

## New & Noteworthy

Tuesday  
Mar 31  
10 am

Burnham Athenaeum,  
First Library Building, 1896

The History of  
Champaign Public Library

**Tuesdays at Ten**

### Highlighting 150 Years of Library History

Throughout 2026, several programming series will include the library's anniversary theme in topics and activities. At our final session of Tuesdays in Ten in March, library staff will give a presentation on the history of both library branches. Attendees of this program will learn about the library's rich history from its founding in 1876 and how the library has grown and evolved over the past 150 years.

Travel and Tourism  
in Victorian Times

Fred Christensen

Feb 3 - Mar 10  
Tuesdays  
10 am

**Tuesdays at Ten**

Virtual Visit with  
Percival Everett

Beyond the Page  
with Percival Everett

Thursday  
Mar 19  
7 pm

**JAMES**  
PERCIVAL EVERETT  
NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

Pulitzer Prize

**LIVE WEBINAR**

Sign up! [champaign.org/events](http://champaign.org/events)

## Time Traveling at Tuesdays at Ten

In March, former history instructor Fred Christensen will return to take community members on a journey back to the start of the twentieth century. Attendees will experience what it was like to visit the most exotic parts of the world in a five-part series titled, "Travel and Tourism in Victorian Times."

## Virtual Visit With Pulitzer Prize Winning Author

On March 19, Illinois Libraries Present will host award winning author Percival Everett who won both the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction and the National Book Award for Fiction for his novel *James*.

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# Program Highlights

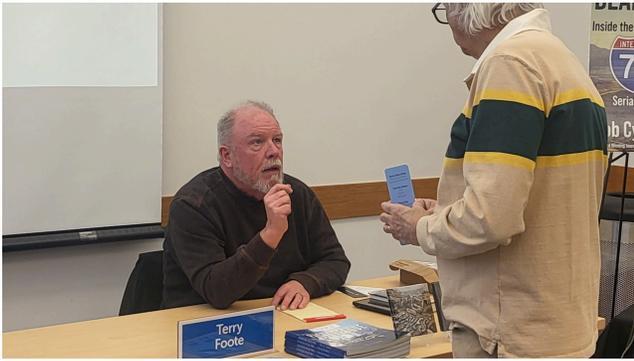
## Matinée at the Library

On January 18, 42 community members of all ages joined us for an afternoon screening of "Wicked". Attendees enjoyed snacks, with some asking, "What is the movie next month?"

## Local Authors Share Their Expertise

On January 31, 60 community members connected with 19 local authors about their books and writing journeys. Featured authors represented many genres, including poetry, mystery, and children's/young adult fiction.





### **Classical Music at the Library**

On January 30, 110 community members enjoyed an evening of classical music with guitarist and University of Illinois professor Dr. Sánchez Portuguez. This live music event was a recent feature of our Unbooked series.



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# Douglass Branch



## **DIY Kids**

25 total participants attended DIY Kids across four sessions which included projects like foam stamps and snowflake lanterns made on the Cricut machine.

## **Makerspace Use**

In January, the Makerspace welcomed 17 total participants over two sessions. At the bi-monthly Makerspace Drop-ins, use of creative tools such as the 3D printers are steadily increasing.

## **Table Talk Book Club**

At January's Table Talk session, 10 attendees gathered to discuss the book *Miss Pearly's Girls* by Reshonda Tate.

## **Book Giveaways**

Staff gave out 23 children's books in the month of January to add to their growing home libraries.

## **The Return of Popular Jam Sessions**

After a brief break, Jam Sessions will resume at the end of February. Jam Sessions occur on the fourth Friday of each month and give performing artists the opportunity to share their talents with the community.

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# Customer Comments

## **A Fond Farewell**

A longtime library customer stopped by to say he's moving to Texas. He wanted to pass along his gratitude to everyone here. He said this library has helped him and his family through so much and hopes the libraries in Texas are as warm and helpful as CPL has been! He wished staff nothing but good days!"

## **The Power of Librarians**

After staff finished helping a patron over the phone place several item requests and find interlibrary loan titles, they closed the call by saying, "Thank you! I wish Librarians ran everything!"

## **Leaving No Doubt**

After assisting a patron with the computer, a customer told staff, "I will for sure be back. This is my favorite place!"

## **From One Teacher to Another**

After assisting a customer with sending documents to the print release station a customer remarked to a staff member, "You do a good job at explaining things. I am a teacher and I am impressed!"

## **It Starts With a Smile**

A customer shared that they "came to the library for help and staff greeted me with a smile and helped me with all my needs. On a scale from 1-10, I'll give them a 10."