Poetry Reading with Local Poet & Veteran, Richard Rodriguez
Saturday, Dec. 11 at 10:30am

Join us in welcoming local poet and veteran Richard Rodriguez in sharing some of his original work.

Rodriguez holds a Bachelor's degree in Fine Arts from the University of Texas at Arlington. Richard holds numerous local and national awards for his writings, including taking 1st place in the 2019 National Veteran's Arts Competition for his poem “Homeless Masses” and 2nd place in 2020 for his thought-provoking poem “Just Say No”.

Rodriguez is also a member of the Syracuse Veterans' Writing Group.

Recommended for adults. REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

UNO
Now is the time for the world to see, what in the world, we’re meant to be, for us to unite is the call, for us to become one should include us all; heritage, language, customs and such, shall remain plentiful and mean so much; for these not only are the bricks and boards but the main ingredients that unites our shores.
~ Richard Rodriguez

Marketing & Branding Your Small Business Online
Tuesday, Jan. 18 at 6:30pm

The experts from Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Onondaga will be joining us to talk about marketing and branding your business online- through your website, social media and more! Learn the best online tools to strategically market your business.

Recommended for adults. REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

TEEN Mindfulness Matters: Creating a Joy Space
Thursday, 1/20 at 7pm

Everyone needs a place where they can relax and feel safe - a place that allows you to embrace who you are and be yourself. In this fun program for tweens and teens, we will learn how to turn a space (like your bedroom!) into a cozy retreat to support your well being. Attendees will make their own mini Zen garden for their Joy Space!

For teens in grades 5+. REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

CANDYLAND EXTRAVAGANZA!
Feb. 22-26 - DROP-IN FOR ALL AGES!

Enter the delicious world of Candyland for a guaranteed sweet time! The entire first floor of the library will be transformed into your own personal board game and we know you can make it to Candy Castle with a little encourage-mint!

Register and learn more about any of our programs and services at www.oflibrary.org

Follow us @OnondagaFreeLib
Movie Showings
Join us once a month for a popular new release!
Dec. 4 at 2pm - Respect (PG-13) - 2 hrs, 25 mins
Following the rise of Aretha Franklin’s career from a child singing in her father’s church’s choir to her international superstardom, RESPECT is the remarkable true story of the music icon’s journey to find her voice.
January & February movie showings TBA – Check online calendar for updates. REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

Jewelry Classes - Wednesdays at 6:30pm
Make fabulous jewelry for yourself or to give as a gift!
♦ Dec. 8 - Holly Berry Earrings
♦ Jan. 19 - Make What You Want!
  Make a project from a previous class OR find inspiration in our many different beads, pendants and charms and make something that is all your own!
♦ Feb. 9 - Heart Cuff Bracelet
  Cost: $7/person per class - Pay at the class
For adults & teens. REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

Registration for programs opens the 20th of the month prior.

Book Clubs
Visit our online calendar for availability of titles.

Diverse Voices Monthly at 7pm
Thurs, 12/9
Wed, 1/12
Thurs, 2/10

Sci-Fi/Fantasy Sat, 1/29 at 2pm
Thrilling Reads Sat, 2/19 at 2pm

Strathmore Speakers Series
Thursdays at 7pm - ONLINE via Zoom
The popular local speakers series continues to partner with OFL this winter to bring you informational and inspirational lectures about a variety of topics.
⇒ Feb. 10 - Speaker & Topic TBA
Recommended for adults. REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

Google Suite: 3-Part Series - Fridays, 2-3pm
Join OFL’s Digital Services and Technology librarian for an in-depth look at 3 of Google’s most powerful tools:
⇒ Jan. 14 - Google Drive  Recommended for adults.
⇒ Jan. 21 - Google Docs  REGISTRATION REQUIRED for each session.
⇒ Jan. 28 - Google Slides

Video Editing Basics: 2-Part Series
Tuesdays, Feb. 1 & 8 at 6:30pm
Editing professional-looking videos has never been easier thanks to Filmora X, the free video editing platform from Wondershare. In this two-part series, learn how to use this incredibly user-friendly editing program, from basic cuts, to green screen effects, mixing audio, split-screen, and more! Filmora X is perfect for both beginners and more advanced editors alike. No previous editing experience required.
Recommended for adults and teens.
REGISTRATION REQUIRED - Registering for 1 session registers you for both sessions.

1-on-1 Techtorials
Mondays & Fridays at 10:30am & 2:00pm
45 minute appointments
Looking for tech support for your computer or mobile device? Need assistance setting up your Windows PC or Macbook? Or would you like to learn how to use one of the library’s many digital services, such as Overdrive/Libby, Hoopla, Ancestry or Newsbank? Sign up for a one-on-one techtorial!
REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

Crafts with Friends
Thursdays, 9:30-10:30am
You’re invited to meet, chat, share crafting/hobby ideas, and work on your current projects. Be sure to browse the library’s Crafts & Hobbies collection too! There is no fee, no obligation – just bring your craft/hobby and a friend! No registration necessary.
Presented by the Friends of OFL.
Tuesday, Jan. 11 at 6:30pm

Join us for an insightful look at the connection between the Town of Onondaga and the Valley Forge winter of 1777-1778.

Among those who suffered and trained with George Washington’s army during that long bitter winter were six residents of the future Town of Onondaga, including Captain James Beebe.

Go on a fascinating journey with Captain Beebe and his five compatriots, from Monmouth to Valley Forge and on to the founding of the Town of Onondaga, where both Beebe and his brothers in arms were eventually laid to rest. Today, you can visit their graves in the Walnut Grove Cemetery on Onondaga Hill.

Presented by the Town of Onondaga Historical Society in partnership with the Daughters of the American Revolution

Recommended for adults. This is a hybrid in-person and virtual program. REGISTRATION REQUIRED whether you plan to attend in-person or virtually.
Junior Library Volunteers

Meetings: Thursday, 12/16, 6-7pm & Saturdays, 1/22 & 2/26, 2-3pm

Do you want to volunteer at the library? Join our team of emerging teen leaders. Volunteers help plan library events, create book displays, write book reviews and complete community service projects. For teens in grades 7-12. REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

All participants are encouraged to complete a JLV application to stay up-to-date on additional volunteer opportunities– Visit www.oflibrary.org/volunteer for more information.

Homeschool:
Library Study Skills

2-Part Series: Wednesdays, Jan. 12 & 19, 2-3pm

Working on a research project? Join us this winter for a 2-part Library Study Skills series:
⇒ Week 1: Discover library databases and resources for homework help
⇒ Week 2: Strategic searching and website evaluation

*Students are encouraged but not required to bring a research topic.

For students in grades 6+. REGISTRATION REQUIRED-Registering for 1 session registers you for both sessions.

S.T.E.A.M.: Intro to Coding

Thursdays, 1/27 & 2/24, 4-5pm

This introductory class is for tweens and teens interested in exploring what coding is all about through hands-on activities. We will learn block coding with Sphero, OzoBots, Scratch and OSMO games. Librarians will also showcase their favorite "Learn to Code" resources for beginners.

For teens in grades 5+. REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

TEEN Winter Break Week

School’s out and OFL is the place to be…

* Wed, 12/29, 2-4pm - Board Game Meetup
Bring a friend and your favorite board games to play at the library! Don’t have games to share? We’ve got you covered with classics on hand, including Monopoly, Pictionary, Uno and Apples to Apples.

* Thurs, 12/30, 6:30-8:00pm - Marvel Fandom Night
Join us for an exciting Marvel-themed night with games, crafts and a costume contest. Come dressed as your favorite Marvel character and you will be automatically entered to win a Regal Movie gift card.

* Fri, 12/31, 1-4pm - Gamer Meetup
Calling all Xbox gamers- test your Madden and MLB skills at our gamer meetup! Additional Xbox GamePass games available for play.

For teens in grades 6+. REGISTRATION REQUIRED for each event.

Presented by OFL’s Junior Library Volunteers.

Dungeons & Dragons

Join one of the library’s TEEN Dungeons & Dragons Clubs - We have 2 great teen led campaigns! New and experienced players welcome!
⇒ Group A meets Thursdays, 6-8pm
Weekly December through February
⇒ Group B meets Saturdays, 1-2pm
Dates TBA

For teens in grades 6+. REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

Rom-Com Party

Friday, 2/25, 1-4pm

Are you a fan of romantic comedies? Put on your favorite PJs and join us in the new Teen Space for a rom-com movie bash - Play games, make crafts and meet other rom-com fans! Vote on your favorite rom-com to watch with friends.

Presented by OFL’s Junior Library Volunteers
For teens in grades 7+. REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

Join the READ WOKE Reading Challenge!
ONGOING PROGRAM- Start anytime and finish at your own pace!
Learn more at www.oflibrary.com/read-woke
Explore our NEW S.T.E.A.M. Station Activities!

S.T.E.A.M. stands for science, technology, engineering, arts and math. Engaging in S.T.E.A.M. is a great way to help your child/children cultivate and develop critical thinking, problem-solving and creativity skills with an emphasis in valuing the learning process itself across disciplines. Discover fun and educational activities in our newly redesigned S.T.E.A.M. Station!

- **Science:** Geology/Rock Identification, Magnetism, Anatomy Building Set
- **Technology:** Cubelets, Merge Cube, StikBots, Sphero Mini, OSMO (kits must be checked out on a library card)
- **Engineering:** Keva Planks, Picasso Tiles, LEGO\s
- **Arts:** Origami, Story Cubes
- **Math:** Cipher Wheel, Rubik’s Cube, Genius Square

Recommended for school-age kids.

*For in-house use only. Adult supervision recommended.*

Located on the 1st floor in our Juvenile Non-Fiction area.

Learn more about our S.T.E A.M. Station at [www.oflibrary.org/steam-station](http://www.oflibrary.org/steam-station)
For Kids...  Registration for programs opens the 20th of the month prior.

Note: Children under the age of 8 may not be left unattended in the library.

S.T.E.A.M. Tech Toy Petting Zoo
Tuesday, 12/21 at 4-5pm
Do(es) your child(ren) love robots, coding and art? Join us at our tech toy petting zoo where stations will be set up for your child(ren) to play and explore. Play with Cubelets, OSMO, Sphero Mini, Robot mice and the Merge Cube.

Recommended for kids in grades K-5, but all are welcome! No registration necessary.

Art for Homeschoolers
Wednesdays, 2:00-3:30pm
Learn about the history of art! Each session will feature a short introduction to a specific style of art followed by an opportunity to create their own masterpieces.

♦ Dec. 8: Mosaic Myths & Legends ft. Paolo Uccello
♦ Feb. 9: Greek Sculpture ft. The Bronze Running Girl

For kids in grades 3-7. REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

Young Artists
Saturdays, 12/11 & 2/12, 2:00-3:30pm
Same as Art for Homeschoolers but OPEN TO ALL STUDENTS!

For kids in grades 3-7. REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

American Girl
Thursdays, 12/16 & 2/3, 6:00-7:30pm
Let's celebrate the traditions and history of the holidays with stories, crafts and songs of the American Girls. Feel free to bring dolls and your own stories of family traditions to share.

For kids in grades 2-6. REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

Pokémon
Mondays, 1/10 & 1/24, 6-7pm
Enjoy a fun game of strategy and partnership while battling new friends with Pokémon cards. All skill levels are welcome! Please note that due to social distancing restrictions, each child will hold their card in play and read it out loud to the other player. No trading will be allowed.

For kids in grades 2-5. REGISTRATION REQUIRED for each session.

Paper Crafts
Grades K-2: Tuesday, 12/28 at 1:30pm
Grades 3-6: Tuesday, 12/7 at 5:00pm
With paper, the possibilities are endless! Join the fun in making a gift for yourself or someone else. Instructions will be provided for a few different paper crafts along with paper, scissors, glue, markers and more! Feel free to bring your own ideas too!

REGISTRATION REQUIRED for each session.

Melted Snowman Slime Making
Saturday, 12/18 at 2pm
Join us in getting messy as we make our very own slime to look like a melted snow person.

For kids in grades 2-6. REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

Narwhal & Jelly Fan Club
Saturday, 1/8 at 2pm
Share the adventures of this graphic novel series for early readers- Explore the books, play trivia games and create your own Narwhal & Jelly crafts.

For kids in grades K-2. REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

A Fairy Good Time
Saturday, 1/15 at 2pm
Enter the magical realm of the fairies where you’ll be sure to have a fairy good time! Create your own magical wand, fairy jar and fairy door to take home. Costumes encouraged, but not required.

For kids in grades K-3. REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

Be sure to check out our January art exhibit on the 2nd floor featuring Flower and Fairy Art by Lisa Davis.

Saturday, February 5th
OFL has books, movies, board games, S.T.E.A.M. Station activities, LEGO's, a puppet theater and more! Celebrate Take Your Child to the Library Day by exploring all that OFL has to offer!

Mo Willems Celebration: 2-3pm
Recommended for kids in grades K-2, but all are welcome! REGISTRATION REQUIRED.
For Families...

**Holiday Movie Nights**  
Mondays in December at 6pm
- Dec. 6: The Polar Express - 1hr, 40mins
- Dec. 13: The Muppet Christmas Carol - 1hr, 26mins
- Dec. 20: Arthur Christmas - 1hr, 37mins
- Dec. 27: Santa Buddies - 1hr, 28mins
For all ages! REGISTRATION REQUIRED for each movie.

**Movie Showings**  
Join us once a month for a popular new release!
Dec. 18 at 10am - *Paw Patrol: The Movie* - 1 hr, 25 mins
Ryder and the pups are called to Adventure City to stop Mayor Humdinger from turning the bustling metropolis into a state of chaos.
January & February movie showings TBA – Check online calendar for updates. REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

For Babies, Toddlers & Preschoolers...

*NEW* Registration for storytimes opens Monday at 9am each week.

**Baby/Toddler Storytimes**  
Wednesdays at 9:30am & Fridays at 10:30am  
No storytimes between Christmas & New Year’s.  
(Same storytime presented both days each week.)
Join us for lap bounces and lots of songs and fingerplays as we meet new friends!  
For birth to 2 years old. Siblings welcome!  
REGISTRATION REQUIRED for each storytime.

**Preschool Storytimes**  
Tuesdays & Wednesdays at 10:45am  
No storytimes between Christmas & New Year’s.  
(Same storytime presented both days each week.)
Join us at the library for fun animal-themed stories, songs and activities!  
For ages 3-5. Siblings welcome!  
REGISTRATION REQUIRED for each storytime.

Notes about Storytimes:
⇒ Registration is currently required for indoor storytimes as there is limited space to ensure social distancing.
⇒ Register both the parent/caregiver AND the child(ren).
⇒ Please register for only one session of each storytime per week to allow for more families to participate.
⇒ OFL is following the CDC’s guidance on mask wearing at this time: All individuals aged 2 years or older must wear a mask at all times inside the library. Note: These guidelines may change depending on updated state, county, and/or town directives.

**Books, Balls & Blocks**  
Presented by Help Me Grow Onondaga

Because your child’s first 5 years of life are so important, we want to help you provide the best start for your child.

We will share fun, low-cost activities and books that you can share with your child at home to encourage development from birth until kindergarten. **Attend one or both of the following programs:**

**Social Emotional**  
Monday, 1/10 at 10am  
Discuss the 7 areas of social-emotional development in children: ability to calm down, take direction and follow rules, communicate, perform daily activities, act independently, demonstrate feelings and interact with others.

For parents and children, ages birth to 5 years old. REGISTRATION REQUIRED for both programs.

Registrants will be emailed a questionnaire within 72 hours of registering for each program. Questionnaire must be completed prior to each program, so your child(ren) can receive a full evaluation at each event.
Friends of OFL

15th Annual Festival of Trees
Buy Tickets: 11/19-12/10
Raffle Drawings: Saturday, Dec. 11
Come in anytime to see a beautiful display of miniature Christmas trees decorated by local businesses, schools, community groups and families. Take a chance at winning a tree full of holiday cheer! Buy raffle tickets at the front desk. Contactless option available—Learn more at www.oflibrary.org/festival-of-trees | Tickets: $1 each or 6 for $5

Bag & Cookbook Sale
Saturdays, Dec. 11 & 18, 10am-2pm
Stop by the library to purchase the Friends reusable bags! They’re perfect for your quick trip to the library, to a holiday gathering or even to the beach (well, not in this weather!). They also make great holiday gifts—Show your loved ones you support OFL. The Friends will also be selling their cookbooks, which includes over 180 recipes submitted by the CNY community. Another great gift idea! Prices: TBA

OFL is now FINE FREE! Our goal with this initiative is to allow all people in our community to have more access to library collections and digital resources. Learn more at www.oflibrary.org/fine-free

How Busy is OFL?
Keep an eye on our occupancy—Visit our website to view our density counter software and discover busy times.

Curbside Pickup
Not comfortable entering public facilities? Do you have limited mobility? Or don’t want to get the kids out of the car? Use our curbside pickup service!

Meeting Rooms
All of our meeting rooms are available for reservation!
⇒ Community Room: Capacity 30 people
⇒ 3 Small Meeting Rooms: Capacity 4-10 people
Reserve up to 3 hours a day per individual/group. Various A/V equipment available in each room.
Learn more about our meeting rooms at www.oflibrary.org/meeting-rooms

Friends of OFL
Monthly Meetings - Regularly 1st Wednesday at 7pm
Meeting Dates: Dec. 1, Jan. 5 & Feb. 2

OFL Board of Trustees
Monthly Meetings - Regularly 4th Wednesday at 6pm
Meeting Dates: Dec. 22, Jan. 26 & Feb. 23

Library Closings:
Onondaga Free Library
4840 West Seneca Turnpike
Syracuse, NY 13215
Phone: (315) 492-1727
Fax: (315) 492-1323
Email: info@oflibrary.org
Web: www.oflibrary.org

Connect with Us:
@OnondagaFreeLib

Library Hours
Monday 9:00am - 8:30pm
Tuesday 9:00am - 8:30pm
Wednesday 9:00am - 8:30pm
Thursday 9:00am - 8:30pm
Friday 10am - 5pm
Saturday 10am - 5pm
Sunday Closed

Updates...

Remember when you’re holiday shopping…
The Friends of OFL are a supported charity on AmazonSmile! Learn more at www.oflibrary.org/friends-of-ofl

Christmas
New Year’s
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Presidents’ Day
Closed December 24 & 25
Closed January 1
Closed January 17
Closed February 21