Martin Luther King Day 2016: Celebrate Freedom!

The Martin Luther King branch is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday, January 18 in celebration of Martin Luther King Day. Entertainment and activities for the whole family will be featured throughout the day. Make a craft and take it home. Create an I Have a Dream Cloud to post in the library. Participate in a Martin Luther King, Jr. trivia contest and more! *Presented in Partnership with the Teen Advisory Board.*

*Program funding provided by the Friends of the Milwaukee Public Library.*

9 am-12 pm King Day T-Shirts
Design your own King Day T-shirt. T-shirts will be provided while supplies lasts. Feel free to bring your own.

9 am-12 pm Health Screenings
Columbia St. Mary’s sponsors free diabetes checks and blood pressure checks.

9 am-5 pm MCDOA
Andrea Garr, Dementia Care Specialist, will focus conversations on resources available to families and care givers who are providing care for a loved one with dementia or Alzheimer-related diseases. Sponsored by The Milwaukee County Department on Aging.

10 am-3 pm I Have a Dream Blood/Donor Drive
The BloodCenter of Wisconsin will accept blood donations and sign up individuals interested in the organ donor program. Please go to the website at www.bcw.edu/mlkday to sign up or call 1-877-Be A Hero (1-877-242-4376).

12-12:30 pm Nefertari Drumming and Dancing
Be a drum major of peace. Learn about the various styles of African drumming and dance during this lively performance.

12:30-1 pm Bronzeville Arts Ensemble
Enjoy an inspirational presentation of Dr. King’s speeches.

1:15-1:45 pm Signature Dance Company
Young dancers demonstrate a new form of dance in which creative expression and spirituality explode in an exciting and uplifting style.

1:45-2:30 pm Still Waters Collective
Be inspired by some of Milwaukee’s greatest slammers at the Poetry Slam.

3-4 pm Terry Sims Band
R&B, Jazz & Hip Hop sensation, the Terry Sims Band, will perform live featuring American Idol’s Alesia Miller and spoken word artist Kenza Dawn. *Photos from 2015 MLK Day by Pat Robinson.*
Turning the page of the calendar to the new year often brings with it the idea of starting off with a clean slate. A new year of possibilities, of new things to try, a clear calendar to fill – unless you have a child in school. Then the calendar is already filled with volunteer requirements, sporting events, concerts, programs, and a myriad of commitments. It can be hard to find time to fit in one more event on the calendar, even if it’s worthwhile for you or your child.

That’s why the Milwaukee Public Library offers a series of programs for parents entitled “Lunch and Learn” during the lunch hour at Central Library. We even provide lunch, courtesy of Cousins Subs!

Lunch and Learn covers a large range of topics - from choosing a school for your child, to managing difficult feelings, to helping your teenager get a job. Often the program includes information on how the library can help you either by providing information and materials or directing you to outside sources for help.

The next four Lunch and Learn programs are listed below. For a complete list, please visit the library’s website at mpl.org/foryou/parents.php.

All Lunch and Learn programs are held in the Central Library’s first floor Community Room from 12:15 to 1 p.m. Please register online at mpl.org or call 286.3011.

January 6
Choosing the Best School for Your Child

February 3
Books, Magazines, Music & Movies, Oh My!

March 2
Helping Your Child Understand Difficult Feelings

April 6
Helping Your Teen Get a Job

Enjoy lunch on us and learn what the library has to offer to help parents start the year off right!

Beautifully paced, gently ironic, and teeming with unforgettable characters, Noah’s Wife is a wise and poignant novel that draws upon motifs of the biblical flood story to explore the true meaning of community, to examine the remarkable strength of the human spirit, and to ask whether hope can exist even where faith has been lost.

Born in Wisconsin, Lindsay Starck was raised in the Milwaukee Public Library. She studied literature at Yale and creative writing at Notre Dame. Currently, she is editor in chief of Carolina Quarterly and teaches writing in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, where she lives with her husband and their dog. This is her first novel.

Book will be available for purchase by Boswell Book Company. Signing to follow.

Noah’s Wife Book Launch
with Author Lindsay Starck

Tuesday, January 26
Central Library
Schoenleber Reading Room
Reception begins at 5:30 p.m.
Presentation at 6 p.m.

Noah’s Wife
By Lindsay Starck

Book will be available for purchase by Boswell Book Company.
Signing to follow.

Noah’s Wife

Tuesday, January 26
Central Library
Schoenleber Reading Room
Reception begins at 5:30 p.m.
Presentation at 6 p.m.

Photo by Victoria McHugh
Friends of the Milwaukee Public Library fund NEW books to enrich educational experiences for emerging readers.

Milwaukee Public Library will receive funding from the Friends for the Children’s and Teen collections to purchase enhanced offerings which are designed to develop an early love of reading. The library has resources for homework support and also offers academic supplemental materials for classrooms. Many educators encourage reading with a combination of non-fiction and fiction materials to broaden students’ knowledge of a topic. These “text sets” include materials at varying reading levels. Students start with a book on their reading level and then move on to tackle more challenging texts. This process helps students build reading skills, fluency and vocabulary. Children and teens will also be motivated to return to the library to find additional materials to spark their interests.

Friends grant funds will also support Children’s Foreign Language materials system-wide. The library has seen increased interest in materials for young readers across Milwaukee who attend foreign language immersion schools. Also, more culturally diverse families are visiting the library and are requesting foreign language materials. These materials are often more expensive than equivalent English titles, however, they add value to the library collection as they represent values and traditions that are important to multicultural communities.

Proceeds from Friends book sales, the Bookseller Used Book Store, and Friends book carts make grants like this possible. You can show your support and join the Friends efforts to improve literacy in Milwaukee by renewing your Friends membership.

**Congratulations Benjamin Franklin Award Recipients**

Dr. Mary Meehan and Greg Oberland received the 2015 Benjamin Franklin Awards on October 22, 2015 in celebration of their philanthropic efforts and their lasting impact on literacy in the community. The event raised over $600,000 for Milwaukee Public Library.

(Pictured above: Library Foundation Executive Director Ryan Daniels, Library Foundation Board of Directors President Arthur Harrington, Greg Oberland, Dr. Mary Meehan, Library Director Paula Kiely. Photo by Scott Paulus.)

**Take a Tour of Beautiful Central Library**

Last year, hundreds of MPL visitors were treated to FREE guided tours of Central Library every Saturday which provided background on the architecture and history of the building. Central Library is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Tours begin at 11 a.m. on Saturdays in the rotunda. To arrange for a special tour, please call (414) 286-TOUR. To learn more about becoming a docent, please call (414) 286-8720.

**Spring Used Book Sale: Coincides with Dr. Seuss’ Birthday Celebration**

Saturday, March 5, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. ~ Central Library, 814 W. Wisconsin Ave.

Featuring a large selection of used books, audio books, magazines, comics, sheet music, children’s books and more. All proceeds from this sale benefit the Milwaukee Public Library. Friends members may enter sales 30 minutes before the public with current membership card. Please use the Eighth Street entrance and present your card.

There will be a 2-for-1 sale in the Bookseller Used Book Store during the sale.

Next Sale: June 18 Summer Sale, Central Library, 814 W. Wisconsin Ave.
Thunder & Lightning: Weather Past, Present, and Future by Lauren Redniss. 551.6 R318. By connecting weather to events both historical and mythological, author and illustrator Redniss creates an experience that will delight your eyes and challenge your mind in this stunning, illustrated exploration of all things weather. You’ll never look at the forecast the same way again.

The War That Saved My Life by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley. Children’s Fiction. This historical fiction novel follows the poignant journey of siblings Ada and Jamie who, at the outbreak of WWI, are sent from their London home to quiet refuge in the countryside. Back home, Ada was isolated and abused by her cruel mother because of her club foot. While she blossoms in her new environment, it is not without its own challenges.

The Traitor Baru Cormorant by Seth Dickinson. Science Fiction. When young Baru Cormorant’s homeland is colonized by the powerful Empire of Masks, she decides the only way to help her family and her people is to change the system from within. But to rise in the Masquerade’s ranks, she has to sacrifice more than she’d ever thought possible. A gut-wrenching look at imperialism and assimilation that will haunt you long after you’ve read the last page.

George by Alex Gino. Children’s Fiction. George is a ten-year-old transgender girl who yearns to win the role of Charlotte in her school’s production of Charlotte’s Web, an opportunity she thinks will allow her to express who she really is, but has been forced to hide. With the help of an understanding best friend and a dogged determination to shine, George’s hopeful tale unfolds and keeps readers cheering her on.

The Room by Jonas Karlsson. Fiction. In this short fiction novel full of wit and wisdom, Bjorn, a newly hired bureaucratic worker, is persecuted for being an aspiring creative. Office politics and insidious pranks thwart Bjorn every step of the way on his inevitable rise to power. Although hated for his insight, Bjorn knows people need to be shown their shortcomings in order to grow.

The Anatomical Shape of a Heart by Jenn Bennett. Young Adult Fiction. Bex and Jack are artists with very different inspirations. Bex needs to sneak into the cadaver lab at the local medical college for her anatomical drawings; Jack is secretly spraying gold glitter graffiti words around famous San Francisco landmarks. After their worlds collide on a metro ride, each inspires the other to live life despite the many obstacles – including the very real fact that Jack could go to jail for his art.

A Head Full of Ghosts by Paul Tremblay. Horror. Fans of cultural studies, unreliable narrators, and possession tales will enjoy this modern nod to Danielewski’s House of Leaves. In the near future, Merry Bennett reflects on growing up while her older sister’s struggles with schizophrenia – or perhaps a demon? – are forever captured as fodder for a popular reality television series.

Rules for Werewolves by Kirk Lynn. Fiction. A surreal, darkly funny book written nearly entirely in dialogue recounts the adventures of a group of runaways who squat in abandoned suburban homes. They never stay in one place long, steal whatever they need or want, and struggle with living outside society while trying to create one of their own.

Contributed by East Branch staff Tobias Fudge, Beth Gabriel, Chriss Kulp, Sophie Sensat, Emily Stueven.
Building the “Beloved Community”

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s idea of the Beloved Community was not just about creating a society of equality, but a vision of a community where all people had a shared sense of responsibility for their neighbors and community. Even the youngest members of society can play an essential role in shaping society for the better. Whether it is celebrating with our activities at the Martin Luther King Branch on January 18th, participating in library programs throughout the year that encourage reading and learning, or small acts of kindness, every child can be encouraged to be a positive and active member of their community. To encourage the child in your life, enjoy one of these inspiring books about ways that people can have a positive impact.

Counting on Community by Innosanto Nagara. BRD NAGARA. Ages 2-5.
Even the youngest in the neighborhood can be encouraged to have a positive and active role in their community.

Peace is an Offering by Annette LeBox; pictures by Stephanie Graegin. PIC LEBOX. Ages 3-7.
Through small acts of kindness, children create a sense of peace in their neighborhood, making this book a charming “call to kindness” for readers of any age.

Marvelous Cornelius: Hurricane Katrina and the Spirit of New Orleans by Phil Bildner; illustrations by John Parra. PIC BILDNER. Ages 4-8.
The story of Cornelius Washington is spun in tall-tale fashion, depicting the persona and deeds of this real-life sanitation worker, including the pizazz he brought to his daily work and the neighborhood’s joint effort to clean up after the destruction caused by Hurricane Katrina.

Last Stop on Market Street by Matt de la Peña; pictures by Christian Robinson. PIC DELAPEN. Ages 5-8.
While on the bus one Sunday, CJ’s questions prompt his Nana to respond by highlighting the at times curious and unique people and scenes that cross their path. Their journey and final destination teach CJ the joys of a richly diverse city and the delights of helping others.

Can We Help?: Kids Volunteering to Help Their Communities by George Ancona. 361.37 A542. Ages 5-12.
Readers will be inspired by these true stories of children volunteering for the betterment of their local communities.

As five friends explore through their neighborhood, they learn a variety of ways in which they can play a positive part in their community.

Whether it is cheering up a friend or helping a neighbor, this book lists practical ways children can be kind and caring to those around them.

The Seventh Most Important Thing by Shelley Pearsall. FIC PEARSL. Ages 10-14.
When Arthur Owens throws a brick at the local “Junk Man” he is in for more than time in juvie. At the Junk Man’s request, Arthur must serve community service hours with the Junk Man where he gets a lesson on life.
Need Assistance with the Health Insurance Marketplace?
Whether you’re uninsured, or just want to explore your choices, the Health Insurance Marketplace may have coverage that’s right for you, fits your budget, and meets your needs. Licensed Healthcare Navigators will be available to assist with exploring insurance options under the Affordable Care Act. Call 414-270-4677 for an appointment. Walk-ins will also be accepted if the navigator does not have an appointment.

Enrollment Labs:

**Center Street** - Conference Room
Mondays, 4-7 p.m.
January 4, 11, 25, 2016

**Washington Park** - Conference Room
Saturdays, 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
January 9, 16, 23, 30, 2016

**Forest Home** - Conference Room
Tuesdays, 4:30-7:30 p.m.
January 5, 12, 19, 26, 2016

**Zablocki** - Community Room
Fridays, 1:30-5:30 p.m.
January 8, 15, 22, 29, 2016

*Spanish-speaking Navigators are available, unless a substitute is needed.*