What's On

September-December 2024





Welcome!

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Pumpkins & Pencils Contest



Sunday, September 1-Tuesday, October 1

Write a spooky one-sentence story for a chance to win a pumpkin from our Pizza Garden! Entries are divided into an adult division and a children's division (ages 6–12), with a prize for the best story in each category. Get an entry form at ajaxlibrary.ca/Pumpkins-Pencils.

Holiday Hours

All branches will be closed:

- Monday, September 2 (Labour Day)
- Monday, September 30 (National Day for Truth and Reconciliation)
- Monday, October 14 (Thanksgiving Day)
- Wednesday, December 25 (Christmas Day)
- Thursday, December 26 (Boxing Day)

Honouring Truth and Reconciliation

Each year, September 30 marks the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, honouring the survivors of residential schools and the children who never returned home. Learn more about Indigenous history, access book lists, and view additional resources at ajaxlibrary.ca/Reflect.

Remembrance Day

We remember the sacrifices made by others during wars, peacekeeping, and NATO actions. On Monday, November 11, we will observe two minutes of silence at 11 a.m. at all branches.

Special Events

ON CULTURE DAYS

★Introduction to Bollywood Dance

Saturday, September 21, 10-11 a.m.

Main Branch

Move, dance, and express yourself in this introduction to Bollywood dance! Learn a combination of classical Indian and folk dancing with pop influences. Presented in partnership with the Town of Ajax.

*Author Visit Featuring Uzma Jalaluddin and Leanne Toshiko Simpson

Tuesday, September 24, 7-8 p.m.

Main Branch

Enjoy a compelling conversation with authors Uzma Jalaluddin and Leanne Toshiko Simpson. A book signing will follow. Presented in partnership with Blue Heron Books.

Local Author Day

Saturday, October 5, 1-3 p.m.

Main Branch

Drop by to meet local authors and learn about their artistic journeys. Authors will have copies of their books available for purchase.

Kids & Families

Islamic Heritage Month Storytime

Saturday, October 26, 2-4 p.m.

Main Branch

Celebrate Islamic History Month by learning about the contributions of Muslims to the arts and sciences. Enjoy reading, colouring, crafts, and henna! Presented in partnership with Muslim Women of Durham Region.

Reptilia

Friday, November 15, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Main Branch (Drop-in, space is limited)

Meet an amazing assortment of scaly and fantastic creatures from Reptilia at this presentation that will wow, entertain, and educate all at the same time!

October is LGBTQ History Month

★Author Visit and Q&A – Out North: An Archive of Queer Activism and Kinship in Canada Tuesday, October 29, 7–8 p.m.

Zoom

Meet Dr. Craig Jennex, co-author of "Out North," a visual guidebook that documents the Canadian queer history, activism, and community of the ArQuives, the largest independent LGBTQ2+ archive in the world. Join us for a presentation on the research methods and writing process behind the book, a live reading, and a discussion on the challenges of uncovering the histories of marginalized communities.

Special Events

Pumpkinville

Saturday, October 19, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Greenwood Conservation Area, 2290 Greenwood Rd., Ajax

Drop by the Library's booth for spooky crafts and activities! Learn more at ajax.ca.



Holly Jolly Holiday Events!

Plan your winter break with the Library! Our full calendar of special holiday programs will be out in mid-November. Find it online at ajaxlibrary.ca/HolidayEvents or pick one up at any branch.

Santa's Spectacle of Lights Parade & Warm-up Party

Saturday, November 23, 6-9 p.m.

Main Branch

Follow the Town's annual evening parade, then visit Main Branch for a children's craft and hot chocolate, hosted by the Library's Teen Advisory Committee.

Letters to Santa

Saturday, November 23-Tuesday, December 3

Write a letter to Santa, drop it off at any branch, and we'll make sure he gets it!

Friday Craft & Movie: Ice Age

Friday, December 27, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Create a wintry craft based on the movie, then stay to enjoy the show!

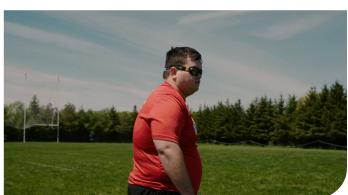


International Day of Persons with Disabilities Film Screening

★Tuesday, December 3, 6-9 p.m.

St. Francis Centre for Community, Arts and Culture

Celebrate International Day of Persons with Disabilities with a film screening and panel discussion. "A New Story" is a three-part mini-series featuring incredible people with intellectual disabilities who've crafted fulfilling lives thanks to vital support from their community. Presented in partnership with the Town of Ajax. If you require an accessibility accommodation or accessible seating for this event, email events@ajaxlibrary.ca.



Still image from "A New Story."



Storytimes (September 9-December 5)

STEAM Storytime	STEAM Storytime	Books for Babies	Books for Babies
Ages 2+	Ages 2+	Ages 0-2	Ages 0-2
Mondays	Tuesdays	Tuesdays	Thursdays
10−11 a.m.	10-11 a.m.	10-11 a.m.	1−2 p.m.
McLean Branch	Audley Branch	Main Branch	Audley Branch

More Storytimes

Sensory Storytime Thursdays, September 12, 26; October 10, 24; November 7, 21; December 5, 10–10:30 a.m. Ages 2–6 | Main Branch

STEAM Toddler Time Fridays, September 20, October 18, November 15, December 13, 11 a.m.-12 noon Ages 2-3 | Audley Branch

Family Storytime + Ajax Reading Circle Saturdays, September 21; October 5, 19; November 2, 16, 30; December 14, 10 a.m.-12 noon Ages 3-12 | Audley Branch

EarlyON

★Infant Massage

Tuesdays, September 3-November 26, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Ages 0-2 | Main Branch

Learn techniques in infant massage that promote healthy child development and growth while enhancing bonding and positive interactions with your child. Presented by a certified infant massage instructor from EarlyON Child and Family Centre. Learn more and register at **keyon.ca**.

*Preschool Music and Movement

Thursdays, September 12-November 28, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Ages 2.5-6 | Audley Branch

Introduce children to interactive songs, nursery rhymes, music, creative movement, and musical instruments. Learn more and register at **keyon.ca**.

For Babies

★Infant Hearing Screening Clinics Wednesdays, September 4-December 18 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Ages 0-2 months | Main Branch

The Tri-Regional Infant Hearing Program is hosting infant hearing screening appointments. Babies up to two months of age are eligible to receive a hearing screening if they did not receive a screening at birth or require a follow-up screen. For more information or to book an appointment, visit **childdevelopmentprograms.ca/BookMyBaby** or call the Tri-Regional Infant Hearing Program at 1-888-703-5437, ext. 4.



Enjoy animated, talking picture books that help develop a love of reading and build vocabulary through narration, animation, and music. Discover TumbleBook Library online at ajaxlibrary.ca/Online-Resources.



1000 Colourful Stories is a reading club just for preschoolers! From birth to four years is the best time to nurture a love of reading in your child. Sign up at any branch, get your first reading log, take it home, and read. Once your first reading log is full, come back to the Library for the next one and keep going until you reach 1000!

1000 Colourful Stories Program

Saturdays, September 28 or October 26, 10:30 a.m.-12 noon

Ages 0-4 | Audley Branch

Drop by for a storytime and to get your next reading log!

1000 Colourful Stories Special! Finding Moufette

Saturday, November 23, 10:30-11 a.m.

Audley Branch

Hear local author Linda Hutsell-Manning read "Finding Moufette," a picture book that tells the story of a headstrong cat lost in a Christmas Eve snowstorm. Then stay to play, craft, and have some indoor winter fun! Copies of the book will be for sale at the reading.

Scientists in School

Science comes to life in these interactive workshops for ages 4–12!

*****Science Snippets

Tuesday, October 15, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Audley Branch

Enjoy a few snippets of science! Be a chemist and discover the difference between baking soda and baking powder. Create a fantastical creature while investigating dominant and recessive genes. Make a pompom launcher and explore physics. Discover aeronautics by building and testing a plane.

★Sticky Science

Tuesday, October 22, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Audley Branch

Discover the science of sticky! Make your own glue from food products and test them to see how they hold. Create your own sticky art. And of course, there will be silly putty!

★Shoot, Score, Science, and More!

Friday, November 1, 1-2 p.m.

Audley Branch

Jump, shoot, roll, and glide—explore the science in sport! Take a test to discover where your dominance lies. Create a sculpture to investigate how throwing a ball affects your balance. Discover physics by engineering a better hockey puck and building a mini golf course.

Multilingual

*French Math Tutoring

Tuesdays, October 1-December 3, 5:30-8 p.m. (three 30-minute sessions at 5:45 p.m., 6:30 p.m., or 7:15 p.m.) One registration per session

Zoom

Are you in French school or French immersion, in Grades 1–6, and looking for help in French with your reading, math, or science assignments? Sign up for weekly 30-minute sessions of homework help with University of Toronto Scarborough Teachers in Training.

Es-tu une ou un élève de la 1e année-6e année d'une école francophone ou d'immersion qui a besoin d'aide en français pour tes devoirs de lecture, de mathématiques, et/ou de sciences? Inscris-toi pour du tutorat gratuit par des enseignant(e) s agréés de l'Ontario.

*Le Club Français

Mondays, October 21-December 9, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Registration is for all eight weeks

Ages 6-12 | Main Branch

Boost your French reading skills by conversing and reading aloud with high school buddies!

*****Spanish for Kids

Wednesdays, September 25; October 2, 9, 16, 23, 4:30-5 p.m.

Ages 6-12 | Online

Learn and practice beginner-level Spanish at these fun, interactive sessions focused on kid-friendly topics, led by Cricket eLearning.



LOTE4Kids allows kids to learn a language and connect with books through the magic of storytelling. Choose from thousands of audio-picture books in 50+ languages, together with English translations.

Access LOTE4Kids with your Library card at ajaxlibrary.ca/Online-Resources.



For Homeschool Learners

Homeschoolers in the Makerspace

Wednesdays, September 11 or November 13, 2-3:30 p.m. Ages 8-16 | Makerspace at McLean Branch

Unleash your creativity and learn new maker skills by exploring our Makerspace with other homeschool learners!

Homeschool Club

Wednesdays, September 25, October 23, November 27, December 18, 1:30-3 p.m.

Ages 6-12 | Audley Branch

Explore fun and informative STEAM activities and connect with other homeschool learners at this monthly meet-up!

DESIGN A

BOOKMARK

CONTEST!

September 9-October 7

Ajax kids in Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8 can showcase their love of reading by designing an original bookmark! 12 winning bookmarks will be printed and distributed in all branches each month in 2025, and winners will receive 25 copies of their bookmark.

The deadline to submit your design is October 7, 2024! For more information and to get an entry form, visit ajaxlibrary.ca/BookmarkContest.



Coding & STEM

*Family Scratch Coding

Saturdays, September 14 or December 7, 10-11 a.m.

Main Branch

Discover coding as a family with fun challenges offered via Scratch, a free online resource for coders of all experience levels. We focus on beginners, but all skill levels are welcome.

★Ontario Tech STEM and Coding Workshops

Coding Workshop: Saturday, September 21, 10 a.m.-12 noon | Grades 1-4 Coding Workshop: Saturday, October 12, 10 a.m.-12 noon | Grades 5-8 STEM Workshop: Saturday, November 9, 10 a.m.-12 noon | Grades 1-4

Audley Branch

These Ontario Tech University Engineering Outreach workshops introduce youth to the fundamental concepts of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) and coding through engaging activities, to inspire confidence!

★Black Girls Empowerment STEM Club

Tuesdays, October 22, 29; November 5, 4:30-6 p.m.

Grades 5-8 | Main Branch

★Black Youth Empowerment STEM Club

Thursdays, November 14, 21, 28, 4:30-6 p.m.

Grades 3-5 | Audley Branch

These clubs are designed to spark interest in STEM among young Black girls and Black youth through hands-on activities and mentorship from Black STEM students. Presented in partnership with the Congress of Black Women of Canada Ajax/Pickering Chapter.

Craft & Make

Friday Maker Night
Fridays, September 6, 20; October 4, 18; November 1, 15;
December 13, 4:30-5:30 p.m.
Makerspace at McLean Branch

LEGO!

Sundays, September 8, October 20, November 10, December 8, 12 noon-2 p.m.

Audley Branch

Saturdays, September 28, October 26, November 23,

December 14, 10 a.m.-12 noon

McLean Branch

PA Day Craft and Movie

Fridays, October 11 or November 1, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Main Branch

Craft: 10-10:30 a.m.

Movie: 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

October 11: If (G)

November 1: The LEGO Movie (G)



Dyslexia Awareness Month

October is Dyslexia Awareness Month, when many schools and workplaces wear red to express support for those with dyslexia. Individuals with dyslexia can check out our collection of decodable books, which have simple sentence structures and help readers identify letter-sound relationships. The decodable books collection is supported by The International Dyslexia Association Ontario.



Tweens & Teens

Fun & Games

Gamers' Club

Saturdays, October 12, November 9, December 21, 1-3 p.m.

Ages 10-14 | Main Branch

Attention Switch gamers: Super Smash Bros. and Mario Kart await! Participate in tournament play for a monthly prize, or play for fun.

TAC Presents: Halloween Murder Mystery!

Friday, October 25, 6-9 p.m.

Ages 13-19 | Main Branch

Put on your sleuthing hat to solve a murder before the clock runs out! When you're not deducing, enjoy snacks, crafts, and a costume fashion show (so come dressed up!).

Learn

Teen Homeschool Hangout

Wednesdays, October 9 or December 11, 1:30-3 p.m.

Ages 13-18 | Audley Branch

Hang out and unwind with other homeschool learners at this teens-only homeschool club!

★Project Makerspace: Sewing 101 for Teens

Monday, October 21, 4-6 p.m.

Ages 13-19 | Makerspace at McLean Branch

Learn basic sewing machine skills with Senior volunteers as you create a simple drawstring pouch. Project Makerspace is funded by the Government of Canada's New Horizons for Seniors Program.

TAC Presents: Hindu Heritage Month Celebration

Saturday, November 2, 2:30–4:30 p.m.

Ages 13-19 | Audley Branch

Save the date for a celebration of Hindu Heritage month, presented by the Teen Advisory Committee.

TAC Presents: Mental Health Night Friday, November 15, 2:30-4 p.m.

Ages 13-19 | Audley Branch

Stay tuned for details on our Teen Advisory Committee's Mental Health Night, where teens will get a chance to recharge and de-stress together.



Study better with Solaro! Access Ontario curriculum content for grades 3–12. Learn with course-specific quizzes, lessons, and material review. Use Solaro free with your Library card!

Find it at ajaxlibrary.ca/Online-Resources.





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MAKERSPACE@MCLEAN

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
September	Sundays Are for Makers 11 a.m5 p.m.	JANOME		Small Business Open House 9 a.m3 p.m. Homeschoolers in the Makerspace September 11, 2-3:30 p.m. *Project Makerspace September 25, 1:30-2:30 p.m.	*Thursday Makerspace Club: Cricut Pencil Case 10 a.m12 noon or 4:30-8 p.m.		
October	Sundays Are for Makers 11 a.m5 p.m.	*Project Makerspace: Sewing 101 for Teens October 21, 4-6 p.m.	Makers Making Change 9 a.m3 p.m.	Small Business Open House 9 a.m3 p.m.	*Thursday Makerspace Club: Sublimation 10 a.m12 noon or 4:30-8 p.m.		
November	Sundays Are for Makers 11 a.m5 p.m.	International Day of LGBTQIA People in STEM November 18, 4-6 p.m.	Makers Making Change 9 a.m3 p.m.	Small Business Open House 9 a.m3 p.m. Homeschoolers in the Makerspace November 13, 2-3:30 p.m.		*Project Makerspace November 15, 2-6 p.m.	*Project Makerspace November 16, 9:30 a.m1:30 p.m.
December	Sundays Are for Makers 11 a.m5 p.m.		Makers Making Change 9 a.m3 p.m.	Small Business Open House 9 a.m3 p.m.			

For more info on themes, projects, and more ways to explore the Makerspace, visit **ajaxlibrary.ca/Makerspace**.

MAKERSPACE@MCLEAN

Project Makerspace

The Older Adult Advisory Committee is pleased to present Project Makerspace, celebrating the diverse needs, interests, and creativity of older adults in our Ajax community. Running until March 2025, each month will focus on learning and sharing creative intergenerational knowledge to support digital literacy with peers and teens within the Library's Makerspace. Project Makerspace is funded by the Government of Canada's New Horizons for Seniors Program.

★Discover Robotics and Coding Wednesday, September 25, 1:30-2:30 p.m. Seniors | Makerspace at McLean Branch

The robots are coming! Not the big ones...the tiny ones! Ozobots can identify lines, colours, and codes on both digital and physical surfaces, such as an iPad or paper. Come have fun learning how easy it is to code, as you direct these little ones through a series of tasks.

*Holiday Greeting Card Photo Shoot
Friday, November 15, 2–6 p.m.
Saturday, November 16, 9:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
Seniors | Makerspace at McLean Branch
Create a great holiday gift! Book a 20-minute
appointment, have your photo taken, and select a
background. Once the image is processed and printed,

International Day of LGBTQIA People in STEM

we'll call you so you can return to the Makerspace and create a special greeting card for your family or friends.

Monday, November 18, 4-6 p.m.
All ages | McLean Branch and Makerspace

Celebrate great minds from the LGBTQIA community and the incredible advances they've made in science, tech, engineering, and math! In the Makerspace, make a bracelet, and in the Library, enjoy activities and stories.

Equipment Spotlight



Sublimation Machine

A sublimation machine produces images on specialized paper that can be transferred to sublimation materials using heat. You can print full colour images and transfer them to surfaces—the finished results can be amazing! Ask our staff about our sublimation machine and start your Maker journey today!



Report Binding

Want to put that final touch on your school report? Need to stand out on your resume or your work report? See how our report binding equipment can help you level up! Talk to one of our Makerspace staff members for details.

Learn

*****Stay Connected Training

Thursdays, 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 12 noon, or 1 p.m.

Saturdays, 10 a.m., 11 a.m., or 12 noon

Main Branch

Learn how to stay in touch with these technology training sessions. Topics include using iPads and other smart devices, social media, and safe use of Zoom. To register, call 905-683-4000 ext. 8813.

★Autumn is a Great Gardening Season with Ken Brown Tuesday, September 10, 1:30-3 p.m.

Main Branch

Ken Brown will lead us through an informative and entertaining look at the autumn gardening season.

★Tenant Rights and Responsibilities Information Session Wednesday, September 11, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Main Branch

This session will empower tenants with the knowledge needed for successful tenancies. Learn about common legal forms, tenancy agreements, paying rent, and the responsibilities of both tenant and landlord. Presented in partnership with Community Development Council Durham.

*****Launch Your Brand in 5 Steps Tuesday, September 17, 9-10 a.m.

Main Branch

Learn the essential assets you need to launch your brand to stand out amongst your competitors and start getting sales! Branding and marketing expert Andrea Rowland will share details about what to include in each asset so you can leave with a 'to-do' list. Presented in partnership with the Town of Ajax, Economic Development.

★Genealogy Group

Wednesdays, September 18, October 16, November 20 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Main Branch

Wednesday, September 18: Discovering Captain Samuel Frederick Scott, 1847–1905, with guest Margot Dixon

Wednesday, October 16: Discovering Your Lowland Scotland Ancestors with Sher Leetooze

Wednesday, November 20: Exploring Genuki To register, email **events@ajaxlibrary.ca**.

Learn

Headline Hunters

Tuesdays, September 24, October 29, November 26, December 17, 1:30−3 p.m.

Main Branch

For more information, call 905-683-4000 ext. 8806 or email elaine.lievaart@ajaxlibrary.ca.

★Seed Saving Workshop

Wednesday, October 23, 2-3 p.m.

Main Branch

Begin collecting and storing your own seeds with the information and inspiration offered by this presentation. Presented in partnership with Durham Master Gardeners.

★Celebrate Do It in Durham Entrepreneurship Week Wednesday, November 20, 9-11:30 a.m.

McLean Community Centre

Session 1: 9-10 a.m.

Session 2: 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Join us at the McLean Community Centre to learn more about how Ajax Public Library can support entrepreneurs. Tour our Makerspace and meet three local business owners who have used the Makerspace to benefit their business.

Ajax Archives

★Digitization Workshop

Thursday, October 24, 1:30-3 p.m.

Main Branch

Discover how to scan and organize your historical photos and documents with the Archives Services Librarian. Please bring one or two items to scan during this hands-on workshop.

Battle of the River Plate: Show and Tell Friday, December 13, 10−11:30 a.m.

Main Branch

On the 85th anniversary of the Battle of the River Plate, come learn about HMS Ajax with the Archives Services Librarian. See artifacts and photographs normally tucked away in the Ajax Archives!

Multilingual & Multicultural

★Afghan Women's Organization Refugee and Immigrant Services

Weekly on Mondays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (no session on September 2, 30 or October 14)

Main Branch

Afghan Women's Organization Refugee and Immigrant Services will provide settlement service for Durham Region residents. Services provided in English, Dari, Pashto, Farsi, and Urdu. To book an appointment, contact Fawzia Nazari, Settlement Counsellor, at 437-235-2871 or fnazari@afghanwomen.org. Funding provided by Citizenship & Immigration Canada.

★Afghan Women's Organization Refugee and Immigrant Services Citizenship Preparation Class Weekly on Mondays, 1-2 p.m. (no session on September 2, 30 or October 14)

Main Branch

To register, contact Fawzia Nazari, Settlement Counsellor, at 437-235-2871 or **fnazari@afghanwomen.org**.

★Spanish Seniors Social with Hispanic Canadian Alliance of Durham

Weekly on Mondays, 2-5 p.m. (no session on September 2, 30 or October 14)

Main Branch

For more information and to register, contact Cristina Gomez at 289-928-2037.

DCCC Seniors and Durham Happy Seniors Alliance Saturdays, September 14, 28; October 12, 26; November 9; December 7, 21, 1–4 p.m.

Main Branch

Languages spoken: Cantonese and Mandarin. For more information, email **info@durhamchinese.ca**. Presented in partnership with Durham Chinese Canadian Culture Centre.

French Conversation Circle
Mondays, September 16-December 16, 6:30-8 p.m.
(no session on September 30 or October 14)
Main Branch

Enjoy French discussions for adults, whether it is your first language, or you are just learning!

Multilingual & Multicultural

★English Conversation Circle

Wednesdays, September 18-December 18, 6:30-8 p.m. Main Branch/Zoom (alternating weeks)

Join our lively discussions alternating between Zoom meetings and in-person. For more information or to register, email Tasnuba Rahman at **trahman@cdcd.org**.

★Litmus Chinese Dancing Saturday, November 30, 10 a.m.-12 noon Main Branch

Celebrate cultural diversity with traditional Chinese dances, instruments, and folk songs, as well as classic favourites such as the cha cha, rumba, and samba. To learn more, email Jenny Shao at jenny.shao@kss-sep.com.



Mango Languages helps you learn a language in a fun and interactive way—free with your Library card! Start learning at ajaxlibrary.ca/Online-Resources.

For Movie Lovers

Cultural Cinema

Tuesdays, September 3, October 1, November 5, December 3, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Main Branch

September 3: Bob Marley: One Love (PG) The story of reggae icon Bob Marley and the journey behind his revolutionary music.

October 1: The Taste of Things (PG) The story of Eugenie, an esteemed cook, and Dodin, the fine gourmet chef she has been working for over the last 20 years.

November 5: Bank of Dave (PG) Based on the truelife experiences of Dave Fishwick, the story of how a working-class Burnley man and self-made millionaire fought to set up a community bank.

December 3: Waking Ned Devine (PG) When a lottery winner dies of shock, his fellow townsfolk attempt to claim the money.



September 3



November 5



October 1



December 3

★Box Office Books and Brews Wednesday, October 30, 6:30-9 p.m.

St. Francis Centre for Community, Arts, and Culture Enjoy a book club and movie screening all rolled into one! Pick up a copy of "The Girl on the Train" by Paula Hawkins before the movie and enjoy a group discussion afterward. Enjoy a movie-themed cocktail, wine, or beer, as well as snacks available for purchase.

Support Systems

Nightstop Information Session Thursday, September 19 or Wednesday, September 25 7–8 p.m.

Audley Branch (September 19) Main Branch (September 25)

Learn about Nightstop, an alternative to shelters that adopts a preventative approach to homelessness to help youth secure safe temporary housing. Nightstop engages community members with space in their homes and hearts to support youth who pass a thorough risk assessment by hosting them for a few nights in a safe home, with the support of Durham Youth Services staff.

★ID and Ontario Electricity Support Program Clinic Wednesday, September 25, 1-4 p.m. Main Branch

Housing workers will help Ajax/Pickering residents apply for the Ontario Electricity Support Program monthly credit. Applicants must bring proof of income for all household members and a full copy of their most recent electricity bill. Presented in partnership with Community Development Council Durham.

Mobile ID and Benefits Hub Access Saturday, November 16, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Main Branch

Organizations will be onsite to help you open a Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP), get a Social Insurance Number (SIN), birth certificate, and other forms of identification, file your taxes, and more.

★Intimate Partner Violence Awareness Month Event Tuesday, November 19, 6-8:30 p.m. Main Branch

Honour Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) Awareness Month with an educational session on the prevalence of IPV and the community supports available for those affected, along with opportunities to engage with community partners at information tables.

Book Clubs

Main Branch Evening Book Club Tuesdays, September 17, October 15, November 19, December 17, 7–8 p.m.

Main Branch

September 17: Orientation Meeting October 15: The Maid by Nita Prose

November and December titles coming soon!

Our book clubs are expanding! We have a few spots available for members interested in joining our new Tuesday evening book club at Main Branch. If you are interested in joining or you have any questions, email elaine.lievaart@ajaxlibrary.ca.

★2SLGBTQ Virtual Book Club Mondays, September 23, October 28, November 25 7-8 p.m.

Zoom

Each month will have a special theme or genre to read within—you choose the title! The group will meet and discuss what books they finished (or didn't) and their recommendations.

Parent Café

★Teen Mental Health Workshop Wednesday, September 18, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Zoom

Learn ways to identify emerging mental illnesses in teenagers and how to seek help. Presented by an Ontario Nurse Practitioner from Sima Health Consultancy.

★Self-Care Around the Holidays Wednesday, November 6, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Main Branch

Learn strategies to tackle holiday stress and the value of self-care with a peer navigator from Grandview Kids.

Call for Volunteers

If you're 55+ and a resident of Ajax, the Library needs you! We're looking for members to form our 2025–2026 Older Adults Advisory Committee.

Visit **ajaxlibrary.ca/Jobs-Volunteers** for more information and to apply. The application deadline is Friday, November 29, 2024.

New! Borrow a GoPro

Capture all your exciting adventures by borrowing a GoPro from the Library of Things.

To place a hold, visit ajaxlibrary.ca/Library-Things.



Discover

Knitting and Crochet for Community Wednesdays, September 4, October 2, November 6, December 4, 1−3 p.m.

Audley Branch

The Library is pleased to welcome Knitting and Crochet for Community, a group formed to connect charity knitters and crocheters, yarn, and tools with volunteers who make items with love for those who may need them.

Crafters' Corner

Wednesdays, September 11, 25; October 9, 23; November 13, 27; December 11, 10:30 a.m.−12:30 p.m. Main Branch

*Armchair Travel

Tuesdays, September 17 or November 19, 1:30−3:30 p.m. Main Branch

Tuesday, September 17: Armenia

Armenia boasts a rich history and some of Europe's most stunning views.

Tuesday, November 19: European Christmas

We're getting into the holiday mood with a visit to some of the Christmasy places in Europe while learning about the stories behind some of their most beloved traditions.

★Virtual Armchair Travel: Hong Kong

Tuesday, October 15, 1:30-3 p.m.

Zoom

Along with exploring ancient temples and high-end shopping, we'll also be visiting forest-covered mountains, beautiful beaches, islands, and traditional fishing villages.

★Paul Butler Holiday Concert

Friday, November 22, 1:30-3 p.m.

Main Branch

Warm up your vocal cords! Enjoy an afternoon filled with holiday tunes and popular old favourites featuring Ajax's own piano man, Paul Butler.

Hindu Heritage Month Showcase

Saturday, November 30, 1:30-4 p.m.

Main Branch

Stay tuned for details on our Hindu Heritage Month showcase, presented in partnership with Sankat Mochan Hanuman Mandir & Cultural Centre Inc.

Games

Social Bridge

Thursdays, September 5, 19; October 3, 17, 31; November 7, 21; December 5, 12, 19, 2:30-4:30 p.m. Main Branch

Friendly Euchre

Fridays, September 6, 20; October 4, 18; November 1, 15, 29; December 13, 2-4 p.m. Main Branch

Beginner Bridge

Thursdays, September 12, 26; October 10, 24; November 14, 28, 2:30-4:30 p.m.

Main Branch

Learn bridge from the beginning! All levels of experience are welcome.

Dungeons & Dragons

D&D Café

Tuesdays, September 3, 17; October 1, 15; November 5, 19; December 3, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Audley Branch

Saturdays, September 14, 28; October 12, 26; November 9; December 14, 1-4 p.m.

Audley Branch (September 14 session at Main Branch)
Play D&D at the Library! Interested in attending, but
don't have a group? Email carly.midgley@ajaxlibrary.ca.
Kids and teens welcome too!



Thinking Ahead Series

Based on the Older Adults Advisory Committee Caregiver Supports Guide (available at **ajaxlibrary.ca/Policies**), Thinking Ahead is a monthly workshop series that will help you plan ahead as a caregiver or care recipient.

★Long Term Health Care in Ontario Friday, September 13, 2-3:30 p.m. Main Branch

Learn more about the Long-Term Health Care system in Ontario. Presented by Ontario Health at Home.

★Contingency Planning and Emergencies Tuesday, October 8, 1:30-3 p.m. Main Branch or online on Zoom

Learn how to build a contingency plan, prepare for emergencies, and learn strategies for implementation. Presented by the Ontario Caregiver Organization.

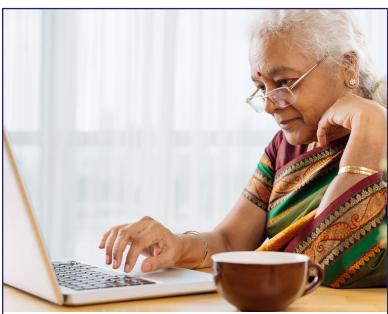
★Protecting Your Privacy and Security Online: A Workshop for Seniors and Their Families Tuesday, November 12, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Main Branch

Build your understanding of how to protect your privacy and security online in today's digital age. Topics include recognizing common online scams, password management, safe browsing practices, and more. Presented by KnowledgeFlow Cybersafety Foundation. To register, visit knowledgeflow.org/Events.



Drop by the Rotary Room at Main Branch to see works by local artists! To find out what is currently on display, visit ajaxlibrary.ca/Art-Shows.





55+ Amateur Short Story Contest

Get your creativity flowing! The Ajax Public Library Older Adults Advisory Committee and the Town of Ajax Recreation & Culture Older Adults Task Force are pleased to bring you the third annual 55+ Amateur Short Story Contest. This year's theme is "Ageing in Style." Visit ajaxlibrary.ca/55PlusContest for more details or pick up a brochure at any of our branches beginning September 1. The contest deadline is October 31, 2024. Winners will be announced in November.

Health & Wellness

*****Bibliotherapy

Mondays, September 9, 16; October 7, 21; November 4, 18; December 2, 16, 7–8 p.m.

Zoom

Bibliotherapy combines reading and talking about books and stories to achieve a more positive sense of wellness.

★Brain Waves Café

Tuesdays, September 17, October 15, November 19 1–2:30 p.m.

Audley Branch

Tuesday, December 10, 1-2:30 p.m.

Main Branch

Enjoy conversation, support, and activities in a dementia-friendly atmosphere. For persons with cognitive (memory) change and their care partners, family, and friends. Presented in partnership with the Alzheimer Society of Durham Region. To register, call 905-576-2567 ext. 5240 or email recreation@alzheimerdurham.com.

The Compassionate Friends Ajax

Tuesdays, September 24, October 29, November 26, December 17, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Intended for any parent who has lost a child Audley Branch

We are here to journey alongside the bereaved until they can make their own choice to reinvest in life once again. For more information, contact ajax@tcfcanada.net.

*Mindful Communication

Wednesday, October 9, 6:30-8 p.m.

Zoom

Learn how to effectively build a sense of liking, trust, and rapport with others through communication.

*Living a Healthy Life with Chronic Pain

Tuesdays, October 15-November 19 (six-week session) 1:30-4 p.m.

Zoom

Discover how to better cope with pain symptoms and daily activities as a person with chronic pain. We suggest that participants attend all six sessions where possible. To register, visit **ceselfmanagement.ca**.

Health & Wellness

*Healthy and Cost-Friendly Meal Ideas

Thursday, November 7, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Main Branch

Share ideas for healthy, cost-friendly meals and how to use leftovers to ensure the food we buy is not wasted. Presented in partnership with the Durham Region Health Department.

Financial Literacy

★Saving for the Holidays

Thursday, September 26, 6-7 p.m.

Zoom

Get financial tips and tricks to reduce financial stress and prepare a budgeting plan so you can enjoy your time with loved ones to the fullest. Presented in partnership with the Credit Counselling Society.

★Wills and Estate Planning

Tuesday, October 22, 1-2:30 p.m.

Main Branch

Learn why you need a will and how to create one the right way. Topics include will and estate planning for business owners, blended families, persons with disabilities, and more. Presented in partnership with Lockyer and Hein LLP.

*Raising Financially Fit Kids

Thursday, November 14, 6-7 p.m.

Zoom

Learn easy-to-implement parenting techniques to teach children ages 2–18 about saving, giving, and spending. Presented in partnership with the Credit Counselling Society.

★Buying New and Used Vehicles

Thursday, November 21, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Zoom

Make sure you're prepared when purchasing new and used cars! Tips and resources will be provided on researching a vehicle's history and understanding your consumer rights. Presented in partnership with the Ontario Motor Vehicle Industry Council.

Fill a Purse for a Sister Campaign

September 2-October 31



Donate a new or gently used purse filled with personal necessities to bring comfort and dignity to women and youth in crisis. Filled purses will be donated to services that support women.

For more information, including which items are most needed, visit **fillapurseforasistercampaign.ca**.

Thanksgiving Food Drive

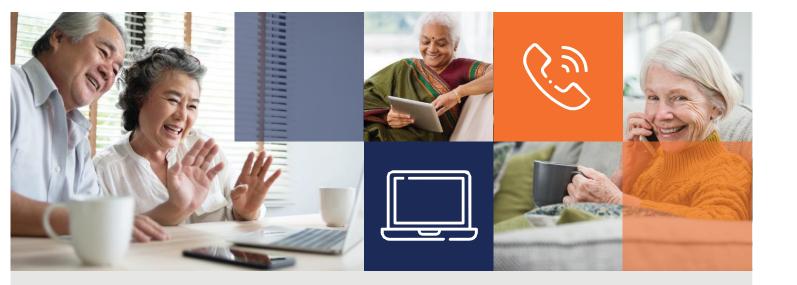
September 9-October 4

Help newcomer, refugee, and low-income families during the holidays by donating non-perishable items. To donate, drop off your items at the Ajax Welcome Centre (by appointment) or at Main Branch.

For more information, contact Donette Ambris, Donation Coordinator, at 905-686-2661 ext. 220 or by email at **dambris@cdcd.org**.

Presented in partnership with Community Development Council Durham.





Seniors Centre Without Walls

Join us for **Seniors Centre Without Walls** (SCWW) Monday through Wednesday for a FREE interactive program from the comfort of your home. Themes include fun activities, education, health & wellness and more.

Each month a new calendar will highlight the upcoming days of activities.

Join using Zoom or call in Mondays through Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m.

Programming Details

Information Highway

Learn from informative guest speakers about topics including health and safety, entertainment, finances, planning and more; discuss what's happening in local news and around the world; join the Ajax Public Library for information about our Ajax history or immerse yourself into the wonderful world of short stories from a variety of different genres.

Fit and Fun

Keep your mind and body fit through exercises led by knowledgeable and nationally accredited Town of Ajax fitness instructors and end your week laughing with the joke of the week.

Worldly Wonders

Travel the world from the comfort of your home while sitting in your favourite spot; learn about people from different countries and cultures; boldly go where your taste buds have never gone before with diverse recipes from around the globe.

Challenge Accepted

Put your knowledge to the test during weekly themed trivia questions and games; guess who dun' it during Minute Mysteries; challenge yourself with memory games; test your knowledge with fun fact or fiction trivia.

ajax.ca/55plus













September 2024 Program Calendar Space is limited.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	To join using	
No Programming	No Programming	4 Challenge Accepted: Minute Mysteries	Zoom Meeting ID: 936-9272-5495 Passcode:	
Worldly Wonders: Armchair Travel Denmark	Fit and Fun: Pictionary on Zoom	Information Highway: Durham Storytellers	To join	
16 Information Highway: Historical Mysteries	17 Fit and Fun: Spelling Bee	18 Information Highway: Summi Siddiqui	by phone Dial: 647-558-0588 Meeting ID: 936-9272-5495#	
Fit and Fun: 52 Card Bingo and Riddles	24 Fit and Fun: Trivia- Fall	25 Information Highway: Linda Dempster	Participant ID Number Passcode: 1409113169	
No Programming				

Summi Siddiqui

Learn, discover, enjoy lectures, stories, poems, and paintings as Summi connects cultures beyond borders.

Durham Storytellers

Storytelling for everyone! A dedicated group of avid tellers, who love to continue the oral tradition without using books or notes and are

considered part of the performing arts.

Linda Dempster

Enjoy music and conversation with singer and songwriter Linda Dempster



October 2024 Program Calendar Space is limited.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	To join using	
	No Programming	Fit and Fun: Fun Fact Frenzy – Spot the Easter Eggs	Zoom Meeting ID: 936-9272-5495 Passcode:	
Worldly Wonders: Armchair Travel The Netherlands	8 Information Highway: Tim Westhead	9 Fit and Fun: Trivia	SCWW55+001 To join	
No Programming	Fit and Fun: 52 Card Bingo	16 Information Highway: Durham Storytellers	by phone Dial: 647-558-0588 Meeting ID: 936-9272-5495# Participant ID Number Passcode:	
Challenge Accepted: 20 Questions	No Programming	23 Information Highway: Summi Siddiqui		
28 Information Highway: Biographies – Dame Maggie Smith	29 Information Highway: Dalia Gesser	30 Information Highway: Linda Dempster	1409113169 #	

Summi Siddiqui

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Durham Storytellers

Storytelling for everyone! A dedicated group of avid tellers, who love to continue the oral tradition without using books or notes and are considered part of the performing arts.

Linda Dempster

Enjoy music and conversation with singer and songwriter Linda Dempster.

Dalia Gesser

Join in the conversation as Dalia Gesser, a published author, reads some of her stories about family, pets and people in the community that will trigger memories and anecdotes to share.

"Hollywood: An Insider's View" — Tim's Favourite Films with Frame Stories

Join film buff Tim Westhead to find out what's beyond the silver screen! Enjoy discovering new and re-discovering classic movies that present their stories as "nested narratives," and make your love for film a more rewarding

experience. Website: www.timwesthead.com



November 2024 Program Calendar Space is limited.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Worldly Wonders: Armchair Travel – Belgium	Information Highway: Durham Story Tellers	Challenge Accepted: Minute Mysteries
Information Highway – This Week in History – Richard Pyves	Information Highway: Tim Westhead	Fit and Fun: Charades on Zoom
18 Information Highway: Book Chat	19 Fit and Fun: Trivia	20 Information Highway: Summi Siddiqui
25 Information Highway: Biographies: Humphrey Bogart	26 Information Highway: Dalia Gesser	27 Information Highway – This Week in History





Summi Siddiqui

Learn, discover, enjoy lectures, stories, poems, and paintings as Summi connects cultures beyond borders.

Richard Pyves

Join Richard Pyves as he discusses his book Night Madness - A Rear Gunner's Story of Love, Courage and Hope in World War II.

Durham Storytellers

Storytelling for everyone! A dedicated group of avid tellers, who love to continue the oral tradition without using books or notes and are considered part of the performing arts.

Dalia Gesser

Join in the conversation as Dalia Gesser. a published author, reads some of her stories about family, pets and people in the community that will trigger memories and anecdotes to share.

Hollywood: An Insider's View - Tim's Suggestions of Captivating Documentary Films

Join movie buff Tim Westhead to find out what's beyond the silver screen! Enjoy learning from interesting and contemporary non-fiction documentaries and make your love for film a more rewarding experience. Website:

www.timwesthead.com



December 2024 Program Calendar Space is limited.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	To join using	
Worldly Wonders: Armchair Travel Pt 1	Information Highway: Tim Westhead	Challenge Accepted: Who Am I?	Zoom Meeting ID: 936-9272-5495 Passcode:	
9 Challenge Accepted: Holiday Trivia	No Programming	Information Highway: Summi Siddiqui	SCWW55+001	
Information Highway: Biographies – Bing Crosby	17 Information Highway: Durham Storytellers	18 Information Highway: Linda Dempster	To join by phone Dial: 647-558-0588 Meeting ID:	
No Programming	No Programming	No Programming	936-9272-5495# Participant ID Number Passcode:	
No Programming	31 No Programming	No Programming	1409113169 #	

Summi Siddiqui

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Linda Dempster

Enjoy music and conversation with singer and songwriter Linda Dempster

Durham Storytellers

Storytelling for everyone! A dedicated group of avid tellers, who love to continue the oral tradition without using books or notes and are considered part of the performing arts.

Hollywood: An Insider's View – Tim's Picks of Off-Beat Comedies about Family Criminals

Join movie buff Tim Westhead to find out what's beyond the silver screen! Prepare to laugh out loud as you discover fun films featuring family felons, and make your love for film a more rewarding experience.

Website: www.timwesthead.com

Ajax Public Library Community Connections

Connect with these organizations and their staff for the following services:	Connect with	these organizations	and their staff	for the follow	ina services:
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 Francophone Employment Centre of Durham (CEFD) Resume and cover letter assistance Connect French-speaking job seekers with employers that wish to hire francophone or bilingual (French/English) workers 	Wednesdays, September 4, October 2, November 6, December 4 9 a.m4 p.m. Main Branch
Metrolinx Information Booth Information about GO Expansion and the Bowmanville Extension	Thursday, September 5 10:30 a.m1:30 p.m. Main Branch
Newcomer Settlement Services with Community Development Council Durham (CDCD) Orientation/settlement in Ontario and Durham Region Information and referrals to community programs and services English classes	Thursdays, September 5-December 19 By Appointment Only: 9 a.m1:30 p.m. Walk-ins: 2-4:30 p.m. Main Branch
 Conseil des organismes francophones de la Région de Durham (COfRD) Settlement services tailored to French-speaking newcomers Needs assessment and referrals, orientation, and community connections through the Settlement Workers in Schools (SWIS) program 	Fridays, September 6, October 4, November 8, December 6 9 a.m4 p.m. Main Branch
 Ask an Agent: Service Canada Employment Insurance Canada Pension Plan and Old Age Security Please bring photo ID and original required documents. Visit canada.ca for lists of required documents 	Tuesdays, September 10, October 8, November 12, December 10 1-4 p.m. Main Branch Drop-ins welcome, or call 905-683-4000 ext. 8809 to register.
 Housing Help Durham Rental accommodations and tenant rights Subsidized, non-profit, and emergency housing 	Wednesdays, September 11, October 9, November 13, December 11 2-4 p.m. Main Branch
 Durham Community Health Centre: Hepatitis C Clinic Free screening for Hepatitis C Harm reduction education and supplies Care, treatment, and support 	Thursdays, September 12, October 10, November 14, December 12 2-3 p.m. Main Branch

2024 Design a Bookmark

Contest Winners!

Congratulations to the September-December Design a Bookmark Contest winners! Pick up a new winning bookmark each month at any branch.









Branch Locations

Main Branch 55 Harwood Ave. S.

Audley Branch 1955 Audley Rd. N.

McLean Branch & Makerspace 95 Magill Dr.

Branch Hours

Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

Saturdays 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Sundays 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Contact

905-683-4000

libraryinfo@ajaxlibrary.ca

Live chat online at ajaxlibrary.ca

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