



Hackley Public Library

Jan-Apr 2025

# Newsletter



Find upcoming programs at [hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org)





# ADULT PROGRAMS

## Book Club at HPL

Jan 6 | Feb 4 | Mar 3 | Apr 7  
5:30 - 6:30 PM

Come to Hackley Library for a new take on Book Club! Each month we'll enjoy a different theme. Find details at [hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org).



## Chair Yoga

Jan 3 | Feb 14 | Mar 7 | Apr 18  
11:00 - 12:00 PM

Led by Mel from Mind Body Wellness, enjoy a relaxing hour of mindful movement during chair yoga. Registration is required.



## Senior Social Hour

Last Thursday of each month | JAN 30  
FEB 27 | Mar 27 | Apr 24 | 3:00 - 4:00 PM

Enjoy an hour of light refreshments, activities, and good conversation with fellow seniors. Registration preferred. Find details at [hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org).



## Left to Write - Creative Writing Group

Feb 12 | Mar 12 | Apr 9 | 3:30 - 4:30 PM

Participate in creative writing sessions with fellow writers. All experience levels welcome, new or seasoned! Find details at [hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org).

## After Hours Tours

Jan 23 | Feb 27 | Mar 27 | Apr 24  
4:45 - 6:00 PM

Take a tour of HPL after hours, and discover more details of HPL's history! Please arrive by 4:45pm (doors will close by 5:00pm). Registration preferred.



## Fire Prevention for Adults

Wednesday, January 8 | 3:00 - 4:00 PM

Staff from the City of Muskegon Fire Department will be on hand to discuss the importance of fire alarms, escape plans, and more. Registration preferred. Find details at [hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org).



## Friend Speed Dating

Wednesday, January 22 | 5:30 PM

Here's a chance to meet some new friends! Join us for this fun and casual event. This program is in partnership with The Healing Village. Registration is required. Find more details at [hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org).



## Women of the Watch

Monday, January 27 | 5:30 PM

Enjoy an evening with theater artist Anna Kamryn Marck as she shares stories of female lighthouse keepers on the Great Lakes. Registration preferred. Find details at [hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org).

## DEI&A Presentation

Tuesday, January 28 | 5:30 PM

Discover more about what we can do in our communities to ensure diversity, equity, inclusion, & accessibility. In partnership with Disability Network West Michigan. Registration preferred.



## Music - Ruth & Max Bloomquist

Tuesday, March 4 | 5:30 - 6:30 PM

Mark your calendar for music with Max and Ruth! Enjoy an array of folk, Americana, and more during this night of music. Registration preferred. Find details at [hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org).



## Here's the 'Dirt' on Gardening

Saturday, March 8 | 2:00 - 3:30 PM

Get the 'dirt' on gardening tips and tricks, insight into soil and its attributes, and a seed swap! Registration preferred. Find details at [hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org).



## Music - Uneven Ground

Tuesday, March 25

5:30 - 6:30 PM

Get ready for an evening of vibrant, traditional Irish music! Registration preferred. Find details at [hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org).



## Human Library at HPL

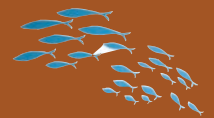
Saturday, March 29 | 1:00 - 4:00 PM

Meet and speak with various members from our very own community. During this event, human "books" and "reader" attendees can share conversations and open dialogue in a casual and comfortable environment. Find details at [hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org).

## Eat Safe Fish - Presentation

Tuesday, April 1 | 5:30 - 6:30 PM

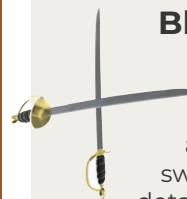
Discover insight and information on how to ensure the fish you're eating is safe. This program is in collaboration with DHHS. Registration preferred. Find details at [hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org).



## Blades of the Caribbean

Tuesday, April 22 | 5:00 - 6:30 PM

The Swordsmanship Museum & Academy will be back at HPL, this time to share about the practices and history of Caribbean swordsmanship! Registration preferred. Find details at [hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org).

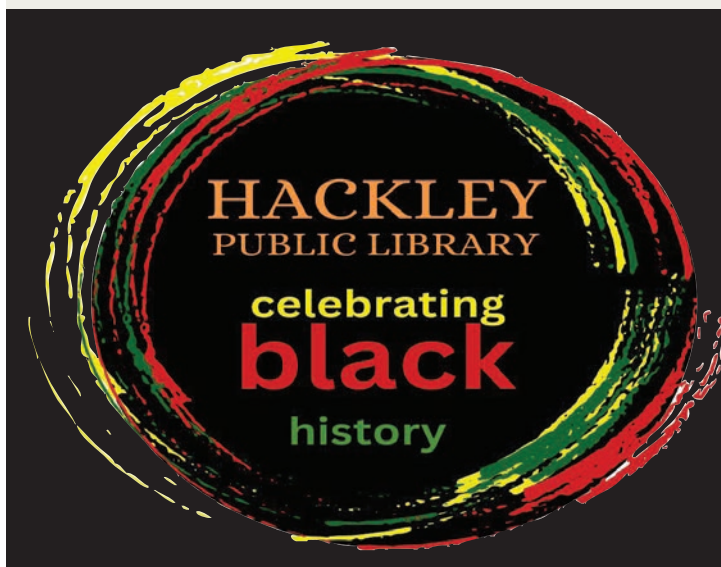


## Legal Rehab - Music at HPL

Tuesday, April 29 | 5:30 - 6:30 PM

Join us for a night of lively music, as Legal Rehab brings their amplified, acoustic classic rock/folk from the 60s to present - and Irish! Registration preferred. Find details at [hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org).





**Find more details on programs and events at [hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org) or on HPL's Facebook page!**

**BHM Michigan Roots: African American Migration in Michigan**

**Saturday, February 15 | 1:00PM**

*Presented by Rozlyn Kelly*

This presentation will discuss the migration of Black Americans to Michigan in the mid 1880s, before the Great Migration from the South, with specific examples from Marquette, Midland, and Detroit. Registration is required. Details at [hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org).



**BHM Gospel Kick-Off Event**  
**Friday, January 31 | 5:30 - 6:30 PM**

Kick off Black History Month as we enjoy a beautiful music performance, and vignettes of history through time. Registration preferred. Find details at [hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org).

**BHM All Ages Karaoke!**  
**Saturday, February 22**

**2:00 - 4:00 PM**



This fun and casual afternoon is for all ages to enjoy, as we embrace music and melodies from motown! Registration preferred. Find details at [hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org).

**BHM Trivia Contest**

**Saturday, February 1 | 2:00 - 3:00 PM**

Test your knowledge on Black History, and enjoy a fun competition with fellow community members! Register a team of up to four people. Registration highly preferred. Find details at [hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org).



**BHM Black Hair Care Clinic**

**Monday, February 24 | 5:30 - 6:30 PM**

Nietra Hood will share her expertise in this presentation, including sharing tips, tricks, and demonstrations. Bring your questions! Registration preferred. Find details at [hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org).



**BHM Open Mic Night**

**Monday, February 3 | 5:30 - 6:30 PM**

Gemini DaPoet and Kaizen Kabir will be hosting this incredible night, as we embrace the talents in our community. Come to share, or come just to listen! Registration preferred. Find details at [hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org).



**Black Women in Jazz**

**Tuesday, February 25 | 5:30 - 6:30 PM**

Enjoy a presentation on influential jazz singers, as well as music performed from the talented Edye & Mike. Registration preferred. Find details at [hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org).

**BHM Mac & Cheese Contest**

**Saturday, February 8 | 2:00 - 3:00 PM**

Do you have a delicious dish you'd like to show off? Register your Mac & Cheese and see if it has what it takes to win first place! Registration is required. Find more details at [hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org).



**BHM Sweet Soul Food Dessert Contest**

**Saturday, February 8 | 3:30 - 4:30 PM**

Enter your dessert for this sweet and savory contest! Registration is required. Find more details at [hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org).



**BHM Youth Take & Make**  
**Available beginning February 3**

We are celebrating Black History month with a unity bracelet you can grab and go. If you'd like to stay for a bit, you can learn a little about the art of kente weaving (and also grab that kit!). Kente refers to a Ghanaian textile made of hand-woven strips of silk and cotton. Historically the fabric was worn in a toga-like fashion among the Asante, Akan and Ewe people. According to Asante oral tradition, it originated from Bonwire in the Ashanti Region of Ghana.





# YOUTH / TEEN PROGRAMS

## Preschool Story Time @ 10:30 AM

Jan 10, 17, (24 at MMA), 31  
Feb 7, 14, 21, 28 | Mar 7, 14, 21, 28  
Apr 4, 25

Intended for ages 0-5, our in-person storytime is designed to teach early literacy skills to parents and caregivers while children enjoy a fun, interactive atmosphere. We'll read stories, sing songs, and do movement activities! Please check our Facebook page for any cancellations.



## Drop-in Puzzles

**Saturday, January 18 | 2:00 PM**

Cozy up and relax with a fun-filled afternoon of puzzling. We'll have puzzles for several age groups available! Ages 3+.



## Paws and Read

**Select Mondays (Call for more details or go to our website)**

We have two four-legged reading helpers in Youth Services!! Practice and strengthen literacy skills by reading out loud to our friendly therapy dogs who are calm, non judgmental listeners. Please call 231-722-8014 to register for a 20 minute time slot. Ages 3-12.



## MI Little Cooks

**Saturday, February 22 | 10:30 AM**

February is Heart Health Month! This special cooking class, designed with young children in mind, will introduce cooking, nutrition, and heart health. **Young chefs will need an adult sous chef to accompany them.** Thanks to Jessi Holden from The Kitchen Invitation who will lead our class. Please call 231-722-8014 or go to the Events page to register online. Ages 2-5.

## Lego Education Wednesdays Third Wednesday of each month

**4:00 - 4:45 PM**

These STEAM kits provide hands-on learning experiences that spark imagination and develop problem solving skills. Lego Education Wednesdays are self-guided lessons with minimal staff assistance. We have two types of kits: one for grades 1-5 and one for grades 6-8. Both are available first come, first served. Ages 6-14.



## Baby/Toddler Sensory Program

**Wednesday, February 26 | 10:00 AM**

Babies and toddlers love to explore the world around them! This program will give them an opportunity to learn through hands-on tactile play that engages their senses. Ages 0-4.

## March Take and Makes

**Available beginning March 3**

In March we celebrate Women's Herstory! Take and make our Female Family Tree to honor those women who inspire us, who we admire, and who we love! While you're here you can also grab our Women's History Coloring Book!



## TEEN TIME Second Monday of each month | 3:30 - 4:30 PM

We designate this hour every month for crafting, projects, and more for our patrons ages 13 - 18 in our Teen Room on the first floor of the library. Please check our Facebook page or our Instagram @hackleylibraryteens for the monthly theme!



## Parent/Child Workshop

**March 5, 12, 19, 26 | April 2  
10:00 - 11:15 AM**

This five-week workshop helps connect families with community resource professionals on a variety of topics related to these crucial development years. We encourage new and returning families to sign up. Our goal is to foster community connections and lasting relationships! Please call 231-722-8014 or go to our online events page to register online. Ages 1-4.



## January Take and Makes Available beginning January 2

Cat Bookmarks! Happy Mew Year for Cats Day!!! Did you know that cats celebrate Mew Year on January 2?!?! Well they do! Come in and grab a paper cat bookmark or a fun ribbon and button bookmark (light sewing required)!



## Find our Cats!

**All month in January**

Someone "let our cats loose in the library!" Come in for a bookmark kit and take a look around to find the library staff's cats!





**LEGO Competition**

**Saturday, March 22 | 2:00 PM**

We're back with another head to head Lego competition! Form your team of 2-4 builders and prepare to build your Lego set faster than the other teams. This friendly competition is registration only and teams must register ahead of time. Please call 231-722-8014 to register. Ages 8-12.

**April Take and Makes**

**Available beginning April 1**

Celebrate Spring and Pollinators this April. Check out our Facebook page closer to April for more details.



**Crafty Spring Break!**

**April 7 - 11**

Celebrate a week off from school at the library. We will have a Daily Craft—a new one for each day. Come for one craft or all five! Ages 3+.



**Drop-In CUE Robots**

**Tuesday, April 8**

Interested in trying out our Cue Robots? Drop-in any time the library is open to learn how to code and program a robot. These are available first come, first served, and are self-guided. Participants must be at least 8 years old to use a robot and must have an adult present. Ages 8+.



**Celebration Pollinators!**

**Saturday, April 26 | 2:00 PM**

Let's continue celebrating Earth Day by supporting our pollinators! Learn about pollinators and how important they are to our planet, do a craft, learn about the pollination process with a hands-on approach, and build a flower paper circuit. Ages 3-17.



**Hackley Library's Youth Services Department has SO much to enjoy!**

**LEGOs** Let your imagination run wild and see what you can create! HPL has LEGO bins available to build with all throughout the year.

**Board Games** We have a HUGE selection of games to play while in the Youth Services Department! Drop by for fun with Monopoly, try your hand at Uno, and more.

**Computers** These devices are available for kids and teens to use for games and surfing the internet.

**Early Literacy Tablets** These colorful tablets have pre-selected games for littles to choose from that are both fun and educational.

**Play and Learn Room** Geared towards ages 0-5 with caregivers, this space gives littles and their adults the chance to explore age-appropriate toys and books, sensory play stations, and more.

**...and so much more!**



**Check out the Teen Room on Hackley Library's main level!**

This space is for teens to lounge and hang out, do homework or surf the internet, gather with friends, and just relax.

**iPads are available** to checkout for in-library use while you're in the Teen Room.

**Teen Time** is a designated hour every month in the Teen Room for crafting, projects, and more for our patrons ages 13 - 18. Please check our Facebook page or our Instagram @hackleylibraryteens for the monthly theme!



**Did you know? Youth Services has "Pop-Up" programs throughout the year!**

Not all programs and events make it into the newsletter. Make sure to check Hackley Library's online events calendar at [hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org) and also HPL's Facebook page for additional programs happening during the year!



## The Torrent House has a storied past!

Before the Torrent House was part of Hackley Public Library, it was a house with many stories! Originally built and owned by the Torrent family, it was later turned into a funeral home during the 1930s, owned by James Balbirnie. During this time, an elevator had been installed in the home. The ballroom was used as a casket showroom, and the basement held a morgue. In the early 1940s, the home was then used as the location for the Muskegon Osteopathic Hospital, with an original capacity of thirty-four beds, three pediatric beds, and ten bassinets. The hospital expanded in the 1950s which grew its capacity to sixty-seven beds, eight pediatric beds, and sixteen cribs. Eventually in the 1960s, the Torrent House was vacated by the hospital, leaving it vacant. Unlike several other Muskegon gems, the Torrent House was not torn down. A historic district was formed in Muskegon, paving the way for structures to be salvaged and preserved. Eventually in the 1990s, the Friends of Hackley Public Library purchased the Torrent House structure, which would then lead to the use of the building by Hackley Library as its Local History & Genealogy Department.

### HPL'S Local History & Genealogy Department has new hours!

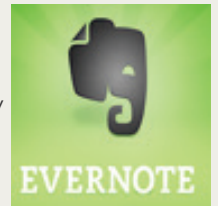
**Tuesday - Saturday  
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

## Upcoming Programs with the Muskegon County Genealogical Society at Hackley Library

### Topic: Evernote

**Saturday, January 18 | 10:30 AM**

Presented by Karen Frazier, President Muskegon County Genealogical Society. Registration preferred. Find details at [genealogymuskegon.org](http://genealogymuskegon.org) or at [hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org).



### Topic: Muskegon History

**Saturday, February 15 | 10:30 AM**

Presented by Kirk Bunke, Site Manager, Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business & Industry. Registration preferred. Find details at [genealogymuskegon.org](http://genealogymuskegon.org) or at [hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org).



### Topic: Making the Genealogy Center of Fort Wayne, Indiana YOUR Research Assistant

**Saturday, March 15 | 10:30 AM**

Presented by Curt Witcher, Manager Allen County Genealogy Center. Registration preferred. Find details at [genealogymuskegon.org](http://genealogymuskegon.org) or at [hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org).



# MUSEUMS MAKE YOU CURIOUS.

There's always something new to learn and do at all of the Lakeshore Museum Center locations! Experience hands-on, interactive exhibits, tours, and programs spanning 400 million years of Michigan's history.

- Muskegon Museum of History & Science
- Muskegon Historic Sites
- Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business & Industry



## Adult Crafts at Hackley Public Library

**Adult Evening Crafts will be on the second Tuesday of each month from 5:00 - 6:30 PM.**

**REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.**

Visit the online events calendar at [hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org) for more details.



**Adult Afternoon Crafting with Molly  
Thursday, January 16 | 3:00 - 4:00 PM**

**Thursday, March 20 | 3:00 - 4:00 PM  
Registration preferred.**



**Crafts with Lisa  
March 31 from 5:30 - 6:30 PM**

**April 28 from 5:30 - 6:30 PM**

**REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.**

Visit the online events calendar at [hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org) for more details.



[muskegoncivictheatre.org](http://muskegoncivictheatre.org)



Box Office Tuesday-Friday 11am-5pm  
**231-727-8001**  
[www.frauenthal.org](http://www.frauenthal.org)



**Hotspots, iPads, and Rokus are available to checkout for at-home use!**



**Bike locks are available for in-library checkout.**

**Enjoy HPL's Digital Resources at home for FREE using your library card!**

**Libby gives you** free digital access to eBooks and audiobooks. Browse through several titles to choose from! Through Libby you can borrow or place holds on items 24/7. Titles will be returned automatically.

**Kanopy gives you** free digital access to films, documentaries, kids content, and more. Find a title you like, click borrow and you are ready to start enjoying! Kanopy uses a ticketing system, and Hackley Public Library provides you with 15 tickets for borrows each month. These will reset every month and you can borrow more than one title at a time.

**hoopla gives you** free digital access to books (eBooks, audiobooks, comics), videos / movies, magazines, and music titles. Find a title you like, click borrow and you are ready to start enjoying! Hackley Public Library provides you 5 instant borrows each month. These digital borrows will reset every month. You can borrow more than one title at a time. Titles will be returned automatically.

**Did you know? hoopla has Bonus Borrows!**

In addition to hoopla offering great titles to choose from throughout the month, there are also BONUS BORROWS available at the end of the month! The Bonus Borrows collection are a curated selection of titles that you can borrow without using your monthly hoopla borrows. Bonus Borrows can be used for the last seven days of each month!

**creativebug**

With Creative Bug, you can discover new arts and crafts, stream classes, download patterns, and connect with others who are interested in creative expression!



This online resource is **FREE** using your Hackley Library card!

**How do you get started?**

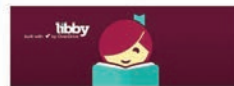
- Go to: [hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org)
- Hover over "Books & More" tab
- Click "Digital Library"
- Scroll below for Creative Bug

Or go to:

[creativebug.com/lib/hackleylibrary](http://creativebug.com/lib/hackleylibrary)



**hoopla**



**kanopy**

**Instantly browse 24/7 with your Hackley Public Library card.**

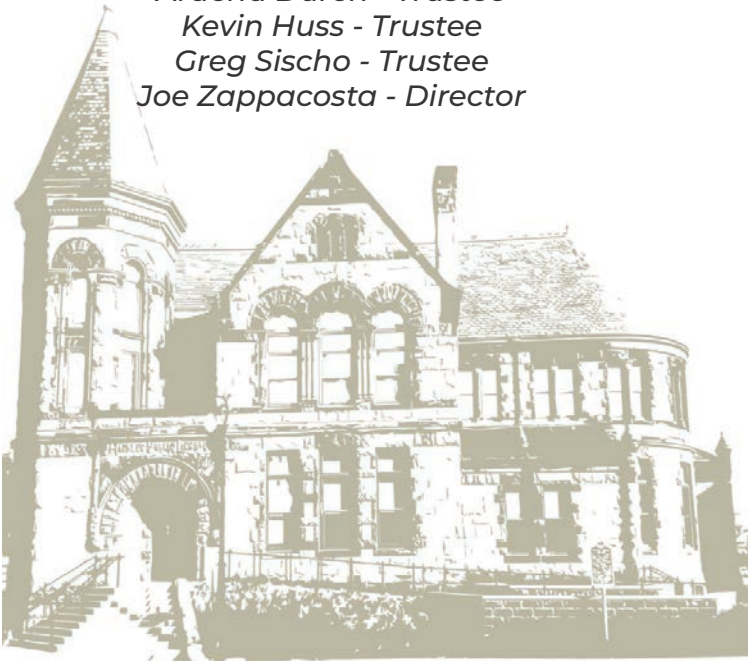


Find more details at **[hackleylibrary.org](http://hackleylibrary.org)**



**HPL Board Members**

- Barbara VanFossen - President*
- Thomas DeVogd - Vice President*
- Karen Evans - Secretary*
- Oneata Bailey - Treasurer*
- Ardena Duren - Trustee*
- Kevin Huss - Trustee*
- Greg Sischo - Trustee*
- Joe Zappacosta - Director*



**OPEN HOURS**

at Hackley Public Library

**Monday-Tuesday | 9:00 - 7:00 PM**  
**Wednesday-Saturday | 9:00 - 5:00 PM**

at Torrent House

*HPL's Local History & Genealogy Dept.*

**Tuesday - Saturday | 9:00 - 5:00 PM**

**hackleylibrary.org | facebook.com/HackleyPL**  
**askus@hackleylibrary.org**

**Director's Corner**

Welcome to the new format of our Hackley



Public Library newsletter! We've designed this update to better connect with you and share all the exciting things happening at your library. We aim to keep you informed about the resources, programs, and services we offer, while staying engaged with our library community and making it more accessible than ever.

Visiting your local library is truly special—it's a place to explore new

ideas, access a wealth of knowledge, and connect with others in a welcoming space.

Hackley Public Library strives to provide something for everyone, whether you're here to borrow books, movies, iPads, or hotspots, attend musical performances and educational workshops, or enjoy a warm, friendly environment to study or relax. I am also thrilled to share an update on our new Strategic Plan, which focuses on five key areas:

- Broadening library access to serve all members of our community.
- Building partnerships to expand outreach and programming.
- Supporting library board development to strengthen visibility.
- Addressing staffing and communication needs to optimize service.
- Preserving our historic 1888 library building and Torrent House while preparing them for the future.

We invite you to visit Hackley Public Library this new year and experience all we offer. Whether you're a regular patron or it's been a while since your last visit, there's always something new to discover. Please stop in, connect with our friendly staff, and let us show you why the library is your go-to place for learning, inspiration, and community.

**NIGHT  
TIME  
IS THE  
RIGHT  
TIME**

**JAZZ FROM BLUE LAKE**  
**10PM-3AM**

**88.9 FM 90.3 FM**  
**bluelake.org/radio**

**blue lake™**