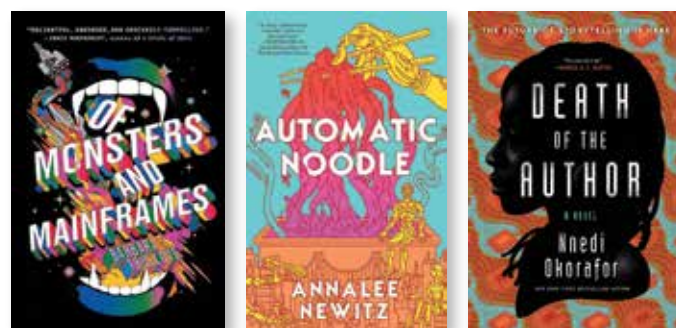


Staff Picks '25

2025 was quite a year for new books, movies, and music! We chose some of our favorites to suggest for you. Browse the full lists on our website, read what our staff have to say about the titles that interest you, and place holds on the ones you'd like to check out.



Historical Fiction



Science Fiction



Nonfiction



Romance

*A wonderful
Chinese Indonesian
heroine on a journey
of self-discovery.*

-Rummanah





Staff Picks '25

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BHM Black History Month events

MAHM Muslim American Heritage Month events

Monday to Friday, 9 am to 9 pm
Saturday, 9 am to 6 pm
Sunday, noon to 6 pm
Closed January 1

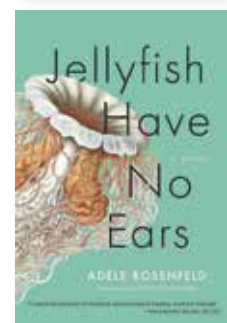
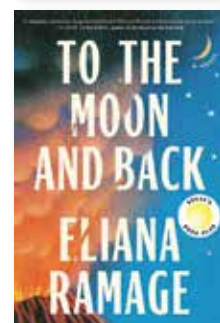
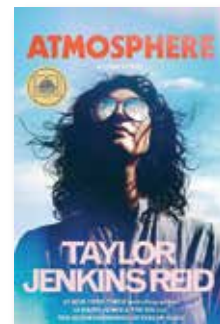
5215 Oakton Street
Skokie, IL 60077
847-673-7774
tellus@skokieliibrary.info

www.skokieliibrary.info



A charming story of a precocious Parisian girl's relationship with her scholarly grandfather. With a side of art history, it has "cult classic" written all over it.

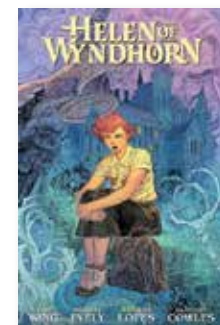
-Steven



Literary Fiction



Nonfiction

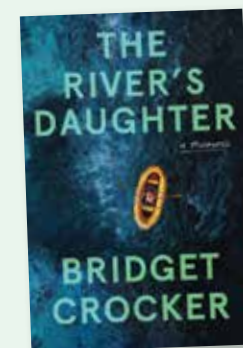


Graphic Novel



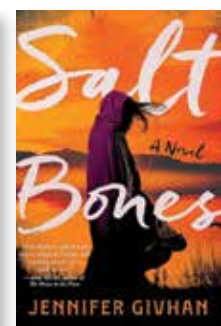
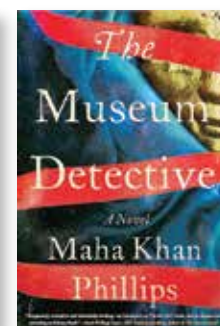
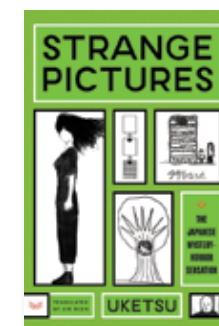
Bold art and engrossing storytelling set in an oppressive Soviet Russia, and the author's finding of both love and escape.

-Susanne

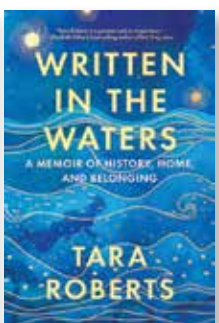
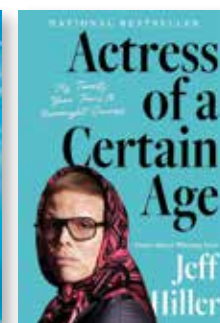


A poignant and honest reflection on growing up in an unstable home—thirsting for adventure in adulthood as a rafting instructor.

-Brenna



Mystery



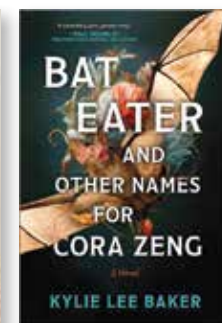
Biography



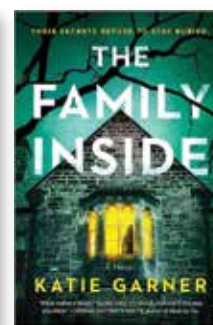
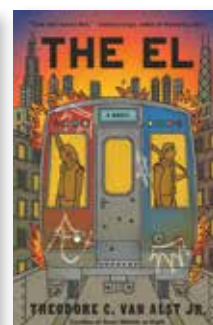
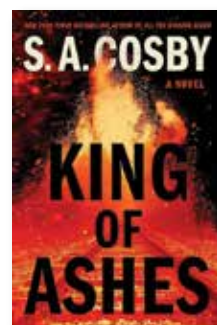
*A wild ride from
start to finish!*

*Twins separated in
childhood, an unexpected
death, and Julie slipping
into her famous sister's
chaotic, not so sunny life.*

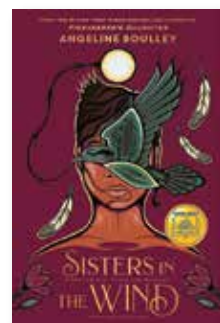
-Amanda



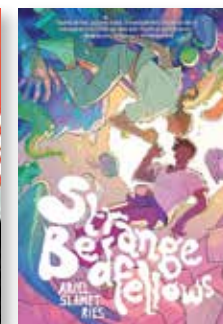
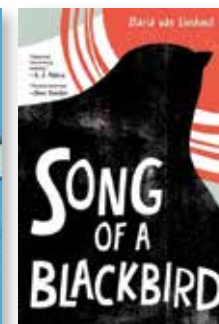
Horror



Suspense



Teen



Teen Graphic Novel

*An unflinching look
at brutality against
Black bodies in our
country's history—
both beautiful
and devastating.*

-Amber H.



See complete lists at skokielibrary.info/staffpicks



Music



*How I wish that the song of the year would be Bruce
Springsteen's "Atlantic City," on this album! He says this is
the album he's proudest of, and with this four-disc release
and Blu-Ray of a concert performance in his native New
Jersey, it's easy to believe him. There's plenty to explore.*

-Amy G.



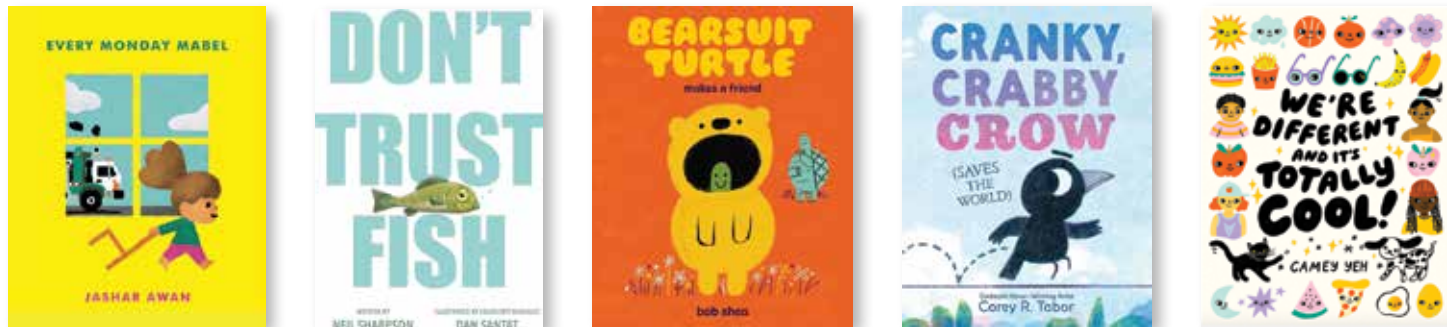
Television



Movies



Picture Books



Age 0-5



It perfectly captures the endless creativity of childhood, where anything can become an adventure—a joyful reminder of the power of play and the worlds we can build with just a little imagination!

-Lois



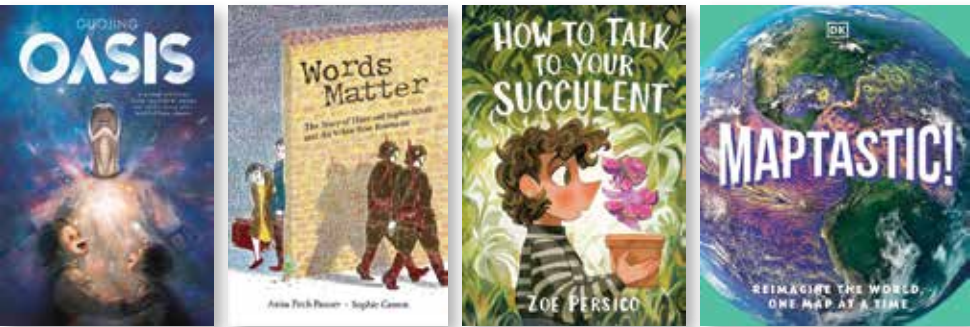
Grade K-2



An awesome mashup of history and food!
-Amanda



Grade 3-5 Fiction

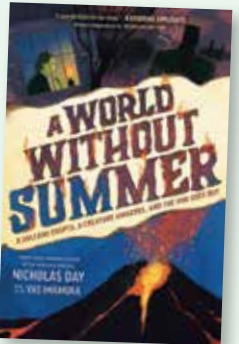


Grade 3-5 Nonfiction



Grade 6-8

What a fascinating nonfiction book. We love how it reads like an awesome adventure, with lots of really cool bits of science and history thrown in.
-Gudrun and Eilis



FOR ADULTS

Check for event details and sign up at events.skokiellibrary.info. Sign up starting January 2. Sign up now for events during the first week of January.

Puzzle Competition

Friday, January 2, 1–3 pm



Climate Optimism in Action

Mondays, January 5, February 2, 6–7 pm

Jewelry Making Workshop

Tuesday, January 6, 6–7 pm

ELL Café

Wednesdays, 12:30–2 pm

One-on-One Studio Help

Wednesdays, January 7, 21, February 4, 18, 3–5 pm

Mental Wellness for Adults 55+

Thursday, January 8
11 am–noon

Crochet Basics

Friday, January 9
1–2 pm

Bullet Journaling Basics

Monday, January 12
6–7 pm

Low Vision Support Group

Tuesdays, January 13, February 10, 1:30–2:30 pm

Sharing Your Worth with Confidence

Tuesday, January 13, 7–8 pm



MLK Through the Archives

Wednesday, January 14, 6:30–7:30 pm

Self-Care Kit for Adults 55+

Thursday, January 15, 11 am–noon

Niles Township Property Tax Workshop

Thursday, January 15, 5:30–7 pm

Introduction to Yoga

Fridays, January 16, February 13, 12:30–1:30 pm

Memory Café

Saturday, January 17, 11 am–12:30 pm

Speed Friending

Monday, January 19
6–8 pm



Job Interview Success Secrets

Wednesday, January 21, 10–11 am

Debating Independence: The American Revolution in 1776

Wednesday, January 21, 7–8 pm

Third Space Thursday

Make a Vision Board
January 22, 6–8 pm

Tiny Art
February 26, 6–8 pm

In Our Own Voice for Adults 55+

Thursday, January 22, 11 am–noon

Winter Reading Party

Monday, January 26, 6–7 pm

Remembering Through Stories

Tuesday, January 27, 6–7:30 pm

Design a Greeting Card

Tuesday, January 27, 6:30–7:30 pm

Comic Book Character Design

Thursday, January 29, 6:30–7:30 pm



Learn About World Hijab Day

Saturday, January 31, 1–2 pm



Music Monday

Monday, February 2, 7–8:30 pm

Learn Appliqué with Melissa Leandro

Thursday, February 5, 6:30–8 pm



Printmaking on Fabric with Gelli Plates

Monday, February 9, 6:30–7:30 pm

The Problem with Tom: Jefferson and Slavery

Thursday, February 12, 7–8 pm

Finding Election Information

Monday, February 16, 6:30–7:30 pm



Seed-Starting Workshop

Tuesday, February 17, 7–8 pm

Looking at the Human Brain

Wednesday, February 18,
6:30–7:30 pm

Exploring Grief and Loss

Thursday, February 19, 1–2 pm



Civic Love

Monday, February 23, 6–7 pm

Sewing Machine Basics

Tuesday, February 24, 11 am–12:30 pm

Performances

Young Steinway Concerts

42nd season of showcasing talented young performers of classical music

Vera Goryunov, Piano
Sasha Varchenko, Violin
January 4

Annalise and Eliana Song, Violin
February 1



Steam Quartet

Traditional Irish music
January 11

Always Irving: A Berlin Songbook Celebration

Petra van Nuis
and
Dennis Luxion
January 25



Free tickets given out
at 2:30 pm for these Sunday
3 pm performances.



Ramble On: The Evanston Dance Ensemble Rocks

February 8

Latchkey Larki

Sofia Javed presents a comedy show
about a Gen Xer growing up at the
crossroads of two cultures

February 22



Movies (drop in)

Morning Movie

Mondays and Wednesdays at 10 am

The SpongeBob Movie: Karate Kid: Legends
Sponge Out of Water February 2 and 18
January 5 and 21

Friday Film

Hamilton January 9, 1:30 pm
The Sting January 23, 1:30 pm

Fly Me to the Moon February 6, 1:30 pm
Mission: Impossible—
The Final Reckoning
February 20, 1:30 pm


AREV Film Series

Women in Black
Sunday, January 18, 1–4:30 pm

Movie Night

Tuesdays at 6:30 pm

Little Forest
January 20

 The Rebellious Life of Mrs. Rosa Parks
February 17



Technology Classes

Windows Computer Basics

Monday, January 5, 12:30–1:30 pm

One-on-One Tech Help

Mondays, 3–5 pm
Wednesdays, 1–3 pm

Identify Things Using Smartphone Apps

Tuesday, January 6, 6:30–7:30 pm

Microsoft Powerpoint

Saturday, January 10
10:30–11:30 am

Procreate Basics

Thursday, January 15
6–7 pm



Online Learning with Library Resources

Friday, January 16, 3:30–4:30 pm

Exploring ChatGPT

Monday, January 26, 5:30–6:30 pm

Digital Safety: Privacy and Security

Friday, January 30, 11 am–noon

iPhone Basics

Thursday, February 5, 11:30 am–12:30 pm

Computer Basics: Navigating the Internet

Friday, February 6, 2:30–3:30 pm

Google Slides

Saturday, February 7, 10:30–11:30 am

Navigating Job Search Websites

Monday, February 9, 6:30–7:30 pm

Solving Tech Problems

Friday, February 20, 11 am–noon

Making Generative AI Work for Your Business

Saturday, February 21, 10–11 am

Computer Basics: Mouse and Keyboard

Wednesday, February 25, 3:30–4:30 pm

KIDS & FAMILIES

Sign up at events.skokilibrary.info.
Capacity for individual events is limited.

Make Your Own Family Board Game

Friday, January 2, 4:30–6 pm

Rainbow Family Club

PreK–grade 5

Mondays, January 5,
February 23
5–6 pm



Puppet Playtime

PreK–grade 2

Wednesdays, January 7, February 4
10:30–11 am (online)

ABC, Look at Me!

PreK–grade 2

Tuesdays, January 13, February 3
10–10:30 am

Wednesdays, January 14, February 4, 1:30–2 pm



Meet Our Accessibility Materials

Thursday, January 15, 4–5 pm



Muslim Character Quest

Friday, January 16, 5–6 pm



WINTER READING BINGO FOR FAMILIES



Saturday, January 17, 10:30 am–noon

Speed Friending for Parents

Saturday, January 17, 1–2:30 pm

Early Entry: An Accessibility Hour

Sundays, January 18, February 15, 11 am–noon

Family Volunteering

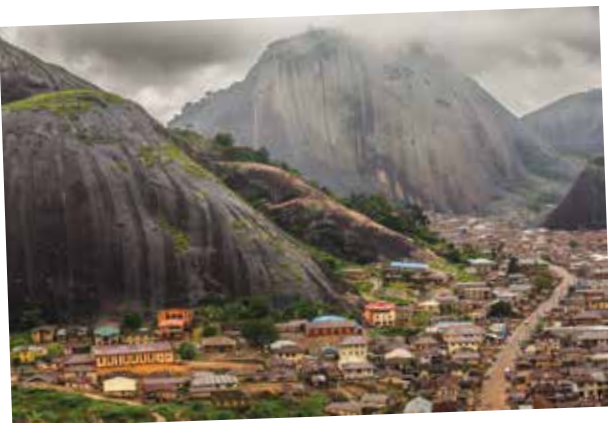
Monday, January 19
2–3 pm



Adventure Club: Nigeria

K–grade 5

Tuesday, January 13, 4:30–5:15 pm
For homeschoolers: 2–2:45 pm



Developmental Playgroup

Age 0–K

Tuesdays, January 20, February 17
10:30–11:30 am

'I Am' Art Project Reception

Thursday, January 22, 4–5 pm

Winter Reading Party

Monday, January 26, 6–7 pm

Bilingual Spanish-English Storytime: Cuentos bilingües en español

Age 0–6

Tuesdays, January 27, February 24
10–10:30 am



Story and STEAM

Grade K–2

Wednesday, January 28, February 25
4:30–5:15 pm

Make It Yourself

PreK–Grade 5

Friday, January 30, 4:30–5:30 pm
Friday, February 20, 4–5 pm

Family Movie

Fridays, 6:30–8:15 pm

Abominable
January 30

Turning Red
February 13



Storytimes

MONDAYS

Family Storytime birth–grade 2 6:30–7 pm (January)

TUESDAYS

Preschool Storytime 3–6 years 1:30–2 pm

Family Storytime birth–grade 2 6:30–7 pm (February)

WEDNESDAYS

Book Babies 0–11 months 9:30–10 am

Wonderful Ones 12–23 months 10:30–11:15 am

THURSDAYS

Terrific Twos 2 years 10–10:30 am

Terrific Twos 2 years 11–11:30 am

FRIDAYS

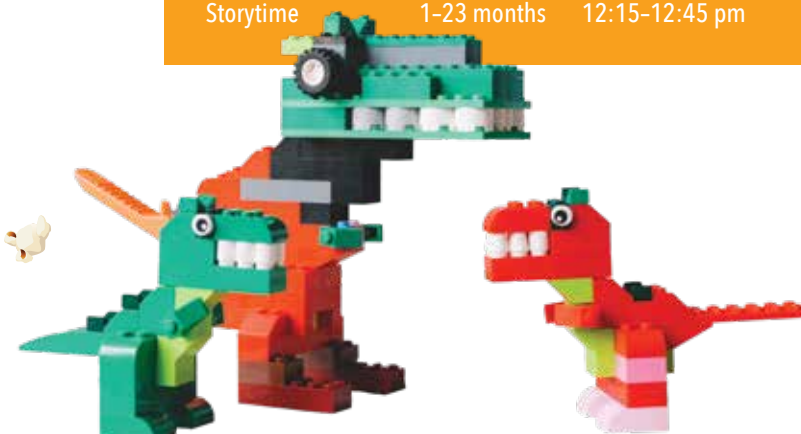
Melody and Motion 0–5 years 10–10:30 am

SATURDAYS

Family Storytime all ages 10–10:30 am

SUNDAYS January 11, February 8

Babies and Tots
Storytime 1–23 months 12:15–12:45 pm



Lego Challenge

Grade K–2

Mondays in February, 4:30–5:30 pm
February 16, 1–2 pm

Be the Scientist

Grade K–5

Tuesday, February 10, 4:30–5:15 pm

For homeschoolers

Tuesday, February 10, 2–2:45 pm

Lunar New Year Family Party

Thursday, February 12, 6–7 pm

Books for All Kids

Friday, February 13
11 am–noon

Sensory-Friendly Family Movie

The Bad Guys 2
Monday, February 15
2–4 pm

Stuffed Animal Sleepover

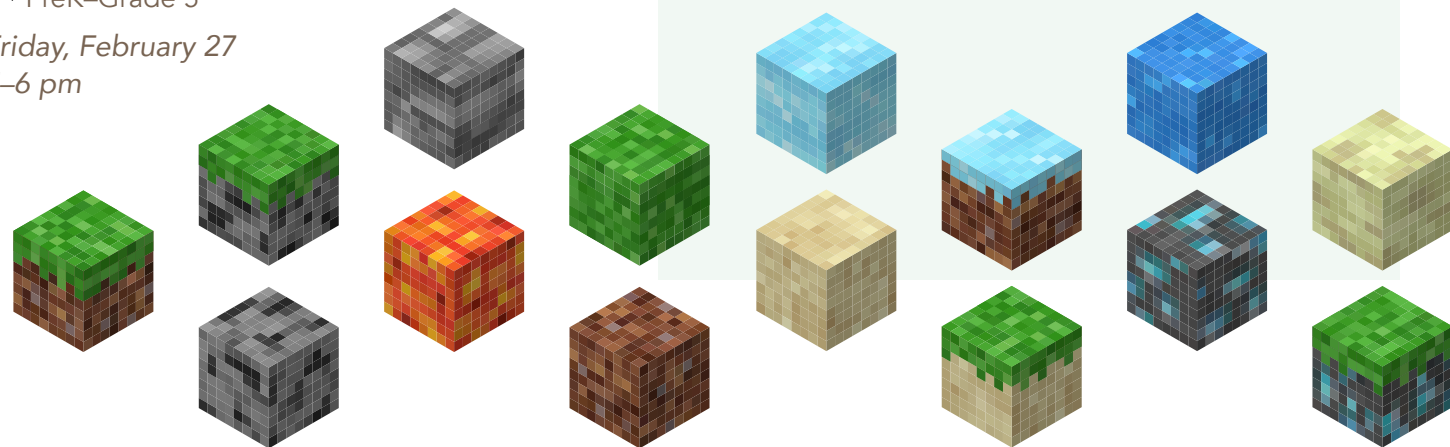
Grade K–2
Monday and Tuesday,
February 16 and 17
4:30–5 pm

Family Service Project

Saturday, February 21, 12:30–1:30 pm

BHM Celebrate Black Hair

PreK–Grade 5
Friday, February 27
5–6 pm



Grade 3–5

Tween–Caregiver Craft Club

Friday, January 9, 5–6 pm

Pokémon Club

Mondays, January 12, February 9
4:30–5:30 pm

3D Print Club

Wednesdays, January 14, February 11
4:30–5:30 pm

Relax and Read

Monday, January 19, 5–6 pm
Friday, February 20, 5–6 pm

Video Game Coding

Tuesday, January 20, 4:30–5:30 pm
Wednesday, February 18, 4:30–5:30 pm

International Snack Down

Fridays, January 23,
February 27
5:30–6:30 pm

BHM Mystery at the Museum of Black History

Saturday, February 7, 4–5 pm
Thursday, February 19, 4–5 pm

Minecraft Video Game Tournament

Monday, February 16, 1:30–3 pm



Teens

Check the online calendar for ongoing and late-breaking teen events (grade 6–12) and other events that can include teens. Sign up at events.skokilibrary.info.

Unplugged Club

Monday, January 12, 4:30–5:30 pm

Teen Movie Night

The Hunger Games
Wednesday, January 14, 5–8 pm



Community Volunteering for Teens

Monday, Jan 19, 2–3 pm

MAHM Halal Snack Tasting

Wednesday–Friday, January 21–23
4:30–5 pm

Make a Pause Pouch

Monday, January 26, 4:30–5:30 pm

Make Miniatures

Monday, February 9, 4:30–6 pm

High School District 219 Art Exhibit Reception

Wednesday, February 11, 6–7 pm

Make Beaded Heart Earrings

Thursday, February 12, 4:30–6 pm



Lunar New Year Tea Tasting

Monday, February 23, 4–5:30 pm

BHM Black History Trivia for Teens

Thursday, February 26, 4:30–5:30 pm

Get Free Help with Homework

If you need a bit of help with some homework, you can log in to Tutor.com for free using your library card and get some help.

When?

Live tutors are available from noon to midnight every day.

How Does It Work?

There are two choices: you can connect with a tutor right away, or you can schedule in advance if you know you will want help with a particular subject at a convenient time for you.

You can use up to five sessions every week.

Each session lasts about 20 minutes, and tutors are available in English and Spanish. Use your library card to create an account, and then you're ready to go.

You can also drop off a paper if you'd like feedback on it, and get comments and strategies to make it better within 24 hours.

Who Is It For?

The tutors will help with all grade levels, from kindergarten to early college.

skokilibrary.info/homeworkhelp

RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER



Books and Authors

Books and Brews

At Blue Kale Cafe & Lounge

Thursday, January 8, 7–8 pm

LitLounge

Wednesdays, 7:30–9 pm

*I Hope This
Finds You Well*
January 14



*A Sitting
in St. James*
February 11

Bringing History to Life with Jonathan Eig

Tuesday, January 13, 7–8 pm (online)

Fantasy Book Club

The Tainted Cup
Tuesday, January 20, 7–8 pm

Talking Books

Wednesdays, 1:30–2:30 pm

We All Shine On: John, Yoko, and Me
January 21



James
February 18

Mystery Book Club



The Cutting Season
Wednesday, February 4, 7–8:30 pm

Still Afraid of the Dark: An Evening with R.L. Stine

Tuesday, February 24, 7–8 pm (online)

Pages Through History



*Medgar & Myrlie: Medgar Evers and the
Love Story That Awakened America*
Wednesday, February 25, 7–8:30 pm