



250 Celebration

Join the Baxter County Library as we commemorate the people, places, and events that have shaped our country and the Natural State—past, present, and future. As America prepares to celebrate its 250th anniversary in 2026, we'll shine a spotlight on Arkansas's unique role in our nation's story.

Through exhibits, programs, and community events, the Library will explore how Arkansans have helped build and define our country.

250 Art Contest: What Does America Mean to You?

January 1 - February 28

From kindergarten through adults, everyone is invited to share their artistic talents as we commemorate America's Semiquincentennial! Youth (K-12) and adult participants may submit original artwork in one of two categories:



- 2D Art: *No larger than 8.5" x 11"*
- 3D Art: *No larger than 12" x 12" x 12"*

One entry per person is allowed. Art will be judged within the following age categories: 5-8, 9-11, 12-14, 15-18, and 19+. Professional artists may also submit original work, which will be judged in its own category.

All entries must be original and not AI-generated. Winners from each art and age category, a total of 12 winners, will receive an American-themed gift basket.

Winning entries will be announced and select artwork will be displayed in the Library during March. Pick up contest rules at the Circulation, Children's, or Teen Desk at the Library.

Read 250 Reading Challenge

January 1 - May 1

All ages are encouraged to read 25 books celebrating America's 250th Anniversary. Choose from a wide variety of titles that explore our nation's history, culture, and achievements—or discover new stories that connect to the American experience. Complete all the reading challenge boxes to receive a small prize and be entered into the Americana grand prize drawing!



Pick up your paper copy at the Circulation, Children's, or Teen Desk at the Library or participate online through the Beanstack app, where you can track your progress and earn badges!

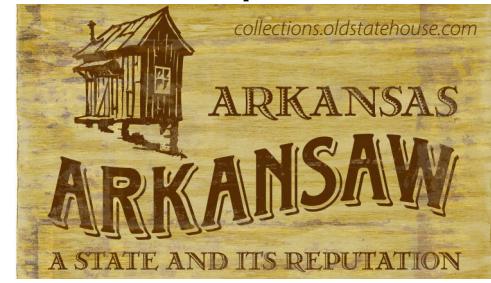
Inspiring Imagination | Igniting Interests | Enabling Learning

What's Ahead

February: Exhibit: Declaration 1776: The Big Bang of Modern Democracy



March: Exhibit: Arkansas Arkansaw: A State and its Reputation



April: Exhibit: 150th Arkansas Constitution

April: Bright Star Theater presents American Songbook



Adult Programs

Make It! R

These crafting and DIY classes are an excellent way to try out a new hobby. Sponsor: Mike and Katie Risk

Gratitude Journals

Friday, Jan. 23, 4:30pm

Crafty Card Making: Who's Game?

Tuesday, Jan. 27, 1:30pm

Open Maker Space R

Sponsor: Mike and Katie Risk

Bring your unfinished project and work on it in our space. Arrange to use Library equipment via email: jamie.v@baxlib.org.

Saturday, Jan. 3, 10:00am - 1:00pm

Ales & Tales

Join us at Rapp's Barren Brewing Co. every 2nd Tuesday for a live reading! A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Library Foundation.


Before I Go to Sleep
by S. J. Watson
Jan. 13, 6:00pm

Yoga

Mondays & Wednesdays, 4:00pm
Volunteer, Tony Khayat, will lead gentle exercises. No class on Jan. 19.

Color Me Calm

Wednesdays, 9:30am - Noon
Friendly conversations, relaxing music, and fun coloring supplies.



January 1 - February 28

Complete at least 4 of the 8 Winter Reading prompts to earn a prize! This year's rewards build on past years: participants who earned a mug last year can get a coaster, and those who have both a mug and coaster will get cozy socks! Pick up your paper copy at the Library or join through the Beanstack app.

Book Clubs

(Books Available at Circulation Desk)

Homesteading Skills

Sponsor: Cynthia Peterson

Gain the skills you need to live a simpler, more sustainable life.

Garden Planning

Tuesday, Jan. 6, 5:00pm

Create a simple garden plan.

Coin Collecting

Thursday, Jan. 15, 11:00am

Learn about British VS American coins with the North Central Arkansas Coin Club.

A Year of Giving: Gifting Celebration

Tuesday, Jan. 13, 10:00am

Make a chocolate cake mix in a jar to gift someone who needs a reason to celebrate. Then learn how to assemble Birthday Cake Kits, simple, all-in-one kits that fit in a pan and are perfect for donating to a food pantry or blessing box

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Thursday, Jan. 24, 9:30am-1:30pm

Reservations are encouraged, but walk-ins are welcome. Receive \$25 in fine forgiveness when you donate blood!

Friends of the Library

Library Beginnings

Wednesday, Jan. 28, 1:30pm

Former Library Director Gwen Khayat shares stories from the early days of the Library and its growth.

New Year, New Book Clubs!

We're expanding our reading community with fresh groups designed for every kind of reader.

Lens on Literature (New!)

Every 1st Wednesday at 1:30pm

Beginning in March

Our refreshed non-fiction book club, offering thoughtful discussions in a welcoming setting.

The Whodunit Society (New!)

Every 2nd Thursday at 10:30am

If you love cozy mysteries, this book club is for you! Enjoy tea or coffee while we chat about the month's cozy mystery pick in a relaxed, friendly environment.

All Booked: Staff Picks (Newish!)

Every 3rd Tuesday at 6:00pm

In person or on Zoom

All Booked is getting a new twist! Join different Library staff members each month as they share and discuss some of their favorite books.

Friday the 13th Book Club (New!)

Meets only on Friday the 13th at 1:00pm

For readers who enjoy the eerie and unusual, this club meets exclusively on Friday the 13th.

The Whodunit Society

Every 2nd Thursday, 10:30am


A Catered New Year's Eve
by Isis Crawford
Jan. 8, 10:30am

All Booked: Staff Picks

Attend via Zoom or in person!

Link: www.BaxLib.org/Events

Every 3rd Tuesday, 6:00pm


The Lost Bookshop
by Evie Woods
Jan. 20, 6:00pm

Early Literacy

(Birth-PK)

Story Times

Sponsor: Farmers & Merchants Bank

Babies & Books (0-18 mos.)

Mondays, 9:30am

Homemade Baby Food 101

Monday, Jan. 12, 9:30am

Make homemade, nutritious baby food safely and easily—perfect for parents and caregivers of babies 6 months and up!

Toddler Time (18 mos.-3 yrs.)

Tuesdays, 10:30am

Preschool Story Time (3-5 yr.)

Wednesdays, 10:30am

Glow GERMS

Wednesday, Jan. 14, 10:30am

Story time with Extension Office Agent LeeAnn Blevins.

Children

(Grades K-6)

Tween Library Council

Monday, January 12, 4:00-5:00pm

Talk books, share ideas, and have fun! Visit the Children's Desk to apply.

For grades 4-6.

Arts 'R Us R

Explore creativity and make unique projects. *For grades 2-6.*

Henri Matisse Paper Snowflakes

Tuesday, Jan. 20, 4:30-5:30pm



LEGO CHALLENGE

SATURDAY, JAN. 31, 10:30AM

BRING A TEAM OF ALL AGES OR COME SOLO AND PUT YOUR SKILLS TO THE TEST! SMALL PRIZES AWAITS THE TOP BUILDERS. ONLY ONE PERSON PER TEAM NEEDS TO REGISTER.

REMINDER: PLEASE DO NOT BRING YOUR OWN LEGOS.



Teen

(Grades 7-12)

Take-Home Volunteer Kit: Cards of Hope R

January 2-31

Need volunteer hours but can't commit a few hours at once? Try our Take-Home Volunteer Kit!

How it works:

- Register by the 15th of the month.
- Pick up your kit starting Jan. 1 at the Teen Desk.
- Complete and return the kit to the Library by the end of the month.

Each kit counts for 3 volunteer hours. Limit 1 kit per month. *For grades 9-12.*



Teen Library Council

Thursday, Jan. 15, 4:00-6:00pm

Talk books, share ideas, and have fun! Visit the Teen Desk to apply.

Friday After Hours R

Enjoy pizza and activities!

Sci-Fi

Friday, Jan. 16, 6:00-9:30pm

All Grades

(Grades K-12)

Homeschool Advantage

Homeschool students K-12 can join Library staff for fun and educational classes. All materials provided.

Space

Friday, Jan. 9, 1:00-2:30pm

LEGO Club

In Honor of: Bob Bodenhamer

All LEGOs provided—please don't bring your own.

Monday, Jan. 26, 4:15-5:00pm

After School Meals

Tuesdays, 3:00pm - 4:00pm

For ages 18 and under. Meals are not served when the Library is closed or when MHPS are closed due to inclement weather or holidays. This is a community collaboration with the Food Bank of North Central Arkansas and the USDA.

All Ages

StoryWalk ® at ASUMH

Located at the James and Sally Moore Recreational Trail Head, this outdoor path features pages of a children's book posted along the trail for a fun, active reading experience.



Fox Versus Winter

by Corey R. Tabor

January-February

Fox does not like winter. None of his friends are around to play, but Fox has an idea—if he cannot escape winter, he will fight it! Can he win?



Foundation

Thank you for Wrapping It Up for the Library!

We appreciate the generosity of our current 2025 sponsors who help bring valuable programs and services to our community!

Presenting:



Diamond:



Platinum:

Advanced Auto Body Repair, Inc. | Steven & Susan Blumreich | DeAtley Dental Care
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Library Foundation Trustees | Jess & Elizabeth Vanderstek

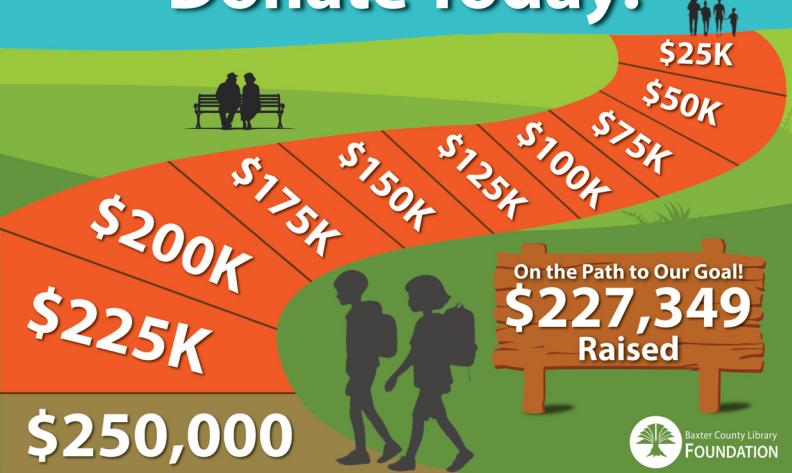
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Silver:

Carter's Jewel Chest | Hopper Environmental Service, Inc.
Lakeview Auto Sales | Terre Green Ware | VisionAmp

Paving the Way for Library Hill Trail Donate Today!



Over \$227,300 raised so far—thanks to you!

Every dollar brings us closer to building the Library Hill Trail and creating a more connected, active, and literacy-friendly community.

Leave your footprint today! Visit www.BaxLib.org/Library-Hill-Trail for more information or to donate online.



Donald W. Reynolds
LIBRARY
Serving Baxter County

www.BaxLib.org • (870) 580-0987
300 Library Hill, Mountain Home, AR 72653

Online Resources

Learn a New Language with Bluebird App!

Bluebird Languages—part of our Pronunciator language-learning suite—is now available with your Library card!

Bluebird offers audio-based lessons in 164 languages, perfect for learning on the go. With personalized courses, interactive quizzes, and real-time pronunciation feedback, Bluebird helps you build skills quickly and naturally.

While Pronunciator offers a wide array of language-learning tools, Bluebird specializes in high-quality, audio-driven instruction. Leveraging Pronunciator's extensive audio library, it delivers an immersive, mobile-first experience.

Download the Bluebird app from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store, or use the web version on any desktop browser—then log in with your existing Pronunciator account or create a new one using your Library card and use the code TRAV to get started.



Friends of the Library



USED BOOK SALE February 19-21

Thursday, Feb. 19, 9:00am - 5:00pm

Friday, Feb. 20, 9:00am - 5:00pm

Saturday, Feb. 21, 10:00am - 1:00pm

Proceeds from the Friends of the Library book sales benefit Library programs and services.

Library Closings:

New Year's Day: Jan. 1

MLK Day: Jan. 19



Hours: Mon.-Fri. | 9am-3pm

(870) 232-0328

www.BookwormsCafe.com

Free Delivery on all orders placed online!

Text BOOKWORMS to 33733 to download our app!

Library Hours:

Mon. 9:00am - 6:30pm

Tue. 9:00am - 8:00pm

Wed. - Fri. 9:00am - 6:30 pm

Sat. 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Sun. Closed