MONTCLAIR PUBLIC LIBRARY

NOVEMBER 2026 PROGRAMS

Unless otherwise noted, registration is not required and free.
Register at montclairlibrary.org/events. All are welcome.

Your Library, Your Voice! Community Listening Sessions

What does the library mean to you? As we prepare for our upcoming renovation, we want to build a space that truly serves our community—and that starts with listening to you! *Registration recommended.*

Monday, Oct. 26, 6–8 p.m., Main Library
Tuesday, Oct. 27, 5–6 p.m., Main Library
Wednesday, Oct. 28, 2–4 p.m., Main Library
Thursday, Oct. 29, 3–5 p.m., Main Library
Friday, Oct. 30, 3–5 p.m., Main Library
Monday, Nov. 2, 5–7 p.m., Main Library
Tuesday, Nov. 3, 10 a.m.–12 p.m., Main Library
Wednesday, Nov. 4, 5:30–7:30 p.m., Main Library
Thursday, Nov. 5, 10 a.m.–12 p.m., Main Library
Friday, Nov. 6, 11 a.m.–1 p.m., Main Library
Sunday, Nov. 8, 1:30–3:30 p.m., Main Library
Sunday, Nov. 8, :30–5:30 p.m., Main Library

ADULTS

Mah Jongg Meetup

Mondays, Nov. 2–30, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.,
Thursdays, Nov. 5–19, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.
Saturdays, Nov. 7–28, 3–5 p.m.,
Bellevue Ave. Branch
Attendees should already have an understanding of the game and should bring their 2025 or 2026 National Mah Jongg League card. Registration required for each individual session.

Teach Yourself Mah Jongg

Mondays, Nov. 2–30, 11 a.m.–1 p.m., Bellevue Ave. Branch
The Mah Jongg Self-Paced Learning Space provides a weekly opportunity for teaching yourself the basics of American Mah Jongg at your own pace.

Craft & Chat

Mondays, Nov. 2 & 16, 1–3 p.m., Main Library
Bring your current project and join fellow makers for a relaxed afternoon of creativity and conversation. Feel free to bring your own project or explore the assortment of donated craft supplies available to use!

Planning Your Financial Future: Foundations of Investing

Tuesday, Nov. 3, 6 p.m., Main Library
Building your investor IQ starts with understanding the basics! This discussion will help you learn about developing a workable strategy, asset allocation, and ideas for achieving financial goals. *Registration required.*

Wednesday Movie Matinees

Wednesdays, Nov. 4 & 18, 2 p.m., Main Library
Nov. 4: Fantastic Mr. Fox (2009)
Nov. 18: Pieces of April (2003)

Women and Money Roundtable - How to Make Sense of Today's Financial Markets

Wednesday, Nov. 4, 1 p.m., Online
Registration required.

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL): Beginner to Intermediate

Wednesdays, Nov. 4–Dec. 9, 6 p.m., Main Library
English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) is designed to assist adult students in mastering the English language by emphasizing speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. *Registration required.*

Chess and Coffee

Thursdays, Nov. 5–19, 2–4 p.m., Main Library
Enjoy drop-in open play.

Fall Craft

Thursday, Nov. 5, 3–4:15 p.m.,
Bellevue Ave. Branch
We will use a sock/other fabric to make a decorative pumpkin. Feel free to bring an old sock or two. All other materials will be provided. *Registration required.*

Planning Your Financial Future: Retirement By Design

Tuesday, Nov. 10, 6 p.m., Main Library
Retirement by Design is a presentation that illustrates how you can translate your vision for retirement into tangible goals. *Registration required.*

Fall Drop-In Craft: Bookmarks and Keychains

Wednesday, Nov. 11, 2–4 p.m., Main Library
Drop in and get creative with us! Make a beautiful dried flower bookmark featuring autumn-inspired florals, or create a festive fall charm.

The Avoidant Writer: Discussion and Workshop

Wednesday, Nov. 18, 6 p.m., Main Library
What are you avoiding when it comes to your writing? Join us for a discussion followed by an interactive workshop. *Registration required.*

Poetry Happy Hour

Friday, Nov. 20, 4 p.m., Main Library
Explore the poetry stacks with a small group.
Registration required.

More →

ADULTS (CONTINUED)

Highlights from the Adult School Dept.

Visit www.adultschool.org to see all classes and register.

'From Swastika to Jim Crow' (2000): Screening and Discussion
Sunday, Nov. 1, 2 p.m., Main Library
Tuition: Free

'On This Ground' History of St. Benedict's Prep - Panel Discussion and Book Signing
Tuesday, Nov. 3, 6:15 p.m., Main Library
Tuition: Free

Tech Toolbox
Tuesdays, Nov. 3–24, 12:30 p.m., Main Library
Tuition: Free

Tech Talks
Tuesdays, Nov. 3–17, 3:30 p.m., Main Library
Thursdays, Nov. 5–19, 3:30 p.m., Main Library
Tuition: Free

Herbalism: A Three-Part Series
Wednesday, Nov. 4–18, 6 p.m., Main Library
Tuition: $90

Make Your Own Holiday Glitter House
Thursdays, Nov. 5–12, 6 p.m., Main Library
Tuition: $60

'The Ride' Music and Storytelling of the American West
Saturday, Nov. 7, 2 p.m., Main Library
Tuition: Free

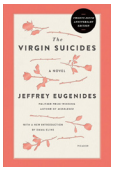
A Historic Hub for Culture, Ideas and Social Activism: The Unitarian Universalist Congregation at Montclair
Monday, Nov. 16, 2 p.m., Main Library
Tuition: Free

Blue Zones: The World's Longevity Hot Spots
Wednesday, Nov. 18, 1 p.m., Main Library
Tuition: $20

BOOK CLUBS

Learn English Book Club
Mondays, Nov. 2–23, 11 a.m., Main Library
Come expand your English vocabulary through great books!
Registration required.

Make Something Book Club
Tuesday, Nov. 3, 11 a.m., Main Library
Wednesday, Nov. 18, 6:30 p.m., Main Library
Love books and making things? Join the Make Something Book Club, a relaxed gathering where participants can chat about the books they're currently reading while working on a creative project. *Registration required.*

Rory Gilmore's Book Club


Thursday, Nov. 5, 6 p.m., Main Library
Rory Gilmore's Book Club is for anyone who wants to explore the classics and challenge themselves. We'll also be chatting virtually along the way on the reading app Fable! November's book: "The Virgin Suicides" by Jeffrey Eugenides. *Registration required.*

Graphic Novel Book Club (18+)

Tuesday, Nov. 10, 6 p.m.,
Bellevue Ave. Branch
"Parable of the Sower: A Graphic Novel Adaptationr" by Damian Duffy. *Registration required.*

Theme of the Month Book Club
Thursday, Nov. 12, 6:30 p.m., Main Library
Looking for new books to discover and fellow readers to connect with? Join Theme of the Month Book Club, a monthly gathering where participants read a book of their choice based on a shared theme and come together to discuss their selections. November's theme: Gratitude and Gathering. *Registration required.*

Wizards and Wormholes Book Club

Tuesday, Nov. 17, 6 p.m., Main Library
"This is How You Lose the Time War" by Amal El-Mohtar and Max Gladstone.
Registration required.

The Corner Book Club Meeting

Thursday, Nov. 19, 11 a.m., Bellevue Ave. Branch
"Small Things like These" by Claire Keegan.
Registration required.

YOUTH & TEENS

*MPL Youth Programs are made possible through the generosity of **Dr. Alex and Doris Malaspina** and **The Coca-Cola Company**, The Albert Payson Terhune Foundation, the Scholl Family Foundation, and our Little Read sponsors. MPL Teen Programs are made possible through the generosity of Montclair State University.*

Color Jam (birth–age 5)
Mondays, Nov. 2–30, 10:30–11:30 a.m.,
Bellevue Ave. Branch

Play-Doh Playdate (ages 2-5)
Mondays, Nov. 2–30, 10:30 or 11:30 a.m., Main Library
This hands-on program invites children to explore their creativity and fine motor skills through free play with Play-Doh.

Book a Reading Specialist
Mondays, Nov. 2 & 26, 4–7 p.m., Main Library
Sign up for a 30-minute consultation with our Youth Services Reading Specialist! Adults only. For parents and/or educators of grades PreK–12.
Registration required.

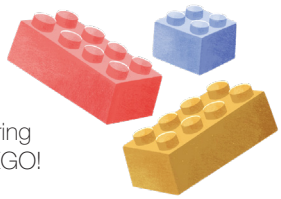
Homeschool Open House (all ages)
Tuesday, Nov. 3, 11 a.m., Main Library
Join the monthly gathering of families that homeschool and make new friends. Bring your favorite board game to share.

NJ Garden State Children's Book Awards Vote
Tuesday, Nov. 3, 3–7 p.m., Main Library

More →

YOUTH & TEENS (CONTINUED)

Free Play Social Time (birth–age 5)
Wednesdays, Nov. 4–25, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Bellevue Ave. Branch

Lego Club (ages 3–11)


Wednesdays, Nov. 4–18, 6 p.m., Main Library
Join to unleash your imagination and engineering skills free building alongside other lovers of LEGO!

Teen Creative Corner (ages 12–18)
Thursday, Nov. 5, 5 p.m., Main Library
Need a break from the usual? Come hang out and get crafty! Try a new craft, chill with friends, and see what you can create. No art skills required—just an hour of creating and having fun.

Cutie Crawlers (birth–non walking toddlers)
Fridays, Nov. 6–20, 10:30 a.m., Main Library
Crawlers come meet new crawlers! We will host free-play for babies who are not yet walking on their own.

Wobbly Walkers (walking toddlers)
Fridays, Nov. 6–20, 10:30 a.m., Main Library
Walkers come meet new walkers! We will host free-play for toddlers who are able to walk independently.

Read to KoKo the Therapy Dog (ages 5–16)
Mondays, Nov. 9 & 30, 4–5 p.m., Main Library
KoKo will be on the children's floor and would love for you to read her a good book! This is a great opportunity to practice fluency and reading with expression! *Registration required.*

Teen Game Night (ages 12–18)
Thursday, Nov. 12, 5 p.m., Main Library
Ready to play? Come hang out, challenge your friends, and get your game on! From board games to card games and everything in between, it's an hour of friendly competition, laughs, and good vibes.

Parent Workshop: Learning to Read, Let's Talk About Decoding (Adults)
Thursday, Nov. 12, 6 p.m., Main Library
This will be the first of 3 workshops in a series about literacy. Parents, caregivers and reading tutors will learn about the Science of Reading and the process of learning how to read. We will also discuss how to support your child's literacy learning at home. *Registration required.*

Phonics Family Fun (grades K-2)
Tuesday, Nov. 17, 6 p.m., Main Library
Kids and their grown-ups! Try out this hands-on activity to practice phonics, word patterns, taking apart sounds, phonemic awareness and spelling. Parents/tutors/caregivers – this is a real-time opportunity to observe how your child grasps phonics skills.
Registration required for1 adult +1 child.

Tween Writing Club (ages 10–13)
Wednesday, Nov. 18, 4 p.m., Main Library
Calling all tween writers or tween aspiring writers! Come join our fun group as we participate in some creative writing exercises.
Registration required.

STORYTIMES

Family Storytime (birth–age 5)
Wednesdays, Nov. 4–11, 10:30 a.m., 11:15 a.m., and 2 p.m., Main Library
Wednesday, Nov. 25, 10:30 and 11:15 a.m., Main Library

Raising Readers (birth–age 5)
Thursdays, Nov. 5–19, 10:30 or 11:15 a.m., Main Branch

Babytime Storytime (birth–23 months)
Thursdays, Nov. 5–12, 10:30 a.m., Bellevue Ave. Branch

Afternoon Storytime
Thursdays, Nov. 5–19, 3 p.m., Bellevue Ave. Branch

Babies in the Library (birth–23 months)
Tuesdays, Nov. 3–24, 10:30 or 11:15 a.m., Main Library

Super-Sized Storytime (birth–age 5)
Wednesday, Nov. 18, 10:30 a.m., Main Library
Think of our regular morning storytime PLUS movement and music! This month we will also have a special guest author, Alliah L. Agostini, to share her latest picture books for toddlers.

BOOK CLUBS

Paperbook Pals (grades 2–4)

Monday, Nov. 23, 4:30 p.m., Bellevue Ave. Branch
Each month, we gather to discuss a high-interest chapter book or graphic novel. "I Survived the California Wildfires, 2018" by Lauren Tarshis. *Registration required.*

Estimulación Musical para la Primera Infancia (birth–age 2)
Thursday, Nov. 19, 10:30 a.m., Bellevue Ave. Branch
Learn, sing and move with your baby in this Immersive Spanish lapsit.

Chill & Color (ages 12–18)

Thursday, Nov. 19, 5–6 p.m., Main Library
Take a break from the busy week, color, and chat with friends. We'll have snacks and plenty of coloring supplies—so bring a friend!

S.T.E.M. Saturday
Saturdays, Nov. 7 & 28, 11 a.m., Main Library
Calling all makers, innovators and creators! *Registration required.*
Nov. 7: Engineer the Library Remodel (Families)
Nov. 28: STEMS-giving