National Library Week: Libraries Transform

Celebrate National Library Week (April 10-16) with us and learn how Phoenix Public Library plays a part in transforming communities every day.

Have you thought of Phoenix Public Library as a place and partner that provides more than books? Don't get us wrong, we LOVE books (and always will). In 2015, our 17 locations and website circulated almost 12 million items and providing our communities access to them remains one of our top priorities. Paired with that, we are transforming so that we can serve our customers by offering innovative programs and unique services. We are a resource for people of any age, a partner for you to achieve the vision you have for the life you want. At Phoenix Public Library…

**Families with young children** can build early literacy skills at our storytimes, storytimes with sign language, Kindergarten Bootcamp, parent workshops and Summer Reading programs.

**School-aged children** can create, build and explore creativity and ingenuity through our STEM and STEAM programs.

**Teens** can find a summer volunteer opportunity. Is getting a degree one of your goals? Get hands-on assistance in completing entrance and financial aid applications for college through College Depot.

Access all the library has to offer, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. At [phoenixpubliclibrary.org](http://phoenixpubliclibrary.org) you have at your fingertips hundreds of thousands of items. Books, magazines, music, movies, newspapers, online courses…discover something new, revisit something familiar or expand your horizons.

Phoenix Public Library has lots of books and so much more; we strive to be the heart of our community. Our mission is to be about what we do for and with people so come transform with us! Check out our online calendar for a list of National Library Week programs. Be sure to also tune into Facebook, Instagram and Twitter that week for more National Library Week fun.
Restock Valley Food Banks during Food for Fines 2016

Pay overdue fees and help restock the pantries of Valley food banks during Phoenix Public Library’s annual Food for Fines, April 9 – 23.

During Food for Fines, 50 cents will be deducted from a customer’s library account fees for each non-perishable food item donated at any of Phoenix Public Library’s 17 locations. A maximum of $75 can be paid with donated food. Perishable, expired, beyond sell by date and homemade food items will not be accepted.

Donated food will be distributed to Desert Mission and St. Mary’s food banks.

Summer Teen Volunteering at the Library

Beginning April 1, teens will be able to apply for summer volunteer positions at their local library.

Teen Summer Volunteers are an integral part of the Library’s success during our busiest time of year; our annual Summer Reading Program.

Essential functions for selected teen volunteers will include: registering children, teens and adults for the online Summer Reading Program; helping prepare crafts and materials for children’s programs, photo copying, cutting paper, cleaning books, straightening shelves and public areas, and helping staff as needed.

Who can volunteer?

Teen volunteers must be between the ages of 12-17, self-motivated, friendly, fun-loving and interested in working with the public.

When and where can teens apply?

Applications for Summer 2016 will be accepted beginning April 1. Information will be available on the Phoenix Public Library website.
eResources Feature: Adult Coloring Pages with Flipster

Enjoy the hot new trend of adult coloring for less with Phoenix Public Library and Flipster. Beginning April 1, access hundreds of intricate coloring patterns for free with your library card.

Research shows coloring reduces anxiety and creates focus much like meditation. Coloring generates wellness, quietness and stimulates brain activity related to motor skills, the senses and creativity.

Visit our eLibrary and try unlimited downloads from Flipster or attend one of the Library's many adult coloring programs. Check our calendar for one near you.

Register for AARP’s Free “Life Reimagined” Workshop

AARP's “Life Reimagined” workshop points you in the right direction with small, simple steps that lead to exciting new possibilities in your work, relationships and overall well-being. Attendance is limited to the first 20 participants and all supplies are provided. Facilitated in partnership with AARP.org of Arizona. Registration is required. Sign up online or call 602-262-4636.
National Poetry Month: Press-A-Verse

April is National Poetry Month. Search our catalog or browse the shelves at your favorite library for a myriad of poetry collections. Our eBooks collection has poetry, as well!

Visit Burton Barr Central Library for Spring Fling on Saturday, April 16 and attend Press-a-Verse for your very own copy of a poem pressed on our Washington Press which dates back to 1895.

Teacher eNewsletter

Did you know Phoenix Public Library also puts out a monthly Teacher eNewsletter? Are you a teacher or education professional that wants library information of interest to you as an educator? Read past eNewsletters and learn how to sign up on our website.

Collection Development: Humor

I have always been attracted to humorous books, movies and television shows. As a teenager whenever I was blue, I would read the classic works of P.G. Wodehouse, a master of humorous writing. Although I enjoy the Bertie Wooster and Jeeves novels, I adored his short stories even more. I particularly enjoy Wodehouse's other short stories; those featuring Mr. Mulliner, the Earl of Emsworth and/or golf. "The Juice of an Orange," "Lord Emsworth and the Girlfriend," and "Chester Forgets Himself" are three of my favorite stories. I still reread them regularly when I need a good laugh. I had a friend who listened to them when she was recovering from a long illness (laughter as medicine). She thoroughly enjoyed how Bertie addressed his favorite aunt, to her face, as "the aged relative"; this is when I discovered listening to the stories added an extra dimension to them.

We own Wodehouse's books in print and audiobook format and also as downloadable books or audiobooks on The Greater Phoenix Digital Library and on Hoopla.

Kathleen Sullivan
I spent several years commuting almost 2 hours per work day. During this time, I found that the best way to keep my blood pressure down was to take my mind off the traffic with an audiobook that would make me smile. Most recently, I finished a novel called *Pretty Ugly* by Kirker Butler, a satirical look at a modern family that epitomizes the word “dysfunction”. Often I enjoy short stories and essays like *The Idiot Girls’ Action Adventure Club* by Laurie Notaro or *How to Fight Presidents* by Daniel O’Brien. But my favorite way to keep laughing while sitting still on the interstate would be listening to stand-up comedy albums on Hoopla. Check out the comedy page on Hoopla, for instantly available albums by comedians such as George Carlin, Chris Rock and Aziz Ansari.

**Jeriann Thacker**

My absolute favorite, laugh-out-loud-funny books are the three titles in the League of Princes series by Christopher Healy. *The Hero’s Guide to Saving Your Kingdom*, *The Hero’s Guide to Storming the Castle* and *The Hero’s Guide to Being an Outlaw* are the stories of Prince Liam, Prince Frederic, Prince Duncan, and Prince Gustav, the princes who saved Sleeping Beauty, Cinderella, Snow White, and Rapunzel; but thanks to those lousy Bards, they are only famous as Prince Charming. This record of their daring adventures, narrow escapes, close calls with the evil villain (Cinderella’s cousin who is 11), encounters with giants, witches and seven very grumpy dwarfs (or is it dwarves?) is hilarious and fun for the whole family. Available in print, eBook and eAudio.

**Elsa Black**

“There is a thin line that separates laughter and pain, comedy and tragedy, humor and hurt,” said Erma Bombeck, an American humorist who observed and commented on suburban home life from the mid-1960s until the late 1990s through newspaper columns and books. Erma Bombeck was born and raised in the Midwest, but as an adult made the Phoenix area her home. As a product of the Midwest myself, as well as my mom, I can appreciate the quick wit and dry observations of life as proclaimed by Bombeck. [Her books](https://libraryadvice.org/), which are available from the library in print, eBook, and eAudio formats, make us laugh at travel, kids, careers, relationships, and everyday life. Though Erma is no longer with us, her humor remains relevant to today’s world. For I am certain my kids would agree with Bombeck, “Housework, if you do it right, will kill you.”

**Linda Kiecker**

[Phoenix Public Library](https://phoenixpubliclibrary.org) is a system of 16 branch libraries and the Burton Barr Central Library. Keep up with all the news. Follow us on Twitter at [twitter.com/phxlibrary](https://twitter.com/phxlibrary), follow us on Instagram at [instagram.com/phoenixpubliclibrary](https://instagram.com/phoenixpubliclibrary) and “like us” on Facebook at [facebook.com/phoenixpubliclibrary](https://facebook.com/phoenixpubliclibrary).