

..... **BARRINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY**

WHAT'S HAPPENING

FREE EVENTS, SERVICES, & MORE! - JANUARY 2026

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Barrington
PUBLIC LIBRARY

281 County Road
Barrington, RI 02806

Contact the Library
401-247-1920
barringtonlibrary.org
info@barringtonlibrary.org

Library Closures

New Year's

- 12/31 - Close at 12 pm
- 1/1 - Closed all day

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

- 1/19 - Closed all day

Library Hours

Mon - Thurs: 9 am - 9 pm

Fri - Sat: 9 am - 4:30 pm

Sunday: 12 pm - 4 pm

Follow Us!



250th Anniversary Kickoff!

In celebration of 250 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence, Barrington Public Library has partnered with the Barrington 250 Committee to host a series of speakers, films, crafts, and other programs. Our celebration kicks off in January with Ken Burns' American Revolution documentary, two showings of Hamilton, our Bookmark Design Contest, and a keynote lecture by Seth Rockman. **pg. 2**



Soul Force

This uplifting, multi-generational event features live music, storytelling, food trucks, voices of our senior residents, and a student art competition. **pg. 5**

**2026 BOOKMARK
DESIGN
CONTEST**
KIDS - TEENS - ADULTS



2026 Bookmark Design Contest

Open to all! Stop by the Makerspace and use our craft supplies to create a bookmark entry based on our theme Libraries: Always Revolutionary. **pg. 5**

FOR ADULTS

DOCUMENTARIES



The American Revolution

FRI. JAN. 2 AT 1 PM

This 50-minute documentary is an edited version of the longer 12-hour documentary series and examines how America's founding turned the world upside-down. Thirteen British colonies on the Atlantic Coast rose in rebellion, won their independence, and established a new form of government that radically reshaped the continent and inspired centuries of democratic movements around the globe.



Do It, Man! The Story of the Celebrity Club

SUN. JAN. 25 AT 1 PM

WED. JAN. 28 AT 6:30 PM

This film tells the story of Providence's legendary Celebrity Club, located in an African-American neighborhood, Randall Square, believed to be the first interracial nightclub in New England. Music royalty such as Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington, Ella Fitzgerald, Billie Holiday and Fats Domino would come to Providence and stay for weeklong engagements. The directors, Tom Shaker and Norm Grant will be present at both screenings to lead discussion and answer audience questions about the making of this wonderful documentary.



GET CREATIVE

Adult Crafternoon: Needle Felted Owls

WED. JAN. 7 AT 2 PM

Join us for a fun crafternoon and create a cute needle felted owl. Beginner friendly, no experience required. All supplies will be provided.



Acrylic Painting with John Irwin

WED. JAN. 21 AT 3 PM

Learn how to paint with John Irwin! No prior experience is required. John will take the class step-by-step through the process of recreating a famous masterpiece or one of his own works of art. All materials will be supplied and participants can expect to leave with a completed painting!

Registration opens Wednesday, January 7 at 11 am. Space is limited.

LECTURES

Barrington 250 Speaker Series Keynote: Historian Seth Rockman

THURS. JAN. 22 AT 6:30 PM

Join the Barrington 250 Committee as they kick off their Barrington 250 Speaker Series with Seth Rockman who will take a broad view of the conflict and its consequences, situating the American colonies in their North American and Atlantic context, discussing the material and ideological concerns that prompted the Revolutionary War, and tracing the consequences of the conflict for the nation that followed, looking beyond the Founders to the experiences of women, slaves, Native Americans, common soldiers, and Loyalists.



TECH CLASSES

iPhone & iPad Basics

TUES. JAN. 6 AT 10 AM

New year, new gadget? Learn about the various features and capabilities of your Apple device, including its touch screen interface, built-in apps, and downloading additional apps.

Android Basics

TUES. JAN. 13 AT 10 AM

New year, new gadget? Learn the basics of the Android interface and navigation, as well as how to customize your device to your preferences.

Your New Computer: Setting Up and Getting Started

TUES. JAN. 20 AT 10 AM

This class is designed to help patrons set up their new computers. We'll cover initial setup, installing essential software, and securing your device. Bring your computer with you!

Libby: Ebooks and Audiobooks

TUES. JAN. 27 AT 10 AM

Learn how to access and navigate our eZone digital collection with the Libby app. We will walk through how to read free ebooks and audiobooks.

Remembering Revolutionary Barrington

SAT. JAN. 31 AT 1 PM

Join the Barrington Preservation Society for a special lecture by BPS past president Nat Taylor on Barrington during the Revolutionary War and how our Revolutionary legacy has been remembered. He will profile some of Barrington's people in the Revolutionary years, including those who fought, as well as the home front of Barrington households and their physical legacy in the landscape of Barrington land, houses, churches, and cemeteries.





FILMS @ BPL



Hamilton

TUES. JAN. 13 AT 6 PM
WED. JAN. 14 AT 1 PM

Join the Barrington 250th Committee as we present *Hamilton*, the groundbreaking musical that took the world by storm! Experience the inspiring story of Founding Father Alexander Hamilton, brought to life through a powerful blend of hip-hop, jazz, R&B, and Broadway show tunes.
2020 - 2 hrs 40 mins - PG-13 (Includes 10-minute intermission)



BOOK DISCUSSION GROUPS

Monthly Adult Book Chat

WED. JAN. 14 AT 11 AM

VIRTUAL

This BYO book chat allows participants to talk about a book they read recently and leave with a bunch of new book suggestions! *Note: This group will meet on the second Wednesday in January.*

Spicy Romance Book Club

TUES. JAN. 27 AT 6:30 PM



Heat up your reading routine at our Spicy Romance Book Club with Siobhan! Join us on the last Tuesday of every month for a lively discussion of sizzling love stories. Each month, we'll dive into a steamy contemporary romance novel. Whether you're a fan of enemies-to-lovers, slow burns, or forbidden passion, this is the place to indulge your literary cravings.



Check the website for our other
Book Discussion Groups!

GARDENING

Native Winter Seed Sowing Workshop

MON. JAN. 12 AT 2 PM
MON. JAN. 12 AT 6 PM

Learn how to grow your own native wildflower plants from seed with volunteers from the Barrington Pollinator Pathway. This is a hands-on workshop in which you will sow some seeds to take home with you. Growing from seed is easy and fun, will save you money, and will produce many plants! Seeds, soil, and pots will be supplied.

Rejuvenating the Established Garden

TUES. JAN. 20 AT 1 PM

Join the Barrington Garden Club for a presentation on rejuvenating the established garden featuring Laura Trowbridge is a garden designer in Peterborough, New Hampshire, focusing on historic home gardens.

Literary Pairings

WED. JAN. 14 AT 6:30 PM

This group pairs an assigned classic one month followed by a contemporary read-alike similar in theme, plot, and/or characters the following month.

- Jan. 21: *The Souls of Black Folk* by W.E.B. Du Bois
- Feb. 11: *Hell of a Book* by Jason Mott
- Mar. 11: *As I Lay Dying* by William Faulkner
- Apr. 8: *Sing, Unburied, Sing* by Jesmyn Ward

Mystery & Thriller

WED. JAN. 21 AT 6:30 PM

Our monthly whodunit group that meets in person. This group alternates between a mystery and a thriller title each month. Upcoming book picks:

- Jan. 14: *Something in the Water* by Catherine Steadman
- Feb. 18: *Bruno, Chief of Police* by Martin Walker
- Mar. 18: *You Are Fatally Invited* by Ande Pliego
- Apr. 15: *Jackal* by Erin E. Adams

GET TOGETHER

Board Game Night

MON. JAN. 12 AT 6 PM
MON. JAN. 26 AT 6 PM

Adults 18+ are invited to join us for a fun Board Game Night in the Peck Center (ground floor of the library). This event is free and we will have snacks for you to enjoy while you play. We will have board games on hand but you are welcome to bring your own as well.

Winter Cookbook Club

TUES. JAN. 6 AT 6 PM
TUES. JAN. 20 AT 6 PM

Love to cook? Join our adult Cookbook Club! The book for Winter 2026 is Martha Stewart's *Slow Cooker*. In our first meeting, we will discuss the author, introduction, & layout, and then set the menu for the next meeting and decide who will bring what. Then for our second meeting, everyone will make a dish at home, and bring it to our potluck dinner.



Must attend both meetings.

BPL Mystery Society

THURS. JAN. 29 AT 6 PM

Do you love solving puzzles, uncovering clues, and cracking mysteries? Join fellow sleuths at the library for the Barrington Public Library Mystery Society!

We'll work together to solve an immersive, stand-alone mystery from the Deadbolt Mystery Society. These mystery boxes feature intriguing storylines, puzzles, and evidence that will put your detective skills to the test.

Bring your curiosity, teamwork, and love of a good whodunit—no experience necessary. Whether you're a seasoned puzzle-solver or a first-time detective, everyone is welcome to join the fun!

Space is very limited.



All children's programs are free and open to all ages and abilities. However, age recommendations are intended for parental guidance.

Kids under 10 are not permitted in the Children's Room unattended.

MOVIE MATINEE



The Mighty Ducks

FRI. JAN. 2 AT 10 AM

Quack, quack, quack your way to this endearing, classic '90s film about second chances, redemption and teamwork. A washed-up childhood hockey star finds himself in the coaches' shoes of a motley youth hockey team to fulfill his community service hours. Remember ducks fly together!

Recommended all ages and abilities.

SENSORY FRIENDLY

Sensory Exploration ***NEW***

SAT. JAN. 24 AT 10 AM

Touch, pour, stack, squish, sort, and create using a variety of sensory materials. This program encourages fine-motor skills, problem-solving, early STEM concepts, and social interaction in a welcoming environment. Caregivers are asked to help guide play and enjoy shared discoveries together.

Recommended all ages and abilities.



FOR PARENTS

Screenagers: Elementary School Age Edition

THURS. JAN. 29 AT 6 PM

Join the Nayatt School PTO and Mindful Parents Group for a screening of Screenagers: Growing Up in the Digital Age – Elementary School Edition. This version of the award-winning documentary focuses on the impact of screen time on children 12 and under and offers practical insights and strategies for families navigating technology use in the early years. The screening will be followed by a group discussion facilitated by Michelle Baptista, MSW, LCSW a social worker with Barrington Public Schools. All caregivers, educators, and community members are encouraged to attend in a welcoming environment to learn, share experiences, and build community around this important topic.

STORY TIMES

Family Story Time

TUESDAYS AT 10 AM

TUESDAYS AT 11 AM ***NEW***

FRIDAYS AT 11 AM

Share stories and songs in our colorful, cozy Amanda Robidoux Reading Nook in the McCulloch Children's Room. This is a drop-in program with limited spaces. An adult must be present for the duration of story time.

Drop-in. Space is limited to 35 attendees, no exceptions.

Recommended for ages 2-5

Babies & Board Books

MONDAYS AT 1:30 PM ***NEW***

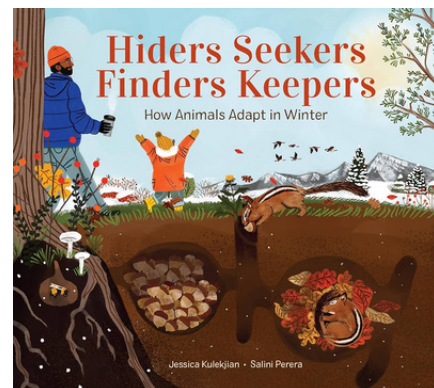
WEDNESDAYS AT 10:30 AM

THURSDAYS AT 10 AM

Enjoy simple rhymes, songs, and stories, especially for new parents and growing babies. This is a small group by design with the intent to foster a positive first story time experience in a nurturing environment. Meets in the Amanda Robidoux Reading Nook inside the McCulloch Children's Room.

Recommended for birth - 24 months

STORY WALK



Story Walk Along the Resilience Garden at Barrington Government Center

THROUGH JANUARY 23

Take a stroll along the walkway by the Resilience Garden and enjoy the story *Hiders Seekers Finders Keepers* by Jessica Kulekjian. This beautifully illustrated picture book explores how animals adapt in winter.

The Story Walk along the Resilience Garden at Barrington Government Center is funded by a grant from the Office of Library and Information Services (OLIS).

SCHOOL AGE PROGRAMS



Dungeons & Dragons Club

THURS. JAN. 8 AT 4:30 PM

THURS. JAN. 22 AT 4:30 PM

Adventurers wanted for our Kids Dungeons & Dragons Club. Some D&D experience is helpful, but new players are welcome.

Recommended for grades 4-6.

Lego Club

WED. JAN. 14 AT 3:30 PM

Create, build & explore with each other and Lego bricks!

Recommended for grades K-5.

FOR TEENS

To register, call 401-247-1920 x6, or visit barringtonlibrary.libcal.com

Program dates & times subject to change.

Please check our online calendar for most up to date information.



All Teen Programs are for ages 11-17 unless otherwise noted.

Visit the Teen Room to use our computers, do homework, socialize with friends, or...read!

SHARE A TALENT

Barrington Library's Little Variety Show

THURS. JAN. 15 AT 6:30 PM

Sing. Read. Recite. Do some stand-up comedy. Bring an instrument. Anything goes. Spectators welcome!
Open to teens and adults!

SEWING

The Runway Show

TUES. JAN. 6 AT 7 PM

All are invited to a special fashion show showcasing designs made by Teens in our six week sewing workshop led by Emily Bennison.

Sew a Book Sleeve

TUES. JAN. 20 AT 6:30 PM

TUES. JAN. 27 AT 6:30 PM

A two-part workshop on how to design and sew your own book sleeve using fun fabric. All supplies provided.

READY FOR COLLEGE?



Breaking Down the College Application

TUES. JAN. 13 AT 6:30 PM

Join us as presenter Brian Mitchell breaks down the key aspects of college applications & more.

ALL AGES

BOOKMARK CONTEST

2026 Bookmark Design Contest

JANUARY 1-31

Stop by the Makerspace and use our craft supplies to create an entry for our 2026 Bookmark Design Contest! This year, we are partnering with the Barrington 250 Committee to help celebrate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. In honor of this partnership, our theme for this year is: Libraries: Always Revolutionary.

Check the website for complete list of workshop dates.

Don't have time to attend a workshop? You can also pick up a blank bookmark and entry form from any service desk in the library. Then return your bookmark and entry form to us. Four winners will be chosen and we will have their designs printed and given out starting in March 2026!

Open to all ages - kids, teens, and adults!

Deadline for submissions: Saturday, January 31.

SOUL FORCE

Soul Force 2026: A Celebration of Civil Rights and MLK Day

SAT. JAN. 17 FROM 12-4 PM

This uplifting, multi-generational event features live music, storytelling, food trucks, voices of our senior residents, and a student art competition — all aimed at bringing us together to celebrate Dr. King's vision of justice, equity, and inclusion.

Soul Force 2026 is free, open to the public, organized for the purpose of welcoming all members of our community to share our stories, learn from each other, and enjoy great music and food.

Note: please bring a non-perishable item for Tapin to receive a ticket for free lunch at one of the food trucks.

Presented by The Barrington Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee, in a partnership with the Barrington Public Library and the Peck Center.



Two music performances will bookend Soul Force 2026 with the Kim Trusty Band performing at 1:30 pm and Prism of Praise Gospel Choir performing at 3 pm in the Salem Family Auditorium. Space is limited, first come first seated!



LIBRARY SERVICES

Visit our website for updates
and exciting programs and services.



NEW YORK TIMES ALL ACCESS

The New York Times

Barrington Public Library now offers all Barrington cardholders complimentary and unlimited access to everything The New York Times has to offer! Access NYTimes.com while onsite and connected to the library Wi-Fi. Access all of The Times — including News, Games, Cooking, Audio, Wirecutter, The Athletic, and all apps — from anywhere!

Instructions:

- Create a New York Times account (username and password) at NYTimes.com
- For in-library access, simply log in to your account.
- For remote/offsite access (from home or outside the library), a 24-hour code is required.

MOBILE PRINTING

Print directly from your mobile device using the Princh App, available for both iOS & Android. You can also print for your laptop or desktop at home by visiting print.princh.com and entering our Printer ID (106364).

Princh allows you to easily upload documents to print at the library. The app provides a numeric code after sending your document to the printer. Enter the numeric code (for example, 1234) at the touchscreen kiosk beside the printer to release your job.

You can pay online with a credit card before your library visit or at the reference desk with cash when you come in.

Detailed instructions are available on our website or at the Reference Desk.

BOOK DROP CLOSURES

New Year's

The outside book drops will be locked at 11:30 am on Wednesday, December 31 and will remain closed until Friday, January 2 when the library reopens.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

The outside book drops will be locked at 3:30 pm on Sunday, January 18 and will remain closed until Tuesday, January 20 when the library reopens.

Please hold onto your library books during these closures. Do not leave books outside the library as they may be stolen or damaged.

We are fine free and do not charge overdue fines!

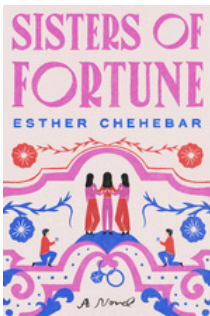
WHAT TO READ

Reading recommendations from
Barrington Public Library staff to you!

Check out our catalog for new books,
recommended reading lists, and staff picks!



ADULT



Sisters of Fortune by Esther Levy Chehebar

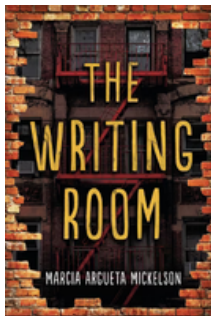
A story about dating, ambition, and coming-of-age within an immigrant whose affection is endearing, maddening, and never boring.



The Midnight Hour by Eve Chase

A young woman uncovers secrets from her past after her mother's mysterious disappearance.

YOUNG ADULT/TEENS



The Writing Room by Marcia Mickelson

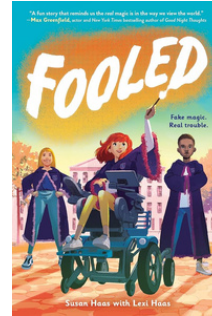
After eighteen-year-old Maya is kicked out of her wealthy dad's NYC home, she is grounded by a shared writers' workspace where she finds her voice.



Most Valuable Player by Amanda Woody

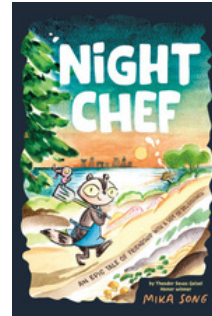
Star high school quarterback, Cameron, must get tutoring from the team's water boy, Mason, to improve his grades.

MIDDLE GRADE



Fooled by Susan Haas

A classroom of middle schoolers with disabilities creates an imaginary "wizards school" that seemingly becomes real and turns the whole school upside down.



Night Chef by Mika Song

A raccoon living in a restaurant's walls dreams of cooking human cuisine and embarks on a magical adventure to reunite a lost baby crow with his family.

FRIENDS' CORNER

Great communities need great libraries.
Great libraries need Friends.



A NOTE FROM OUR MEMBERSHIP CHAIR, MAGI GREEN

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the continued growth of the library at our Fall Book Sale in November. We are deeply grateful to the members who donated their time, expertise, financial support, and passion, helping us uphold our long-standing tradition of “paying it forward” for future generations.

The book sale was filled with energy and excitement. What began as casual browsing often turned into meaningful conversations about why we choose the books we do. At the entrance, a table of “special treasures” caught many eyes. One gentleman, already finished shopping, stopped short when he spotted a large volume on Italian Renaissance. “Oh my God—Nonna would love this for Christmas,” he said, and promptly bought it, explaining its significance to his children.

Throughout the sale, comments floated through the room: “I just bought a book I donated—time to read it again.” “You really have the complete Harry Potter set?” “I’m a fiction writer, so I’m buying nonfiction to broaden my mind.”

A teacher shared how thrilling it was to purchase a wide variety of books for students at a time when school budgets are limited.

Shoppers of all ages filled the rooms, many returning day after day. One man came back six times, filling boxes of books. When asked what he planned to do with them, he laughed and said he would build more bookshelves and alphabetize everything—hopefully before his daughter noticed. Children eagerly searched for treasures of their own, and book club members celebrated finding multiple copies of favorite titles.

Children’s books flew off the shelves, while music, DVDs, CDs, and even sheet music delighted patrons eager to rediscover old favorites or share them with family. Creativity was everywhere, with puzzles, games, art kits, gift cards, and library-themed items finding new homes.

Each and every one of you should be proud. Together, we truly did it.

DAILY BOOK SALE

Open every day during library hours and replenished daily! We have a wide selection of books for all ages including fiction, nonfiction, puzzles, DVDs, craft kits, and a large collection of children’s books. Located on the first floor of the library near the Reference Desk.

Cash, credit, and PayPal accepted. Purchase all books at the Circulation Desk. All proceeds go to the library.

BOOK DONATIONS

Book donations are a great way to support your library!

The Friends accept donations from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm on Wednesdays and Saturdays only at the book donation door located at the rear of the building facing the Peck Center for Adult Enrichment parking lot.

Do not leave book donations outside or in the library book drop.

JANUARY ART EXHIBITS



JENNIFER ENGLISH GALLERY
Barrington 250 Exhibit



MAIN FLOOR GALLERY
Soul Force Student Artwork

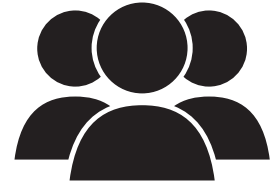
2025

BARRINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY YEAR IN REVIEW

Thank you to all of our patrons for helping to make this another record-breaking year for us! Despite being a small community, Barrington Public Library is 2nd in cardholders per capita and 4th in total checkouts throughout the state. We appreciate all the love, support, and questions you give us throughout the year.

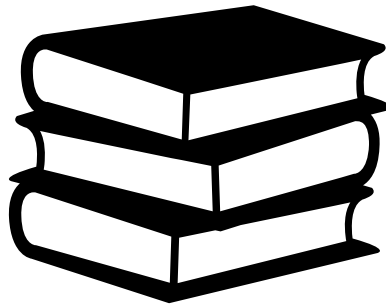


140,513
library visits



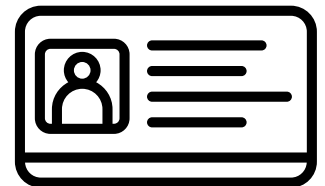
940
programs

231,690
items checked out



22,067
attendees

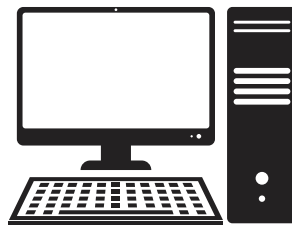
78,987
downloads



916
new cardholders



29,292
wifi sessions
(any device)



23,294
public computer
sessions

14,310
total cardholders

35,383

reference
questions
answered

6,166

study room
sessions

5,879

facebook & instagram
followers

Note: data based on January 2025-November 2025. December statistics not available at time of printing.