

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.

A Chill is in the Air...

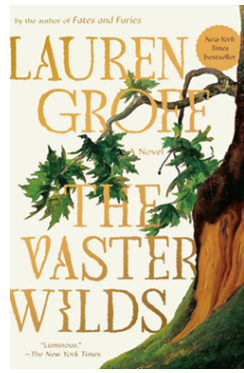
Fall is in full swing and this month has plenty to get excited about!

As we enter October, BML is already preparing for the season with a special weekend chock-full of Halloween fun! Alongside our unique events, there's also the new regular programming to check out and the [Friends of the Library Fall Book Sale](#), running from Friday the 3rd through Sunday the 5th.

Please note that **Tuesday, October 21st**, the library will be closing at **3pm**.

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

Book Groups



Afternoon Book Group:

Thursday, November 6th -- 1:30pm

The Vaster Wilds
by Lauren Groff



Evening Book Group:

Wednesday, October 29th -- 6:30pm

By the Fire We Carry
by Rebecca Nagle

Children's Programs

The children's programming session began on September 9th and will continue until October 17th. Afterwards there will be a two-week break with the Fall-Winter session starting on November 4th.

Sign-ups for all afterschool programs will be open from **Tuesday, October 21st** until **Saturday, October 25th**. Due to high interest and limited space, after-school club signups may use a lottery system. Sign-ups will be available **online**: the link will be available [on our website](#) during the sign-up week.

- **Story Hour with Miss Julie and Miss Robin:** *Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays -- 10am*
 - **Backyard Bookworms:** *Tuesdays and Every 2nd Saturday -- 1pm*
 - **LEGO+ Club (Grades K - 2):** *Tuesdays -- 2:45pm*
 - **STEAM Club (Grades 3 - 6):** *Thursdays -- 2:45pm*
 - **Weekend Story Hour:** *Every 2nd Saturday, October 11th -- 10am*
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- **Homeschool Meetup:** *Wednesday, October 15th -- 1pm*

Calling all homeschool families! Join us at BML to socialize, discuss, and learn at the library! All ages are welcome. No registration required.

- **Halloween Crafts:** *Wednesday, October 15th -- 3:30pm*

Have some afterschool fun (particularly if you're missing middle school club)! Drop by the library to make Halloween crafts and decorations to take home or

use to help decorate the library!

This program is drop in and open to all ages but suggested for grades 3+.

Youth Programs

- **Middle School Club (Grades 6 - 8):** *Wednesdays -- 2:45pm*

The Middle School Club is for library-loving kids to get together in the library after school to try out crafts, creative writing, art and games!

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

- **BYG:** *Saturday, Oct 18th @ 10am & Wednesday, Nov 5th @ 6pm*

The BYG (*Blaisdell Youth Group*) is a club for teens in middle and early high school to get together and participate in fun activities, including gaming, book clubs, crafts, and more! New members are always welcome!

Meetings alternate between regular sessions and tabletop game sessions.

Regular Adult Programming

- **Game n' Gab:** *Tuesday, October 7th -- 1pm*

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

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

Join us every Wednesday morning for bite-sized activities and discussions with free coffee and snacks. Each week has something new! Want to present? Reach out to the library staff about a subject and date!

- **October 8:** Impressionist Art with Debra Hasting
 - **October 15:** BML at Parks and Rec - Exploring Nottingham Outdoors, new book by the Nott. Trails Committee
 - **October 22:** Seasonal Trivia with Neolani Conroy
 - **FRIDAY, October 31:** UFO's & Bigfoot with Ronny Le Blanc
 - **November 5:** Library Trustees Chat
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- **Mah-jongg Club:** *Every Wednesday @ 11:30am, some Fridays @ 10am*

Mah-jongg is a Chinese game of collecting tiles and gaining points played with four people. Whether you're a beginner or an intermediate player, all are welcome to BML's weekly Mah-jongg club gathering!

Beginners looking to learn are invited to the Friday sessions, October 10th and 24th at 10am.

- **Casual Critics:** *Every 2nd Thursday, October 9th -- 5pm*

Are you a film buff? Join the Casual Critics! Each month, a new movie is chosen. Stream it at home or pick up a copy from the library, watch, and join the meetings to discuss! This month's movie is *Young Frankenstein (rated PG)*.

- **Homesteaders' Hub:** *Every 3rd Thursday, October 16th -- 5pm*

Homesteaders and those interested in building their skills are invited to join the Hub! Share your knowledge, trade tips, and learn about traditional skills, self-sufficiency, and sustainable living. This month will focus on planting garlic.

- **Crochet for Beginners:** *Saturday, October 18th and 25th -- 12pm*

Learn everything you need to know about starting crocheting and work on your very first project with instructor Hope Davis. **This program will be held in two parts** and we recommend that participants be able to attend both sessions to complete their projects.

Registration will be required for this program and space is limited, so please contact the library to sign up. All supplies will be provided, but you are welcome to bring your own hooks or yarn if desired. This program is aimed at adults and older teens.

We encourage interested patrons to check out [a video on slip knots](#) to help prepare for learning crochet!

Library Events

There's a mysterious chill in the air... as the Halloween season approaches, you might hear strange whispers on the wind about the **Blaisdell Bizarre Bazaar**, a three-day, all-ages celebration of everything eerie!

- **Haunted Library Tour:** *Thursday, 10/30 -- 4-5:30pm, 6-7:30pm*

Explore the library in a brand new way... a spirit from beyond the grave is haunting Blaisdell, turning it back in time! Come to the library for a haunted-house style tour through the darkened building. There will be two sessions held: The first, open from 4pm to 5:30pm is designed to be less scary and more fun, perfect for children and the easily frightened. From 6pm to 7:30pm, the tour gets more intense for those who like to be scared!

- **Potions in the Mud Kitchen:** *Friday, 10/31 -- 10am*

Enjoy a seasonal story and lots of fun with Miss Julie as kids are invited to mix up their own concoctions in the mud kitchen!

- **Coffee Hour Special:** *Friday, 10/31 -- 10am*

Our weekly coffee hour will be held on FRIDAY instead of Wednesday, featuring a visit from Ronny Le Blanc, author and paranormal expert. Hear about Bigfoot, UFOs, and the mysterious connections between both.

- **Werewolf Game:** *Friday, 10/31 -- 11:30am*

Werewolf is a social game of suspicion and deduction... among your group of players, one of you alone is the Werewolf. Every 'night', the werewolf will claim another victim... can you find the culprit before it's too late?

- **Tales of Horror - Dramatic Reading:** *Saturday, 11/1 -- 10am*

Presented in conjunction with the Blaisdell Youth Group, join BML in dramatic readings of ghost stories and chilling tales. Listen in or volunteer to join in on a story and add your own voice to the tales!

- **Evil Laugh Contest:** *Saturday, 11/1 -- 11am*

Do you have the best Witch's Cackle or Manic Mad Scientist laugh? Prove your stuff and compete against fellow patrons to find the BEST Evil Laugh!

- **Musical Performance by Joe Leary:** *Saturday, 11/1 -- 12pm*

BML is happy to welcome acoustic musician [Joe Leary](#) to the library for a special concert. This program is open to all ages and all community members.

- **Spooky Sensory Lunch:** *Saturday, 11/1 -- 12pm*

Kids can have fun with delicious, Halloween-themed snacks and fun sensory experiences to test their bravery!

Upcoming at the Library

With the addition of a second day for Mah-jongg club, Blaisdell Memorial Library is looking at adding additional hobby groups in the future. In particular, we are checking for interest in starting a regular club for **chess players**. If you have an interest in a chess club (or another group gathering, such as board games or tabletop roleplaying), please [contact the library](#) and let us know!

As we approach the end of the year, BML would like to note some important dates regarding the [Library Museum Passes](#). First, Bedrock Gardens will be closing for the season on October 13th; we recommend you make your reservations now if you would like to visit this year. Next, Strawberry Banke will be holding its [Ghosts on the Banke](#) event on October 17th-18th and 24th-25th. You can enter this event with our pass, so reserve it early if you want to attend! Finally, the Seacoast Science Center will switch to their winter hours on October 14th. Please check your days before reserving a pass.

Better All the Time

Last year was BML's first big Halloween event (since I've been working here, at least). It was a celebration of a few things; the season, a late patron whose support truly helped us, and gratitude to all of you after the struggle of renovations and reopening.

This year, we knew we wanted to top it. We wanted to have more fun, do more events, make it something really special that you could enjoy over with your whole family. And more than anything, we wanted it to be *alliterative*.

Hence, we're proud to bring you the Blaisdell Bizarre Bazaar! We've got more for kids, more for adults, more for teens--more for everyone! You can come in costume or as you are, but either way it'll be an amazing spooky season!

Speaking of spooky season... we've also put together a pretty extensive list of horror books for display in the latter half of the month, making it the perfect time to get into them! As a bit of a coward who can't handle scary movies or games, I find written horror to be just right.

There's something about the way that words can evoke dread and revulsion...

how a story can draw on your own memories and senses to fill in vague details. The process of reading makes you a participant, as the horror can only progress as long as *you* continue turning the page. And it gives you the ultimate out when you can no longer stand it--the moment you close the book, it ends.

You can dive into something intense, reel it back a bit with YA horror, or just watch some Scooby-Doo instead! We've also got a broad variety of audiobooks on CD and Libby, plus DVDs covering both recent releases and critically acclaimed classics. There's never been a better time to dabble!

This month marks my fifth year with Blaisdell Memorial Library, and every year I look back and see how we've continued to improve and build on what we've had. I may be biased, but I think 2025 has been an amazing year... and I think come this time in 2026, it'll be even better. We'll just have to see, won't we?

Jordan Reed
Library Circulation Supervisor



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