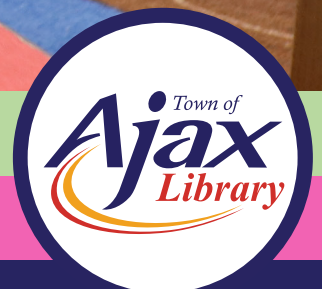


What's On

January–March 2026

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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



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



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.

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.

Learn more and apply at 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. 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.

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.

*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 blacklitudurham.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. Entries can be emailed to 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

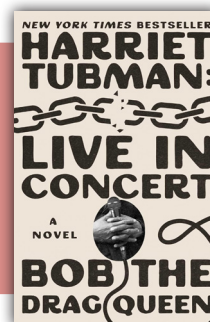
Friday, March 27, 6:30–8 p.m.

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 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



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

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

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.

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 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

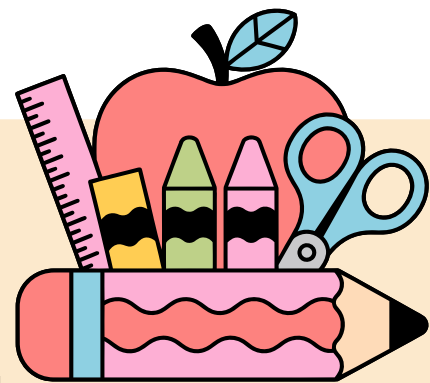
Join us for a one-of-a-kind book club experience that blends reading, creativity, and meaningful personal growth. Youth will explore great stories, play engaging literary games, and dive into themes like courage, curiosity, friendship, and identity.

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, 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 and in our March Break flyer.

March Break Reading Contest

Friday, March 13–Sunday, March 22

Ages 4–12

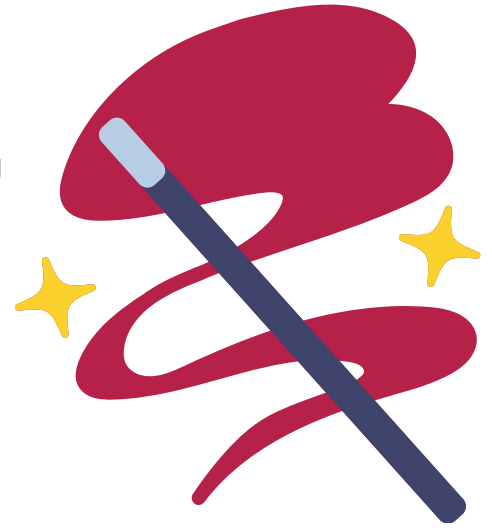
Show off your reading skills with our annual reading contest! Pick up a log sheet at any branch or download one from ajaxlibrary.ca/MarchBreak to get started. Read for 120 minutes with your family to earn a ballot for an eReader and play a game of Book Bingo for a bonus entry.

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.

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!

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.

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!



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 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.

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 Hadriana 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

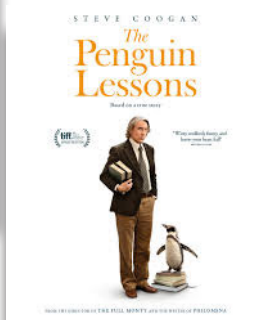
Tuesdays, January 6, February 3, March 3,
1:30–3:30 p.m.

Main Branch

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

February 3: The Ballad of Wallis Island (PG)

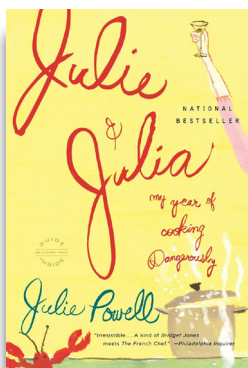
March 3: The Penguin Lessons (PG-13)



***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 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.

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.

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. 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. 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.

*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. 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.

*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. 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.

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

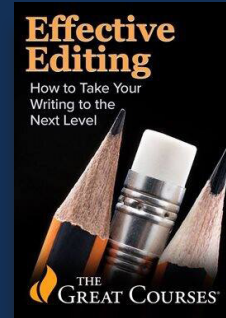
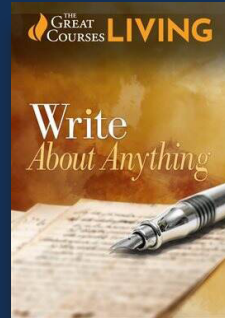
February: “Solution Stations” with the Writers’ Community of Durham Region

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

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



hoopla



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

NoveList
Plus

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 for more details or pick up a brochure at any branch. The winners will be announced in April during National Poetry Month.



Ajax Public Library

Community Connections

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

Durham French Employment Centre

- Connect French-speaking job seekers with employers that wish to hire francophone or bilingual (French/English) workers

Wednesdays, January 7, February 4, March 4
9 a.m.–2 p.m.
Main Branch

Conseil des organismes francophones de la Région de Durham (COFRD)

- Settlement services tailored to French-speaking newcomers
- Needs assessment and referrals, orientation, and community connections through the Settlement Workers in Schools program

Fridays, January 9, February 6, March 6
9 a.m.–4 p.m.
Main Branch

Durham Region Unemployed Help Centre

- Resume and cover letter critique and services related to your job search

Mondays, January 12, February 9, March 9
2–4 p.m.
Main Branch

Housing Help Durham

- Rental accommodations and tenant rights
- Subsidized, non-profit, and emergency housing

Wednesdays, January 14, February 11, March 11
2–4 p.m.
Main Branch

John Howard Society Harm Reduction Services

- Harm reduction and safe practices
- Naloxone kits and training on their use available upon request

Wednesdays, January 21, February 18, March 18
1–3 p.m.
Main Branch

Alzheimer Society of Durham Region Information Table

- Information and resources
- Services and programs available to those living with dementia and their care partners

Wednesday, January 28, 1:30–3:30 p.m.
Main Branch
Tuesday, February 17, 2–3:30 p.m.
Main Branch
Thursday, March 26, 1–3 p.m.
Main Branch

Durham Children's Aid Society Foster Parent Information Session

- Interested in becoming a foster parent? Durham Children's Aid Society has an urgent need. To learn more, join this session or contact foster@durhamcas.ca.

Tuesday, February 10
6:30–8:30 p.m.
Audley Branch



Seniors Centre Without Walls

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

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.

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



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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

January 2026 Program Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
5 Worldly Wonders: Armchair Travel Greece (Part 1)	6 Challenged Accepted: Winter Trivia	7 Information Highway: 20 Questions
12 Information Highway: Fun Fact Frenzy - Weird but True	13 Information Highway: Summi Siddiqui	14 Fit or Fun: Word Game
19 Challenge Accepted: Brain Teaser	20 Fit or Fun: Fitness Demo	21 Fit or Fun: 52 Card Bingo and Riddles
26 Information Highway: Biographies: Frank Sinatra	27 Information Highway: Alzheimer's Society of Durham	28 Information Highway: 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
2 Worldly Wonders: Armchair Travel - Greece (Part 2)	3 Information Highway: Canadian Hearing Services	5 Challenge Accepted: Name That Tune
9 Challenge Accepted: The Word Game	10 Information Highway: Dalia Gesser	11 Information Highway: Tim Westhead
16 No Programming	17 Fit or Fun: Fitness Demo	18 Challenge Accepted: Olympic Fact or Fiction
23 Information Highway: Biographies - Sidney Poitier	24 Information Highway: Wellness with Jennifer McCrae	25 Information Highway: 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
2 Worldly Wonders: Armchair Travel - Greece Pt. 3	3 Fit or Fun: Charades	4 Challenge Accepted: Why Do We Say It?
9 Information Highway: Film Friends - The Oscars	10 Information Highway: DRPS - Frauds & Scams	11 Fit or Fun: 52 Card Bingo & Riddles
16 Historical Mysteries: Irish Lore	17 Fit or Fun: St. Patrick's Day Facts & Trivia	18 Information Highway: Summi Siddiqui
23 Challenge Accepted: Trivia	24 Fit or Fun: Fitness Demo	25 Challenge Accepted: Brain Teasers
30 Information Highway: Biographies - Robert Redford	31 Information Highway: Tim Westhead	

Summi Siddiqui

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

DRPS Senior Safety

Join Martin Franssen from Durham Regional Police Services who will provide an informative presentation!

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.

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#



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

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

Live chat online at

ajaxlibrary.ca

