

A woman with curly hair and glasses is holding a young child. The woman is wearing a grey sweatshirt with a colorful graphic and has blue nail polish. The child is wearing a light blue shirt and a beaded necklace. They are both smiling. The background is a blurred library shelf.

Howard County Library System

# source

JAN/FEB 2024

**Early Literacy  
classes, p. 8**

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

NPR's Adam Davidson

Evening in the Stacks

Teen Live!

Happy New Year -  
and Lunar New Year!

Be creative



**HOURS**  
 MON - THU 10 am - 9 pm  
 FRI & SAT 10 am - 6 pm  
 SUN 1 - 5 pm

**HOLIDAYS + CLOSINGS**

New Year's Day Jan 1  
 Martin Luther King, Jr Day Jan 15  
 Professional Development Jan 31, open at noon  
 Presidents Day Feb 19  
 Evening in the Stacks Feb 24  
 East Columbia Branch closed.

**LOCATIONS + NUMBERS**

HOURSplus ONLINE 410.313.7890  
 PHONE RENEWALS 410.313.7810  
 CENTRAL BRANCH 410.313.7800  
 10375 Little Patuxent Parkway  
 Columbia, MD 21044  
 EAST COLUMBIA BRANCH 410.313.7700  
 6600 Cradlerock Way  
 Columbia, MD 21045  
 ELKRIDGE BRANCH 410.313.5077  
 6540 Washington Boulevard  
 Elkridge, MD 21075  
 GLENWOOD BRANCH 410.313.5577  
 2350 State Route 97  
 Cooksville, MD 21723  
 MILLER BRANCH 410.313.1950  
 9421 Frederick Road  
 Ellicott City, MD 21042  
 SAVAGE BRANCH 410.313.0760  
 9525 Durness Lane  
 Laurel, MD 20723  
 ADMINISTRATIVE BRANCH 410.313.7750  
 9411 Frederick Road  
 Ellicott City, MD 21042

**TTY FOR HEARING IMPAIRED**

Central 410.313.7883  
 East Columbia 410.313.7770  
 Elkridge 410.313.5090  
 Glenwood 410.313.5597  
 Miller 410.313.1957  
 Savage 410.880.5867

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Kelly L. Smith, Chair  
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**MISSION/VISION:**

We deliver high-quality public education for all ages. A vital component of Howard County's renowned education system, we deliver excellence in education, advancing the economy and enhancing quality of life.

source sponsored in part by Friends & Foundation of HCLS.



**Letter from the President and CEO**

Happy New Year! As 2024 begins, we are excited to launch our new strategic plan. The process of setting new goals for HCLS included months of listening to our community. More than 3,000 members of the community and library staff contributed to conceiving our new mission to **Learn, Grow, and Connect**.

Over the next three years, we will seek opportunities to engage our community in concrete ways to increase the number of children who begin kindergarten ready to learn, to engage with teens and young adults so they feel an increased sense of agency and belonging, and to work toward an inclusive, connected community where everyone feels they belong. We look forward to seeing you at the library, as we collectively strive for the best for Howard County.

As you leaf through this magazine, take note of the work we're already doing. Adam Davidson, who co-founded NPR's Planet Money, kicks off Career Success Month with an online discussion about how artificial intelligence could affect the future of business. We're thrilled to follow this with a range of related classes, including Design Thinking for Entrepreneurs in partnership with the county's Economic Development Authority.

Our second annual seed share, in partnership with local environmental groups, takes place on January 20. Start thinking warm thoughts while planning your spring garden. We also invite you to discover the Equity Resource Center at our Central Branch and its new Reader's Exchange, where you can chat about books you've enjoyed and get some new recommendations.

Every branch offers classes for small children that help to prepare them for school, including early literacy techniques and social fundamentals. A full list of our regularly occurring classes can be found on pages 8-9. For middle school and high school students, Teen Live! offers an opportunity for fun and positive social interaction with friends at the library (p. 6).

As always, we hope to see you at our gala fundraiser in February (p. 3). This year, we're hosting A Flower-full Evening in the Stacks, with proceeds benefitting our budding readers and helping them be ready to succeed in school. It's the best party in Howard County as we transform our East Columbia Branch into a destination dance party for the night.

With something for everyone, make the library part of your plans in 2024!



Tonya Aikens  
 President & CEO

**ACCOMMODATIONS:**

Appropriate accommodations made at Howard County Library System (HCLS) sponsored events for individuals with special needs, if requested at least one week in advance.

**CONTENT AND ENDORSEMENT:**

The content of HCLS publications, classes, and events does not necessarily reflect the views held by HCLS, nor does mention of companies or organizations imply endorsement.

**PHOTO/VIDEO RELEASE STATEMENT:**

Please see [hclibrary.org/about-us/photo-video-and-audio-release](https://hclibrary.org/about-us/photo-video-and-audio-release).



# EVENING IN THE STACKS

February 24, 2024 | 7 - 11 pm  
 HCLS East Columbia Branch

For one night, the library transforms into a dance party with great music, food stations, open bars, and fun.

Don't miss this annual gala fundraiser featuring a guest DJ, gourmet cuisine by Rouge Catering, signature drinks by The Wine Bin and Sobar, photo ops, and more.

This year's proceeds benefit HCLS' early childhood initiatives that help our community's budding learners grow.

**Tickets on sale January 10:  
 \$100**

**February 1:  
 \$125 for one/\$225 for two**

**PLATINUM SPONSOR**



**SILVER SPONSORS**

Sabina Taj & Kyle Reis  
 Ron & Cynthia Gula Charitable Fund  
 Clarksville Commons

**GOLD SPONSORS**



Ron & Ellen Flynn Giles

[HCLIBRARY.ORG/STACKS](https://hclibrary.org/stacks)

## BRANCH RAFFLES

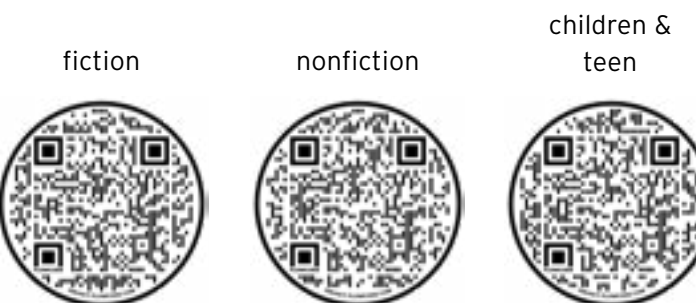
Jan 17 - Feb 21

Tickets: \$5 each in person & online

**PRIZES INCLUDE:**

- 2 tickets to event (drawn Feb 17)
- Branch baskets full of donations from local retailers
- 1 Grand Prize: PlayStation 5 Console with controller

**GET READY WITH FLOWER-FULL TITLES**



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[hclibrary.org](https://hclibrary.org)



# Teen LIVE!

Designed by and for middle and high school students!

Have fun with friends - it's a relaxed vibe with pizza and snacks, DJ, and activity stations, video and party games.

Fri	Jan 17	1 - 4 pm	Elkridge
Sat	Jan 27	3 - 5 pm	Central
Wed	Mar 13	1 - 4 pm	Glenwood
Sat	Apr 27	3 - 5 pm	Miller
Wed	May 14	1 - 4 pm	Savage
Fri	Jun 7	1 - 4 pm	East Columbia



## Happy New Year!

by Brandon Bannister, Central Branch

Are you ready to make 2024 your best year? The new year can bring a level of optimism, excitement, and stress to some. Setting unrealistic New Year's resolutions can be exhausting, so keep your expectations realistic. No matter if you are looking to improve your mental, spiritual, and physical health, you can visit us in person or online. To accomplish your goals for 2024, you have to adopt a clear mindset, so you can achieve the right philosophies and produce the right results.



*Destructive Thinking* by Bishop T.D. Jakes offers guidance in having a strategy, spiritual guidance, and plan for the new year. If you are interested in improving your leadership and interpersonal skills, consider author John C. Maxwell to help you improve these talents.

Are you ready to burn off a few extra holiday pounds from all of those delicious meals and desserts? You can find great suggestions in our health collection, which focuses on fitness, nutrition, and many forms of exercise such as weight lifting, cycling, walking, and running. The late great Suzanne Somers' books and videos may inspire you to get your body into great shape. Nutrition plays a major role in weight loss and management.

Author Dr. Ian Smith focuses on nutrition and meal plans, and offers advice for an individual to burn fat and make lifestyle changes.



### Set Yourself Up for Success in 2024

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/success\\_hcls](https://bit.ly/success_hcls)

Reflect, celebrate and learn lessons from 2023 as you dream, prepare, and create an exciting and fulfilling year in 2024.

Thu Jan 18 7 - 8:30 pm Central

Visit [hclibrary.org](https://hclibrary.org) > online resources > stream.  
Find Kanopy under Music, Movies, TV, eAudio.



## News this Year: Direct to You!

Sign up for newsletters to stay on top of all the great classes and events happening at HCLS. We're introducing a series of email newsletters to make sure you don't ever say, "I wish I'd known about that!"

Visit [hclibrary.org/about-us/news/enewsletter](https://hclibrary.org/about-us/news/enewsletter) and opt in to the ones that interest you:

- Children
- Teens
- Adults
- Library of Things: Makerspace, DIY, AV Lab
- HiTech
- Author events
- HiLights: general HCLS news
- Brave Voices, Brave Choices



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# Staff Spotlight:

## Adriana Sass

**Title and branch:**  
Children's Instructor & Research Specialist at  
HCLS Elkridge Branch

**How long have you been with HCLS?**  
5 years

**What excites you the most about your work and/or HCLS as a whole?**  
I really enjoy helping others and being able to be of service. I especially like connecting with the Hispanic community, helping them find and use free library resources, and promoting our Latin culture through classes and events. I have promoted a lot of our library resources such as Project Literacy and online resources such as Rosetta Stone, Muzzy, and other language learning opportunities.

**How are you involved in the community?**  
I have joined multiple community groups on Facebook and WhatsApp to help promote our library resources, classes, and events. It's a great way to stay connected with our customers and find out about their needs and concerns.

**What's an unusual fact about you?**  
I was once a Zumba Instructor at various gyms and venues. I love dancing and teaching how to dance.

**What's your favorite place to travel?**  
I love traveling back home. Colombia, South America is where I was born and raised. There are so many beautiful places to explore, along with amazing food and family.

**Favorite time of year?**  
The summer because I get to enjoy more time outdoors with my kids, at the beach, the pool, etc. The warmth and the green colors of summer remind me of home.

**Favorite type of music?**  
I love to listen, sing, and dance to Latin music.

**If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would you go?**  
Anywhere in the Caribbean with a gorgeous beach. I love swimming and snorkeling in the ocean. I take any chance I get to escape the cold winter weather.

**Do you speak other languages?**  
I am fluent in Spanish. I also speak a little bit of French and Italian.



### Fun With Spanish

30 minutes. Ages 6-11. Ticket required.

Se requiere boleto; disponible en el mostrador de niños 15 minutos antes de la clase.

Join Ms. Adriana to have fun learning some basic Spanish vocabulary, with new words introduced each week. Ms. Adriana uses the Muzzy app to guide attendees through lessons on conversational Spanish vocabulary. Muzzy is free at hclibrary.org with your HCLS card.

Wednesdays	5 - 5:30 pm	Elkridge
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### Cuentos en Español y Tiempo de Juego

Ages 0-5 with adult. 30 minutes. Ticket required; available at the children's desk 15 minutes before class.

Se requiere boleto; disponible en el mostrador de niños 15 minutos antes de la clase.

Únase a nosotros para cuentos, canciones y rimas en español. Seguido de un tiempo de juego.

Mondays & Saturdays; 10:30 - 11 am      Elkridge

### Pequeños Lectores (Bilingual)

Ages 6-9; 30 min. Ticket required; available at the children's desk 15 minutes before class. .

Se requiere boleto; disponible en el mostrador de niños 15 minutos antes de la clase.

Únete a un tiempo Lectura en Español nivel Basico y diviértete con actividades relacionadas con el libro de la semana.

Join us for Easy-to-Read Stories in Spanish, and have fun with activities related to the book of the week.

Tuesdays	5 - 5:30 pm	Elkridge
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### Spanish Conversation and Vocabulary (Bilingual)

Ages 8-12; 30 min. Ticket required; available at the children's desk 15 minutes before class.

Se requiere boleto; disponible en el mostrador de niños 15 minutos antes de la clase.

Join us for an informal Spanish conversation and homework assistance time. We practice basic phrases and vocabulary.

For students with a basic understanding of Spanish up to a medium Spanish level.

Tuesdays	6 - 6:30 pm	Elkridge
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learn

## Studying to Succeed

by Cherise Tasker, Central Branch

Do you ever wonder where all those navigation tabs at hclibrary.org go? One of the answers is homework help! Adult, teen, or child: you have access to library resources to bolster your learning needs.

FREE experienced help is available online via **Brainfuse** with online tutors in many subjects, daily from 2 - 11:55 pm.

- math through calculus II
- science through college introductory biology, chemistry, and physics
- language arts
- social studies

You can also access test prep for the SAT and ACT. The platform includes Spanish Foreign Language Lab, GED practice tests, and a Writing Lab. Brainfuse tutors also review resumes, cover letters, and academic papers. Students can submit homework questions for tutor guidance and followup. Brainfuse even provides flashcards in hundreds of subjects and allows you to create new sets.

**TO GET THERE:** At hclibrary.org, click on "Site" next to the search bar and type in "Brainfuse." Select "Online Homework Assistance," and set up an account. If you are an HCPSS student, visit hcpss.me, click the HCLS logo, then click homework help.

Under the **Research tab**, you can find the Test Prep section with Peterson's Test & Career Prep and LearningExpress Library. Both include practice tests, study modules, and e-books to boost student skills and confidence from grade school through career advancement. Topical practice tests are available for:

- high school and college entrance exams
- graduate, nursing, medical, dental, and law schools
- Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB)
- Praxis

For students who require additional professional support in the classroom, an IFSP (Individualized Family Service Plan) and IEP (Individualized Education Program) may be recommended. Two books, *Nolo's IEP Guide: Learning Disabilities* and *Nolo's IEP Guide: How to Advocate for Your Special Ed Child*, offer direction in successfully arranging educational services. They include definitions, sample forms, and guidelines for resolving disputes. Each child and each school district is unique, so understanding your student's rights facilitates academic success.

On **Wednesday, Jan 17 at 11 am**, HCPSS Early Intervention Services offers a Zoom class to educate parents on the IFSP and IEP. Register at [bit.ly/early\\_intervention\\_online](https://bit.ly/early_intervention_online) or scan the QR Code for more information.



# Ready for Kindergarten

It's never too early to bring your child to classes at the library! We offer a stimulating, literacy rich environment for young children and encourage you to talk, read, and sing with your children every day. Students who lag behind their peers in kindergarten are challenged to catch up – and that gap can continue to grow throughout their K-12 career. Library classes help:

- Introduce your child to books and the words in them. A large vocabulary works as a strong indicator for a child's third grade reading level.
- Children and their adults participate in activities that include reading aloud, storytelling, finger-plays, rhymes, and songs - all of which increase vocabulary.
- Infants, toddlers, and their adults address common language standards, including social and emotional skills.

Check the online calendar for up-to-date information at [howardcounty.librarycalendar.com](http://howardcounty.librarycalendar.com).

Take advantage of the wealth of classes available at all six branches. You may look for specific classes by entering the class name in the Keyword Search box. You may also filter by branch.

Or go to [hclibrary.org/early-learning](http://hclibrary.org/early-learning) for a link to "Classes Today" and "Classes by Location."

## Play Partners

Newborns-23 months with adult; 20-30 min. Ticket required; available at the children's desk 15 minutes before class.

Newborns and toddlers learn to express feelings, language, and movement through stories, baby games, musical activities, and playtime.

Mondays	10:15 & 11:15 am	Elkridge
Mondays	6:30 pm	Central
Tuesdays	10:15 am	Savage
Tuesdays	10:15 & 11:30 am	Central
Wednesdays	10:30 am	East Columbia
Thursdays	10:15 & 11:30 am [starting Jan 11]	Miller
Thursdays	10:30 am	Glenwood
Fridays	10:15 & 11:30 am	Central



## Time for Us

Ages 18-35 months with adult; 30 min. Ticket required; available at the children's desk 15 minutes before class.

Toddlers gain coordination and control when using small and large muscles through stories, music, movement, fingerplays, rhyme, and playtime activities.

Wednesdays	10:15 am	Savage
Wednesdays	10:15 & 11:30 am [starting Jan 10]	Miller

## 3, 2, Fun

Ages 2-3 years with adult; 30 min. Ticket required; available at the children's desk 15 minutes before class.

Preschoolers get ready for school by doing things like talking, singing songs and rhymes, doing finger plays, and listening to stories.

Tuesdays	10:30 am	Glenwood
Tuesdays	10:15 & 11:15 am [starting Jan 9]	Miller
Wednesdays	10:15 & 11:15 am	Elkridge
Thursdays	10:30 am	East Columbia

## Little Learners

Ages 3-5 years with adult; 45 mins. Ticket required; available at the children's desk 15 minutes before class.

Children learn through play and exploring the world around them. Stories and activities help with skills like getting along, talking and reading, moving and doing, math, science, and being creative.

Mondays	10:15 am (intermittently)	Savage
Mondays	2 pm	Glenwood
Tuesdays	10:15 & 11:15 am	Elkridge
Tuesdays	2 & 3:15 pm	Central
Fridays	11 am	East Columbia
3rd Saturdays	11:30 am	Savage



## All Together Now

All ages; 30 mins. Ticket required; available at the children's desk 15 minutes before class.

Children build skills in singing, talking, listening, reading, and getting along with others through stories, music, rhymes, and activities.

Wednesdays	1:30 pm	East Columbia
Fridays	10:15 & 11:30 am	Miller
Fridays & Saturdays	10:15 & 11:15 am	Elkridge
Fridays & Saturdays	10:30 am	Glenwood
Saturdays	10:15 am	Savage
Saturdays	10:15 & 11:30 am	Central

## Picture Book Parade

Ages 2-5 with adult; 30 min. Ticket required; available at the children's desk 15 minutes before class.

Tales, tunes, and tons of fun!		
Mondays	10:15 & 11:30 am	Central
Fridays	10:15 am	Savage

## Pajama Time

All ages; 30 min. Ticket required; available at the children's desk 15 minutes before class.

A class before bedtime, children build skills in singing, talking, listening, reading, and getting along with others through stories, music, rhymes, and activities. Children may wear their pajamas and bring their loveys and blankets.

Mondays	7 pm	Elkridge
Mondays	6:30 pm [starting in Feb; check for other classes at this time in Jan.]	Miller
Tuesdays	7 pm	Savage
Thursdays	7 pm	Central

## Just for Me & All by Myself

30 mins. Ticket required; available at the children's desk 15 minutes before class.

Preschoolers go to class on their own. They learn to follow rules and routines, understand feelings, and talk about stories. They may also learn about shapes and numbers, use scissors, draw and write, make guesses about what is going to happen, learn about the world, and be creative.

<b>Just for Me</b>		
Wednesdays	1:30 pm	Elkridge
Thursdays	10:15am	Savage

<b>All By Myself</b>		
Tuesdays	2 pm	Glenwood
Tuesdays	2 pm [starting Jan 9]	Miller

## Cuentos en Español y Tiempo de Juego

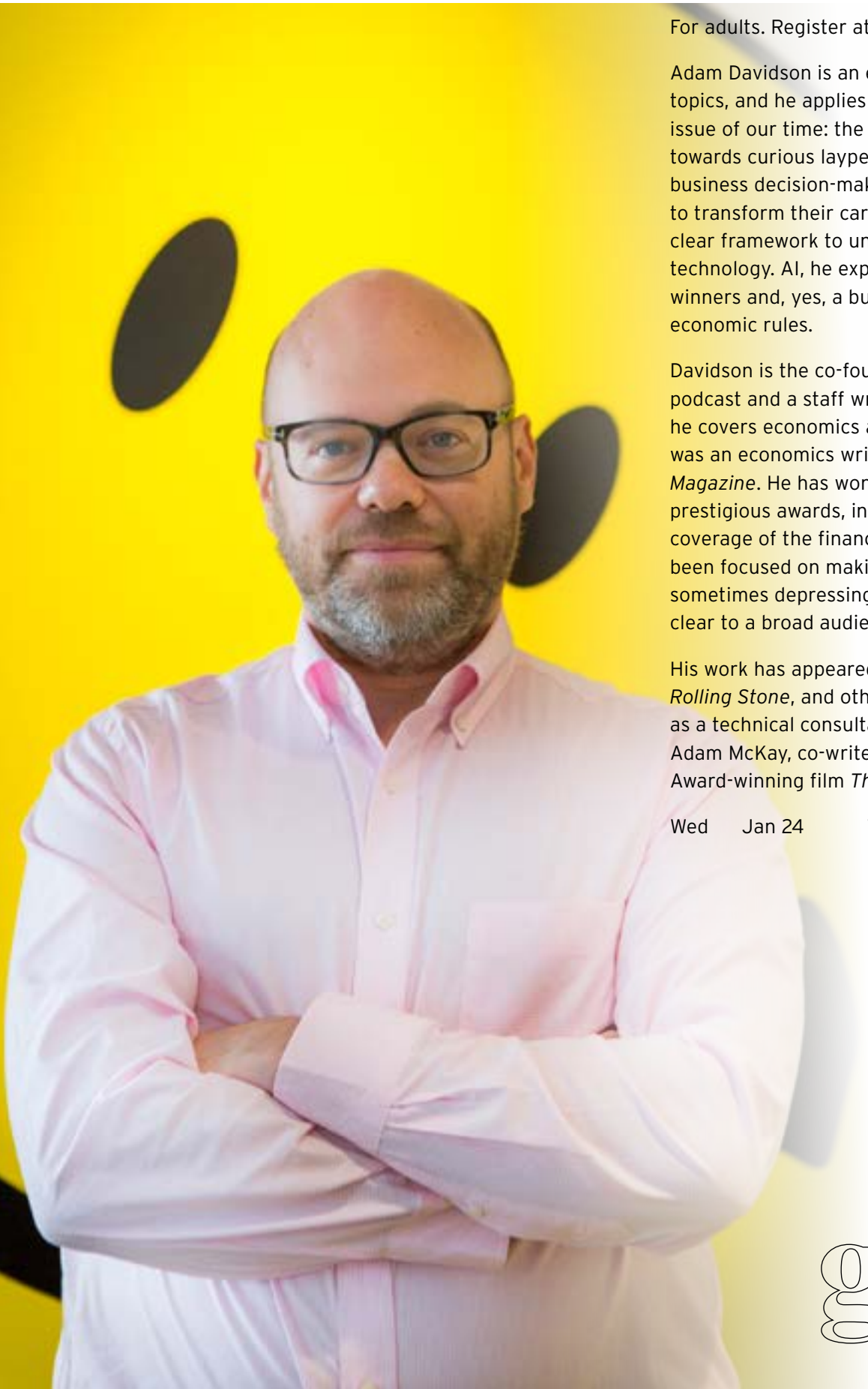
Ages 0-5 with adult. 30 minutes. Ticket required; available at the children's desk 15 minutes before class. Se requiere boleto; disponible en el mostrador de niños 15 minutos antes de la clase.

Únase a nosotros para cuentos, canciones y rimas en español. Seguido de un tiempo de juego.

Mondays & Saturdays; 10:30 am      Elkridge



# AI and the Future of Work and Business with Adam Davidson



For adults. Register at [bit.ly/AuthorDavidsononAI](https://bit.ly/AuthorDavidsononAI)

Adam Davidson is an expert at demystifying complex topics, and he applies these skills to the most crucial issue of our time: the rise of AI. This talk is geared towards curious laypeople—from college students to business decision-makers—who know that AI is likely to transform their careers and business and need a clear framework to understand this new revolutionary technology. AI, he explains, will create massive new winners and, yes, a bunch of losers, as it rewrites our economic rules.

Davidson is the co-founder of NPR's Planet Money podcast and a staff writer at *The New Yorker*, where he covers economics and business. Previously he was an economics writer for *The New York Times Magazine*. He has won many of journalism's most prestigious awards, including a Peabody for his coverage of the financial crisis. All of his work has been focused on making the complex, confusing, sometimes depressing news about the economy it clear to a broad audience.

His work has appeared in *The Atlantic*, *Harper's*, *GQ*, *Rolling Stone*, and other publications. He has served as a technical consultant in Hollywood, including to Adam McKay, co-writer and director of the Academy Award-winning film *The Big Short*.

Wed Jan 24 7 - 8 pm online

MORE ABOUT  
CAREER SUCCESS



grow

## Career Success Month

Jan 22 - Feb 23, 2024

Maryland public libraries launch a new year with a month of programs on entrepreneurship and job advancement. During this month, classes focus on financial skill building and digital knowledge to navigate our rapidly changing work environment. These impactful, results-driven classes and programs occur in a mixture of in-person, virtual, and hybrid formats.

Hosted at library branches throughout Maryland, these programs provide information from subject-matter experts. Examples include:

- Design thinking for entrepreneurs
- How to work the gig economy
- The joy of owning a small business in retirement
- Learning Canva
- Mindfulness at work
- Speed mentoring
- Resume building and interview preparation

For a full listing of events, visit [bit.ly/CSM2024-FutureOfWork](https://bit.ly/CSM2024-FutureOfWork)

## Winning Resumes and Captivating Cover Letters

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/winning\\_resumes](https://bit.ly/winning_resumes)

A resume and cover letter are essential marketing tools that allow you to highlight your career achievements and accomplishments to potential employers. Learn how to craft targeted resumes and cover letters that allow you to stand out. In partnership with the Office of Workforce Development.

Mon Jan 29 1 - 3 pm Elkridge

## Investing - Beyond the Basics

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/InvestingBeyond](https://bit.ly/InvestingBeyond)

Take a deeper dive into the concepts associated with investing, the difference between investing and speculation, as well as different investment tools and their tax implications. This educational webinar does not offer direct financial advice.

Wed Jan 31 6:30 - 7:30 pm online

## Job Searching in the Digital Age

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/digital\\_job\\_search](https://bit.ly/digital_job_search)

Interested in getting back into the workforce? Curious about the new “gig” economy? Hear an overview of how to use social media in your job search, learn digital job searching tools like LinkedIn, and gain tips and advice to job seekers. Learn about new opportunities for freelance work and how to supplement your income in innovative ways.

Mon Jan 8 11 am - 12 pm Glenwood

## DESIGN THINKING FOR ENTREPRENEURS

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/DesignforEntrepreneurs](https://bit.ly/DesignforEntrepreneurs)

Gain the tools you need to cut through ambiguity and move forward with confidence. Vance MacEwen, co-founder of Greatest Possible Good, teaches takes you through the design thinking process. The sessions cover:

- What design thinking is and how you can use it to build what your customers actually want, not just what you think they want.
- Practice customer interviews, collaborative research synthesis, rapid prototyping, and user testing in a fun, low-stakes way before carrying it out.
- Free one-on-ones with your instructor as you apply your new tools.

In partnership with the Howard County Economic Development Authority

Wednesdays; 6:30 - 8:30 pm Miller  
Feb 2 & 28, Mar 6 & 13





# did you know? Equity Resource Center

by Emily Bell, Central Branch

Did you know that Central Branch is home to Howard County Library System's newest special collection? The Equity Resource Center (ERC) debuted in September 2021 with more than 9,000 items, offering a diverse and inclusive collection of adult, children, and teen materials spanning many formats and topics.

The idea for the Equity Resource Center first came about during the COVID-19 pandemic and the murder of George Floyd. Community members wanted a place to come together to learn and heal, a place where they could see themselves and their stories represented and have the opportunity to learn about those different than them.

Director of Collection Development Vera Davies explains the Equity Resource Center and its collection were established, "to support self-directed education and exhibits, facilitated and unfacilitated classes and conversations, and as a space for the community to identify, document, and share local issues and concerns."

Some of the titles offered at the collection's launch were recommended by members of HCLS' Racial Equity Alliance. As the collection continues to grow, HCLS selectors choose materials that fall within a broad and inclusive scope that includes key themes like ableism, LGBTQIA+, the history of race and racism in the United States and Maryland, and more.

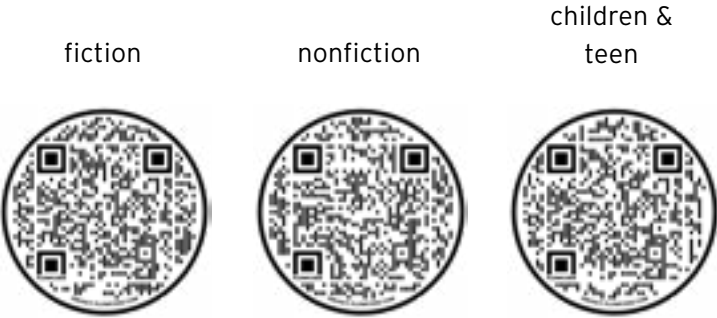
Dr. Kelly Clark, HCLS' Chief Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging Officer, has big ideas for the future of the Equity Resource Center. In addition to continuing to host exhibits and equity programs, Dr. Clark hopes to develop and introduce bundles with self-guided curricula. These bundles would feature various ERC materials - a book, movie, and music CD - alongside a study guide with reflection questions, activities, and suggestions on how to engage your friends and family in what you learn.

Dr. Clark hopes that the ERC, "will grow to be a coveted community resource as Howard County residents continue to grapple with tough contemporary issues of equity, inclusion and belonging." Whether you want to research, learn, or celebrate, the Equity Resource Center has something for you.

Visit HCLS Central Branch to check out the collection in person or browse the collection online at [hclibrary.org/special-collections/equity-resource-collection](http://hclibrary.org/special-collections/equity-resource-collection).



## ERC TITLES FOR BLACK HISTORY MONTH



connect

## Reader's Exchange: Black Authors of African Descent

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/share\\_hcls](https://bit.ly/share_hcls)

Do you have a book written by a Black author of African descent that you can't stop talking about? Have you read the last two books your friends recommended and don't know what to read next? Hear what your fellow book lovers are raving about and share what you're currently reading. You also learn about up-and-coming authors.

Wed Feb 7 7 - 8 pm Central

## Recipe Exchange: African American Chefs & Culinary Innovation

For adults. Register at [https://bit.ly/reci\\_feb](https://bit.ly/reci_feb)

Discuss some notable African American chefs who are making their mark on cuisine, talk about their recipes, then share some. Meet with other foodies and indulge your culinary curiosity at our recipe exchange.

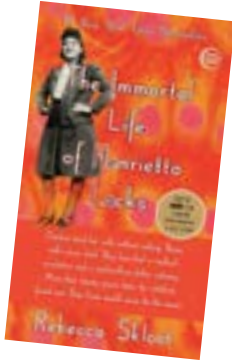
Sat Feb 3 11:30 am - 12:30 pm Savage

## The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks Film & Discussion

For adults. Register at [https://bit.ly/gle\\_hl](https://bit.ly/gle_hl)

Watch and discuss the film *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, based on Rebecca Skloot's critically acclaimed 2010 nonfiction bestseller of the same name. This HBO Films drama tells the true story of Henrietta Lacks, who became an unwitting pioneer for medical breakthroughs when her cells are used to create the first immortal human cell line in the early 1950s. Discussion follows the screening.

Thu Feb 8 6:30 - 8:30 pm Glenwood



## Celebrating Black History Month with Children

Check the online calendar for up-to-date information at [howardcounty.librarycalendar.com](http://howardcounty.librarycalendar.com).

### Themed Sessions at Elkridge

Play Partners (infant-23 months)  
Mon Feb 19 10:15 - 10:45 am & 11:15 - 11:45 am

Pajama Time (families)  
Mon Feb 19 7 - 7:30 pm

Little Learners (3-5 years)  
Tue Feb 20 10:15 - 10:45 am & 11:15 - 11:45 am

3.2, Fun (2-3 years)  
Wed Feb 21 10:15 - 10:45 am & 11:15 - 11:45 am

Just For Me (3-6 years, independently)  
Wed Feb 21 1:30 - 2 pm

All Together Now (families)  
Fri Feb 23 10:15 - 10:45 am & 11:15 - 11:45 am  
Sat Feb 24 10:15 - 10:45 am & 11:15 - 11:45 am

### Themed Sessions at Savage

Play Partners (infant-23 months)  
Tue Feb 6 10:15 - 10:45 am

Time For Us (18 months-3years)  
Wed Feb 7 10:15 - 10:45 am

Just For Me (3-6 years, independently)  
Thu Feb 8 10:15 - 10:45 am

Picture Book Parade (2-5 years)  
Fri Feb 9 10:15 - 10:45 am

All Together Now (families)  
Sat Feb 10 10:15 - 10:45 am

Visit [hclibrary.org](http://hclibrary.org) > online resources > research tools.  
Find Gale In Context under Historical Research.

Uncover the story behind these Hidden Figures and many more.  
Learn about their many contributions in *Gale In Context: Biography*



# Express Your Creativity

by Sahana Callahan, Savage Branch

With the start of the new year comes the chance to start afresh, to explore new interests or hone old skills, and to follow through on resolutions that allow you to unlock your creativity. What better place to get inspired than the library? Across our branches, we've got innovative technology and tools to make your creative visions come to life. From the makerspace at Glenwood Branch to the DIY center at Elkridge Branch all the way to the A/V Lab at Savage Branch, there's plenty to inspire your imagination.

The **makerspace at Glenwood** is a one-stop shop for all things design. With tinker bins, there's opportunity for crafting and inventing in all sorts of innovative ways. The 3D printer is a professional grade machine and with a Glowforge, Cricut, large format printer, a digital memory station, and a recording booth, there's plenty to explore. The makerspace area serves people ages 8 and up, but for younger folks, the **Builder's Barn** is a great place to bring designs into life. While some of the makerspace products have associated costs for materials, you can design from start to finish. You can take makerspace classes at Glenwood Branch. If you



don't have time to make your project, though, the Maker-To-Order system allows for HCLS staff to print or cut your fully designed files.

The **DIY Center** boasts a vast collection of tools for all ages, ranging from baking, biking, camping, crafts, gardening, or home improvement. The instructors are always excited to help those interested in engaging more with the available tools at DIY classes held at Elkridge. The DIY Center even has a studio, a "mess-friendly" classroom, and workspace. To borrow from the DIY collection, you must have a DIY library card, available to those 21 and older, who live, work, or attend school in Maryland.

The **A/V Lab at Savage** also boasts a recording booth and 3D printer. During regular A/V Lab hours, a staff member can help answer basic questions about the computer software. You can use the instruments in place, and as always, classes cans help familiarize you with each tool. Schedule a one-on-one appointment at the Savage Branch & STEM Education Center page on hclibrary.org.

If you want to find out more about how to unlock your creativity at the library this year, check out our classes, and visit us at the Makerspace, the DIY Center, or the A/V Lab.



## MORE ABOUT BEING CREATIVE

nonfiction



children & teen



### Craft Works

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/craft\\_works](https://bit.ly/craft_works)

Let your creativity shine in a relaxed and welcoming environment. Each month, learn about different art media and explore new techniques.

#### Woven Yarn Bowls

Tue	Jan 4	2 - 3:30 pm	Central
Tue	Jan 16	7 - 8:30 pm	Central

#### Classic Book Flowers

Tue	Feb 8	2 - 3:30 pm	Central
Tue	Feb 20	7 - 8:30 pm	Central

### A/V Lab

For teens and adults. Registration preferred at [bit.ly/avlab\\_sav](https://bit.ly/avlab_sav)

Drop-in to use the equipment in the A/V Studio. Record and mix music or create and edit movies with the help of a HiTech instructor. Walk-ins welcome.

Every Wednesday	5 - 7 pm	Savage
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### How to Install Wainscoting

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/wainscoting\\_diy](https://bit.ly/wainscoting_diy)

Learn about the different types of wainscoting, then discuss, watch, and participate in installation techniques. Discuss the tools and materials you need to add texture and character to your walls.

Sat	Jan 6	11 am - 12:30 pm	Elkridge
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### Winter Crafternoon

For ages 2-10. Ticket required.

Drop in and make fun winter crafts.

Mon	Jan 22	2 - 3 pm	East Columbia
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### Book Earrings and Charms

For teens & adults. Register at [bit.ly/diy\\_book\\_earrings](https://bit.ly/diy_book_earrings)

Make unique jewelry inspired by your favorite books.

Tue	Feb 27	7 - 8:30 pm	Elkridge
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learn

## more for children

### Who's at the Zoo?

For all ages. Ticket required; available at the children's desk 15 minutes before class.

Learn about a different species each week. Develop an understanding of each animal's special adaptations through hands-on stations.

Mondays;	Jan 8, 22, and 29
2 - 2:30 & 6:30 - 7 pm	Miller

### Don't Let History Be a Mystery

For ages 6-10. Ticket required; available at the children's desk 15 minutes before class.

Learn about interesting people throughout history. Includes stories, activities, and a craft.

Discover King Tut & Ancient Egypt			
Wed	Jan 17	6:30 - 7:15 pm	Miller

Discover our Presidents			
Wed	Feb 21	6:30 - 7:15 pm	Miller

grow





## Global Neighbors: Lunar New Year

For families. Experience the culture and contributions of one of the largest demographics in our community in this Global Neighbors series - China. Enjoy an afternoon that showcases the rich cultural heritage of China and celebrates Lunar New Year. Enjoy celebrating the diversity of our community that is truly enriched by so many different cultures. A few featured performers pictured below.

Co-hosted by the Chinese American Parents Association (CAPA)

Sat Feb 3 2 - 4 pm Miller



## for adults

### BINGO! Social

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/bingo\\_HCLS](https://bit.ly/bingo_HCLS)

B-I-N-G-O! Get sociable and win prizes. Games held on a rotating Thursday schedule at all branches, so please make note of the location for each date. Click the branch name below to register; please register for each date separately.

Thu	Jan 11	2 - 4 pm	East Columbia
Thu	Feb 22	2-4 pm	Central

### Cookbook Corner

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/cookbook\\_corner](https://bit.ly/cookbook_corner)

Explore various culinary cuisines/chefs of the world with a new cuisine/chef every month. January's chef is the Pioneer Woman, Ree Drummond. Pick up any Pioneer Woman cookbook at the library, cook some recipes, and come have a culinary discussion!

Wed	Jan 17	7 - 8 pm	East Columbia
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### In Other Worlds

#### Science Fiction & Fantasy Book Club

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/in\\_other\\_worlds](https://bit.ly/in_other_worlds)

Welcome speculative fiction enthusiasts and other intrepid readers! Discuss a wide array of science fiction and fantasy books.

Wednesdays, 7 - 8 pm	East Columbia
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Jan 24	Any Discworld book by Terry Pratchett
Feb 28	Noor by Nnedi Okorafor

### Pets on Wheels

For all ages. Drop-in; no registration required.

Therapy dog(s) from Pets on Wheels available for friendly visits. Find a full schedule at [bit.ly/hcls\\_pow](https://bit.ly/hcls_pow)

Saturdays	East Columbia
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### FOR LUNAR NEW YEAR

fiction



nonfiction



children & teen



### Internet of Things

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/3SDGrzu](https://bit.ly/3SDGrzu)

Hearing a lot about "smart" devices? We'll explain how it's all connected! Learn best practices for keeping your devices secure, how devices communicate to each other, and about the technology that is fueling smart homes and cities.

Fri	Jan 26	10 am - 12 pm	Glenwood
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### Senior Planet Lecture - Mindfulness Apps

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/sp\\_mindful](https://bit.ly/sp_mindful)

Use technology to learn new skills, save money, get in shape, and make new friends. Mindfulness is the ability to be fully present and aware. Learn about popular apps that teach breathing and meditation techniques, as well as new technology like wearable breath monitors and smart yoga mats. In partnership with Senior Planet from AARP.

Mon	Jan 29	2 - 3 pm	Savage
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### How to Help Incarcerated Individuals Create Their Own Successful Reentry

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/reentry\\_help](https://bit.ly/reentry_help)

Returning citizens are often confronted with one pressing re-entry challenge after another, everything from finding a place to live and arranging substance abuse treatment to getting a job. Learn about the strategies that create positive outcomes.

Tue	Feb 13	6:30 - 7:30 pm	Miller
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## connect



The Inconvenient Book Club discusses the latest climate fiction. Talk about Kazuo Ishiguro's novel *Klara and the Sun*, which sits at the intersection of artificial intelligence, humanity, and the hope for triumph over environmental and societal crises.

Ishiguro, the Nobel Prize-winning Japanese-British author of *The Remains of the Day*, returns to his theme of "what makes us human?" but adds a twist: What about the humanity of sentient machines? We consider climate change, AI, what we loved about the book, and what made us squirm.

As Microsoft founder Bill Gates wrote about the book, "In a world filled with stories about killer machines, it was refreshing to read about a future where robots make our lives better--even if they complicate things along the way."

Wed	Mar 6	7 - 8 pm	Miller
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TO REGISTER FOR CLASSES:

Visit [hclibrary.org](https://hclibrary.org) > classes & events, then use the filters to narrow your search.

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## 2nd annual Seed Share



A seed exchange is a great opportunity to acquire new varieties, save money, and reduce seed waste, while learning and sharing with fellow gardeners. Free demonstrations and information also available.

If you would like to share seeds, drop them at one of three locations, from **January 1 - 18:**

- HCLS Miller Branch
- HCLS Elkridge Branch
- Community Ecology Institute  
8000 Harriet Tubman Ln,  
Columbia



Sat Jan 20 2 - 4 pm Miller

### Getting Your Garden Ready for Spring

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/489i94W](https://bit.ly/489i94W)

Learn about sustainable gardening best practices for the spring season with Master Gardener Paul Beares. Beginning and casual home gardeners can benefit from tips on what gardening tasks to do in the spring. A full range of gardening types - vegetable, perennial, and native plant gardens - is discussed, along with design and on-going care recommendations.

Wed Jan 10 7 - 8 pm Miller

### Growing Flowers and Vegetables from Seed

For adults. Register at [bit.ly/3Np35rX](https://bit.ly/3Np35rX)

Growing vegetables and flowers from seed during the winter in preparation for spring and summer gardens is fun and rewarding. Learn types of media for planting seeds, how to plant seeds, care for seedlings, and the ease of transplanting and maintaining seedlings in the garden.

Wed Jan 17 7 - 8 pm Glenwood  
Wed Jan 24 7 - 8 pm Miller

in partnership with



Yards Alive!

# thank you!

Our sincere thanks to the individuals, organizations, and businesses for their generous financial and in-kind donations to Howard County Library System. Every effort was made to ensure the accuracy of this list of those who made contributions between September 1 - October 31, 2023. Please call 410.313.7799 to report any errors or omissions.

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Join today:  
[friendshcls.org](https://friendshcls.org)

February can be a frigid and desolate month. The joy and brightness of the holidays are long past and spring seems far away. Fortunately, the last Saturday of February brings Evening in the Stacks to Howard County, an event that transforms the winter darkness and cold into a magical universe that takes us to wonderful destinations. My wife and I have been going to the event for many years, and each time we eagerly speculate on what the theme will be and how it will be presented. Over the years, we have experienced Africa and Italy, encountered pirates and aliens, and have been immersed in pop culture. Evening in the Stacks is amazing! The event blends together a dazzling decor, delicious and imaginative food offerings, unique thematic drinks, and invigorating music, into an unforgettable night of fun. At the end of the evening, as we head home, our minds are filled with wonderful memories of another great Evening in the Stacks and the cold February air seems much less daunting. ~ Tony Trenkle, Friends & Foundation of HCLS Board Member



TO REGISTER FOR CLASSES:

Visit [hclibrary.org](https://hclibrary.org) > classes & events, then use the filters to narrow your search.





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