

Winter 2024-25

Book bytes

the Newsletter of the
Upper Saddle River Library

Library Hours

Monday 9 am–8 pm

Tuesday 9 am–8 pm

Wednesday 9 am–8 pm

Thursday 9 am–8 pm

Friday 9 am–5 pm

Saturday 10 am–2 pm

Sunday 1–5 pm *Sept.–late May*

Holiday Closings

Thanksgiving

Wed., Nov 27 @ 3pm & Nov. 28–29

Christmas · Dec. 24–25

New Year's · Dec. 31–Jan 1

President's Day · Feb. 17

Library in your Pocket

The library is in your pocket with the BCCLS mobile app! Find the nearest library, search the catalog, manage your account, renew/reserve, display your virtual library card, see upcoming events and explore online resources. Go to your iOS or Android app store and search for “BCCLS Libraries (NJ)” to download the free app.



Upper
Saddle
River
Public
Library

Enter the Gingerbread House Contest!

Upper Saddle River cardholders are invited to enter our contest. Find the contest rules and an entry form on our website or in the library. Public voting is at the Holiday Open House on December 7th. The winner will be announced on Monday, December 9th.



Join us at the Holiday Open House!

Kick-off the holidays with an afternoon of cheer and celebration on Saturday, December 7th from 1:30–3:30 pm. Have your photo taken with family and friends in our holiday photo booth, sing-a-long with our DJ, get a festive airbrush tattoo, place your vote in our Gingerbread House contest and don't forget to say hello to our visiting Gingerbread Man! In addition enjoy holiday themed drinks and sweets. So mark your calendar and stop by!

Have you tried hoopla's BingePass?

Endless Entertainment · Kid-Family Favorites · Lifelong Learning




With our online resource **hoopla**, you'll enjoy audiobooks, eBooks, comics and manga, music, movies, TV, and more—all with no waiting! hoopla is free with your USR Library card, and patrons have 8 borrows per month.

With a *single* hoopla borrow, you can unlock seven days of unlimited access to **BingePass** collections that feature dozens of titles each. The BingePass lineup includes digital magazines, movies, puzzles, comics, podcasts, eBooks, documentaries, video courses, and more. Just click or tap to borrow and start enjoying immediately. It works on smart devices or in your computer's browser, so you can start on one device and pick up where you left off on another. Find the hoopla link on our website's Virtual Library tab.

Learn a New Language in the New Year!

With **Mango Languages** you can choose from over 70 world languages on desktop, mobile or offline, from anywhere, at any time and it's free with your USR library card! Enjoy native speaker audio and cultural context that will fully immerse you in the language. With a placement test to get you started exactly where your skill set suits you, downloadable lessons for offline access, and study reminders to keep you on track, you'll learn a new language in no time. Challenge yourself to discover something new! Find Mango on our website's Reference tab.

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Connect with us:   

Adult Programs & Library News

Programs are in-person or virtual and require online registration unless designated as a Drop-in.

Book Clubs

Find book club lists and dates on our website.

Novels at Night · Wednesday @ 7 pm (in library)

Dec. 4 *Hamnet* by Maggie O'Farrell ❖

Jan. 8 *Heartburn* by Nora Ephron ❖

Feb. 5 *This Tender Land* by Wm. Kent Kreuger ❖❖
(The author will join this discussion via ZOOM)

Coffee Talk · Thursday @ 10 am (in library)

Dec. 12 *Northanger Abbey* by Jane Austen ❖❖

Jan. 16 *The Great Divide* by Cristina Henriquez ❖❖

Feb. 20 *What you are looking for is in the Library*
by Michiko Aoyama ❖❖

Get Lit(erary) · Monday @ 6:30 pm (at Shannon Rose)

Jan. 13 *One Perfect Couple* by Ruth Ware ❖

Books will be available at the Circulation desk.

❖ ebook/audiobook *also* available on the *Libby* app.

❖ ebook/audiobook *also* available on the *hoopla*® app.

Adult Drop-in Programs

Tech Help on Thursdays

December–February @ 3:30–4:30 pm

One-on-one tech help for your phone, tablet, or laptop.
Simply drop-in—and bring your device! *no drop-in 12/26*

Chat & Stitch · Wednesdays @ 12–1 pm

Drop-in with your needlework project and join like-minded crafters and share ideas! *Meets weekly.*

Movie Afternoons · Thursdays @ 1 pm

Dec. 5 *It Ends With Us*

Jan. 2 *White Bird*

Feb. 6 *TBA*

Bridge Club · Fridays @ 10 am

Bridge lovers with a passing knowledge of bidding and play-of-hand are welcome to join. *Meets weekly.*

Ditch the Subscriptions

and try these for FREE with your library card

Instead of subscribing to Audible, listen to audiobooks on **Libby**. Instead of subscribing to Netflix, Disney and others, watch the hottest films on **kanopy**. Instead of buying magazines, read popular magazines on **Libby**.

Adult Programs

Information & Registration on our website calendar.

Mindful Breath and Movement

Wednesdays, Dec. 4–Feb. 26 @ 10–10:30 am

Linda Strauss from *One Body Yoga* will guide us through accessible, breath and movement practices. No experience is necessary, just bring your curiosity and wear comfortable clothes. No classes 12/25 and 1/1. **Register.**

Cookie Decorating · Thursday, Dec. 12 @ 11 am

Let's celebrate winter by decorating cookies! Stephanie Christensen from *Steph's Baking Boutique* will instruct us on proper decorating techniques. Each participant will receive 6 cookies to decorate and all necessary supplies including a box to take your cookies home. Limited to 15 participants. **Register.**

Chado Japanese Tea Ceremony · Tues, Jan. 7 @ 11 am

Experience the art of Chado, the intricate ceremony of tea preparation and presentation, with Michiko Tomioka. We will learn about the benefits of matcha and mindful eating for longevity and finish by enjoying a moment of peace with some Japanese sweets and a bowl of matcha. **Register.**

Cooking The Books · Thursday, Jan. 16 @ 7 pm

Gaby Dalkin started her food blog *What's Gaby Cooking* in 2009. Fast forward to present day and Gaby's widely popular blog has over 1,100 recipes. She has written five cookbooks and launched her own spice blend company Dalkin & Co. Select one of Gaby's recipes, create the dish as written (no substitutions) and be ready to discuss and share with others when we meet. **Register.**

Personalized Canvas Painting

Thursday, January 30 @ 11 am or 7 pm

Looking to add art to your home or office that is unique to you? Come to either of these sessions where Wendy from *Artytime* will guide you as you create a personalized painting based on your design style and letter of your choosing. Your finished piece will be one of a kind! Limited to 15 participants. **Register for either session.**

Sign up and Stay Connected!

Scan to sign up for our library eNewsletters. You'll be alerted to new programs that are added after our newsletter is printed.



Children's Programs · Birth–5th Grade

Children's programs are limited to U.S.R. Library cardholders, online registration is required.

Children's registration opens online 2 weeks before each program date.

Holiday Open House · All Ages

Saturday, December 7 @ 1:30–3:30 pm

Kick off the holidays at the Library! We'll have a holiday photo booth, a DJ sing-a-long and a Gingerbread House contest. Get a festive airbrush tattoo, greet our visiting Gingerbread Man, and enjoy holiday refreshments.

Improv Show · All Ages · Thurs., Jan. 23 @ 6:30 pm

Get ready to laugh with *Improv 4 Kids*, a hilarious interactive musical comedy show! Bring the family and get ready for a fun-filled evening of spontaneous scenes and silly songs that you won't want to miss! **Register.**

Little Ones Storytime · Ages 0–3 with a caregiver

Weds., Dec. 18–Jan. 29 @ 10:30 am · no class 12/25, 1/1
Register for playtime, stories & songs with Miss Lauren!

Musical Munchkins · Ages 2–5 with a caregiver

Tuesday, December 3 @ 3:30–4 pm

Register for interactive musical fun with Miss Ambyr!

Zumbini · Ages 0–4 with a caregiver

Tuesdays, January 21 & February 18 @ 3:30–4:15 pm

Join certified Zumbini instructor Tina for a 45 minute music and movement class for young children! **Register.**

Drop-In Crafts · Grades K–2

Mondays, January 13 & February 10 @ 3–4:30 pm

Drop in during the allotted time for a creative craft!

Forest Friends · Grades K–2

Wednesdays, February 5, 12 & 19 @ 3:30–4:30 pm

This program uses forest friend puppets to help kids learn social-emotional life skills such as feelings and communication, honesty and trust, respect, self-esteem, decision making and diversity. After the story, a discussion and related activity follows. **Register.**

Winter Painting with Wendy from Artytime

Grades K–2 on Monday, Dec. 9 @ 3:30 pm · Paint your very own snowman on canvas. **Register.**

Grades 3–5 on Tuesday, Dec. 10 @ 3:30 pm · Create a wonderful winter owl painting on canvas. **Register.**

Winter Slime · Grades K–5

Monday, December 16 @ 3:30 pm · Join *Splash Labs*

to make your own cool, wintery slime! You'll even pick your own color, scent, and toppings. **Register.**

Scan for upcoming programs on our
Children's website page.



Teen Programs · 6th–12th Grade*

Teen programs are limited to U.S.R. Library cardholders, online registration is required. *Except where indicated.

Monday Funday! Drop-in @ 3–4:30 pm

December 9–Winter Craft · January 6–Kahoot! Trivia

January 27–Drop-in Craft

Cookie Decorating Class · Thursday, Dec. 12 @ 4 pm

Learn how to decorate cookies like a pro with Stephanie of *Steph's Baking Boutique*. Each participant receives three cookies to decorate and take home. **Register.**

Paint & Hot Cocoa Party · Thurs., Dec. 19 @ 3:30–5 pm

Wendy from *Artytime* will provide instructions to create a beautiful winter-themed painting on canvas. **Register.**

Create with Clay · Tuesday, January 7 @ 4 pm

Lisa from *Create with Clay* will give step-by-step instructions on how to make a beautiful trinket dish. All materials are provided. **Register.**

Teen Needle Felting Workshop

Wednesday, January 22 @ 4–5:30 pm

Back by popular demand and in-person at the Library! Learn the popular craft of needle felting with Christine from *Woolly Pets*. Needle felting is a fiber arts craft that is produced by shaping wool fibers together. Step-by-step instructions and materials are provided. **Register.**

Chess Club · Grades 3–8

Mondays @ 5:30–6:30 pm

December 2, 16, January 6, 27 & February 10, 24

Learn to play chess or improve your game. Volunteers from NHRHS will lead the club in conjunction with library staff. **Register.**

Scan for more programs and registration
information on our Teen website page.



Friends of the Library News

As winter's chill winds blow, you'll want to have a good book to snuggle up with! Find several at our Book Sales—Saturdays Dec. 7, Jan. 11 and Feb. 8 from 10 am to 1 pm. Stop by and buy! In between sales, our Lobby Sale will keep you stocked with good reads—all titles are \$1.00. Do you love our library and want to get involved with keeping it great? Join the Friends! Help us to provide funds for the extra programs and services that make our Library so special! Contact Nona Maher (nona.maher@gmail.com) for info on becoming an active member. Donations are always welcome—see our Friends tab on the Library website.

Museum Passes Available

Passes are available for free or nominal admission to participating area museums. Reserve passes on the Museum page found on the Borrowing Tab on our website. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Library Board of Trustees' Meetings

Wednesday, December 18, 2024 at 6 pm
Wednesday, January 15, 2025 at 6 pm
Wednesday, February 19, 2025 at 6 pm

The Upper Saddle River Board of Trustees and the Library staff would like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to these retiring Library Board members: Christina Cucci for her 12 years of service, and Wren DiGisi for her 10 years of service.

USR Library Snow Policy

Please remember to call the library or check our website/social media to see if we have opened, or will be closing early due to inclement weather. **If the Upper Saddle River schools close during the school day due to weather, the USR Library will close at the same time.** Children may not be sent to the library.

Visit us at: www.uptersaddleriverlibrary.org



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