



From The Director's Desk



As the new year begins, I find myself reflecting on the past year. The Library circulated 597,206 items in FY2024. We offered 1,032 programs for all ages, with an attendance of 21,747. Librarians led 4,423 reference sessions. 5,078 folks used our public computers, while 84,841 folks used our public Wifi. Our Quiet Study and other meeting rooms were in demand as well. Our three study rooms were used 2,507 times, and our public meeting rooms were used 334 times (not including community events put on or co-sponsored by the library). Through our membership in CWMARS, Hopkinton residents were able to borrow 15,099 items from other Massachusetts libraries, while Hopkinton

lent out 8,432 items to non-Hopkinton residents.

This past calendar year, CWMARS libraries (including Hopkinton) added the Aspen Discovery Layer to our online catalog, resulting in an improved catalog experience. Aspen is an open source discovery system that integrates with eContent and other third-party providers, giving you comprehensive access to all of our materials in one place.

In October, we began limited Sunday hours. We are now open from 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm on Sundays, from Labor Day to Memorial Day. Sunday hours were in response to a desire on the part of the community, as well as to the addition of four new, full-time supervisor positions. Even with the extra staff, scheduling for Sundays was a monumental task. Much thanks goes to Assistant Director, Jak Miller, for working the schedule so that it would result in a four-week rotation for staff. Thus far, Sundays have been very busy. We hope that being open these extra hours will be of benefit to those unable to make it to the library during the workweek.

The Library continues to be an asset to the community. We average 22.3 visits per hour that we are open, with the annual program/event cost per patron of \$1.58. That makes the annual value to Hopkinton residents \$23,354,974.55, saving the average household \$3,500 per year. That makes the return on investment for the town (value of library services provided compared to approved town budget for the library) 2,401%.

I know that you can expect continued outstanding service from the fabulous staff here at the HPL. Each one of them is dedicated to providing you with a welcoming and safe space, programs, and collections. If there is anything that we can do for you in the coming year, please feel free to reach out to me directly at nhill@hopkintonma.gov

Sincerely,
Nanci M. Hill
Library Director

Guest Librarian is Ben Ledoux, Town IT Support Specialist



Coming from a family of avid readers, Ben started reading at a very young age. Growing



Coming from a family of avid readers, Ben started reading at a very young age. Growing up in Amherst, Ben and his family would often visit the library and regularly check out books. In fact, it was so regular that Ben's brother, Seth, works at the Hopkinton Public Library and is currently working on finishing his Masters in Library and Information Science!

Along with reading, Ben developed a love of music and technology, both which remain near and dear to him. His interest in technology blossomed into his current job as an IT Support Specialist with the Town's IT department, which includes a wide range of

deskside hardware and software support for town employees and volunteers. Ben has been with the town since 2016.

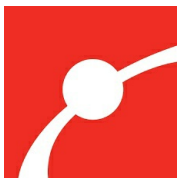
Ben's interest in music currently manifests itself as a hobby of collecting and listening to old vinyl records, particularly '60s and '70s pop and rock music, as well as reading about the history of 20th century music. In addition to books about his favorite hobby, Ben loves reading about his favorite sport, baseball, and enjoys reading books from diverse perspectives, which he finds particularly valuable in both his professional and personal life.

Here is a sample of Ben's favorites

- Angelou, Maya. [I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings](#)
- Atwood, Margaret. [The Handmaid's Tale](#)
- Ellison, Ralph. [Invisible Man](#)
- Hinton, S.E. [The Outsiders](#)
- Lee, Harper. [To Kill a Mockingbird](#)
- Lee, Min Jin. [Pachinko](#)
- Lewis, Michael. [Moneyball: The Art of Winning an Unfair Game](#)
- Norman, Philip. [Paul McCartney: The Life](#)
- Questlove. [Music is History](#)
- Springsteen, Bruce. [Born to Run](#)
- Thomas, Angie. [The Hate U Give](#)
- Westover, Tara. [Educated](#)
- Whitehead, Colson. [The Nickel Boys](#)
- Kinsella, W.P. [Shoeless Joe](#)
- Zentner, Jeff. [The Serpent King](#)

Highlights at HPL

Adventure Pass of the Month - Museum of Science



The Museum of Science in Boston is located on a piece of land that extends the width of the Charles River, connecting Boston and Cambridge. Dedicated to promoting and educating visitors about science and technology, the museum includes a planetarium, the world's largest open-air Van de Graaff generator, an IMAX theatre, a butterfly garden, and permanent and changing exhibits on birds, insects and animals; space; dinosaurs; engineering; nanotechnology; math; biology; and more. Place your hold requests for this pass by visiting our

Adventure Pass page. Our Adventure Passes are generously funded by [The Friends of Hopkinton Public Library](#).

Library "Thing" of the Month - Portable Induction Cooktop



Intrigued by the idea of switching to a more energy efficient and responsive form of cooking than gas or traditional electric? Try out our portable induction cooktop which uses magnetic technology. Necessary pan type is included for use. You can reserve this by calling or visiting our reference department. Library of Things is generously supported by the [Hopkinton Public Library Foundation](#).

Upcoming



Programs

Programs are hosted at the library unless otherwise noted.

Registration is required for many programs.

Visit [our website calendar](#) to obtain updated information and registration.

Programs are subject to change or cancellation.

For Multiple Ages

Visible Mending Workshop (ages 12 +)

Sunday, January 5 12:30 - 3:30 pm

Add personality to your clothes while saving the planet! Push back against the throw-away fashion trend, and learn how to give old clothes new life with visible mending. Visible mending uses many approaches to restore old, used or torn clothing and fabric items. Join us as Catherine Karp leads an informal workshop, where she will demonstrate how to use embroidery, patching and darning techniques to restore and revive damaged textiles. You are invited to bring your own items to repair. All materials will be supplied, but you are welcome to bring your own scissors, needles, threads and fabric scraps. Space is limited for this workshop, so registration is required.

Narcan Training and Community Harm Reduction with the Hopkinton Health Department

Tuesday, January 14 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Narcan Training with the Hopkinton Health Department

Narcan is the brand name of the generic Naloxone and is a life-saving medication that can reverse an overdose from opioids. This free Narcan training will provide participants with a brief training on how to recognize an opioid overdose, when and how to use Narcan, and a free kit to take home.

Adult Programs

Scrabble & Mahjong Club

Tuesday, January 7 6:00 - 7:30 pm

Join us for monthly Scrabble or Mahjong games on the first Tuesday of the month. We have supplies but if you have a favorite board or tiles feel free to bring them!

English Language Learning - Beginners

Fridays, January 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 10:00 - 11:00 am Registration required

This class is appropriate for someone with very limited experience with the English language. This learner may be familiar with basic vocabulary and simple phrases but is struggling with everyday conversations. The beginner group provides an opportunity to build English vocabulary and practice grammar and reading.

This Lifelong Learning program has been made possible by the support of the Friends of the Hopkinton Public Library.

English Language Learning Conversation Group - Intermediate Learners

Wednesdays, January 8, 15, 22 & 29 10:00 - 11:30 am Registration Required

Intermediate Learners have mastered basic vocabulary and simple grammar and are now focused on greater comfort level in everyday conversations. At the Intermediate level, we will prioritize components of grammar, vocabulary expansion, reading comprehension, and group discussion. Lifelong Learning program has been made possible by the Friends of the Hopkinton Public Library.

Español Ahora!

Wednesday, January 8, 15 & 22 6:30 - 7:30 pm

If learning Spanish is on your bucket list, here is your chance. In an eight class experience with Spanish as your vehicle, practice vocabulary, make bread, play with math and do a little traveling. This is Spanish for everyday interactions. Informal conversation will be used to build a practical vocabulary, learn common phrases and practice Spanish in a comfortable environment. Our classes will be led by Bea and Laura, who are two experienced educators, and natives of Spain. Registration is required, as space is limited.

English Language Learning Conversation and Culture Group - Advanced

Thursdays, January 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 6:30 - 7:45 pm Registration required

Conversation And Culture provides a unique opportunity for the advanced learner to meet and practice

conversation in a relaxed, social setting with trained leaders. The members of this group are comfortable with everyday vocabulary and grammar and are seeking an opportunity to practice their skills. This Lifelong Learning program has been made possible by the support of the Friends of the Hopkinton Public Library.

Dungeons and Dragons (Adult group)

Sunday, January 5 1:00 - 4:00 pm

2024 is the 50th anniversary of the first publication of Dungeons & Dragons (D&D), so let's play the game the way they used to! Your Dungeon Master, Keith Donohue, grew up in the 1980s, back when D&D was first becoming popular. These days, he is an avid collector of old roleplaying games and is a proponent of the loose, improvisational style of play that was common in the past.

Blood Drive

Wednesday, January 2 11:00 am - 4:00 pm

Tuesday, January 28 1:00 - 6:00 pm

Register on the Red Cross website at <https://rcblood.org/3AmuYsP>.

Teen Programs

Young Adult Crafternoon (6th grade+)

Monday, January 13 & 27 3:00 - 5:00 pm

Stop by the YA Room every other Monday to hang out, listen to music, and make some art! We will have a different theme craft every meeting as well as extra materials to make your own creations. Please e-mail Jess at jdymment@hopkintonma.gov with any questions!

Animanga (6th grade+)

Wednesday, January 15 & 29 6:00 - 7:30 pm

Anime & Manga Fans: Meet in the Betty Strong room to discuss manga, watch Crunchyroll, draw characters, and eat fun snacks! Please e-mail Jess at jdymment@hopkintonma.gov with any questions.

Yoga for Teens (Ages 14-19 only)

Friday, January 10 4:00 - 5:00 pm

Join Katie Aissis of Sprouting Tree Yoga for a teen yoga class! In this class we use the practice of yoga to cultivate positive self-regard, self-esteem, and connection to one another. Please bring a mat or towel. This program is funded thanks to the Friends of the Hopkinton Public Library.

YA RPG Club

Wednesday, January 8 & 22 6:00 - 7:45 pm (open to 5th grade+)

Join us every other Wednesday for an evening of imagination and skill. We will play Dungeons and Dragons, Magic the Gathering, and other dice, card, and tabletop role-playing games. New players are always welcome. Registration is appreciated.

HHS Exam Week Study Hall

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, January 21, 22 & 23

During Midterm Exam Week, the Betty Strong room will be open to high school students from 2pm-7:45pm. We will have plenty of table space for studying as well as complimentary coffee and refreshments. See you there!

Open Game Play with One Up Games

Friday, January 24 1:00 - 4:00 pm

Middle school and high school students: looking for something to do on the early release day? Join our friends from One Up Games for an afternoon of video games and Virtual Reality! Sponsored by the Hopkinton Public Library Foundation.

Children's Programs

Registration required for many programs through [our website calendar](#).

Baby-Toddler Storytime (ages 0-3)

Tuesday, January 7 & 14 10:00 - 10:45 am ** Sensory Friendly**

Wednesday, January 8 & 15 10:00 - 10:45 am

Preschool Storytime (ages 3-6)

Tuesday, January 7, 14, 21 & 28 11:00 - 11:30 am

Join Ms. Carlv in the large event room for stories, songs, puppets, movements, and more! This lively, interactive storytime encourages the development of early literacy and social skills.

Lego & Duplo Club

Tuesday, January 7, 14, 21 & 28 4:00 - 4:45 pm

Drop by the Children's Room to build a creation out of LEGO bricks or DUPLO blocks. Creations will be displayed in the children's department for a few days. No registration required.

*Please note that the Lego & Pokémon Club meets on Thursday afternoons.

Alphabits (ages 3-6)

Wednesday, January 8 & 15 11:00 - 11:45 am

A storytime that supports foundational reading skills such as letter recognition and sound-symbol correspondence. Learning is supported through group discussion and play-based activities.

Read to a Therapy Dog

Wednesday, January 8, 15, 22 & 29 7:00 - 7:45 pm

Drop by to practice reading aloud to our therapy dog, Gracie.

Parent-Child Playgroup

Thursday, January 9, 16, 23 & 30 10:00 - 11:00 am

Join us for Parent-Child Playgroup, cohosted with the Hookinton YMCA (Project ABC). This event will include free play as well as a circle time with stories, songs, and rhymes! Recommended for children ages 0-5, with a caregiver.

Lego & Pokemon Club (ages 5+)

Thursday, January 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 4:00 - 4:45 pm

Children can play and create at Lego & Pokémon Club! Build a creation out of Legos or Duplo blocks. Creations will be displayed in the children's department for a few days. Do you play Pokémon? Looking for someone to play with, trade cards, and chat about all that is Pokémon? This club is for you! Bring your Pokémon cards if you have some. If you do not have cards, we will have a small amount for in-library use. This is a drop-in style club.

Babytime (0-18 months)

Friday, January 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 9:15 - 10:00 am

This baby lap sit storytime encourages early literacy and caregiver-child interactions with lively songs and rhymes, gentle tickles, bounces, and body-awareness.

Little Explorers (recommended ages 2-5)

Friday, January 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 10:30 - 11:15 am

Join us for hands-on learning for curious little kids. Each week children will explore a new concept through a variety of fun activities and have a chance to discover and experiment at their own pace.

Drop-in Family Activities

Saturday, January 4, 11 & 25 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Drop by the Children's Department programming room for some family activities (i.e. chess, board games, blocks, coloring, etc)

Kids Creative Writing Club

Monday, January 6 4:15 - 5:00 pm

At Kids Creative Writing Club, children will have fun exploring the world of writing, imagination, and storytelling with their friends. Each meeting will include creative activities like interactive games, poetry prompts, group storytelling, and more. This program is for children in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade. This club meets every other week, alternating with 3rd, 4th, 5th Grade Book Club. Please register.

Open Chess Play (ages 6-12)

Monday, January 6, 13 & 27 5:30 - 7:00 pm

Wednesday, January 8, 15, 22 & 29 5:30 - 7:00 pm

Drop by the Children's Programming Room on Monday and Wednesday evenings for Open Chess Play. We will provide chess sets so you can practice on your own, play against a friend, or teach someone new the game. This program is intended for ages 6+ and is self-guided. No registration required.

3rd, 4th, 5th Grade Book Club

Tuesday, January 13 & 27 4:15 - 5:00 pm

3rd, 4th, and 5th graders are invited to join Ms. Carly to discuss books. There is no assigned book to read! Each meeting kids can share about a book they have read or are currently reading. We will talk about our favorite genres and kids will hear what other kids are reading. Ms. Carly will also share book recommendations and give kids the scoop on the latest books to hit the Children's Room. All types of reading formats are all up for discussion at this book club!

Monthly Music & Movement

Wednesday, January 22 10:30 - 11:15 am

Join us for a children's concert (recommended aged 0-5) with Little Groove Band! These monthly concerts are generously sponsored by the Hopkinton Public Library Foundation.



Diversity Book Club

We have a passive "book club" for all ages. Patrons can check out a book related to a theme and then engage in an at-home discussion activity. This month's theme is "*Growing Diversity: Farming in America*". Patrons can stop by the library lobby anytime during the month to check out a themed title for adults, young adults and children.



The library will be closed Wednesday, January 1 for the New Year holiday. The library will close at 2:00 pm on New Year's Eve. It will also be closed Saturday, January 18 through Monday, January 20 for the Martin Luther King, Jr holiday weekend.

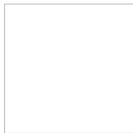
The Friends of Hopkinton Public Library will meet on Wednesday, January 8 at 6:30 pm.

The Hopkinton Public Library Foundation will meet on Monday, January 6 at 7:00 pm.

The Board of Library Trustees meetings will meet on Monday, January 13 at 7:00 pm.



Resources



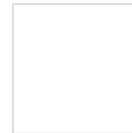
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Show Your Support



Learn more about the [Friends of the Hopkinton Library](#). Show your support by becoming a member. Becoming a member is a great way to show your support for your local library, even if you don't have time to get involved. You can join or renew your membership [here](#).

[The Hopkinton Public Library Foundation, Inc.](#), is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with a mission of supporting Hopkinton Public Library by funding resources, technology, educational and special projects, and long term improvements. Their fundraising efforts seek to bridge the gap between the community's aspirations for its Library and the usual or customary funding available from municipal budgets. Working in partnership with the Library, as well as the supporting organizations of the Trustees and Friends of the Library, the Foundation encourages continued and increased support of the Hopkinton Public Library as a valuable community resource. Meet the team and find out ways to support the library [here](#).

[READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE](#)

Hopkinton Public Library | 13 Main Street, Hopkinton, MA 01748 | 508-497-9777
Hours: Monday through Thursday 9am-8pm; Friday & Saturday 9am-5pm; Sunday 12-4pm (Labor-Memorial Day)
(children's & reference areas close 15 mins earlier)
hopkintonlibrary@hopkintonma.gov | www.hopkintonlibrary.org
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