8 CHILDREN’S BOOK FESTIVAL

Discover the magic at our Children’s Book Festival on June 22 & 29! Enjoy stories, activities, and fun for kids of all ages.

SPECIAL EDITION

10 SUMMER AT THE LIBRARY

ONE BOOK ONE READ

Unpacking The Measure by Nikki Erlick. Join us for a season of community discussions, book clubs, and promoting literacy together.
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Children’s Book Festival

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Library Volunteers Build Community

National Volunteer Week recognized 1,922 library volunteers who donated 54,247 hours, valued at $1,609,508.49 in 2023.

Shoot your Shot: Display your work at Central

Join our free photography workshop at Central Library to learn advanced photo techniques. Participate in three sessions for a chance to showcase your work in an August exhibit. Capture your chance to shine!

Celebrate Juneteenth

As we approach Juneteenth, FulcoLibrary invites you to join us in celebrating this significant day in American history.
A great thing to look forward to is summertime. Please know the wish is that Summer 2024 will bring lazy days to you, your family and friends. Those should be days spent doing whatever you find fun and fulfilling. I think reading great books and sitting alongside a Bernese Mountain dog I’d like to own would be great fun. However, I will most likely wait awhile on the dog; but surely get the books and begin my reading journey.

The Library System plans to delight and inspire you along the way with the 2024 Summer Reading Program (SRP) theme, “Adventure Begins at the Library.” Flip through this issue of Library Access and get familiar with the programs, events, storytimes, and crafts that await you. The Children’s Book Festival will bring authors for a visit to meet the kids at two special events on June 22nd and on June 29th as well as SRP kickoffs throughout the Library System. The SRP runs June 1st to August 1st. Those programs are generously funded by the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library Foundation.

Also, as you read through this issue, look for the information on Career Online High School. Find out where Outreach Services staff will have the bookmobile parked and packed with books for you to checkout. If you don’t have one, ask about how to get a library card. Read about the assistance provided by the Library’s Social Services staff.

Finally, find out what’s on the horizon with the upcoming One Book, One Read event on August 10th and the preparation to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Auburn Avenue Research Library on African American Culture and History. A lot will be going on at the Library and you need to be a part of it. Library Access can get you there and the adventure will be worth it!
My love for books and reading began in my local library as a child. I developed a lifelong passion for education and in my current role at WABE, I build community partnerships that connect people. I recently led the Read Across Atlanta program on March 16th, which got people across Atlanta reading through local bookstores and library partners. It was such a wonderful moment in my career, and it raised awareness of literacy, which is so important. And it was fun!

Why do you serve on the Atlanta–Fulton Public Library Foundation Board of Directors?

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OUTREACH SERVICES

Adventure with the Library

Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities Community Fair
Join Commissioner Bridget Thorne and the Fulton County BHDD for food, fun, and entertainment. Plus, grab free COVID vaccinations, explore behavioral health and various Fulton County services, and discover what our partners have to offer.
4700 Northpoint Parkway, Alpharetta, GA 30022

Back to School Community Fair
Join the Fulton County DFCS for a Back to School Community Health Fair! Enjoy free health screenings, resources, and fun activities for the whole family. Prepare for the new school year with community support and essential services.
515 Fairburn Road SW Atlanta, GA 30331

NEW ON LIBRARY SHELVES

Borrowed Hills by Scott Preston
In the rugged, rural landscape of northwest England, two sheep farmers lose their flocks and decide to reverse their fortunes by stealing sheep from a rich farm in the south.

The Death of Truth by Steven Brill
The cofounder of a company that tracks online misinformation from Silicon Valley to Madison Avenue to Moscow to Washington lays out a series of provocative but realistic solutions to restore the trust necessary to bring us together.

A Gentleman from Japan by Thomas Lockley
An incredible sea story that turns the Age of Exploration on its head, following the first Japanese man to set foot on North America and England.

Escape Velocity by Victor Manibo
A decades-old murder looms over the glamorous clientele of a high-end space hotel . . . while an unforeseen threat percolates in the service corridors. The guests are about to experience the hospitality they deserve.

Godwin by Joseph O’Neill
A technical writer living in Pittsburgh with his young family is pulled into a scheme with his half-brother to recruit a soccer phenom in Africa to play for his team in the United Kingdom in the new novel by the author of Neverland.
2024 Zoo Atlanta Family Day

Join us at the Zoo! Stop by the Fulton County Library Outreach table on Saturday, August 10th, from 9:30AM to 1:30PM. City of Atlanta and Fulton County residents or employees can enjoy free admission during Family Day at the Zoo!

800 Cherokee Avenue SE, Atlanta, GA 30315

As the weather begins to change and the sun begins to shine, this allows for more opportunities for upcoming resource fairs and community events. In April, our Social Services team worked alongside our community partner, Atlanta Downtown Improvement District (ADID) and planned and hosted a Community Resource Fair. That fair provided the community with free haircuts, mental health assessments, free STD and HIV testing, domestic violence awareness, and free showers and hygiene kits and clothing.

Another spring event was through Helping Mama's which is one of the largest baby supply banks in Georgia. They hosted their outreach event in May at the Villages at Carver Family YMCA. Helping Mama's provides critical items like diapers, wipes, car seats, cribs, pack and plays and more for children birth to age 12. That event helped to raise awareness of the lack of resources available to those families that are less fortunate in Georgia and Helping Mamas is bridging that gap.

Library branches host a variety of community events, including health resource fairs, financial seminars, family fun days, computer classes for senior citizens, yoga and so much more. Whether it's an indoor or outdoor event, resource fairs are a great way to get to know your community and discover what your local library has to offer. As the sun begins to shine, allow yourself a few minutes to stop, breathe, and just enjoy the view.

SUMMER READS + GOOD DEEDS

A Season of Community Care and Literacy

The Secret Keeper of Main Street by Trisha R. Thomas
Bailey Dowery, a Black dressmaker in 1950s Oklahoma, with a gift of “second sight,” reluctantly reveals the true loves and intentions of her socialite clients, making her a silent witness to a shocking crime.

The Wren in the Holly Library by K.A. Linde
A Darker Shade of Magic meets Six of Crows, in this alternate day New York where monsters live among humankind.

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CHILDREN’S BOOK FESTIVAL

Author Visits Games Activities And more!
Join us for a whimsical adventure at the Children’s Book Festival, where imagination knows no bounds!

Meet beloved authors Andy Runton, Nicole D. Collier, Karen Strong, Gina Gallois and others, as they enchant young minds with tales of wonder, whimsy, and magic.

Games, face painting, and crafts round out the events at both the Alpharetta Library and the Gladys S. Dennard Library at South Fulton. Don’t miss out on this opportunity to spark a love of reading and learning in your little ones! Mark your calendar for June 22 and June 29, and let the adventures in reading begin.

Discover Your Adventure at fulcolibrary.org/cbf
ADVENTURE BEGINS AT YOUR LIBRARY
Track Your READING with Beanstack

1. How do I sign-up?
   - Visit our Beanstack website at fultoncounty.beanstack.org or scan the QR code below!
   - Click on “Register an Individual or Family” and fill in your info!

2. Already have Beanstack from last year or past reading challenges?
   - You can log into your account and enroll in the 2024 Summer Reading challenge today!

3. Are there Beanstack apps?
   - Yes! Download the Beanstack app from the Google Play store or the Apple store to track on the go!

SAMIRA’S WORST BEST SUMMER
by Nina Hamza
When her house being TP’d leads her to meet new girl Alice, Samira finds her summer full of clue-finding hunts, garage band practices and getting to know her neighbors like never before, but when her ex-best friend attempts to steal Alice away, she must stand up for her new pal.

SUMMER IS FOR COUSINS
by Rajani LaRocca
Ravi can’t wait to spend summer vacation at the lake house with his family—especially his cousins! Summer vacation is for days at the beach, long hikes, paddleboarding, and—of course—ice cream.

HEATWAVE
by Lauren Redniss
Sweltering. Sweating. It’s 100 degrees… even in the shade. Games are canceled, temperatures reach record highs. The sun is hot. Finally, a wind picks up. One rain drop. Then another. A downpour. The sun sets and the moon rises, Relief at last.

SUMMER READING AT FULCOLIBRARY
Summer reading begins on June 1, and all ages are invited to participate in our exciting program! Summer reading promotes academic growth, instills a love of reading, and helps students prepare for the upcoming school year.

For adults, summer reading and reading in general promotes lifelong learning, sparks creativity, and reduces stress. For seniors, reading helps maintain cognitive ability and defends against cognitive decline.

We have summer reading events happening all summer long, with fun and educational activities for kids. Participants who read and log their books on Beanstack can win exciting prizes! Our program encourages children to keep their minds active and engaged during the summer months, preventing the “summer slide” and ensuring they are ready for the next academic year.

Parents and guardians, register yourself and your children for our summer reading program, join in the fun, and start a summer of learning and adventure today!

LIBRARY ACCESS 11
A SUMMER FOR KIDS

MOVIE ADVENTURES AT THE LIBRARY

Adamsville-Collier | June 6 | 11AM
In the spirit of adventure, we will watch a classic family entertainment movie "Nim's Island." Rated PG. All ages welcome.

GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY: BIO BUS

Metropolitan | July 3 | 10:30AM
Join us for an adventure in nature and discovery with Georgia State's BioBus! Kids can explore the exhibits on the bus and learn about science and nature.

MR. POPPER'S PENGUINS: MATINEE

Northside | July 15 | 3PM
Join us for a Monday movie! Mr. Popper’s life in Manhattan flips when he inherits penguins. Their antics mend his family ties. All ages, no registration needed.

SUMMER READING SEND OFF

Alpharetta | July 31 | 10:30AM
Celebrate Summer Reading’s end with crafts, magic, and more! Tommy Johns performs at 2PM. Prizes for top readers and adults. All ages are welcome!

AQUA ADVENTURES: ENViroscape

Metropolitan | June 11 | 10:30AM
Learn about watersheds, the water cycle, and keeping water clean at this workshop for kids aged 5-12, in partnership with Fulton County Public Works.

LEARN ABOUT BEAUTIFUL BUGS!

College Park | July 24 | 10:30AM
Join us as the Dept. of Public Works hosts a fun workshop about the beauty of butterflies, along with a fun craft! Reservations required. Ages 5 to 12

MR. DAMON’S SHADOW PUPPET THEATRE

Ponce | July 31 | 10:30AM
Mr. Damon’s Shadow Puppet Theater brings fabulous adventures to Joan P. Garner Library at Ponce! All ages are welcome.

OFF-THE-SHELF ADVENTURES

THAT BOOK WOMAN! AND OTHER OFF-THE-SHELF ADVENTURES

Alpharetta | June 8 | 1PM
Explore tales of adventurous librarians through stories, audience participation, and props in this engaging program for kids aged 5-12.

CROCHET MEETUP

Southeast | July 8 | 12PM
Embark on a creative journey in knitting and crochet! Share skills, learn, connect. All ages, beginners welcome.

BILL PACKARD: ADVENTURES IN MAGIC

Cascade | July 10 | 10:30AM
Experience Bill Packard’s mind-bending magic and comedy! Engaging fun, audience participation. Ages 5+, a captivating adventure for all!

ROSSELw LIBRARY DAY FESTIVAL

Roswell | June 26 | 11AM
Celebrate Festival Day at Roswell Library! Enjoy a magic show, face painting, balloon animals, and snow cones. This event is recommended for kids and tweens, ages 4 to 12 with their caretakers.
“CLICK!” THE ANIMATION SHORT

ASIFA professionals will offer classes on Stop Motion Animation for teens aged 13 to 18. Registration is required. This is the first in a series of three workshops, and attending all three is highly recommended.

**FOR TEENS**

**FINANCIAL AID FAFSA EVENT**

Buckhead | July 16 | 11AM

A GSFC Outreach representative will speak to students, parents, and community members about state and federal financial aid available to Georgians. Learn about the many scholarships, grants, and loans to help pay for university, college, and technical college expenses and how to apply. Ages 17 – 19.

**COMPUTER PROGRAMMING** Wolf Creek | June 3 | 5PM

Join us every Monday from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm to learn Web development and programming languages skills. Registration is required. Ages 13 – 17.

**TAIWAN ADVENTURE BOBA TEA** Buckhead | June 11 | 2PM

Experience a taste of Taiwan by making Boba Tea with the Buckhead Library. Registration is required. Ages 13 to 18.

**LET’S LEARN GYOTAKU** Cascade | June 13 | 4PM

Teens will learn the art of Gyotaku and create a fish print on a canvas bag. Ages 13 to 18.

**CHAT WITH ROSHANI CHOKSHI**

Milton | June 21 | 4PM

Join us for a special visit with New York Times Bestselling author, Roshani Chokshi, writer of fantasy books for middle grade, young adults, and adults. From Roshani’s Pandava Series, Aru Shah and the End of Time, was listed as one of the 100 Best Fantasy Books of All Time by TIME Magazine. Roshani will discuss her latest middle grade novel, Spirit Glass. Free copies of the book will be available while supplies last, sponsored by the Friends of the Milton Library. This program is suitable for kids and teens.

**2K BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT!**

Dogwood | July 22 | 2PM

Sign up and join the 2K tournament at Dogwood Branch!! Play sports games on the Xbox 360 with your friends in the meeting room. Get ready to compete! Three teams each with 2 people per team. Register your team by contacting the branch at 404-612-3900 and get ready to play. Ages 13 to 17.
A SUMMER FOR ADULTS

CHINESE MUSIC PERFORMANCE
Northeast Spruill Oaks | June 20 | 2PM
The Atlanta Chinese Music Group will be offering a calming vibe of music with unique Chinese instruments. All music fans who are interested in traditional Chinese music are invited to join us.

USING AI, IT, AND IOT IN YOUR BUSINESS
Buckhead | June 5 | 10:30AM
Are you utilizing Artificial Intelligence (AI), Information Technology (IT), or Internet of Things (IOT) in your business? These technologies have enhanced efficiency and workflows in our digital landscape.
Our presenter will delve into the characteristics of each business application, illustrate the commercial benefits, and share why you and your company's survival need to integrate these tech solutions into your business strategy. Registration Required.

KARLA HARRIS QUARTET
Wolf Creek | 2PM
Transport yourself to the golden era of jazz as the library comes alive with the sultry melodies of the Karla Harris Quartet. Open to all ages. Registration not needed.

CHARCUTERIE WORKSHOP
Cascade | 2PM
Learn to create visually stunning and delicious charcuterie boards. This workshop covers making meat roses, applying garnishes, and decorations. Impress your guests at your next gathering. Limited to 10 people. Registration required.

SUMMER READING WITH AI
Kirkwood | 11AM
Spend a day with your new reading assistant! Build a custom reading list, organize your calendar, and create art of your favorite characters. Resources are free online. Bring your device or use the library’s. Explore AI with Microsoft CoPilot and ChatGPT.
Black Smoke: African Americans and the United States of Barbecue
by Adrian Miller
Adrian chronicles how Black barbecuers, pitmasters, and restaurateurs helped develop this cornerstone of American foodway.

We Are Each Other’s Harvest
by Natalie Baszile
From the author of Queen Sugar—now a critically acclaimed series on OWN directed by Ava Duvernay—comes a beautiful exploration and celebration of black farming in America.

On Juneteenth
by Annette Gordon-Reed
Weaving together American history, dramatic family chronicle, and searing episodes of memoir, Annette Gordon-Reed’s On Juneteenth provides a historian’s view of the country’s long road to Juneteenth.

As we approach Juneteenth, FulcoLibrary invites you to join us in celebrating this significant day in American history. Juneteenth, observed on June 19th, marks the day in 1865 when the last enslaved African Americans in Galveston, Texas, were informed of their freedom. This day symbolizes the end of slavery in the United States and is a time to honor African American culture, history, and achievements.

We encourage you to take part in our Juneteenth events and explore the wealth of knowledge available through checkouts and eResources.

These creative sessions provide a unique way to connect with the cultural significance of Juneteenth and reflect on the journey towards freedom and equality.

Celebrate Juneteenth by creating stunning African-American-themed canvas art or paintings. Engage in meaningful discussions about African-American history.

We Are Each Other’s Harvest
South Fulton | June 15 | 12PM
Cascades | June 18 | 5PM
Celebrate Juneteenth by creating stunning African-American-themed canvas art or paintings. Engage in meaningful discussions about African-American history.

If Grits Could Talk
by Estell Halliburton
Buckhead | June 15 | 1PM
Spend the afternoon with local author Estell Halliburton. She will talk about her fascinating childhood growing up in the South and what inspired her to write her latest book, If Grits Could Talk. Be prepared; you will want this book in your collection!
Library Volunteers

Build Community

National Volunteer Week recognized 1,922 library volunteers who donated 54,247 hours, valued at $1,609,508.49 in 2023. This year’s theme, “Volunteers Build Community” celebrated the work library volunteers complete to build fundraising, partnerships and projects across the system.

The 33rd Annual Volunteer Recognition Award Program welcomed 150 people to the Central Library including 50 top award winners. Special speakers included District 1 Commissioner Bridget Thorne, District 3 Commissioner Dana Barrett and Board of Trustees Chair Priscilla Borders.

Teen Volunteer of the Year, Jiya Mittal, was celebrated by staff for,

“having a great attitude and an enthusiastic willingness to perform whatever task we might need. This sort of focus and dedication is truly rare in youth her age.”

Library volunteers donated thousands of hours across 34 locations to shelve materials, teach programs such as chess, English as a second language (ESL), financial literacy, storytime, Tai Chi, tax preparations and yoga.

Adult Volunteer of the Year, Bill Yang was praised for being,

“faster than the library Wi-Fi, more powerful than a library book cart, and able to leap over small toddlers after storytime in a single bound. Yes, he is our library volunteer superhero. He shows up each Wednesday, ready to shelve and shelf read, plus assists with programming, even on short notice.”

Volunteers for the 19 Friends of the Library groups were active serving over 23,650 hours last year running book sales and stores. Awards were also given out at smaller celebrations throughout the Library System, honoring supporters from every part of the County.

Learn more about volunteer services

FULCOLIBRARY.ORG/VOLUNTEER
Top award-winning library volunteers and staff presented a check for the $1,609,508.49 in donated services to District 3 Commissioner Dana Barrett, Library Executive Director, Gayle H. Holloman, Board of Trustees Chair Priscilla Borders, Vice Chair Nina Radakovich and Board Members Paul Kaplan and Joseph Piontek.

Fairburn volunteer and ESL teacher James Clifton winning the Star Volunteer Award for going above and beyond to create ESL classes and nominator Staff Volunteer Liaison Lisa Randolph.

Wade in the Water: A Journey into Black Surfing and Aquatic Culture (2023) reclaims the 1,000-year-old tradition of Black surfing. Braiding historical accounts with modern-day testimonials, the film dismantles the racial barriers of conventional surf culture, delves into the overlooked history of Black surfing’s legacy, and honors its current movement—inspiring the next generation of Black surfers.

July 13 // 2PM
Auburn Avenue Auditorium

Wade in the Water: A Journey into Black Surfing and Aquatic Culture (2023) reclaims the 1,000-year-old tradition of Black surfing. Braiding historical accounts with modern-day testimonials, the film dismantles the racial barriers of conventional surf culture, delves into the overlooked history of Black surfing’s legacy, and honors its current movement—inspiring the next generation of Black surfers.
Join us for a fun and interactive Caribbean Spelling Bee and Quiz Bowl. Contestants will spell words related to Caribbean people, places, and things, competing for exciting prizes. Stay for the Caribbean Quiz Bowl to showcase your knowledge in various subjects related to the Caribbean, including history, geography, and culture.

We’re thrilled to welcome back one of our favorite wellness instructors, Camrei!

Enjoy chair yoga, breathwork, meditation, and more—all free for the community! Bring a friend and experience the benefits together.

Summer Reading Program Kick-Off with 1202Puppets!
June 5 // 10:00AM
Jump into a jungle adventure with Who’s in My Jungle? by 1202Puppets! Born from our most loved puppet show segment, this book brings the same joy and excitement that lights up every puppetry performance. Watch the jungle come alive with colorful animals and vibrant illustrations on every page.

Stories by Josie - Summer Reading Grand Finale July 31 // 10AM
Josie Bailey found her calling as a storyteller while volunteering as a story reader at her son’s school. Since 1993, she has performed across the southeastern U.S. in schools, churches, festivals, and retirement centers. The grand finale includes face painting, prizes, and book giveaways.

Photography Workshop
June 14 & 28 // Basic Photo Editing
July 12 // Final Lesson to participate in Photo Submission
July 22 - Aug 5 // Participant Exhibit at Central Library
Join this free photography workshop to learn creative, professional-looking photo techniques. Attend three workshops at Central for a chance to have your work displayed at the Central Library in August. Submit photos via email by 5:30 PM on July 12, 2024. All photos are subject to review. Winners will be announced on July 19 on Instagram and Facebook. Accommodations available for those without social media.

Caribbean Spelling Bee & Quiz Bowl: Caribbean Heritage Month
June 15 // 11AM - 5PM
Join us for a fun and interactive Caribbean Spelling Bee and Quiz Bowl. Contestants will spell words related to Caribbean people, places, and things, competing for exciting prizes. Stay for the Caribbean Quiz Bowl to showcase your knowledge in various subjects related to the Caribbean, including history, geography, and culture.
The Measure is about eight people who receive a box containing a string that indicates their lifespan. It explores how the characters’ lives and relationships change as a result of knowing the length of their lives or choosing not to know at all. The book also explores humanity’s obsession with longevity and quality of life.