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Concerts, Authors, Gators and More This Summer at Your Library

Summer is in full swing at Orange County Library System, with events and programs throughout July to make sure everyone stays cool. Visit your library to see [a ukulele concert by multi-instrumentalist Patrick Frost](#), experience [a Vietnamese dance performance by Thuyền Mây Productions](#), discover some [incredible animal facts from a Gatorland Wrangler](#) or learn [a new favorite recipe with a culinary expert](#).

Summer at Your Library events for all ages continue in July, celebrating the theme of *All Together Now: Kindness, Friendship and Unity*. Kids who have completed this summer's reading challenge are invited to the End of Summer Celebration, hosted at all library locations on Saturday, July 29 at 2 p.m. Enjoy live music and a grand prize drawing for ages 0-18. Visit ocls.info/end-summer-celebration to learn more.

OCLS is also proud to continue to bring the best in local literary events to the community. Our Meet the Author series continues with an in-person reading and Q&A from fiction author Ana Menéndez. Ana will read from her latest novel, *The Apartment*, at Alafaya Branch on Wednesday, July 19, at 6 p.m. Book enthusiasts are also encouraged to join Orlando Public Library for this year's Local Author Festival on Sunday, July 23, from 2–4 p.m. Authors from a variety of genres will discuss their careers as well as their books, which will be available for purchase and signing. Visit attend.ocls.info/event/8256565 for details.

Registration is strongly recommended for all in-person events due to limited capacity. If you have any questions about the information shared below, call 407.835.7323. Visit us online at ocls.info to register, or to view a complete listing of both virtual and in-person library events.

Library Events

A Decade in Film: 1970s

Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room

Wednesdays, July 5–19, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.

This series explores film through each of the decades our library has been open! Celebrate the history of film every single month in 2023.

Bestie Wine Glasses

Southwest Branch

Friday, July 7, 2–3:30 p.m.

Windermere Branch

Saturday, July 8, 3:30 p.m.

Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room

Wednesday, July 12, 5:30 p.m.

Bring your bestie and decorate matching wine glasses for the perfect best friend's craft night.

Patrick Frost

Orlando Public Library, Library Central

Saturday, July 8, 2 p.m.

A true multi-instrumentalist, Patrick is an accomplished steel pannist, keyboardist and trombonist who also enjoys singing and playing his eight-string ukuleles. But it's when he picks up one of his many conch shells to play melodies and jazz improvisation that audiences are amazed, earning him the nickname "The Conch Man."

Virtual - Mediterranean Summer Cooking

Monday, July 17, 6:30 p.m.

Join culinary expert Dianne Morin as she teaches how to make Greek kabobs loaded with summer vegetables and a chicken Greek salad with a Greek yogurt sauce.

This is a virtual event. For more information, visit attend.ocl.info/event/8365660.

Art 101: 1970s Painting

Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room

Tuesday, July 18, 5:30 p.m.

Dance over to the library and celebrate the 1970s by creating a disco-themed painting. Each Art 101 event will feature a hands-on activity. Space is limited. Recommended for ages 15 and up. Registration required.

Keeping Seniors in the Know About Downsizing – Smarter Senior Seminar Series

Alafaya Branch

Wednesday, July 19, 10:30 a.m.

What do I do with all of my stuff? If you are thinking about decluttering come and learn the best practices to minimize your stress level. Space is limited. Registration required.

Meet the Author: Ana Menéndez

Alafaya Branch

Wednesday, July 19, 6 p.m.

Ana Menéndez has published five books of fiction including *In Cuba I Was a German Shepherd*. Ana will read from her new novel, *The Apartment*, and discuss her writing and career in a Q&A session.

Green Papaya Salad

Chickasaw Branch

Saturday, July 22, 11 a.m.

With culinary expert Ha Roda's guidance, we will discover the perfect balance of flavors that make green papaya salad. This popular Southeast Asian dish is refreshing and flavorful.

Thuyền Mây Productions Dance Performance

Chickasaw Branch

Saturday, July 22, Noon

Experience Vietnamese culture through dance. Thuyền Mây Productions is a non-profit organization that engages people by presenting Vietnamese and multi-cultural dances, entertainment, education and beyond.

Writing a TV Pilot

Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room

Saturday, July 22, 3 p.m.

Want to be a writer for television? Telly award-winning director, writer and actress Jennie Jarvis will discuss how to write a TV pilot that you can pitch to networks.

Local Author Festival

Orlando Public Library, Library Central

Sunday, July 23, 2-4 p.m.

Meet and greet local authors at our Local Author Festival. Authors from a variety of genres will share their experiences and books. Each author will have books available for purchase and signing.

Virtual - Healthy Relationships: Understanding Abuse & Resources

Monday, July 31, 11 a.m.

Identify the characteristics of healthy, unhealthy and abusive relationships through interactive scenarios in part two of Victim Service Center of Central Florida's Healthy Relationships series. Recommended for ages 18 and up.

This is a virtual event. For more information, visit attend.ocl.info/event/8255005.

Youth Events

Pressed Floral Art Workshop

Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room

Saturday, July 1, 2:30 p.m.

Prepare to be inspired and create your own pressed floral art, set inside a floating glass frame with designer Pamela Johancsik of Bomb Blooms. Recommended for ages 11–18.

Never Pet a Porcupine

Southwest Branch

Monday, July 3, 10:30 a.m.

Winter Garden Branch

Wednesday, July 12, 10:30 a.m.

Chickasaw Branch

Monday, July 24, 10:30 a.m.

Virtual

Thursday, July 6, 11 a.m.

Explore textures from fluffy cotton balls to soft feathers and sticky paint with porcupine. We'll experience it all in this storytime with books, songs, activities and more!

Meet a Gatorland Wrangler

Chickasaw Branch

Wednesday, July 5, 10:30 a.m.

South Trail Branch

Monday, July 10, 10:30 a.m.

Winter Garden Branch

Thursday, July 13, 10:30 a.m.

Southwest Branch

Friday, July 14, 10:30 a.m.

Fairview Shores Branch

Wednesday, July 19, 10:30 a.m.

Windermere Branch

Friday, July 21, 10:30 a.m.

West Oaks Branch

Monday, July 24, 11 a.m.

Southeast Branch

Thursday, July 27, 11 a.m.

Get ready for family fun with "The Alligator Capital of the World." Did you know alligator babies are also known as grunts? Learn about snakes, reptiles and more up close. Recommended for ages 0–12.

Comedic Science Show: We Are All Inside the Together

Fairview Shores Branch

Monday, July 10, 10:30 a.m.

Winter Garden Branch

Tuesday, July 11, 10:30 a.m.

Hiawasse Branch

Wednesday, July 12, 10:30 a.m.

West Oaks Branch

Monday, July 17, 11 a.m.

Orlando Public Library, Library Central

Tuesday, July 18, 10:30 a.m.

Windermere Branch

Wednesday, July 19, 10:30 a.m.

Southeast Branch

Thursday, July 20, 11 a.m.

Southwest Branch

Friday, July 21, 10:30 a.m.

Oh no! In an attempt to hide from his arch-nemesis, Professor Universe goes inside his arch-nemesis's body! Quickly we find ourselves lost and trying to get out. Recommended for ages 0–12.

Fun With Forest Friends

Windermere Branch

Monday, July 10, 10:30 a.m.

Southwest Branch

Tuesday, July 11, 10:30 a.m.

West Oaks Branch

Tuesday, July 11, 11 a.m.

South Trail Branch

Thursday, July 20, 11 a.m.

Alafaya Branch

Wednesday, July 26, 10:15 a.m.

Toddlers will listen to stories, engage in songs and rhymes and participate in fun activities that promote friendship while building important early literacy skills.

Snake Education With a Twist

Southeast Branch

Monday, July 10, 11 a.m.

North Orange Branch

Thursday, July 13, 11 a.m.

Chickasaw Branch

Friday, July 14, 10:30 a.m.

Winter Garden Branch

Tuesday, July 18, 10:30 a.m.

Hiwassee Branch

Wednesday, July 19, 10:30 a.m.

Eatonville Branch

Friday, July 21, 10:30 a.m.

South Trail Branch

Monday, July 24, 10:30 a.m.

Windermere Branch

Wednesday, July 26, 10:30 a.m.

South Creek Branch

Friday, July 28, 10:30 a.m.

Library Pop-Up: Horizon West

16150 Pebble Bluff Loop, Winter Garden, FL 34787

Saturday, July 29, 10:30 a.m.

Enjoy a snake show with professional snake handler, Chief Rowley, and his variety of rescued reptile friends. It's guaranteed to both entertain and educate! Recommended for ages 0–12.

Little Chef: Friendship Snack Mix

Orlando Public Library, Papa Bear

Wednesday, July 12, 10:30 a.m.

South Creek Branch

Tuesday, July 18, 10:30 a.m.

West Oaks Branch

Tuesday, July 25, 11 a.m.

Measure, mix, and stir up friendship! Create a delicious snack mix to enjoy and share with a friend. Adult participation is required.

Summer Babies

Alafaya Branch

Wednesday, July 19, 10:15 a.m.

It's baby's first summer! Discover new ways to play and interact with sensory activities for your little one.

Youth End of Summer Celebration

Alafaya Branch

Saturday, July 29, 2–3:30 p.m.

Chickasaw Branch

Saturday, July 29, 2–3:30 p.m.

Eatonville Branch

Saturday, July 29, 2–3:15 p.m.

Fairview Shores Branch

Saturday, July 29, 2–3:15 p.m.

Hiawassee Branch

Saturday, July 29, 2–3:30 p.m.

North Orange Branch

Saturday, July 29, 2–3:15 p.m.

Orlando Public Library, Library Central

Saturday, July 29, 2–3:30 p.m.

South Creek Branch

Saturday, July 29, 2–3:15 p.m.

South Trail Branch

Saturday, July 29, 2–3:30 p.m.

Southeast Branch

Saturday, July 29, 2–3:15 p.m.

Southwest Branch

Saturday, July 29, 2 p.m.

West Oaks Branch

Saturday, July 29, 2–3:15 p.m.

Windermere Branch

Saturday, July 29, 2 p.m.

Winter Garden Branch

Saturday, July 29, 2 p.m.

Have you completed the summer challenge to read for 600 minutes? Celebrate at the End of Summer Celebration with a chance to win a grand prize. Recommended for ages 0–18. Registration required.

LEARN. GROW. CONNECT.

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