



Saxton B. Little Library Adult Summer Programs

Summer Reading Program made possible by a grant from the SBM Charitable Foundation – thank you!

Registration and sign-up required for most programs (unless noted).

Stop in to SBL, call 860-228-0350, or email to save your seat!

Email Cait at corlomoski@columbiactlibrary.org with questions.

JUNE

Mon. 23rd: Summer Reading Begins! – Complete challenges on the adult reading log to enter to win prizes! This year, you get to choose which prizes you'd like to try for, including gift cards to local Columbia and CT businesses!

Tues. 24th @ 6:30pm: Nonfiction Book Group – We're reading *The Talented Mrs. Mandelbaum: The Rise and Fall of an American Organized-Crime Boss* by Margalit Fox. Check out a copy from SBL, and join us! [No sign-up required]

Wed. 25th from 1:30-2:30pm: Beach Book Giveaway – Join Cait and Megan on the beach at Columbia Lake to pick up a FREE book and register for summer programs! (Rain date: 6/26) [No sign-up required]

Thurs. 26th from 11:00am-7:00pm: Color Your Cares Away Day! – Stop in to relax and color velvet art ornaments, posters, and more. Fun for all ages! [No sign-up required]

Mon. 30th @ 1:00 & 3:00pm: Felt Garland Crafting – Use felted balls, wooden beads, paint, yarn, and twine to make your own custom garland to brighten up any space! Two sessions available. Adults and teens 13+

JULY

Tues. 1st @ 6:30pm: A Celebration of Animation: The Greatest Cartoon Characters of All Time – Award-winning author and pop culture historian Marty Gitlin hosts this fun and enlightening presentation for all ages showcasing the greatest cartoon characters of all time, from Looney Tunes to Spongebob Squarepants and everything in between! We'll see funny cartoon snippets of characters from the past century, play trivia, discuss the criteria Marty used to rank the best of the best, and speak about their impact on American pop culture. Adults, teens, kids... this program is fun for everyone!

Fri. 4th & Sat. 5th: Library closed – Happy Fourth of July! *Library open 10am-2pm on Saturdays 7/12/25 through Labor Day.*

Tues. 8th @ 6:30pm: Fiction Book Group – We're reading *Sandwich* by Catherine Newman. Check out a copy from SBL, and join us! [No sign-up required]

Wed. 9th from 1:00-6:00pm: Paint a Book Stand – Get creative painting a wooden book stand, handmade right here in Columbia! These stands are the perfect accessory for cozy reading. Make one for yourself, or as a gift for the book lover in your life – great for all ages!

Thurs. 10th @ 4:00pm & 6:00pm: Shibori Indigo Tie Dye – Learn this ancient Japanese indigo dyeing method from start to finish! We'll provide a choice of pillowcase or tea towel for you to dye; you may bring one other

pre-washed white fabric item to dye (t-shirt, socks, etc.). Two sessions, limited to 12 participants each. Adults and kids ages 5+

Tues. 15th @ 6:30pm: Dry but Still Dirty: A New Kind of Drink mocktail tasting – Want to learn how to make a tasty drink that won't take away from your evening? The world of nonalcoholic drinks is booming! Come learn about it with Frances of Reframe in Willimantic! Learn how to make a few different drinks, loosely inspired by the Mad Men era, and leave with more knowledge about how to make drinks that make you feel good, too.

Wed. 16th @ 5:30pm: Cocktail Culture: Fashion of the Mad Men Era – Cocktail parties in the home have been popular since the 1920s, after the onset of Prohibition. Join fashion historian Karen Antonowicz for a look at cocktail culture fashion as we travel through time. We will focus on silhouettes in clothing from the late 1940s through the 1960s, including men's and women's styles from the popular TV show, *Mad Men*.

Thurs. 17th @ 1:00pm: Walk Through the Wadsworth – Primary, secondary, complimentary. Colors are the building blocks of art. Join a free, docent-led tour of the Wadsworth Atheneum and explore the ways artists have used color across time, culture, and mediums. No transportation provided to Hartford – see staff for details. **@ THE WADSWORTH**

Mon. 21st @ 1:00 & 3:00pm: Alcohol Ink Marbling – Alcohol inks are all the rage in the art world! In this program, you'll make your own vibrant coasters to dress up your table, experimenting with color-mixing, contrast, and color dilution. Note: the ink can stain your clothes, so please dress appropriately! Two sessions available. Adults and teens 13+

Tues. 22nd @ 5:30pm: The Old Yard Cemetery Tour – Join us for a walking tour of The Old Yard, Columbia's Colonial era cemetery, led by local historian Joan Hill. We'll focus on the stone carvers and their work. After the tour, you're invited to join SBL's Nonfiction Book Group (see below). See SBL Staff for parking instructions. In the event of rain, we will pivot to a presentation by Joan at SBL.

Tues. 22nd @ 6:30pm: Nonfiction Book Group – We're reading *Over My Dead Body: Unearthing the Hidden History of America's Cemeteries* by Greg Melville. Check out a copy from SBL, and join us! [No sign-up required – held at the Old Yard Cemetery in Columbia in good weather]

Tues. 29th @ 6:00pm: Bloom into Balance: An Introduction to Flower Essences – Flower essences offer gentle yet profound energetic support, helping to balance emotions and deepen our connection to nature. Join Nora Toomey, Clinical Herbalist of True Bloom, for an exploration of these subtle botanical remedies. In this one-hour class, we will meet in the community garden at Szegda Farm and dive into the history and uses of flower essences; learn how to create them; and discover ways to incorporate their healing vibrations into daily life. Whether you're new to flower essences or looking to deepen your practice, this class will leave you feeling inspired to work with the wisdom of flowers! [held in the community garden at 42 Szegda Road – rain location at SBL]

AUGUST

Fri. 1st – Mon. 4th: Jigsaw Puzzle Swap – Bring your gently-used puzzles (no pieces missing, please!) and swap them out for something new to you! No registration required. See SBL Staff for full Puzzle Swap hours.

Sat. 2nd @ 11:00am & 2:00pm: Jigsaw Puzzle Race – Now twice the fun, with TWO different races to allow twice the number of participants! Bring your own team of up to six people, or join up with others at this competition. All teams will be provided with the same 500-piece jigsaw puzzle. The first team to finish in each race wins! Adults, teens, and children age 10+ can compete. Special thanks to Gallison and Ravensburger for providing the puzzles! **@ YEOMANS HALL**

Tues. 5th @ 5:30pm: Painting: Impressionism 101 – Learn how to paint in the style of the Lyme Art Colony artists who lived and worked at Miss Florence's Boarding House (now the Florence Griswold Museum) in this two-hour class, led by an instruction from the Florence Griswold. All supplies provided. Adults and teens 13+

Fri. 8th: Summer Reading officially ends today! – Return your reading log to the Library between August 9th and August 23rd to be entered in our prize drawing! You will be contacted at the phone number you provide on the front of the log if you win one of our prizes.