

## Blaisdell Memorial Library

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### 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.*

## Settling in for Colder Months

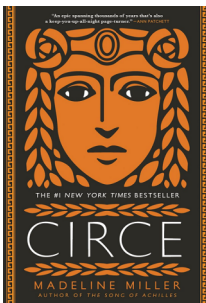
Get ready for the Holidays with BML!

As we approach the end of the year, the nights get longer, the days get colder, and Blaisdell enters our final programs of 2024! The last season of children's programming is already underway and several of our annual specials are on the horizon, giving you plenty to enjoy in the coming weeks.

*Please note that there will be several closures in November and December for the holidays. See below for more details.*

Full calendars for November are now available online and in the library.

## Book Groups



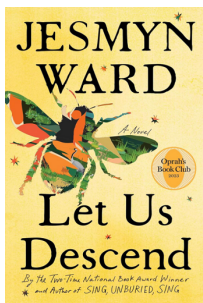
**Afternoon Book Group:** *Thursday, December 5th -- 1:30pm*

*Circe* by Madeline Miller



**Cookbook Group:** *Thursday, December 12th -- 6pm*

*Annual Holiday Cookie Swap*



**Evening Book Group: Wednesday, November 20th -- 6:30pm**  
*Let Us Descend* by Jesmyn Ward

## Children's Programs

The Fall/Winter programming session began on November 5th and will run for six weeks, until Saturday, December 14th. After that point there will be a short break before the first Winter 2025 programming session. Sign-ups for the next session will begin on Tuesday, December 17th.

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 STEAM and Lego + Club.

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- **Story Hour with Miss Julie and Miss Robin:** *Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays -- 10am*
  - **STEAM Club (Grades 3 - 6):** *Tuesdays -- 3pm*
  - **LEGO+ Club (Grades K - 2):** *Thursdays -- 3pm*
  - **Weekend Story Hour:** *Every 2nd Saturday, November 16th & December 14th-- 10am*

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- **The 4th Annual Tea Party Storytime:** *Saturday, November 16th; Tuesday, Thursday & Friday, November 19th, 21st & 22nd -- 10am*

Come join the library for our very special annual tea party! Children are welcome to dress up for the occasion, where they'll receive fancy beads, read tea party stories and enjoy butter cookies! This event is drop-in.

## Youth Programs

- **Middle School Club (Grades 6 - 8):** *Wednesdays -- 3pm*

The Middle School Club is for library-loving kids to get together in the library after school to try out crafts, creative writing and games! Perfect for preteens who're hitting middle school and want to have some fun when class is done!

**There will be no Middle School Club on November 27th.**

*The Middle School Club is part of our regular programming sessions. For more information about the current programming dates, see **Children's Programs**.*

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- **BYG:** *Wednesday, November 20th & December 4th -- 6pm*

The BYG (*Blaisdell Youth Group*) is a club for teens in middle and early 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.

*Meetings alternate between regular sessions and tabletop game sessions.*

## Regular Adult Programming

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

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

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- **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 from members of the Nottingham and NH community about all kinds of topics! Want to present? Reach out to the library staff about a subject and date!

*Upcoming Coffee Hour Topics:*

- **November 20:** BML at Parks and Rec - Brunch and Indoor Games
  - **November 27:** Folding Origami with Jordan Reed
  - **December 4:** I am Mt. Washington with Steve Soreff
  - **December 11:** Apps for Travel in Japan with Karyn Quinn
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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.

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- **Homeschool Meetup:** *Wednesday, November 20th -- 1pm*

Calling all homeschool families! Come join your fellow homeschoolers at BML to socialize, discuss, and explore the library and what it can offer in this new monthly meetup! This is a family-friendly group, so parents and children of all age are welcome to attend. Meetups are drop-in; no registration required.

## Library Events

- **Craft Together: Holiday Cardmaking:** *Wednesday, December 11th -- 6pm*

Celebrate the season and the holidays with hand-made custom greeting cards! Mix and match paper to create a beautiful base, decorate with pens, markers, and stickers, then choose your favorite stamp for a greeting! This program is aimed at adults and older teens.

Sign-ups are required. Please call, email, or visit the library to register.

## Upcoming at the Library

There will be several library closures in November and December for the holiday seasons:

- The library will close at **3pm** on **Wednesday, November 27th**. There will be no Middle School Club meeting on this day.
- The library will be closed from **Thursday, November 28th** through **Saturday, November 30th** for the Thanksgiving season.
- The library will be closed on **Tuesday, December 24th** and **Wednesday, December 25th** for Christmas. The library will reopen with usual hours on Thursday the 26th.
- The library will be closed from **Tuesday, December 31st** to **Wednesday, January 1st** for the new year.

BML will be marching in the [Nottingham Parks & Recreation Holiday Parade!](#) Don't forget to wave hello and get your gift when you see our staff come by!

## Giving Thanks: Part 2

I know we did Thanksgiving last newsletter, but you have to forgive me... it's November! It's only right for me to take a little more time to thank the organizations and people that have helped us over the past year!

To start things off, we'd like to recognize the grant we received from the ALA's Libraries Transforming Communities program. The money from this grant went directly into making changes to our back yard, transforming it into an even more wonderful space that both kids and adults can enjoy! In addition, we would like to thank the All Aboard Preschool and Daycare Center, who were a tremendous help in adding and setting up the library's outdoor mud kitchen, which has been wildly popular with all our storytime children!

We also want to thank the generous bequeathment left to BML by our late patron. This money allowed us to make some major improvements to BML that would've been impossible otherwise, including replacing our flooring with all new carpets and tiles.

Lastly, of course... I want to recognize the Friends of the Library and all of the volunteers in the community who came together time and again to help support us throughout the year. It's no exaggeration to say that all of your help is what made BML's transformation possible.

All of the work, all of the time spend, all of it has been in hopes of making the library a better place for our patrons. And so the other expression of thanks I can give is some tips on how to use BML to make your hectic holiday season a bit easier to navigate!

Of course, we've got the cookbooks--if you've promised to bake a pie, need a vegetarian option, want some fancy mocktails or just want to make sure the turkey will turn out right, we've got what you need! Browse the craft books for handmade table settings that will turn heads... or borrow a book on decluttering before visitors arrive (no judgement, I've been there).

You could borrow a board game for after dinner entertainment, take home an adventure backpack for some kids table fun, check out a Consumer Reports magazine before Black Friday arrives, or stock up on DVDs (up to five per account!) for binging with your friends! Our collection has expanded so much just over the past year, and I guarantee it'll have even more this time next year!

Or you can drop by just to warm up and grab the latest by your favorite author. Or give the kids some indoors fun on a windy Saturday! Or just sit around and charge your phone. While Blaisdell Memorial Library aims to expand, we've still got all the everyday things that you come in for, time and again. Let us show our thanks to all of you... by being the best library we can be.

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Jordan Reed  
Circulation and Tech Services

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