

AMES
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

PAGE ONE

JANUARY 2026



515 Douglas Avenue, Ames, IA 50010
(515) 239-5646 • www.amespubliclibrary.org

To view **Page One** online or to sign up
to receive the **Page One** e-mail newsletter,
visit our website.

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday-Thursday: 9am-9pm
Friday & Saturday: 9am - 6pm
Sunday: 1pm - 5pm



**WINTER
READING
CHALLENGE**

FOR ALL AGES

DECEMBER 1, 2025 – JANUARY 31, 2026

Earn a prize by reading 30 days this winter! Pick up your reading log at the Library or Bookmobile, or sign up online at AmesPublicLibrary.beanstack.com.

All logs must be completed and prizes picked up by 5:45pm Saturday, January 31, 2026.

Supported by the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation.

CLOSURES

**Ames Public Library
will be closed:**

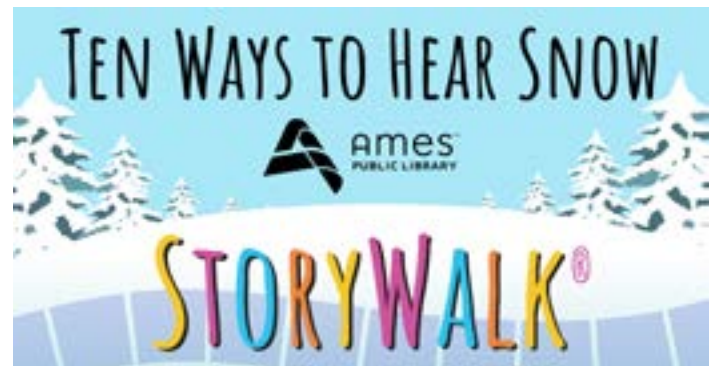
- Thursday, January 1

**The Bookmobile
will be closed:**

- December 22 - January 2

Don't miss out on Library news or special events!

- ✓ Follow us on Facebook or Instagram @amespubliclibrary
- ✓ Sign up for our weekly e-mail newsletter
- ✓ Pick up our monthly *Page One* newsletter or read it online at www.AmesPL.org/PageOne



**December 2 - January 2
Downtown Ames**

Start at Ames Public Library and find the pages of ***Ten Ways to Hear Snow*** by Cathy Camper in windows of downtown businesses.

As you walk, you'll read the story of Lina who discovers what might have otherwise gone unnoticed as she walks to her grandmother's in the snow.



The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. StoryWalk® is a registered service mark owned by Ms. Ferguson.



December 16 - February 1 Library Vestibule

Come see portraits created by Ames High School students for this year's Memory Project.

Art students at Ames High School used reference photos of children from Cambodia to create portraits so that they can send a message of kindness, respect, and encouragement.

These portraits will be on display in the Library's entryway before they are delivered to the children who inspired the artwork.

To learn more contact Lindsay Wede at: lindsay.wede@ames.k12.ia.us



December 20 - January 2 Literary Grounds

Stop by the Literary Grounds Bookstore in the Library's lobby December 20 - January 2 for \$1 off items with a red sticker. There are some great holiday treasures just waiting for the right person!

Gift certificates are available too!

Presented by the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation. Proceeds are used to enhance Ames Public Library's collections, programs, and services.

Teen Silent Book Club

1st and 2nd Friday of Each Month
(January 2 & 9)
4-6pm, Teen Space

Hey teens, come to the Library's Teen Silent Book Club to unwind, read, and connect with others. We will enjoy good books and good—but quiet—company as we munch on some snacks.

Bring your own book or grab one from the Library's shelves. We will start each club off with a brief conversation (share what you're reading/introduce yourself) and then settle in for two hours of cozy, distraction-free reading.



The Teen Space main doors will be closed, so enter through the side door near the Young Adult book display wall.

Supported by the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation.



Friday, January 2
2pm, Auditorium

Get out of the cold and join in a family BINGO challenge! All materials will be provided along with small prizes each round. Enjoy traditional BINGO boards as well as creative design challenges.

Conversation Circles



No meetups Thursday, January 1.

English:

**Mondays, 12:30-1:30pm
Auditorium**

Gather for casual conversations in English. The focus of this group is to help English Language Learners gain confidence and fluency in a comfortable and fun setting. Library staff will pair native and non-native speakers and provide themes, questions, and topics for conversation.

American Sign Language (ASL):

Mondays, 5-6pm *starting January 19*

Spanish: Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm

**Chinese: 1st and 3rd Thursdays
of Each Month, 6-7pm**

**German: 2nd and 4th Wednesdays
of Each Month, 7-8pm**

**Japanese: 1st and 3rd Saturdays
of Each Month, 2-3pm**

Russian: Saturdays, 3-4pm

French: Saturdays, 4-5:30pm

At the Library or via Zoom

Gather (in person or online) for casual conversations in different languages. Chat in your native language or get comfortable speaking in another language.

Kids Chess Club

**1st and 3rd Tuesday of Each Month
(January 6 & 20)
4pm, Storytime Room**

Come play chess! Whether you are just a beginner or already an expert, all kids in grades 1-5 are welcome to come have fun.

Drop in and learn how to play or make new friends with other chess lovers.

Supported by the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation.



**Thursday, January 8
10am-1pm, Auditorium**

Join the Mainstream Living community for a monthly movie screening and related activity!

Selected movies are appropriate for adults who are neurodivergent and/or have an intellectual disability.

Movies with Mainstream is open to all ages!

This month, we'll watch **Elio** with a craft to follow.

Presented in partnership with Ames Public Library and Mainstream Living.





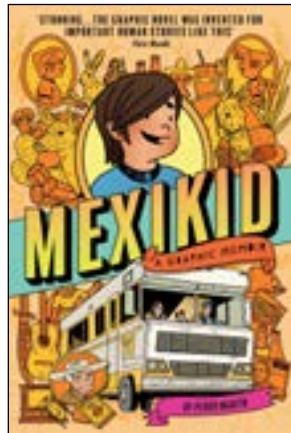
1st Thursday of Each Month* 10am, Teen Space

Join us for a monthly book discussion and activities just for families that are homeschooling!

This year we have selected a wide variety of books that mirror our world. Families are invited to read the book of the month (together or independently), then come to the Library for a discussion and related activities.

This event and books are geared for school-age kids or middle-grade reading level, but all ages are welcome to attend. We'll also have next month's book available at each event.

*January 8 (note special date):
Mexikid by Pedro Martín



Fiber Arts Meetup

2nd Saturday of Each Month (January 10) 10am-12pm, Rotary Room

Crafters of all ages are invited to join fellow fiber arts enthusiasts and work on their projects. Knit, crochet, embroidery, or any other fiber craft is welcome!

Please bring your own materials.



January 8-11, Literary Grounds

Stop by Literary Grounds in the Library's Lobby for Winter Sidewalk Sale deals on gently-used books and more! Enjoy \$1 off everything in the bookstore (except book bundles and items marked \$1).

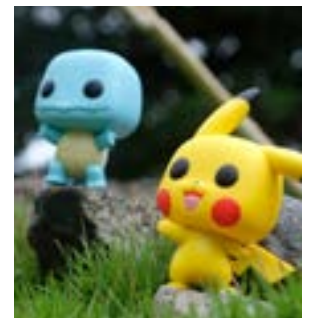
Presented by the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation. Proceeds are used to enhance Ames Public Library's collections, programs, and services.

Pokémon Club

2nd and 4th Sunday of Each Month (January 11 & 25) 2-4pm, Auditorium

Calling all school-aged Poké-Kids! Come learn how to play the Pokémon Trading Card Game and use a Library-supplied deck to battle other players. You can bring your decks to talk and strategize with other players, but card trading will not be allowed.

Don't want to play? Come to watch others, enjoy Poké-art activities, chat with other kids, and build a supportive community of friends!



Kids ages 8 and under need to bring a caregiver along to help. Caregivers: not sure what Pokémon is all about? This is a great opportunity to learn along with your kids!

Supported by Ames Public Library Friends Foundation.

Swift Youth Writers Group

2nd Sunday of Each Month (January 11)
2-4pm, PEO Room

Teens in 6th - 12th grade are invited to escape into creative writing and connect with other teen writers. Each month, attendees will be led through prompts and exercises to help develop and stretch their creative writing skills. Attendees will be given a chance to share their work and have a chance to support others.



No experience is necessary so all skill levels are encouraged to attend. At the end of the school year, writers will be asked to submit 1 to 3 pieces (depending on genre) for inclusion in an anthology, and a celebratory reading will be held. If you have any questions, please reach out to info@ameswriterscollective.org.

Presented in partnership with Ames Public Library and Ames Writers Collective.

AUTHOR EVENT

Lindsay Currie

Bestselling author of mysteries and paranormal books for middle grade readers



AMES
PUBLIC LIBRARY



Monday, January 12, at 6pm, Auditorium

Come to the Library to meet New York Times bestselling author Lindsay Currie. Currie writes mysteries for young readers, like *X Marks the Haunt* and *It found Us*, one of this year's selections for the Ames Battle of the Books.

Books can be purchased online from Dog-Eared Books ahead of time and picked up at the event. A small selection of books will also be available for purchase at the event.

Supported by the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation. Presented in partnership with Ames Public Library, Iowa Center for the Book, and Dog-Eared Books.



2nd Wednesday of Each Month (January 14)
6:30-8:30pm, Auditorium

Adulthood isn't always fun, but at the Library it can be. Connect with other adults for a different fun-filled activity each month to build community.

This month, gather your team and compete for jigsaw puzzle glory! Teams of up to four people will complete a 500-piece puzzle with prizes for the three fastest teams. Each team will work on a copy of the same puzzle. Teams even get to keep their puzzle!

Registration is required.

Call 515-239-5646 extension 4 or visit www.AmesPL.org/events for more details. Sign up as a team, or register individually to be placed on a random team.

Supported by the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation.

LEGO® Builders

2nd and 4th Tuesday of Each Month
(January 13 & 27)
4pm, Storytime Room

Children in grades 1-5 are invited to get creative and build with lots of LEGO®! We'll provide the bricks while the kids provide the imagination.

All LEGO® will remain at the Library, so bring a camera to capture a photo of your build. Please leave your own LEGO® at home so they don't get mixed up with the Library's.



Supported by the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation.

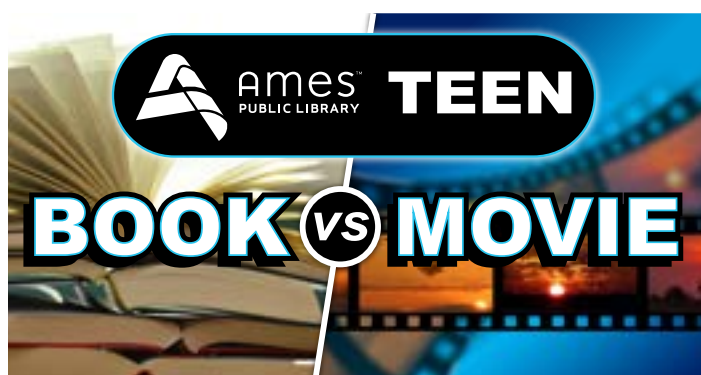
TAG: Teen Advisory Group

2nd Wednesday of Each Month (January 14)
5-6pm, PEO Room

Register online at
www.AmesPL.org/learn-explore/teens

Hey 6th-12th graders, help plan exciting Library events for teens, share what you're reading, make new friends, and eat some food!

Supported by the Ames Public Library
Friends Foundation.



Book Club: Friday, January 16, 4-5pm

Movie Night: Friday, January 23, 4-6pm
Teen Space

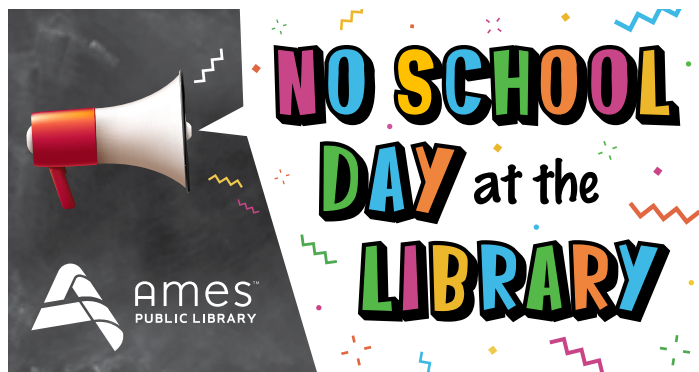
Hey teens, take a front row seat in the ultimate showdown: book vs. movie! Every month, we'll feature a teen book that's been made into a movie.

Come to the book club to chat about the book and eat snacks. OR come to movie night to watch the movie version and eat snacks. OR, come to both!

Stop by the Teen Space or Youth Services Desk to let us know if you need a copy of the next book.

This Month:
The Giver by Lois Lowry
and the 2014 movie
(MPAA rating PG-13)

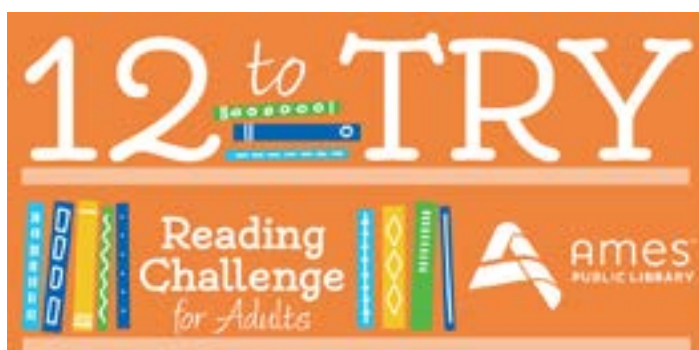
Supported by the Ames Public Library
Friends Foundation.



Monday, January 19
1pm, Storytime Room

No school today? No problem! Children in grades K-5 are invited to the Library's no-school day events to create, experiment, and play with a variety of activities.

This month, come "hack a painting!" Take a donated painting and add your own elements using paint and other materials. You'll get to take your masterpiece home with you!



Try a reading remix in 2026!

Adults are invited to join the 2025-2026 "12 to Try" reading challenge featuring all new categories!

Read your way through 12 books that fit the 12 challenge categories between now and next August to earn a prize. We'll feature books from a different category each month to help you pick your mix.

Get started at AmesPublicLibrary.
Beanstack.org, or pick up a tracking sheet at Ames Public Library or the Bookmobile!

International Community Meetup

3rd Tuesday of Each Month
(January 20)
5pm, Auditorium

Join fellow international residents on the third Tuesday of each month for fun activities and culture-sharing.



Presented in partnership with Ames Public Library and Iowa State University's International Students and Scholars Office.



Wednesday, January 21
10am-12pm, Auditorium or via Zoom

Topic — Walk Where Your Ancestors Walked:
Virtual Heritage Travel using AI & Online Resources

Speaker — Lisa Lisson

Wondering what your ancestor's life was like? Heritage travel allows you to explore and connect more deeply with your family history. Can't travel in person? Discover how to walk where your ancestors walked and experience their culture from your couch! (Yes, you can!)

Lisa Lisson is a leading genealogy expert and the founder of "Are You My Cousin?", a comprehensive online resource dedicated to empowering family history enthusiasts worldwide.

Presented in partnership with Ames Public Library and Story County Genealogical Society.

Bored? Games!

3rd Wednesday of Each Month
(January 21)
6:30-8:30pm, Auditorium

Will you punch your Ticket to Ride or will your Splendor attract noble patrons? Join us for adult game night every month to find out!

Tabletop games will be available to play, or bring a favorite to share. All gaming experience levels are welcome. Snacks will be provided. Everyone 18 or older is welcome.



Supported by the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation.






4th Thursday of Each Month
(January 22)
6pm, Board Room

Caring for someone with dementia can bring challenging moments. Join others who understand the journey and share your experiences, and leave with practical, confidence-building tools you can use right away.

All caregivers are welcome.

This month's focus is compassionate redirection. We'll explore how to shift attention, ease anxiety, and foster cooperation without confrontation.

Presented in partnership with Ames Public Library, Dementia Friendly Iowa, and Home Care Assistance.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>If you are a person with a disability who requires special assistance, please call (515) 239-5646 in advance of a program.</p> <p>Ames Public Library connects you to the world of ideas through diverse and inclusive resources and programs. We welcome program proposals via our website: www.AmesPL.org.</p>		<div>KEY</div> <div>Colors: All Ages/Mix Family Event Teen Event Adult Event</div> <div>Symbols:  Off Site  Registration Required  Available Online</div>		1 Library CLOSED Bookmobile Closed Dec. 22 - Jan. 2 Winter Reading Challenge for All Ages Dec. 1 - Jan. 31 StoryWalk®  Dec. 2 - Jan. 2 Downtown Ames	2 Memory Project Exhibit Dec. 16 - Feb. 1 Vestibule Holiday Book Sale Dec. 20 - Jan. 2 Literary Grounds Family BINGO Blast 2pm, Auditorium Optimae Life Services 2-4pm, Second Floor Teen Silent Book Club 4-6pm, Teen Space	3 Conversation Circles  Japanese: 2-3pm  Russian: 3-4pm  French: 4-5:30pm Board Room or Zoom
4	5 Toddler Storytime 10:30am, Storytime Rm. Mary Greeley Medical Center Behavioral Health 11am-1pm Second Floor Conversation Circles English: 12:30-1:30pm Auditorium	6 Heartland of Story County 10am-12pm Second Floor Family Storytime 10:30am, Storytime Rm. Baby Time 1:30pm, Storytime Rm. Kids Chess Club 4pm, Storytime Room Conversation Circles  Spanish: 7-8:30pm Board Room or Zoom	7 Community & Family Resources 10am-12pm Second Floor Toddler Storytime 10:30am, Storytime Rm. Baby Time 11am, Storytime Room Mystery Lovers Book Group 12pm, Rotary Room	8 Winter Sidewalk Sale January 8-11 Literary Grounds Homeschool Book Club 10am, Teen Space Movies with Mainstream: Elio 10am-1pm, Auditorium Family Storytime 10:30am, Storytime Rm. Iowa Aging & Disability Resource Center 1-3pm, Second Floor UnityPoint Health - Eyerly Ball 2-3pm, Second Floor Baby Time 6:30pm, Storytime Rm. 028: Real Reads  7-8:30pm Board Room or Zoom	9 Mothering Circle 9:30-10:30am Teen Space Storybook STEM 10:30am, Auditorium Teen Silent Book Club 4-6pm, Teen Space	10 Fiber Arts Meetup 10am-12pm Rotary Room Family Storytime 10:30am, Storytime Rm. Conversation Circles  Russian: 3-4pm  French: 4-5:30pm Board Room or Zoom
11 Pokémon Club 2-4pm, Auditorium Swift Youth Writers Group 2-4pm, PEO Room	12 Toddler Storytime 10:30am, Storytime Rm. Mary Greeley Medical Center Behavioral Health 11am-1pm Second Floor Conversation Circles English: 12:30-1:30pm Auditorium Author Event: Lindsay Currie 6pm, Auditorium	13 Family Storytime 10:30am, Storytime Rm. Baby Time 1:30pm, Storytime Rm. LEGO® Builders 4pm, Storytime Room Conversation Circles  Spanish: 7-8:30pm Board Room or Zoom	14 Toddler Storytime 10:30am, Storytime Rm. Baby Time 11am, Storytime Room Teen Advisory Group  5-6pm, PEO Room That's Fun 6:30-8:30pm Auditorium Conversation Circles  German: 7-8pm Board Room or Zoom	15 Family Storytime 10:30am, Storytime Rm. UnityPoint Health - Eyerly Ball 2-3pm, Second Floor Conversation Circles  Chinese: 6-7pm PEO Room or Zoom Baby Time 6:30pm, Storytime Rm. Library Board of Trustees Meeting 7pm, Board Room	16 Storybook STEM 10:30am, Auditorium Optimae Life Services 2-4pm, Second Floor Teen Book vs. Movie: Book Club 4-5pm, Teen Space	17 Family Storytime 10:30am, Storytime Rm. Ames Repair Café 10am-2pm, Library Conversation Circles  Japanese: 2-3pm  Russian: 3-4pm  French: 4-5:30pm Board Room or Zoom
18	19 Toddler Storytime 10:30am, Storytime Rm. Mary Greeley Medical Center Behavioral Health 11am-1pm Second Floor Conversation Circles English: 12:30-1:30pm Auditorium No School Day at the Library 1pm, Storytime Room Conversation Circles  ASL: 5-6pm Board Room or Zoom Ames/Story County Community MLK Day Celebration  6-8pm, City Hall	20 Family Storytime 10:30am, Storytime Rm. Baby Time 1:30pm, Storytime Rm. Kids Chess Club 4pm, Storytime Room International Community Meetup 5pm, Auditorium Conversation Circles  Spanish: 7-8:30pm Board Room or Zoom	21 Genealogy Plus  10am-12pm Auditorium or Zoom Toddler Storytime 10:30am, Storytime Rm. Baby Time 11am, Storytime Room Community & Family Resources 4-6pm, Second Floor Bored? Games! 6:30-8:30pm Auditorium	22 Iowa Aging & Disability Resource Center 10am-12pm Second Floor Family Storytime 10:30am, Storytime Rm. UnityPoint Health - Eyerly Ball 2-3pm, Second Floor Dementia Caregiver Support Group 6pm, Board Room Baby Time 6:30pm, Storytime Rm. Parenting Book Club: Until the Streetlights Come On 7pm, Rotary Room	23 Storybook STEM 10:30am, Auditorium Teen Book vs. Movie: Movie Night 4-6pm, Teen Space	24 Mothering Circle 9:30-10:30am Teen Space Generative Writing Workshop 10am-12pm, PEO Room Family Storytime 10:30am, Storytime Rm. Living Green: Real People, Real Conversations 1pm, Rotary Room Community Volunteer Fair 1:30-3pm, Auditorium Conversation Circles  Russian: 3-4pm  French: 4-5:30pm Board Room or Zoom
25 Pokémon Club 2-4pm, Auditorium	26 Toddler Storytime 10:30am Storytime Room Mary Greeley Medical Center Behavioral Health 11am-1pm Second Floor Conversation Circles English: 12:30-1:30pm Auditorium Conversation Circles  ASL: 5-6pm Board Room or Zoom	27 Family Storytime 10:30am Storytime Room Baby Time 1:30pm Storytime Room LEGO® Builders 4pm, Storytime Room Conversation Circles  Spanish: 7-8:30pm Board Room or Zoom Deep Roots Book Group 7pm, PEO Room	28 Toddler Storytime 10:30am Storytime Room Baby Time 11am, Storytime Room Conversation Circles  German: 7-8pm Board Room or Zoom View from the Margins  7pm, Danfoss Room or Zoom	29 Family Storytime 10:30am Storytime Room UnityPoint Health - Eyerly Ball 2-3pm, Second Floor Baby Time 6:30pm Storytime Room Outdoor Alliance  7pm, Auditorium	30 Storybook STEM 10:30am, Auditorium	31 Family Storytime 10:30am Storytime Room Seed Giveaway 3-5pm, Lobby Conversation Circles  Russian: 3-4pm  French: 4-5:30pm Board Room or Zoom



**Thursdays, January 22 - February 12
7pm, Rotary Room**

Join the book club for parents struggling to get their kids off screens and back to play! Each week we'll discuss a section of ***Until the Streetlights Come On: How a Return to Play Brightens Our Present and Prepares Kids for an Uncertain Future*** by Ginny Yurich, founder of 1,000 Hours Outside.

Come to any or all of the sessions, whether you've read the book or not. Meet other parents, share ideas, and discuss how to make outside play a priority.

Need a copy of the book? Stop by Youth Services Desk and pick one up (while supplies last)!

Supported by the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation.



**Saturday, January 24
1pm, Rotary Room**

Meet the Conservation Corp of Minnesota & Iowa. Nathaniel, a crew lead, will share what it is like to work as a conservationist and how their experiences have shaped them as a person.

Presented in partnership with Ames Public Library and Green Iowa AmeriCorps.

Generative Writing Workshop

**4th Saturday of Each Month (January 24)
10am-12pm, PEO Room**

Do you dream of writing "someday," but don't know where to start? Perhaps you already write, but you're stuck.

Join this free monthly writing workshop for adults, which provides a safe space for writers of all stages and genres to generate stories inspired by prompts running the gamut from phrases, poems, photography, guest authors and their prompts, or a piece of artwork. We will read our stories to one another and share only positive feedback.

These workshops are inspired by the Amherst Writers & Artists Method, which believes that everyone is a writer.

Presented by the Iowa Center for the Book and Ames Public Library in partnership with the Ames Writers Collective.



**Saturday, January 24
1:30-3pm, Auditorium**

Honor the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. through giving back to the community. Join dozens of local organizations that utilize volunteers to help achieve their mission. A wide variety of organizations will be on site to share about available volunteer opportunities.



Thursday, January 29
7pm, Auditorium or via Zoom

Topic — Iowa's Lost Lichens

Speaker — Jim Colbert

When people of European descent first began settling in Iowa, elk were common in the state. By the late 1800s Iowa had no elk. What other Iowa species have been lost from the state due to human activities since European settlement? The loss of large species like elk is obvious, but what about smaller species?

Attend this presentation and learn about the amazing world of lichens and the species of lichens we've very "lichenly" lost from Iowa.

Presented in partnership with Ames Public Library and Outdoor Alliance of Story County.



Saturday, January 31
3-5pm, Lobby

Celebrate National Seed Swap Day with a seed giveaway! Local organizations will share information on sustainability, and free seeds will be available while supplies last. Visitors are also welcome to bring seeds to donate to Ames Seed Library.



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"Free For All" Documentary Screening

Thursday, February 5
6:30-8:30pm, Auditorium

Speed Friending

Saturday, February 7
1:30-3:30pm, Auditorium

Baby Fair

Saturday, February 14
10am-12pm, Auditorium

SOCIAL SERVICES at the LIBRARY

Mary Greeley Medical Center: Behavioral Health

Mondays, 11am-1pm, 2nd Floor Study Room

Staff from Mary Greeley Medical Center will be available in the Library to talk about inpatient and outpatient mental health services in the Ames community.

Heartland of Story County

**1st Tuesday of Each Month (January 6)
10am-12pm, 2nd Floor Study Room**

Staff from Heartland of Story County will be available in the Library to connect Story County residents who are 60+ and their caregivers with programs and services.



Visitors may apply for Heartland programs, explore ways to stay active and independent, find low income assistance, and learn about other resources.

Iowa Aging and Disability Resource Center

**2nd Thursday of Each Month (Jan. 8):
1-3pm, 2nd Floor Study Room**

**4th Thursday of Each Month (Jan. 22):
10am-12pm, 2nd Floor Study Room**

Community Support Advocates will be available to help older adults, people with disabilities, and their caregivers connect with local services and support.

Community & Family Resources

**1st Wednesday of Each Month (Jan. 7):
10am-12pm, 2nd Floor Study Room**

**3rd Wednesday of Each Month (Jan. 21):
4-6pm, 2nd Floor Study Room**

Staff from Community and Family Resources will be available in the Library to provide information about addiction, substance abuse treatment, problem gambling treatment, and mental health therapy.

They can also provide assistance in getting started in any of these services including filling out some pre-appointment forms.

UnityPoint Health: Community Mental Health Services

**Thursdays (starting January 8), 2-3pm
2nd Floor Study Room**

Staff from UnityPoint Health-Eyerly Ball will be available in the Library to connect you with mental health services.

Optimae Life Services

**1st and 3rd Friday of Each Month
(January 2 & 16)
2-4pm, 2nd Floor Study Room**

Staff from Optimae Life Services will be available in the Library to connect visitors with resources for mental health, home health, and community integration services.





STORYTIMES & MORE



❄️ Storytimes begin Monday, January 5 ❄️

Baby Time

Tuesdays at 1:30pm
Wednesdays at 11am
Thursdays at 6:30pm
Storytime Room

Bring your pre-walker to the Library for stories, songs, and baby sign language. Join with other caregivers and older siblings for 20 minutes of fun and learning. Feel free to bring a stuffed animal or doll for the older sibling to learn along with you. Babies and caregivers are welcome to stay and play after the event!

Toddler Storytime

Mondays and Wednesdays
10:30am, Storytime Room

Families with toddlers are invited for a storytime filled with music, stories, and fun!

Family Storytime

Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays
10:30am, Storytime Room

Preschool-age children and their grown-ups are invited to enjoy stories, songs, and movement activities while building early literacy skills.



2nd Friday and 4th Saturday of Each Month
(January 9 & 24)
9:30-10:30am, Teen Space

Parenting babies and toddlers is full of challenges.

Join this welcoming community of families as we support each other and grow together through the early years of pregnancy, postpartum, and parenthood.

Facilitated by experienced mothers, these monthly meetups connect families to each other and to resources and answers about birth and parenthood.



Fridays at 10:30am
Auditorium

Families are invited to enjoy a short storytime and get hands-on with a fun related STEM activity for all ages!

Our January 16 Storybook S.T.E.M. will feature an environmental sustainability book and activity with DiMaucia Phanfil, Engagement Coordinator for Green Iowa AmeriCorps member serving with the City of Ames.



BOOK GROUPS



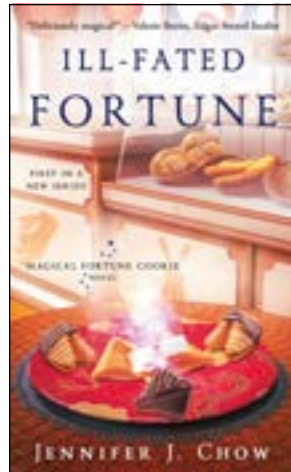
MYSTERY LOVERS Book Group

1st Wednesday of Each Month
12pm, Rotary Room

Mystery readers, come talk about books by a selected author or on a theme!

January 7:
Mysteries by
Jennifer Chow

February 4:
Violin Conspiracy
by Brendan Slocumb



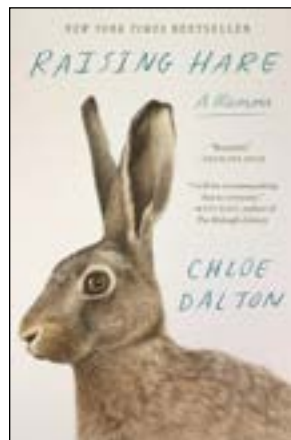
DEEP ROOTS Book Group

4th Tuesday of Each Month
7-8:30pm, PEO Room

Join gardeners and nature enthusiasts for deep discussion of books in connection with the Ames Seed Library.

Topics will touch on seeds and plants, gardening, community-building, and the relationship between humans, animals, and plants.

January 27:
Raising Hare
by Chloe Dalton



February 24:
A Botanist's Guide to Parties and Poisons
by Kate Khavari

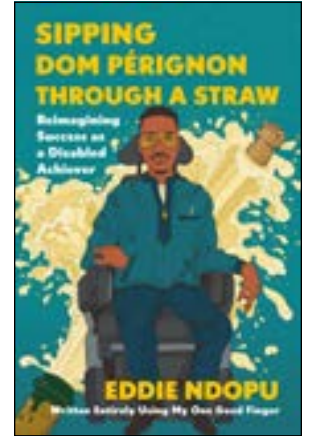
Supported by the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation.

028: REAL READS Book Group

2nd Thursday of Each Month
7pm, Board Room or via Zoom

028 focuses on recently published, popular nonfiction on a variety of topics.

January 8:
Sipping Dom Pérignon Through a Straw:
Reimagining Success as a Disabled Achiever
by Eddie Ndopu



February 12: ***By the Fire We Carry:***
The Generations-Long Fight for Justice on Native Land
by Rebecca Nagle

Supported by the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation.

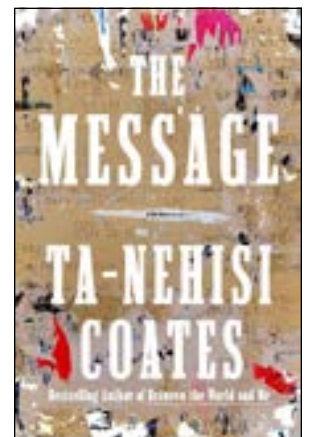
VIEW FROM THE MARGINS Book Group

4th Wednesday of Each Month
7pm, Danfoss Room or via Zoom

Check out this book group for fresh insights and lively discussion about topics relating to society, identity, and culture.

Book selections include fiction and non-fiction from a wide variety of perspectives and marginalized identities.

Jan. 28: ***The Message***
by Ta-Nehisi Coates



February 25:
The Great Divide
by Cristina Henríquez

Supported by the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation.

THE BOOKMOBILE



MONDAY

Mitchell School:
2:30-3:30pm (3521 Jewel)
Sawyer School:
5-8pm (4136 Ontario)

**The Bookmobile
will be CLOSED
December 22 -
January 2.**

TUESDAY

St. Cecilia School: 3-4pm (Hoover & 30th Street)

WEDNESDAY

Edwards School: 2:30-3:30pm (820 Miller)
Fareway on Stange: 5-8pm (Stange & Bloomington)

THURSDAY

ISU Campus: 11am-1pm
(Near Kildee Food Truck Court)

New Year Goals

*by Lucy Carlson, Development Director
Ames Public Library Friends Foundation*

As soon as January hits, I think about goals and resolutions I want to make. This may seem like a small one, but this year I want to practice being more grateful. I've heard that the more you practice gratitude, the more you see what you have to be thankful for. And I know there is so much!

So, to start my goal off: Thank you so much to everyone who gave a year-end gift to the Ames Public Library Friends Foundation! Your donations make a real difference and allow the Ames Public Library to go above and beyond. And thank you volunteers and staff who made 2025 a wonderful year at the Library.

Welcome to 2026. Let's make this a fantastic year!



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**Friends
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Help support *Page One* and other Library services and programs by donating online at www.aplff.org or mailing your check to P.O. Box 1832, Ames, IA 50010.

Ames Repair Café



Saturday, January 17, from 10am-2pm

(Items for repair must be at the Library by 1:30pm)

Ames Public Library

515 Douglas Avenue, Ames



Drop in to a free Repair Café at the Library! Volunteers will help repair broken items to give them a longer life cycle. There is no charge for repairs at the Repair Café.

If volunteers are unable to repair your item, or parts are required, they'll help you find a local repair shop that can help. (If you have replacement parts, you can bring them with your broken item.)



Small Group Learning, 10am-12pm

Do you wish you knew more about basic clothing mending, or how to maintain your kitchen appliances? Join Ames Repair Café volunteers to learn the basics and become more self-sufficient and sustainable!

WHAT CAN YOU BRING FOR REPAIRS?

- Computers & Laptops
- Portable Electronics
- Lighting, including Holiday Decorations
- Sewing & Mending
- Small Home & Kitchen Appliances
- Jewelry & Accessories
- Musical Instruments



Facebook



Instagram

The Repair Café aims to reduce waste, share tools and resources, and help build self-reliance skills in our community. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please e-mail AmesRepairCafe@gmail.com.

AMES/STORY COUNTY COMMUNITY

MILK DAY₂₀₂₆

Celebration

Equality, Justice and Unity

Monday, January 19, 2026

City Hall Auditorium

Social at 6pm

Presentation at 6:30pm
featuring Mayor Quentin Hart

For more information about the
celebration and essay contest visit
www.CityOfAmes.org/MLKDay
or our Facebook and
Instagram pages.

Find us on



@Ames/StoryCountyMLKCelebration



@AmesMLK



or Scan QR code for
more information

