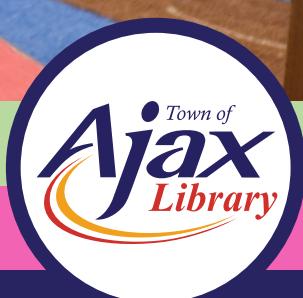


# What's On

## January–March 2026

**Black History Month**  
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**March Break Preview!**  
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# Ajax/Pickering Science Fair

Saturday, March 7, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.  
Grades 3–12

Do you have a great science question that might change the world? Are you ready to show it off? Enter the annual Ajax/Pickering Science Fair!

Registration opens on **Monday, January 5** and the registration deadline is **Friday, February 6**.



## Play & Learn Kits

Ajax Public Library is excited to announce new Play and Learn Kits, developed in collaboration with Grandview Kids!

These kits were developed to assist with developing fine motor, tactile, and awareness skills.

For more information, visit [ajaxlibrary.ca/library-things](http://ajaxlibrary.ca/library-things)



## Study Better with Solaro

With Solaro, you can easily access Ontario curriculum content resources for grades 3–12. Study better with course-specific quizzes, lessons, and material review

[ajaxlibrary.ca/Online-Resources](http://ajaxlibrary.ca/Online-Resources)



# Welcome!

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## Call for Volunteers!



### Older Adults Advisory Committee

If you are 55+ and a resident of Ajax, the Library needs you for our 2025-2026 Older Adults Advisory Committee. Interested in being part of the discussion? For more information, contact Elaine Lievaart at 905-683-4000 ext. 8806 or [elaine.lievaart@ajaxlibrary.ca](mailto:elaine.lievaart@ajaxlibrary.ca).

**Application deadline: Saturday, January 31.**

### Gardening Crew

Do you have a green thumb or a passion for gardening? We are looking for dedicated adult and teen volunteers to help care for our Audley Reading Garden throughout the growing season!

**Application deadline: Friday, February 27.**

### Repair Café

Do you have a flair for repair? The Library is looking for volunteers for our upcoming Repair Café. Repair categories include small appliances, electronics, sewing, jewellery, and more. If you're interested, please email [events@ajaxlibrary.ca](mailto:events@ajaxlibrary.ca).

Learn more and apply at  
[ajaxlibrary.ca/Jobs-Volunteers](http://ajaxlibrary.ca/Jobs-Volunteers).

## Holiday Hours

**All branches will be closed:**

Thursday, January 1 (New Year's Day)

**Main Branch, McLean Branch & Makerspace, and Grandview Kids Express Branch closed:**

Monday, February 16 (Family Day)

**Audley Branch**

**11 a.m.-4 p.m. on Family Day for Winterfest.**



## Bring Back the Salmon

**Starting Thursday, January 8 at Main Branch**

Stop by to catch a glimpse of our salmon eggs when they hatch into fry! Find videos and activities at [bringbackthesalmon.ca](http://bringbackthesalmon.ca). Presented in partnership with the Town of Ajax, Toronto Regional Conservation Authority, and the Ontario Federation of Anglers & Hunters.

## Winterfest

**Monday, February 16, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.**

**Audley Recreation Centre**

Celebrate the snowy season with your family! Enjoy winter-themed activities, shows, and fun for the whole family. Audley Branch will be open, so step inside for crafting fun. Learn more at [ajax.ca](http://ajax.ca).

## Winter Olympics Watch Parties

Watch the world's top athletes go for gold with in-branch watch parties throughout the 2026 Winter Olympic Games in Milano Cortina! Stay tuned for more details.



# Special Events

## \*Understanding Human Trafficking: Awareness and Prevention

**Wednesday, January 21, 7–8 p.m.**

### Main Branch

This presentation sheds light on what human trafficking is, how it happens, and how we can respond. Participants will gain practical prevention and intervention tools to help recognize and take action—whether as community members, parents, educators, or service providers. Presented in partnership with Victim Services of Durham Region.

## \*International Holocaust Remembrance Day

**Monday, January 26, 6:30–9 p.m.**

### Main Branch

International Holocaust Remembrance Day, observed on January 27, honours the memory of the victims of the Holocaust and serves as a reminder of the ongoing dangers of anti-Semitism. Please join us for a film screening of “Saul & Ruby’s Holocaust Survivor Band” as well as a conversation to commemorate this day.

## \*Romance Author Event

**Saturday, February 7, 1–3 p.m.**

### Main Branch

How do you meaningfully plot, plan, and structure a romance novel, combining tropes and writing techniques? Learn these answers and more in a romance-themed panel discussion and author visit!

## \*Freedom to Read Film Screening & Discussion

**Wednesday, February 25, 6:30–8:30 p.m.**

### Main Branch

Freedom to Read Week is an annual event that encourages Canadians to think about and reaffirm their commitment to intellectual freedom. Join us for a film screening of “The Librarians”, followed by a discussion about intellectual freedom in Canada.

## Multi-Faith Prayer Space

**Tuesday, February 17–Thursday, April 2**

### Main Branch and Audley Branch

To commemorate Ramadan, Easter, and Passover observances, a space will be available for quiet reflection and prayer at Audley and Main Branch.

## International Women's Day

## \*Healing is Not Linear: A Women's Mental Wellness Workshop

**Saturday, March 7, 10 a.m.–12 noon**

### Audley Branch

Healing and growth come in many forms, and the journey is different for every woman. In this workshop, Spoorti Sridhar, Miss North America World Universal 2025, will guide participants through meaningful dialogue, reflection activities, and wellness practices that honour our unique paths.

## Seed Saturday!

**Saturday, February 28, 9:30–11:30 a.m.**

### Main Branch

Get ready for the growing season at our second annual Seed Saturday!

## \*Preparing Your Garden for Spring

**9:30–10:30 a.m. | Adults**

Spring is a time of renewal in the garden, so come learn about getting your garden ready for the new growing season. Presented by Durham Master Gardeners.

## Seed Storytime and Scavenger Hunt!

**10–11 a.m. | Families**

Enjoy a gardening-themed storytime with activities and a scavenger hunt in the Library!

## Seed Exchange and Gardening Advice Tables

**10:30–11:30 a.m. | Adults**

Participate in a seed exchange to get new flowers, vegetables, and herbs and visit gardening tables to get advice about your garden. Please bring your seeds in packed and labelled envelopes to make the swap easier for all participants.



# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

## \*19th Annual Black History Month Celebration presented by Cultural Expressions for CHANGE

Sunday, February 8, 2–4 p.m.

**J. Clarke Richardson Collegiate**

This year's theme is The Next Ten: Our Village celebrating the second International Decade for People of African Descent. For more information and to register, visit [ce4c.ca](http://ce4c.ca).

## \*BlackLit Durham

Wednesday, February 18, 7–9 p.m.

**St. Francis Centre for Community, Arts, and Culture**

Celebrate Black Canadian literary voices of all genres at a night of amazing performances and Q&A with the artists. Sign-ups for open mic start at 6:30 p.m.—poetry and prose are welcome! Visit [blacklitdurham.com](http://blacklitdurham.com) for more information.

## Youth Poetry Contest

Sunday, February 1–Saturday, February 28

Young writers of Ajax are invited to submit a poem based on the theme for Black History Month 2026, "The Next Ten: Our Village", celebrating the second International Decade for People of African Descent.

### Categories:

Grades 4–6, Grades 7–8, and Grades 9–12

**The contest deadline is Friday, February 27, at 5 p.m.** Entry forms will be available at all branches and online at [ajaxlibrary.ca/BlackHistoryMonth](http://ajaxlibrary.ca/BlackHistoryMonth). Entries can be emailed to [libraryinfo@ajaxlibrary.ca](mailto:libraryinfo@ajaxlibrary.ca) or dropped off at any branch. Winning entries will be recognized at a special event on March 27, the International Day to Eliminate Racial Discrimination.

## \*International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

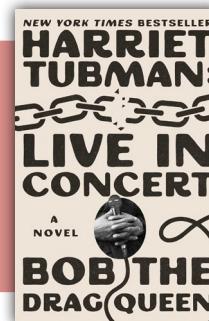
Friday, March 27, 6:30–8 p.m.

**Main Branch**

Join us in marking the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, recognized on March 21. Special guest Dr. Leland Harper—author and professor—will explore how everyday language shapes our understanding of racism, responsibility, and justice. This event will also feature readings by the winners of the Youth Black History Month Poetry Contest.

## Black Voices Collection

Browse memoirs, essays, stories, and ideas for adult readers on OverDrive. Find the collection online at [ajax.overdrive.com/library/Black-Voices](http://ajax.overdrive.com/library/Black-Voices) and on the Libby app.



Registration for programs closes at midnight the day before, unless otherwise noted.

# Kids & Families

## Storytimes (January 11–February 28, no storytimes February 16)

STEAM Storytime Ages 2+	STEAM Storytime Ages 2+	Books for Babies Ages 0–2	Books for Babies Ages 0–2
Mondays 10–11 a.m.	Tuesdays 10–11 a.m.	Wednesdays 10–11 a.m.	Thursdays 1–2 p.m.
McLean Branch	Audley Branch	Main Branch	Audley Branch
Join us for special March Break Storytimes March 16–20!			

### Sensory Storytime

Thursdays, January 8, 22; February 5, 19; March 5  
10–10:30 a.m.

Ages 2–6 | Grandview Kids

### Family Storytime + Ajax Reading Circle

Saturdays, January 10, 24; February 7, 21; March 7  
10 a.m.–12 noon

Ages 3–12 | Audley Branch

### Family Storytime

Saturday, February 21, 10 a.m.–12 noon

Ages 3–12 | Grandview Kids

### Family Literacy Day

Family Literacy Day raises awareness about the importance of families reading and practicing other literacy skills. For 2026, the Family Literacy Day theme is “Make mealtime family learning time”.

#### Family Storytime Special

Saturday, January 24, 10 a.m.–12 noon

Grandview Kids

Learn how you and your family can make mealtime family learning time with tips, stories, and activities—just in time for Family Literacy Day!



### 1000 Colourful Stories

1000 Colourful Stories is a reading club just for preschoolers! From birth to four years is the best time to nurture a love of reading in your child. Sign up at any branch, get your first reading log, take it home, and read. Once your first reading log is full, come back to the Library for the next one and keep reading together until you've read 1000 books!

#### 1000 Colourful Stories Storytime

Saturdays, January 31, February 28, March 28, 10:30 a.m.–12 noon

Ages 0–4 | Audley Branch

Drop by for a storytime and to get your next reading log!

# Kids & Families

## Craft & Make

### LEGO!

Sundays, January 11, February 8, March 8

12 noon–2 p.m.

Audley Branch

Saturdays, January 17, 31; February 14, 28; March 28

10 a.m.–12 noon

McLean Branch

### Imagination Station

Thursdays, January 29; February 26; March 26

6–7:30 p.m.

McLean Branch

Explore stories, crafts, games, and fun challenges like scavenger hunts and riddles at this special monthly drop-in!

## PA Days

### PA Day Craft & Movie

Fridays, January 23, March 13, 10 a.m.–12 noon

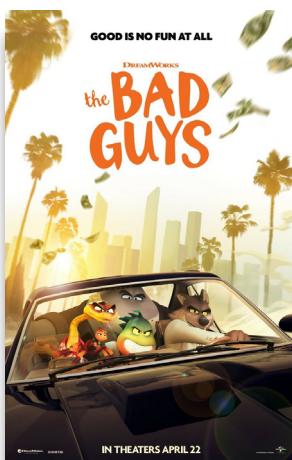
Main Branch

Fridays, January 23, March 13, 1:30–3:30 p.m.

Grandview Kids

January 23: The Bad Guys (PG)

March 13: The Bad Guys 2 (PG)



Find weekly themes at  
[ajaxlibrary.ca/Events](http://ajaxlibrary.ca/Events)

## Ajax/Pickering Science Fair: How To Sessions

Not sure where to start with your genius science project? Learn how to turn your questions, experiments, or research into an award-winning project you can enter into this year's Science Fair!

### Science Fair How To

Thursday, January 15, 5:30–7 p.m.  
Grades 3–12 | Audley Branch

Saturday, January 24, 10:30 a.m.–12 noon  
Grades 3–12 | Main Branch

# Kids & Families

## EarlyON

### Family Music and Movement

**\*Thursdays, January 8–March 12, 9:15–10:15 a.m.**

**Ages 0–6 | Audley Branch**

**\*Thursdays, January 8–March 12, 10:30–11:30 a.m.**

**Ages 0–6 | Audley Branch**

**Saturdays January 10, February 7, and March 14, 10:30–11:30 a.m.**

**Ages 0–6 | Main Branch**

Introduce your children to interactive songs, nursery rhymes, music, creative movement, and musical instruments. Learn more and register at [keyon.ca](http://keyon.ca).

## For Babies

### \*Infant Hearing Screening Clinics

**Fridays, January 2, 9; Wednesdays, January 7–March 25**

**Ages 0–2 months | Main Branch**

The Tri-Regional Infant Hearing Program is hosting infant hearing screening appointments. Babies up to two months of age are eligible to receive a hearing screening if they did not receive a screening at birth or require a follow-up screen.

For more information or to book an appointment, visit [childdevelopmentprograms.ca/BookMyBaby](http://childdevelopmentprograms.ca/BookMyBaby) or call the Tri-Regional Infant Hearing Program at 1-888-703-5437, ext. 4.

## For Homeschool Learners

### \*Little Light Book Club

**Fridays, January 9–March 13, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.**

**Ages 8–15 | Audley Branch**

Join us for a one-of-a-kind book club experience that blends reading, creativity, and meaningful personal growth. Youth will explore great stories, play engaging literary games, and dive into themes like courage, curiosity, friendship, and identity.

### Homeschool Club

**Wednesdays, January 21, February 18, March 11, 1:30–3 p.m.**

**Ages 6–12 | Audley Branch**

Explore fun and informative STEAM activities and connect with other homeschool learners at this monthly meet-up just for homeschoolers!



# Kids & Families

## French

### \*French Math Tutoring

**Tuesdays, January 27–March 31**

**6:30–8:15 p.m.**

**Grades 1–6 | Zoom**

Are you in French school or French immersion and looking for help in French with your reading, math, or science assignments? Sign up for weekly 30-minute sessions of homework help with University of Toronto Scarborough Teachers in Training.

Es-tu une ou un élève d'une école francophone ou d'immersion qui a besoin d'aide en français pour tes devoirs de lecture, de mathématiques, et/ou de sciences? Inscris-toi pour du tutorat gratuit par des enseignant(e)s agréés de l'Ontario.

### \*Le Club Français

**Mondays, February 2–March 30 (no session February 16 and March 16).**

**6:30–7:30 p.m.**

**Ages 6–12 | Main Branch**

Children can improve their reading skills en français by practicing reading and speaking at this weekly session led by high school reading buddies!

Les enfants peuvent améliorer leur compréhension française en pratiquant la lecture et la compréhension orale dans ce programme hebdomadaire avec des compagnons de lecture du niveau secondaire.

## Coding & STEM

### \*Black Youth Empowerment STEM Club

**Tuesdays, January 20–February 3, 4:30–6 p.m.**

**Grades 4–6**

**Audley Branch**

This initiative is designed to spark interest in STEM among Black youth through hands-on activities and mentorship from Black STEM students at Ontario Tech University. Presented in partnership with the Congress of Black Women of Canada Ajax/Pickering Chapter and Ontario Tech University.

### \*Ontario Tech STEM and Coding Workshops

**STEM Workshop: Saturday, January 24, 2–4 p.m. | Grades 1–4**

**Coding Workshop: Saturday, February 21, 2–4 p.m. | Grades 5–8**

**STEM Workshop: Saturday, March 7, 2–4 p.m. | Grades 5–8**

**Main Branch**

These Ontario Tech University Engineering Outreach workshops introduce youth to the fundamental concepts of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) and coding through engaging activities that inspire confidence!

### \*Family Scratch Coding

**Saturday, March 21, 10:30–11:30 a.m.**

**Ages 10–14 | Main Branch**

Discover coding as a family with fun challenges offered via Scratch, a free online resource for coders of all experience levels. All skill levels are welcome.

# Kids & Families

## SPARK! Juried Art Show

Artwork Dropoff at Main Branch:

**Saturday, February 14, 9:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.**

**or Thursday, February 19, 4–8 p.m.**

**Art Show & Reception: Sunday, March 29, 1–2:30 p.m.**

SPARK! is an annual juried art show for Ajax kids in Junior Kindergarten–Grade 8. Artwork will be displayed at Main Branch throughout March. Pick up your SPARK! entry form online at [ajaxlibrary.ca/SparkArt](http://ajaxlibrary.ca/SparkArt), or at any branch starting January 5 for complete contest rules.



## March Break: Carnival of Curiosity

**Friday, March 13–Sunday, March 22**

Help us transform the Library into a carnival this March Break with games, experiments, challenges, shows, and fairground fun! March Break program registration will open on Friday, February 13. You can find programs at [ajaxlibrary.ca/MarchBreak](http://ajaxlibrary.ca/MarchBreak) and in our March Break flyer.

**March Break Reading Contest**

**Friday, March 13–Sunday, March 22**

**Ages 4–12**

Show off your reading skills with our annual reading contest! Pick up a log sheet at any branch or download one from [ajaxlibrary.ca/MarchBreak](http://ajaxlibrary.ca/MarchBreak) to get started. Read for 120 minutes with your family to earn a ballot for an eReader and play a game of Book Bingo for a bonus entry.

**March Break Kickoff: WonderPhil**

**Saturday, March 14, 2:30–3:15 p.m.**

**Families | Main Branch**

Throughout this fast-paced show, things appear and vanish, drawings come to life, and so much more!



## For Teens: March Break Amazing Race!

The Libraries are waiting... go! From Monday to Friday of March Break, make your way to as many of the Library branches as you can, do challenges, and earn ballots for the end of March Break party!

**March Break Amazing Race Party**

**Friday, March 20, 12 noon–1:30 p.m.**

**Ages 13–18 | Main Branch**

If you participated in the Amazing Race or volunteered with us, you're invited! Snacks, draws, games, crafts, and more!

# Tweens & Teens

## Learn

### Teen Homeschool Hangout

Thursdays, January 15, February 19, March 26

1–2 p.m.

#### Ages 13–18 | Audley Branch

Hang out and unwind with other homeschool learners at this teens-only homeschool club!

### Hip Hop Reads

Fridays, February 6–20; 4:30–6 p.m.

#### Grades 10–12 | Main Branch

Explore the world of hip hop—tracing its humble beginnings, celebrating its evolution, and dissecting the powerful literary works that define the genre.

### \*Y4E: Canva

Wednesday, April 1, 6:30–8 p.m.

#### Ages 15–24 | Audley Branch

Get an introduction to Canva, a powerful and user-friendly design tool perfect for creating stunning graphics, presentations, social media posts, and more.

## Fun & Games

### Gamers' Club

Saturdays, January 31, February 28, March 28

1–3 p.m.

#### Ages 10–14 | Main Branch

Show off your Nintendo Switch skills in monthly competitions and tournaments. Games we'll play include Crash Bandicoot, Dragon Ball Z, FIFA, Mario, and more!

## TAC Presents

### \*Chill and Create: Stamp Making

Wednesday, January 7, 6:30–8:30 p.m.

#### Ages 13–18 | Main Branch

Learn the basics of the linocut process to design, carve, and print your own rubber animal stamps!

### Valentine's Day Romcom: "How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days"

Friday, February 13, 6:30–8:30 p.m.

#### Ages 13–18 | Main Branch

Join the Teen Advisory Committee for snacks, games, and the classic romcom "How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days".



## Call for Volunteers!

### TD Summer Reading Club Volunteers

The Library is seeking enthusiastic, outgoing, and committed high school students to volunteer 10 to 15 hours per week through summer to assist with program preparation, children's programs, and the Reading Log booth at multiple Library branches.

**Application deadline: Monday, April 27.**

Learn more and apply at [ajaxlibrary.ca/Jobs-Volunteers](http://ajaxlibrary.ca/Jobs-Volunteers).

## Study Hall

Saturdays & Sundays, January 17, 18, 24, 25

11 a.m.–7 p.m.

#### Audley Branch

Are you looking for a place to cram for your exam? Pick up your study kit created by the Library's Teen Advisory Committee, grab a drink, and get studying! Kits are available starting at 11 a.m. while supplies last.



# MAKERSPACE @ MCLEAN

## Explore, Make, and Create!

### Sundays Are for Makers

**Sundays, January 4–March 29, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.**

Learn about (and create!) something new every Sunday. From robotics to bookbinding, there's a ton to explore.

### Digital Roots Ajax: Scrapbooking

**Thursday, January 22, 1–2:30 p.m.**

Drop by to talk about scrapbooking with our Archivist and see what items past Ajacians curated for their scrapbooks. Learn tips and tricks to create your own personal collection. Participants are encouraged to bring their own photograph or postcard.

### Family Tech Takeover with the Makerspace @ Grandview Kids

**Friday, March 13, 10 a.m.–12 noon**

**Grandview Kids**

Try out Makerspace tech including Ozobots, Spheros, and LEGO!

## For Entrepreneurs

### \*How to Start a Podcast: A Hands-On Workshop

**Saturday, January 24, 9:30–10:30 a.m.**

In this beginner-friendly workshop, you'll explore how to choose your podcast topic, format, and schedule, plus learn about hosting options and tips for a confident launch.

### \*How to Edit a Podcast

**Saturday, January 24, 11 a.m.–12 noon**

This hands-on session will cover best practices with microphones and accessories, recording setup, DAWs (Digital Audio Workstations), and signal flow. Perfect for aspiring creators!



## Creative Hustle Labs

**\*Thursdays, February 5–26, 6:30–8 p.m.**

**Registration is for all four sessions.**

A hands-on youth entrepreneurship program designed for ages 14–21. The goal is to empower local youth to explore digital creativity, design marketable products (like stickers, T-shirts, and mugs), and build confidence in launching small ventures!

Use Makerspace sewing machines and sergers to create or repair clothing, make tote bags and accessories, hem curtains, or design costumes and home decor! One customer turned pre-loved quilts into makeup bags, using reclaimed materials to create something both practical and sustainable.



# Adults & Seniors

## Health & Wellness

### \*Exploring Core Beliefs

**Wednesday, January 7–February 11 (no session January 21), 1–2:30 p.m.**

#### Main Branch

#### Registration is for all five sessions.

Through structured curriculum, activities, and discussion, we will explore our core beliefs and find ways to leverage them while maintaining our recovery wellness. Presented in partnership with Ontario Shores Recovery College.

### \*Smart Living Series

**Wednesdays, January 14, February 11, March 11 1–2 p.m.**

#### Audley Branch

Explore the foundations of healthy living with this new three-part series! Presented by Zain Yousaf, fitness & health centre consultant with the Town of Ajax.

### \*Care Essentials for Care Partners

**Mondays, January 19–February 9, 1:30–3:30 p.m.**

#### Audley Branch

Learn more about the progression of dementia and its cognitive effects, changes to communication and behaviour, how to support daily activities, and how to meet the needs of others and themselves as care partners.

### The Compassionate Friends Ajax

**Tuesdays, January 27, February 24, March 31**

**6:30–8:30 p.m.**

#### Intended for any parent who has lost a child

#### Audley Branch

We are here to journey alongside the bereaved until they can make their own choice to reinvest in life again. Contact [ajax@tcfcanada.net](mailto:ajax@tcfcanada.net) for more information.

### \*Half Hour to Health: Improving Posture

**Wednesday, February 4, 1–1:30 p.m.**

#### Main Branch

Learn the most common causes of poor posture and simple, effective things you can do right now to strengthen your spine. Presented by Dr. Michael Gauthier from Ajax Family Chiropractic.

### \*Caregiver Stress and Burnout

**Wednesday, February 18, 1:30–2:30 p.m.**

#### Main Branch

Learn the difference between stress and burnout as well as strategies to support your own wellbeing while caring for another person. Presented in partnership with the Ontario Caregiver Organization.

### \*Mythbusters on Perimenopause: What You Really Need to Know

**Wednesday, March 11, 7–8 p.m.**

#### Main Branch

A candid, science-backed session that tackles the most common myths about menopause head-on. This 30-minute presentation will be followed by a Q&A with Jess Johnston, nurse practitioner and Menopause Society certified provider.

## Alzheimer's Awareness Month

January is Alzheimer's Awareness Month. Join us for an information session presented by Alzheimer Society of Durham Region.

### \*Overview of Dementia

**Friday, January 16, 1:30–3 p.m.**

#### Main Branch

Learn about what dementia is, the common myths surrounding symptoms, and what risk factors to watch out for. Participants will also learn about communication and Alzheimer Society programs and services.

### \*Brain Health and Dementia

**Friday, February 13, 1:30–3 p.m.**

#### Main Branch

Learn how to promote brain health and how lifestyle changes can impact your risk of developing dementia.

### \*Aging and Dementia

**Wednesday, March 25, 1:30–3 p.m.**

#### Main Branch

Explore the realities of dementia and the aging process.

# Adults & Seniors

## Parent Café

### \*Perinatal Mental Health: Navigating the Emotional Journey of Pregnancy and Parenthood

Monday, January 19, 1–2 p.m.

#### Zoom

Get supportive insight into the mental health challenges that can arise during pregnancy and postpartum, including postpartum depression and anxiety, identity shifts, birth trauma, and the invisible load of caregiving. In partnership with Women's Health Physiotherapy Centre.

### \*Helping Your Picky Eater Thrive: Building a Healthy Food Relationship with Children

Thursday, February 5, 6:30–7:30 p.m.

#### Zoom

Build an understanding of what goes into picky eating and how you can support your child.

### \*Self-Care: Love Yourself Challenge

Wednesday, February 11, 12 noon–1 p.m.

#### Grandview Kids

Create boundaries, explore strategies for putting yourself first, and help you see the value in self-care. Presented in partnership with Grandview Kids.

### Infant and Toddler Sleep Clinic

Wednesday, February 25, 10:30–11:30 a.m.

#### Main Branch

Learn about safe sleep practices and nap schedules and get tips for healthy sleep habits for children. Presented by Taylor Gadd, Certified Child Sleep Consultant from Good Night Sleep Site.

Infant and Toddler Sleep Clinic takes place right after Books for Babies on February 25!

See more on page 5.

## Small Business

### \*Employment Law for Ontario Businesses

Tuesday, January 27, 9:30–10:30 a.m.

#### Main Branch

Kick off 2026 with a relaxed, plain-language walkthrough of the employment law changes Ontario businesses should know about. Presented by Tara Seosankar, employment lawyer.

### \*BACD Start-Up Session

Tuesday, February 17, 9:30–11 a.m.

#### Main Branch

Learn the fundamentals of starting a business. Presented by a BACD business advisor. To register, visit [bacd.ca/events](http://bacd.ca/events).

## Financial Literacy

### \*Modern Money Mindset: From Overwhelmed to Empowered

Wednesday, January 28, 6:30–8 p.m.

#### Main Branch

Feeling overwhelmed by your finances? It's time for a new approach. Join certified financial coach Adriana Leo for an empowering workshop that goes beyond budgeting.

### \*Home Buying Seminar

Tuesday, March 24, 6:30–7:30 p.m.

#### Zoom

Buying a home can feel a bit like juggling flaming torches while riding a unicycle—exciting, but also overwhelming. That's why we put together this workshop: a simple roadmap that breaks down all the steps so you don't get caught off guard. Presented in partnership with Ali Yazdani, mortgage broker of AKAL Mortgages Inc. Financial Literacy.

# Adults & Seniors

## For Movie Lovers

### Cultural Cinema

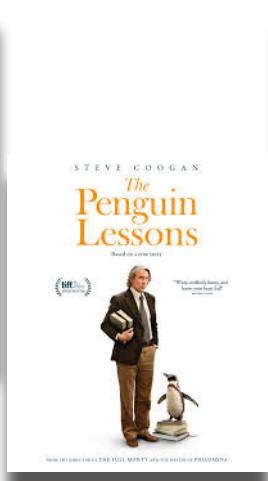
Tuesdays, January 6, February 3, March 3,  
1:30–3:30 p.m.

#### Main Branch

**January 6:** Downton Abbey: The Grand Finale (PG)

**February 3:** The Ballad of Wallis Island (PG)

**March 3:** The Penguin Lessons (PG-13)

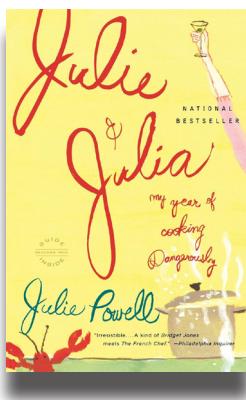


### \*Box Office Books and Brews: Julie and Julia

Wednesday, March 18, 6:30–9 p.m.

#### St. Francis Centre for Community, Arts and Culture

Is the book actually better than the movie? Enjoy a book club and movie screening all rolled into one evening! Pick up a copy of "Julie and Julia" by Julie Powell before the movie screening and enjoy a group discussion after the movie.



## Discover

### Knitting and Crochet for Community

Wednesdays, January 7, February 4, March 4  
1–3 p.m.

#### Audley Branch

The Library is pleased to host this community group formed to connect charity knitters and crocheters, yarn, and tools with volunteers who make items with love for those who may need them.

### Crafters' Corner

Wednesdays, January 14, 28; February 11, 25;  
March 11, 25, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

#### Main Branch

### \*Armchair Travel

Tuesdays, January 20 and March 17, 1:30–3:30 p.m.  
Main Branch

**January 20:** Puerto Rico

**March 17:** Ireland

### \*Virtual Armchair Travel: Japan Part 1

Tuesday, February 17, 1:30–3 p.m.  
Zoom



## Book Clubs

### \*Silent Book Club

Mondays, January 19, February 23, March 23  
6:30–8 p.m.

#### Main Branch

### Registrations encouraged, drop-ins welcome

Love books but not the pressure of a traditional book club? Join our new Silent Reading Club!

### \*Aud Readers

Thursdays, January 22, February 26, March 26  
7–8 p.m.

#### Audley Branch

There are currently a few spots available in our Aud Readers book club! Just send us an email at [libraryinfo@ajaxlibrary.ca](mailto:libraryinfo@ajaxlibrary.ca) and we'll get you set up.

# Adults & Seniors



## Learn

### \*Stay Connected Training

**Mondays, 9 a.m. or 10 a.m.**

**Saturdays, 10 a.m., 11 a.m., or 12 noon**

**Audley Branch**

**Thursdays, 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 12 noon, or 1 p.m.**

**Main Branch**

Learn new technology skills with these one-on-one technology training sessions. Topics include using iPads and other smart devices, social media, and safe use of Zoom. To register, call 905-683-4000 ext. 8813.

### \*Winter Sowing Workshop

**Tuesday, January 20, 10–11:30 a.m.**

**Main Branch**

Learn all about the benefits of winter sowing! Presented in partnership with the Durham Master Gardeners.

### \*Genealogy Group

**Wednesdays, January 21, February 18, March 18**

**1:30–2:30 p.m.**

**Main Branch**

**January 21:** Using Timelines to Analyze Your Research

**February 18:** Useful Genealogy Apps

**March 18:** Spring Cleaning Your Family Tree

To register, email [events@ajaxlibrary.ca](mailto:events@ajaxlibrary.ca).

### Headline Hunters

**Tuesdays, January 27, February 24, March 31**

**1:30–3 p.m.**

**Main Branch**

Enjoy light refreshments and a lively discussion of current events in a friendly atmosphere.

### \*Biblio Banter

**Tuesdays, January 27, February 24, March 31**

**7–8 p.m.**

**Zoom**

Join this guided group discussion centred around readings that inspire wellbeing. No pre-reading is necessary; materials will be provided during the session.

## Games

### Beginner Bridge

**Thursdays, January 8, 22; February 12, 26;**

**March 12, 26, 2–4:30 p.m.**

**Main Branch**

All levels of experience welcome!

### Friendly Euchre

**Fridays, January 9, 23; February 6, 20; March 6, 20**

**2–4 p.m.**

**Main Branch**

### Social Bridge

**Thursdays, January 15, 29; February 5, 19;**

**March 5, 19, 2–4:30 p.m.**

**Main Branch**

### Cribbage

**Fridays, January 30, February 27, March 27**

**2–4 p.m.**

**Main Branch**

### Ajax Chess Club

**Saturday, March 21, 1–4 p.m.**

**Main Branch**

Play serious chess in a fun atmosphere with adults of all ages and skill levels! Please bring your own chess set and clock. For more information, please email [ajaxchessclub@gmail.com](mailto:ajaxchessclub@gmail.com).

## Dungeons & Dragons

### D&D Café

**Tuesdays, January 6–March 31, 5:30–8:30 p.m.**

**Main Branch**

Play D&D at the Library! Interested in attending, but don't have a group? Email

[carly.midgley@ajaxlibrary.ca](mailto:carly.midgley@ajaxlibrary.ca). Teens welcome too!

# Adults & Seniors

## Multilingual & Multicultural

### \*Afghan Women's Organization Refugee and Immigrant Services

**Weekly on Mondays, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.  
(no session on February 16)**

#### Main Branch

To book an appointment, contact Muska Wardak, settlement counsellor, at 437-223-5989 or by email at [mwardak@afghanwomen.org](mailto:mwardak@afghanwomen.org). Funding provided by Citizenship & Immigration Canada.

### \*Afghan Women's Organization Refugee and Immigrant Services Citizenship Preparation Class

**Weekly on Mondays, 1–2 p.m.**

**(no session on February 16)**

#### Main Branch

To register, contact Muska Wardak, settlement counsellor, at 437-223-5989 or by email at [mwardak@afghanwomen.org](mailto:mwardak@afghanwomen.org).

### \*WMRCC Spanish/English Classes

**Weekly on Mondays, 1–2 p.m.**

**(no session on February 16)**

#### Main Branch

For details, contact Cristina Gomez at 289-928-2037. Presented in partnership with the Women's Multicultural Resource and Counselling Centre of Durham.

### \*WMRCC Seniors Social

**Weekly on Mondays, 2–5 p.m.**

**(no session on February 16)**

#### Main Branch

**DCCC Seniors and Durham Happy Seniors Alliance**  
**Saturdays, January 3, 17, 31; February 14, 28;**  
**March 14, 28, 12:30–4 p.m.**

#### Main Branch

For more information, email [info@durhamchinese.ca](mailto:info@durhamchinese.ca). Presented in partnership with Durham Chinese Canadian Culture Centre.

### \*Litmus Chinese Dancing

**Saturday, January 10, 12 noon–2 p.m.**

#### Main Branch

For more information, contact Jenny Shao at [jenny.shao@kss-sep.com](mailto:jenny.shao@kss-sep.com).

### \*English Conversation Circle

**Wednesdays starting January 14, 6:30–8 p.m.**

#### Main Branch

For more information or to register, email Tasnuba Rahman at [trahman@cdcd.org](mailto:trahman@cdcd.org). Presented in partnership with the Community Development Council of Durham.

## Ajax Archives

### Ajax: What's in a Name?

**Thursday, March 5, 10:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.**

#### Main Branch

The Town of Ajax gets its name from a World War 2 ship, HMS Ajax, but where does the name come from? Learn more about the origins of the name 'Ajax' with the Archives Services Librarian.

**See page 12 for more Ajax Archives programs!**



## Tax Clinics

**By appointment only.**

**Registration for appointments begins**  
**Tuesday, February 17.**



Beginning in March, volunteers from the Community Volunteer Income Tax Program (CVITP) will be available to assist you with filing your 2025 tax return. The program is only available for Durham residents who have a valid Ajax Public Library card and have a modest income with simple tax situations. For more information or to see if you qualify, please call 905-683-4000 or email [libraryinfo@ajaxlibrary.ca](mailto:libraryinfo@ajaxlibrary.ca).

**Registration for programs closes at midnight the day before, unless otherwise noted.**

# Adults & Seniors

## For Writers

\*Ajax Public Library Writers' Group

Thursday, January 8, 6:30–8:30 p.m.

Makerspace @ McLean Branch

\*Thursday, February 12 and March 12

6:30–8:30 p.m.

Main Branch

Social writers and avid authors alike—ignite your creativity using our provided topics and phrases! Every month, we challenge you to create an original piece based on a new topic. We ask that you bring your own writing supplies.

**January:** Vision Boarding Your Goals with the Makerspace

**February:** "Solution Stations" with the Writers' Community of Durham Region

**March:** Spring Cleaning Your Craft—Copy Editing and Content Editing



## 55+ Amateur Poetry Contest

**Friday, January 2–Saturday, February 28**

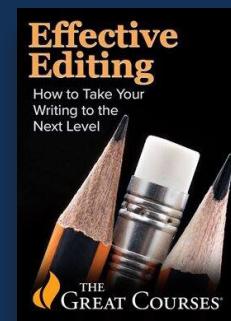
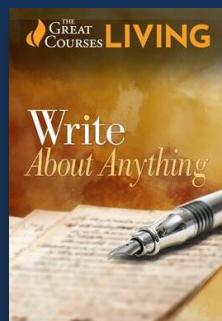
Flex your creativity! The Ajax Public Library Older Adults Advisory Committee and the Town of Ajax Recreation and Culture Older Adults Task Force are pleased to bring you the fourth annual 55+ Amateur Poetry Contest. Your poem can be on any topic, using whatever style you prefer. Visit

[ajaxlibrary.ca/55PlusContest](http://ajaxlibrary.ca/55PlusContest) for more details or pick up a brochure at any branch. The winners will be announced in April during National Poetry Month.

## New Year, New Skills with hoopla!

Kickstart your 2026 writing with The Great Courses on hoopla! Find topics such as Analysis and Critique, Effective Editing, and How to Write Bestselling Fiction, available on hoopla.

[ajaxlibrary.ca/online-resources](http://ajaxlibrary.ca/online-resources)



## Your Next Great Read is Just a Click Away!

NoveList Plus is an online database that helps readers find books that match their preferences and moods.

[ajaxlibrary.ca/online-resources](http://ajaxlibrary.ca/online-resources)



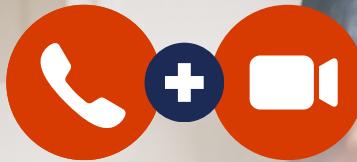
# Ajax Public Library

# Community

# Connections

Connect with these organizations and their staff for the following services:

<b>Durham French Employment Centre</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Connect French-speaking job seekers with employers that wish to hire francophone or bilingual (French/English) workers</li></ul>	<b>Wednesdays, January 7, February 4, March 4</b> <b>9 a.m.–2 p.m.</b> <b>Main Branch</b>
<b>Conseil des organismes francophones de la Région de Durham (COFRD)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Settlement services tailored to French-speaking newcomers</li><li>Needs assessment and referrals, orientation, and community connections through the Settlement Workers in Schools program</li></ul>	<b>Fridays, January 9, February 6, March 6</b> <b>9 a.m.–4 p.m.</b> <b>Main Branch</b>
<b>Durham Region Unemployed Help Centre</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Resume and cover letter critique and services related to your job search</li></ul>	<b>Mondays, January 12, February 9, March 9</b> <b>2–4 p.m.</b> <b>Main Branch</b>
<b>Housing Help Durham</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Rental accommodations and tenant rights</li><li>Subsidized, non-profit, and emergency housing</li></ul>	<b>Wednesdays, January 14, February 11, March 11</b> <b>2–4 p.m.</b> <b>Main Branch</b>
<b>John Howard Society Harm Reduction Services</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Harm reduction and safe practices</li><li>Naloxone kits and training on their use available upon request</li></ul>	<b>Wednesdays, January 21, February 18, March 18</b> <b>1–3 p.m.</b> <b>Main Branch</b>
<b>Alzheimer Society of Durham Region Information Table</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Information and resources</li><li>Services and programs available to those living with dementia and their care partners</li></ul>	<b>Wednesday, January 28, 1:30–3:30 p.m.</b> <b>Main Branch</b> <b>Tuesday, February 17, 2–3:30 p.m.</b> <b>Main Branch</b> <b>Thursday, March 26, 1–3 p.m.</b> <b>Main Branch</b>
<b>Durham Children's Aid Society Foster Parent Information Session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Interested in becoming a foster parent? Durham Children's Aid Society has an urgent need. To learn more, join this session or contact <a href="mailto:foster@durhamcas.ca">foster@durhamcas.ca</a>.</li></ul>	<b>Tuesday, February 10</b> <b>6:30–8:30 p.m.</b> <b>Audley Branch</b>



# Seniors Centre Without Walls

Join us for a FREE interactive program from the comfort of your home.  
Themes include fun activities, education, health & wellness and more.  
Each month a new calendar will highlight the upcoming days of activities.

Join using  
Zoom or call in  
Monday through  
Wednesday at  
1:30 p.m.

## Information Highway

Join informative guest speakers on topics like health, entertainment and finances; discuss local & global news; explore Ajax history with the Ajax Public Library; and enjoy short stories from various genres.

## Fit and Fun

Keep your mind and body fit through exercises led by knowledgeable and nationally accredited Town of Ajax fitness instructors and end your week laughing with the joke of the week.

## Worldly Wonders

Travel the world from the comfort of your home; learn about people from different countries and cultures; boldly go where your taste buds have never gone before with recipes from around the globe.

## Challenge Accepted

Put your knowledge to the test during weekly themed trivia questions, games and fun or fiction trivia; guess who dun' it during Minute Mysteries; challenge yourself with memory games.

[ajax.ca/55plus](http://ajax.ca/55plus)



Sponsored by  
**Ontario**   
Ministry of Seniors  
and Accessibility

**OACAO**  
The Voice of Older Adult Centres  
La voix des centres pour aînés

This content is available in alternative formats upon request by contacting 905-683-4550 or emailing [contactus@ajax.ca](mailto:contactus@ajax.ca)

# January 2026 Program Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
<b>5</b>  <b>Worldly Wonders:</b> Armchair Travel Greece (Part 1)	<b>6</b>  <b>Challenged Accepted:</b> Winter Trivia	<b>7</b>  <b>Information Highway:</b> 20 Questions
<b>12</b>  <b>Information Highway:</b> Fun Fact Frenzy - Weird but True	<b>13</b>  <b>Information Highway:</b> Summi Siddiqui	<b>14</b>  <b>Fit or Fun:</b> Word Game
<b>19</b>  <b>Challenge Accepted:</b> Brain Teaser	<b>20</b>  <b>Fit or Fun:</b> Fitness Demo	<b>21</b>  <b>Fit or Fun:</b> 52 Card Bingo and Riddles
<b>26</b>  <b>Information Highway:</b> Biographies: Frank Sinatra	<b>27</b>  <b>Information Highway:</b> Alzheimer's Society of Durham	<b>28</b>  <b>Information Highway:</b> Minute Mysteries

## Summi Siddiqui

Learn, discover and enjoy lectures, stories, poems and paintings as Summi connects cultures beyond borders.

## Alzheimer's Society

Learn more about the role and values of the Alzheimer Society of Canada, including our history of supporting people affected by dementia in Canada, the impact we are making today and our vision for the future.

Space  
is limited.



### To join Zoom:

Meeting ID: 936-9272-5495  
Passcode: SCWW55+001



### To join by phone:

Dial: 647-558-0588  
Meeting ID: 936-9272-5495#  
Participant ID: 1409113169#



# February 2026 Program Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
<b>2</b> <b>Worldly Wonders:</b> Armchair Travel - Greece (Part 2)	<b>3</b> <b>Information Highway:</b> Canadian Hearing Services	<b>5</b> <b>Challenge Accepted:</b> Name That Tune
<b>9</b> <b>Challenge Accepted:</b> The Word Game	<b>10</b> <b>Information Highway:</b> Dalia Gesser	<b>11</b> <b>Information Highway:</b> Tim Westhead
<b>16</b> No Programming	<b>17</b> <b>Fit or Fun:</b> Fitness Demo	<b>18</b> <b>Challenge Accepted:</b> Olympic Fact or Fiction
<b>23</b> <b>Information Highway:</b> Biographies - Sidney Poitier	<b>24</b> <b>Information Highway:</b> Wellness with Jennifer McCrae	<b>25</b> <b>Information Highway:</b> Historical Tidbits

**Canadian Hearing Services** is a proud Canadian not-for-profit and the country's leading provider of programs, and services that enable the deaf and hard of hearing community to overcome barriers to participation.

**Dalia Gesser**  
Join in the conversation as Dalia, a published author, read stories that will trigger memories and anecdotes to share

**Hollywood: An Insider's View**  
Join movie buff Tim Westhead to find out what's beyond the silver screen! Discover new films and make your love for film a more rewarding experience.

**Jennifer McCrae:**  
Join Jennifer, a certified Thanatologist, Reiki Teacher and Yoga & Meditation Teacher for a workshop on wellness.

Space  
is limited.



**To join Zoom:**  
Meeting ID: 936-9272-5495  
Passcode: SCWW55+001



**To join by phone:**  
Dial: 647-558-0588  
Meeting ID: 936-9272-5495#  
Participant ID: 1409113169#



# March 2026 Program Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	
<b>2</b> Worldly Wonders: Armchair Travel – Greece Pt. 3	<b>3</b> Fit or Fun: Charades	<b>4</b> Challenge Accepted: Why Do We Say It?	<b>Summi Siddiqui</b> Learn, discover and enjoy lectures, stories, poems and paintings as Summi connects cultures beyond borders.
<b>9</b> Information Highway: Film Friends – The Oscars	<b>10</b> Information Highway: DRPS – Frauds & Scams	<b>11</b> Fit or Fun: 52 Card Bingo & Riddles	<b>DRPS Senior Safety</b> Join Martin Franssen from Durham Regional Police Services who will provide an informative presentation!
<b>16</b> Historical Mysteries: Irish Lore	<b>17</b> Fit or Fun: St. Patrick's Day Facts & Trivia	<b>18</b> Information Highway: Summi Siddiqui	<b>Hollywood: An Insider's View</b> Join movie buff Tim Westhead to find out what's beyond the silver screen! Discover new films and make your love for film a more rewarding experience.
<b>23</b> Challenge Accepted: Trivia	<b>24</b> Fit or Fun: Fitness Demo	<b>25</b> Challenge Accepted: Brain Teasers	
<b>30</b> Information Highway: Biographies – Robert Redford	<b>31</b> Information Highway: Tim Westhead		<b>Space is limited.</b>



## To join Zoom:

Meeting ID: 936-9272-5495  
Passcode: SCWW55+001



## To join by phone:

Dial: 647-558-0588  
Meeting ID: 936-9272-5495#  
Participant ID: 1409113169#



2026 Design a Bookmark

# Contest Winners!

Congratulations to the January, February, and March Design a Bookmark Contest winners!

Pick up a new winning bookmark each month at any branch.



January  
winner:  
**Kiana H.**



February  
winner:  
**Akshayan M.**



March  
winner:  
**Miralini G.**



## Branch Locations

### Main Branch

55 Harwood Ave. S.

### Audley Branch

1955 Audley Rd. N.

### McLean Branch & Makerspace

95 Magill Dr.

### Ajax Community Centre NovelBranch

75 Centennial Rd.

## Branch Hours

### Monday–Friday

9 a.m.–9 p.m.

### Saturday and Sunday

9 a.m.–5 p.m.

## Stay Connected

Get the What's On delivered straight to your inbox! Sign up for our eNews at [ajaxlibrary.ca/eNewsletter](http://ajaxlibrary.ca/eNewsletter)

## Grandview Kids Express Branch

1461 Harwood Ave. N.

### Monday–Thursday

9 a.m.–8 p.m.

### Friday

9 a.m.–6:30 p.m.

### Open alternate Saturdays

9 a.m.–4 p.m.

### Sunday closed

## Contact

905-683-4000

[libraryinfo@ajaxlibrary.ca](mailto:libraryinfo@ajaxlibrary.ca)

Live chat online at

[ajaxlibrary.ca](http://ajaxlibrary.ca)

