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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.
TABLE OF CONTENTS

Letter from the CEO  
Digital Resources  
   Adults, Teens, & Families
What We’ve Been Up To 6
Year of the Woman 8
Hampden Renovation 12
Summer Challenge  
   Adults, Teens, & Families 13

NEED JOB HELP OR SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE?

Get one-on-one assistance from a workforce librarian by emailing gojobs@prattlibrary.org. Small business owners that need help can email bc@prattlibrary.org.
As I write this we are in a very uncertain time in history. This spring we made the heartbreaking decision to close our library locations to protect both our customers and staff during the COVID-19 outbreak. As library professionals during troubling times it’s our instinct to want to bring the community together. This time the best way for us to come together as a city was for everyone to stay apart. I’m so proud of library staff who stepped up immediately to build upon our virtual community to bring the library into so many people’s homes.

We beefed up resources in the Pratt eLibrary to serve the thousands of customers who have signed up for digital library cards. Teen Center staff took home the library’s 3D printers to help our partner Open Works Baltimore create personal protective gear for healthcare workers. Our Programming staff launched a Spring Reading program, virtual storytimes, and regular online events within days. Our popular Writers LIVE! author talks were converted to

Writers CRIBS! virtual author talks and house tours. Reference librarians continued to take your phone calls, emails, and conduct live online chats all from their homes. Workforce librarians quickly created Unemployment and Small Business Resources Guides and provided one-on-one email assistance to assist those facing financial hardships. Library leaders have partnered with Baltimore City Public Schools to help bridge the digital divide for students.

This is just a small sampling of all the things Pratt staff are doing. I can’t wait to welcome everyone back in our doors. But during this time, I want to assure you that when we say the Pratt Library is always here for Baltimore, we mean it. And we will keep finding innovative ways to step up for our city no matter what.

Heidi Daniel
President & Chief Executive Officer

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Digital Maryland Collections
Digital Maryland provides free online access to digital versions of rare and unique materials, including historical maps, photographs, reports, books, manuscripts, artwork, and other media.

For Children & Families

BookFlix
A family-friendly reading program that offers children and their caregivers a productive and meaningful way to spend screen time together. BookFlix thematically pairs animated stories with a nonfiction ebook for a truly unique interactive reading experience.

BookFlix includes:
- 140 fiction/nonfiction thematic pairs on early learning concepts
- 38 pairs are available in Spanish
- Read aloud with word highlighting to strengthen beginning reading skills
- Learning games to build vocabulary and early literacy skills
- Author and Illustrator profiles

Need help accessing digital services? Check out instructional videos on the Enoch Pratt Free Library YouTube page.
World Almanac For Kids
The World Almanac for Kids is an ideal source for student reports, with extensive articles on animals, countries, and states including printable flags and symbols.

Gale Courses
Gale Courses provide short, topical courses taught by college instructors and other experts in the field, offering a high-quality, high-impact educational experience for all ages.

Gale In Context: Middle School
Created specifically for middle-schoolers! This resource combines the best of Gale's reference content with age-appropriate videos, newspapers, magazines, primary sources, and much more. Students will find outstanding support to complete assignments in core subjects including literature, science, social studies, and history.

Gale In Context: High School
Includes full-text newspapers and periodicals like The Economist, The New York Times, National Geographic, Newsweek, Popular Science, and Smithsonian as well as hundreds of thousands of images, videos, and audio selections that include archival film clips, broadcast videos, BBC News, New York Times video, and NPR.

General ProQuest
General ProQuest contains abstracts from over 1,100 magazines from 1986 to the present. Includes Newsweek, New Yorker, Jet, Rolling Stone, and Science News.

Learning Express Library
(Formerly Learn-a-Test) A source of test preparation materials and interactive practice exams, based on official tests, that will help you improve your scores on academic, civil service, military, and professional licensing and certification exams. Immediate scoring, complete answer explanations, and individualized analysis of your score are provided.

Homeschool Resources

Scholastic Flix Series & Scholastic Teachables
Multimedia databases geared towards educational content that teachers/parents can connect to a specific curriculum.

TumbleBooks, TumbleMath, & Teen Book Cloud
Multimedia databases geared towards educational content that teachers/parents can connect to a specific curriculum.
HARD AT WORK

Just because our buildings have closed doesn’t mean we stop working to serve you. Take a look at some of what we’ve accomplished during the past weeks.

Thousands of people signed up for Pratt Library eCards to access digital resources.

Children’s Librarians launched Virtual Storytimes twice a week.

Digital Equity Coordinator launched a Facebook LIVE Tech Time program to answers people’s technology questions.

Librarians operated reference services from home by live chat, email, and phone.
Workforce librarians created an Unemployment Guide and Small Business Guide to help those who’ve suffered financially. They also provided one-on-one consultations through email.

Pratt staff took home the library’s 3D printers to print personal protective equipment for healthcare workers in partnership with Open Works Baltimore.

GET HELP FROM A LIBRARIAN
Chat live with a librarian at askusnow.info
Call us at 410-396-5430 and leave a voice message with your question. A librarian will call you back.
2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment, which gave the legal right to vote (suffrage) to women. Generations of activists fought for this groundbreaking legislation, and their heroic efforts are crucial to our national story. Suffragists faced harassment, public ridicule, and, at times, physical violence from opponents of women’s equality. Deep divisions arose within the suffrage movement over race, class, goals, and tactics, reflecting a nation with a legacy of racial slavery and gender inequality.

The bold promise of the 19th Amendment fell short in critical aspects following its passage. In a racist backlash, southern states used literacy tests, poll taxes, and other discriminating tactics to disenfranchise African Americans. It has taken decades of civil rights protests and additional legislation to ensure voting rights — and the efforts continue.

This exhibit explores the complex history of the U.S. suffrage movement and the pioneering activists who fought for a just and equitable society, with a special focus on both Maryland and African American suffragists — women who have long been sidelined from the official narrative.

1648 Margaret Brent stands before the Maryland General Assembly asking for the right to vote. Brent argues that as a landowner and executor of the estate of Leonard Calvert, Maryland’s first governor, she has the right to two votes.

1792 British author and philosopher Mary Wollstonecraft publishes A Vindication of the Rights of Women, calling for women to be offered the same educational opportunities as men.

1840 Abolitionists Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton meet and lay the groundwork for a movement focused on women acquiring legal rights.

1848 A women’s rights convention is held in Seneca Falls, New York, where Stanton presents the Declaration of Sentiments, outlining women’s legal grievances and an agenda for a women’s rights movement that includes a demand for woman suffrage.
The end of the Civil War brought renewed focus on women’s suffrage. After the National Woman’s Rights Convention of 1866, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony formed the American Equal Rights Association (AERA) that worked to “secure Equal Rights to all American citizens, especially the right of suffrage, irrespective of race, color, or sex.”

Ongoing pickets outside the White House began in early 1917, but when the U.S. entered World War I later that year, the women faced angry, violent mobs. Arrested for trespassing, several women went on hunger strikes. Prison officials beat and force-fed the women. When the public heard about this brutal treatment, public opinion shifted in the suffragists’ favor.

1866 Leaders at the 11th National Women’s Rights Convention in New York form the American Equal Rights Association (AERA) “to secure Equal Rights to all American citizens, especially the right of suffrage, irrespective of race, color or sex.”

1872 Susan B. Anthony and 13 other women attempt to vote in the presidential election. Anthony is arrested and fined $100, which she refuses to pay. Victoria Woodhull becomes the first woman to run for president.

1878 The first woman suffrage amendment is introduced in Congress, but does not pass.

1881 Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Matilda Joslyn Gage publish the first volume of History of Woman Suffrage.

1895 The National Federation of Afro-American Women (NFAAW) is founded under the leadership of Margaret Murray Washington, the first national organization representing African American women.
African American women fought for voting rights from the suffrage movement’s inception. By adding their voices to the political system through the vote, they believed they could demand greater equality not only for themselves, but for all black people. Their race consciousness and emphasis on the collective black struggle are critical parts of the African American suffragists’ story. As they pursued the women’s suffrage agenda in their communities, they emphasized voting rights as a powerful weapon against racial discrimination and a means to uplift the race.

Suffragists such as Ida B. Wells-Barnett and Mary B. Talbert argued that black women’s votes were critical to passing antilynching laws and ending the terrorism of racial violence perpetrated against African Americans, particularly in the South.

African American women’s participation in the suffrage movement continued with the national black women’s club movement. By the end of the 19th century, rival organizations merged to create the National Association of Colored Women (NACW) with Mary Church Terrell as its first president. It was the largest federation of African American women’s clubs in the nation, and its department of women’s suffrage was notable for the duration of the movement.

Nannie Helen Burroughs helped found The Women’s Convention (WC) of the National Baptist Convention, which later became the largest body of African American women in the nation.

**1896** The NFACW merges with other clubs to form the National Association of Colored Women (NACW) with Mary Church Terrell as its first president.

**1904** Dr. Anna Howard Shaw becomes president of the National American Woman’s Suffrage Association.

**1907** Harriet Stanton Blatch, daughter of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, founds the Equality League of Self-Supporting Women (later renamed the Women’s Political Union) to recruit more working-class women to the suffrage movement.

**1910** The Woman’s Political Union (WPU) organizes one of the first large suffrage parades in New York City.

**1913** Alice Paul and Lucy Burns organize a suffrage parade in Washington, D.C., the day before President Woodrow Wilson’s March 4 inauguration. Over 8,000 people attend.

**1915** Carrie Chapman Catt becomes president of NAWSA for the second time. Catt allows NAWSA chapters to deny membership to African American women.
Women’s Suffrage in Maryland

When Margaret Brent stood before the Maryland General Assembly in 1648 asking for the right to vote, she did not know she would later be viewed as the first suffragist in the United States. Brent argued that as a landowner and executor of the estate of Leonard Calvert, Maryland’s first governor, she had the right to two votes. Her request was denied, and women would wait almost 300 years before gaining the right to vote.

Despite its early start, Maryland was one of the last states to ratify the 19th Amendment. It did so on March 29, 1941, and the vote wasn’t certified until 1958. Maryland’s journey was fraught with conflicts between suffrage groups, racism, and strong opposition as it bumped into long-held Maryland traditions.

Early on, some municipalities allowed women to vote in local elections. In 1900, women voted in a special municipal bond election in Annapolis, and in 1908, Anna Baker Maxwell, Jane Clark Howard, and Lillie Deringer Kelley were the first women to vote in a municipal election in Still Pond. The presidential election of 1916 rallied suffragists all over the country. Authorities soon began to harass and arrest the protesting women. Though given the option to pay a fine, most chose jail time to show their commitment to the cause. They were sent to the Occoquan Workhouse in Virginia and faced horrible conditions during their incarceration. Among the arrested were Marylanders Julia Emory and Lucy Branham.

1916 Jeanette Rankin of Montana becomes the first woman elected to the U.S. Congress.

1918 President Wilson addresses the Senate, giving formal support of a federal voting rights amendment. The amendment falls two votes short of passage.

1920 Tennessee becomes the 36th state to ratify the 19th Amendment. Ratification becomes official and all women achieve the vote.

1917 The National Woman’s Party pickets in front of the White House. Suffragists are arrested for obstructing traffic; some are sentenced to months in prison. Alice Paul and others protest by going on hunger strikes and are physically beaten and force-fed.

1919 Wilson convenes a special session of Congress on May 19; the House approves the amendment on May 21 followed by the Senate on June 4.
HAMPDEN BRANCH RENOVATION

A major makeover is underway at the Pratt Hampden Branch, an historic library location that has been serving the Baltimore community since 1900. Improvements include digging out the basement of the building to allow for a new meeting room space and public restrooms. A new ramp system will make the branch handicapped accessible. Upgrades will also be made to the main floor of the library. Construction is expected to be complete by the end of summer, with reopening planned for Fall 2020. In the meantime, Pratt staff are serving the community at the nearby Hampden Family Center located at 1104 W. 36th St.
Summer Challenge 2020

IMAGINE YOUR STORY

Activities, reading challenges, and prizes for all ages.

June 17 – August 12 all Pratt locations
prattlibrary.org/summerchallenge
Register and participate at any Pratt location
or go online at prattlibrary.beanstack.org

CHILDRENS
Complete activities to earn prizes!
Track your progress online using Beanstack or pick up a paper
gameboard with activities at
any branch.
Register and receive a book!
Complete 12 activities to finish
the Summer Challenge and earn
a Summer Challenge t-shirt,
book, and invitation to our end of
summer party!
Go above and beyond:
Complete 48 activities to earn
a $5 giftcard.

TEENS
Choose any activity from the list at
prattlibrary.org/summerchallenge
Write the date and the activity
you participated in. For every 10
completed activities, you win a prize
and are entered in a drawing.
Limit 3 prizes.

Activities Include
• Read a book of your choice.
• Sign up for Hoopla, Overdrive,
or RB Digital and download an
eBook or Audiobook.
• Read a magazine or newspaper.
• Draw a new cover to your
favorite book.
• Write or tell your own story.
See the rest at
prattlibrary.org/summerchallenge!

ADULTS
Tell us what you read between June
17 and August 12!
Use your Beanstack account
(prattlibrary.beanstack.org) or visit
any branch and fill out a paper
entry form for each book read.
For each book read, you’ll be
entered in a raffle to win one of
these prizes:
• A swag bag full of surprises
• A gift certificate to a Baltimore
restaurant or attraction
• A Domino’s Pizza coupon
All readers will also be eligible for a
chance to win the Grand Prize:
A $100 Barnes & Noble Gift Card!
All participants will receive a prize while
supplies last. To claim this prize, please see a
staff member.
For additional fun, submit a story to
our “Tiny Library Story Challenge!”
More information at:
prattlibrary.org/summerchallenge

Prizes available while supplies last. Please note: Details are subject to change depending on public policy surrounding public travel.
Chalk the Walk Baltimore  
Show us your inspirational Sidewalk Chalk creations May 1–10. Tag us on social media so we can spread a little sunshine across our city.

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