

THE NEWARK PUBLIC LIBRARY
5 WASHINGTON STREET, NEWARK, NEW JERSEY 07102

P R E S S R E L E A S E

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Newark Public Library announces March programs

Highlighting the March schedule of events for the Newark Public Library are five “Family Week at the Theatre” programs, to be held at selected branch libraries, which are cosponsored by the New Jersey Theatre Alliance and the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts. All of the library’s March programs are free and open to the public. For more information, patrons should call the number listed with the program description. Some additional details may be available at www.npl.org for adult programs and at www.npl.org/Pages/KidsPlace/calendar.html for children’s programs, or by visiting the library’s blog at <http://www.nj.com/newark/npl>.

The “Family Week at the Theatre” programs are held to provide a unique opportunity for young people to experience the magic of live theater with their parents and extended family. While the programs at the library are free, seating is limited and is on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information on a performance, call the respective branch.

Friday, March 6, 3:45pm, Vailsburg Branch Library, 75 Alexander Street, 973-733-7755. ***OZ!*** This adaptation is set in 1899 as L. Frank Baum puts the finishing touches on his new manuscript, *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*. As he tells his new story to Dot, a 10-year-old girl, he uses furniture, houseplants, fireplace tools, and various other items in the room to build the Tinman, the Scarecrow, and the Cowardly Lion. The children in the audience learn the meaning of friendship as they become the cyclone and the Flying Monkeys. To Oz? To Oz! Performed by Young Audiences of NJ.

Wednesday, March 11, 3:30pm, North End Branch Library, 722 Summer Avenue, 973-733-7683. ***Schoolhouse Rock LIVE!*** A pop culture phenomenon comes to the musical stage. The Emmy Award-winning ’70s Saturday morning cartoon series that taught history, grammar, math, science and politics is performed by a live cast from SurfFlight Theatre.

Wednesday, March 25, 4pm, Weequahic Branch Library, 973-733-7751. ***Gwendolyn Briley Strand As Harriet Tubman***. This dynamic one-woman performance takes the students on one of the 19 journeys Harriet Tubman took through the Underground Railroad. With music, props, costumes, and extraordinary acting, Gwendolyn Briley Strand portrays the strength and courage of this remarkable woman, who is still inspiring Americans for over eighty years. Performed by Young Audiences of NJ.

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Wednesday, March 25, 5:30pm, Van Buren Branch Library, 140 Van Buren Street, 973-733-7750. **HAPPILY EVER AFTER (A CINDERELLA TALE)**. Based on the beloved classic tale of Cinderella, this musical will take young audiences on a breath-taking journey of transformation and dreams fulfilled, courage and kindness triumphing over greed, arrogance and bully behavior. Performed by Pushcart Players.

Friday, March 27, 3:45pm, Springfield Branch Library, 50 Hayes Street, 973-733-7736. **Gwendolyn Briley Strand As Harriet Tubman**. This dynamic one-woman performance takes the students on one of the 19 journeys Harriet Tubman took through the Underground Railroad. With music, props, costumes, and extraordinary acting, Gwendolyn Briley Strand portrays the strength and courage of this remarkable woman, who is still inspiring Americans for over eighty years. Performed by Young Audiences of NJ.

Volunteers from the AARP will assist seniors and low-income participants with filing their 2008 tax returns. This assistance is free and **no appointment is necessary at this time**. This AARP Tax-AIDE service takes place from 9:30am to 4:30pm on the following Thursdays: March 5 (Conference Room), March 12 (Conference Room), March 19 (Centennial Hall), March 26 (Centennial Hall), April 2 (Conference Room), and April 9 (Auditorium).

Entitled ***Dear & Glorious Physician: The History of Black Doctors, Nurses and Hospitals in Newark and Beyond the River***, this year's Black History exhibition seeks to educate the public about the accomplishments of the profession in the areas of social justice, human rights and community development. It is on view in the second-floor gallery through March 28. Author and historian Sandra L. West, a library associate in the James Brown African-American Room, curated the show. ***Dear & Glorious Physician*** was funded by a grant from PNC Foundation. Information: 973-733-5411.

Following are the March programs that conclude the celebration.

Wednesday the 9th, 6pm, Centennial Hall, **WITH LOVE, LORRAINE**. *With Love, Lorraine* is a one-woman play performed by award-winning actor Elizabeth Van Dyke. It celebrates the 50th Anniversary of *A Raisin in the Sun*, Lorraine Hansberry's seminal play that, in 1959, starred Sidney Poitier and Ruby Dee.

Saturday the 26th, Noon to 5pm, James Brown African-American Room, **WELLNESS DAY**. An afternoon of wellness-themed classes: Megan Garcia on "Yoga for Plus Size," Celeste Bateman on being a Myasthenia Gravis Survivor, and Chiropractor Dr. Tashia Hilliard discusses the human skeletal system.

The exhibition ***Just In and Out Again*** is on display in the third-floor gallery through April 10. This dazzling display, curated by William J. Dane and Chad Leinaweaver, shows off many of the new gifts and purchases of the Special Collections Division and also highlights the collections accumulated over the past 100 years. Some of the new works on view are a gouache painting by Burhan Dogancay, a gift from William Peniston; a selection of gifts from artist Ellen Nathan Singer; two donations of New York-based artist Evelyn Eller; numerous screen prints and silkscreen greeting cards by Max Arthur

Cohn, donated by his daughter, Jane Waldbaum; and two gifts from Newark-based artist Kenneth Schnall, who specializes in “painter’s books.” For more information call the curators at 973-733-7745.

On view in the fourth-floor gallery through April 15 is the exhibition *A Celebration of the Bicentennial of the Birth of Abraham Lincoln*. Included in the show are selected visual materials from the Special Collections of the library. For more information call William J. Dane, the curator, at 973-733-7745.

Hooray for Children, the series that is fun for the entire family, will present *Super Circus Stuff* on Saturday the 21st. It begins promptly at 2pm at the main library. Thrill to the circus skills of Mr. Fish and Lisa Lou as they present a two-person show full of comedy, excitement and audience participation while performing a variety of exciting circus routines. Information: 973-733-7797.

The March program for the **Frances E.W. Harper Literary Society**, which is dedicated to discussing books on the African Diaspora, will be held on the 4th in the main library’s James Brown African-American Room, beginning at 6:30pm. It will be a discussion of *How Sweet the Sound* written by Cissy Houston. For more information on this program and the Society call 973-733-5411.

Free computer classes—in English and Spanish—are being held in the Technology Training Center, which is located on the third floor of the main library. Class size is limited to ten participants. Some classes are designed for first-time computer users (Mouse Clinic, Typing), while others are for those with more computer literacy (Word Processing, Email, Blogging, Internet, Creating a Résumé). For more information on the calendar of classes for the month, please call 973-733-3603, or visit www.npl.org/Pages/Computers/.

Following is the March schedule for the “Programs @ the Branches” initiative that is funded by a grant from the Newark Public Schools.

Wednesday the 18th, 4pm, First Avenue Branch Library, 282 First Avenue, 973-733-8091. **Mark Wurst presents I Love To Read!** Join magician Mark Wurst on this journey of reading. Listen to jokes, watch magic tricks, and explore different stories about the library.

Wednesday the 18th, 4pm, Weequahic Branch Library, 355 Osborne Terrace, 973-733-7752. **Piccirillo Sciencetelling presents The Jungle of Jersey.** Join us on a sciencetelling adventure. Go on a journey with Doug, a dog who lives in a pet store and wants to find new adventures. The story will be told with science experiments as eggs fly, water disappears and jungle sounds are made.

Monday the 23rd, 4pm, Vailsburg Branch Library, 75 Alexander Street, 973-733-7755. **The Cat in The Hat.** Join Ann Coppola and Kate Pak as they present a special program of *The Cat in the Hat*. These two actors will send you on a journey of fun and silliness in the style of the famous cat. It will be a fun-sprinkled experience for all children, with jokes, stories, and fun adventures.

Wednesday the 25th, 4pm, Branch Brook Branch Library, 235 Clifton Avenue, 973-733-6388. **The Cat in The Hat.** Join Ann Coppola and Kate Pak as they present a special program of *The Cat in the Hat*. These two actors will send you on a journey of fun and silliness in the style of the famous cat. It will be a fun-sprinkled experience for all children, with jokes, stories, and fun adventures.

Wednesday the 25th, 4pm, Clinton Branch Library, 739 Bergen Street, 973-733-7754. **Rick Adam's One Man Parade.** Join in the fun as Rick Adam presents "The One Man Parade." He will amaze you with juggling, hat tricks, and his performance as the most incredible one-man band. Presented by Encore Performing Arts Inc.

Wednesday the 25th, 4pm, Madison Branch Library, 790 Clinton Avenue, 973-733-8090. **Lisa Lou's One Woman Circus.** Have a great time with Lisa Lou as she presents fun circus routines, such as plate spinning, juggling, balancing, bubbles and more. Presented by Encore Performing Arts Inc.

Wednesday the 25th, 4pm, Springfield Branch Library, 50 Hayes Street, 973-733-7736. **Musical Legends presents The Fire Children.** Discover the story of the Fire Children as Lauren Hooker of Musical Legends brings to life this exciting, musical rendition of an African creation myth celebrating the earth and people of many different shades and colors. The audience will join in through movement, games, songs and African dance, transforming into part of the program.

Friday the 27th, 4pm, North End Branch Library, 722 Summer Avenue, 973-733-7683. **Piccirillo Sciencetelling presents The Jungle of Jersey.** Join us on a sciencetelling adventure. We will go on a journey with Doug, a dog who lives in a pet store and wants to find new adventures. The story will be told with science experiments as eggs fly, water disappears and jungle sounds are made.

Saturday the 28th, 11am, Roseville Branch Library, 99 Fifth Street, 973-733-7770. **Dr. Electro's Science Party.** Join Dr. Electro as he welcomes kids to become a junior scientist. You will help him perform experiments that will make products you can touch and feel. Dr. Electro will even teach you an experiment to make slime that you can take home with you.

Saturday the 28th, 11am, Van Buren Branch Library, 140 Van Buren Street, 973-733-3897. **The Cat in The Hat.** Join Ann Coppola and Kate Pak as they present a special program of *The Cat in the Hat*. These two actors will send you on a journey of fun and silliness in the style of the famous cat. It will be a fun-sprinkled experience for all children, with jokes, stories, and fun adventures.

Another special program at the Van Buren Branch Library will be an "African Belly Dancer Murder Mystery - Reading and Book Signing" on Saturday the 7th at 11am. Author Sandra Catena, Ironbound native and inventor of a new novel genre, will entertain with a reading from her book and demonstrate the very basic moves of the art of belly dancing—audience participation will be encouraged. The branch will hold a weeklong celebration of the birthday of Dr. Seuss. On Monday the 2nd and Tuesday the 3rd, at 4pm, a story hour on "one fish, two fish" will take place. On Wednesday the 4th at 3:30pm, there will be a screening of *Horton Hears a Who!* The theme for Thursday the 5th, at 4pm, is "play a Dr. Seuss game." Concluding the Dr. Seuss week, there will be a craft on Friday the 6th, at 4pm, when children will make a Dr. Seuss hat. There will be a "Saturday Morning Story Hour" on the 14th and 28th at 11am that is appropriate for all ages. Children will make their own shamrock pin during a craft on Tuesday the 17th at 4pm. Teen programs during the month are "Anime movies" on the 11th, 18th and 25th, at 4pm; and the "Dungeons & Dragons" game on Fridays at 4pm. For the adults, there will be "English as a Second Language Instruction on DVD" for beginning learners of English on

Tuesdays (the 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th) at 10am, on Wednesdays (the 4th, 11th and 18th) at 5:30pm, on Fridays (the 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th) at 10am, and on Saturdays (the 14th, 21st and 28th) at 10am.

For those who dream of a career in fashion, they will have the opportunity to watch designers, photographers, musicians, the back-stage crew and models display their skills, creations, and talent on the runway on Wednesday the 18th, beginning at 4pm, at the Weequahic Branch Library, 355 Osborne Terrace, 973-733-7751. The branch will celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday by showing the *Horton Hears a Who* movie on Monday the 2nd at 10:30am and at 3pm. The celebration continues with a Dr. Seuss Story Hour on Tuesday the 3rd at 3:30pm at which children are encouraged to wear or bring their silliest pair of socks and win a prize; socks will be decorated and worn during the story hour. In honor of Youth Art Month, youngsters will make crafts, draw and display their talent—bring your own bags, T-shirts, hats and caps to decorate—at 3:30pm during the week of March 9 to 14. Children can test your knowledge of St. Patrick's Day and make a four-leaf clover—wear green and win a prize—on Tuesday the 17th at 3:30pm. On Monday the 23rd at 3:30pm, celebrate Women's History Poetry by creating or reading a poem about your favorite woman.

The Springfield Branch Library, 50 Hayes Street, 973-733-7736, invites all high school juniors, seniors and their parents to attend a college fair on Wednesday the 18th, from 4pm to 700pm, at which they will meet recruiters from the University of New Haven, Johnson & Wales, Fairleigh Dickinson, St. Peter's, Felician, Cheyney, Delaware State, Bloomfield, Rider, United States Navy, New Jersey, Ramapo, William Patterson, Kean, Johnson C. Smith, Norfolk, Culinary Institute of America, Felician, Nyack, and other institutions. Students will receive scholarship applications and register for *free* SAT Prep Classes. Those interested in onsite-admissions consideration should bring two (2) letters of recommendation, SAT Scores, Official Transcripts, and a personal statement. For more information, please call the branch at 973-733-7736 or call Mr. Brown, program coordinator, at 862-368-4261. Two children's programs will take place: Design your own "lucky charm" green shamrock keychain on Monday the 16th at 3:45pm; chase away the lingering winter weather with a fresh flower pencil craft made from flower petals and a pipe cleaner on Monday the 30th at 3:45pm. For the teens, celebrate Youth Art Month on Friday the 27th at 3:45pm by showing your talent with the drawings you have created.

The Madison Branch Library, 790 Clinton Avenue, 973-733-8090, celebrates Dr. Seuss's 105th birthday with a Cat in the Hat story hour on Monday the 2nd at 3:30pm at which children can make a paper hat. Children will "spring forward" on Friday the 20th at 3pm by creating a water-colored flower to display for the branch's Spring decoration. A story hour for those in grades K-2 will take place on Tuesday the 10th at 10:30am, at which *Ruby Bridges*, written by Robert Coles, will be read. Children will celebrate St. Patrick's Day on Tuesday the 17th at 3:30pm by making a shamrock pin. It's movie time on Thursday the 12th at 4pm, at which Disney's *Robin Hood* will be shown. The March 26 movie time will feature the *Many Adventures of Winnie the Pooh*, shown at 4pm. "Let's Play Chess" is the topic of this exciting program for teens and adults on Wednesdays (4th, 11th, 18th and 25th) at 4pm.

The Clinton Branch Library, 739 Bergen Street, 973-733-7754, celebrates Dr. Seuss's birthday with an afternoon of coloring, drawing, games, videos and stories on Monday the 2nd at 3pm. Toddlers and preschoolers can celebrate Women's History Month during a storytime that features famous women authors on Tuesday the 10th at 10:30am. Children of all ages can celebrate St. Patrick's Day on Tuesday the 17th at 3pm by making a craft. "Bingo" is the name of the game for those in grades 1-8 on Friday the 27th at 3:30pm.

The Vailsburg Branch Library, 75 Alexander Street, 973-733-7755, will hold a "Family Night at the Movies" on Wednesday the 4th at 6pm, when it presents *Madagascar*. There will be an arts & crafts on Friday the 6th and 20th at 4pm that features various projects. A checkers tournament is planned for Wednesday the 11th at 4pm. Get ready to chop, dice and sizzle with Chef Adam on Wednesday the 11th at 4pm. On Friday the 13th and 27th, and on Wednesday the 18th and 25th, at 4pm, come out of the cold and watch a movie.

The Branch Brook Branch Library, 235 Clifton Avenue, 973-733-6388, celebrates Women's History Month through word searches, puzzles and other activities on Monday the 9th through Thursday the 12th at 3pm. Share stories about the arrival of spring at this storytime on Monday the 23rd, Tuesday the 24th and Monday the 30th at 10:30am. Teens can celebrate St. Patrick's Day with food, music, a trivia contest and other fun on Tuesday the 17th at 3:30pm.

The Roseville Branch Library, 99 5th Street, 973-733-7770, invites children to learn about and draw spring insects (such as ants, bees and mosquitoes), on Tuesday the 10th at 3:30pm. For those aged 6 to 12, there will be a spring season reading session and a handprint paper flower craft on Friday the 20th at 3:30pm. Those in grades 3 to 8 may take part in a Women's History Month Guessing Game of multiple-choice questions on Wednesday the 11th and 25th at 3:30pm.

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