

# PUBLIC Periodical



December 2025

Happy Holidays! All Buffalo & Erie County Public Library locations will be **CLOSED** in observance of Christmas Day on Thursday, December 25, 2025 and New Year's Day on Thursday, January 1, 2026. Check the open hours schedule for additional changes during the winter season: <https://www.buffalolib.org/locations-and-hours>

Access eBooks, online databases, and other digital resources 24/7 at [www.BuffaloLib.org](http://www.BuffaloLib.org).



**THANK YOU TO  
OUR PATRONS!**

As we approach the end of the year, all of us at the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library want to express our sincere gratitude for your support. Whether you visited one branch or many, checked out materials, attended programs, explored digital resources, or

simply found a welcoming space in a library, you helped make our library locations ***Profoundly Public***, vibrant, and strong.

We are especially grateful to those who took the time this year to write to their Erie County legislator in support of libraries. You've written over 2500 letters and counting, sharing why your libraries matter to you! **Your advocacy makes a real difference** — helping ensure that our libraries remain well-resourced, accessible, and able to provide outreach in our communities.

Thank you for your curiosity, your engagement, and your belief in the value of public libraries.



Discover what could *change it all*. Our new ***Changed It All*** campaign spotlights influential Buffalonians and the books, films, and music that transformed their lives — and are available at the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library. See their stories shared across Buffalo (on billboards, buses, and other signage) and explore the works that sparked their journeys. Inspiration doesn't follow a formula — **but free access makes anything possible**. Visit your library and find what changes everything for you!

**The Buffalo & Erie County Public Library has a new look! Have you seen us around town?**

We invite you to take a quick survey about the Library's new brand and logo. Submissions are anonymous and we welcome your feedback. Thank you.

[Follow this link to take our survey!](#)



**GIVING  
TUESDAY**

*"Libraries create a space where curiosity is nurtured, ideas are shared, and learning never stops. In a fast-paced, digital world, they remind us of the quiet power of community, discovery, and belonging."* - Susan W., Buffalo

This Tuesday, December 2, join us for **Giving Tuesday** and help strengthen your Buffalo & Erie County Public Library.

Your tax-deductible gift on Giving Tuesday will help us add more reading materials to our shelves. Whether you make a monetary donation or send a book from our Amazon Wish List, you are helping to provide our local community with needed resources.

Donations can be made [here](#) or visit our Amazon Wish List [here](#).

Thank you for your generosity and support this holiday season.



**VERY IMPORTANT  
PASS:  
LIBRARY CARD BENEFIT  
PROGRAM**

**VIP (Very Important Pass) Library Card Benefit Program**

Did you know that your library card gives you opportunities, special deals, and discounts at several local organizations?

Visit the [VIP Pass Program webpage](#) for details.

**VIP Program Partners now – the end of 2026:**

Buffalo AKG Art Museum  
Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens  
The Buffalo History Museum  
Buffalo Museum of Science  
Buffalo Spree Magazine  
Explore & More Children's Museum  
Frank Lloyd Wright's Graycliff  
Hallwalls Contemporary Arts Center  
Irish Classical Theatre Company  
Just Buffalo Literary Center  
Penn Dixie Fossil Park & Nature Reserve  
Road Less Traveled Theater  
Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural National Historic Site

Offers run through December 31, 2026.



**LAST CALL  
FOR HOOPLA**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:**

**Buffalo & Erie County Public Library patron access to hoopla will end effective December 31, 2025.**

Like many libraries across the country, the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library has seen a significant increase in costs for digital materials. Unfortunately, hoopla's pay-per-use model, in which a library is charged each time an item is borrowed, has become an

unsustainable expense for our Library. We were spending over \$1,000 a day! We took measures to reduce the hoopla costs by restricting higher-priced materials for check out; however, the annual expense remains unsustainable.

The Library remains committed to meeting the demand for eBooks and eAudiobooks through our robust OverDrive/Libby collection, which also offers thousands of digital magazines and comics. We will also continue to invest in our physical/print collections to ensure they are current, diverse, and accessible for all.

We appreciate your understanding and patience while the Library makes adjustments so that we may continue providing a Library collection that best serves our community while staying within our budget.

The last day to borrow digital materials through hoopla will be **December 31, 2025**. All hoopla checkouts will be good for their full loan period.

Click [here](#) for more information and frequently asked questions.

# What's HAPPENING.

- [Rural Outreach Center at the Library](#): Get free, confidential help connecting to essential services, including assistance with applications for HEAP, SNAP, government cash assistance, housing services, and more. No appointment needed — walk-ins welcome! **Concord Public Library | First & Third Tuesdays each month, December 2 & 16 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**
- [Virtual Author Talk with Sue Hincenbergs. “Scheming Wives and High-Stakes Hilarity”](#): Tune in to hear award-winning author Sue Hincenbergs discuss her novel *The Retirement Plan*. [Register here](#). **Virtual event | Tuesday, December 2 from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.**
- [Short Story Open Mic](#): Come prepared with original short story material and read to a captive audience! No registration needed. **Crane Library in Buffalo | Wednesday, December 10 from 4:00 – 5:45 p.m.**

- [Wildlife Tracking and Mammal Adaptations](#): Spend time learning about animal tracks, movements, and mammal adaptations. This event is presented by Earth Spirit Educational Services. For more information, call 716-225-4998. **Orchard Park Public Library | Monday, December 15 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.**
- [Wellness @ Central](#): Join us to connect with resources leading to employment, housing, literacy, food, mental health services, health coverage, and more. **Central Library, Main Concourse | Thursday, December 18 from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**
- [Gingerbread House Competition](#): Get creative at our gingerbread house building competition! Build a gingerbread house by yourself or with others. [Register here](#). **Isaías González-Soto Library in Buffalo | Saturday, December 13 from 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.**
- [FeedMore WNY Farm Market Truck](#): The Farm Market Truck is bringing high-quality, fresh produce at affordable costs to Main Street in front of the Newstead Public Library! The Farm Market Truck accepts cash, credit/debit, and SNAP as payment. **Newstead Public Library | Tuesday, December 23 from 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.**
- **[Save the Date] Annual Community Celebration Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.:** Join us in honoring the legacy of Dr. King with music, poetry, and more. All ages welcome. **Frank E. Merriweather, Jr. Library in Buffalo | Thursday, January 15, 2026**

To see all upcoming Library programs, visit [this link](#).

Stop by, and bring a friend – we hope you make the Library part of your month!

Profoundly  
**PUBLIC.**