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Start the New Year with writing workshops, plus a special visit from author Debbie Macomber

This January, the Orange County Library System invites all aspiring writers to Learn, Grow and Connect during one of many writing workshops hosted at library locations. Visit the Alafaya Branch on January 8 for Top 10 Mistakes New Fiction Writers Make, in which author Kerry Evelyn will share common blunders new writers make and how to avoid them. On January 25, Orlando Public Library hosts the annual OCLS Writers Conference. During this day-long event, writers of all genres can learn to achieve their writing and publishing goals. Authors and publishing professionals will teach workshops on a wide range of topics. Visit ocls.info/writersconference for more information.

Two library branches celebrate anniversaries in January. On January 11 the Hiwassee library hosts its 10-year anniversary with crafts, storytelling and a performance by saxophonist Don Black. On January 25, the Eatonville library turns 15 years old and celebrates with face painting, prizes and a performance by Orlando freestyle group FREE DAPS. Bring your family and friends for these two special occasions.

The library is excited to host two *New York Times* best-selling authors on January 31. At 10:30 a.m., young adult author Nic Stone will be at the Eatonville Branch, then at 7:30 p.m., author Debbie Macomber will appear at the Orlando Public Library for a special ticketed after-hours event. See below for more information.

If you have any questions about the information shared below, contact us as 407-835-7323. Check us out online at ocls.info for a complete listing of all library events.

Getting Started with Blogs

Hiwassee Branch, 7391 W. Colonial Drive

Monday, January 6, 2 p.m.

Orlando Public Library, 101 E. Central Blvd.

Saturday, January 11, 10 a.m.–11:30 a.m.

North Orange Branch, 1211 E. Semoran Blvd., Apopka

Saturday, January 11, 10:15 a.m.

Alafaya Branch, 12000 E. Colonial Drive

Saturday, January 11, 1 p.m.

West Oaks Branch, 1821 E. Silver Star Road., Ocoee

Wednesday, January 15, 2 p.m.

Share your recipes or travels with others by starting your own blog. Learn to add content, images and video to a post. Change the appearance of your blog with simple theme tools.

Money Talks for Women

Orlando Public Library, Melrose Center, 101 E. Central Blvd.

Tuesdays, January 7–28, 6–7:30 p.m.

Join the conversation! Learn about library services such as Morningstar Investment Research Center, goal-oriented tools for saving, investing and more.

Hiawassee Library 10th Anniversary

Hiawassee Branch, 7391 W. Colonial Drive

Saturday, January 11, 10–2 p.m.

Join the Hiawassee branch for its 10th Anniversary celebration, featuring events for all ages such as storytelling, crafts, face painting for children, Music in the Library featuring Saxophonist Don Black, a prize raffle and more.

Cooking Made Easy with MasterClass

Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room, 101 E. Central Blvd.

Wednesdays, January 8–29, 11 a.m.–1 p.m.

In this four-week Masterclass video series, professional chefs will teach you skills and recipes that will help you to make gourmet meals in your own home.

Top 10 Mistakes New Fiction Writers Make

Alafaya Branch, 12000 E. Colonial Drive

Wednesday, January 8, 7 p.m.

Learn how to catch the most common blunders new fiction writers make. Author Kerry Evelyn will share the 10 most surprising things that are integral to a successful career in the publishing industry.

Melrose in the Mix – Christopher Belt

Orlando Public Library, Audio Production Studio, 101 E. Central Blvd.

Saturday, January 11, 3:30 p.m.–5 p.m.

Christopher Belt has performed in masterclasses with many of the leading guitarists in the US and Europe. See him perform in the Melrose Audio Studio. Reserve your seat at ocls.info/melroseinthemix.

Melrose in the Mix – SKIP & DiViNCi

Orlando Public Library, Audio Production Studio, 101 E. Central Blvd.

Sunday, January 12, 3:30 p.m.–5 p.m.

Orlando rapper SKIP and producer/composer extraordinaire DiViNCi join forces to perform and record in the Melrose Center Audio Studio. Seats are limited. Sign up at ocls.info/melroseinthemix.

NO PASSPORT REQUIRED – Screening & Food Tasting

Orlando Public Library, Library Central, 101 E. Central Blvd.

Sunday, January 12, 7–9 p.m.

Join WUCF for a tasting experience celebrating PBS's *NO PASSPORT REQUIRED*. Chat about Orlando's immigrant food culture with Faiyaz Kara, Ricky Ly and Bruno Fonseca. Registration required.

Money Matters: Creating Better Spending Habits

Hiawassee Branch, 7391 W. Colonial Drive

Tuesday, January 14, 1:30 p.m.

No matter where you are in life, you can benefit from improving your financial health. Join Wells Fargo and learn strategies to create new habits by budgeting your money.

The Write Mindset

Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room, 101 E. Central Blvd.

Thursday, January 16, 6:30 p.m.

It's important for a writer to develop the correct mindset to create longevity within their career. Author and editor Racquel Henry will discuss some of the components needed for a proper mindset.

Art 101: Manga

Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room, 101 E. Central Blvd.

Wednesday, January 22, 6:30 p.m.

Take a look at the history of Japanese manga comics. Explore the impact this art style continues to have and create your own manga style art. Registration Required. Recommended ages 15 and older.

OCLS Writers Conference

Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room, 101 E. Central Blvd.

Saturday, January 25, 9:30 a.m.–5 p.m.

Obtain the tools and knowledge needed to reach your writing and publishing goals this year. Authors and publishing professionals will teach workshops on a range of topics. For more information, visit ocls.info/writersconference.

Eatonville Library 15th Anniversary

Eatonville Branch, 200 E. Kennedy Blvd., Eatonville

Saturday, January 25, 10–2 p.m.

Join the Eatonville branch for its 15th Anniversary celebration, featuring events for all ages such as storytelling, crafts, face painting for children, FREE DAPS, prizes and more.

Podcasting: Getting Started

Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room, 101 E. Central Blvd.

Thursday, January 30, 6:30 p.m.

Tell your story, build your platform, and have fun by starting a podcast. Nick Georgoudiou, host of *To a Certain Degree*, will discuss what you need to launch your own podcast.

Meet the Author: Nic Stone at ZORA Festival

Eatonville Branch, 200 E. Kennedy Blvd., Eatonville

Friday, January 31, 10:30 a.m.

Meet *New York Times* best-selling author of young adult fiction, Nic Stone! Book sale and signing to follow. Stone's debut novel, *Dear Martin*, tells the story of highschooler Justyce as he attempts to figure out his place in the world by exploring the life of Dr. Martin Luther King.

Library After Hours: An Evening with Debbie Macomber

Orlando Public Library, Library Central, 101 E. Central Blvd.

Friday, January 31, 7:30 p.m.

New York Times best-selling author, Debbie Macomber, will share the inspiration behind her stories and the process of bringing them to life on the page.

LEARN. GROW. CONNECT.

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