Got library fines? Food for Fines starts April 7!

Pay your library fines and help restock the pantries of Valley food banks during Phoenix Public Library’s annual “Food for Fines” campaign, April 7 - 21, 2018.

Donated food will be distributed to Phoenix-area food banks.

Visit the Phoenix Public Library website for more details.

Voices: Teens

Communities are comprised of a diversity of experiences and perspectives and the voices that emerge from those experiences and perspectives. We believe that these voices make for a richer, more meaningful experience for all.

Join Phoenix Public Library in enjoying and learning from the many voices of our community through monthly themes meant to educate, entertain and inspire.

In April, we will celebrate and honor the voices of young people, both real and fictional.

Visit the library website in early April for resources, books, films, and books that celebrate teen voices in our world.
Just Read: Poetry

We at Phoenix Public Library want you to maintain your goal to read for leisure and/or reading for self-education.

Just Read is a come-as-you-are, read-what-you-like online book club and so much more!

Each month, we will announce a book club genre or theme on our website. Read what you like within this genre or theme. Participate throughout the month by posting on social media, tagging Phoenix Public Library and #justreadppl to share, discuss and recommend your book choice. Or, follow along on your own without posting on social media – it’s all good!

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube or visit our website for more about the Just Read online book club.

April’s theme is Poetry

Poetry exists in many forms. One or more of those forms is for you.

In celebration of National Poetry Month, we encourage you to explore poetry! If you are not currently a poetry lover, give it a whirl. If you are a fan of poetry, take this time to expand beyond your favorite poets or types of poetry or to simply indulge in your preferred mode of verse. Don’t know where to start? Revisit a favorite childhood poem or poet. Ask a poetry reader who they’d recommend. Stop by the library and simply dive in.

Visit our website in early April and click on the Just Read ad to find poetry recommendations for kids, teens, and adults.

Share what you’re reading with us! Tag us on social media with #justreadppl
Attend a program to celebrate poetry…

**Poetry for and by the People: A Talk & Reading for National Poetry Month**
Monday, April 9 from 10 – 11:30 a.m.
**South Mountain Community Library**
7050 S. 24th St., 85042

Featuring Rosemarie Dombrowski (Poet Laureate of the City of Phoenix) and other local invited poets; refreshments and a display of poetry books will be available.

**New Phx Voices: Teen Poetry Workshop & Open Mic**

Wednesday, April 11 & Wednesday, April 25 from 1 – 2:30 p.m.
**Phoenix Public Library @ Park Central**
3110 N. Central Ave., 85012

Join us for this recurring teen poetry event on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month. Phoenix Poet/Performer Anna Flores leads these workshops focusing on poetry in unexpected places, such as redacted, cut-up, found poetry, and more. During the open mic portion (which is optional), you can share your own poems or prose, or read poems from other sources. Each participant will receive three minutes to read, and if time permits, additional rounds of reading will take place. Feedback on poems (workshopped ones or other work) will be provided before the open mic.

**Summer Teen Volunteer Opportunities Open April 1**

Calling all teens!

It's fun. It's rewarding. It looks great on college applications. It can help you get a job. Applications for library teen volunteer opportunities for summer open April 1.

Keep your eye on the [Phoenix Public Library website](https://www.phoenixpubliclibrary.org) or follow us on social media for updates.
eResource Feature: Driving Tests

With Driving-Tests.org, practice sample permit tests for free as many times as you need - until you're ready to take the real Arizona DMV test! You can also download the current year’s Arizona driver's handbook, motorcycle handbook, and Commercial Driver's License handbook.

Explore this eResource for FREE with your Phoenix Public Library card.

Vote for the One Book, One Phoenix selection

One Book, One Phoenix is the first community wide reading program for the City of Phoenix. One Book, One Phoenix will take place this June and July.

Community-wide reading programs bring people together through the reading and discussion of a common book. Join your community by reading one book together this summer. The title chosen by Phoenix Public Library customers will be available for holds in book and audiobook format, as well instantly through the Greater Phoenix Digital Library.

Vote now and help choose the book title you would like to see Phoenix read this summer!
Collection Development: Poetry

Notable American poet Robert Frost said
“Poetry is when an emotion has found its thought and
the thought has found words.”

The Collection Development Department shares several
poetic works and compilations for your consideration.

I encourage you at any time, but particularly during National Poetry Month,
to find at least one poem that speaks to you! Just recently, I was reminded
of Emma Lazarus’ sonnet which, in 1883, she wrote specifically to sell at an
auction to raise funds for the pedestal upon which the Statue of Liberty, a
gift from the French nation for our Centennial, now rests.

- Kathleen Sullivan

The New Colossus by Emma Lazarus
Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame,
With conquering limbs astride from land to land;
Here at our sea-washed, sunset gates shall stand
A mighty woman with a torch, whose flame
Is the imprisoned lightning, and her name
Mother of Exiles. From her beacon-hand
Glows world-wide welcome; her mild eyes command
The air-bridged harbor that twin cities frame.
“Keep, ancient lands, your storied pomp!” cries she
With silent lips. “Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!”

The story of this poem can be shared with children using the book Emma’s
Poem by Linda Glaser.
We have a lot of great poetry collections available on the Greater Phoenix Digital Library. Everything from the classics (Whitman, Plath, Keats, Angelou, Rilke, etc.) to newer collections that got some attention last year. Here are a couple on my list to check out soon.

- **Danielle Stanley**

*Don’t Call Us Dead* by Danez Smith was longlisted for The National Book Award for Poetry and a core poem, "dear white america," has already been viewed in a YouTube reading by over 300,000 people.

*Whereas* is the debut collection by Layli Long Soldier, winner of a 2016 Whiting Writers’ Award. I’ve heard it can be a challenging read but well worth it.

How do you get children and teens interested in poetry? By sharing.

- **Jacqui Higgins-Dailey**

How often do you enjoy poetry with your children? Now might be the perfect time to start with *Out of Wonder: Poems Celebrating Poets* by Kwame Alexander. Alexander writes original poems for children in the style of other famous poets – both introducing children to the wonders of poetry and helping them gain an appreciation of famous poets who have gone before him. Each poem indicates which famous poet it celebrates – from the likes of Rumi to E.E. Cummings – the poems manage to remain unique while also paying beautiful tribute.

For the middle-grade reader, books-in-verse help bridge the divide between poetry and chapter books. The National Book Award winning *Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson is a perfect place to start. This memoir-in-verse tells the story of Woodson’s childhood adversities, triumphs and how her love of writing set her on a path of wonderment and joy.
Poetry can be used by people in different ways. I tend to be drawn to poetry as expressed through music and prayer.

- Linda Kiecker

June Cotner is an author and anthologist who has put together several collections of poetry and essays, many of which focus on mealtimes, family, and faith. In *House blessings: prayers, poems, and toasts celebrating home and family*, Cotner shares works from more than 30 writers. With titles like *Blessing for a Retirement Home; All Week Long, the Irises Have Unfolded;* and *A Child's Sandcastle*, there is a reading for every occasion.

Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming Library Closures

**Burton Barr Central Library** is closed until summer 2018. Learn more.

All Phoenix Public Library locations will be closed the following dates:
- **Sunday, April 1** in observance of Easter

View the website for all upcoming library closures.

Phoenix Public Library is a system of 16 branch libraries and Burton Barr Central Library.

Keep up with all the news. Follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/phxlibrary, follow us on Instagram at instagram.com/phoenixpubliclibrary and “like us” on Facebook at facebook.com/phoenixpubliclibrary.