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Enoch Pratt Free Library
400 Cathedral Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201
The mission of the Enoch Pratt Free Library is to empower, enrich, and enhance the quality of life for all through equitable access to information, services, and opportunity.
Cover Art: Eric Archibald

prattlibrary.org
EARN YOUR HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

“I wanted to show my kids that anything is possible if you work towards it. I currently have a full time job, but I plan to look into my next chapter as an electrician.”

– Jonathan G.

You can now earn your high school diploma entirely online with Career Online High School and Excel High School, two exciting new scholarship-based programs available through the Pratt Library.

This self-paced, flexible format is designed for adults 18 years of age and older to continue their academic career by earning their accredited high school diploma (not GED) in 6 – 24 months. Students who meet the enrollment criteria will receive a scholarship to cover the cost of the program. If selected for the program, students can expect to dedicate 8 – 10 hours per week to their coursework.

Learn more at prattlibrary.org/graduate

Our online high school diploma programs are made possible with the generous support of the David and Barbara B. Hirschhorn Foundation.
LETTER FROM THE CEO

If you stopped by Central Library recently, you may have noticed a new look when you came in the doors. Four beautiful, vibrant paintings are now one of the first things you’ll see when you walk into the iconic Central Hall. The paintings are custom pieces by Baltimore artist Chris Wilson. They breathe new life into Central Hall, depicting joy in Baltimore.

Chris Wilson is not only an artist, he is an author and entrepreneur and his story is an inspiration. His book *The Master Plan: My Journey from Life in Prison to a Life of Purpose* is available for check-out here at the Pratt. In it, he shares his journey of being sentenced to life in prison at just 17 years old. From his jail cell, he wrote goals for his life in what he came to call his “master plan.” While imprisoned, he earned his high school diploma, learned vocational skills, got a degree in sociology, and helped start both a career center and a book club. Eventually he shared his master plan with a judge, who gave him a second chance at life. As he got out of prison in his 30s, he turned to the Pratt Central Library for help. He came here regularly to use computers and resources. Today, Chris is a successful entrepreneur, businessman, artist, author, and social justice advocate. His work hangs right over the same computer area that he sat in so many years ago as he rebuilt his life.

I want to thank the Reid family for donating the funds for these beautiful paintings that are sure to inspire generations to come.

Heidi Daniel, President & CEO, Enoch Pratt Free Library
BUILDING UPDATES

WALBROOK
The Walbrook Branch closed for renovation at the end of October. The HVAC system is being replaced to provide reliable heat and air conditioning in the future. The Pratt will also be updating the computer spaces in this branch, moving more towards a co-working space model rather than computer banks. The closure is expected to last several months.

WASHINGTON VILLAGE
Redevelopment plans are underway at the Washington Village Branch. Plans include doubling the size of the Library at that site, as a developer builds apartments on the upper levels. As funding continues to come together for that project, temporary library services are available at nearby Paul's Place (1118 Ward St.).

REISTERSTOWN RD.
The Reisterstown Rd. Branch has reopened following the replacement of the ramp at the front of the building. We thank customers for their patience during this closure.

UPCOMING PROJECTS
Additional building closures are expected throughout 2024. The Pratt Library has received American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding to replace the HVAC systems at a number of locations. In addition, the Library will also use ARP funding to update indoor computer spaces and create comfortable outdoor spaces at several branches.
**NEW YEAR, NEW YOU**

--- ADULT ---

**Northwood Al-Anon Support Group**  
Tuesdays, January 2 – February 27  
11:00 a.m. | Northwood  
If you or someone you know has been affected by someone else’s drinking, you are welcome to join the Northwood Al-Anon Support Group. By sharing common experiences and applying the Al-Anon principles, families and friends of alcoholics can bring positive changes to their individual situations, whether or not the alcoholic admits the existence of a drinking problem or seeks help.

**Drop-in Job Seeker Assistance**  
Mondays & Thursdays, January 4 – 29  
10:00 a.m. | Central Library  
Members of the Maryland Department of Labor can help you refresh your resume, make a career change, or apply for a job online.

**“New Year, New You” Vision Board Party**  
Thursday, January 4, 5:30 p.m. | Waverly  
Join us for an exhilarating evening of intention-setting and creative vision-boarding that promises to ignite your passions! Bring your dreams, goals, and vision for the year ahead as we embark on a journey of transformation and purpose. Get ready to make 2024 the most thrilling and successful year of your life. We can’t wait to celebrate with you at this empowering event! Registration is required. Call 410-396-6089 or register at Waverly’s Adult Information Desk.

**Mocktail Mixer**  
Thursday, January 4, 6:30 p.m. | Light St.  
An opportunity to meet and mix with others. It’s a new year and a new you! Explore recipes for winter mocktails during this fun and interactive event. Taste and vote for your favorite recipe.

**New Year Sound Bath with Golden Road Healing**  
Saturday, January 6, 2:00 p.m. | Central Library  
Need a refresh or a reset for the New Year? Come experience the healing powers of a Sound Bath. Colin and Madison of Golden Road Healing will be playing crystal singing bowls, gongs, melodic tongue drums, and other instruments; this music is great for those who are looking for relaxation and restoration. Please bring a cushion or mat if you would like to sit or lie down on the ground.

--- TEEN ---

**New Year, New Me: Introduction to Planners**  
Wednesday, January 3, 3:30 p.m. | Southeast Anchor Library  
Start your new year off right with an introduction to planning and organization. We will go over the basics of planners and learn strategies to help you succeed at home and professionally! This program has limited spaces and pre-registration is recommended. To register, please call 410-396-1580.

**New Year, New You DIY Journal**  
Monday, January 8, 3:30 p.m. | Pennsylvania Ave.  
Create your own paper journal using a Japanese binding technique.

**Air Plant Terrariums**  
Wednesday, January 10, 3:00 p.m. | Roland Park  
It’s a new year, so why not take a new hobby and become a plant parent? Learn about houseplants and how to care for them while create you own air plant terrarium.

**What’s Your Job?**  
Thursday, January 11, 3:00 p.m. | Light St.  
Thinking about your future and a career track? Join us and take a lap around the library to speak with a group of individuals in a variety of professions about their jobs and backgrounds.

**Uncover Your Dream Career: Teen Career Quiz Extravaganza!**  
Wednesday, January 17 & February 28 3:30 p.m. | Orleans St.  
Get ready to shape your future today! Discover the career of your dreams through our fun and insightful quiz challenge. Join us at the event to embark on a journey of self-discovery, where you’ll uncover your unique strengths and interests, and explore how your personality traits align with various career options. Take the career quiz challenge to reveal your ideal job. Access our resource zone filled with books and tools for comprehensive career exploration. Refreshments will be served.

**Vision Boards for High School and Beyond!**  
Friday, January 19, 1:00 p.m. | Southeast Anchor Library  
Have you thought about your future after graduation? Let’s brainstorm together and make vision boards for the future; from college to trade schools and more!
Visit calendar.prattlibrary.org for complete details on each program.

Teen Resume Assistance
Saturday, January 20, 1:30 p.m.
Edmondson Ave.
You might have the skills, but how do you tell employers that? It can be tough to figure out what to include in your resume or how to format it, especially when you don’t have that much job experience under your belt yet. Swing by this program to learn how to highlight your strengths and snag that first job or amazing internship. If you can’t make it to this program at the time listed, reach out to our librarian or call 410-396-0946 to set up an appointment and get one-on-one assistance with your resume.

Career Day
Wednesday, January 24, 2:00 p.m. | Hamilton
Career Day is an opportunity for teens to meet people from a variety of jobs, and learn about their workplace, their responsibilities, and the education needed to enter that career.

Money Making Monday
Monday, January 29, 2:00 p.m. | Hamilton
Money Making Monday will explain financial goal-setting, saving, and budgeting which includes wishes, wants, and needs in both the short term and the long term. Having conversations about needs and wants with teens not only helps them differentiate between the two but also teaches them to evaluate and make better financial decisions.

Teen Resume Help
Wednesday, February 14, 3:30 p.m.
Cherry Hill
Get help building your first resume, or have a second pair of eyes to look over your current one! Have general questions about resumes or job applications? Bring them with you to us and we will help you out! Please register by calling 410-396-1168.

New Year, New Me Vision Board
Saturday, January 6, 2:00 p.m.
Central Library
Dream about the year ahead and make an art project that shows what you’d like to do in 2024!

Imagine a New Year: Diorama Box
Monday, January 8, 4:00 p.m.
Reisterstown Rd.
Hurray for a new year! Create a diorama that reflects your perfect 2024. This indoor program has limited spaces. To register, please call 410-396-0948.

New Year, New Window
Tuesday, January 9, 3:30 p.m. | Orleans St.
Sunlight can be hard to find in winter, so catch those rays from your window by making your own heart-shaped suncatcher charm. The smallest joys are what can make the biggest difference with self-care: add some extra light and joy into your new year, each time you gaze through the glass!

Crafternoon: Shrinky Dinks!
Wednesday, January 17, 3:30 p.m.
Edmondson Ave.
Turn your art into a keychain, charm, jewelry, game piece, and more! Draw your masterpiece on our special shrinky dink paper and then watch it shrink and harden in the oven. Use this opportunity to create physical reminders of your New Year’s resolutions or your desires and wishes for your future!

LUNAR NEW YEAR

LUNAR NEW YEAR ANIME CLUB
Monday, February 5, 3:30 p.m.
Southeast Anchor Library
Kick off the Year of the Dragon with special anime activities and shows.

MOVIE & CRAFT:
RAYA AND THE LAST DRAGON
Friday, January 19, 2:00 p.m. | Waverly
Join us for an after-school movie and craft! Enjoy Raya and the Last Dragon, then make a dragon-themed craft. 2021 | Rated PG | 1 hr. 54 min.

CRAFTERNOON:
LUNAR NEW YEAR DRAGON
Monday, February 5, 4:00 p.m. | Waverly
We’ll make paper dragons using cupcake liners to celebrate the Year of the Dragon.

LUNAR NEW YEAR DRAGON PUPPETS
Tuesday, February 6, 3:30 p.m.
Patterson Park
Make a dragon puppet to celebrate the Year of the Dragon.

LUNAR NEW YEAR LANTERNS
Thursday, February 8, 6:00 p.m.
Saturday, February 10, 2:00 p.m.
Central Library
Instructor Rosa Chang will show you how to make your own lantern in celebration of the Lunar New Year! Registration required. Register at prattlibrary.org

LUNAR NEW YEAR STORYTIME & DRAGON DESIGN
Saturday, February 10, 11:00 a.m.
Orleans St.
2024 is the Year of the Dragon! Join us for a special storytime and crafternoon! We will read together, learn about the twelve animals in the Chinese Zodiac cycle, discover the nine attributes of Chinese Dragons, and design a dragon to honor the New Year.
WRITERS LIVE!

MATTILDA BERNSTEIN SYCAMORE

Touching the Art
Tuesday, January 9, 7:00 p.m.
Central Library & Virtual

A mixture of memoir, biography, criticism, and social history, Touching the Art is queer icon and activist Mattilda Bernstein Sycamore’s interrogation of the possibilities of artistic striving, the limits of the middle-class mindset, the legacy of familial abandonment, and what art can and cannot do.

WRITERS LIVE!

CLAIRE TAYLOR AND ANNIE POWELL STONE

One Good Thing and Hampden Wildlife
Thursday, January 11, 6:30 p.m.
Hampden

Local authors Claire Taylor and Annie Powell Stone share poetry created and inspired by their walks through the Hampden neighborhood. Blending self-reflection and observation, these collections of poems offer a meditation on how our lives are shaped and changed by the places and people we call home. Email hmp@prattlibrary.org or call 410-396-6043 to register.

WRITERS LIVE!

JOHN EISENBERG

Rocket Men
Wednesday, January 17, 7:00 p.m.
Central Library & Virtual

John Eisenberg offers the definitive history of Black quarterbacks in the NFL — men who shaped not only the history of football but the cause of civil rights in America. Drawing on deep historical research and exclusive interviews with Black quarterbacks and players, coaches, and talent evaluators who have worked alongside them, Rocket Men is a celebration of the athletes and activists who transformed the game. John Eisenberg will be joined in conversation by author and African American history professor Theresa Runstedtler.
WRITERS LIVE!

JULIETTE WELLS

A New Jane Austen
Saturday, January 20, 2:00 p.m.
Central Library & Virtual

The latest volume on Austen’s readers revolutionizes our understanding of how Jane Austen came to be viewed as the world’s greatest novelist. Wells shows that Austen’s global reputation was established not by British scholars, as is commonly believed, but by visionary American writers and collectors, working largely outside academia.

WRITERS LIVE!

ANTONIA HYLTON

Madness
Tuesday, January 30, 7:00 p.m.
Central Library & Virtual

Madness tells the 93-year-old history of Crownsville Hospital, one of the last segregated asylums with surviving records and a campus that still stands to this day in Anne Arundel County, Maryland. Hylton traces the legacy of slavery to the treatment of Black people’s bodies and minds in our current mental healthcare system. It is a captivating and heartbreaking meditation on how America decides who is sick or criminal, and who is worthy of our care or irredeemable. Antonia Hylton will be joined in conversation by Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Wesley Lowery.

WRITERS LIVE!

AYESHA RASCOE

HBCU Made
Wednesday, January 31, 7:00 p.m.
Central Library

Ayesha Rascoe, host of NPR’s Weekend Edition Sunday, will discuss a collection of essays she’s edited about historically Black colleges and universities. Alumni both famous and up-and-coming write testimonials about the schools and experiences that shaped their lives and made them who they are today. Ayesha Rascoe will be joined in conversation by Juana Summers, co-host of NPR’s All Things Considered. All registered in-person attendees will receive a FREE copy of the book.

WRITERS LIVE!

MARTIN MCNAIR

Can My Child Play?: The Questions We Should Have Asked
Saturday, February 3, 11:00 a.m.
Light St.

Martin McNair questions the culture behind college football and the safety precautions taken to protect their players. In the spring of 2018, his son Jordan, a sophomore on the University of Maryland football team, collapsed during preseason conditioning and later died. McNair details his journey of raising a child in the world of youth sports, and the harrowing trauma he suffered when his son lost his life.

WRITERS LIVE!

MICHELE NORRIS

Our Hidden Conversations
Tuesday, February 6, 7:00 p.m.
Central Library & Virtual

Peabody Award-winning journalist Michele Norris offers a transformative dialogue on race and identity in America, unearthed through her decade-long work at The Race Card Project. Our Hidden Conversations is a unique compilation of stories, richly reported essays, and photographs providing a window into America during a tumultuous era.

WRITERS LIVE!

EDDA FIELDS-BLACK

Combee
Monday, February 26, 7:00 p.m.
Central Library & Virtual

Most Americans know of Harriet Tubman’s legendary life: escaping enslavement and helping other to do the same via the Underground Railroad. Yet the many biographies, children’s books, and films about Tubman omit a crucial chapter: during the Civil War, hired by the Union Army, she ventured into the heart of slave territory to live, work, and gather intelligence for a daring raid up the Combahee River to attack the major plantations of Rice Country, the breadbasket of the Confederacy.

“Tons of options to choose from, and when I request from another location it arrives VERY quickly! Staff is always so kind.”
— Kylie S.
WHAT’S NEW

Here are the most anticipated books of January and February coming soon to the Pratt Library.

Come & Get It by Kiley Reid
Millie Cousins, a senior resident assistant at the University of Arkansas, wants to graduate, get a job, and buy a house. So when Agatha Paul, a visiting professor and writer, offers Millie an easy yet unusual opportunity, she jumps at the chance. But Millie’s starry-eyed hustle becomes jeopardized by odd new friends, vengeful dorm pranks, and illicit intrigue.

The Women by Kristin Hannah
When twenty-year-old nursing student Frances “Frankie” McGrath’s brother ships out to serve in Vietnam, she impulsively joins the Army Nurse Corps and follows his path. Green and inexperienced, Frankie is overwhelmed by the chaos and destruction of war, as well as the unexpected trauma of coming home to a changed and politically divided America.

The Fury by Alex Michaelides
This is a tale of murder. Or maybe that’s not quite true. At its heart, it’s a love story, isn’t it? My name is Elliot Chase, and I’m going to tell you a story unlike any you’ve ever heard. A game of cat and mouse — a battle of wits, full of twists and turns, building to an unforgettable climax.

What Have We Here? by Billy Dee Williams
Film legend recalls his remarkable life of nearly eight decades — a heralded actor who played the roles he wanted, unchecked by the racism and typecasting so rife in the mostly all-white industry in which he triumphed. A legendary actor, in his own words, on all that has sustained and carried him through a lifetime of dreams and adventure.

Wandering Stars by Tommy Orange
Tommy Orange traces the legacies of the Sand Creek Massacre of 1864 and the Carlisle Indian Industrial School through three generations of a family in a story that is by turns shattering and wondrous. A book that is piercing in its poetry, sorrow, and rage and is a devastating indictment of America’s war on its own people.

A Love Song for Ricki Wilde by Tia Williams
One evening in February, Ricki Wilde encounters a handsome, deeply mysterious stranger who knocks her world off balance. Set against the backdrop of modern Harlem and Renaissance glamor is a love story of two passionate artists drawn to the magic, romance, and opportunity of New York, and whose lives are irreversibly linked.

House of Flame and Shadow by Sarah J. Maas
The latest installation of the Crescent City series. All Bryce Quinlan wants is to get back to Midgard. Stranded in a strange new world, she’s going to need all her wits about her to get home again. Meanwhile, Hunt Athalar is in the Asteri’s dungeons again, stripped of his freedom and without a clue as to Bryce’s fate.

Fourteen Days edited by Margaret Atwood
Set during the early days of the COVID-19 lockdowns, this is an irresistibly propulsive collaborative novel from the Authors Guild, with an unusual twist: each character in this eccentric cast of New York neighbors has been written by a different, major literary voice — from Margaret Atwood and Celeste Ng to Tommy Orange and John Grisham.

Medgar and Myrlie by Joy-Ann Reid
Myrlie Louise Beasley and Medgar Evers fell in love at first sight. In this groundbreaking and thrilling account of two heroes of the Civil Rights Movement, Joy-Ann Reid uses Medgar and Myrlie’s relationship as a lens through which to explore the on-the-ground work that went into winning basic rights for Black Americans, and the repercussions that still resonate today.

The Atlas Maneuver by Steve Berry
Retired Justice Department operative, Cotton Malone, is in Switzerland doing a favor for a friend when he is thrust into a war between the world’s oldest bank and the CIA. At the center are explosive secrets centering around Bitcoin. The cryptocurrency is being weaponized, readied for an assault on the world’s financial systems, a move that will have devastating consequences.
I’ve got a Blank Page baby, and I’ll write your name.

You can check me out anytime!

You’re good for my circulation.

You’re the cutest card in the catalog.

I want you all to my shelf!

My love for you isn’t fiction.

Cut out these library-inspired cards to share with your favorite reader!
I'd rewrite the dictionary, to put U and I together.

No one stacks up to you!

Let's find love between the covers!

You've got FINE written all over you

You Enoch my socks off!

We're PRATTically perfect together!

Cut out these library-inspired cards to share with your favorite reader!
**SHARE THE LOVE**

### ADULTS

**Sweetheart Paint Night**  
Thursday, February 8, 4:00 p.m.  
Reisterstown Rd.  
No paint brushes needed! We will be using unconventional painting tools to decorate our canvas. This program has limited spaces. To register, please call 410-396-0948.

**Love & Light: Valentine’s Day Candles**  
Thursday, February 8, 5:30 p.m. | Waverly  
Create beautiful candles with a personal touch, perfect for gifting or keeping. Let your creativity shine as you celebrate love and light in a cozy, DIY atmosphere. Registration is required. Call 410-396-6089 or register at Waverly’s Adult Information Desk.

**Adult Craft: Step-by-step Painting**  
Saturday, February 10, 1:00 p.m.  
Edmondson Ave.  
Create a fun Valentine-themed painting, step by step. Space is limited. Please call 410-396-0946 to register.

**Painting at Hamilton**  
Saturday, February 10, 2:00 p.m. | Hamilton  
An artist teaches adults to paint step by step! Our February theme will be “Love.” Come create a beautiful picture based on this theme, with step by step instruction. Sign up by calling 410-396-6088.

**Self Love & Self Care**  
Saturday, February 10, 2:00 p.m.  
Pennsylvania Ave.  
Join us for guided mindfulness, games, the benefits of saying “NO,” and discussing methods of self-care, joy, and happiness. Call 410-396-0399 to register.

**String Art Valentine**  
Saturday, February 10, 3:00 p.m. | Hampden  
Need a Valentine’s Day Card? Make your own heartfelt valentine out of needle and thread. To register, email hmp@prattlibrary.org or call 410-396-6043.

**Adult String Art Craft**  
Wednesday, February 14, 4:00 p.m.  
Patterson Park  
Come make a string art valentine. All materials included.

**Feng Shui for Self-Love**  
Saturday, February 17, 2:00 p.m.  
Central Library  
Join us for a workshop all about how feng shui can help you fall in love with the most important person in your life – YOU! We’ll spend 90 minutes together exploring what matters most to you and how making changes to your environment can help you bring your goals and dreams to life.

### TEENS

**Share the Love: DIY Splatter Bears**  
Wednesday, February 14, 3:30 p.m.  
Orleans St.  
Roses are red, and violets are blue, at “Share the Love Bear Art Bash,” we’re waiting for you! In the fusion of art and bear-themed joy, you decide who this “Splatter Bear” is for.

**Love, Peace, & Happiness Vision Boards**  
Thursday, February 15, 2:00 p.m. | Hamilton  
What is your vision of love, peace, and happiness? We will be making vision boards of cut out pictures from your choice of magazines. These pictures will show your vision of love, peace, and happiness.

### CHILDREN & FAMILIES

**Family Crafts: “Share the Love” Greeting Cards**  
Wednesday, February 7, 3:00 p.m. | Govans  
Create a greeting card for your loved one using various art supplies!

**Share the Love: Community Card Making**  
Friday, February 9, 11:00 a.m. | Central Library  
Join us to share the love and make loving and happy cards for our senior neighbors.

**Crafternoon: Heart Art Symmetry Painting**  
Monday, February 12, 4:00 p.m. | Waverly  
Share the love this Crafternoon! Experiment with symmetry painting to paint a heart.

**Share the Love Craft**  
Tuesday, February 13, 3:30 p.m. | Cherry Hill  
Join us as we create a special craft to celebrate family, friendship, kindness, and thoughtfulness. This program has limited spaces. To register, please call 410-396-1168.

**Embossed Palentines**  
Wednesday, February 14, 2:00 p.m.  
Central Library  
Have a pal that you are grateful for? Want to show some gratitude? Come learn to emboss your own card! Good for all ages.

**Pixel Art Cards**  
Thursday, February 22, 10:30 a.m.  
Reisterstown Rd.  
Show your love for someone special by making them a pixel art card!
**BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

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**ADULTS**

**MLK Jr. Trivia Contest**
Monday, January 8, 6:00 p.m.
Edmondson Ave.
Come test your knowledge of MLK Jr. — his life and his accomplishments — in a friendly trivia competition. Compete as an individual or in teams of two or three to win a prize.

**Let’s Heal Together: Finding New Meaning Through Historical Memory & How We View The Past**
Thursday, January 18, 6:00 p.m.
Central Library & Virtual
Marcus “Sankofa” Nicks, a local educator, historian, and researcher, brings a dynamic presentation about how we define, understand, and conceptualize history. This presentation will explore and unpack how histories affect identity, mental health, and intergenerational trauma. Within this complex topic, attendees will learn about the erasure/banning of African American experiences and culture within the scope of American and Maryland history, as well as explore how history can be utilized as a tool for community connection, empowerment, and wellness.

**Anthony Coates: Safeguarding History, Establishing Memories, & Inspiring Minds**
Thursday, February 1, 6:00 p.m.
Central Library
Join us in celebrating local artist, Anthony Coates, founder of Reflections on Human Development, a non-profit for Artistic Therapy and Community Services. Work by Mr. Coates has been displayed at the Maryland State Lottery at Montgomery Plaza, Maryland Arts Council, Baltimore Children and Youth Fund, and the Baltimore Office of Promotion and the Arts.

**Black History Month Bingo**
Monday, February 5, 2:00 p.m. | Cherry Hill
Join in the enrichment of expanding your knowledge and win prizes with the fun of BINGO. This program has limited spaces. To register, please call 410-396-1168.

**James Baldwin: An Influential Voice for Racial Justice**
Wednesday, February 7, 7:00 p.m.
Central Library
Learn about the life and works of James Baldwin. He was an internationally acclaimed fiction writer, essayist, dramatist, and poet who is known for eloquently taking on the subjects of sexual identity and race relations in the United States.

**Afro-Caribbean Music Appreciation**
Friday, February 9, 3:00 p.m. | Brooklyn
Learn about the music and amazing instruments of the Afro-Caribbean Diaspora.

**Poetry Online Discussion of Danez Smith**
Saturday, February 10, 11:00 a.m. | Virtual
Join us online for a discussion of the poetry of Danez Smith. For more information, email poetry@prattlibrary.org.

**Baltimore in the 1960s: An Unsettled Time**
Saturday, February 10, 2:00 p.m.
Dnipro Ukrainian Club | 3101 O’Donnell St. (Across the street from the Canton Branch)
The 1960s were remarkable for the change, both positive and negative. This program offers stories of the era: personal, communal, commercial, and industrial. This is how Baltimore and its people reacted to change and met many of the challenges of this, the decade of the 1960s. Presented by local historian and author Jack Burkert. This program was made possible by the support of the Friends of the Canton Library.

**Black History Trivia**
Thursday, February 15, 4:00 p.m.
Reisterstown Rd.
Test your knowledge of Black history and culture.
Save a Story! DIY Oral History Interviewing  
Thursday, February 15, 6:00 p.m.  
Central Library  
Celebrate Black History Month by saving a story of someone you love or a history you would love to know. Learn how to capture an oral history interview from start to finish, with hands-on practice.

Pratt Page-Turners Book Club  
Saturday, February 17, 11:00 a.m.  
Central Library & Virtual  
Join us for a discussion of The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store by James McBride. This program has a hybrid format. Participate either in person or on Zoom. For help obtaining a copy of the book or more information about the book club, please email fic@prattlibrary.org.

Adult Game Night: Black History Bingo  
Thursday, February 22, 5:30 p.m. | Waverly  
Join us for a lively evening of Black History Bingo with a special spotlight on Black authors. Challenge your knowledge, compete for fabulous prizes, and immerse yourself in the remarkable legacy of these literary giants! Registration is required. Call 410-396-6089 or register at Waverly’s Adult Information Desk.

TEENS

Graphic Novel Book Club  
Mondays, January 8 & February 5, 3:00 p.m. | Hamilton  
Join us for a different kind of book club! In January, we’ll read any of the books from the Hilda series by Luke Pearson, and in February, we’ll talk about Black Heroes of the Wild West by James Otis Smith. Didn’t read the book? Join us anyway!

Remembering Dr. King through Art and Poetry  
Wednesday, January 10, 3:30 p.m. | Waverly  
Join us for an afternoon of art and poetry as we take time to remember the work Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. did to create a more peaceful world.

Black History Trivia  
Thursdays, February 1 – 29, 3:00 p.m. | Hamilton  
Test your knowledge of Black History, and come in first place to win a prize!

Painting Through History: Celebrating Black Artists  
Saturday, February 3, 2:30 p.m. | Edmondson Ave.  
Join us to look at a variety of work by Black visual artists, then get inspired and paint a piece of your own.

Black Out Loud Storytelling with Bunjo Butler  
Tuesday, February 6, 4:00 p.m.  
Central Library  
Middle-schoolers, join us for a captivating journey through history and culture that will leave you inspired and enlightened. Be inspired by the stories of strength and resilience that have shaped our world.

Music on Canvas  
Monday, February 12, 3:30 p.m.  
Southeast Anchor Library  
Celebrate Black History Month with us as we paint portraits of famous Jazz, Blues, and Funk musicians who inspire us.

History of Hip Hop Discussion  
Tuesday, February 20, 3:30 p.m. | Herring Run  
Join us for a trip down memory lane with a discussion on the history of Hip Hop. Light refreshments will be served. For more info call 410-396-0996.

African Pillows  
Wednesday, February 21, 3:00 p.m. | Roland Park  
Create a personal pillow from a variety of African prints.

Black History Across the Harbor  
Wednesday, February 21, 3:30 p.m. | Cherry Hill  
Did you know that Frederick Douglass worked as a chandler and a ship caulker in the Fells Point neighborhood before moving onto his illustrious career? Join us to look through a telescope across the harbor to get a close-up view of what Fells Point looks like today, and hear more about the history of Frederick Douglass’s time in Baltimore.

Colors of Expression: Celebrating Black History Month & Jean-Michel Basquiat  
Wednesday, February 28, 3:30 p.m. | Orleans St.  
Join us to pay homage to the iconic artist Jean-Michel Basquiat. Basquiat was not just an artist; he was a voice for self-expression, creativity, and social change. In the spirit of Basquiat’s work, we’re inviting all teens to come together and create a community art project that celebrates self-expression and the vibrant heritage of Black culture.

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

“I Have a Dream” Craft  
Tuesday, January 9, 3:30 p.m. | Cherry Hill  
Join us as we celebrate the life and legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. by creating your own “I Have a Dream” craft project. This program has limited spaces. To register, please call 410-396-1168.

BOOKLOVERS’ BREAKFAST FEATURING JESMYN WARD  
Saturday, February 3  
8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Baltimore Marriott Waterfront  
700 Aliceanna Street  
We’re honored to welcome two-time National Book Award-winning author Jesmyn Ward as the speaker for this year’s Booklovers’ Breakfast.

Jesmyn Ward received her MFA from the University of Michigan and has received the MacArthur Genius Grant, a Stegner Fellowship, a John and Renee Grisham Writers Residency, the Strauss Living Prize, and the 2022 Library of Congress Prize for American Fiction. She is the historic winner — first woman and first Black American — of two National Book Awards for Fiction for <em>Sing, Unburied, Sing</em> (2017) and <em>Salvage the Bones</em> (2011). She is also the author of the novel <em>Where the Line Bleeds</em> and the memoir <em>Men We Reaped</em>, which was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award and won the Chicago Tribune Heartland Prize and the Media for a Just Society Award. She is currently a professor of creative writing at Tulane University.

Advanced registration required.  
Register at prattlibrary.org

Admission: $50 per person  
$450 for a Table of 10

Deadline for registration:  
Monday, January 29, at 12:00 p.m.

For more information, call 410-396-5494.

Books provided by MahoganyBooks
Happy Birthday Dr. King Party with Culture Queen
Saturday, January 13, 11:00 a.m. | Pennsylvania Ave.
Culture Queen hosts “Happy Birthday, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.,” a family-friendly party celebrating his life and legacy with a fun and interactive civil rights-themed show and hands-on crafts. Your royal children also celebrate the legacies of the kings and queens of social justice.

I Have A Dream: DIY Album Covers
Friday, January 19, 1:00 p.m. | Orleans St.
Design your own album cover art inspired by Dr. King’s famous “I Have A Dream” speech. On the back of the cardboard sleeve, create an “A-side” list of songs inspired by dreams for yourself and a “B-side” list of songs inspired by dreams for the world around you.

Black History Month Fact Find
February 1 – 10, 3:30 p.m. | Southeast Anchor Library
Test your knowledge of Black history and your sleuthing skills with a Black History Month fact find.

A Party for Langston
Thursday, February 1, 4:00 p.m. | Hampden
Celebrate the first day of Black History Month and Langston Hughes’ birthday with us! Enjoy a special reading of There Was a Party for Langston written by Jason Reynolds and illustrated by Jerome and Jarrett Pumphrey, followed by a game of bingo. Refreshments will be provided. This program has limited spaces. To register, please call 410-396-6043.

Culture Queen’s Black History Live!
Thursday, February 1, 4:30 p.m. | Southeast Anchor Library
Black History Live with Culture Queen is a modern-day Josephine Baker inspired performance for your royal children that uses live, original, and interactive music, movement, and storytelling to teach them to celebrate their history and love themselves. With a spoonful of magic and ancient wisdom, the queen’s soulful alto’s voice dances across a fusion of festive calypso, afrobeat, jazz, and hip-hop rhythms that celebrate the Kings and Queens of African-American History.

Who Am I? Black History Bingo
Tuesday, February 6, 3:30 p.m. | Cherry Hill
Join us for a fun, interactive way to celebrate and discuss Black History Month. Prizes will be provided. This program has limited spaces. To register, please call 410-396-1168.

Black History Break
Tuesdays, February 6 – 27, 3:30 p.m. | Light St.
Take a break after school and learn about famous African Americans through book discussions, music, art, poetry, and other activities.

Black History Month Trivia
Wednesdays, February 7 – 28, 3:30 p.m. | Patterson Park
Herring Run
Test your knowledge of Black History! Compete with your friends, learn new facts, and have the chance to win cool prizes.

Family Movie Night
Thursday, February 8, 5:30 p.m. | Patterson Park
Join us for a viewing of The Butler in honor of Black History Month.

Black History Month Artpiece
Saturday, February 10, 12:00 p.m. | Southeast Anchor Library
Use fabric and paper to create a community artpiece to celebrate Black History Month. Snacks will be provided. Recommended for children ages 4 – 12.

Black History Game-a-thon
February 12 – 24, 3:00 p.m. | Southeast Anchor Library
Challenge your skill and knowledge with games that highlight Black history and culture!

The Art of Storytelling: The Importance of Griots in History & Today
Saturday, February 17, 2:00 p.m. | Edmondson Ave.
Griots are storytellers, historians, poets, and musicians. Originating in West Africa, griots have played an important role in history; a role that continues to this day! Come to the library to learn more about this amazing profession and tradition and make your own set of story stones! This program has limited spaces. To register, please call 410-396-0946.

“I can’t overstate how important the library system has been to my growth and well being over the last five decades. A wealth of resources available without needing to be rich.”

— John B.
FREE TAX PREPARATION

CASH Campaign of Maryland tax assistance is available at Central Library for individuals or families who made less than $64,000 may qualify for free tax preparation.

Appointments must be made in advance.

To make an appointment, visit bmorefreetaxes.org or call 410-234-8008 Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Call 410-732-7777 for assistance in Spanish.

OPERATION WARM

This winter, the Pratt has once again partnered with Operation Warm to give out hundreds of new warm winter coats to children across Baltimore City for free. Giveaway events were held at the Central Library, Cherry Hill, Brooklyn, Edmondson Avenue, Herring Run, Northwood, Pennsylvania Avenue, and Southeast Anchor locations.

WE DISTRIBUTED:
1,440 WINTER COATS
1,200 BOOKS
SOCIAL WORKER IN THE LIBRARY

“You couldn’t possibly imagine the sense of relief you brought into my life today through your assistance in helping me obtain my health insurance in such a short period of time. After I had been in limbo in excess of two months to no avail. I know that it’s your job to help others but a mere thank you just doesn’t suffice. As far as I’m concerned you are a bridge between possibilities and probabilities.”

—Social Worker in the Library customer

Social Worker in the Library provides free one-on-one advising from a social worker, no appointment necessary. Get help with:

• Food access (SNAP benefits)
• Referral to mental health resources
• Senior resources
• Health care and insurance
• Utility assistance and water bill assistance
• Other services, just ask!

Email socialworker@prattlibrary.org or call the social worker in your geographic area Monday through Friday to get help with a variety of issues. In-person services are available during the drop-in hours listed below, Monday through Friday.

DROP-IN HOURS

Brooklyn
Thursday, 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Mariel Sass: 443-418-3873

Central Library
Tuesday, 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday, 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Thursday, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Sam Chan: 443-983-0824

Edmondson Avenue
Wednesday, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Sheila Miller: 667-392-9785

Pennsylvania Avenue
Tuesday, 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Thursday, 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Sheila Miller: 667-392-9785

Southeast Anchor Library
Tuesday, 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday, 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Mariel Sass: 443-418-3873

Waverly
Monday, 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Sam Chan: 443-983-0824

“You have helped me in a way no one else ever has (not family or other professionals we turn to for help, I mean no one)... and sometimes I just can’t believe that there are such incredible people still out there. For most of my life whenever I had a problem, or tragedy in my life, I was left alone to try to figure it out by myself, no matter how frustrating it was, when I didn’t know what to do... but you are a superhero in this world”

—Social Worker in the Library customer

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE SOCIAL WORKER IN YOUR GEOGRAPHIC AREA:

South, Southeast, o para servicios en Español: Mariel Sass, 443-418-3873
Central, East, or Northeast: Sam Chan, 443-983-0824
West, Northwest, or Southwest: Sheila Miller, 667-392-9785
Perler Bead Keychain & Earbud Case
Tuesday, January 2, 2:45 p.m.
Thursday, January 11, 2:45 p.m.
Reisterstown Rd.
Make your own keychain or earbud case with Perler beads. Limited to 10 participants. All supplies and a free set of earbuds included.

New Year Poetry Jam
Saturday, January 6, 2:30 p.m.
Edmondson Ave.
Join us to share some of your favorite poetry and workshop some of your own.

Nature Journals
Monday, January 8, 3:30 p.m.
Southeast Anchor Library
Step inside the story of Before the Ever After as we sketch and identify local wildlife while discussing this year’s selection.

Make Your Own Vision Journals!
Monday, January 8, 4:00 p.m. | Brooklyn
In this craft, decorate a blank journal with pictures that represent your dreams, hopes, and vision for a better future.

Astrology 101
Tuesday, January 9, 3:00 p.m. | Roland Park
Wednesday, January 10, 3:00 p.m. | Orleans St.
Saturday, January 20, 2:00 p.m. | Hampden
Guest Astrologist Noel Swain will walk you through astrology basics and how to read your signs.

90s Throwback Karaoke Party
Wednesday, January 10, 3:30 p.m. | Cherry Hill
Come join us for a 90s Throwback Karaoke Party where we will serve snacks, party favors, and our best boy band dance moves.

Writing Workshop with Author Lexie Bean
Wednesday, January 10, 3:00 p.m.
Reisterstown Rd.
Thursday, January 11, 3:30 p.m.
Edmondson Ave.
This workshop, hosted by author Lexie Bean, will provide participants the chance to write and connect with others using the novel The Ship We Built as a guide. There will also be time at the end of the workshop for a Q&A with the author.

Disability Awareness with Mike Henley
Thursday, January 18, 2:30 p.m. | Hamilton
Join Mike Henley while he teaches the importance of empathy and acceptance towards others with varying abilities.

Teen Open Mic
Mondays, January 22 & February 12
4:00 p.m. | Brooklyn
Come to our Teen Open Mic! You must be 12 – 18 years old to perform. Performance time slots are limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Pre-registration is encouraged. If you have any questions, please call 410-396-1120 and ask for the teen librarian.

Community Mending: Obangsaek & Kkojipgi (Pinching Technique)
Hand-Stitching Workshop
Tuesday, January 23, 4:00 p.m. | Cherry Hill
Join Rosa Chang to create fall foliage-shaped organic patchworks using “Kkojipgi,” a traditional Korean hand stitching technique. Explore Korean color theory (Obangsaek) with the dye and fabrics provided.

Book Discussion
Thursday, January 25, 6:30 p.m. | Govans
Read and discuss Before the Ever After.

2000s Teen Party & Retro Teen Movie
Monday, January 29, 5:00 p.m.
Reisterstown Rd.
It’s time to party! Join us for a 2000s-themed teen party and a retro teen movie.

Discussion on Grief & Compassion
Monday, February 5, 3:00 p.m. | Govans
Join special guest Tyrone Georgia as we discuss the themes of grief and compassion in the context of Before the Ever After.

Opera Baltimore: What is Opera
Tuesday, February 13, 10:30 a.m. | Herring Run
Join Opera Baltimore on a behind-the-scenes look at how opera productions are created and explore its different components. Participants will be treated to a few classic opera selections and join the performers on stage as well. To sign up for this event please contact us at 410-396-0996.

The Safety of Student Athletes
Friday, February 23, 11:00 a.m. | Light St.
Martin McNair, author of Can My Child Play? The Questions We Should Have Asked, will share his message promoting player safety to student athletes and their parents.

ONE BOOK BALTIMORE

One Book Baltimore is a collaboration between the T. Rowe Price Foundation, Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore City Public Schools, and other community partners.

ONE BOOK BALTIMORE FINALE:
JACQUELINE WOODSON & TAMI CHARLES

Wednesday, February 7, 6:00 p.m.
Central Library
To celebrate another year of success for the One Book Baltimore program, join us for a discussion between this year’s One Book Baltimore author Jacqueline Woodson, and previous One Book author Tami Charles. One Book Baltimore provides opportunities for Baltimore City 7th and 8th graders, their families, and community members to connect through literature by reading the same book.
SPOTLIGHT ON LIGHT ST.

SNEAK PEEK AT MARCH & APRIL

POE LIVE: THE MYSTERY OF MARIE ROGET WITH THE NATIONAL EDGAR ALLAN POE THEATRE
Saturday, March 9, 11:00 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.
Central Library
Be part of the LIVE studio audience for the National Edgar Allan Poe Theatre’s radio drama adaptation of The Mystery of Marie Roget written by James Comtois and directed by Alex Zavistovich.

IMAGINATION CELEBRATION KICK OFF
Saturday, April 6, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Central Library
Join us for a day of fun to kick off Imagination Celebration! Celebrate children’s creativity and imagination with exciting programs throughout the month of April.

2024 ANNUAL GENEALOGY LECTURE SERIES, TELLING YOUR FAMILY STORY, WITH ANNETTE BURKE LYTTLE
Saturday, April 20, 10:15 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Central Library
Annette Burke Lyttle is a professional genealogist, speaker, educator, and owner of Heritage Detective, LLC.

CROSSROADS:
AN EVENING WITH HOESY CORONA
Thursday, April 25, 5:00 – 7:30 p.m.
Central Library
Step into the world of Hoesy Corona at the 2024 Artist-in-Residence exhibit opening, titled “CROSSROADS,” where Hoesy will unveil his latest creations.

ADULTS

Light Street Writers Exchange
In person:
Monday, January 1 & February 5, 6:00 p.m.
Virtual:
Monday, January 22 & February 26, 6:00 p.m.
A read-and-critique group for writers with interest in all forms of writing: poetry, novel, short story, creative nonfiction. Writers of any ability are welcome, as long as there is a desire to accept critique graciously and improve your craft.

Acrylics Pour Painting
Thursday, January 11, 6:00 p.m.
Join local artist Esta Baker to create one-of-a-kind art using free-flowing and various techniques. All skill levels are welcome. All materials will be provided. Space is limited. To register, call 410-396-1096 or email lgh@prattlibrary.org.

Get on Board!
Thursday, January 18, 6:30 p.m.
Board and card game fun for adults. Feel free to bring a game from your personal collection to share with and challenge the group.

Film & Discussion: Just Mercy
Saturday, January 20, 1:00 p.m.
2019 | Rated PG-13 | 1 hr. 36 min.
Live Music: Daryl Davis & Seth Kibel
Saturday, January 20, 3:00 p.m.
In addition to being a pianist and vocalist, Daryl is also a professional actor, author, and lecturer, now residing in Maryland. Apart from leading The Daryl Davis Band, he has worked with Elvis Presley’s Jordanaires, Chuck Sledge, Sam Moore, Nappy Brown and many others. Seth Kibel is one of the Mid-Atlantic’s premier woodwind specialists, working with some of the best bands in jazz, swing, and more. Wowing audiences on saxophone, clarinet, and flute.

Live Music: Karter Jaymes
Saturday, February 17, 3:00 p.m.
Join us to celebrate Black History Month through music. Baltimore’s own Karter Jaymes will take us on a musical journey with songs from the Civil Rights Movement, classics, and originals. Karter is a versatile singer/songwriter and spent 25 years as the drummer with the Teddy Pendergrass band.

TEENS

Kitchen Science
Tuesday, January 9, 3:00 p.m.
Be scientists with common household items you can find in your kitchen! Conduct fun science experiments and explore concoctions!

Anime & Manga Cafe
Fridays, January 26 & February 9, 3:00 p.m.
Join us as we explore anime, manga, and all the worlds in between! Draw in anime style, learn about Japanese culture, discuss your favorite anime and manga, and other fun activities!

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Light Street Lab
Tuesday, January 23, 3:30 p.m.
Join us in the Light Street Lab for hands-on STEAM activities for kids.

Playdate at the Library
Tuesdays, January 30 & February 27, 10:30 a.m.
Bubbles, toys, and enriching play time.

Film & Discussion: Encanto
Saturday, February 17, 11:00 a.m.
2021 | Rated PG | 1 hr. 39 min.

Sing & Play with Baltimore Choral Arts
Wednesday, February 21, 10:30 a.m.
Children ages 0 – 5 and their caregivers are invited to join us for this free, 30-minute class, led by certified music teachers from Baltimore Choral Arts Society. Children will experience singing, creative movement, and listening to musical stories that spark their imagination.

Visit calendar.prattlibrary.org for complete details on each program.
FALL EVENTS

This fall, the Pratt welcomed a star-studded lineup of speakers as part of the Brown Lecture Series, including actress Jada Pinkett Smith, ballerina Misty Copeland, and award-winning writer Walter Mosley. Each attendee received a free book to keep. We also celebrated the African American Department’s 20th Anniversary!

“Libraries are essential to a community. They encourage learning and provide space for groups and individuals to do just that.” — Michele W.
DON’T MISS OUT ON THE LATEST EPISODES OF THE FREE TO BMORE PODCAST!
Listen now at prattlibrary.org/bmorepodcast

NOVEMBER 2023

UPSURGE BALTIMORE

Baltimore was just named a tech hub by the Federal Government. UpSurge Baltimore has been working to transform Charm City into the first Equitech city. Kory Bailey is at the forefront of that work, driving change and equity through innovation. Join us as we dive deep into Kory’s journey, his vision, and the transformative power of technology in Baltimore.

OCTOBER 2023

DOWNTOWN PARTNERSHIP

Downtown Baltimore has been a neighborhood in transition. So what does the future hold? We’ll talk to Downtown Partnership President Shelonda Stokes about her vision for what’s next in the heart of the city.

SEPTEMBER 2023

GREATER BALTIMORE COMMITTEE

Bringing more business to Baltimore. That’s the goal for the new President and CEO of the Greater Baltimore Committee. This episode of the Free to Bmore Podcast we talk to Mark Anthony Thomas about the opportunities and challenges in the city... And how we move into the future.