

Find more events and features at abingtonfreelibrary.org.

For the most up-to-date news on hours and services, see abingtonfreelibrary.org/news

Both Libraries offer free WiFi and loan HotSpots and WiFi enabled Chromebooks!

Browse our full calendar @ abingtonfreelibrary.org/events.

Get e-Newsletters, go to <http://bit.ly/e-NewsletterSignUp>

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Abington Free Library
1030 Old York Road, Abington, 19001
215-885-5180, abingtonfreelibrary.org
Circulation Desk ext. 112
Information Desk ext. 113
Children's Department ext. 128
Executive Director ext. 114
Office ext. 115
Adult Literacy 215-885-5183
Friends of the Library ext. 136
Monday - Thursday: 9:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Friday - Saturday: 9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Roslyn Branch Library
2412 Avondale Avenue, Roslyn, 19001
215-886-9818, abingtonfreelibrary.org
Monday: 11:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.
Tuesday & Thursday: 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Friday: 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Saturday: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Closed Wednesdays and Sundays.

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VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT - TERRY BIANSCO, PRESIDENT OF THE LIBRARY FRIENDS

The BookCellar, special sales, raffle baskets and the Lucky Day collections at Abington and Roslyn libraries all have something in common. These wonderful resources are provided by the Friends of Abington Township Libraries, a group of dedicated volunteers who support the libraries and our community on their own time. Leading the Friends is their president, Terry BianSCO.

Terry grew up nearby in Philadelphia and is the youngest of four siblings. She received her undergraduate degree at La Salle College (before it was La Salle University) and her graduate degree at Beaver College (before it was Arcadia University). She worked as a special ed teacher for 36 years in Philadelphia and loved the job more than anything. We are so fortunate to have had Terry as a member of the Friends for 10 years and as the current president for a year and a half.

Terry's passion for libraries bloomed at a young age. "When I was a child, I would walk with my friends every Saturday to the library," she said.

The library was always a comforting

place for Terry and her friends. She also has fond memories of her small school library, which was formed by her mother and several of her mother's friends. This formative experience illustrated the importance of libraries and community to Terry.

As president of the Friends here, Terry's responsibilities revolve around promoting and supporting the libraries through events and outreach. She said the Friends also work to foster "good will" between the libraries and patrons.

One can see how all this hard work pays off, as our libraries wouldn't be nearly as vibrant and enriching without the support of the Friends. Whether it's hosting the annual jewelry auction or processing all the material donations we receive, Terry and the Friends are always busy with something!

What's the best part about volunteering with the Friends?

"The library itself and the staff who are all so impressive with their knowledge and helpfulness," she said. Terry attributes the staff and volunteers as a major component

of the "welcome atmosphere" at the library.

The Friends are an awesome and diverse group of people, and their president recognizes that each member has different strengths that are utilized to bring out the best for our libraries.

Terry also would like to acknowledge the great support of her husband and grown son. It's clear that we have Terry to thank for all the hard work that she puts into supporting the libraries and maintaining the welcome atmosphere that patrons cherish.

Terry says to keep an eye out for upcoming events from the Friends. They will help out with Winterfest at Abington Library on December 9, and will host the next plant and book sale in the spring. Come support the Friends — and the libraries you love!

- Angela Morretti



DEAR PATRONS, FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS,

Many of you have been part of the Abington Township Public Library community for years — even decades. You have seen us go through changes to adopt new technologies, upgrade our buildings, elevate the library experience and meet the public's evolving needs. Moreover, you have embraced these changes along the way.

We are excited to share our newest change: As of January 1, 2024, the library will be going fine free. Quite simply, this means that we will no longer issue fines for overdue materials, with the exception of a limited number of items in our Library of Things. In doing this, we join many neighboring libraries and libraries around the country who have eliminated fines so that all people have access to library materials.

We did our homework to assess the consequences of going fine free. Studies have shown that there is no clear benefit to administering fines to patrons. Eliminating fines does not change return rates. If anything, return rates increased slightly at fine free libraries. In researching the issue and through discussions with the board of trustees and the township manager, it is apparent that when people return their books to the Abington and Roslyn libraries, they're staying to check out their next stack of books, attend a program, use our computers and be an active member of our library community.

When life gets in the way and you're a few days late in returning your books, whether your children misplaced them in the bottom of their toy bin or it took you a little longer than anticipated to get through the end of a really great book, you won't get a fine, you'll simply get a "Thank you!" Of course, it is still your responsibility to return library materials when you are finished with them. We want to get them back into circulation so they can be enjoyed by all! But for many, the stress of accumulating overdue fines is enough to keep them and their families from visiting the library. Ultimately, we earnestly believe that going fine free will eliminate such barriers for many in our community.

We know that some library users view fines as their donation to the library, but the truth is, the philanthropic support we receive through our annual appeal is critical to the library's mission to educate, engage and empower. With deep appreciation, we ask you to consider making a gift to support and expand our wonderful programs, resources and services as we move towards the future. Together we can put our values into action as we continue to provide an enriching, welcoming space within our community.

On behalf of the library and the board of trustees, we wish you and your loved ones a safe, happy and healthy holiday season, and we hope to see you at Abington and Roslyn libraries soon.

Sincerely,

Joseph Milano
President, Board of Trustees

Elizabeth Fitzgerald
Executive Director



RECENT SIGNIFICANT DONORS

The Friends of the Abington Township Public Libraries

Family of Patricia Amon	James Gulla	Patricia Timmins
Estate of Susan Cohen	Jeffrey Kahn	Salvatore Valenti
James Cook	Pamela & George Konesky III	Lucille Van Hook MD
Carol Doherty	Dr. Faren Williams & Luke Maki	Beth & Tom Warms
Lynda Ewald	Charles Silverman	Marvin Weilerstein
Sandra & Ronald Friedman	Edward Stevenson	

ELAINE WOLFSON MAGLNER MEMORIAL CONCERT SERIES: ABE OVADIA DUO

REIMAGINING THE GREAT AMERICAN SONGBOOK

Live at the Abington Free Library
Thursday, January 11
7:00 - 8:00 p.m.



DOGGONE GOOD READERS VIA ZOOM

Tuesday, December 19
7:00 - 7:35 p.m.

Practice reading aloud to a registered therapy dog online! Grades 1 - 5.



STITCH N CHAT

@Abington:
Thursdays, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
@Roslyn:
Fridays, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

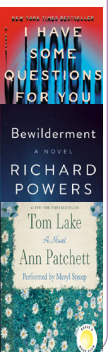


Embrace Love in the New Year: A Heartfelt Conversation with Rebecca Serle
New York Times Bestselling Author of *One Italian Summer*,

In Five Years, and *The Dinner List*
Wednesday, January 10, 8:00 p.m.

RUTH AND ROBERT ABEL MEMORIAL BOOK AND FILM DISCUSSION GROUP

Led by Dr. Karen Weekes.
Wednesdays, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
March 13: *I Have Some Questions for You* by Rebecca Makkai
April 10: *Bewilderment* by Richard Powers
May 15: *Tom Lake* by Ann Patchett



REFERENCE NEWS

Music CDs relabeling

The Library's music CD collection has been relabeled: Items are now organized by genre and date, rather than a Dewey classification number. For example, a new CD by Taylor Swift can now be found under CD POP SWIFT 2023; or a musical, such as Phantom of the Opera, can now be found under CD MUSICAL PHANT 1987. We hope the new system will make it easier for you to find the music you love. Staff can help you with your search.

Power Library Resources

Did you know that all Pennsylvania residents can access Power Library resources both in the library and remotely? All you need is a library card. Explore offerings for all ages by starting here: abingtonfreelibrary.org/eresources/power-library.

Four new resources were recently added, including Transparent Language Online. Whether you're just beginning to learn a new language, or eager to build vocabulary, Transparent Language Online will help you get started and stick with it. If you want to track your progress, you can create an account. If you do not want to create an account, select 'Continue as Guest' on the login screen.

Transparent Language Online offers 120+ languages, including American Sign Language; English (ESL/ELL) for speakers of over 30 languages; and 30+ endangered North American and world languages, with more added every year!

Learn anytime, anywhere with mobile apps that include offline and hands-free modes. Courses focus on travel, workplace language, and more.

Would you consider sharing this news with friends and neighbors? We welcome your efforts to spread the word about resources offered at Abington and Roslyn libraries.

Thank you!

~The Reference
Department Staff

PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

Abington Free Library
Please register online for programs
abingtonfreelibrary.org/events



WINTERFEST

Saturday, December 9, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Outdoor Concert and Craft Fair

PROFESSIONAL HEADSHOTS

Friday, December 14, noon – 2:00 p.m.
Make an appointment. Registration required.

PUZZLEPALOOZA!

Thursday, January 18, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
National Puzzle Day is January 29, so come celebrate with a puzzle competition! Your team will have two hours to assemble a 500-piece puzzle.

BUILD A TIME MACHINE!

Thursday, February 29, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
Happy Leap Day! You get an extra day, so why not build a time machine? We'll have the supplies: cardboard, markers, construction paper, and more. You bring the creativity!

ROSLYN PROGRAMS



PLAYDATE ON AVONDALE

Toys appropriate for ages 2 ½ to 6.
Fridays, 10:30 – noon Drop-in

STITCH AND CHAT

Adults and teens
Fridays, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Drop-in

TODDLER TIME

Ages 18 months – 3 years
Tuesdays 10:15 – 10:45 a.m.
November 13 – December 12
Registration open.
January 9 – February 27
Registration starts December 18.
March 12 – April 30
Registration starts February 19.

ROSLYN STORYTIME

Ages 3 – 5. Thursdays, 10:30 – 11 a.m.
January 11 – March 7
No session February 8.
Registration starts December 26.
March 21 – May 16
No session April 18.
Registration starts March 4.

WINTER CRAFTS

Adults, teens, children ages 4 and up
Monday, December 4, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Registration starts November 20.

PLAYDOUGH PARTY

Ages 3 and up
Tuesday, December 26, 10:30 – noon
Drop-in

NEW YEAR'S WREATH

Kits given out December 11 – 23.
Reserve a kit starting December 4.

AFRICAN DRUM CIRCLE

Ages 4 – 12
Monday, January 22, 6:30 – 7:15 p.m.
Registration starts January 2.

BRIGHTEN YOUR SPACE

Ages 10 – adult
Monday, January 29, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Make a vision wreath and a room freshener.
Registration starts January 8.

VIRTUAL ART CLASSES

Adults, teens ages 14 and up
Painted Owl Rock
Wednesday, January 24, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Registration starts January 2.

Full Moon Owl Drawing

Wednesday, February 7, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Registration starts Jan 15.

OZOBOTS IN SPACE:

In honor of Katherine Johnson
Ages 5 – 10
Monday, February 12, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Registration starts January 22.

INVENT A RICE KRISPIE TREAT

Ages 10 – 14
Friday, February 16, 12:15 – 1:00 p.m.
Registration starts Jan 29.

BUILD IT UP AND KNOCK IT DOWN

Ages 4 – 10
Monday, March 18, 6:30 – 7:15 p.m.
Registration starts February 26.

SECRET GARDEN PLAYDATE

Ages 2 ½ to 6
Friday, March 15, 10:30 a.m. – noon

MAP A SECRET GARDEN ART CLASS

Ages 8 – 12
Saturday, March 16, 11:00 a.m. – noon
Registration starts February 26.

CONTAINER GARDENING

with Master Gardener Leigh Kieser
Adults and teens ages 14 and up
Monday, April 8, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Registration starts March 18.

CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK

Monday, May 6, 6:30 – 7:15 p.m.
Registration starts April 15.

SHIZEN PAPER

Adults and teens ages 12 and up
Monday, May 13, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Registration starts April 22.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS



RAINBOW CONNECTIONS (via Zoom)

LGBTQ+ kids and allies in grades K – 5
Second Monday evening of the month
Start and end times will vary. Meet new friends and talk about LGBTQ+ themed books and topics in a safe space. Registration required.

WINTER TODDLER STORY TIMES

Ages 1 – 2
Tuesdays, January 9 – February 13, 10:30 – 11:00 a.m.
Registration starts December 18.

WINTER PRESCHOOL STORY TIMES

Ages 3 – 5
Thursdays, January 11 – February 15, 10:30 – 11:00 a.m.
Register one week before each story time date.

DOGGONE GOOD READERS (in-person)

Grades 1 – 5
Saturdays, January 6, February 3, March 2, April 6, 10:00 – 10:30 a.m. OR 10:45 – 11:15 a.m.
(Choose one session per date.)
Read aloud to a registered therapy dog.
Registration starts three Mondays before each program date.

EVERYBODY DANCE (A HISTORY OF HIP HOP DANCE)

Tuesday, February 27, 7:00 – 7:45 p.m.
Pop and lock with Illstyle & Peace Productions during this exciting show!
Registration begins February 13.

NATIONAL DAY OF READING: A CELEBRATION OF STORIES SUPPORTING TRANS AND NON-BINARY YOUTH (in-person and via Zoom)

Ages 4 and up with caregivers
Thursday, March 7, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Join Miss Jessica and friends for book readings and fun activities. Registration begins February 22.

TEEN PROGRAMS

No registration required for drop-in programs. All programs are for grades 6 – 12 unless otherwise noted.

Ab-TAB

Third Monday of the month, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
The Teen Advisory Board (Ab-TAB) is a group of teens who participate in library projects and make recommendations about teen programs and the selection of library materials. Drop-in.

Q CREW

Second Tuesday of the month, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
LGBTQ+ teens and allies are invited to join the Q Crew! Hang out with new friends and discuss the past, present, and future of LGBTQ+ issues in a safe space. Drop-in.

TEEN VOLUNTEER EVENT: WINDOW PAINTING

Saturday, December 2, 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.
Help us decorate the library by painting our windows! No art skills required. Earn service hours.

HANDMADE FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Monday, December 4, 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Make gifts for friends and family for the holidays! Use our supplies to make a hot cocoa kit, hanging ornaments, buttons, and more.

TEEN CRAFTERNOON

Wednesday, December 27, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Need something to do during the winter break? Join us for a Teen Crafternoon!
We'll provide craft supplies of all kinds so you can get creative, including our button maker, paint, yarn, and more! Drop-in.

DIGITAL SAT PRACTICE TEST

Saturday, January 6, 9:00 a.m. – noon. Online
Take a free, full-length digital SAT practice exam and receive a detailed score report. Can't make it for the live practice exam? Sign up anyway! You will receive a link to do the exam when you have time.

ART CLASS: WATERCOLOR SNOW CAT PAINTING

Thursday, January 25, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
Instructor Anita Thompson will lead the class. All supplies will be provided.

DIY FOLDED BOOK ART

Thursday, February 8, 7:00 – 8:15 p.m.
Just in time for Valentine's Day: Learn how to make a folded heart in a book! This program is open to teens and adults.

PARENTS MATTER: HOW YOU CAN HELP YOUR TRANS CHILD

Tuesday, February 13, time TBD
Parents of LGBTQ+ children are invited to this event led by Alexander Stefanini, owner of Arrive Therapy. Get answers to your questions, resources from professionals, and talk to other parents of LGBTQ+ children.

TEEN VOLUNTEER EVENT:

Letters Against Isolation
Friday, February 16, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Earn service hours by handwriting letters to seniors around the country. Help brighten someone's day!

TEEN VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Ongoing
Calling all teen crafters! Do you knit or crochet? We're looking for teens to make scarves for our Teen Self-Care Station. For more information, use this Google Form: bit.ly/scarves4service.

ADULT PROGRAMS

ELAINE WOLFSON MAGILNER

MEMORIAL CONCERT SERIES
Thursday, January 11, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Abe Ovadia Duo
Reimagining the Great American Songbook

DAYTIME BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

First Thursday of the month at 1:00 p.m.
January 4: House Parties, by Lynn Levin
February 1: Life After Life, by Kate Atkinson
March 7: The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store, by James McBride

RUTH AND ROBERT ABEL MEMORIAL

BOOK AND FILM DISCUSSION GROUP
Led by Dr. Karen Weekes.
Wednesday, March 13, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
I Have Some Questions for You, by Rebecca Makkai

ART CLASS FOR ADULTS:

WATERCOLOR NIGHT SKY BUCK
Tuesday, January 16, 7:00 – 8:15 p.m.

STORIES OF EXILE

All programs at 7:00 p.m.
January 17: "The Orphanage," reading discussion
February 7: "Fiddler's Journey to the Big Screen," documentary discussion
February 22: Baseball: Immigration and Assimilation

VIRTUAL AUTHOR TALKS

Tuesday, December 12, 2:00 p.m.
Stephanie Land: Motherhood, Hunger, and Higher Education

Wednesday, January 10, 8:00 p.m.

Rebecca Serle: Embrace Love in the New Year

SUNDAY'S ON MONDAY

Mondays at 10:30 a.m. Join us solving the NYT Sunday crossword.
Drop-in

ADULTS READ YA BOOK CLUB

First Thursday of the month, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Join YA Librarian Sara Huff for a book discussion.

ONE-ON-ONE TECH HELP

Thursdays, 10:30 a.m. – noon
Sign up for a free, 30-minute, one-on-one session. Register online or call the Information Desk at 215-885-5180, ext. 113.

STITCH AND CHAT

Thursdays, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Bring your current projects and stitch with us.

BECOME A FRIEND



The weather may be getting colder, but that won't stop the Friends of Abington Libraries from celebrating WinterFest on December 9, from 2 to 4 p.m. outside Abington Library.

The fest will feature a concert by the Abington Senior High School Choir, as well as vendors, crafts and a photo booth. We will sell hot chocolate to help keep you warm, along with a variety of delicious cookies.

Inside, come visit our cozy BookCellar in the lower level of the library. We'll have a special pop-up sale all day on December 9, featuring wonderful children's books and books for grownups, too! All proceeds from the Friends BookCellar benefit both Abington and Roslyn libraries.

The Friends of Abington Township Libraries raise funds to support programs, museum passes, Lucky Day books, and other library activities.

February is Black History Month, and what better way to explore that history than by finding books at the library and the BookCellar, or borrowing one of the many museum passes that the Friends have donated to both libraries.

Thinking ahead to Valentine's Day? The BookCellar can help you there, too.

The winter season brings us a time to slow down ... and dream of warmer weather. Come learn something new at a library program, explore new topics, and visit the BookCellar, where you are sure to find a treasure and help the Friends support the wonderful Abington Libraries.

Stay warm and stay positive that after winter, there are warmer days ahead, and our Spring Book and Plant Sale will be around the corner before you know it.

Best wishes,

- Terry Biansco, President of the
Friends of Abington Township Libraries

ADULT LITERACY PROGRAM



We train volunteer tutors and match them with students who want to improve their literacy skills. We also offer small classes where English language learners can practice English in a supportive environment.

We help adults:

- Improve their non-native English skills.
- Increase their reading, writing, or math skills.
- Prepare to pass a test – such as a high school equivalency test, and the U.S. citizenship test.

Many people in our community would appreciate your help. Become a volunteer tutor. No experience is necessary. We offer new tutor trainings three times a year. The next training will be March.

Office hours:
Monday and Wednesday,
2:00 – 5:30 p.m.;
Tuesday and Thursday,
10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.; and
by appointment.

For more information,
contact the Adult Literacy
Office: 215-885-5183 or
ablit1@yahoo.com.

– Elizabeth Sperling,
Program Coordinator

QUESTIONS? CONTACT US! 267-245-7337 (Text us)



E-Newsletter
sign up



Email us



Chat with a
Librarian