

**Feb
2024**



Check It Out!



Main Library
11 South Broad St.
(908) 354-6060
 M-Th, 8:30am-7:45pm
 Fri, 9:30am-5:45pm
 Sat, 9:30am-4:45pm
 www.elizpl.org @epnlj



Elmora Branch
740 W. Grand St.
(908) 353-4820
 M-Th, 8:30am-7:45pm
 Fri, 9:30am-5:45pm
 Sat, 9:30am-4:45pm



LaCorte Branch
418-424 Palmer St.
(908) 469-1866

Monday-Friday: 10:00 AM – 5:45 PM



E-Port Branch
102-110 3rd St.
(3rd St. & E. Jersey St.)
(908) 289-9032

Monday-Friday: 10:00 AM – 5:45 PM

2023

YEAR IN REVIEW

ELIZABETH PUBLIC LIBRARY



Followers: 5,359

Posts Reached:
11,500



Followers: 2,546

Posts Reached: 2,600



Reference
Questions:
15,171



Items Lent:
5,701
Items Borrowed:
18,086



Wifi Sessions:
19,327



Computer
Sessions:
52,223



Number: 594
Attendance: 7,392

Number: 190
Attendance: 2,958



Number: 506
Attendance: 7,127

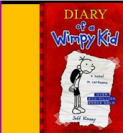
BY the BOOK



Total Circulation: 88,262
 Adult Circulation: 36,473
 Juvenile Circulation: 46,309
 Teen Circulation: 5,480
 New Library Cards: 7,568



Top
Checkouts
of 2023



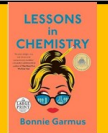
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50



47



28

Meet our newest staff members



Layla, in the Information
Services Department



Kelly, in the Information
Services Department



Angela, in the Local
History Department

Look for more new faces in our March Newsletter

Branch Programs

Elmora Branch Library | 740 W. Grand St. | Elizabeth, NJ 07202
Space is limited for programs. Please register on our library calendar at elizpl.org or by calling 908-353-4820

Elmora Adult Programs

Art Workshop: Black History Month Saturdays, February 3 & 17 at 12PM

Come and join us on February 3rd, and create stunning images similar to those by Alma Thomas. Also, on February 17th, let's honor Lois Mailou Jones by creating hair portraits inspired by her paintings.



Predict the Oscar Award Contest

Thursday, February 1 through Thursday, February 29

Attention all movie lovers! Get ready to put your prediction skills to the test as Elmora Branch Library is bringing you the ultimate challenge - "Predict the Oscar 2024 winner" contest!



Adult Chess Club

Fridays, February 2, 9, 16, & 23 at 12:30PM

Join the Adult Chess Club every Friday at 12:30pm!

Regardless of your skill level, beginners are welcome to participate.



Matinee Movie -

Fridays, February 2, 9, 16, 23 at 2PM

Join us for "Sound on Freedom" on 2/2

"Oppenheimer" on 2/9

"Killers of the Moon Flower" on 2/16

"The Holdover" on 2/23.



Zumba Gold - @ 9AM

Monday, February 5 & 12 and Thursday, February 1 & 8 at 9AM

Call 908-353-4820 to reserve a spot but walk-ins are welcome!



Crochet with Sol - Monday, February 5 & 12 and Tuesday, February 6 & 13 at 12PM

Ms. Sol will teach you everything you need to know to get started, from fundamental stitches understanding gauge.



Mahjong - 1:00PM - 4PM

Mondays, February 5, 12, & 26

Bring friends or come alone & find new partners. We'll provide the space for open play. A minimum of 4 players are required to play the game. Ages: 18 & up

Grown up Coloring

Tuesdays, February 6, 20, & 27 at 1PM

Drop in for some relaxing coloring fun! Come discover the calming effects as well as meeting some good company!



Tai Chi & Qi Gong - @ Monday, February 5, 12, & 26 at 4:30PM and Wednesday, February 7, 14, 21, & 28 at 9am

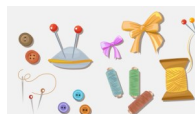
Join Pete every Wednesday for Tai Chi and experience the refreshing benefits of mindfulness. Contact us at (908) 353-4820 or register on our website [@elizpl.org](http://elizpl.org)



Stitch & Chat

Tuesday, February 13 at 10AM and Wednesday, February 14 at 6PM

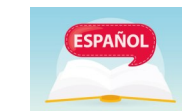
Come to Elmora to mend your clothing. Bring the article you need help with and assistance will be provided.



Adult Spanish Book Club

Thursday, February 22 at 2PM

Come and join Lucrecia as she hosts a monthly book discussion for Spanish-speaking adults!



Elmora Children's Programs

Toddlers World

Fridays, February 2, 9, 16, & 23 at 11 am

An hour of fun songs to sing, music, and playtime



Art Workshop: Black History Month

Saturdays, February 3 & 17 at 3 pm

Come and join us on February 3rd, and create stunning images similar to those by Alma Thomas. Also, on February 17th, let's honor Lois Mailou Jones by creating hair portraits inspired by her paintings.



Junior Chess Club

Mondays, February 5, 12, & 26 at 4 pm

Join our Chess Club for Kids - Mondays at 4pm. Beginners are welcome!



Lil' Bookworms

Wednesday, February 7 at 5 pm

Kids will share their love of reading, learn to talk about the books they're reading, and be motivated to read more. Ages: 5-8



Bubbles aRe Us Laundromat

Saturday, February 10 at 1 pm

Located on 640 3rd Avenue, Elizabeth, NJ

Join Ms. Martha for songs, stories, crafts, and oh so much fun! This storytime will feature stories in English and Spanish for the whole family.



Valentine Balloon Art

Saturday, February 10 at 3 pm

Bring your family to Elmora for a special balloon program. Children can take home balloons.



Drawing for Kids

Tuesday, February 20 at 3 pm

Come and join us for a delightful storytime where you will get to learn how to draw various animals!



Coloring for Kids -

Saturday, February 24 at 11 am

Take a break and unwind by coloring at the Elmora Branch for an hour!



All Ages Lego Hour

Saturday, February 24 at 3 pm

It's Lego Hour at Elmora on Saturday @3pm. Come build an enormous tower or make a race car; the imagination is limitless!



LaCorte Programs

Crafty Mondays

February 12 and 26 at 4 pm

Come in and make a craft that can be for any age. No registration is required.



Scavenger Hunt

Friday, February 9 and 23 at 4 pm

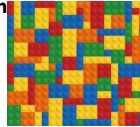
Come join us in some fun with our scavenger hunts and win a small prize. No registration is required.



Lego Hour -

Wednesday February 28 at 4 pm

Come and join us with family or friends for an hour of Lego fun. No registration is required.



Afternoon Movie

Friday, February 16 at 4pm

Come in and wind down with a good movie that is appropriate for all ages.



Lunar New Year Craft

Monday, February 5 at 4 pm

Come in and join us in celebrating the Chinese New Year with a fun craft. No registration is required.



Bead Fun

February 20 at 4 pm

Come in and join us with some fun using beads with pipe cleaners or string. No registration is required.



E-Port Programs

E-Port Winter Movie Night

Thursday, February 8 @ 4pm

For more information call 908-289-9032 or email Eportbranch@gmail.com



Teen Programs

Space is limited for programs. Please register on our library calendar at elizpl.org or by calling (908) 354-6060 ext. 7227

Listening Party

Fridays Feb 2nd & 23rd @ 3:30 pm

Let's celebrate Black History Month by listening to music by Black artists! We'll be showcasing Frank Ocean & Jimi Hendrix (2nd) and Beyoncé & Nina Simone (23rd).



Valentine's Day Movie

Wednesday Feb 14th @ 3:30 pm

Bring a date, bring a bestie, or just bring yourself to watch Twilight! Snacks will be served.



Anime Club

Mondays Feb 5th & 26th (Family Feud) @ 3:30 pm

Watch an anime of your choice on the 5th, and on the 26th we'll play anime-themed Family Feud!



Love is Love

Friday Feb 16th @ 3:30 pm

Calling all LGBTQIA+ youth and allies! Celebrate all forms of love with EPL. There will be food, games, prizes, and more! Registration required.



Ask a Professional: Rutgers University

Tuesday Feb 6th @ 3:30 pm

Wondering what Rutgers has to offer you? Ask their admissions advisor any questions you have. Earn community service hours. Registration Required.



Bring Your Own Book Club

Tuesday Feb 20th @ 3:30 pm

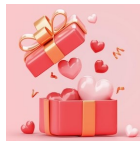
Read and discuss a book of your choice in our new monthly book club! Earn community service hours. Registration Required.



Valentine's Day Gift

Wednesday Feb 7th @ 3:30 pm

Make a jar of hot coco mix as a special gift for your loved one! Registration Required.



Dungeons & Dragons:

Wednesdays Feb 21st & 28th @ 3:30 pm

Join us for our Teen D&D Club! No experience is required. Space is limited.



Dating Violence Prevention

Thursday Feb 8th @ 3:30 pm

Learn the signs of intimate partner abuse and how to prevent it. Earn community service hours. Registration Required.



Community Service Crafternoon

Saturday Feb 24th @ 1 pm

Earn volunteer hours by helping us make seasonal decorations and crafts! Registration Required!



Ask a Professional: Nurse

Monday Feb 12th @ 3:30 pm

Interested in becoming a nurse? Find out what it's like to be one! Earn community service hours. Registration required.



Ask a Professional: Artist:

Thursday Feb 29th @ 3:30 pm

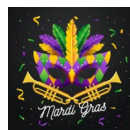
Curious about being an artist? Take this chance to talk to someone who makes art for a living! Earn community service hours. Registration Required



Mini-Mardi Gras

Tuesday Feb 13th @ 3:30 pm

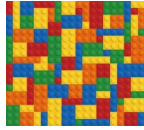
Join our very first Mardi Gras and make your own costumes and masks!



Children's Programs

Space is limited for programs. Please register on our library calendar at elizpl.org or by calling (908) 354-6060 ext. 7209

Legos - Every Saturday from 10 am to 12 pm
Have fun with Legos. No registration required.



Crafty Tuesdays
Feb 13th and 27th at 4:30 pm
Come make a craft with us! This is for all ages!
No registration required.



Baby & Me
Fridays, Feb 2nd & 16th at 10 am
Short stories, fingerplays, nursery rhymes, and songs for infants 0-2 years old. Stay afterward to give your baby a chance to play and socialize.



Valentine's Day Adopt a Plushie!
Wednesday, Feb 14th all day
Find love this Valentine's Day! Come adopt a plushie that needs a good home! One per child, while supplies last.

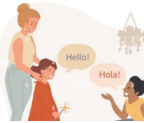
Loteria - Saturday, Feb 3rd at 2 pm
Join us for a fun Loteria game! There will be a prize. This program is bilingual.



Cooking Club
Tuesday, Feb 20th at 5 pm
Join us in our cooking club! Stay tuned for what we will be making! Registration required.



ESL
Monday, Feb 5th & 26th at 5:00 pm
Join us to learn English as a Second Language with fun interactive activities. For ages 5-12. Registration required.



Black History Craft and Storytime
Wednesday, Feb 21st at 4 pm
Unwind after school with stories and a craft! This is for all ages! No registration required.



STEAM Club
Tuesday, Feb 6th at 5 pm
Join us in creating, and making different STEM projects and crafts. For ages 5-12 years old. Registration required.



Tween Zone
Thursday, Feb 22nd at 5 pm
Join us for fun and challenging crafts. Strictly for tweens 8-12 years old. Registration required.



Dungeons and Dragons Club
Wednesday, Feb 7th at 4 pm
Learn how to play Dungeons & Dragons! No experience is required. Limited space, registration required.



Book Bingo
Saturday, Feb 24th at 2 pm
Come have fun with Ms. Kit's famous book BINGO. Kids have a chance to win books! This is for all ages!



Children's Theater Class
Thursday, Feb 8th at 5 pm
Learn about comedic improvisation! Get started with games and activities. Ages 6-12. Perfect for any level of experience. Registration required



Leap year Scavenger Hunt
Thursday, Feb 29th all day
Can you find all the fun facts hiding around the children's room?



Spanish Classes For Kids
Monday, Feb 12th at 5pm
Let's have fun together learning Spanish! For kids aged 5-12 years old.



Did You Know?
President's Day never falls on the actual birthday of any American president. Four chief executives —George Washington, William Henry Harrison, Abraham Lincoln and Ronald Reagan were born in February, but their birthdays all come either too early or late to coincide with Presidents' Day, which is always celebrated on the third Monday of the month.



Adult Programs

Space is limited for programs. Please register on our library calendar at elizpl.org or by calling (908) 354-6060 ext. 7203

Free Blood Pressure Readings

Thursday 2/1/24 & 2/15/24 @ 1pm World Language Room

Free Blood Pressure Readings with recommendations for follow-ups with health care providers and other information relating to heart health and blood pressure. Bi-lingual (English & Spanish).

Homelessness Focus Group

Thursday 2/1/24 @ 1pm Main Library Auditorium

Are you homeless or without a permanent address? We want to hear from you! Tell us how the library can better serve you and your community. Free pizza! Any questions? Ask for Jeff!

ESS Corp Information Table

Tuesdays 2/6/24 & 2/20/24 @ 9am Main Library Flex Space

ESS is hiring Substitute Teachers and Personal Aides for the Elizabeth Public Schools. Speak with a representative about this job opportunity.

Jewish Family Services/ Life Long Elizabeth

Thursday 2/8/24 @ 9am Main Library Flex Space

Speak with Rod Spearman about the programs and services offered to Older Adults and their families/care-givers

Get Covered NJ Enrollment

Tuesday 2/13/24 @ 9am World Language Room

Individuals and families are eligible. (English & Española)

Financial Resources Credit Union Information Table

February 14, 23, 29 @ 10am Main Library Flex Space

Are you having financial difficulties due to low or no credit or big debt? Have questions about a bank account or wondering what a credit union is? Want to cash your checks without paying a fee to do so? Are you wanting to make a major purchase or concerned about expenses for big medical bills, house repairs, a wedding and more?

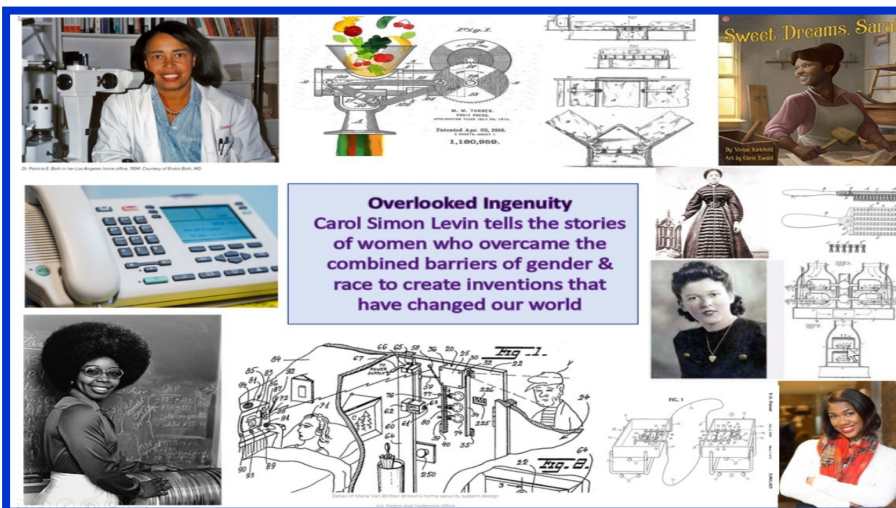
Union County Division of Aging

Wednesday 2/14/24 @ 12pm Main Library Flex Space

Speak with a representative about the services offered to Older Adults by Union County including transportation, food assistance, medical resources and more...



NOW HIRING
FOR ELIZABETH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Substitute & Permanent School Positions



SATURDAY, MARCH 9TH 2024

1pm—2:30pm

4TH FLOOR AUDITORIUM

MAIN BRANCH

11 S BROAD STREET

ELIZABETH, NJ 07202

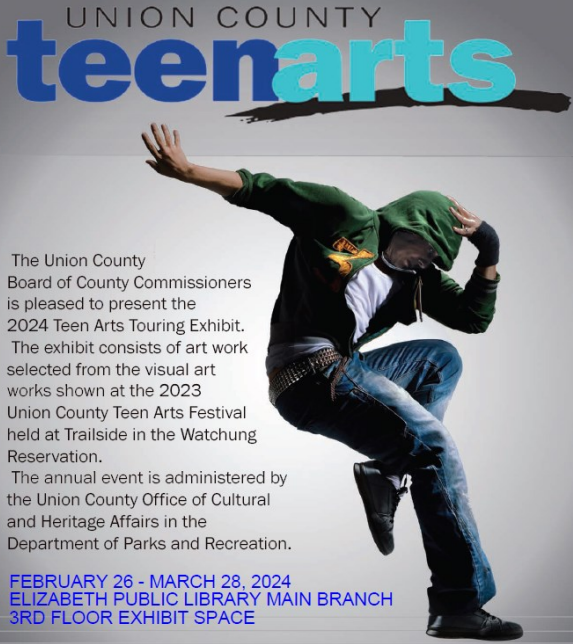
For more information, contact the Local History & Special Collections Department at

(908) 354-6060 x7220

Free Computer Classes

Free computer classes will be held in the third floor computer lab at the Main library.

Main Library Computer Classes			Elmora Branch Computer Classes		
Thursday 02/01/2024	Monthly Computer Maintenance	10:30am-11:30am	Monday 02/05/24	How to find information on the web	10:30-11:30am
Tuesday 02/06/2024	Microsoft PowerPoint 1	10:30am-11:30am			
Tuesday 02/06/2024	Computer Basics	6:00pm-7:00pm			
Thursday 02/08/2024	Microsoft PowerPoint 2	10:30am-11:30am			
Saturday 02/10/2024	How to format USB Drives for Different Systems	10:30am-11:30am			
Saturday 02/10/2024	Google Docs/Slides	2:00pm-3:00pm			
Tuesday 02/13/2024	How to secure Information on Facebook	10:30am-11:30am			
Tuesday 02/13/2024	Hoopla/Libby	6:00pm-7:00pm			
Thursday 02/15/2024	iPad Tips & Tricks	10:30am-11:30am			
Tuesday 02/20/2024	Computer basics 1	10:30am-11:30am			
Tuesday 02/20/2024	Microsoft Word	6:00pm-7:00pm			
Thursday 02/22/2024	Computer basics 2	10:30am-11:30am			
Saturday 02/24/2024	How to keep security tight on Facebook	10:30am-11:30am			
Saturday 02/24/2024	Pronunciator	2:00pm-3:00pm			
Tuesday 02/27/2024	Microsoft Publisher 1	10:30am-11:30am			
Tuesday 02/27/2024	Microsoft PowerPoint	6:00pm-7:00pm			
Thursday 02/29/2024	Microsoft Publisher	10:30am-11:30am			



teenarts

The Union County Board of County Commissioners is pleased to present the 2024 Teen Arts Touring Exhibit. The exhibit consists of art work selected from the visual art works shown at the 2023 Union County Teen Arts Festival held at Trailside in the Watchung Reservation. The annual event is administered by the Union County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs in the Department of Parks and Recreation.

FEBRUARY 26 - MARCH 28, 2024
ELIZABETH PUBLIC LIBRARY MAIN BRANCH
3RD FLOOR EXHIBIT SPACE

For information about the Teen Arts program contact the Union County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs at 633 Pearl Street, Elizabeth 07202; telephone (908) 558-2550. NJ Relay service users should call 711 or email culturalinfo@ucnj.org.

The Library Board of Trustees will hold a hybrid meeting (in-person and via Zoom) on Tuesday Feb. 20, 2024 at 5:30PM. The in-person meeting will be held in the Director's Office on the 3rd floor. For a Zoom link, email eploffice@elizpl.org by 12 noon on Feb. 20.

The LaCorte Branch will be closed on Monday, February 12 in recognition of Abraham Lincoln's Birthday. Please visit one of our other locations. All Library branches will be closed on Monday, February 19 in recognition of Presidents Day.

J. Christian Bollwage, Mayor, City of Elizabeth

MaryFaith Chmiel
Library Director

Robert Barbanell
Assistant Director

Frank Castro
Newsletter Editor

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