

Budget and Board Candidate Vote!

Guilderland Public Library

Annual Election

Tuesday, May 19th

7AM - 9PM at Guilderland Elementary Schools

SPRING CRAFT FAIR

MAY 2ND
9:30AM - 2:30PM



We'd like to say an absolutely massive thank you to everyone who made the GPL Annual Book Sale a huge success! Everyone who volunteered, made a donation, or made a purchase, you are awesome, and we are grateful to be a part of this great community.



period PARTY

MAY 30th
1-3PM

Grades 4-8

Storybook Snacks

May 4th
11:30AM



SUMMER READING 2026

UNEARTH A STORY™

KICK OFF: JUNE 27TH

Library Hours

- **Monday - Thursday:** 9:30am - 8pm
- **Friday:** 9:30am - 6pm
- **Saturday:** 9:30am - 5pm
- **Sunday:** 1 - 5pm

The library will be **CLOSED** May 23rd - 25th in observance of Memorial Day.



May is Get Caught Reading Month!

Stop by the library and ask your favorite librarian what their favorite book is, browse the new displays, and get inspired to get caught reading!

MAY 2026

YOUTH PROGRAMS



FAMILY STORYTIME

May 5, 12, & 19 | 10:30AM
Birth - 5 years, with caregiver

AFTERNOON FAMILY STORYTIME!

May 5, 12, & 19 | 3PM

SKY FRIENDS STORYTIME

May 6, 13, & 20 | 10:30AM
Birth - 5 years, with caregiver



LITTLES LOUNGE & STORYTIME

May 7, 14, & 21 | 10:30AM
Birth - 2 years, with caregiver



MUSIC & MOVEMENT

May 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29 | 10:30AM
Best for 2-5 year olds, siblings welcome



SPECIAL STORYTIMES!

GOODNIGHT LUNA

May 7th
6PM



SIGNING STORYTIME

May 11th | 10:30AM



SATURDAY SKY FRIENDS

May 30th | 11AM



LEARN ALONG PLAY

MAY 2ND
10:30 - 11:30AM

AGES 0 - 5

CRAFT ALONG CLUB!

FOR FAMILIES
MAY 13TH
3-5PM

COME CRAFT ALONG WITH US!

My First Book Club [R]

MAY 17TH
2PM
GRADES K-2



LITTLE BLOCK PARTY

MAY 27 | 10:30 - 11:30 AM

PAWS 2 READ

MAY 7TH AND 14TH | 3 - 4PM

MAY 2ND AND 16TH | 11AM - 12PM



GRADES K-5

CHECK-IN @
CHILDREN'S DESK

MAY PROGRAMS

- May 2
 - 10:30 - 11:30AM Learn Along Play
 - 11AM - 12PM Paws 2 Read
 - May 4
 - 11:30AM - 12:30PM Storybook Snacks [R]
 - May 5
 - 11:30AM - 1:30PM Pop-Up Baby Cafe with St. Peter's Health Partners
 - May 7
 - 3 - 4PM Paws 2 Read
 - 6 - 6:45PM Goodnight Luna
 - May 13
 - 3 - 5PM Craft Along Club
 - May 14
 - 3 - 4PM Paws 2 Read
 - May 16
 - 11AM - 12PM Paws 2 Read
 - 1:30 - 2:30PM ASL Club
 - May 17
 - 2 - 3PM My First Book Club [R]
 - May 18
 - 10:30 - 11AM Yoga for Littles
 - 11:15 - 11:45AM Baby & Me Yoga
 - 2 - 3:45PM Movie Monday: Inside Out 2
- The library will be CLOSED May 23rd - 25th in observance of Memorial Day Weekend**
- May 28th
 - 10:30 - 11:30AM Learn Along Play

Recurring Drop-In Programs

LEGO FREE PLAY

May 20th
3 - 6PM

LITTLE BLOCK PARTY

May 27th
10:30 - 11:30AM



To learn more or register for an event, scan QR code or visit guilderlandlibrary.org

ADULT PROGRAMS

- **May 2**
 - **9:30AM - 2:30PM** Spring Craft Fair
- **May 3**
 - **2 - 3PM** Sunday Concert: Echoes Across Time
- **May 5**
 - **11:30AM - 1:30PM** Pop-Up Baby Cafe with St. Peter's Health Partners
- **May 6**
 - **1 - 2PM** AllWays Dance [R]
 - **3:30 - 4:30PM** Afternoon Garden Club
 - **6:30 - 8PM** Guilderland Guitar Group
- **May 7**
 - **10 - 11AM** Game Time [R]
- **May 9**
 - **2 - 3PM** Let's Talk Bees (with your local beekeeper!): Swarm Season
- **May 10**
 - **2 - 3:15PM** Drum in Joy! West African Drum Workshop [R]
- **May 12**
 - **6:30 - 7:30PM** A Governor at War: George Clinton and the Making of New York's Revolutionary State [R]
- **May 13**
 - **1 - 2PM** AllWays Dance [R]
 - **5:30 - 7:30PM** Drop-In Genealogy
- **May 16**
 - **10AM - 12PM** Car Care 101
 - **1 - 2PM** Local History Room Open House!
- **May 18**
 - **6 - 8:15PM** Movie Monday: Now You See Me: Now You Don't
- **May 19**
 - **1 - 6PM** American Red Cross Blood Drive
- **May 20**
 - **1 - 2PM** AllWays Dance [R]
- **May 22**
 - **11AM - 1PM** Apple Device Help [R]
 - **11:15AM - 12:45PM** Journaling Club [R]
- **May 27**
 - **1 - 2PM** AllWays Dance [R]
- **May 28**
 - **6 - 7PM** Keys to Car Buying [R]
 - **6:15 - 7:45PM** Journaling Club [R]

RECURRING ADULT PROGRAMS

Drop-In Knit & Stitch

May 5, 12, 19, & 26 | 10 - 11:30AM

Seniors Connect!

May 6, 13, 20, & 27 | 11AM - 1PM

Guilderland Guitar Group | May 6 | 6:30 - 8PM

Drop-In Genealogy with Lisa Dougherty

May 13 | 5:30 - 7:30PM

Normanskill Strummers | May 21 | 6 - 8PM

Local History Room Open House

**May 16
1-2PM**



LIBRARY TO LIBRARY

AGES 13+

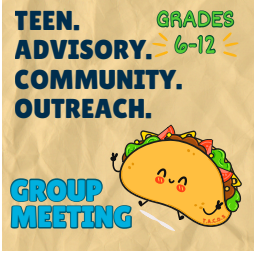
PEN PAL CLUB



Register in May!



To learn more or register for an event, scan QR code or visit guilderlandlibrary.org



TACOS VOLUNTEER MEETING

May 12 | 6 - 7PM

Earn volunteer credit by participating in our Teen Advisory Community Outreach group! Give input on books, programs, and more. [R]

- **May 2: 1-2PM** Origami Club
- **May 3 - 7:** Teen Study Hall: AP Week
- **May 10: 2 - 3:15PM** Drum in Joy! [R]
- **May 11: 5 - 7PM** Teen Anime Club [R]
- **May 16: 1:30 - 2:30PM** ASL Club [R]
- **May 19: 6 - 7:30PM** After Zine Tea [R]
- **May 20: 3 - 6PM** LEGO Free Play
- **May 21: 4:30 - 7PM** Drop-In Video Games and Board Games
- **May 26: 5 - 7PM** Illustrated Book Club [R]
- **May 27: 5 - 6PM** Celebrate 8th Grade [R]
- **May 28: 6 - 7PM** Keys to Car Buying [R]
- **May 30: 1 - 3PM** Period Party [R]



To learn more or register for an event, scan QR code or visit guilderlandlibrary.org



GPL TEENS!

GRADES 6-12



LIBRARY TO LIBRARY AGES 13+
PEN PAL CLUB
 Register in May!

WHAT'S NEW AT GPL!



“American Ancestors is a new platform for library patrons that further opens up access to genealogical records and resources. With access to both US and non-US files and documents, patrons can explore millions of accounts, for free through the library. Based in Boston, this database has a rich collection of records that people in the Capital Region can trace their New England family origins back years and years, from the Mayflower Descendants to the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston. There are also on-demand courses for patrons to learn genealogy best practices and basics on researching. Happy researching!”

- **Jo Ann**, Lifelong Education & Local History Librarian



“We are excited to introduce a new digital service: America’s News by NewsBank. This easy-to-use tool gives you access to over 4,000 local, regional, and national news sources from across the country. You can use this resource on our library computers or take it with you on the go. America's News is available 24/7 from the comfort of your home or mobile device, just log in using your GPL library card!

With America’s News, you can search full-text articles and view full-color pages of your favorite newspapers. You can even access web-only content and explore years of archived articles. We’ve made it easy to stay up-to-date with your favorites, including the Times Union, The Daily Gazette, The Record, New York Post, USA Today, and The Atlantic. Visit our website today to start exploring news from your backyard and beyond!”

- **Emily**, Collection Development & Adult Services Librarian

Learn more about American Ancestors and NewsBank at guilderlandlibrary.org/learning-tools

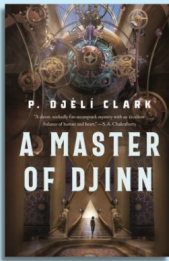
Guilderland Reads: GPL Book Clubs



Pack up your curiosity and get ready to read outside your comfort zone. In 2026, GPL invites you to join Expedition Book Club, a year-long journey designed to help you explore the many book clubs we offer and discover new reading communities along the way. Try something new, meet fellow readers, and broaden your literary horizons. Learn more by scanning the code or visiting guilderlandlibrary.org/expedition-book-club.



Realm Explorers Book Club



Saturday, May 9 @11:00AM
Ages 16+

Discussing science fiction and fantasy novels. Titles include Adult/Young Adult science fiction and fantasy books as well as graphic novels.

This month we're reading **A Master of Djinn** by P. Djèlí Clark.

Whodunit Mystery Book Club



Thursday, May 14 @6:30PM
Ages 18+

Do you have what it takes to crack the case? Find out at the Whodunit Mystery Book Club! This month, we are reading **Vera Wong's Unsolicited Advice for Murderers** by Jesse Q. Sutano.

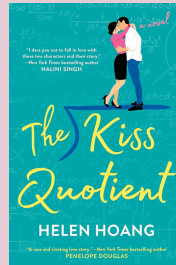
Silent Book Club



Sunday, May 10 @1:30PM
Ages 18+

Give yourself permission to read. Meet by the fireplace!

Hopeless Romantics Book Club

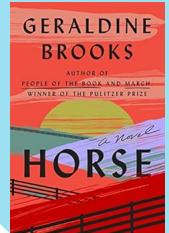


Wednesday, May 20 @6:30PM
Ages 18+

HRBC is a romance book club that meets to discuss swoon-worthy romance titles. This month we're discussing **The Kiss Quotient** by Helen Hoang.



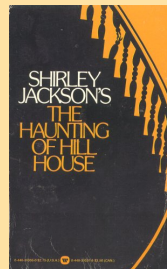
Night Owls Book Club



Monday, May 11 @6:30PM
Ages 18+

Reading the most talked-about fiction and nonfiction titles. Currently reading **Horse** by Geraldine Brooks.

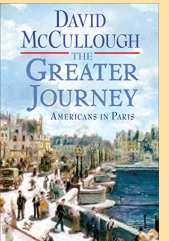
Fright Club Book Discussion Group



Tuesday, May 26 @6:30PM
Ages 18+

Join us each month for the best of Horror and Thrillers. This month we're reading **The Haunting of Hill House** by Shirley Jackson.

Day Larks Book Club



Thursday, May 14 @2:00PM
Ages 18+

Reading the most talked-about fiction and nonfiction titles. Currently reading **The Greater Journey: Americans in Paris** by David McCullough.

HOW TO GET YOUR BOOK CLUB BOOKS

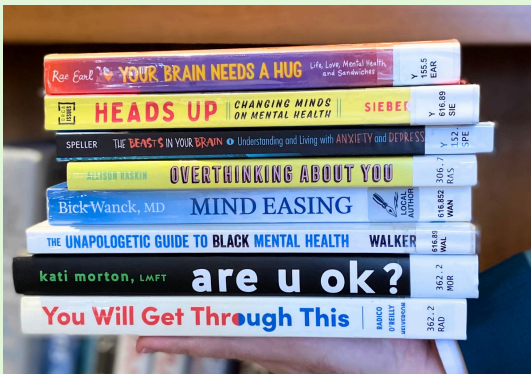
For adult book clubs, copies of books are available for checkout at the Information Desk while supplies last or digital copies can be borrowed from Libby.

May is Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) Heritage Month!

This is a month to celebrate the many cultures and stories within these communities through reading incredible stories by AANHPI authors. Jenni, Jo Ann, and Vy are putting together different displays in the main library, the children's library, and outside of the foundry to spotlight more books we think you should check out this month! May also happens to be Get Caught Reading Month. The perfect time to get caught reading a book by your favorite AANHPI author!!



MAY IS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH!



This is a month dedicated to breaking the stigma, providing support, promoting mental wellness, and starting important conversations. GPL is committed to supporting our community by continuing to provide access to resources, books, and programs that help promote mental wellness and understanding. Your mental health is multifaceted and deserves attention in all areas. Find resources in the library and on our website to guide you in supporting your mental health!

LIBRARY BUSINESS

- GPL Board of Trustees Governance Committee Meeting**
May 4th | 5:30 - 6:30PM
- GPL Board of Trustees Long Range Plan Committee Meeting**
May 5th | 5:30 - 6:30PM
- GPL Board of Trustees Facilities Committee Meeting**
May 6th | 5:30 - 6:30PM
- GPL Board of Trustees Personnel Committee Meeting**
May 7th | 6:30 - 7:30PM
- GPL Board of Trustees Finance Committee Meeting**
May 12th | 5:30 - 6:30PM
- GPL Board of Trustees Monthly Business Meeting**
May 14th | 6:00PM



Please check the online library calendar for the most up-to-date information

COMMUNITY INTEREST

- Guilderland Guitar Group**
May 6th | 6:30 - 8PM
- Capital District Knitting Guild**
May 11th | 6 - 8PM
- America Red Cross Blood Drive**
May 19th | 1 - 6PM
- Normanskill Strummers**
Ukulele Group
May 21st | 6 - 8PM
- Art Exhibition**
Guilderland Central School District High School
Reception: May 6th | 3:30 - 5PM

BUDGET AND BOARD CANDIDATE VOTE

Guilderland Public Library Annual Election

Tuesday, May 19

7am-9pm @ Guilderland Elementary Schools



This year, there are two open seats on the Guilderland Public Library Board of Trustees. The following candidates appear on the 2026 ballot.



Matthew Grunert - *Current GPL Trustee*

Professional Experience:

I am an information technology consultant working for a local non-profit in support of New York's state and local governments, where I've managed several enterprise software implementation projects. Prior to beginning my consulting career, I was a systems administrator for the NYS Office of the State Comptroller. My deep technical background is uniquely complemented by my excellent leadership, communication, and change management skills. This experience makes me an ideal candidate to continue work on the Board as a trusted advisor in shepherding our library's development as Guilderland's quintessential third place.

Education:

MBA, SUNY Albany, May 2025

BS, Computer Science, SUNY Albany, May 2013

BS, Criminal Justice, SUNY Albany, May 2013

High School Diploma, June 2009

Family Information:

My wife, Kayla, and I just celebrated our tenth year together.

List any community activities:

In addition to my current role working for a non-profit, I've had the honor of serving on the Board of Trustees for the previous year. I've previously served as a firefighter with Westmere Fire Department and Fire Commissioner with the Westmere Fire District. My dog, Oatmeal, and I are certified by Love on a Leash as a therapy pet team (catch us at Paws2Read on certain Saturdays!). Finally, I am an active member of the local YMCA and I curl at the Albany Curling Club.

I am interested in becoming a candidate for the Library Board of Trustees because:

I am interested in continuing my time on the Board of Trustees because the work we've started this past year is far from over, and I believe that I have unique and complementary perspectives to add to that conversation. I am a strong proponent of good governance, responsible civics, and community engagement as a driver of organizational success. This past year I've worked to modernize our library's policies, negotiate contracts with our members' labor unions, facilitate development of our physical building, and build stronger ties between the town and school boards. However, there's still more work to do as we build our library into Guilderland's Living Room; our community's quintessential third place: calm, comfortable, and accessible; publicly funded, and for the public. Thank you for your time, and I'd appreciate your vote next month!

How long have you been a Guilderland resident?

I've been a Guilderland resident since graduating high school in 2009, when I moved to town to attend UAlbany—seventeen years!

What role have libraries played in your life? How have you benefited from GPL?

I've always found refuge in libraries. As a child, the local library was my primary source of learning and entertainment, and I'd volunteer there over the summers. As I grew into a young adult, I found that same calm, quiet acceptance in the university libraries. Now I find GPL's commitment to community to be a fixture of my adult life. From grabbing a new read at the "checkout aisle," to a board game for the weekend with my wife, to a study room midday to work, GPL has become my third place. GPL's Library of Things, especially its board games, is a fixture in my adult life.

What is the last good book you read?

Annihilation, by Jeff VanderMeer: sci-fi mystery from an unreliable narrator, what's not to love?



Antonio (Tony) Rivera

Professional Experience:

I work as an infectious diseases pharmacist at the Albany VA hospital. I have been there for nearly 20 years. Some of my other work experiences have been as a retail pharmacist and an adjunct instructor at SUNY Schenectady. Working in healthcare and as an adjunct instructor has shown me the importance of efficient and effective communication.

Education:

Cayuga Community College, A.S., Math/Science
 Binghamton University, B.S. Psychobiology
 Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Science, Pharm.D.
 Clarkson University - Healthcare MBA

Family Information:

My wife, Seema, and I have two daughters, Lily (16) and Sage (12).

How long have you been a Guilderland resident?

14 years

List any community activities:

I have been a member of the Guilderland Public Library Board of Trustees since 2021. Years ago, I coached my daughters softball team.

What role have libraries played in your life? How have you benefited from GPL?

Many good memories of the Guilderland Library with my family. When my kids were younger, they enjoyed many of the library’s offerings, like reading to furry friends, scavenger hunts, and many of the activities. They also enjoyed talking about books, Launch Pads, and games. Now that they are older, they still enjoy books and games.

What is the last good book you read?

I have not had time to read for fun in a while. But one of my favorites is a book I had to read in college, **The Coming Plague: Newly Emerging Diseases in a World Out of Balance**. It was part of an anthropology course on the co-evolution of disease and society. It sparked my interest in infectious diseases.

I am interested in becoming a candidate for the Library Board of Trustees because:

I enjoy the community setting of the library. My family and I have benefited from the library, and I would like to give back. Over the past 5 years, the library has had many positive changes, and I would like to continue to be involved in the library’s growth and development. I would like to explore the potential to develop other services, such as community gardens, maker spaces with 3D printers, and expand classes and seminars on retirement, personal health, and saving for college.

Proposed 2026-2027 Budget		
	2025-2026	2026-2027
EXPENSES		
Library Materials	\$ 390,000	\$ 400,000
Events and Classes	42,000	43,000
Salaries and Benefits	3,490,124	3,496,959
OPERATIONS		
Office/Collection Supplies	52,000	53,000
Equipment and Furniture	16,000	17,000
Technology/Hardware & Software	100,000	100,000
Building Maintenance & Supplies	100,000	113,000
Utilities, Water, and Sewer	96,300	95,500
Marketing/Communications	15,000	15,000
Printing & Postage	4,700	4,700
Telephone	6,300	6,300
Professional Services & Auditing	81,000	98,300
Training and Professional Development	27,000	27,000
Insurance	43,445	53,000
Resource Sharing and Catalog	41,000	44,000
Miscellaneous	8,000	9,500
Capital Improvements	120,142	204,219
TOTAL	4,633,011	4,780,478
INCOME		
Operating Revenue		
Tax Levy	4,483,561	4,609,028
Fees, Gifts, Grants, and Donations	34,450	35,450
TOTAL	4,518,011	4,644,478
Non-Operating Revenue		
Investment Income	115,000	136,000