brain gets to rest!” he says to those who look tired.

One young girl comes in clearly on the verge of tears. “It’s gonna be ok,” he tells her.

The kids look up. They look at his kind face and right into his eyes, as teens are sometimes reluctant to do. They feel seen. They smile, or even laugh. Jimmy may be the best thing that happens to them all day.

Some of our teens testified to Jimmy’s positive presence here at the library.

“He shows kindness,”” Messiah said. “He keeps a smile on his face.”

Aiden said he likes it that Jimmy laughs when you high-five him back.

Hannah notices the small things Jimmy does that make people feel good. “He’s really nice and he makes people smile just by smiling. He’s a welcoming face at the library.”

We caught up with Jimmy to ask him for his take on working with the students. “I figure, if I high-five them, I bring a smile to their face. And then some will come back with their report cards, and if they get all As, I reward them. I rewarded three or four already for that.”

The inspiration for Jimmy’s compassion for young people was his mother. “My mom, she practically raised the whole



neighborhood,” he said. “Kids would come in and she would feed them, she would clothe them. She was just a lovable person. I got that from my mom.”





## teen programs

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

### fletcher library

**MAKER MONDAY**  
Mon | 3:30 pm

### main library

**AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITY**  
Mon-Fri | 4-5 pm

**TEEN PROGRAM**  
Sat | 2 pm

### maumelle library

**CAFÉ OLÉ**  
Mon | 3:30-4:30 pm

**HOME GROWN TEENS**  
Tue | 11:30 am

**TEEN TIME TUESDAYS**  
Tue | 3:30-4:30 pm

### mcmath library

**WII WEDNESDAY**  
Wed | Dec 4; Feb 5 | 6-7 pm

**TEEN BOOK CHAT**  
Wed | Dec 18; Jan 15; Feb 19 | 6 pm

### milam library

**SATURDAY CHAT COFFEE HOUR**  
Sat | Dec 28; Jan 25; Feb 29 | 10:30 am

### 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 | Dec 7; Jan 4; Feb 15 | 11:30 am

### sanders library

**BORED GAMES**  
Mon | 4-5 pm

**TEEN TIME**  
Tue, Thu, Fri | 4-5 pm  
no programs Dec 20-Jan 7

### terry library

**VOLUNTERRY TEENS**  
Wed | 4 pm

### thompson library

**TEEN HALF & HALF**  
Thu | 4 pm

### williams library

**TEEN ADVISORY BOARD**  
Mon | Dec 2, 9; Jan 6, 13; Feb 3, 10 | 4 pm  
Wed | Dec 18; Jan 22; Feb 19 | 4:30 pm

**TEEN TRIVIA**  
Thu | Dec 12; Jan 9; Feb 13 | 4:30 pm

**CRAFTY CREATIONS**  
Tue | Dec 10, 24; Jan 14, 28; Feb 11, 25 | 4:30 pm

**WHIP IT UP**  
Wed | Dec 4; Feb 5 | 4:30 pm

**GAME DAY**  
Fri | Sep 13, 27; Oct 11, 25; Nov 8, 22

**TEEN BOOK CLUB**  
Thu | Dec 26; Jan 23; Feb 27 | 4:30 pm

## Holiday Giving to-do List



Be generous.



Support your amazing local  
Library.



Remember, Central Arkansas  
Library System depends on you!

[www.cals.org/foundation](http://www.cals.org/foundation)

# Getting Spicy at Ladies' Salsa Night

A cheerful group of women listened to peppy salsa music while teacher Courtney Frazier Jones showed them how to put some extra style in their moves. It was salsa dance class—at the CALS Terry Library!

“Make it curvy as you bring that hip around!” Courtney said.

Everybody smiled a curvy kind of smile. The teacher’s energy was infectious as the music pulsed a good-time rhythm through the library meeting room. The floor was clear, and everything looked just like a regular adult dance class, but more sassy.

Red-haired Wendi called out, “What do you do once you get back here?”

“You hit that wall again!” Courtney said. “123, Hit that wall! 123, Hit that wall!”

She kept the beat with flair and admired her students. “You guys, this is professional!”

Laughter rose, a little breathless.

“So this is where you get dizzy,” Courtney said. “So you need to pick a spot on that wall and follow it.”

Another student piped up from the back, “Can you show us the complete move?”

Courtney jumped in. “Sure! 123, 567, 123, 56 spin it!”

The class literally oohed at the sight of the flashy moves in their full glory.

Courtney had a few more memorable tips as they continued to practice the new combo. “It’s cute to swing your hair, but not so much that your glasses fall off,” she said. “I learned that the hard way!”

She surveyed the class while still dancing vigorously. “Basically, if you’ve got a body part that you can wiggle, you

should do it in salsa.” More laughter.

Class members were universally enthusiastic when the class finished.

Cindy appreciated the casual approach and the joy of just dancing. “It’s fun to do no matter how good or bad you are!”

Sudakshina found the class a welcome moment to have some personal fun. “We wanted to do something without the kids, so we started coming to this workshop with Ms. Courtney.”

Aparna liked the inclusive, positive atmosphere as well as the chance to learn for free. “I’ve been wanting to

learn salsa for a long time,” she said. “It’s free, and you don’t need any experience. And there’s no judgment.”

Wendi was learning for her daughter’s upcoming wedding, while Kelly stated what everybody had to be thinking about our fun and multitalented CALS staff member. “I think Courtney is really cool.”

Though salsa is over for the year, January will bring a new series for Scottish Country Dancing. For more information, see [cals.org](http://cals.org) or call the Terry Library at (501) 228-0129.



## adult programs

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

### dee brown library

#### PEOPLE'S KITCHEN

Mon | Jan 9; Feb 24 | 6:30 pm

#### REPAIR CAFÉ

Sat | Jan 25; Feb 22 | 2 pm

### fletcher library

#### SOCRATES CAFÉ

Wed | Jan 22; Feb 26 |  
6-8 pm

### main library

#### WEDNESDAY MATINÉE

Wed | 2-4 pm

#### YOGA

Fri | noon-1 pm

#### ORIGAMI

all ages | Wed | 6-8 pm

#### TABLE TOP TUESDAYS

Tue | 5-7:30 pm

#### MEDITATION AT MAIN

Mon | Dec 9, 23; Jan 13, 27;  
Feb 10, 24 | noon-1 pm

### maumelle library

#### SOCRATES CAFÉ

Thu | Dec 5; Jan 2; Feb 6 | 6 pm

#### CENTRAL ARKANSAS BONSAI

#### SOCIETY

Sat | Jan 11; Feb 8 | 10 am

#### QUILTING & SEWING GROUP

Thu | Dec 12; Jan 9, 23; Feb 13; 27 |  
10 am-4 pm

#### 3 MINUTE CRAFT

Sat | Dec 14; Jan 11; Feb 8 | 2 pm

#### ART NIGHT

Mon | Jan 27; Feb 24 | 6:30 pm

### mcmath library

#### MOVIE NIGHT

Wed | Dec 4; Feb 5 | 5:45 pm

#### SOCRATES CAFÉ

Wed | Dec 11; Jan 8; Feb 12 | 6-8 pm

### milam library

#### PERRY COUNTY HISTORY &

#### GENEALOGY

Tue | Jan 14; Feb 11 | 7 pm

### nixon library

#### ADULT SEWING CLASS

Thu | Dec 19; Jan 16; Feb 20 |  
4-6 pm

Registration required:  
(501) 457-5038

#### ADULT ACTIVITY TIME

Wed | noon-2 pm

### roberts library

#### FINDING FAMILY FACTS

Mon | Dec 9; Jan 13; Feb 10 | 3:30 pm



### rooker library

#### PAINTING CLASS

Mon | Dec 2; Jan 6; Feb 10 | 6 pm

#### JEWELRY CLASS

Mon | Dec 30; Jan 27; Feb 24 | 6 pm

### sanders library

#### FIDDLESTICKS

Thu | 1-3 pm

#### PEN POINTS WRITING GROUP

Dec 28; Jan 25; Feb 22

### terry library

#### FALUN GONG MEDITATION

Sat | Dec 14, 28; Jan 11, 25;  
Feb 8, 22 | 9:30-11 am

#### SOCRATES CAFÉ

Thu | Dec 19; Jan 16; Feb 20 |  
6-8 pm

### thompson library

#### KNITTING CIRCLE

Mon | 1-2 pm

#### FRENCH CONVERSATION CLUB

Tue | Dec 3; Jan 7; Feb 4 | 6 pm

#### SPANISH CONVERSATION CLUB

Tue | Jan 14; Feb 11 | 6 pm

#### FIT & FUN

Sat | 10-11 am

### williams library

#### TECHNOLOGY TIME

Mon | 10:30 am-noon

#### CRAFT SENSE

Tue | Dec 3; Jan 7; Feb 4 | 6 pm

#### CRAFTING CIRCLE

Tue | Dec 17; Jan 21; Feb 18 | 6 pm

#### F.Y.I

Thu | Dec 19; Jan 16; Feb 20 | 6 pm



# Believing in Second Chances at Record-Sealing Day

It's hard to say what's more moving about a record-sealing clinic: the faces of those people who just got a fresh chance, or the kindness of the crowd of volunteers and staffers who showed up to help them start over.

This fall, the CALS Dee Brown Library hosted a record-sealing day coordinated by the Center for Arkansas Legal Services with the help of the Pulaski County Clerk's Office, the Arkansas Crime Information Center (ACIC), and Goodwill. All partner organizations came together to achieve one goal: assist people to seal away minor criminal offenses from their public records—offenses often committed a decade or more in the past.

The sealing of these minor offenses from most public records opens up new possibilities in jobs, credit, and housing. A years-old criminal offense, even a misdemeanor, can often derail a life journey and keep a person from rejoining the economy as a productive community member. Record-sealing removes that “scarlet letter” of stigma for even a minor offense—a stigma that often prevents employers and landlords from seeing who people are today, rather than who they might have been a decade ago. (Full records will still appear in searches by a limited number of organizations such as law enforcement, schools and prisons.)

Zina Frazier of the Center for Arkansas Legal Services is passionate about the pressing need for this kind of record-sealing: “So many people have a violation from 10-20 years ago and it's still sitting on their record. We see more misdemeanors than anything,” she said.



The purpose of the event is for us to ask, “What can we do to try to help you get back to work?”

Jean Turner Carter, Executive Director of the Center, stood by observing the well-oiled process of the record-sealing clinic, as clients moved from one assistance station to the other.

“After this process, people can improve their employment with better jobs, find better housing, and improve their credit,” Carter said. “And these better economic opportunities lead to a more stable community as a whole.”

“It can be overwhelming for some to go to the courthouse and figure out this complex process, especially for those who have had bad experiences at the courthouse,” Carter

said. “We’ve heard great things from our clients about the increased opportunities they’ve found in jobs and housing after going through this process. And it’s wonderful to work with all these volunteer attorneys who are giving back to the community, as well as with our partners such as the library system, ACIC, the Clerk’s Office, and Goodwill.”

The volunteer attorneys formed an impressively large crew. Gathered at tables in the library’s main meeting room, they greeted clients with respect, helped fill out paperwork, and printed documents right then and there to allow clients to move on to the next stage of the process.

Robert Cortinez has been an attorney in Little Rock for 28 years. “I felt the need

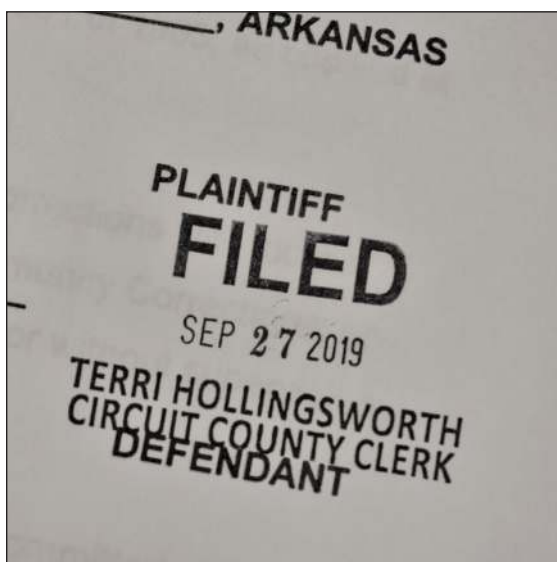
to come out and give my time in order to help these people find brighter paths in the future,” Cortinez said. “So many doors have been closed to them from things that happened 20 years ago. This process helps them live their lives the way they were meant to live them.”

Tabitha Lee, Expungement Specialist, described how the Center for Arkansas Legal Services also helps clients follow up after their filing. “Sometimes they run into barriers after filing if they haven’t paid all their fines or taken required classes,” she said.

Zina Frazier nodded. “There’s a process they still have to follow after they file with the Clerk’s office,” she said. “So if they get an objection, they can call us back and we’ll see if we can assist them.”

Library staff welcomed the opportunity to host the event and praised the benefits of the partnership for local community members. “This is an encapsulated process, which is beneficial because everything happens in one stop,” said Karen Guthrie of the CALS Dee Brown Library. “In the past, people had to bring in all these extra documents from other offices, but now it can all happen here.”

Combined assistance from volunteer lawyers and partner organizations allowed clients to go all the way through the process and file their paperwork the same day. A man in his forties walked to the library exit, his face lit up



with happiness and relief, cradling a bundle of papers marked: “FILED.”

With this kind of fresh start to benefit both individuals and the entire community, it’s not surprising that record-sealing clinics, hosted in a variety of locations in central Arkansas, are now in demand. Julie Norman, Managing Attorney for the Center, is pleased to see increased recognition for the hope offered by record-sealing assistance.” We used to have to persuade people to host clinics. But now that the word is getting around, they ask us,” she said.

Executive Director Nate Coulter of the Central Arkansas Library System looks forward to future collaborations with these partners in record-sealing clinics. “It’s a privilege to join in

this effort with the Center for Arkansas Legal Services and these partners who are dedicated to renewing opportunities for our community,” Coulter said. “We’re happy to serve as a hub to provide free meeting space, enthusiastic assistance, and widespread access to some of the most needed public services in the region. Getting people connected and helping them find their full potential is at the heart of our public library mission. Everyone in the community has value to offer and should have the chance to do so.”

For questions about the record-sealing clinics, please call the Center for Arkansas Legal Services at (501) 376-3423 or toll-free at (800) 950-5817.

# SPECIAL EVENTS



## movies

CALS Ron Robinson Theater  
All are \$5 admission,  
doors open 6 pm | shows start 7 pm

**A CHRISTMAS STORY** (1983, PG)  
Thu | Dec 5

**ELF** (2003, PG)  
Tue | Dec 10

**DIE HARD** (1988, R)  
Thu | Dec 12

**NATIONAL LAMPOON'S  
CHRISTMAS VACATION** (1989, PG-13)  
Tue | Dec 17

**IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE** (1946, PG)  
Thu | Dec 19

**ONE FLEW OVER THE  
CUCKOO'S NEST** (1975, R)  
Thu | Feb 6

**TITANIC** (1997, PG-13)  
Thu | Feb 13

**TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD** (1962, NR)  
Thu | Feb 27

## special screenings

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

**A CELEBRATION OF WILLIAM GRANT STILL**  
Fri | Feb 21 | Free

Arriving in Little Rock as an infant in 1895, William Grant Still went on to become the most important African-American classical music composer. In celebration of the 125th anniversary of his birth, we honor Still's legacy with a screening of the documentary, *A Voice High-Sounding: The Life & Career of William Grant Still*. The Arkansas Symphony Orchestra's Quapaw Quartet will perform a selection of Still's music followed by a panel discussion on Still's story and legacy.

## BingoFlix

Play bingo to hilarious movie clichés as we watch so-bad-it's-good cinema classics. Win prizes including tickets to upcoming events at the theater!

All movies are \$5 admission, film at 7 pm, with doors open at 6 pm. Come in, relax, and enjoy our great prices on concessions, craft beer, wine, and now White Claw too.

Tue Dec 3: **SANTA CLAUS CONQUERS THE MARTIANS**

Tue Jan 14: **THE MOLE PEOPLE**

Tue Feb 11: **CAT-WOMEN OF THE MOON**



## People love BingoFlix

**CJ** – Last time I won a family pack of movie passes!

**Krissy** – You can't see any of these movies elsewhere. It's a good movie in a good setting.

**Sean** – It's a good price too—very reasonable.

**Kim** – After *The Horrors of Spider Island*, I was hiding under the covers!

**Stephanie** – We had such a good time at Terror Tuesday that we've been looking for the next event, and this one looked good. I was very pleased with the concession prices too.

**Joan** – I like old movies! The people watching get into it and clap or call out, and I love that.

**Jane** – I like how campy it is!

**Ashton** – I saw that BingoFlix was playing this summer while I was out of town, and the minute I got back and saw there was another one, I was like, "we're going!"

**John** – I didn't know how nice the theater is.



## art exhibitions

**“PASS THE BISCUITS!”: THE KING BISCUIT BLUES FESTIVAL AND ARKANSAS BLUES**  
The Galleries at Library Square  
Sep 13–Dec 28

**JOHN KUSHMAUL**  
The Galleries at Library Square  
Oct 11 – Dec 28

**THE ARKANSAS PASTEL SOCIETY:  
2019 NATIONAL PASTEL SHOW**  
The Galleries at Library Square  
Nov 8, 2019 – Feb 22, 2020

**DEBI LYNN FENDLEY**  
The Bookstore at Library Square  
Dec 13, 2019 – Jan 2, 2020  
opening reception Fri | Dec 13 | 5-8 pm

**INTO THE WOODS: ARKANSAS CHAMPION TREES BY LINDA WILLIAMS PALMER & TURNED-WOOD VESSELS BY GENE SPARLING**  
The Galleries at Library Square  
Jan 10 – Apr 25  
opening reception Fri | Jan 10 | 5-8 pm

**INSIDE AND OUT: FIGURATIVE WORKS, FIGURE DRAWINGS BY ROBERT BEAN, JEREMY COUCH, AND LOGAN HUNTER**  
The Galleries at Library Square  
Jan 10 – Mar 28  
opening reception Fri | Jan 10 | 5-8 pm

**GUY CHOATE**  
The Bookstore at Library Square  
Jan 10 – Jan 30  
opening reception Fri | Jan 10 | 5-8 pm

**THRISTAN “TEA” JAMES JACKSON**  
The Bookstore at Library Square  
Feb 14 – Mar 5  
opening reception Fri | Feb 14 | 5-8 pm

## speakers, panels and forums

**MAGIC 105 TRIBUTE**  
CALs Ron Robinson Theater | Fri | Jan 24 |  
7pm (doors open at 6pm) | Free  
We pay tribute to central Arkansas radio station Magic 105 (1980-2008) with photos, audio clips, and a panel discussion featuring former Magic 105 on-air personalities Tom Wood, Tommy Smith, Carole Kramer, David Allen Ross, Sharpe Dunaway, Danny Joe Crafford and many more.

### CALS Speaker Series

**ANGIE MAXWELL  
ANNUAL MAURICE SMITH PROGRAM**  
Main Library Darragh Center | Thu | Feb 20 |  
6:30 pm  
Maxwell will speak on her book *The Long Southern Strategy: How Chasing White Voters in the South Changed American Politics* (co-written with Todd Shields). The Southern Strategy is traditionally understood as a Goldwater and Nixon-era effort by the Republican Party to win over disaffected white voters in the Democratic stronghold of the American South. To realign these voters with the GOP, the party abandoned its past support for civil rights and used racially coded language to capitalize on southern white racial angst. However, that decision was but one in a series of decisions the GOP made not just on race, but on feminism and religion as well. Maxwell and Shields argue that through what they call the “Long Southern Strategy,” the GOP nationalized southern white identity, rebranded itself to the country at large, and fundamentally altered the vision and tone of American politics.

Reserve seats beginning Jan. 13 at [www.cals.org](http://www.cals.org)



**LEGACIES & LUNCH: BEN JOHNSON**  
“Arkansas in Modern America”  
Main Library Darragh Center | Wed | Dec 4 |  
noon-1 pm

**LEGACIES & LUNCH: STORY MATKIN-RAWN & THEO WITSELL**  
“Off the Grid: A History of Nature, Black Power, and Freedom on the Arkansas Frontier”  
Main Library Darragh Center | Wed | Jan 8 |  
noon-1 pm  
Encore presentation: CALs Williams Library | Thu |  
Jan 23 | 6 -7 pm

**LEGACIES & LUNCH: BENJI DE LA PIEDRA**  
Herbert Denton Community History Project:  
An Update  
Main Library Darragh Center | Wed | Feb 5 |  
noon-1 pm

## concerts

**BOBBY RUSH** (solo show)  
CALs Ron Robinson Theater  
Fri | Dec 6 | 8 pm (doors open 7 pm) | \$30  
Bobby Rush is a Grammy Award winner, a Blues Hall of Famer, a 12 time Blues Music Award winner and B.B. King Entertainer of the Year. Don’t miss your chance to see **this blues legend singing**, playing guitar and harmonica, and telling stories in an intimate **solo show!**

**HOLIDAY CHORAL CONCERT WITH LRSD CHOIRS**  
CALs Ron Robinson Theater  
Fri | Dec 13 | 7 pm (doors open 6 pm) | Free  
Join us for a free concert of holiday choral music performed by seven stellar LRSD choirs. Celebrate the season with Chicot Elementary, Williams Elementary, Forest Heights STEM Academy, Mabelvale Middle, Pinnacle View Middle, Central High and Parkview High Schools.

## SAVE THESE DATES FOR 2020

### Issues that Matter Public Forums

Sponsored by CALs, KUAR Public Radio  
and the League of Women Voters

“Literacy” | CALs Hilary Rodham Clinton  
Children’s Library | **Mar 12**

“Surveillance” | CALs Rooker Library | **June 18**

“Ballot Issues 2020” | CALs Thompson Library |  
**Aug 20**

“Legislative Preview” | CALs Ron Robinson  
Theater | **Nov 12**

# Silas House to Speak on Love, Faith, and Judgment in His Novel *Southernmost*

On February 25, author Silas House will speak in person on his timely and powerful novel *Southernmost*, as a guest of the *Oxford American* magazine's speaker series South Words.

House's novel tells a story that manages to be both fresh and painfully familiar for many in the south. When evangelical preacher Asher Sharp offers shelter to two gay men after a catastrophic flood, his choice threatens to sweep away the foundations of his own life. His family and congregation struggle with their conflicting feelings as religion, love, and judgment collide. *Southernmost* shows with tenderness how a lifechanging rupture can transform into a story of forgiveness and reconciliation.

Silas House will be joined in conversation by Seth Pennington, the editor-in-chief of Little Rock's own Sibling Rivalry Press, which the American Library Association has frequently recognized on its annual list of recommended LGBTQ readings.

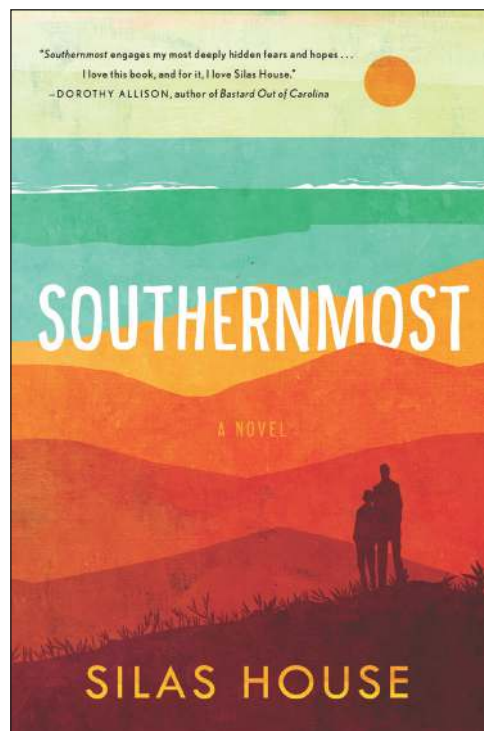
Though House's work has special poignance for readers with ties to the LGBTQ community, its relevance spreads far and wide in a time when many people find themselves divided from their loved ones by deep ideological differences.

House commented on that widespread dilemma of painful family breaks: "I wanted to write a novel that was more from the point of view of people who love somebody with whom they fundamentally disagree," House said. "And I think that all of us can relate to that in one way or another even if it's not about LGBTQ issues."

The South Words series brings renowned *Oxford American* contributors to town for readings and on-stage

conversations with standouts from the local literary community. Exceptional authors pair with local moderators who lead illuminating conversations about themes in the books. The rewards of the format were amply demonstrated by the first event in the series, when National Book Award finalist Sarah Broom engaged in a spontaneous and profound conversation on the importance of home with *Oxford American* Jeff Baskin Fellow, KaToya Ellis Fleming.

OA Editor Eliza Borné appreciates the many sponsors who have come together to support the unparalleled caliber of the South Words series. "All of our sponsors bring different resources to the series, from financial support that allows us to pay our visiting writers to promotional support that helps us get the word out.



## OXFORD AMERICAN

Of course, the Central Arkansas Library System and Six Bridges Book Festival have been instrumental in the series' success by providing the venue and book sales, among other resources."

The South Words events are hosted in the CALS Ron Robinson Theater at Library Square, a comfortable state-of-the-art facility with full concessions including craft beer and wine. The University of Central Arkansas's College of Fine Arts and Communications is the presenting sponsor of the series.

Borné believes audience members will find much to take away from the series.

"The South has always been home to some of our culture's finest and most significant writers, and this series celebrates that legacy," Borné said. "The writers on our program are writing about important themes that are relevant to all of our lives—themes like race, class, love, and family. At the OA, we believe in the power of literature to encourage new perspectives and understanding. I hope people come to South Words, become inspired by these authors, and learn something new—about themselves, about someone different from them, and about the world."

Reserve your free tickets at [cals.org](http://cals.org).



# Saving Our Community Memories: Arkansas River Flood of 2019

For some people, the Arkansas River Flood of 2019 brought immediate destruction: waterlogged homes, submerged vehicles, ruined farm crops. Even for those who suffered no losses, the flood was a shocking daily reminder of the unstoppable power of nature as waters crested in Little Rock at over 29 feet, more than 6 feet above flood stage.

For the archivists and staff at the CALS Roberts Library, the flood was a call to action.

Weather-predictive technology triggered warnings of impending historic flooding in late May, well before the levees were breached. Staff member Danielle Butler realized at that point that people in our region would be documenting the flood with photographs and videos. CALS archival staff would have a unique opportunity to preserve community history in the making by creating a collection of those community viewpoints.

“We felt we needed to get on it immediately,” Butler said, “because after this content gets off people’s news feeds, they’re gonna clean out their camera rolls and it’s gone forever.”

CALS staff set up a Google form and began

to send out calls to the community asking for their flood footage and photos. “We wanted to create ways to make it personal,” Butler said, describing how people can add notes to their photos to explain the locations and circumstances behind each image. “We asked for all kinds of things, from weird animals that walked up on your lawn to actual flood damage, interiors, and exteriors. We wanted to see the flood from the perspective of the community, versus what news stations were capturing.”

Community members and local organizations have sent over 600 submissions thus far, including camera photos, social media posts, and aerial footage. Archived submissions are located at [arstudies.com](http://arstudies.com) under search term “2019 Arkansas River Flood.”

For the staff at the CALS Encyclopedia of Arkansas, the job was just beginning, but the flood also offered a rare example of how to chronicle history as soon as it unfolds.

Encyclopedia Editor Guy Lancaster explained that his job requires him to collect daily regional newspapers for review, but he can’t always



review them daily, and thus the papers can pile up. “By the time the flooding was reaching historic stages and it was an event that I knew we would want an entry on, I had a big stack of newspapers,” Lancaster said. “When I started going through them in chronological order, I realized ‘I’ve got the beginning of the event right here—I may as well just hammer out a few lines at a time and slowly piece an article together.’ Then I saved all the articles to make it easier for fact checking. We’ve continued to tinker with the entry as new data emerges, like the cost of the flooding, for example.”

The EOA entry, titled “Flood of 2019,” includes over 70 citations of newspaper stories of all kinds. The entry is a sterling example of chronicling, research and concise writing that could make a standalone example for any social studies or journalism teacher about how historians and journalists work together to preserve our cultural memory. Lancaster was impressed by the impact of the collective work of area journalists.

“I think the entry highlights the importance of journalism,” Lancaster said. “You can’t do history without good reports.”

Find more at [encyclopediaofarkansas.net](http://encyclopediaofarkansas.net).



**Above:** Photo by Nader Afsordeh    **Top Right:** Photo by Bart Virden

# Chef and Doctor Make a Cooking Lesson Dream Team

“I started going to culinary school because I had too many patients.”

Dr. Meenakshi Budrahja is passionate about food.

As a gastroenterologist, she has seen firsthand the effects of poor nutrition on people’s health. Frustrated by the serious illnesses created by high-fat, high-salt, high-sugar diets full of processed food, she realized that people needed help long before their poor health landed them in her office.

That’s how she met Cynthia Malik, a chef from Little Rock who trained at the Culinary Institute of America and is now Executive Chef for Tacos 4 Life Grill. Chef Malik was teaching at the local culinary school here in Little Rock when Dr. Budrahja walked in looking for expert partners.

“We need to train doctors how to cook,” Budrahja told the chefs.

Eventually, Malik and Budrahja ended up co-teaching their fascinating and delicious classes in cooking and culinary medicine.

Their class offered here through the CALS Thompson Library is free to the public. It’s a pleasure for the senses and an eye-opener for the joys of fruits, legumes, and vegetables. Roasting grapes and squash send a heady, rich aroma through the library. Freshly made hummus and a touch of cheese prove that healthy eating is not a punishment, but a pure delight when you learn easy recipes from the experts.

While Chef Malik prepped demonstration bowls that showed up crystal-clear on the library’s professional



countertop viewscreen, Dr. Budrahja gave an informative and often funny talk about the unseen forces that cause people to choose unhealthy foods without even knowing why.

“Big Food has tremendous influence on what we eat – we think we choose our food, but we don’t realize how much influence Big Food has,” Dr. Budrahja said. She displayed a map graphic of all the giant food companies that dominate politics and our food culture across the United States. “In addition, even our culinary schools often train chefs in the French tradition, which tends to start with a stick of butter and cream.”

Budrahja explained that for the sake of our health, culinary culture needs to reorient itself to embrace more healthy

ingredients and cooking traditions like Mediterranean, which is heart-healthy with more vegetables and fewer fats.

As Chef Malik stepped in to begin teaching the recipes, she pointed out to the gathered listeners that many chefs tend to center their work on meat, a focus that comes from the Western European cooking tradition but is not always the healthiest approach. “Most chefs are all about the meat, but I’m interested in the vegetables first,” Malik said.

Chef Malik’s talent was plain, as her colorful, non-meat ingredients took shape into a mouthwatering plate of samples for every visitor. The library patrons lined up for the treats, sighing at the smells and the tastes as they dug in, asking questions about the ingredients. Malik clearly

loves interacting with the curious learners and has many helpful tips. When asked about her generous teaching style, she had a simple answer. “I just believe there’s nothing about cooking that should be secret,” Malik said. “Where else can you learn? Many people aren’t learning at home. Most of us want to enjoy food, but not everyone has the confidence to go out on a limb with something unusual.” She enjoys the opportunity to help people be bold and explore new flavors and techniques.

Class attendees were full of praise as they relaxed and sampled the hummus, squash, and grapes.

Kaleybra Morehead had already attended several cooking classes at the Thompson Library. “I love them!” she said. “I’m trying to eat better, so this class will be incentive.”

For others, the class was their first exposure to the joys of library cooking class.

Jason West said, “This is my first time at one of these cooking events. I like the opportunity to accompany my mom to something near and dear like culinary class. It’s a lovely atmosphere and setting.”

Jo Jones was impressed with the whole library kitchen. “It’s like the ones on the cooking shows!” Jones said. She also appreciates helpful aspects of the cooking lesson for those with dietary restrictions. “I can’t eat gluten, so the gluten-free bread is really good.”

Yong Park just happened across the class on his weekend trip to the library. “I like cooking,” Park said. “I was sitting across the building and saw this class through the windows and thought “what is that?” He complimented the wonderful flavors of the sample dishes.

Like many library cooking classes, this free Saturday offering infused the afternoon with the special warmth that comes from the age-old blessings of hospitality and breaking bread.

Dr. Budrahja enjoys nurturing that community bond while helping people take charge of their health.

“Cooking builds community,” Budrahja said. “Look how much fun we had today. It builds relationships.”



## design

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## computer essentials

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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](http://cals.org)*

## 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

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## 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

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Employ PivotTables to find patterns in your data, use the VLOOKUP function, troubleshoot problems with formulas, and more.

## 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.

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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 | Jan 16 | 6 pm

How Fire Ends: A Novel by Marco Rafala

#### STEPHEN KING RULES!

Fri | Dec 27; Jan 24; Feb 28 | 6 pm

Dec: *The Eyes of the Dragon*

Jan: *Skeleton Crew*

Feb: *IT*

### dee brown library

#### COOKBOOK POTLUCK CLUB

Thu | Jan 2; Feb 10 | 6 pm

### fletcher library

#### PAGE TURNERS BOOK CLUB

Wed | Dec 11; Jan 8; Feb 12 | 6:30-7:30 pm

Dec: *Exit West* by Mohsin Hamid

Jan: *Brain on Fire* by Susannah Cahalan

Feb: *Into the Beautiful North* by Luis Alberto Urrea

#### BOOK JUNKIES BOOK GROUP

Tue | Dec 17; Jan 21; Feb 18 | noon-1 pm

Dec: *The Cellist of Sarajevo* by Steven Galloway

Jan: *The Prize Winner of Defiance, Ohio* by Terry Ryan

Feb: *Confederates in the Attic* by Tony Horwitz

### maumelle library

#### 2ND MONDAY BOOK CLUB

Mon | Dec 9; Jan 13; Feb 10 | 7-8 pm

Dec: *All Over But The Shoutin'* by Rick Bragg

Jan: *Back When We Were Grownups* by Anne Tyler

Feb: *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand* by Helen Simonson

### mcmath library

#### BOOK CLUB AT THE END OF THE UNIVERSE

Mon | Dec 2; Jan 6; Feb 3 | 6:30-7:30 pm

This sci-fi and fantasy discussion group has no assigned reading.

#### GIRLFRIENDS BOOK & BRUNCH CLUB

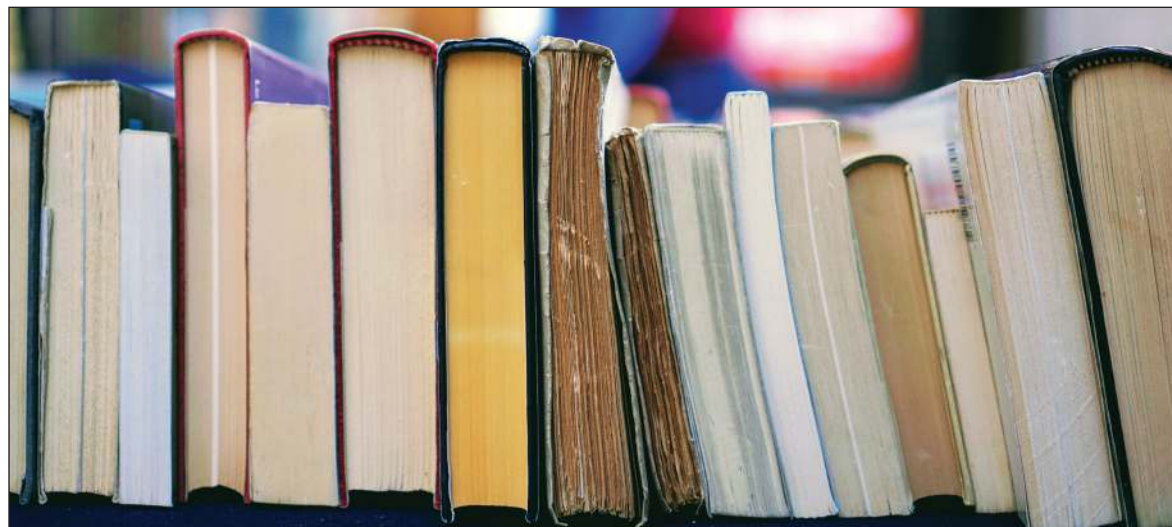
Sat | Dec 21; Jan 18; Feb 15 | 3-4 pm

Call library for monthly titles.

### milam library

#### ADULT BOOK CLUB

Thu | Jan 16; Feb 20 | 12:30-1:30 pm



### nixon library

#### TRUE STORIES BOOK CLUB

Thu | Dec 12; Jan 9; Feb 13 | 2-3 pm

Dec: *The Dirty Life* by Kristin Kimball

Jan: *Murder in Matera* by Helene Stapinski

Feb: *Nomadland* by Jessica Bruder

#### NIXON BOOK BUDDIES

Tue | Dec 17; Jan 28; Feb 25 | 6:30-7:30 pm

Dec: *The Particular Sadness of Lemon Cake* by Aimee Bender

Jan: *Swamplandia!* by Karen Russell

Feb: *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* by Betty Smith

#### BOOK CHAT

Thu | Dec 19; Jan 23; Feb 27 | 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 | Dec 3; Jan 7; Feb 4 | 2-3 pm

Share and discuss books you are currently reading.

#### PAGE TURNERS

Thu | Dec 5; Jan 9; Feb 6 | 10:30-11:30 am

Dec: *Rise: How a House Built a Family* by Cara Brookins

Call library for Jan and Feb selections

### terry library

#### PIZZA PLUS A PAPERBACK

Thu | Dec 5; Jan 2; Feb 6 | 5-6 pm

Ages 8-12 talk about books, eat pizza, and participate in book-themed activities.

#### SUSPICIOUS MINDS BOOK CLUB

Thu | Dec 5; Jan 2; Feb 6 | 6:15-7:30 pm

A book club for mystery lovers. Contact the library for book titles.

#### BOOK LOVER'S BOOK CLUB

Tue | Dec 17; Jan 21; Feb 18 | 11 am-noon

We read fiction and nonfiction.

Contact the library for titles.

### thompson library

#### COOKBOOK CLUB

Fri | Dec 6; Jan TBD; Feb TBD | 11:30 am-1 pm

Dec: Cookie month

Jan: Try a new recipe

Feb: Quick breads, any bread!

We'll share recipes centered around a theme each month. See the branch calendar for details.

#### EVENING BOOK CLUB

Tue | Dec 17; Jan 28; Feb 25 | 6:30-7:30 pm

Dec: *Book Talk & Potluck*

Jan: *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* by Mark Haddon

Feb: *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine* by Gail Honeyman

### vino's brewpub

#### WORD VIRUS BOOK CLUB

Sat | Dec 14; Jan 11; Feb 8 | noon-2 pm

Dec: *This is How You Lose the Time War* by Amal el-Mohtar and Max Gladstone

Jan: *Binti: The Night Masquerade* by Nnedi Okorafor

Feb: *Daughters of Forgotten Light* by Sean Grigsby

### williams library

#### FICTION BOOK CLUB

Sat | Dec 21; Jan 18; Feb 15 | 10:30 am

Read a book of your choice and discuss it with the group.

## What Are You Reading? Janelle Lilley

I'm the weekend news anchor and a reporter for KATV Channel 7 in Little Rock. I moved to Arkansas in 2011, so I feel very at home in the Natural State

### What are you reading at the moment?

This year, I started a book club with some friends. We just finished *The Silent Patient*, and everyone in the group loved it. Some members finished it in 24 hours because they just couldn't put it down! I won't give you any spoilers but be prepared for some sharp turns toward the end of the book. We all started the book expecting a twist, but none of us predicted the ending!

### What children's book do you wish every child could read?

My little boy's favorite book is *Giraffes Can't Dance* by Giles Andreae. He loves the colorful pictures and the lyrical words,

and I love the moral of the story: ignore the bullies and let your self-expression loose because we all can dance when we find the music that we love.

### What book or other media do you keep coming back to again and again?

Outside of my book club, I tend to read a lot of non-fiction, and one of my favorite books is *Whistlestop* by John Dickerson. It's about all the intriguing political campaign stories that reporters tell one another while covering elections. What I especially love about the book is that it reminds me that when it comes to politics, there is nothing new under the sun. It's filled with interesting anecdotes about the founding fathers and former presidents that are fun to share when folks are discussing current presidential politics.



## All-Spanish Video Streaming Delights with Telenovelas, Movies

CALS is now offering through RBdigital the Spanish-language resource PONGALO, where you can stream Spanish telenovelas and TV shows plus major US studio content translated to Spanish.

Pongalo joins many other exciting RBdigital offerings in streaming video, such as Acorn TV, which offers the best of British television, and respected video series *The Great Courses*, showing classes from some of the best

professors in the world. All RBdigital resources offer unlimited streaming on mobile devices and desktop computers.

RBdigital also offers thousands of audiobooks and a choice selection of some of the most popular full-color magazines in the country: *Popular Science*, *Newsweek*, *The New Yorker*, *National Geographic Traveler*, *Good Housekeeping*, and more.

Getting on to RBdigital is easy with

your library card number. Just go to [centralarkansas.rbdigital.com](http://centralarkansas.rbdigital.com) and click the "Register" link at the top right. The site will lead you through a few simple steps to register and create a password. Once you're registered, you can either sign in and watch from the site or download the app to your cell phone or tablet in seconds to watch, listen, or read wherever you are, 24/7.

P O N G A L O

# Unique, Thoughtful Gifts for Your Choosy Loved One

The Galleries at Library Square are well-known for their popular rotating exhibitions by Arkansas artists. But we also find that casual visitors who walk in from the downtown River Market are captivated by our retail gallery, with its beautiful and affordable art, jewelry, and craftworks. From large, bright paintings to small tokens of affection, the Galleries offer handcrafted gifts carefully chosen by our professional curators. Once you discover how easy the gallery makes your holiday shopping for Christmas, your New Year's date, or Valentine's Day, you may stop

by as often as CALS staff members do!

Just across Library Square is our Bookstore, which offers delights for the book lover, the science buff, and the humorist. From Jane Austen lip balm to Edgar Allan Poe candles to Mr. Rogers magnetic playsets or political joke mugs, these quirky gifts can make anyone on your list smile. Tee shirts, totes and tea sets provide plenty of fun browsing. Then we offer thousands of popular used books for sale: sold at deep discounts, these purchases will help your budget while you support your library system.



**David and Becki Dahlstedt make stoneware pottery with earthtone glazes.** Though the handmade, often classically inspired curves that distinguish each individual piece might lead you to guess “handwash,” the pieces are in fact safe for oven, dishwasher, and microwave. Pitcher (\$85) Baking dish (\$55)



**Gary and Jackie White's cheeseboards (\$30) and garnish boards (\$12) pair nicely with these wooden utensils from Red Road Woodworks.** The Whites fused Jackie's knowledge of quilts with Gary's woodworking expertise to create these quilt-inlay designs. Their work had been sold in the Smithsonian and is popular with collectors.



**Handmade scarves** by Judy Shantz Honey (\$30-32), **hat** by Tina Oppenheimer (\$50)



**John Kushmaul's Construction Worker on New Bridge (\$1200)** is part of his series of paintings depicting downtown Little Rock, distinguished by the artist's brilliant use of color and eye for layered architecture and technology.



**Richard Prewitt's work recrafts vintage pocket watches and enhances them with jeweled touches** to create a look both classic and futuristic. A watch wears well at any time of day. \$25 to \$99



**Cheri Bohn's delicate glass earrings (\$20) and necklace (\$30)** are both cutting-edge stylish and sensual. **Michael Schwade's copper earrings (\$48) and necklace (\$225)** give the look and feel of ancient artifacts, inspired by Celtic and Egyptian jewelry to “bring out the inner Cleopatra in every woman.”



## 1 library square 100 rock street

### MAIN LIBRARY

918-3000

M/Tu/W/Th: 9 am-8 pm | F/Sa: 9 am-6 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/W/Th/F: 9 am-6 pm

### 3 DEE BROWN LIBRARY

6325 Baseline Rd. | Little Rock | 568-7494  
 M/Tu/Th: 10 am-8 pm | W/F/Sa: 10 am-6 pm |  
 Su: 1-5 pm (after Jan 4)

### 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

### 5 JOHN GOULD FLETCHER LIBRARY

823 N. Buchanan St. | Little Rock · 663-5457  
 M/Tu/W: 9 am-8 pm | Th/F/Sa: 9 am-6 pm

### 6 MAUMELLE LIBRARY

10 Lake Pointe Dr. | Maumelle · 851-2551  
 M/Tu/Th: 10 am-8 pm | W/F/Sa: 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/Sa: 10 am-6 pm |  
 Su: 1-5 pm (after Jan 4)

### 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: 9:30 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  
 | Su: 1-5 pm (after Jan 4)

### 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 |  
 Su: 1-5 pm (after Jan 4)

### 13 ROOSEVELT THOMPSON LIBRARY

38 Rahling Cir. | Little Rock | 821-3060  
 M/Tu/Th: 9 am-8 pm | W/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