

ENOCH PRATT *free* LIBRARY | your journey starts here

Compass

July & August 2022

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SUMMER

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BALTIMORE**

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LOCATIONS

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ALL PRATT LIBRARIES WILL BE CLOSED:
Independence Day: Monday, July 4

COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS

The Pratt Library's top priority is the safety of our customers and staff. Please check prattlibrary.org for the latest health and safety precautions being taken inside library locations.

HELP US SAVE PAPER & POSTAGE

You can now find the complete issue of *Compass* on the Pratt Library's website, prattlibrary.org. If you receive the print version in the mail but would prefer to read online, you can ask to be removed from the mailing list.

Email aklein@prattlibrary.org or call 443-984-5819 with your name and mailing address.



ENOCH PRATT
free LIBRARY

Compass is published six times a year by the Marketing & Communications Department.

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.



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LETTER FROM THE CEO



It's the middle of summer and I'm hoping many of you reading this have already signed up for Summer Break Baltimore. It's our second year of this successful program that saw more than 13,000 families participate in 2021. There's still time to stop by any Pratt Library location or visit us online to sign up. Each month, readers of all ages will receive a free book, a prize, and scratch-off card to log their summer activities. This year, participants can pick out which books they want for their home libraries. We've also got free fun family programs at all of our locations all summer long. We know that summer can be a difficult time to keep students on track with their learning. At the Pratt, we want to make learning fun so students can be prepared when they go back to school in September.

I am also excited to announce the official launch of the new Pratt CEO's Book Club. I hope you'll read along with me as we select books each quarter. We'll hold special programs where we get to talk with the author of the book to learn even more. Fittingly, our first writer is Baltimore's own D. Watkins and his new book *Black Boy Smile*. You can check out your copy from the Pratt Library today and join in on the conversation on August 3.

Finally, plans are underway for a major makeover at our Forest Park branch, which first opened its doors in 1910. We're excited to get to work on a state-of-the-art facility for the Forest Park community. We've already begun getting community feedback about what neighbors want to see in their library. Keep an eye out for more neighborhood feedback sessions so we can make sure that Forest Park location is exactly what the neighborhood wants and needs.

Heidi Daniel, *President & CEO, Enoch Pratt Free Library*

CEO BOOK CLUB

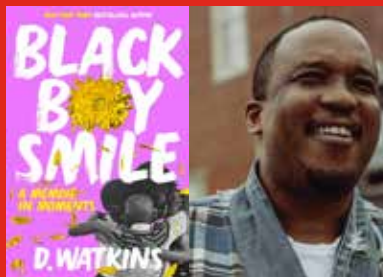
Wednesday, August 3, 7:00 p.m.

Central Library, Wheeler Auditorium & Virtual

Please join us as bestselling author D. Watkins returns to the Library for his latest book *Black Boy Smile* that recounts the author's childhood and formative years in East Baltimore as well as his thoughts on identity, toxic masculinity, and the emotional lives of Black men. He will be in conversation with Pratt Library CEO Heidi Daniel.

D. Watkins is the author of four prior books, editor-at-large for *Salon*, and a University of Baltimore lecturer.

Check out *Black Boy Smile* at any Pratt location, also available as an eBook and audiobook.



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The next Meeting of the Boards of Trustees and Directors will be held in September 2022. Visit prattlibrary.org for details.

FOREST PARK RENOVATION

Changes are underway for the historic Forest Park Branch. Baltimore City will fund a new \$7.9 million renovation of the historic library. Once known as Branch 14, the library first opened its doors to the community in 1910 with construction funded by philanthropist Andrew Carnegie. The Branch was expanded in 1954.

This new renovation calls for further expansion of the Forest Park Branch. The project is expected to take two years, with one year in design phase and the following year in construction. These initial designs by HBM Architects are the result of community feedback sessions. Further feedback sessions will take place as we work towards a final design for the library.



ADULT BOOK DISCUSSIONS

VIRTUAL

We Slay Book Club

Saturdays, July 9 & August 13, 2:00 p.m.

July: *Black Cake* by Charmaine Wilkerson

August: *Everything's Trash, But It's Okay* by Phoebe Robinson

Pratt Page-Turners Online Book Club

Saturdays, July 16 & August 20, 11:00 a.m.

July: *Orwell's Roses* by Rebecca Solnit

August: *Finding the Mother Tree* by Suzanne Simard

For more information about the Pratt Page-Turners, email fic@prattlibrary.org.

Brooklyn Branch Best Book Discussion Ever!

Thursdays, July 21 & August 18, 6:00 p.m.

Let's get together and discuss the books we've been reading. Bring a friend!

Caribbean Lit Book Club

Wednesday, July 27, 6:30 p.m.

Read and discuss, Ayanna Lloyd Banwo's debut novel, *When We Were Birds* set in Trinidad.

IN-PERSON

Adult Book Discussion

Saturdays, July 9 & August 13, 10:00 a.m. | Herring Run

Join us for our "Year of Classics."

July: *Cannery Row* by John Steinbeck

August: *The Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger

Book Discussion

Thursdays, July 14 & August 11, 6:00 p.m. | Hampden

July: *Daisy Jones & The Six* by Taylor Jenkins Reid

August: *Peaces* by Helen Oyeyemi

Rambling Readers

Thursdays, July 21 & August 18, 10:00 a.m. | Central Library

Join a novel walking book club that covers more than novels! Come as we share whatever book we are reading or listening to lately. Rendezvous outside Central Library. From there we will take various routes, walking a stretch before occasional pauses to take turns speaking. Expect to be back at the library in one hour. For questions, connection, or optional registration, contact the Business, Science, & Technology Department (BST) at bst@prattlibrary.org or 410-396-5317.

Book Bites

Thursdays, July 21 & August 18, 6:30 p.m. | Washington Village

July: *Beartown* by Fredrik Backman

August: *Blood Grove* by Walter Mosley

To register and/or request a copy of the book, please call 410-396-1099.

Northwood Book Discussion Group

Thursdays, July 28 & August 25, 6:00 p.m. | Northwood

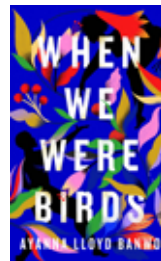
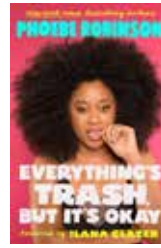
July: *The Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towles

August: *Harlem Shuffle* by Colson Whitehead

Book Discussion

Thursday, July 28, 6:30 p.m. | Govans

Read and discuss *The Plot* by Jean Hanff Korelitz.



LIVE MUSIC

SUMMER CONCERT:

RICHARD SEMPER JR. STEEL PAN MUSIC

Saturday, July 23, 1:00 p.m.

Washington Village

Listen to the soothing rhythms of steel pan music, featuring Richard Semper Jr. of the Trinidad & Tobago Baltimore Steel Orchestra.

LIVE MUSIC: ABE OVADIA

Saturday, July 30, 11:00 a.m. | Light St.

Musicvox Guitars describes Abe Ovadia as a "jazz virtuoso, one of the most innovative guitarists of our time." He holds a bachelor's degree from Berklee College of Music and a master's from New York University's highly acclaimed jazz performance program. He is also a recipient of the Best Guitarist of 2016 Award from *Hot House Jazz Magazine*. NEA Jazz Master Todd Barkan described Ovadia as a "powerfully lyrical guitarist [who] explores the inner and outer frontiers of some of the most heartfully expansive music of our age." Abe also serves on the faculty at Fairleigh Dickinson University as an adjunct professor of guitar.

LIVE MUSIC: DEJA VU

Saturday, August 13, 3:00 p.m. | Light St.

Deja Vu is a group composed of four talented musicians who formed the band while attending Baltimore School for the Arts. Now college students, John Elek Yuhas (guitar), Isaac Chang (piano & trumpet), Roy'el Byrd (bass), and Graham Hogan (percussion) original compositions are influenced by jazz, rock, funk, and soul.

ARTS @ THE PRATT



ADULTS

Adult Crafting Circle

Saturdays, July 2, 16, & August 6, 2:00 p.m.
Forest Park

Join other crafters to work on projects, share ideas and techniques, and learn from other crafters. All skill levels are welcome.

Coloring for Relaxation

Wednesdays, July 6 – August 31, 3:00 p.m.
Walbrook

Join us as we listen to music, color, and unwind! Coloring sheets of varying complexities will be provided for participants of all ages and skill levels.

Teacup Upcycle: Adult Craft

Saturday, July 16, 1:00 p.m. | Northwood
Make a cute bird feed or jewelry holder from an old teacup and saucer. Supplies will be provided, but you can bring your own cup and saucer if you prefer. Call 410-396-6076 by July 11 to register. Space is limited.

Build-Your-Own Terrarium

Saturday, July 16, 2:00 p.m. | Cherry Hill
Need a little green at your house? Craft your very own terrarium — a miniature ecosystem encased in glass! This relaxing craft will feature calming classical music to accompany the event, and provide tons of material for creating your own little greenscape.

Watercolor Flower Painting

Saturday, July 23, 12:00 p.m. | Central Library
Create postcard size watercolor paintings of flowers. Patrons will be taught how to apply transparent layers and soft washes through easy-to-follow instructions. A Fine Arts librarian will utilize fresh flowers and department materials as the model for this workshop. Bring a friend and get creative!

Painting for Adults

Saturday, July 23, 2:00 p.m. | Govans
Create your own original artwork under the direction of an artist. Registration required, call 410-396-6098 to register.

Painting with Alcohol Inks: Beginner's Workshop

Thursday, July 28, 5:00 p.m. | Reisterstown Rd.
Let It Flow! Alcohol inks are free flowing and vibrant colors! The workshop will cover beginning techniques for creative play and minor control of alcohol inks on tile featuring local artist Esta Baker. All supplies are provided by the library. Registration is required, please call 410-396-0948.

Plastic Canvas Bookmarks

Thursday, July 28, 6:00 p.m. & Friday, July 29, 11:00 a.m. | Forest Park

Participants will create unique and colorful bookmarks using a plastic canvas and yarn.

Light Street Listening Lounge

Thursdays, July 28 & August 25, 6:30 p.m.
Light St.

The Light Street Listening Lounge is a monthly exploration of the Pratt Library's vast collection of music. These curated programs will examine specific genres, periods, and styles of music and offer historical, cultural, and philosophical context as we examine a different theme each month.

Painting With Alcohol Inks: Intermediate Workshop

Thursday, August 4, 5:00 p.m.
Reisterstown Rd.

In this intermediate alcohol ink workshop, you will create some simple abstract landscapes. Introduction to alcohol inks or experience using alcohol inks is recommended before joining this workshop. All supplies are provided by the library. Registration is required, please call 410-396-0948.

Summer Paint Night

Thursday, August 11, 5:30 p.m. | Northwood
Join us as we paint a beautiful Bird of Paradise, step-by-step. All materials are provided. Please call 410-396-6076 to register. Space is limited to 12 participants.

Introduction to Modern Brush Pen Calligraphy

Saturday, August 13, 1:00 p.m. | Hamilton
Have you been thinking about learning calligraphy but have no idea where to begin? Or maybe you've started already and just need a little extra help? Join Brittany DeNovellis of Novel Letter Studio to learn the fundamentals of modern brush pen lettering. This workshop teaches you the basics of calligraphy. No experience necessary!

Books in Bloom

Saturday, August 27, 1:00 p.m. | Cherry Hill
Join us in the Cherry Hill Meeting Room where we will be crafting our own paper flowers from recycled book pages! You can choose to create a variety of flowers, including roses, daisies, calla lilies, and hydrangea. This craft will be accompanied by a calming classical music playlist.

TEENS

Wooden Peg Doll Painting

Tuesday, July 12, 1:00 p.m. | Cherry Hill
Paint your favorite manga/anime, cartoon, or comic character onto blank wooden pegs!

Cookies & Canvas

Friday, July 15, 2:30 p.m. | Walbrook
Spice up your afternoon with Cookies & Canvas, a teen version of the ever popular "Paint 'n' Sip." Canvas will have a pre-traced design for beginners and advanced painter's alike to enjoy this activity together. This program has limited spaces and pre-registration is recommended. To register, please visit or call the Walbrook branch at 443-984-4933 to reserve your spot. Walk-ins are also accepted until the program reaches maximum capacity.

Aromatherapy Bracelets

Tuesday, August 16, 2:00 p.m.
Southeast Anchor Library
Come join us as we make aromatherapy bracelets that will help you to have a sense of calm as you go about your day.

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

DIY Lightbeam Books

Wednesday, July 6, 3:00 p.m. | Edmondson Ave.
A Lightbeam book adds extra fun to reading through a magic flashlight that reveals hidden words and pictures. Discover the magic — and science! — behind the Lightbeam book and create your own secret story!

Upcycled Architecture

Mondays, July 18 & 25, 2:00 p.m.
Central Library
Put your construction skills to the test as you design and build a structure based on local architecture. This program is perfect for children in developmental ages 7 – 12 and is open to children of all abilities.

Down the Ocean: Water Bead Craft

Monday, August 8, 3:30 p.m. | Orleans St.
Enjoy using Super Beads to create crafts with a summer beach theme! This program has limited spaces and pre-registration is recommended. To register, please call 410-396-0970. Walk-ins are also accepted until the program reaches maximum capacity.

AUTHOR EVENTS

Some events require registration, visit calendar.prattlibrary.org to register. ASL interpretation will be available to attendees. Parking information is available at prattlibrary.org



"Essential for our times." —Susan X. Kennedy, author of *How to Be an Antiracist*

HIS NAME IS

GEORGE

ONE MAN'S LIFE... AND THE STRUGGLE FOR RACIAL JUSTICE

FLOYD

ROBERT SAMUELS and TOLUSE OLORUNNIPA of *The Washington Post*

WRITERS LIVE! ROBERT SAMUELS *His Name Is George Floyd*

Tuesday, July 19, 7:00 p.m.

Central Library, Wheeler Auditorium & Virtual

Please join us for an evening with *Washington Post* reporter Robert Samuels as he discusses the life and legacy of George Floyd.

Robert Samuels is a national political enterprise reporter at the *Washington Post*. He co-authored *His Name Is George Floyd* with Toluse Olorunnipa.

MORE AUTHORS COMING THIS FALL

We're lining up even more author events this fall. Don't miss out on hearing from writers like Beth Macy, Brendan Slocumb, Jane Berger, Kristina Gaddy, Tommie Smith, Derrick Barnes, and Dawud Anyabwile. Details to come, for more information visit prattlibrary.org



WRITERS LIVE!



THOMAS FRANK *The People, No!*

Thursday, July 14

7:00 p.m.

Central Library,
Wheeler Auditorium
& Virtual

Please join us for an evening with political analyst and historian

Thomas Frank as he discusses his latest book, *The People, No!*, a history of populism in American politics.

Thomas Frank is the author or editor of eight other books, including the bestselling *What's the Matter with Kansas?* and *Listen, Liberal*. He is the founding editor of *The Baffler* and a former columnist for *The Wall Street Journal* and *Harper's*.

WRITERS LIVE!



MECCA JAMILAH SULLIVAN

Big Girl

Thursday, July 28

7:00 p.m.

Central Library,
Wheeler Auditorium
& Virtual

Join us for an evening with Mecca Jamilah

Sullivan to celebrate the release of her debut novel *Big Girl*. The book tells the story of Malaya, a young Black woman on the cusp of adulthood in Harlem during the 1990s.

Mecca Jamilah Sullivan is the author of two prior books, which includes the short story collection *Blue Talk* and *Love*, winner of the 2018 Judith Markowitz Award for Emerging LGBTQ Writers. She is an associate professor of English at Georgetown University.

"Great resource, beautiful location, friendly and knowledgeable staff, tech forward — I'm a huge fan!"

— Ian S.

Writers LIVE! programs are supported in part by a bequest from The Miss Howard Hubbard Adult Programming Fund and the William G. Baker, Jr. Memorial Fund, creator of the Baker Artist Portfolios, www.BakerArtist.org.

YOUR PRATT JOURNEY

LAURA'S JOURNEY



Some of my earliest Baltimore memories — we moved here when I was 6 — are Pratt memories. We lived between two branches, so we switched back and forth. Forest Park, one week; Edmondson Avenue the next. In my memory, which is suspect, there was a fireplace at Forest Park. I remember pulling Ogden Nash from the shelf and delighting at his rhymes. In Edmondson, I found a book I think about to this day, about a girl who somehow became miniaturized and went to live with the birds.

When I was 10, my mother decided to get a Master's in library science, specializing in children's literature, and she often had to spend Saturday afternoons at the Central Library and that was sheer heaven. I started in the Children's room, which had a separate entrance at the time. But pretty soon, I had "graduated" to the upper floors. I started in the wonderful YA section, where the librarians had such good recommendations.

But ultimately, I spent most of my time on the top floor, in the Humanities section. I had developed a fondness for a very specific kind of humor writing, farcical histories written by Richard Armour and Will Cuppy. There also were plays and books about theater and cinema, burgeoning interests for me at the time. I read every book I could find on the Marx Brothers, then light-hearted memoirs that captured my fancy. (Anything by Ruth McKenney, but also lovely books by Sara Sandberg, including *Mama Made Minks* and *My Sister Goldie*.) My reading was disorganized, without plan, without agenda, I just caromed from title to title, picking up whatever looked interesting. That's still the kind of reading I like best.

I gave my love of the Pratt to Tess Monaghan when I began writing my PI series. Like me, she particularly liked the third-floor ladies room. Clean, roomy, and almost always empty.

Laura Lippman is the *New York Times* bestselling author of acclaimed stand-alones and the award-winning Tess Monaghan series. Lippman was a reporter for 20 years, including 12 years at *The Baltimore Sun*. She began writing novels while working full-time and published seven books about "accidental PI" Tess Monaghan before leaving daily journalism in 2001. Her work also has appeared in the *New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Guardian*, and the *Washington Post*. She lives in Baltimore and New Orleans.

We want to hear your Pratt journey! Email us your Pratt story at journey@prattlibrary.org and it may get published in *Compass*.



WRITERS LIVE! LAURA LIPPMAN

Wednesday, July 13, 7:00 p.m.
Central Library, Wheeler Auditorium & Virtual

Join us for an evening with bestselling author Laura Lippman as she returns to the Pratt to discuss her novel *Dream Girl*.

Laura Lippman is the author of over 25 books, including the Tess Monaghan series and *The Lady in the Lake*, currently being adapted into a series for Apple+.

WRITING @ THE PRATT

LUNCHTIME SHUT UP & WRITE

Tuesdays, July 5 – July 26, 12:00 p.m. | Virtual
Mondays, July 11 – August 29, 12:00 p.m.
Virtual

It is an empowering and rewarding experience to write an hour each week, at the same time and place. Our Meetups are a safe space for writers to work on their craft. No one will read or critique your writing.

WEEKEND SHUT UP & WRITE

Saturdays, July 9 & August 6, 10:30 a.m.
Patterson Park

It is an empowering and rewarding experience to write an hour each week, at the same time and place. Our Meetups are a safe space for writers to work on their craft. No one will read or critique your writing.

LIGHT STREET WRITERS EXCHANGE

Mondays, July 11 – 25, 6:00 p.m. | Virtual
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.

CELEBRATING THE 2022 POETRY CONTEST FINALISTS WITH *LITTLE PATUXENT REVIEW*

Tuesday, August 16, 6:30 p.m.
Central Library & Virtual

Celebrate the finalists in the 2022 Poetry Contest with the Enoch Pratt Free Library and *Little Patuxent Review*! The three finalists, Maryland's Poet Laureate, and *LPR*'s head editor will read. For more information about this event, email poetry@prattlibrary.org.

LOOKING BACK TO MOVE FORWARD: CAPTURING YOUR PANDEMIC EXPERIENCES WITH ANN BRACKEN

Saturday, July 30, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Hamilton

As part of the world-wide community, we're living through an historic time — the COVID-19 Pandemic — which has offered all of us experiences worthy of a story. Whether you choose to work in poetry or prose, time, place, characters, and mood are important fundamentals to include. In this workshop, we'll use elements of journaling and work through a couple of writing exercises to help you record a part of your pandemic experience. This program is co-sponsored by the Friends of Hamilton Branch.

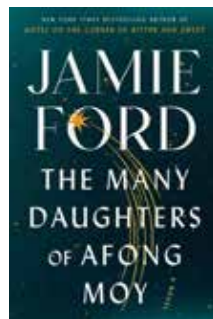
WHAT'S NEW

Here are the most anticipated books of July and August that you can check out at the Pratt.



Upgrade by Blake Crouch

At first, Logan Ramsay isn't sure if anything's different. He just feels a little... sharper. The truth is, Logan's genome has been hacked, and what's happening to him is just the first step in a much larger plan, one that will inflict the same changes on humanity at large — at a terrifying cost.



The Many Daughters of Afong Moy by Jamie Ford

Dorothy Moy wants to break the cycle of pain and abandonment in her family, to finally find peace for her daughter. Through an experimental treatment designed to mitigate inherited trauma, Dorothy intimately connects with past generations of women in her family.



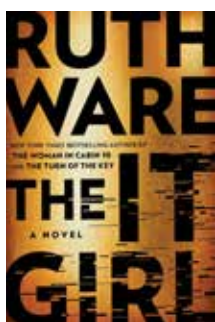
The Last White Man by Mohsin Hamid

Anders wakes up to find his skin has turned dark overnight, and the reflection in the mirror seems a stranger to him. But he is not the only one, people are awakening in new incarnations, uncertain how their neighbors, friends, and family will greet them. *The Last White Man* powerfully uplifts our capacity for empathy and the transcendence over bigotry, fear, and anger it can achieve.



Haven by Emma Donoghue

In seventh-century Ireland, a scholar and priest called Artt has a dream telling him to leave the sinful world behind. He and two monks row down the river Shannon in search of a spot on which to found a monastery. Drifting out into the Atlantic, they find a steep, bare island inhabited by thousands of birds, and claim it for God. In such a place, what will survival mean?



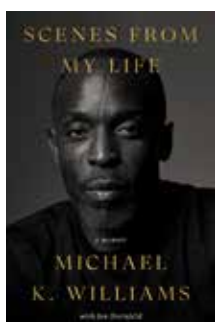
The It Girl by Ruth Ware

April was the first person Hannah met at Oxford. Together, they developed a group of devoted and inseparable friends during their first term. By the end of the year, April was dead. A decade later, as Hannah reconnects with old friends and delves deeper into the mystery of April's death, she realizes that the friends she thought she knew all have something to hide... including a murder.



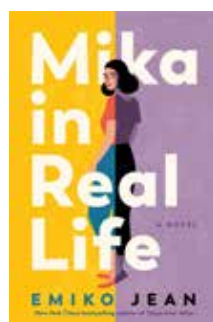
Carrie Soto is Back by Taylor Jenkins Reid

At 37 years old, Carrie makes the monumental decision to come out of retirement from tennis for one last year in an attempt to reclaim her record. Even if it means swallowing her pride to train with a man she once almost opened her heart to: Bowe Huntley. Like her, he has something to prove before he gives up the game forever.



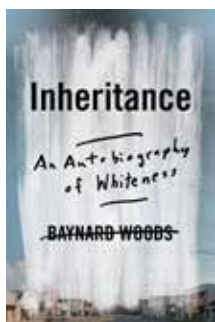
Scenes from My Life by Michael K. Williams

In this memoir, Michael K. Williams traces his life in whole, from his childhood in East Flatbush and his early years as a dancer to his battles with addiction and the bar fight that left his face with his distinguishing scar. Imbued with poignance and raw honesty, *Scenes from My Life* is the story of a performer who gave his all to everything he did.



Mika in Real Life by Emiko Jean

At 35, Mika Suzuki is at her lowest point when she receives a phone call from Penny — the daughter she placed for adoption sixteen years ago. Longing to be someone Penny is proud of, Mika embellishes her life, but what starts as a tiny white lie slowly snowballs into a fully-fledged fake life. Can she really have it all, or will her deceptions ultimately catch up to her?



Inheritance by Baynard Woods

In this gripping and perceptive memoir, Woods takes us along on his journey to understand how race has impacted his life. Unflinching and uninhibited, *Inheritance* explores what it means to reckon with whiteness in America today and what it might mean to begin to repair the past.



Rogues by Patrick Radden Keefe

Keefe brilliantly explores the intricacies of forging \$150,000 vintage wines, examines whether a whistleblower who dared to expose money laundering at a Swiss bank is a hero or a fabulist, and profiles a passionate death penalty attorney who represents the “worst of the worst,” in this collection of a dozen of his most celebrated articles from *The New Yorker*.

YA AUTHOR EVENTS

Q&A WITH R. ERIC THOMAS



It has been quite the year for you, with three plays opening and now your new book release. How do you find the time to produce that much content?

I'm really lucky in that I get to write full-time. I tell people that means I write all day but in reality that means I answer emails all day and write at night. But I still feel so fortunate. I waited tables for a decade, a job I really liked, and I would scribble down ideas on the notepad where I kept orders and stay up til the wee small hours of the morning trying to write. I just loved it so much and I wanted to do it in any way I could. The thing that's interesting about this year is that the three productions were never supposed to happen at the same time, but because of COVID, they all got pushed to this year. And in the midst of all that I started and finished *Kings of B'More*. So I like to joke to people that after June I'm going to fade away like Mary Poppins because I'm all out of projects. We'll see.

What inspires you to keep creating in a variety of ways?

Sometimes life is so strange or extraordinary or awe-inspiring or heartbreaking I feel compelled to share it. It's like passing a note in class like "Did you see this?!" And what I find with writing is that different forms work better for different stories. When I have an idea it usually tells me if it's a novel or a play or a TV show or something else. Sometimes it is wrong and I have to go back and do all the work over again. A real caper.

Your latest is the YA book *Kings of B'More*. What do you hope teens, specifically teens here in Baltimore, take away from your book?

I hope for a lot of things. *Kings of B'more* is what I call a platonic love story — it's about friendship and how life-changing friendship can be and how important it is to keep the people we value in our lives. I hope that readers will think about the people who matter to them and ways they can express that. I hope all readers, particularly Baltimoreans, will take away the inherent magic and complexity and vibrancy of the city. I think of Baltimore as a city of bubbles. Sometimes those bubbles separate us. At other times, they transport us and create exciting intersection points. This book is all about those intersections. The Baltimore in *Kings* isn't some fantasy version of the city, but it's a version that always holds at its center that there are people that live here, that paint murals on buildings, that open businesses, that use the library, that ride motorbikes down North Avenue, that throw street festivals. More than figures and statistics, we're people. And for the people in *Kings*, life is strange and beautiful and sometimes hard and often very funny.

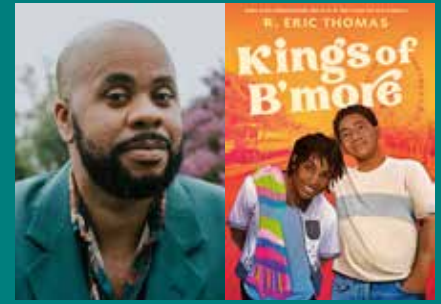
What's your advice for an aspiring young writer here in Baltimore?

There are a lot of great local resources for honing your craft, taking classes, and hearing your work outloud. Initiatives like Baltimore Center Stage's Young Playwrights Festival and CHARM's Young Writers Workshops are just two of many avenues for expressing yourself. For me, it was all about practice, reading work that inspired me (I spent a lot of time in the Pratt Central Library's African-American collection), and experiencing life so I had something to write about. People might sometimes say you need to be in a different city or have certain credentials to really be a writer, but that's simply not true and Baltimore has the writers to prove it.

How important have libraries been in your life?

Folks who read my first book, *Here for It: Or, How to Save Your Soul in America*, got a preview of my answer to this in the essay where I wrote about a pivotal summer working at my school library and visiting the Woodlawn Library in the county. Libraries changed my life, they brought me new worlds and new ideas and new forms of expression. The provided access and a place to be. Libraries are one of the top reasons that I'm a writer and the person that I am.

YA WRITERS LIVE!



YA WRITERS LIVE! R. ERIC THOMAS

Wednesday, July 27, 11:00 a.m.
Central Library, Wheeler Auditorium

Please join us for a presentation with author R. Eric Thomas to celebrate the release of his new young adult title *Kings of B'More*. The novel follows two Black queer best friends that face their last day together with an epic journey through Baltimore. It's a *Ferris Bueller's Day Off* story that's magnetic and full of life.

R. Eric Thomas will be in conversation with Pratt staff to discuss this novel, his career, and his writing, including a Q&A portion toward the end.



YA WRITERS LIVE! SONORA REYES

Wednesday, August 10, 11:00 a.m.
Central Library, Wheeler Auditorium

Please join us for a presentation with author Sonora Reyes to celebrate the release of their new young adult title *The Lesbianiana's Guide to Catholic School*. The novel follows a queer Mexican American girl navigating Catholic school, while falling in love and learning to celebrate her true self.

Sonora Reyes will be in conversation with Pratt staff to discuss their novel, their career, and their writing, including a Q&A portion toward the end.



SUMMER BREAK BALTIMORE

June 1 – September 1

WHAT IS SUMMER BREAK BALTIMORE?

Summer Break Baltimore is a fun program for all ages that encourages literacy and learning in our community. The Pratt will have fun in-person and virtual activities all summer long, or you can participate without ever leaving your home!

HOW DO I SIGN UP?

Register online at prattlibrary.org or in-person at any Pratt Library location.

WHAT WILL I GET?

Stop by a Pratt Library location every month this summer to pick up a Summer Break Baltimore kit! Kits are available in June, July, and August, and include a book, prize, and calendar of events, while supplies last.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Pick up a Summer Break Baltimore scratch-off card. You can scratch off a star anytime you:

- Read or listen to a book
- Visit any Pratt location
- Attend a library program

When you drop by a library, hand in your scratch-off card to be entered in monthly drawings for prizes. You don't need to complete a full card to enter into a drawing and you can always pick up a new card at any library location.

WHAT IF I'M PARTICIPATING ONLINE?

You can enter into the drawings too! Log your activities online and your name and information will automatically be entered into the drawing.



KIDS SUMMER BREAK

CENTRAL LIBRARY

Register for programs at Central by calling 410-396-5402.

Storytime in the Park at Mt. Vernon Place

Fridays, July 1 & August 5, 9:30 a.m.

Mt. Vernon Place, East Square

Join us for a special storytime in the east square of Mt. Vernon Place! This storytime for children ages birth – 7 and their grown-ups will have you moving, singing, and playing along. Don't forget your blanket for sitting on the grass with us!

An Ocean of Possibilities!

Friday, July 1, 11:00 a.m.

Presented by Turtle Dance Music. *An Ocean of Possibilities!* A Family Music, Dance And Comedy Show features wonderful classic and original children's songs and tales about being under the sea! Groups of 5 or more must register.

Animal Super Powers

Friday, August 5, 2:00 p.m.

Presented by Eco Adventures. Which animal has the strongest bite, can climb walls, has the ability to virtually disappear, or can even stretch like a rubber band? Get all the answers in this exploration of the superpowers of some of nature's most amazing animals. Groups of 5 or more must register.

Corn Husk Flowers / Flores de Hojas de Maíz

Saturday, August 20, 2:00 p.m.

Join the Artesanas, a folkloric group of talented women at the Creative Alliance, to learn how to make traditional corn husk flowers. This program is best for children ages 7+ and has limited spaces.

BROOKLYN

Register for programs at Brooklyn by calling 410-396-1120

Animal Super Powers

Saturday, July 9, 11:00 a.m.

Presented by Eco Adventures. Which animal has the strongest bite, can climb walls, has the ability to virtually disappear, or can even stretch like a rubber band? Get all the answers in this exploration of the superpowers of some of nature's most amazing animals. Groups of 5 or more must register.

Pirates: Lost at Sea

Tuesday, July 26, 2:00 p.m.

Presented by Talewise. Set sail with us on an action-packed adventure about a crew of quirky pirates marooned on a desert island.

We'll explore the incredible science behind clouds, physical and chemical changes, air pressure, and more! Groups of 5 or more must register.

Dinosaur Roar Storytime

Tuesday, August 2, 2:00 p.m.

Celebrate Dinosaurs Day at the Brooklyn Branch with a storytime and activity centers!

CANTON

Register for programs at Canton by calling 410-396-8548

Musical Storytelling

Wednesday, July 6, 11:00 a.m.

Join the Mount Vernon Virtuosi Chamber Orchestra for a musical story and an introduction to the world of classical music. Groups of 5 or more must register.

Bubble Dance Party

Wednesdays, July 13 & August 24, 4:30 p.m.

Shake out your sillies with fun songs and a room full of bubbles!

Rock & Rhyme with Mr. Jon

Friday, August 26, 11:00 a.m.

Church on the Square, 1025 S. Potomac St. Join Mr. Jon for a concert for the whole family! Groups of 5 or more must register.

CHERRY HILL

Register for programs at Cherry Hill by calling 410-396-1168

Wildflower Seedpod Making Workshop

Thursday, July 21, 2:00 p.m.

Presented by Blue Water Baltimore. Make native wildflower seedpods and learn about the role native plants play in ecosystem restoration and the urban water cycle. Bring the seedpods home or donate them to Blue Water Baltimore for their outreach needs. Groups of 5 or more must register.

Riddle Me This: Stories to Solve

Thursday, August 11, 11:00 a.m.

Presented by Diane Macklin. This interactive program features stories for the audience to solve and enjoy from around the world. Groups of 5 or more must register.

EDMONDSON AVE.

Register for programs at Edmondson Ave. by calling 410-396-0946

Wigglebots

Monday, July 11, 4:00 p.m.

Coached by FutureMakers. Invent a creature that is designed and built to move using

mechanical vibration and electricity! For rising 1st graders and older. Participants under age 7 encouraged to attend with a caregiver. This program has limited spaces.

Fun with Animal Folktales

Thursday, August 4, 5:00 p.m.

Join storyteller Janice the Griot as she shares interactive tales from the African and African-American experience. Children will hear tales of Anasi the Spider, Bre'r Rabbit, and other tricksters while learning important life lessons. Groups of 5 or more must register.

Family Dance Party!

Thursday, August 25, 3:00 p.m.

The whole family is invited to join us for upbeat music, dance games, and a snack.

FOREST PARK

Register for programs at Forest Park by calling 410-396-0942

Magic with Mike Rose

Tuesday, July 12, 1:00 p.m.

Mike Rose presents "H2-Oh!," featuring impossible magic tricks and off the wall comedy with a water theme. Groups of 5 or more must register.

3D Printing Day

Tuesdays, July 19 & August 16

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Stop by with your favorite design, create something new, or watch the printer at work on our 3D printing day.

F.O.G. Monster Mash

Friday, July 22, 2:00 p.m.

Presented by Blue Water Baltimore. There are monsters lurking in our storm drains! Fats, oils, and grease (F.O.G.) can create beastly blockages in Baltimore's pipes. Help protect our city's infrastructure with this fun activity. Groups of 5 or more must register.

GOVANS

Register for programs at Govans by calling 410-396-6098

Kitty's Corner Puppet Show

Saturday, July 16, 10:30 a.m.

Join String Theory Theater for a puppet show featuring two tales! This indoor program has limited spaces.

Music with Spice

Wednesday, July 27, 11:00 a.m.

Join Ms. Spice for live music, singing, movement, stories, and more! This program has limited spaces.

HAMILTON

Register for programs at Hamilton by calling 410-396-6088

Bubbles and Chalk!

Wednesdays, July 6, – August 31, 12:00 p.m. (except for July 27 & August 3)
Blow bubbles and draw with sidewalk chalk. This outdoor program has limited spaces.

Stomp Rockets

Tuesdays, July 12, 26 & August 9, 23, 12:00 p.m.
Create and launch a rocket! This indoor program has limited spaces.

Small Wonders and Stupendous Feats

Tuesday, August 9, 11:00 a.m.
Presented by Diane Macklin. Enjoy marvelous tales of unlikely heroes that defy the impossible through kindness, friendship, and courage. Groups of 5 or more must register.

HAMPDEN

Register for programs at Hampden by calling 410-396-6043

Summer STEAM: A Look at the Sun

Saturday, July 9, 3:00 p.m.
The JHU Astronomy department will show children how to safely view the sun using special eclipse glasses, a solar telescope, and a Sunspotter telescope. This program has limited spaces.

The Bubble Lady

Saturday, July 23, 2:00 p.m.
Join the Bubble Lady for a fun, interactive experience. Groups of 5 or more must register.

Summer STEAM: Recycled Robot Toys

Saturday, August 6, 1:00 p.m.
Join us for a cardboard construction workshop. Learn about simple machines, and how they can be used for both functional purposes and creative expression. This indoor program has limited spaces.

Summer STEAM: Detecting Planets Around Other Stars

Saturday, August 13, 3:00 p.m.
Learn about the methods astronomers use to discover planets around other stars. Presented by the JHU Astronomy department. This indoor program has limited spaces.

HERRING RUN

Register for programs at Herring Run by calling 410-396-0996

Tangram Party

Wednesday, July 13, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Stop by Port Discovery's table at the Herring Run Branch to enjoy a fun, hands-on activity!

Storm Drain Adoption

Wednesday, July 20, 1:00 p.m.
Join Blue Water Baltimore to learn about the connection between our streets and streams, the ins and outs of adopting a storm drain, and how to create a custom sidewalk mural with environmental messaging. Groups of 5 or more must register.

Magic of the Sea

Wednesday, August 3, 1:00 p.m.
Performed by Arianna Ross. Travel around the world and dive into the ocean with only your imagination, voice, and body.

LIGHT ST.

Register for programs at Light St. by calling 410-396-1096

Magic with Mike Rose

Tuesday, July 19, 10:30 a.m.
Mike Rose presents "H2-Oh!," featuring impossible magic tricks and off the wall comedy with a water theme. Groups of 5 or more must register.

Rock & Rhyme with Mr. Jon

Wednesday, August 24, 10:30 a.m.
Join Mr. Jon for a concert for the whole family! Groups of 5 or more must register.

NORTHWOOD

Register for programs at Northwood by calling 410-396-6076

Storm Drain Adoption

Monday, July 25, 2:00 p.m.
Join Blue Water Baltimore to learn about the connection between our streets and streams, the ins and outs of adopting a storm drain, and how to create a custom sidewalk mural with environmental messaging. Groups of 5 or more must register.

Bubble Magic

Tuesday, August 9, 3:00 p.m.
Meadow Perry is a Bubble Magician who delights in revealing the beautiful, mysterious and magical world of bubbles! Interactive and entertaining for all ages. Groups of 5 or more must register.

ORLEANS ST.

Register for programs at Orleans St. by calling 410-396-0970

Human Beatbox

Monday, July 11, 2:00 p.m.
Christylez Bacon, GRAMMY nominated Progressive Hip-Hop artist delivers a message of cultural acceptance and unification by blending traditional elements of musical styles from jazz to hip-hop. Groups of 5 or more must register.

Celebrate Friends Around the World

Monday, July 11, 3:30 p.m.
Decorate paper dolls to celebrate global holidays. This program has limited spaces.

PATTERSON PARK

Register for programs at Patterson Park by calling 410-396-0983

F.O.G. Monster Mash

Monday, August 1, 1:00 p.m.
Presented by Blue Water Baltimore. There are monsters lurking in our storm drains! Fats, oils, and grease (F.O.G.) can create beastly blockages in Baltimore's pipes. Help protect our city's infrastructure with this fun activity. Groups of 5 or more must register.

Hand-Frayed Fabric Flowers

Monday, August 22, 2:00 p.m.
Join the Artesanas, a folkloric group of talented women at the Creative Alliance, to learn how to make a traditional hand-frayed fabric flower. This program is best for children ages 7+ and has limited spaces.

REISTERSTOWN RD.

Register for programs at Reisterstown Rd. by calling 410-396-0948

Tie Dye

Monday, July 11, 4:00 p.m.
A limited supply of bandanas will be provided, but participants can bring their own white t-shirts. This indoor program has limited spaces.

An Ocean of Possibilities!

Thursday, July 14, 2:00 p.m.
Presented by Turtle Dance Music. An Ocean of Possibilities! A Family Music, Dance And Comedy Show features wonderful classic and original children's songs and tales about being under the sea! Groups of 5 or more must register.

Diffusion Art Creations & Mystery Marker Challenge

Wednesday, August 17, 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.
Stop by Port Discovery's table at the Reisterstown Road Branch to enjoy a fun, hands-on activity!

ROLAND PARK

Register for programs at Roland Park by calling 410-396-6099

Together We Are One!

July 1 – August 31
Place sticky notes on the world map to show where your family is from, create your own family flag, and complete a scavenger hunt about Baltimore heritage.

Crankie Contraptions

Monday, July 11, 11:00 a.m.
Coached by FutureMakers. Create a story telling machine with a hand-cranked screen! For rising 1st graders and older. Participants under age 7 encouraged to attend with a caregiver. This program has limited spaces.

GameOn! Fitness Class for Kids

Friday, August 19, 10:30 a.m.
Come prepared to move and have fun! Groups of 5 or more register.

SOUTHEAST ANCHOR LIBRARY

Register for programs at Southeast Anchor by calling 410-396-8548

Bubble Magic

Tuesday, August 9, 11:00 a.m.
Meadow Perry is a Bubble Magician who delights in revealing the beautiful, mysterious and magical world of bubbles! Interactive and entertaining for all ages. Groups of 5 or more must register.

Piñata Making Workshop / Piñatas con las Artesanas

Friday, August 12, 3:00 p.m.
Join the Artesanas, a folkloric group at the Creative Alliance, to learn how to make a traditional piñata. This program is best for children ages 3+ with the help of an adult. This program has limited spaces.

Blocks Rock! Block Challenge

Saturday, August 13, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
Stop by Port Discovery's table at the Southeast Anchor Library to enjoy a fun, hands-on activity!

WALBROOK

Register for programs at Walbrook by calling 410-396-0936

The Scoop on Ice Cream

Thursdays, July 7, 21, & 28, 3:30 p.m.
Join the Scoop on Ice Cream series and celebrate this favorite summertime treat! Attend one or all sessions.
July 7: storytime and a craft
July 21: games and activities
July 28: ice cream in a bag

Can You Come Out And Play?

Monday, August 1, 4:30 p.m.
Danny Joe and his puppet pals from Danny Joe's Tree House would like to meet you for a play date. Groups of 5 or more must register.

Community Summer Celebration

Saturday, August 13, 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Join us for outdoor games and crafts for all ages. We will have cornhole, spin art, sidewalk chalk, and more!

WASHINGTON VILLAGE

Register for programs at Washington Village by calling 410-396-1099

Builder's Club

Tuesdays, July 5 – August 30
Come and create with a different building material each week. Materials will be available all day, with a Builder's Challenge taking place at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Wildflower Seedpod Making Workshop

Wednesday, July 27, 1:00 p.m.
Presented by Blue Water Baltimore. Make native wildflower seedpods and learn about the role native plants play in ecosystem restoration and the urban water cycle. Bring the seedpods home or donate them to Blue Water Baltimore for their outreach needs. Groups of 5 or more must register.

Can You Come Out And Play?

Saturday, August 6, 3:00 p.m.
Danny Joe and his puppet pals from Danny Joe's Tree House would like to meet you for a play date. This program has limited spaces.

WAVERLY

Register for programs at Waverly by calling 410-396-6053

Explore with Wildlife Adventures

Monday, August 8, 2:00 p.m.
Join Wildlife Adventures to learn about animals and how to be a friend to animals and the world around us. Groups of 5 or more must register.

Prepare with Pedro the Penguin

Wednesday, August 17, 11:00 a.m.
A preparedness program by the American Red Cross that follows Pedro the Penguin and his friends as they learn how to be prepared and take action during an emergency.

The Pillowcase Preparedness Project

Wednesday, August 17, 1:00 p.m.
Presented by the American Red Cross, this program covers local hazards, coping skills and personal and family preparedness.

VIRTUAL

123 Andrés: Explore Animals / Explora los Animales

Tuesday, August 16, 6:00 p.m.
This experience combines songs, stories, and games in Spanish and English that revolve around animals.

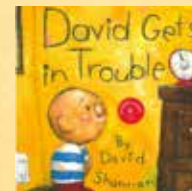
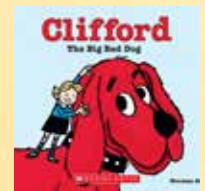
Sail into Summer Stories

Monday, August 29, 6:00 p.m.
Sail into summertime fun with stories in both Spanish and English by Storyteller Carrie Sue Ayvar.

BOOKS FOR KIDS

Here are just a few of the books you can get with your Summer Break Kit.

AGES 0 – 5



AGES 6 – 12



TEEN SUMMER BREAK

Debate Board

July 1 – August 31 | Edmondson Ave.
Each week a new topic will be posted on the Debate board in the Teen Department. Tell us if you agree or disagree and why. Have a hot topic for the debate board? Submit it in the branch's suggestion box!

Take & Make: Anime Club Kits

July 1 – August 13 | Forest Park
Grab one of our Anime Club kits filled with crafts, games, recipes, and other activities inspired by our favorite animes! Every month has a different theme, so check in with the Forest Park Branch to find out more about each month's theme.

Forest Park Anime Club

Wednesdays, July 6 & August 3, 3:30 p.m.
Forest Park
Love Anime? Join the Forest Park Anime Club as we watch, craft, and play games based on new and favorite animes.

DIY Cloud Lanterns

Wednesday, July 6, 1:00 p.m. | Edmondson Ave.
Create your own cloud lantern. Teens who attend can use this activity towards their Summer Break Baltimore scratch card.

Take & Make: Phys-kits

July 2 – August 18 | Forest Park
Physics is more than a heavy word, it is the way we interact with the world. Luckily, the world is full of wonder for us to explore! Join us as we experiment with some of these concepts and create different crafts.

Mini-Terrariums

Monday, July 11, 2:00 p.m. | Forest Park
Make tiny Terrariums that will grow an herb perfect for your next slice of pizza! Not to mention, it will look fabulous. All materials will be provided. All we need is you! If you can't make it, we will have the left over supplies available as a Take & Make while supplies last.

Take & Make: Mathema-kits

July 15 – August 30 | Forest Park
Do you want to prove you know your fractions, decimals, and equations to your teachers? Want to have a little fun doing it? Mathema-kits are full of games and activities to boost these skills.

Cardboard Sculptures

Saturday, July 23, 1:00 p.m. | Hamilton
Come together with friends to create a sculpture installation for the Teen Zone at the Hamilton Branch!

Sun-Print T-Shirts

Saturday, August 27, 1:00 p.m. | Hamilton
Design and create your own graphic T's using sun-bleaching!

Spring & Summer Book Bingo

July 1 – 29 | Walbrook
Challenge your reading comfort zone with the help of a Book Bingo card. Complete a row on the bingo card to win a prize. Cards must be picked up and returned to the Walbrook branch to receive a prize. There are two Bingo cards available for two chances to win a prize. Combine this activity with your Summer Break Baltimore scratch cards for double the prize opportunities!

Escape Room: The Lost Mummy

Thursday, July 14, 4:30 p.m. | Walbrook
Join your fellow teens to solve an Egyptian themed escape room.

Rubber Band Loom Jewelry

Monday, July 18, 2:30 p.m.
Washington Village
Teens can make a bracelet, ring, anklet, or necklace out of small, colorful rubber bands and charms.

Style My Stuff: Washi School Supplies

Thursday, August 25, 3:30 p.m.
Washington Village
Getting ready for Back to School? Come customize school supplies with Washi Tape. We will have folders, pencils, notebooks, and more! You can even bring your own supplies to style.

Voices of Carmen

Monday, July 18, 1:00 p.m. | Patterson Park
Monday, July 25, 4:00 p.m. | Walbrook
Presented by Dance & Bmore. Voices of Carmen is a musical adaptation of the opera Carmen. Set in a high school, the musical brings a contemporary spin to this iconic story that is filled with fresh, yet familiar, renditions of George Bizet's compositions, as well as a dozen original songs performed in the styles of Pop, Hip Hop, and R&B. Enjoy excerpts from this vibrantly staged and choreographed piece featuring Baltimore youth that examines how we deescalate conflicts and manage our social emotional health.



DESIGN YOUR FUTURE: TEEN SUMMER @ THE PRATT

Now – August 5
Monday – Friday, 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Central Library, Earl Teen Center

Explore different careers, learn life and job skills, and participate in creative workshops with DewMore Baltimore, B360, Optimal Wellness Community, author R. Eric Thomas, Teri Henderson, Sadiq Ali, Laura Wexler (Stoop Storytelling), Jazmine Kionna Shoe Design, hair stylist Marisol Hidalgo, artists Ky Vassor, Boutique Life, Janelle Legge, and Anthony Thomas from Epic Games, and more. Plus, a week-long photography workshop with Shan Wallace! Stipends, raffle prizes, and snacks are available. Space limited and available depending on session.

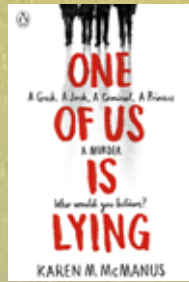
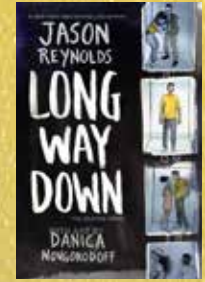
Contact the Teen Center for the full schedule and to sign up at teen@prattlibrary.org!

“The library is always clean and pleasant to browse, the staff is helpful, and selection is great.”

— Hilary G.

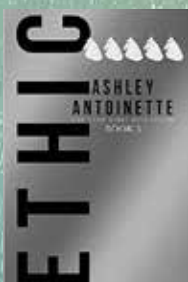
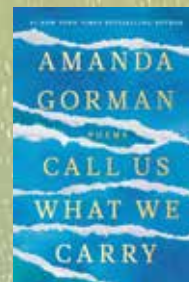
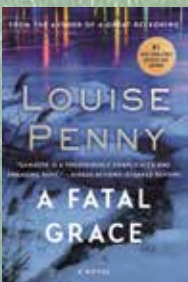
BOOKS FOR TEENS

Here are just a few of the books you can get with your Summer Break Kit.



BOOKS FOR ADULTS

Here are just a few of the books you can get with your Summer Break Kit.



BALTIMORE HOMECOMING



IN THE OCEAN, IN THE MUSEUM, IN YOUR IMAGINATION!

Did you know the Pratt Library partners with other Baltimore cultural institutions to create incredible experiences and opportunities for our city's children?

Hosted in partnership with the National Aquarium, the Read to Reef Book Club returned for its Spring season this past March. Since the program's inception in 2016, more than 13,000 Baltimore-area students have read over 66,000 books, enabling them to visit the Aquarium free of charge with their families. This season, more than 3,500 participants picked up their Read to Reef bookmarks from all Pratt Library locations! Families also joined us virtually for a special Read to Reef edition of Kids Writers LIVE! with award-winning children's author Lulu Delacre, who shared her book *Olinguito, From A to Z!*, led participants in a leaf-stamped art activity, and gave us a sneak peek of her upcoming book *Cool Green: Amazing Remarkable Trees*. Participants were delighted by a virtual introduction to the National Aquarium's Brutus the Boa!

In partnership with Port Discovery Children's Museum, the Enoch Pratt Free Library launched a new reading program, Ticket to Discovery Book Club, in May of this year. In its first season, over 2,700 participants picked up their Ticket to Discovery bookmarks from Pratt Library locations! After reading five books that inspire curiosity and creativity, participants have through the end of August 31 to visit Port Discovery Children's Museum and enjoy their special exhibit, *Very Eric Carle: A Very Hungry, Quiet, Lonely, Clumsy, Busy Exhibit*.

COMING HOME TO THE PRATT LIBRARY

The Pratt Library was delighted to be a part of Baltimore Homecoming this year, hosting a tour of the historic Central Library for visiting entrepreneurs and others when they gathered for the three-day, city-wide event in May. Organizers of Baltimore Homecoming — dubbed Amplify 2022 this year — hope the event will serve as a forum through which Baltimore alumni can engage with the local community and be a part of its future.

"We intentionally designed this year's event with opportunities for conversation to help build deep and meaningful connections between alumni and the Baltimore businesses, artists, change makers and leaders who make our city worth investing in," Robbin Lee, executive director of Baltimore Homecoming, said.

Our guests saw firsthand the impact the Pratt Library has on the community through our digital equity and workforce development initiatives, as well as the range of resources, programs, and partnerships we offer across the city and state. The group visited the beloved fishpond and Art With a Heart mosaic in the Children's Learning Center, got a sneak peek at the stacks of books (more than 2 million!) that literally hold up the building, and learned about the history of Enoch Pratt and his vision for a library where people of all "races, ages, and socioeconomic classes mingled and people could educate themselves without cost." They also had the chance to see some cool selections including a signed first edition of *The Great Gatsby* and handwritten rap lyrics by Tupac Shakur from the Pratt's Special Collections.

Thank you to Baltimore Homecoming for selecting the Pratt Library as a site, and for amplifying our city! **If you'd like to support the work of the Pratt Library, please consider making a gift at prattlibrary.org/give.**

SPOTLIGHT ON PENNSYLVANIA AVE. BRANCH



ADULTS

Lawyer in the Library

Tuesdays, July 5 & 19, 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.
Maryland Legal Aid attorneys, paralegals, law students, and volunteer attorneys will spend a couple of hours at the Pennsylvania Avenue branch providing brief, one-on-one advice for a variety of civil legal issues.

Introduction to Microsoft Office 2019 and Computer Basics

Mondays, July 11 – 25, 2:00 p.m.
Wednesdays, July 13 – 27, 2:00 p.m.
Mondays, August 15 – 29, 2:00 p.m.
Wednesdays, August 17 – 31, 2:00 p.m.
In this 3-week series, 5 topics will be discussed: ABCs of the PC, Skill Builders' Workshops, Introduction to Computers and Windows, Introduction to Word 2019: Part 1 and 2, and Introduction to Gmail. Participants will receive a certificate. Class Prerequisite Recommendation: None.

Writing an Effective Resume in Word 2019

Wednesday, July 13, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Students will use Microsoft Word 2019 to create a resume. Students will learn: the three types of resumes formats; the ideal resume style to use; and the purpose of a resume. Filtering software will be discussed. Class Prerequisite Recommendation: Introduction to Microsoft Word 2016 or regular user of Word.

Creating a Budget in Excel 2019

Wednesday, July 20, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Students will practice the skills introduced in Introduction to Excel 2016 class. Participants

will create a budget containing labels, formulas, constants, and a chart. Class Prerequisite Recommendation: Introduction to Excel 2010 or 2016

Painting at Penn

Saturdays, July 23 & August 13, 2:00 p.m.
A local artist will lead you step-by-step as you create your very own masterpiece. All paint supplies will be provided by the library. This program has limited spaces.

TEENS

Teen Summit

Thursday, July 7, 4:00 p.m.
Get together and have a conversation about what is going on in their world.

Oh, The Places You'll Go!

Thursday, August 11, 4:00 p.m.
Make a vision board on traveling to your dream destination in the future.

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Rocket Windsock

Friday, July 1, 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.
Celebrate Independence Day by creating your own rocket windsock.

Crafty Wednesday

Wednesdays, July 6 – August 31, 3:00 p.m.
Make a different craft every Wednesday at the Pennsylvania Avenue Branch!

Stories & Art

Thursdays, July 7 – August 25, 1:30 p.m.
Stories, movement, and our most fun activities! A craft will be included.

Family Storytime

Thursdays, July 7 – August 25, 10:30 a.m.
Stories, movement, songs, and our most fun activities. Come ready to move, laugh, and learn together. A craft will follow storytime. For families with children ages 2 – 5. All abilities welcome.

Four Seasons with Jamaal "Mr. Root" Collier

Thursday, July 21, 6:00 p.m.
In this Family Involvement Workshop, Mr. Root will engage and educate students through rhyming/rapping and vocal percussion/beatboxing as he explores the four seasons with words, sounds, movement, and music!

GameOn! Fitness Class for Kids

Thursday, July 28, 10:30 a.m.
GameOn! Fitness is all about family, fun, and fitness. Come prepared to move and have fun! Groups of 5 or more must call 410-396-0399 to register.

Penn-A-Palooza

Saturday, July 30, 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Follow us down the rabbit hole into an adventure! Learn about our community and local resources during this resource fair and fun day. Come dressed up as a character from Alice in Wonderland and win a special prize!

Back to School Celebration

Saturday, August 13, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Get ready for the new school year with fun physics-themed activities!

FILMS @ THE PRATT

ADULTS

Movie: *The Meg*

Saturday, July 23, 2:00 p.m.

Southeast Anchor Library

They'll need a bigger boat...MUCH bigger. A group of scientists exploring the Mariana Trench encounter the largest marine predator that has ever existed — the Megalodon. 2018 | PG 13 | 1 hr 54 min.

Hampden History: *Rocket to Venus*

Thursday, July 28, 6:30 p.m. | Hampden

Rocket To Venus follows Hampden resident and restaurant owner Geoff Danek and his business partner Brian "Buck" Carey on a cross-county road trip retracing the steps of Robert Condit, the "mathematical genius" who built a rocket in Geoff's small garage nearly a century ago. Join us for a teaser screening of the documentary, followed by a Q&A with the film team to learn more about this fun piece of Hampden history.



Movie: *Death on the Nile*

Thursday, August 18, 5:30 p.m. | Waverly

While vacationing in Egypt, detective Hercule Poirot finds himself in the thick of a love triangle that goes awry. However, when a wealthy young woman winds up dead, it is up to Poirot to track down the killer before he or she can claim a new victim.

2022 | PG 13 | 2 hr 7 min.

Movie: *The Mist*

Saturday, August 20, 12:00 p.m. | Herring Run

Survivors are trapped in a grocery store after a strange mist wipes out much of their town. In order to get out of the dire situation alive, they are forced to fend off a wave of deadly creatures. 2007 | R | 2 hr 6 min.

Movie: *Underwater*

Saturday, August 27, 2:00 p.m.

Southeast Anchor Library

An unknown, massive earthquake happens in a drilling station in the bottom of the Mariana Trench. A scientific crew must find their way across the ocean floor into another station under the threats of deep pressure, dark water, dangerous deep-sea creatures, and a constant lack of oxygen. 2020 | PG 13 | 1 hr 35 min.

TEENS

Midday Matinee for Teens

Tuesday, July 5, 1:00 p.m. | Patterson Park

Enjoy an afternoon Matinee at the Patterson Park Branch. An afternoon of fun for teens.



Movie: *Spider-Man: No Way Home*

Thursday, July 21, 5:00 p.m. | Waverly

Peter Parker is now unmasked, his identity as Spider-Man known to the world. In a way, he likes it that his girl MJ knows his true identity, the same with his best friend Ned and Aunt May. However, problems follow this reveal. Thus, Peter approaches Doctor Strange to help him resolve the situation by performing a specific time-altering ritual. But that also bears some unintended and problematic consequences. 2021 | PG 13 | 2 hr 30 min.

Movie: *West Side Story*

Saturday, July 23, 12:00 p.m. | Herring Run

An adaptation of the 1957 musical West Side Story explores forbidden love and the rivalry between the Jets and the Sharks, two teenage street gangs of different ethnic backgrounds. 2021 | PG 13 | 2 hr 36 min.

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Movie: *Teen Titans Go! To The Movies*

Saturday, July 9, 1:00 p.m. | Cherry Hill

This action-packed adventure follows Robin as he tries to go from being a sidekick to a star! 2018 | PG | 1 hr 24 min.

Movie: *A Goofy Movie*

Friday, July 22, 3:00 p.m.

Southeast Anchor Library

When Max makes a preposterous promise to a girl he has a crush on, his chances to fulfill it seem hopeless when he is dragged onto a cross-country trip with his embarrassing father, Goofy. 1995 | G | 1 hr 18 min.

Saturday Family Matinee: *Cinderella*

Saturday, July 30, 3:00 p.m.

Central Library, Wheeler Auditorium

A movie-themed craft is available from 2:30 – 3:00 p.m. This program is open to all children ages birth – 12 and their adults. Space is limited for this indoor program, so please arrive early in order to ensure a spot.

About the film: Although mistreated by her cruel stepmother and stepsisters, Cinderella is able to attend the royal ball through the help of a fairy godmother. 1997 | G | 1 hr 28 min.

Antarctica in August: *Penguins*

Saturday, August 13, 1:00 p.m. | Cherry Hill

The documentary follows Steve the Adelle penguin as he starts a family and has to learn to protect them from harsh snow and big foes. 2019 | G | 1 hr 16 min.

Saturday Family Matinee: *Hook*

Saturday, August 20, 3:00 p.m.

Central Library, Children's Department

A movie-themed craft is available from 2:30 – 3:00 p.m. This program is open to all children ages birth – 12 and their adults. Space is limited for this indoor program, so please arrive early in order to ensure a spot.

About the film: When Captain James Hook kidnaps his children, an adult Peter Pan must return to Neverland and reclaim his youthful spirit in order to challenge his old enemy. 1991 | PG | 2 hr 22 min.

Movie: *An Extremely Goofy Movie*

Thursday, August 25, 3:30 p.m.

Southeast Anchor Library

Max goes to college, but to his embarrassment his father goes to his son's campus to finish his degree as well. 2000 | G | 1 hr 26 min.

kanopy

LIBRARY TECH: KANOPY

Wednesday, July 13, 11:30 a.m.

Keswick Wise & Well Center for Healthy Living & Virtual

Learn how to use Kanopy to enjoy critically acclaimed movies, inspiring documentaries, award-winning foreign films, and more in this hybrid how-to session.

To register, call the Wise & Well Center for Healthy living at 410-662-4363 or visit choosekeswick.org/events/list. Presented in partnership with Keswick Wise & Well Center for Healthy Living.

TIPS TO PREVENT SUMMER SLIDE



CONCERNED ABOUT SUMMER LEARNING LOSS?

The Pratt Library can help your students make the grade all summer long with free online resources you can access with the click of a button. All you need is your Pratt Library card!

Parent Tip: For many students, focusing on maintaining reading skills and building vocabulary over the summer season helps retain knowledge and reduces learning loss.

FOR PRE-READERS AND EARLY READERS:

Bookflix

Spend screen time together by pairing an animated story with a nonfiction eBook for a truly unique interactive reading experience.

Watch and Learn Libraries

Enjoy videos for young learners in grades PreK – 3rd. Find 230+ videos with real-world footage to build science, social studies, and social-emotional knowledge.

Parent Tip: Videos help build vocabulary and engagement with books and reading. Watch along and ask questions about the content.

FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLERS:

Overdrive and **Hoopla** provide a wide range of choices for both eBooks and eAudiobooks. Both have Kids pages to help guide your choices.

Parent Tip: Audiobooks count as reading. They build vocabulary and reading comprehension skills. Pairing the audio with a copy of the print book can help reluctant readers.

FOR YOUNG ADULTS

Check our **Teens page** (prattlibrary.org/teens) for the incredible variety of programs, resources, and more. The summer can also be an opportunity to discover new interests and/or build skills for next year's school challenges.

Mango Languages

Learn up to 71 languages online including Spanish, French, Arabic, and more. Mango also offers English lessons in 17 languages. Do it at your own pace online or on your phone.

Learning Express Library

Start cramming now for the SATs with this self-paced practice website to help with standardized testing. Services cover SAT, PSAT, AP subject exams, and more.

FOR ADULTS

Gale Courses and **Udemy** provide a full schedule of online classes to help with professional development, skill building, and more. Some classes can even be accepted for credit at some Maryland universities.



MIDDLE SCHOOL STEM PROGRAMS

Thursdays, July 7 – 28, 12:30 p.m.
Cherry Hill, Pennsylvania Ave., Hamilton & Southeast Anchor

Are you a tween interested in anything STEM-related? Join us this summer for a programming series supported by the Urban Libraries Council (ULC) to dive into some introductory STEM concepts to include coding and programming, wiring, robotics, and more! The technology and instruction will be provided, so all you have to do is show up!

The Pratt was one of approximately 15 library systems nationwide selected by the ULC to participate in a special 2022 cohort titled Building Equity: Amplify Summer Learning. The goal of this cohort is to provide access to quality STEM learning opportunities during the summer months, particularly for historically excluded middle school youth.

This program is made possible by the Urban Libraries Council with support from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.



URBAN
LIBRARIES
COUNCIL



INSTITUTE of
Museum and Library
SERVICES

HEALTH & WELLNESS

ADULTS

Zumba

Saturdays, July 2 – August 27, 10:30 a.m.
Southeast Anchor Library
Dance your way to fitness in these free adult Zumba classes. The fitness program consists of short-dance and aerobic-exercise routines performed to popular salsa, hip hop, and Latin-American music.

Tai Chi at Northwood Branch

Mondays, July 11 – August 29, 10:30 a.m.
Northwood
Join us for an hour-long tai chi session.



Yoga and Breathing for Beginners

Mondays, July 11 – August 29, 12:00 p.m.
Hamilton
Yoga is a type of exercise that uses different poses to improve energy, bring flexibility to the joints, and reduce the stress in the body. Breathing exercises help strengthen the lungs, heart, and diaphragm, and help get more oxygen throughout the body.

Virtual Yoga for Everyone with Civonna

Mondays, July 11 – August 29, 6:00 p.m.
Virtual
Registration not required, but encouraged. Join BYFree instructor Civonna for virtual deep breathing, relaxation, basic yoga poses, and stretching. These mixed-level classes are open to those brand new to yoga. Wear comfortable clothes that allow a full range of motion and don't forget to put down your yoga mat.



Narcan Training

Saturday, July 16, 1:30 p.m. | Walbrook
Concerned about the opioid epidemic? Want to know how you can help? Join North Ellamont Community Organizing and the Walbrook Branch to learn how to use Narcan, the life-saving antidote medication — available without a prescription — to save a life. Presented by certified peer recovery specialists from Maryland Peer Advisory Council.

Discussing Our Mental Health in Uncertain Times

Tuesday, August 2, 3:00 p.m. | Virtual
Join the Baltimore affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness as well as the Pratt Library for a conversation about mental health and wellness, focused on their personal stories. We will talk about our own mental health journeys and how we've taken care of ourselves and others. NAMI Metropolitan Baltimore provides free mental health education, support, and advocacy to individuals living with mental health conditions and their families. NAMI is the nation's largest grassroots mental health organization, and serves community members in Baltimore City and Baltimore County.

Mocktail Hour

Thursday, August 11, 6:00 p.m.
Reisterstown Rd.
From the classics to creative concoctions, learn how to craft your own non-alcoholic mocktails and provide creative beverage alternatives this summer, presented by Stacie Bostic. All supplies are provided by the Library. Light refreshments will be served. Registration is required, please call 410-396-0948.

Let's Get Moving!

Saturday, August 20, 2:00 p.m. | Forest Park
Play motion games that encourage movement and interaction. A video game system with motion detection will be used, along with fun and easy sports games.

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Storytime for the Heart

Saturdays, July 9 & August 13, 10:30 a.m.
Central Library
Explore big feelings and quiet moments in this sensory storytime centered on exploring emotions and life events, family bonding, and connections between mind, body, and community. This indoor program has limited spaces and pre-registration is recommended. To register, please call 410-396-5402. Walk-ins are also accepted until the program reaches maximum capacity.



Superhero Academy Obstacle Course

Saturday, July 23, 11:00 a.m. | Canton
Do you have what it takes to be a superhero? Practice your super skills as you wiggle through tunnels, cross over hot lava, and leap over tall buildings. Costumes encouraged!

"We really appreciate having access to so many resources!"

— Julie B.

PRATT CONTEMPORARIES BLACK & WHITE PARTY

On Saturday, May 7, the Pratt Contemporaries hosted the Black & White Party for the first time in two years! The evening celebrated Baltimore's deep literary legacy and welcomed more than 500 guests. Thanks to our many members, sponsors, and partners, the Contemporaries raised more than \$250,000 to support the Library's free programs and services this year.





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Baltimore

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