

Spring 2026

EVENTS

March | April | May

OSHAWA
PUBLIC
LIBRARIES



(905) 579-6111 | oshawalibrary.ca

Message From the CEO

We recently launched two new online services for library members: **PressReader**, which provides free access to newspapers such as the *National Post* and the *Toronto Star*, and magazines including *Canadian Living* and *HELLO! Canada*; and **Consumer Reports**, the definitive guide for consumer purchases. You can find these on our website under the “Online Library” tab. (oshawalibrary.ca/online-library)

Speaking of our website, have you downloaded our new app? It's now available on the **App Store** and **Google Play**.

Also new this year is our **Genealogists-in-Residence** program. In partnership with the Durham Region branch of Ontario Ancestors, experienced volunteers will help you research your family tree. See page 4 for more information.

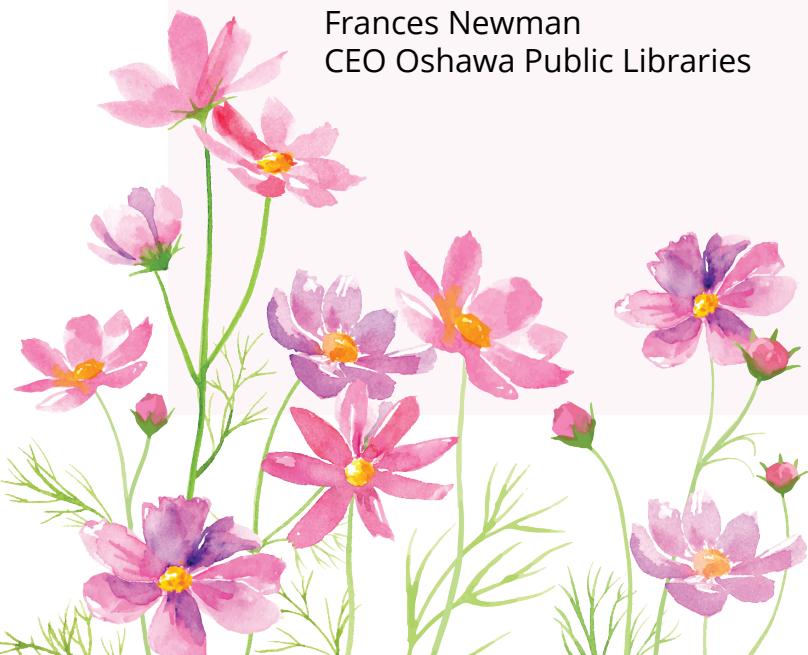
March Break is packed with tons of fun activities for the kids, and later this spring, we celebrate our annual **FanCon** on May 9.

Mark your calendar for the Friends of the Library Book Sale on April 16-18 in the McLaughlin branch auditorium.

See you at the Library!

Frances

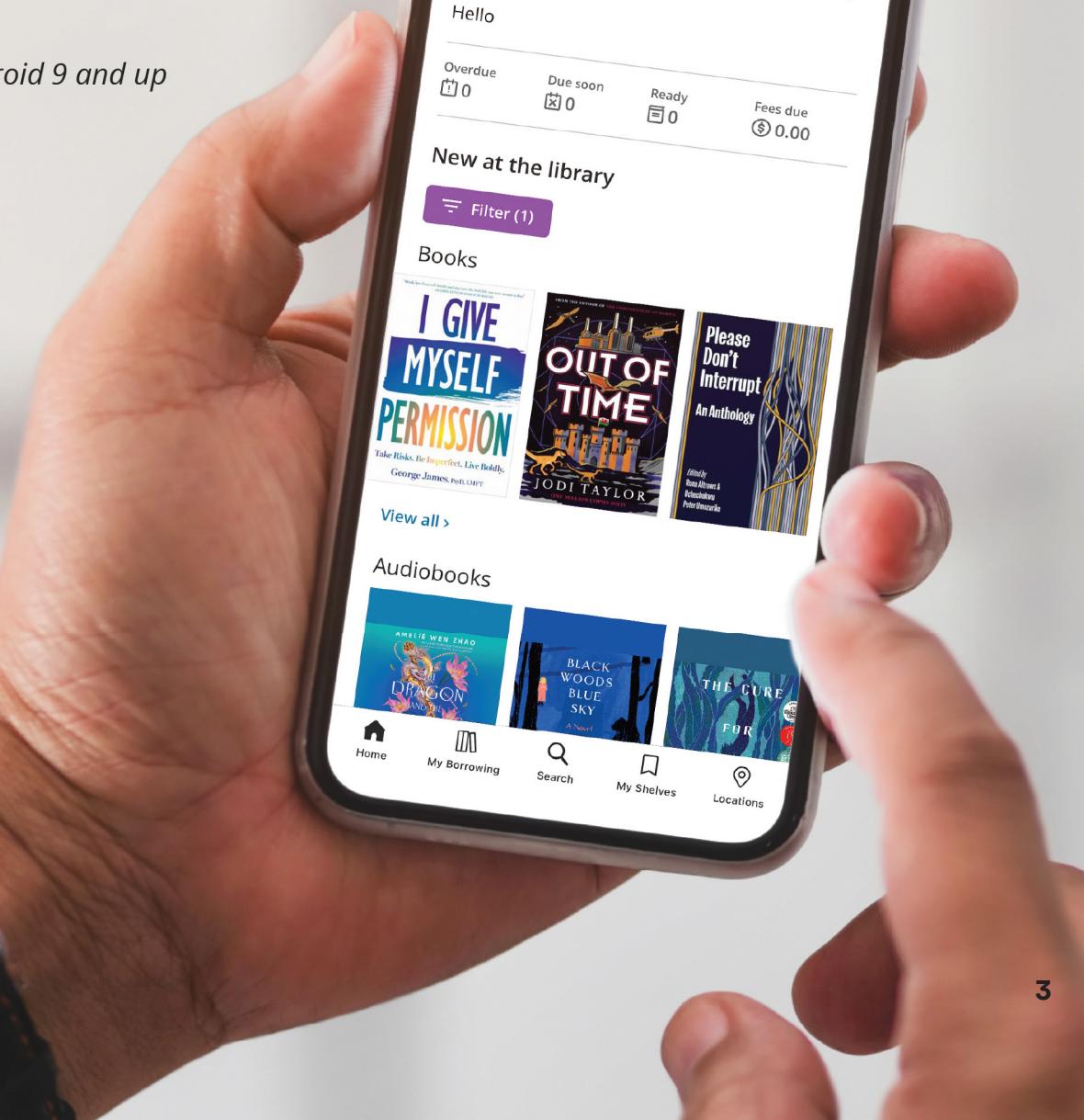
Frances Newman
CEO Oshawa Public Libraries



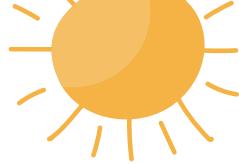
Download our new app

We're excited to tell you about our new Oshawa Public Library app! Download from the Apple Store* or Google Play* for instant access to books, programs, account management, library news and more!

*Requires iOS 16 or Android 9 and up



In Every Issue



One-on-One Tech Help

For an appointment call (905) 579-6111:
 McLaughlin ext. 5200 | Delpark ext. 5800
 Northview ext. 5871 | Jess Hann ext. 5861

French Conversation Circle / Drop-in

Delpark / Wed / 6-7 pm

Meditation Group

Northview / Thu / 6:30-7:30 pm

English Conversation Circle

McLaughlin / Mon / 3-4 pm / Mar 2-May 25
 Zoom / Tue / 6:30-7:30 pm / Mar 3-May 26

Toastmasters / Tue / 12-1 pm

McLaughlin / Zoom / Mar 3 / Apr 7 / May 5

Sip 'N Stitch / Wed / 6-7 pm

Northview / Mar 4 / Apr 1 / May 13

Local History Speaker Series / Tue / 6-7 pm

McLaughlin / Mar 17 / Apr 21 / May 19

Lunchtime Book Club / Thu / 1-2 pm

McLaughlin / Mar 19 / Apr 16 / May 21

Eyes Forward Audiobook Club / Wed / 2-3:30 pm

Northview / Zoom / Mar 25 / Apr 29 / May 27

Creative Aging: Books and Ideas / Thu / 2-3 pm

Zoom / Mar 26 / Apr 30 / May 28

Spring Paint Along / Drop-in

Delpark / Tue / Apr 14 / 2-3:30 pm

Limited to 10 customers

Ladies Social for Newcomers / Thu / 5:30-7:30 pm

McLaughlin / Apr 23 / May 21

Mobile ID and Benefits Access Hub

McLaughlin / Thu / Apr 30 / 1-6 pm

Visit Durham.ca/MobileBenefitsHub to learn more about the event and what to bring.

Tax Clinic

OPL will host a tax preparation clinic in partnership with the Community Volunteer Income Tax Program (CVITP) and the Canada Revenue Agency. Eligible individuals with a modest income and simple tax situations can have their 2025 taxes prepared for free by a CVITP-approved volunteer at the Library in March and April. For more information or to volunteer, please visit oshawalibrary.ca/tax-clinics or call (905) 579-6111 ext. 5810.



NEW Borrowing Collections!

Did you know we have two new borrowing collections?

- Ukuleles provide a fun way to explore music.
- Envoy Connect Players are audiobook devices available through the Centre for Equitable Library Access (CELA).

These collections expand opportunities for creative exploration and accessible services at OPL.

Doors Open Oshawa

McLaughlin / Sat / May 2 / 10 am-4 pm

Visit oshawa.ca/explore for more information.



Please visit each program link to learn more, and sign up today!

Unless marked as drop-in, register at oshawalibrary.ca/signup starting February 21 at 9 am.

All Delpark Branch programs are drop-in. Be advised, space and supplies are limited.

Spring Programs



Genealogists in Residence

Discover your family story with expert help! Let our experienced volunteers provide personalized guidance to help you uncover new branches in your family tree. In partnership with the Durham Region Branch of Ontario Ancestors. Book an appointment to explore your roots! Contact Nicole at (905) 579-6111, ext. 5243 or npatterson@oshawalibrary.on.ca

Creative Commons

Jess Hann / Tue / Mar 3 / Apr 7 / May 12 / 6-7 pm

Let's make art together. Bring your creative project and enjoy conversation, inspiration, and shared time. Materials are not supplied, so feel free to bring whatever you need for your artwork.

Crafts from the Shire

McLaughlin / Wed / Mar 25 / 6-7:30 pm

Celebrate Tolkien Reading Day with Shire-inspired crafts like a hobbit door ornament and Middle-Earth coasters.

DRIFF Film Screening

McLaughlin / Thu / Mar 26 / 6-8 pm

Enjoy a free film screening presented by Durham Region International Film Festival.

Living Life to the Fullest

Northview / Wed / Apr 1-May 20 / 2-3:30 pm

Trained facilitators will lead this 8-week series about the principles of cognitive-behavioural therapy (CBT). You can learn how to change unhelpful thoughts and behaviours and respond differently to challenges out of your control.

Spring Craft Night

Jess Hann / Wed / Apr 8 / 5:30-7:30 pm

Celebrate the season with spring-themed crafts like flower-pressed bookmarks, tissue paper arrangements, and upcycled planters.



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Seniors Art Competition and Exhibition

Information Session

The Robert McLaughlin Gallery

Tue / Apr 14 / 1-2 pm

Drop-in program.



Create with Cricut®: Fandom Art

McLaughlin / Wed / Apr 29 / 6-7:30 pm

Connect, create, and celebrate your favourite fandom using craft supplies and our Cricut® Maker. Save the date for FanCon 2026! See page 11 for details.

Isshin Daiko

McLaughlin / Sat / May 2 / 2-3 pm

Experience powerful drumming that you can feel as well as hear. The walls seem to shake, and the echoes will vibrate through your body. Isshin Daiko is a community music ensemble that plays traditional Japanese instruments, including taiko (drum), fue (bamboo flutes), and chappa (cymbals). Don't miss this phenomenal performance!

Meet the Author: Mai Nguyen

McLaughlin / Tue / May 5 / 6:30-7:30 pm

Mai Nguyen is a Vietnamese Canadian author based in Toronto. Her debut novel *Sunshine Nails* was longlisted for Canada Reads 2024 and named one of 2023's best books by NPR and CBC. Her second book, *Cleo Dang Would Rather Be Dead*, will be published in April 2026.

FanCon / see page 11



Repair Café

Jess Hann / Sat / May 30 / 1-4 pm

Give new life to your broken small appliances, electronics, jewelry, clothing, and more. Our skilled volunteers can show you how to make repairs to keep items out of landfill and save you money! If you have a flair for repair, please consider volunteering as a member of our Repair Café team. For more details, call (905) 579-6111, ext. 5279. Drop-in program.

Spring Programs



Grab & Go Bags

Registration opens Monday / March 2

Grab a bag full of Library items, a fun activity, and other freebies! Reserve yours while supplies last. An OPL TAG initiative. Ages 12-18.

Teen Discord Server

Join the Teen Discord Server, your cozy internet corner for chatting and chilling with like-minded teens! Whether you are into gaming, reading, art, cute cat pics, or want to chat about your day, this is the place for you! Check in regularly for exclusive giveaways. Ages 13-18.

OPL Teen Advisory Group / 6-8 pm

McLaughlin / Thu / Mar 12 / Apr 9 / May 14
Delpark / Mon / Mar 30 / Apr 27 / May 25

Earn community service hours when you attend TAG meetings and have your say in what happens for teens at OPL. Teens may join McLaughlin **OR** Delpark. Ages 13-18.

Crafty Teens / 6-7:30 pm

Delpark / Mon / Mar 16 / Apr 13 / May 11

Each month features a brand-new craft project from painting and jewelry-making to upcycled art and more. All supplies provided. Ages 13-18.

Creative Writing Circle / 6-7 pm

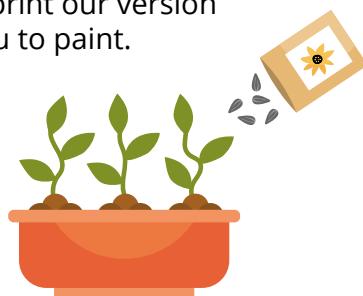
Jess Hann / Wed / Mar 25 / Apr 29 / May 27

Connect with fellow writers and share your works in progress! Each session features a themed activity to spark creativity and writing sprints to boost productivity. Ages 13-18.

3D Printer Labubu® Art / Ages 13-18

Jess Hann / Sat / Mar 21 / 2-3:30 pm

The Library will 3D print our version of a Labubu® for you to paint.



Mini Food Earrings / Ages 13-18

Northview / Wed / Apr 15 / 6-7pm

Create your own mini food-themed earrings using colourful Perler beads.

Chibi Paint Night / Ages 13-18

Delpark / Mon / Apr 20 / 6-7:30 pm

In anticipation of FanCon on May 9, paint a work of art with help from an instructor. All supplies provided.

Murder at the Masquerade

Delpark / Thu / May 7 / 6-8 pm

You're invited to a grand masquerade ball—But GASP! A mysterious crime has taken place. Masked guests are hiding secrets and clutching hidden clues. Interview suspects, uncover evidence, and race against the clock to solve the mystery before the night is over. Ages 13-18.

FanCon / see page 11

Retro Replay: PokéMon Pom-Poms

McLaughlin / Sat / May 23 / 2-3:30 pm

We're bringing back a craft from 2019! Make a PokéMon character pom-pom to hook to your backpack. Ages 13-18.



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In Every Issue



Bouncing Babies / Drop-in

Northview / 9:45-10:15 am / Mon
Delpark / 10:15-10:45 am / Wed / Fri

Family Story Time / 10:15-10:45 am / Drop-in

Delpark / Mon | Jess Hann / Mon / Wed
Northview / Thu | McLaughlin / Sat

Family Music and Movement with EarlyON / Drop-in

McLaughlin / Tue / 10-10:45 am / Mar 3-May 26
Jess Hann / Tue / 11:30 am-12:15 pm / Mar 3-May 26
Northview / Sat / 10-10:45 am / Mar 7 / Apr 11 / May 2

Neighbourhood Play Date / Ages 0-5

10-10:45 am / Drop-in

Delpark / Tue / Mar 3 / Apr 14 / May 12
Jess Hann / Thu / Mar 5-May 28

Coding Club / Ages 9-12 / 4-4:45 pm

Jess Hann / Wed / Mar 4 / Apr 15 / May 13

Family Maker Magic / 6-7:30 pm / Drop-in / Family

McLaughlin / Wed / Mar 4 / Apr 15 / May 20

STEAM After School / Ages 5-9 / 4-4:45 pm

Jess Hann / Wed / Mar 11, 25 / Apr 8, 22 / May 6, 20

Tween Scene / Ages 9-12 / 6-7 pm / Drop-in

Northview Wed / Mar 11, 25 / Apr 8, 22 / May 6, 20

Bedtime Bash / 6:15-7 pm / Drop-in

McLaughlin / Wed / Mar 11 / Apr 8 / May 13

STEAM Saturday / Sat / 2-4 pm / Drop-in

Delpark / Mar 14 / Apr 11 / May 16
McLaughlin / Mar 28 / Apr 25

Creation Station / Ages 5-9 / 4-4:45 pm

Northview / Mon / Mar 23-May 11
OR Thu / Mar 26-May 14

Math Buddies / Grades 1-3 / Tue / 5:30-7:30 pm

Delpark / Mar 24-May 26

Kinder-Garden

Ages 3-5 / Wed / 11-11:45 am
McLaughlin / Mar 25-May 27

Home School Club

McLaughlin / Wed / 1:30-2:30 pm
Mar 25 / Rock, Paper, Scissors – STEAM
Carousel

Apr 15 / Earth Day Celebration with a special guest from CLOCA
May 20 / Amazing Race: Library Edition

Reading Buddies / Thu / Ages 5-10 / 4-6 pm

Zoom / Mar 26-May 28

1000 Books Before Kindergarten

Help your little one develop a love of reading and the early literacy skills needed for success.

One book a night = 1000 books in 3 years!
Three books a night = 1000 books in 1 year!

Visit oshlib.readsquared.com or any branch to start your reading journey!
(oshawalibrary.ca/1000-books)



Borrow a Sensory Support Kit

Developed by Autism Canada, Sensory Support Kits are designed to help those on the Autism Spectrum self-regulate and remain calm when experiencing stress. The kits contain various tactile and sensory items that can comfort autistic and neurodivergent customers.



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MARCH BREAK!



March Break Kick-Off Party

All branches / Fri / Mar 13 / 2:30-3:30 pm

Make this March Break unforgettable! Enjoy crafts, activities, and fun games for the whole family. Drop-in, family.

The Great Hockey Hangout

McLaughlin / Mon / Mar 16 / 11 am-12 pm

Show off your team spirit with hockey-themed games, activities, and crafts. Wear your favourite jersey to be entered into a prize draw. Family.

Fairy Tale Puppet Theatre

Jess Hann / Mon / Mar 16 / 2-3 pm

Take a seat for an interactive puppet show for all ages, based on an original adaptation of a public domain fairy tale. Family.

Red Light, Green Light Story Time

McLaughlin / Tue / Mar 17 / 10:30-11:30 am

Grab a seat and buckle up for interactive stories, songs, and activities about staying safe on the road. A special guest from the Ministry of Transportation will be in attendance to read a story and share safety tips. Family.

Lucky Slime

Jess Hann / Tue / Mar 17 / 2:30-3:30 pm

Squish together gooey good luck slime featuring magical mix-ins. Ages 5-9.

Circuit Bracelets

Delpark / Tue / Mar 17 / 6-7 pm

Illuminate a glowing bracelet and learn how a simple circuit makes it shine. Ages 9-12.



Aviator Adventures

Northview / Wed / Mar 18 / 11 am-12 pm

Explore the science of flight with fun activities and experiments. Ages 5-9.

Theatre on the Ridge: Boys, Girls, and Other Mythological Creatures

McLaughlin / Wed / Mar 18 / 3-4 pm

Embark on a theatrical adventure for young audiences – and those young at heart. Boys, Girls, and Other Mythological Creatures is a thoughtful and hilarious new play about gender, friendship, siblings, and our ability to transform!

Animal Detectives

Delpark / Thu / Mar 19 / 11 am-12 pm

Junior detectives, grab your magnifying glass! Follow animal tracks on a clue hunt, test your ears with a mystery sound game, and wrap it all up with a suspense-filled story time. Ages 5-9.

Lost in Space: Ozobot Edition

Northview / Thu / Mar 19 / 2:30-3:30pm

You'll code an Ozobot robot astronaut to repair a spaceship, collect alien artifacts, and return to Earth. Ages 9-12.



Little Paleontologists STEM Hour

Jess Hann / Fri / Mar 20 /

10:30-11:30 am

Dig into dinosaurs! Learn how paleontologists uncover fossils, make your own fossil impression, and piece together dinosaur skeleton puzzles. Ages 5-9.



Construction Zone!

Delpark / Fri / Mar 20 / 2-3 pm

Step into the workshop for construction-themed stories and hands-on crafts and building activities. Family.

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Spring Programs



Page-by-Page Reading Quest

Ages 5-10 / Sep 2025-May 2026

Your quest is to read as many books as possible during the school year. Join a community of readers, track your progress, and celebrate milestones. Check in each month for a new fun theme. Visit oshlib.readsquared.com or any branch to get started!

Sensory Zone

McLaughlin / Tue / Mar 3-May 26 / 4-5 pm

Enjoy sensory-friendly stories and activities. Drop-in, family.

Ramadan Story Time

McLaughlin / Sat / Mar 7 / 11 am-1 pm

Learn about the traditions of Ramadan and Eid through storytelling, crafts, colouring, and henna. Family program in partnership with the Muslim Women of Durham Region. Drop-in.

Lego: Around the Brick World

Northview / Mon / Mar 16 / 3-4 pm / Fairy Tales

Jess Hann / Wed / Apr 22 / 6-7 pm / Safari

Delpark / Fri / May 8 / 6-7 pm / Superheroes

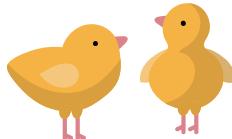
Think outside the brick and let your imagination lead you on a building adventure! Whether you're creating a rocket to explore the stars or a vehicle to zoom through busy cities, this program will be a fun, hands-on learning experience. Drop-in, family.

Cuentos Encantados / Enchanted Tales

McLaughlin / Thu / May 28 / 6:15-7 pm

Acompáñanos a disfrutar de cuentos, canciones, y juegos en Español e Inglés. Estas actividades se pueden disfrutar en familia.

Join us for stories, songs, and fingerplays in Spanish and English that are fun for the whole family. Drop-in.



Community Champions Story Time

Delpark / Sat / Mar 7 / 2-3 pm / Farmer

Discover a new community helper through engaging stories and hands-on activities. Meet real professionals who will talk about their roles and the important ways they support our community. Family.

Indigenous Languages Story Time

McLaughlin / Sat / Mar 28 / 10:15-10:45 am

In celebration of National Indigenous Languages Day on March 31, discover Indigenous languages through engaging stories, songs, and hands-on activities. Drop-in, Family.

Baby Bunny Bash

Northview / Tue / Mar 31 / 10-11am

Hop into spring with bunny-themed sensory play. Ages 0-2.

DIY Resource Day

McLaughlin / Tue / Mar 31 / 4-5:30 pm

Meet members of the Kinark Autism Services team and create personalized visual learning resources for your child. Bring your child(ren) for a sensory story time experience while you engage with Kinark staff. Family.

Baby STEM

Northview / Fri / Apr 10 / 10:30-11:30 am

McLaughlin / Fri / May 22 / 10:30-11:30 am

Introduce Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math to your baby with fun activities. Ages 0-2. Drop-in.

Mini Michaelangelos

Delpark / Sat / Apr 18 / 11 am-12 pm

Explore the world of art with stories and hands-on art activities that are perfect for young imaginations. Ages 3-5.



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Spring Programs

Family History Workshop

McLaughlin / Sat / Apr 18 / May 30 / 2-3 pm

Discover your roots in this two-part workshop. In session one, learn about resources to help trace your family's story. Talk to relatives at home, then return for session two to create your family tree. Ages 9-12.

Little Meteorologists STEM Hour

Northview / Tue / Apr 21 / 6-7 pm

Explore the wild world of weather! Learn how storm clouds form, create mini tornadoes, and make a rain gauge. Ages 5-9.

Earth Day Scavenger Hunt

All branches / Apr 13-24

Drop in to any branch on Earth Day to complete our scavenger hunt for the chance to win a special prize.

Jedi Training Academy

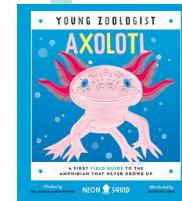
Northview / Mon / May 4 / 6-7 pm

Young Padawans, report for duty! Enjoy a Star Wars story, make your own mini lightsaber, and complete fun Jedi challenges to master the Force. Ages 5-9.

Tim-Tim Bwa Sech: Haitian Stories & Art

McLaughlin / Sat / May 16 / 1-3 pm

Celebrate Haitian Heritage Month through lively storytelling and hands-on crafts that explore Haitian culture. In partnership with Haitians of Toronto. Drop-in, family.



Save the date!

Dive into Summer Reading Party

All branches / Sat / Jun 13 / 2-3:30 pm

This summer, dive into endless fun with the TD Summer Reading Club! Enjoy scavenger hunts, games, themed activities, and more!



Register between **June 13 and June 20** for your chance to win one of eight exciting prizes!

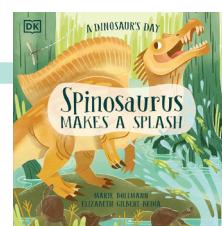
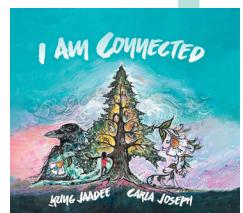
Axolotl: A First Field Guide to the Amphibian That Never Grows Up
by Dr. Jessica LaMae Whited

Narwhal's Sweet Tooth by Ben Clanton

Spinosaurus Makes a Splash
by Elizabeth Gilbert Bedia

A New Friend by Kylr Lukoff

I Am Connected by Kung Jaadee



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FanCon 2026

McLaughlin / Sat / May 9 / 10:30 am-3:30 pm

FanCon 2026 is a fan's dream come true! Enjoy cosplay, craft stations, and exciting games. Meet local artists, capture memories with your favourite characters and grab some cool souvenirs. Bring your friends and family for a day full of interactive fun! Drop-in, all ages. For more information visit oshawalibrary.ca/fancon

Featured event activities:

Virtual Reality Experiences

**Local History Room / 10:30 am-12:30 pm
& 1:30-3:30 pm**

Explore virtual worlds with exciting games and experiences. Participate seated or standing. Ages 10+.

Fairytale Story Time

Story Hour Room / 11:30 am

Join us for fairytale stories featuring a special princess guest.

Junior Cosplay Contest

Children's Department / 12:30-1 pm

Dress up as your favourite character for your chance to win a prize. Participate in the cosplay parade afterward with special guests. Ages 5-9.

Star Wars Story Time

Story Hour Room / 2:30 pm

Padawans, let's gather for Star Wars stories featuring special guests from a galaxy far, far away.



Choose Your Own Adventure Scavenger Hunt

Stop by the OPL table for a scavenger hunt card and embark on an adventure to uncover at least 12 characters hidden around the library.

Villains Hideout: Nerf Target Practice / Auditorium

Take your best shot to capture the fandom villains hiding out at the library.

Arcade Alley / Studio

Work as a family to conquer our fandom-themed games of chance.

Artist Alley / Auditorium

Meet local comic writers and artists who will showcase and sell their work.

Fandom DIY / Maker Space

Create fandom decals, bracelets, buttons, and art.

Book Lover Bash

Teen Zone / 2-3:30 pm

A fandom celebration where teens can enjoy a book-inspired scavenger hunt, cosplay, games, and hands-on creative activities. Sponsored by our Teen Advisory Group (TAG). Ages 12-18.

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Friends of the Library

Spring Reads Book Sale

April 16 to 18, 2026

**McLaughlin Branch,
Auditorium
(65 Debewein Miikan)**

Thu / Apr 16 / 9:30 am to 7:30 pm
Fri / Apr 17 / 9:30 am to 4:30 pm
Sat / Apr 18 / 9:30 am to 4:30 pm



(905) 579-6111
oshawalibrary.ca/friends
[@OshawaLibraries](https://twitter.com/OshawaLibraries)