

# Columbia Heights Public Library

## SUMMER EVENTS

June, July, August, 2025

### Columbia Heights Public Library

3939 Central Ave NE  
Columbia Heights, MN 55421

#### Reference/Information:

(763) 706-3690

[www.chplmn.org](http://www.chplmn.org)

[www.anokacountylibrary.org](http://www.anokacountylibrary.org)

[www.facebook.com/chplibrary](https://www.facebook.com/chplibrary)

#### Library Hours:

Monday - Thursday:

10 am - 7 pm

Friday: 10 am - 5 pm

Saturday: 10 am - 5 pm

Sunday: CLOSED

#### Library Closed

Memorial Day: May 24-26

Juneteenth: June 19

Independence Day: July 4-5

Labor Day: Aug 30 - Sep 1

### **Plastic People**

#### **Documentary Showing with HeightsNext**

*Thu, Jun 12, 6:30pm*

*Plastic People: The Hidden Crisis of Microplastics* is an award-winning documentary that chronicles humanity's fraught relationship with plastic and one woman's mission to expose shocking new revelations about the impact of microplastics on human health.

### **Summer Adventures Reading Challenge**

*June 1-August 16*

Your Summer Reading Adventure starts at the library! Pick up a reading log at the library or register online via Beanstack. Read 5 books *or* for 5 hours this summer to earn a free book! For every additional 5 books or 5 hours you read (up to 20 total), you'll earn another entry into our grand prize drawing. Register online at: <https://anokacounty.beanstack.org>

### **Tech Help**

*Tuesdays, 1-1:45 pm*

Book a session for one-on-one technology assistance with library staff. Sign up for a session by calling 763-706-3690 or stopping by the library. Examples of what staff can assist with include but are not limited to: basic computer skills, email set up, Libby/Overdrive set up. Please note, this service is not a replacement for commercial tech support, nor do we offer typing services. Limit 1 appointment per month per person.

### **Blooming Sunshine Tour with HeightsNext**

*Tue, Jun 10, 5:30-6:30 pm*

*Tue, Aug 12, 5:30-6:30 pm*

Join the library and members of HeightsNext on a tour of the Blooming Sunshine gardens. Blooming Sunshine is a "food forest... where the community works together to grow food, learns gardening skills and gathers to enjoy the produce that grows." Blooming Sunshine Garden is located at 80 39<sup>th</sup> Ave NE.

### **Master Gardeners Plant and Insect Diagnostic Clinic**

*Sat, Jul 12, 11:00 am-2:00 pm*

Do you ever wonder what's eating your plants, what weeds are growing in your lawn, or why your tree looks sick? Master Gardeners are available to assist in diagnosing common landscape and gardening questions at the Plant and Insect Diagnostic Clinic. Bring up to 3 samples for identification or diagnosis of plant and insect issues.

Presented in partnership with the Anoka County Master Gardeners.

# Kids & Families

## Family Storytime

*Mondays, Jun 2 - Jul 28, 10:30 - 11 am*

Share books, songs, and rhymes with your children at this storytime designed to promote school readiness in 2 to 5 year olds. Librarians, caregivers, and children will sing, talk, read, write and play together to build early literacy skills. Siblings are also welcome! No registration required.

## Evening Storytime

*Tue, Jun 10, 5:30-6 pm*

*Tue, Jul 1, 5:30-6 pm*

*Tue, Aug 5, 5:30-6 pm*

Share books, songs, and rhymes with your children at this storytime designed to promote school readiness in 2 to 5 year-olds. Librarians, caregivers, and children will sing, talk, read, write and play together to build early literacy skills. Siblings welcome! No registration required.

## Story Strolls

*Jun 13-16 (Huset Park, 520 Mill St. NE)*

*Jul 18-21 (Prestemon Park 3900 McKinley St NE)*

*Aug 1-4 (LaBelle Park, 1150 42nd St. NE)*

The CH Library and Recreation Department are teaming up to bring you story strolls. Gather your family and friends, explore city parks, and read a story together as you walk along park trails. Large story pages will be placed throughout the featured park. Happy reading! Stories will be ready by 5:00 p.m. on Fridays and run through Monday evening for listed dates.

## Tinker Time: Pounded Botanical Bandanas

*Tue, Jun 17, 4:30-6:00 pm*

Create beautiful floral prints on cotton fabric with a mallet or rock using everyday common flower varieties, as well as flowers from the Textile Center's Dye Garden! This surprisingly simple process results in permanent, washable floral prints on cotton fabric! Ages 7+. Drop in anytime between 4:30-6 pm.

This program is funded by the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

## Circus Manduhai

*Sat, Jun 21, 11:00-11:45 am*

The circus is coming! Circus Manduhai practices the traditional art of the Mongolian circus and spreads awareness of Mongolian culture. Join us for dazzling feats of balance and flexibility with hula hoops, foot juggling, and contortion, with an added element of audience participation. All ages are welcome; no registration is required.

This program is funded by the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

## Minnesota Birds

*Thurs, Jun 26, 11:00-12:00 am*

What kind of birds live in your neighborhood and what do they eat? We'll think like scientists as we go on a bird walk, make observations, and collect data about the birds who live near us. Facilitated by Anoka County 4-H. Ages 6+. Registration recommended.

## Science in the Summer:

### Be a Health Scientist

*Tue, Jul 8, 2:00-4:00 pm*

Be a Health Scientist with The Bakken Museum this summer! Taking on the roles of real scientists, you will investigate various problems related to human health and will engineer innovative solutions to keep people safe. With playful demonstrations and fun hands-on activities, discover the huge impact of health scientists! Ages 8-12. Registration recommended.

### **Tinker Time: Cardboard Invention Convention**

*Tue, Jul 15, 4:00-6:00 pm*

Unleash your inner inventor and solve everyday problems with cardboard! Bring your creativity and get ready to build with Now.Make.Art. They provide the tools and TONS of cardboard, and you provide the ideas. Ages 7+. Drop in anytime between 4-6 pm, no registration required.

This program is funded by the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

### **Siama's Congo Roots**

*Thu, Jul 24, 11:00-12:00 am*

Enjoy the sounds, spirited singing and beautiful music made by traditional African instruments like the Balafon, Mbira and Lokole. Sing along in Lingaga and Kikongo and hear stories that bring Siama's happy childhood in rural Bas Congo to life. All ages. Registration recommended.

This program is funded by MELSA.

### **LEGO Challenge**

*Thu, Jul 31, 11:00 am-12:00 pm*

What can you build with LEGOs? Come learn about the engineering design process while you face different LEGO building challenges. Facilitated by Anoka County 4-H. Ages 8+. Registration recommended.

### **Petite Concert**

*Thu, Aug 7, 10:30-11:00 am*

Petite Concerts presents experiential musical events designed for young listeners. From newborns to preschoolers, our concerts are informal and interactive. Join us for a fun-filled musical experience and discover our instruments! Ages 0-6. Siblings welcome. Registration recommended.

This program is funded by MELSA.

## **Teen Programs**

### **DIY Teen: Perler Beads**

*Tue, Jun 24, 5:00-6:30 pm*

Craft vibrant fuse bead creations of iconic video games, nostalgic 8-bit scenes, or your own unique designs. Transform them into wearable art – keychains, pins, charms, and more! Ages 12+. Drop in anytime between 5-6:30 pm, no registration required.

### **Dungeons and Dragons Adventure**

*Wed, Aug 27, 3-5 pm*

Perfect for both experienced players and newcomers alike! Let our Professional Game Master take you on a Dungeons and Dragons journey designed to be completed in a single play session. This is the perfect opportunity to familiarize yourself with the world of D&D and try out new character ideas! Ages 10+. Registration required.

### **DIY Teen: Henna Design Workshop**

*Tues, Jul 22, 5:30-7:00 pm*

Learn how to create traditional Indian designs and use henna for body decoration. Henna is a plant known for its reddish color and is used to decorate the body for special occasions such as Indian weddings and celebrations. In impermanent art, creating the art is more important than the art itself. Ages 12+. Registration required.

This program is funded by the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.



# Adults

## Conversation Circle

*Mondays, 5:30 - 6:30 pm*

*Wednesdays, 5:30 - 6:30 pm*

*Saturdays, 2-3 pm (starting June 7th)*

Conversation Circle is a casual gathering of adult English-language learners who meet at the library to practice their speaking skills in a group setting with help from an English-speaking volunteer. No registration required.

## Library Book Club

*The third Wednesday of the month, 10:30 am*

The library's Adult Book Club meets monthly in the library's community room. Join us each month or drop in for a discussion!

No registration is required.

Jun 18: *The Wishing Game* by Meg Shaffer

Jul 16: *Winter Wheat* by Mildred Walker

Aug 20: *The Librarianist* by Patrick DeWitt

## Mystery Book Club

*Third Tuesday, every other month, 5:30 pm*

Join library staff and fellow mystery lovers for a bi-monthly mystery book discussion.

No registration is required.

Jun 17: *Lightning Strike* by William Kent Krueger

Aug 19: *The 7 1/2 Deaths of Evelyn Hardcastle*

by Stuart Turton

## Consult with the Law Librarian

*Fourth Thursday of the Month*

*Jun 18, Jul 24, Aug 21, 5 - 7 pm*

The Anoka County Law Library Director will be here each month to answer legal reference questions, help locate legal forms, and provide referral services where possible. Please note that law library staff are not attorneys and cannot provide legal opinions, interpretations, or advice. No registration required.

## Engage Community Workshop

*Wed, Jun 11, 5:00-7:00 pm*

This is a Collaborative Songwriting Workshop. Attendees will have a musical warm up before beginning collaborating as a group to choose the feel and the lines that form the song and write, improvise, practice, record, and share.

Registration required. This program is funded by the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

## Mapping Prejudice and the History of Racial Covenants

*Wed, June 25, 5:30-6:30 pm*

Rebecca Gillette, Community Engagement Lead, will provide an in-depth introduction to the Mapping Prejudice Project, an initiative based at the University of Minnesota Libraries. She will explore how racial covenants historically shaped housing policies and practices, laying the groundwork for systemic racial inequalities over the past century. Registration required.

## Somali Museum of Minnesota Traveling Exhibit

*Sat, July 19, 11:00 am-1:00 pm*

An exhibition of 10-20 artifacts from the Somali Museum's permanent collection where the audience will be able to learn about the history, the use, and creation of certain artifacts from the exhibition. And, a question-and-answer exploration period. This program is funded by the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

## Sand Painting and Rangoli Workshop

*Wed, Jul 23, 5:00-7:00 pm*

Learn about Indian culture, history and celebrations through art. Create stylized rangoli designs with flour or colored sand, which can be displayed temporarily or transferred to paper. For instance, colored sand can be "painted" to make a mandala on paper. Registration required. This program is funded by the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.