

Blaisdell Memorial Library

Hours:

Sunday: Closed

Monday: Closed

Tuesday: 10am - 5pm

Wednesday: 10am - 8pm

Thursday: 10am - 8pm

Friday: 10am - 2pm

Saturday: 10am - 2pm

We are closed for some holiday weekends.

The Library Will Return!

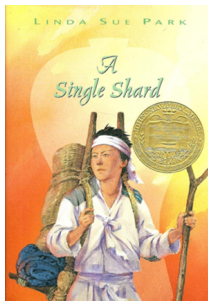
BML returns from our summer closure refreshed and ready for fall programming!

As we approach the final weeks of August and near the end of our closure, the library's been tidying, refreshing, and preparing some brand new excitement for our reopening!

Due to unforeseen circumstances related to work on the library building, Blaisdell Memorial Library will remain closed for two extra days, reopening on Thursday, August 22nd. We apologize for the inconvenience and will post any updates to our social media!

The full monthly calendar for August is now available online and in the library

Book Groups

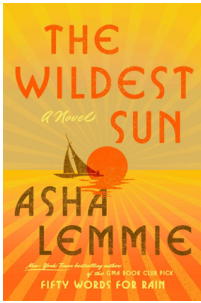


Afternoon Book Group: Thursday, September 5th -- 1:30pm

A Single Shard by Linda Sue Park

Cookbook Group: No meeting

The cookbook group will be on break for the month of September



Evening Book Group: Wednesday, September 25th -- 6:30pm
The Wildest Sun by Asha Lemmie

Children's Programs

The first programming session of Fall will begin in September, with story hours beginning on Tuesday, September 3rd and all afterschool programs (including STEAM, LEGO+ and the new Youth Afterschool club) starting the week of September 10th. Sign-ups for afterschool programs will begin on Tuesday, August 27th and continue until August 30th.

Story hours are drop-in and open to all ages: Lap-sit and pre-school age children are both welcome. Sign-ups are required for all afterschool programs.

Due to high interest and limited space, sign-ups for afterschool clubs use a lottery system. Priority is first given to participants on the waiting list from the last session. For the remaining spaces, sign-ups submitted between August 27th and 30th will be entered into a pool. At the end of the sign-up period, we will draw from that pool to determine the session's club members.

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- **Story Hour with Miss Julie and Miss Robin:** *Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays -- 10am*
 - **STEAM Club (Grades 3 - 6):** *Tuesdays, starting September 10th -- 3pm*
 - **LEGO+ Club (Grades K - 2):** *Thursdays, starting September 12th -- 3pm*
 - **Weekend Story Hour:** *Every 2nd Saturday, September 14th -- 10am*

Youth Programs

The Youth Afterschool Club is a **new** group for kids grades 6 through 8 to get together in the library after school to try out crafts, creative writing and games, and read books! Perfect for library-loving kids who're hitting middle school and want to have some fun when class is done!

Sign-ups for the club will be open from August 27th to August 30th and space is limited. The first club session will be on Wednesday, September 11th.

- **Youth Afterschool Club (Grades 6 - 8):** *Wednesdays -- 3pm*

The BYG (*Blaisdell Youth Group*) is a club for teens in middle and high school to get together, make friends, discuss books, and participate in fun activities, including gaming, book clubs, crafts, and more! New members are always welcome and no registration is required--you can drop in at any time or even bring a friend.

- **BYG Tabletop Games:** *Saturday, September 7th -- 10am*
- **BYG Meeting:** *Wednesday, Saturday 18th -- 6pm*

Regular Adult Programming

- **Game n' Gab:** *Tuesday, September 3rd -- 1pm*

Join us for games, chat, snacks, and friendly competition while relaxing in the library.

- **Community Coffee Hour:** *Every Wednesday -- 10am*

Join us every Wednesday morning for bite-sized discussions with free coffee and snacks. Each week comes with a short presentation by members of the community, the town, or the library that can explore local perspectives, have some fun, and keep you up to date on the latest Nottingham events. Interested in holding your own presentation? Reach out to the library staff about setting a topic and scheduling a date!

Upcoming Coffee Hour Topics:

- **August 21:** *No Coffee Hour due to unexpected closure*
 - **August 28:** Time Travel, Prophecy and Predestination with Alex Conroy
 - **September 4:** Happenings at the NH State House with Hal Rafter
 - **September 11:** Learn to Play Mah-jongg with Julie Kelly
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- **Mah-jongg Club:** *Every Wednesday -- 11:30am*

Mah-jongg is a Chinese game of collecting tiles and gaining points played with four people, similar to the card game Rummy! Whether you're a beginner interested in learning the rules or an intermediate player looking for new friends, all are welcome to BML's weekly Mah-jongg club gathering.

Upcoming at the Library

The Friends of the Blaisdell Memorial are planning their next Little Free Library and are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help make it happen! Adults who are interested in helping to build a Little Free Library structure should contact the Friends via [email](#) or by visiting their [facebook](#) page.

Museum Passes to the New England Aquarium are almost gone! These passes are good for 50% off admission for up to four visitors and will only be available until August 31st. If you've been on the fence, don't hesitate! Call or email the library to reserve your pass today!

There's an Elephant in this Room!

So. How do you like the new library layout?

If you haven't visited in-person recently you might not know, but the last few weeks have been a flurry of furniture moving and shifting collections as we experiment with the layout of the library building. It started with making more room in the YA corner, then moving audiobooks and Large Print, and now you might do a doubletake when you walk in!

I think most of us have experienced that particular frustration of going to the store only to find out they moved some everyday item for no apparent reason. And with such major shake-ups in you might be wondering why we're going through all the trouble of hauling shelves and books!

Funny as it is, I couldn't stop imagining a hermit crab changing shells: it's getting cramped! The library has grown in leaps and bounds over the past years, with new programs and new collections. It's been difficult to work with the constraints of our physical space, and small changes can only get so far.

So we went drastic! By trimming down and relocating collections, we've freed up space for more seating at events and left room to expand! Shifting the front desk has given the staff more space to work while being able to say hello when you come in. There's so much potential in the new space we've created and we're just bursting at the seams deciding how best to use it all!

That said, this is a *big* change, and we don't want to make your lives more difficult. Don't hesitate to ask a staff member if you need help finding things!

Additionally, if you discover any problems with accessing the collection, please let us know right away--there's always bumps in change and we want to get them ironed out as soon as possible.

We've got high hopes about the direction we're taking BML, and there's more in the works that we think you all will love! We know it'll take some time to get used to, and things might change more before it's done, but when we *are* done... I think it'll be something special. And I hope you'll think the same!

...but until then, pardon the mess!

Jordan Reed
Circulation and Tech Services



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