

Summer Computer Classes have returned!

This year's Summer Reading theme is "Building a Better World", but to build a better one society should have the knowledge to do it. The way to improve your knowledge is to learn what you can do for the world, what technology is out there and how the use of that technology can help make a difference.

Summer reading is not all about reading and getting prizes; this time around the IT department is bringing back more computer classes. Classes will be a 4-week series during the summer months of June, July, and August. During these classes, we will be teaching different courses like Microsoft Office Suite and Windows.

In June, we will begin with PowerPoint. PowerPoint is a complete presentation graphics package. It gives you everything you need to produce a professional-looking presentation.

PowerPoint offers word processing, outlining, drawing, graphing, and presentation management tools- all designed to be easy to use and learn. Just like previ-

ous classes, we will begin at 10 am starting June 6th through June 27th on Tuesdays or at 5:30 pm starting June 8th through June 29th on Thursdays in the Computer Lab. We will be teaching the basic components of PowerPoint with creating a presentation and presenting it at the end of the 4-week class.

The next class will be the Intermediate class. This class is an advance version of our basic computer classes. We will be working with Windows; this is a basic class on how to use Windows 7 properly and effectively.

Most computers now have the upgraded version of Windows, but they seem to all function the same. For the month of July, these classes will be at 10 am starting July 11th through August 1st on Tuesdays or at 5:30 pm starting July 13th through August 3rd on Thursdays in the Computer Lab.

Before summer ends, we will be teaching one last class and it will be excel. Excel is an electronic spreadsheet used for storing, organizing and manipu-

lating data. You can also use a spreadsheet to make a budget for business and personal use. Using tables made in excel can also show the comparison of the data you entered in the spreadsheet. These are just some of the basic things that you can do in excel.

We will also be teaching the fundamentals of excel. This class will begin at 10 am starting August 8th through August 29th on Tuesdays or at 5:30 starting August 11th through August 31st on Thursdays in the Computer Lab.

Each of these classes will help in the world of technology, whether it is creating a budget, creating a flyer for an event or even downloading a program to your personal computer.

Technology has advance some much throughout the years that it is a challenge to stay ahead of it. With these classes, we strive to help patrons learn systematically with activities to familiarize themselves with technology.

-Ashley Newsome, IT Coordinator

HUNTSVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

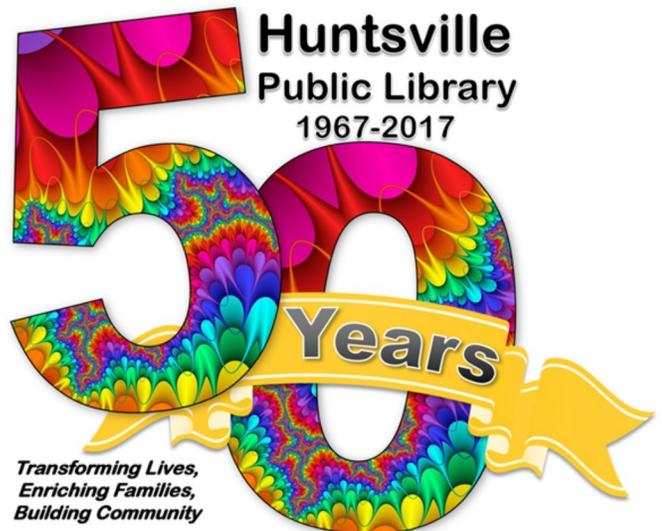
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10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

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excited
to be
celebrating
50 years at
HPL! Look
for future
events and
activities
happening
at HPL!



Inter-Library Loans can fill need

Sometimes it's frustrating to find a great, satisfying read only to find out it's the third volume in a series and volumes one and two are missing.

Or, perhaps an out-of-town friend has told you about a great book they checked out from their hometown library last year and you find out the Huntsville Public Library doesn't have it!

Don't despair – interlibrary loan is going to save the day. Interlibrary loan (ILL) is a service where-

by a patron of one library can borrow books that are owned by another library.

With over 200 participating libraries in the ILL system, there's always a good chance that the book HPL doesn't have can certainly be found somewhere else.

Another feature of ILL is the ease with which you can locate a book.

The library's website—www.myhuntsvillelibrary.com—has a link dedicated to ILL which

has easy instructions to follow and allows you to search, locate, and order the book you want—all from the comfort of your home.

If you are in the library, please stop by the self-help desk and complete an ILL form or, if you prefer, speak to Mary Kokot, our ILL expert. You will be notified by email or a phone call when your book arrives at the library.

- **Mary Kokot, Adult Service Coordinator**

Get Creative @ Huntsville Public Library

Summer is a great time not only to relax but also try new things. Whether you vacation at a new destination or try out a hobby, it's easy to utilize the downtime that the summer break offers. This summer the Huntsville Public Library is encouraging young people to think creatively by offering two new programs: an Art class and a Creative Writing Seminar.

Most people can agree about the benefits of art activities for a young developing mind. Educators say that art can fine tune both motor and problem solving skills as well as be integrated into other facets of education such as science, math, and writing. For example, students can create artwork based on a book they read at school or apply mathematical functions in their art. Therapists say that art allows children to process the world around them.

And artists say that art is important for art's sake since it is a source of expression, beauty, and simple creation. Kids say that art is fun and parents value art since it is an engaging activity that the whole family can enjoy. Art is an opportunity for making choices, developing conclusions, evaluating decisions, and assessing results.

The Huntsville Public Library is pleased to provide "Mommy and Me" Art Classes in a friendly and creative atmosphere this



summer. Four sessions will be held for ages 5-12 from 2-2:40 p.m. on Thursday, June 15th and 29th as well as Thursday, July 6th and 20th. Each session will focus on a different art based activity.

Moms, dads, grandparents, and other important adults are invited to attend this program. Please visit www.myhuntsvillelibrary.com to register for this class.

"We are excited to offer these classes over the summer for families. It can be hard for people to find inexpensive activities over the summer months. By offering this class for a variety of ages, we hope that the whole family can get involved," says Children's Coordinator Rachel McPhail.

In addition to Art Classes, the Library will also be holding a Creative Writing Seminar over the summer. Led by author and poet Christopher Holmes, the classes will be held from 2-3 p.m. Wednesdays June 7th to July 12th for ages 8-17. Each session will feature a writing exercise designed to help students write whatever they have always wanted to—whether it's a short story, novel, poem, or graphic novel. At the end of the seminar, the participants will enter one piece of writing into a Creative Writing Competition. Registration is required and can be found at www.myhuntsvillelibrary.com.

"We are very excited to have Christopher Holmes leading the class. I think this program will be a great tool for many students not only to improve their creative writing projects, but also in continuing to think academically throughout the summer," says Rachel McPhail.

—Rachel McPhail, Children's Librarian



Genetic Genealogy

Genealogy



Genealogy is a tried and true methodology, but it has, as all family historians know, limits. Recent advances in DNA technologies have opened new pathways to our understanding of human history. DNA testing has become a popular means to identify ethnicities and family origins. DNA evidence may be employed to confirm or reject questionable assumptions or guesses. Genetic Genealogy can be a powerful tool to avoid roadblocks and dead ends. In addition, a twenty-first century understanding of DNA has opened new advances in forensic science, family law and medicine.

An overview of DNA will prove helpful.

The National Institute of Health has given us a simplified description of the complexity of DNA. The Institute tells us, "DNA, or deoxyribonucleic acid, is the hereditary material in humans and almost all other organisms. Nearly every cell in a person's body has the same DNA. Most DNA is located in the cell nucleus (where it is called nuclear DNA), but a small amount of DNA can also be found in the mitochon-

dria (where it is called mitochondrial DNA or mtDNA). The information in DNA is stored as a code made up of four chemical bases: adenine (A), guanine (G), cytosine (C), and thymine (T). Human DNA consists of about 3 billion bases, and more than 99 percent of those bases are the same in all people. The order, or sequence, of these bases determines the information available for building and maintaining an organism, similar to the way in which letters of the alphabet appear in a certain order to form words and sentences."

Two very helpful markers are mitochondrial DNA and the Y chromosome. Mitochondrial DNA is inherited from the maternal line and offers us knowledge of our maternal heritage. Males inherit the Y chromosome from the paternal line. The Y chromosome rarely mutates and is transferred over many generations. The Y chromosome offers us evidence of paternal origins dating back, in many cases, thousands of years.

Recent advances in the mapping of the human genome have opened

new avenues for genealogical research. All humans share a great deal of the same DNA sequence, but close family members share a set of DNA molecule sequences unique to family members. As more and more individuals have their DNA studied, commercial companies are building large databases with DNA sequences matched to family groupings.

Cable and mainstream media draw faithful followers as genealogists and popular hosts inform the public about the advances in genealogical research and DNA evidence. They tell interesting anecdotes and trace celebrities' genealogies to the delight and interest of large television audiences.

Beyond the popularity of television programs and social media, family historians have a new tool. The matching of DNA family groups has opened a new avenue for individuals seeking to connect to their family.

Next month, we will explore the real life stories of how DNA has united long lost family members and unknown siblings.

- *Richard Lane, Genealogy*

CIRCUITS!

They are almost every where, and used every day by millions of people and more. From a circuit that turns on a light to the most advanced virtual reality, circuits come in many forms, but the Huntsville Public Library is proud to present teens a hands on experience in learning circuits!

Exploring the properties of electrical conductivity, Squishy Circuits uses conductive and insulating dough to build fun, creative circuits of almost any shape! The dough is completely safe, even when conducting and can be made at home easily.

From airplanes of modeling clay with spinning propellers to a smiling face in rings of dough, imagination, and a little science, are the limits to what can be made. Join us from 4pm to 5pm on Tuesday, June 6th in the



Board Room and June 27th in the Community room to build a working circuit out of clay!

Snap Circuits are spaced boards with pre-sized wire connectors that can be arranged into thousands of potential circuits. Dozens of different projects can be created from each board and can be modified more with each piece added. The pieces can snap together into whole houses of circuits, with spinning fans, lights and even music. We will be hosting open Snap Circuits programs in the Community room from 4pm to 5pm on June 13th and July 11th.

Both of these programs encourage open exploration and experimentation to discover the ways circuits can

be used and are formed. Through resistance, insulation, conduction and a little creativity, the sky is the limit. We are proud to bring these programs and many more to our Summer Reading schedule.

- *Peirs Anderson, IT Services*

Listing of Events

Find this information online at www.myhuntsvillelibrary.com

Do you have children ages 2 and under? Then **Mother Goose Lapsit** is a story time designed for you! Held on Mondays at 10:30 a.m., enjoy a half hour of developmentally appropriate play featuring stories, songs, and rhymes. This program introduces little ones to the story time experience and is perfect for their language development and developing vocabulary. Sign up is not required. June dates are: June 12th, 19th, and 26th.

Come to **Story Time** – a fun early literacy program for kids 5 and under. Join us for interactive stories, songs, rhymes, and crafts. The early literacy practices featured each week help build the foundation for a lifelong love of reading and learning. For parents and caregivers, story time offers an opportunity to experience early literacy practices in action, discover great books and resources for home use, and socialize with other parents. Wednesday and Friday sessions share a theme with something new each week. Sign up is not required. Story times are held on Wednesdays and Fridays at 10:45 a.m. June dates are: June 14th, 16th, 21st, 23rd, 28th, and 30th.

Jump, hop, or fly to the Huntsville Public Library for a wild program! Courtney Cortina-Pineda, operator of **Wild Things Zoofari**, will bring exotic animals such as a toucan and a kangaroo to the library at 4 p.m. Thursday, June 15th. All ages are welcome to attend this FREE educational event. Sign up is not required but limited seating is available. This program is generously sponsored by the Helen Wheat Fund. For more information, contact Rachel McPhail, Children's Coordinator at 936-291-5910.

The **Brown Bag Lunch Lecture Series** is set for Thursday, June 22, with lunch at 11:30 a.m. and the lecture to follow at noon. Dr. Rebecca Grimes, Director of Opera Workshop and Associate Professor of Voice at Sam Houston State University will discuss "Opera for People Who Hate Opera." The lecture series is planned for the fourth Thursday of each month for adults 18 years of age or older. Beverages will be provided. Attendees may bring a brown bag lunch. Admission is free. Please contact Mary Kokot, Adult Coordinator at 936-291-5471 for additional information. No registration required.

Engage your brain with the fascinating side of chemistry at the Huntsville Public Library. Dr. Jim Pennington will bring the **Texas A&M Chemistry Roadshow** to the library at 2 p.m. Thursday, June 22nd. This FREE presentation uses "chemical wonders that turn ordinary objects and events into exciting learning experiences." This presentation is best suited for third grade students to adults. Sign up is not required but limited seating is available. For more information, contact Rachel McPhail, Children's Coordinator at 936-291-5910.

"Find the Birds in Your Own Backyard!" Join us for a special presentation by the Huntsville Audubon Society from 2-3 p.m. Monday, June 26th at the Huntsville Public Library. Discover the fascinating world of birds and learn what to look for to help identify them. Make a pine cone bird feeder with peanut butter and bird seed to use at home. This FREE program is best suited for elementary children through adults. Sign up is not required. For more information, contact Rachel McPhail, Children's Coordinator at 936-291-5910.

Is your student interested in forensic science? Come to the Huntsville

Public Library on Wednesday, June 28th for a mystery! The times for this program are 3:30 p.m. Mary Lou and Brian Gedelian will lead an exciting program on **"Kid Forensics,"** and participants will use fingerprinting kits and other analytical skills to solve it. This FREE program is best suited for ages 7 and up. Sign up is not required but supplies are limited. For more information, contact Rachel McPhail, Children's Coordinator at 936-291-5910.

Does your child like to dance? The Huntsville Public Library will offer FREE **Xpress Vibe Dance Classes** for ages 7-15. Learn a variety of dance genres from talented instructors Jarell and Madeline Rochelle from 4 to 6 p.m. on Mondays in June. Sign up is required and can be found at www.myhuntsvillelibrary.com. Parent/legal guardian consent form and waiver also required. For more information, contact Rachel McPhail, Children's Coordinator at 936-291-5910.

Electricity: wires, lights, motors, clay? Come experience a fascinating look into the properties of electricity with **Squishy Circuits** here at the Huntsville Public Library from 4 to 5 p.m. on Tuesday, June 6th and Tuesday, June 27, 2017. Build a working circuit out of clay and learn about electricity and resistance! This FREE program is for young adults ages 11-17. For more information, contact Peirs Anderson, Huntsville Public Library IT Services at 936-291-5472 or check out our website at www.myhuntsvillelibrary.com.

Texas 42 – a dominoes game similar in style to bridge and spades is now at the Huntsville Public Library from 1-3 p.m. on Fridays in June, July, and August. Studies show playing dominoes can be beneficial for the mind as attention to detail and strategy are essential to play. Come to the Community Room each week and strategize your winning moves. We'll supply the dominoes and refreshments. Games will be played weekly if 8 or more players register. This FREE program is for adults 18 years and older. Please register in advance at www.myhuntsvillelibrary.com or contact Mary Kokot at 936-291-5471 for more information.

Join **Comic Book Club** at the Huntsville Public Library! This free monthly program is held from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturdays and is for ages 17 and under. Do you like Comic books? Enjoy games, crafts, raffles, and a speaker from the world of Comic Books. Bring a comic book to trade with. This FREE program is sponsored by Annette Tubbs and the Comic Book Stop and Trade group. Summer 2017 dates include June 24th, July 22nd, and August 19th. Sign up not required. For more information, contact Rachel McPhail, Children's Coordinator at 936-291-5910.

Would you like to create and STAR in your very own animated movie? Come to the **GoAnimate** class during the Summer Reading program at the Huntsville Public Library. Classes will be once a week on Wednesdays at 3:30 pm starting June 7th through July 12th in the Board Room. With GoAnimate, you can create your own character, give a voice to your character, and customize your video to engage your audience! GoAnimate can also help give context to your ideas, represent diversity, strike the right tone of emotions, and so much more in less than 5 minutes! This FREE program is for teens ages 11-17. Supplies will be provided and registration is recommended. Contact Ashley Newsome, Tech Service Coordinator at 936-291-5485 or anewsome@huntsvilletx.gov.