

Library Matters

The newsletter of
Brockton Public Library

January 2026

Volume 23

Issue 1

Happy New Year!

MUCH LOVE FROM STAFF



facebook.com/brocktonpubliclibrary
[@brocktonlibrary](https://twitter.com/brocktonlibrary)

VOICES OF LIBERATION

PRESENTED BY
EMMANUEL DAPHNIS



1/17/26
304 Main Street
Large Conference Room
2pm

TIMELINE OF HISTORIC SPEECHES

1963



Dr. King delivered his famous "I have a Dream" speech on the steps of the Lincoln memorial.

1965



After marching from Selma to Montgomery, he orates a speech entitled "Our God is Marching On."

1967



In what is known to be his most controversial speech, "Beyond Vietnam, a time to break the Silence," he condemns the Vietnam War.

1968

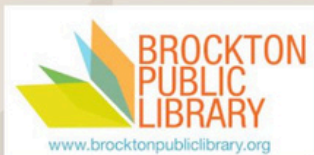


In his last speech, "I've Been to the Mountaintop," he addresses sanitation workers on strike in Memphis, Tennessee.

SELMA MOVIE NIGHT

**WEDNESDAY
JANUARY 14
6:00 PM**

**304 Main Street
Lingos Auditorium**



Contact Jonathan Stroud at jstroud@cobma.us

HELP US FEED LOCAL FAMILIES

TOGETHER, WE CAN PUT FOOD ON THE TABLE



WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

Every day, families in our community go to bed hungry. Your donation helps us provide fresh meals and groceries to those who need it most.

MOST NEEDED FOOD ITEMS:

- Canned vegetables, beans & soup
- Rice, pasta & cereal
- Shelf-stable milk & baby formula
- Peanut butter & canned protein
- Cooking oil & spices



www.brocktonpubliclibrary.org

*DROP OFF LOCATIONS:

MAIN BRANCH:** 304 MAIN ST. 508-894-1400

EAST BRANCH:** 54 KINGMAN ST. | 508-894-1460

*WEST BRANCH:** 540 FOREST AVE. 508-894-1470

GENERAL PROGRAMS

LIBRARY OF THINGS

WHY BUY WHEN YOU CAN BORROW?



Over 90 Things, Binoculars, Hotspots, Computers and more...



Check out your favorite item out today!



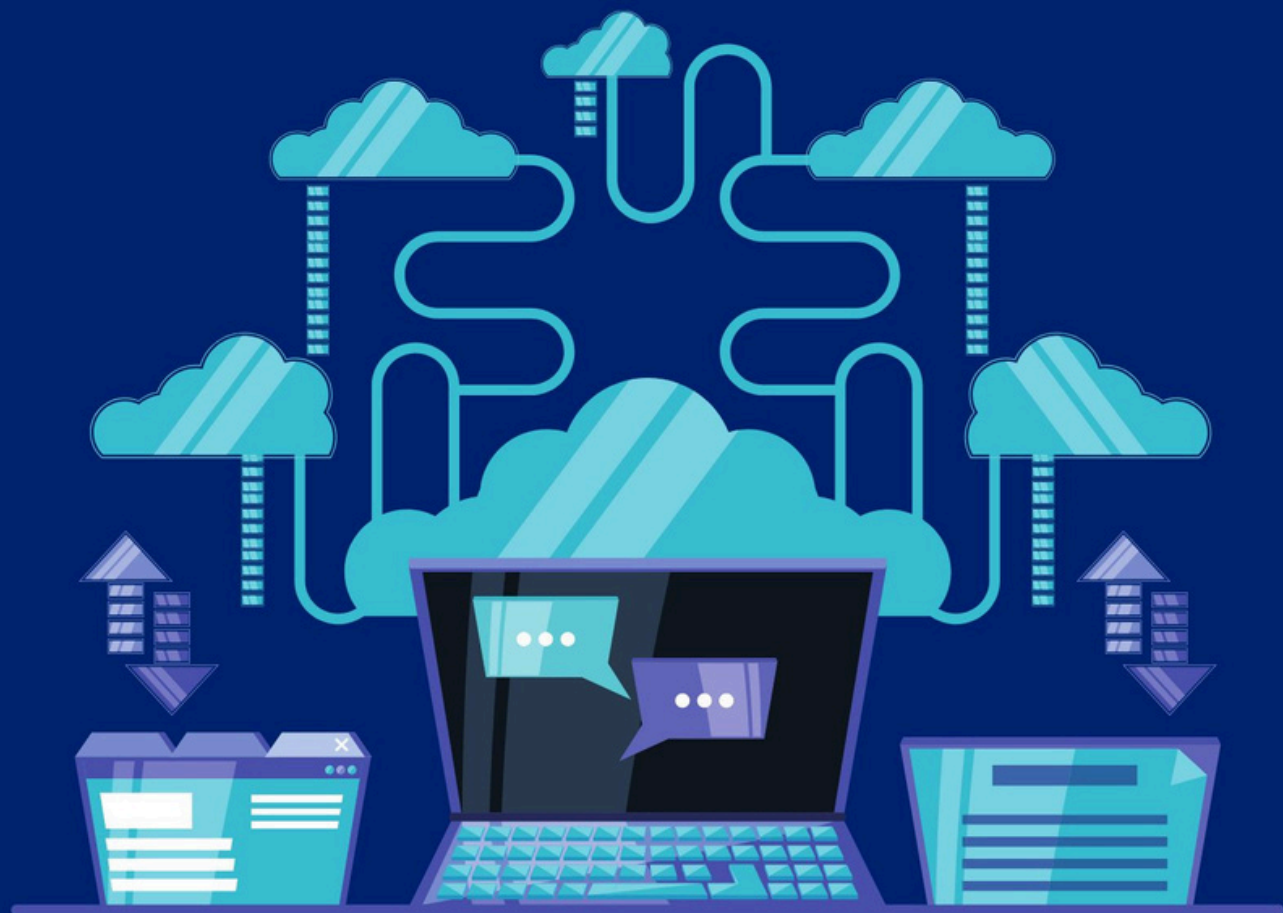
Chess Club



All skill levels and ages welcome!

**January 13 & 27, 3PM: East Branch
January 14 & 28, 7PM: Main Branch
January 15 & 29, 3PM: West Branch**

»»»»GOOGLE«««« CLASSROOM



Google Classroom is a free, cloud-based platform launched by Google in 2014, designed to simplify the management of digital classrooms. Built to integrate seamlessly with tools like Google Drive, Docs, Sheets, and Meet, it provides a one-stop hub where educators can create assignments, share resources, and communicate with students, while learners can access materials, submit work, and collaborate with peers.



Computer Lab
Weekly on Thursdays
9:30am to 10:30am

CANVA BASIC 101



Canva is an online design and publishing tool with a mission to empower everyone in the world to design anything and publish anywhere.

**Weekly on Tuesdays
9:00am to 10:00am
July 8**

**Any questions email jstroud@cobma.us
or call 508-894-1423**

GENERAL PROGRAMS



Zoom Class

Mondays, 1:00PM-2:00 PM
Main Branch



Learn all about how to use Zoom! Classes are being held every Monday in the Computer Lab. **Call or email Jonathan to register:** jstroud@cobma.us or 508-894-1423.



Drop-in Tech Help on Thursdays from 3-4PM

Need some one-on-one help with your devices? If so drop by on Thursdays at 3pm and ask for Jonathan.

Computer Basics

Mondays, 10-11:30 AM
Main Branch



Are you just starting out, or in need of a refresher on the basics of computing? Computer classes are being held every Monday in the Computer Lab. **Call or email Jonathan to register:** jstroud@cobma.us or 508-894-1423.

Intermediate Computer Class

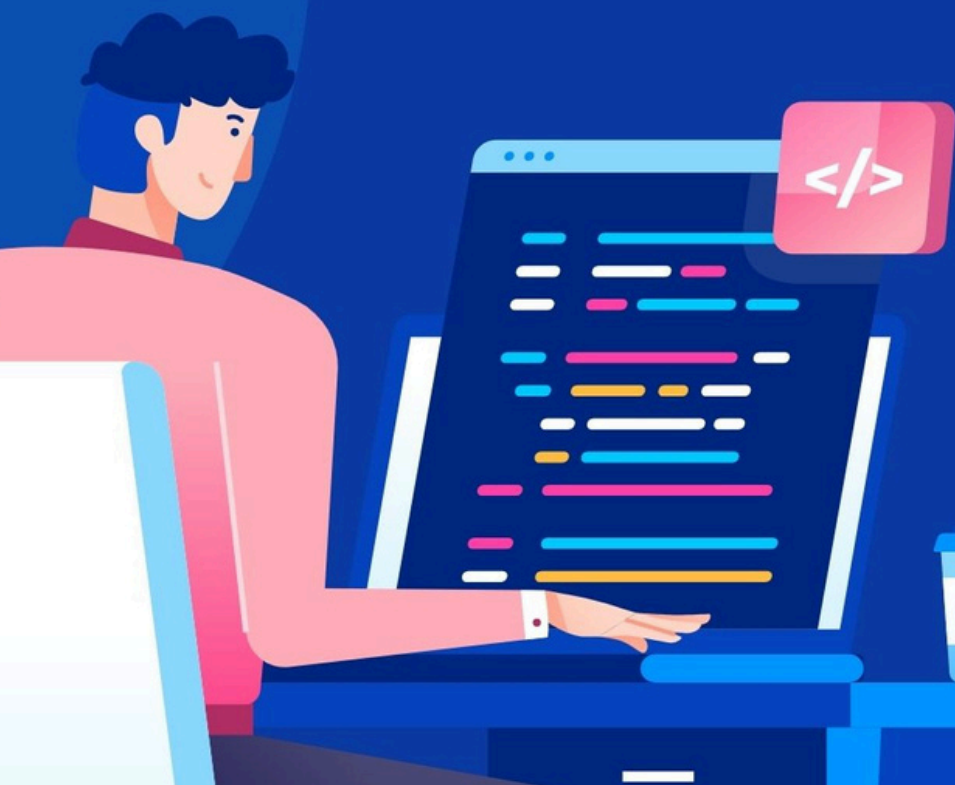
Mondays, 11:30 AM-1:00PM
Main Branch



Intermediate level classes are being offered after computer basic classes at 10am on Monday mornings weekly. **Please call or email Jonathan to register:** jstroud@cobma.us or 508-894-1423.

DROP IN TECH HELP

**Weekly Thursdays
3pm to 4pm**



**BROCKTON PUBLIC
LIBRARY**

**304 Main Street
Top Floor/Reference
Department**

**Any questions email
jstroud@cobma.us**

SMART Recovery Meetings

**Every Wednesday Night with Mark a former substance abuse counselor
from 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm beginning 07/09/25**

Located in the ESL Room in Reference

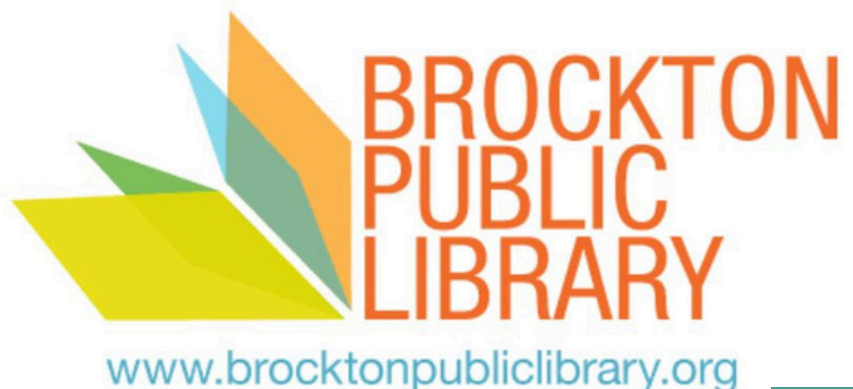
What is SMART Recovery?

SMART Recovery is the leading, evidence-informed approach to overcoming addictive behaviors and leading a balanced life. SMART is stigma-free and emphasizes self-empowerment.

SMART Recovery is an evidenced-informed recovery method grounded in Rational Emotive Behavioral Therapy (REBT) and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), that supports people with substance dependencies or problem behaviors to:

**Build and maintain motivation
Cope with urges and cravings
Manage thoughts, feelings and behaviors
Live a balanced life**

**For more information email Mark at mdelaney@cobma.us
or
Just show up to a meeting!**



Law Librarian Office Hours

@ the Brockton Public
Library!

Get help with your legal information
needs, including:

Legal research

Finding legal
forms

Using legal
databases

Connecting to local
resources and programs

Finding laws, statutes,
and case law



Every
Thursday



3PM-4PM



Brockton Public
Library
Main Branch
3rd floor

For more information, contact:

Brockton Law Library

(508) 586-7110 | brocktonlawlibrary@jud.state.ma.us

Brockton Public Library

(508) 894-1400



Create a Mini Zen Garden

Start off 2026 mindfully by creating a mini zen garden perfect for your desk space! Register by emailing: amunoz@cobma.us

LIMITED SPACE
REGISTER NOW!

When: Thursday January 8th, 2026

Where: West Branch Meeting Room

Time: 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

All ages welcome

*children under 12 must be with an adult



AIR DRY CLAY POTTERY WORKSHOPS

1.15.26 + 1.22.26

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

WEST BRANCH MEETING ROOM

*Register
Now*

EMAIL AMUNOZ@COBMA.US TO
REGISTER. REGISTRATION IS FOR
BOTH DATES.

OPEN ENROLLMENT EVENT

NEED HEALTH INSURANCE?

WE CAN HELP.

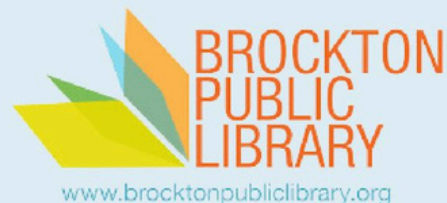
Health Connector specialists can help you with your Health Connector or MassHealth coverage and any other questions you may have, no appointment needed.

¿NECESITA SEGURO MÉDICO?

PODEMOS AYUDAR.

Los especialistas de Health Connector pueden ayudar con su cobertura de Health Connector o MassHealth y pueden contestar cualquier otra pregunta que pueda tener. No se necesita cita previa.

Malice Veiga
508-894-1425

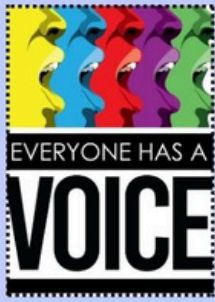


January 17th, 2026
9:30 a.m. to 2:00
p.m.

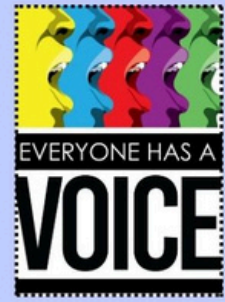


Brockton Library
304 Main Street,
Brockton, MA 02301
In the Lingos Auditorium





Brockton Public Library Poetry Series Everyone Has A Voice



**Saturday, January 17, 2026
2PM**

**Host
Queen of Ceremonies
Hope Z. Fernandes**



**Featured Poet
Mark Pawlak**

Mark Pawlak is the author of ten poetry collections, most recently *Away Away* (Arrowsmith Press, 2024), and the memoir *My Deniversity: Knowing Denise Levertov* (MadHat Press, 2021). His poems have been translated into German, Japanese, Polish, and Spanish. In English, his poems and prose have appeared widely in anthologies such as *The Best American Poetry* and *Blood to Remember: American Poets on the Holocaust*, among many other places. As managing editor of *Hanging Loose Press*, he has published four anthologies of the "Best Poetry" by high school age writers.



**Student Poet
Darvince Oddies**

Darvince Oddies is a 15-year-old Haitian student at New Heights Charter School, and he is the youngest of three children. He is named after his father and has "Viguez" as his middle name. Darvince developed a passion for poetry in 2020, initially using it to cope with his emotions. After 2023, he began writing less often, choosing instead to share his poems out loud with friends. Encouraged by his friends, who recognized his potential and talent, and by teachers who heard his earlier work, Darvince has been inspired to return to writing and begin performing his poems.

**Brockton Public Library
304 Main Street
Driscoll Art Gallery
Step up to the mic. Be part of our open mic.**

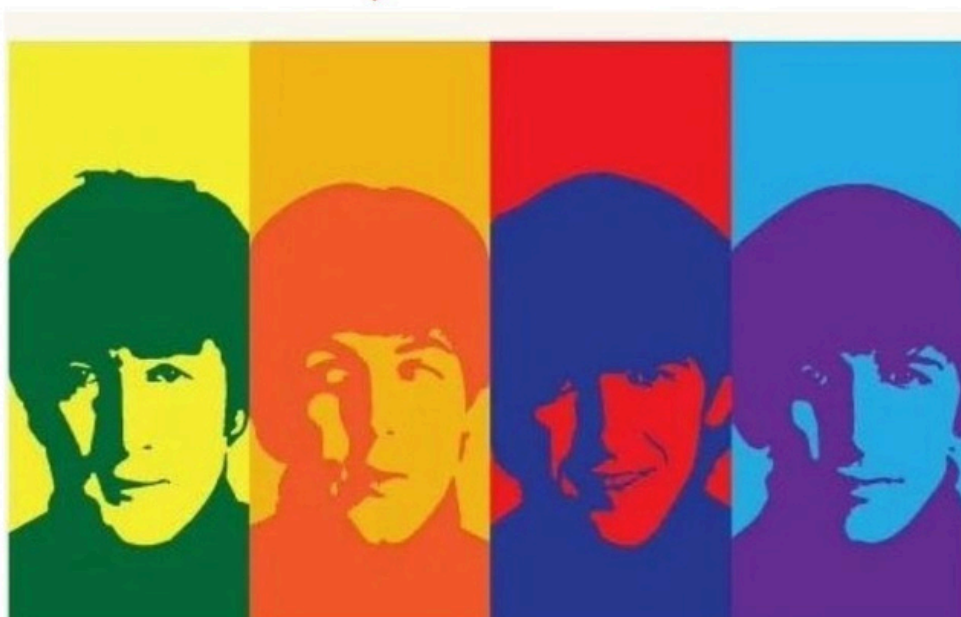
**Contact Philip Hasouris at 508-942-8018
phasouris@cobma.us**

**or Malice Veiga at 508-894-1424
mveiga@cobma.us**



60 Years of the Beatles in America

Jan 20, 2026 1:00 PM



Join us on Zoom by
registering at
bit.ly/beatlesamerica
or scanning the code
below.



For more information visit
brocktonpubliclibrary.org contact
Warren Nelson at (508) 894-1427
or wnelson@cobma.us





BROCKTON PUBLIC LIBRARY PRESENTS



BAILEY STREET BRASS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31 | 2:00 PM
304 MAIN ST.

FOR QUESTIONS, CONTACT THOMAS
AHEARN AT TAHEARN@COBMA.US OR
508-894-1452.





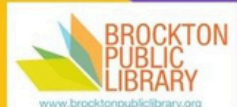
GIRL, ESQ

JOIN US THIS YEAR AS WE POUR INTO GIRLS AGES 6-16 ABOUT
HOW TO USE THEIR GREATEST ASSET: THEIR VOICE!!!!

Every Month On The Third Saturday

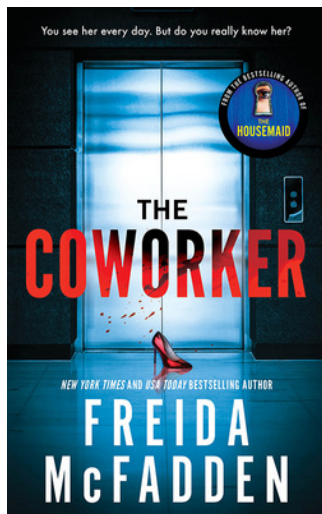
2PM

Contact Jonathan Stroud at jstroud@cobma.us



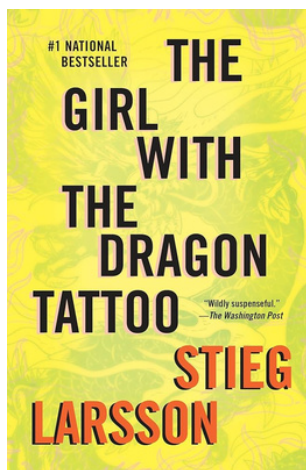
BOOK DISCUSSIONS

Council on Aging Book Club **Monday, January 12, 1 PM** **Council on Aging**



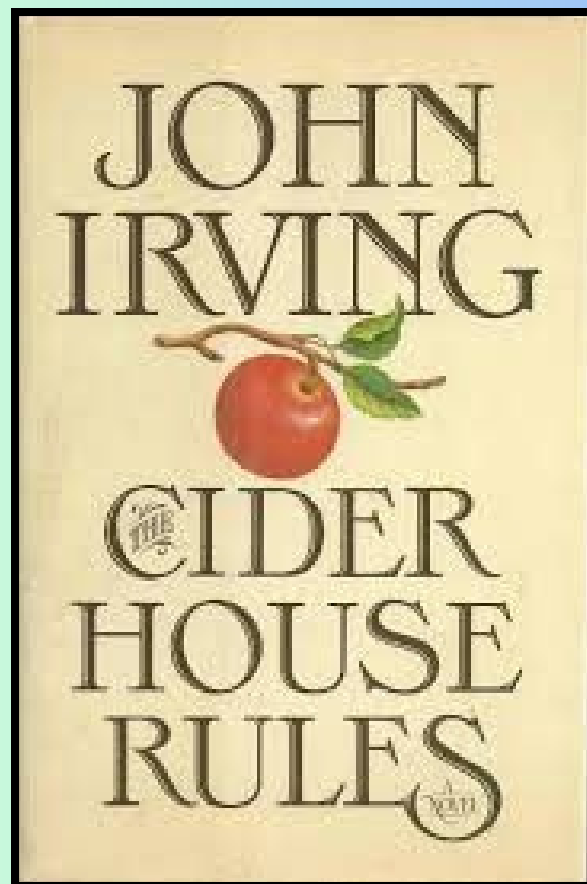
A tense, unputdownable thriller that explores the dark ways the past can echo through the present—with deadly consequences.

Council on Aging **Mystery Book Club** **Wednesday, January 14, 1 PM**



Journalist Mikael Blomkvist and hacker Lisbeth Salander investigate the disappearance of Harriet Vanger, which took place forty years ago.

Adult Book Club **Saturday, January 17, 1 PM** **Main Branch**



Set in rural Maine in the first half of the 20th century, it tells the story of Dr. Wilbur Larch--saint and obstetrician, founder and director of the orphanage in the town of St. Cloud's, ether addict and abortionist. It is also the story of Dr. Larch's favorite orphan, Homer Wells, who is never adopted.

IMMIGRATION, ELL & CITIZENSHIP PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES



www.usalearns.org

USA Learns is a free website that teaches English skills to immigrants. It consists of three levels First English Course (NRS Levels 2 and 3), Second English Course (NRS Levels 4 and 5) and Practice English and Reading skills (intermediate level).



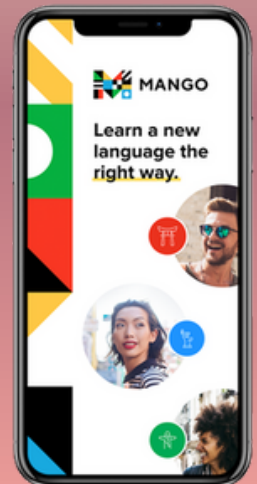
The USA Learns Citizenship course helps immigrants prepare for all facets of the naturalization process, including the reading, writing, and civics components of the citizenship test, as well as the N-400 interview. The course is located within the free USA Learns website.

Get Talking with Mango



Learn a new language with Mango and the Brockton Public Library. Go to the Brockton Public Library website and click on the tab **books and more** then click world languages and then click on Mango Languages and create an account or use as a guest and start learning with Mango.

**Download Your
Mango App
Today**



Learn A New Language Today!



Contact Malice Veiga
508-894-1425 or mveiga@cobma.us

IMMIGRATION, ELL & CITIZENSHIP PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES

Free Citizenship Resource Packet



Come by and pickup a FREE Citizenship Resource Packet full of helpful information! It includes a list of online tools and resources, study aids, checklists, and more. Contact Malice Veiga for a paper copy.

Citizenshipworks
www.citizenshipworks.org

Citizenship works is an online service that helps you prepare for citizenship and guides you through the application process.



Free Immigration Court Proceedings



A FREE handout in Portuguese, Haitian Creole and Spanish that has information about the immigration court process in the different states. Contact Malice Veiga for a handout.

Free Immigration Forms



If you need a particular immigration form please come by and ask for Malice Veiga.

IMMIGRATION, ELL, CITIZENSHIP PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES

WORLD Languages

Do you want to read a fiction or a nonfiction book
in your native language?

If you do, come and check out our world
language collection at the reference department.

Languages are
French
Spanish
Portuguese
Haitian Creole
Cape Verdean Creole



Welcome To The
Brockton Public Library



Learn a New Language Today



The library has many resources to help you
learn a new language. And, be able to converse
with a new friend today!

Books
CDs

Recorded Books: Language Course
Mango Language database
and more

Portuguese, French, Spanish,
German and more



Contact Malice Veiga
508-894-1425 or mveiga@cobma.us

LET'S *Make* FRIENDS

ALL AGES

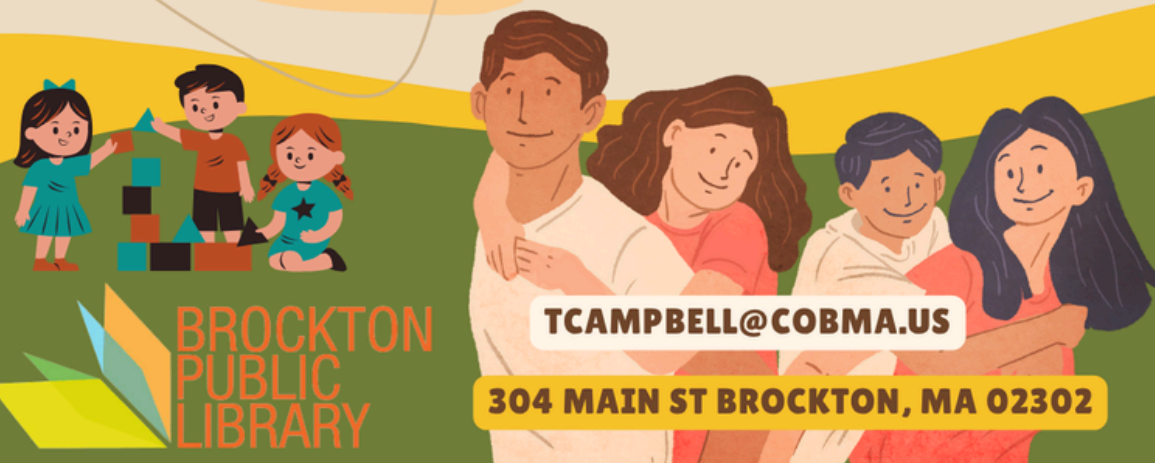
EVERY WEDNESDAY
10:00AM – 11:30AM

We create a safe space for families and their children to connect, learn and grow with each other.

508-894-1431

**EXCITING GAMES,
ACTIVITIES, PLAY TIME,
STORY TIMES, CRAFTS AND
EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES.**

**Our Vision is to
empower parents
and children to build
a community that is
more connected,
compassionate, and
resilient.**



TCAMPBELL@COBMA.US

304 MAIN ST BROCKTON, MA 02302



Coordinated
Family &
Community
Engagement



**AGE
18 MONTHS-
3 YEARS**

TODDLER STORY TIME

REGISTRATION
IS NOW
OPEN

**STARTING
1/14/25**

TUESDAYS

10 AM - 11 AM

**WEST BRANCH 540
FORREST AVE
BROCKTON MA
02302**



**JOIN MISS ASHLEY EVERY
TUESDAY AT 10AM AT THE
WEST BRANCH FOR TODDLER
TIME STORY HOUR! CHILDREN
WILL BE INTRODUCED TO
STORIES, FINGERPLAY, MUSIC,
MOVEMENT AND
SOCIALIZATION SKILLS THAT
ARE FUN, ENGAGING AND
SUPPORT EARLY LEARNING!**

**FOR QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS
CONTACT MISS ASHLEY AT
AMUNOZ@COBMA.US**



Coordinated
Family &
Community
Engagement



MATH EVERYWHERE! PLAYGROUP

Calling all families with little ones
(ages 0-6 years old)!

Join us for a FREE 6-week playgroup filled with fun,
learning, and connection!

Thursdays 10:00 AM- 11:00 AM

December: 4, 11, 18

January: 8, 15, 22

SPACE IS
LIMITED!

Main Brockton Public Library
304 Main Street

EMAIL: TRACEYCABRAL@BPSMA.ORG
OR CALL: 508-580-7491 TO REGISTER!



SINGING IN A WINTER WONDERLAND



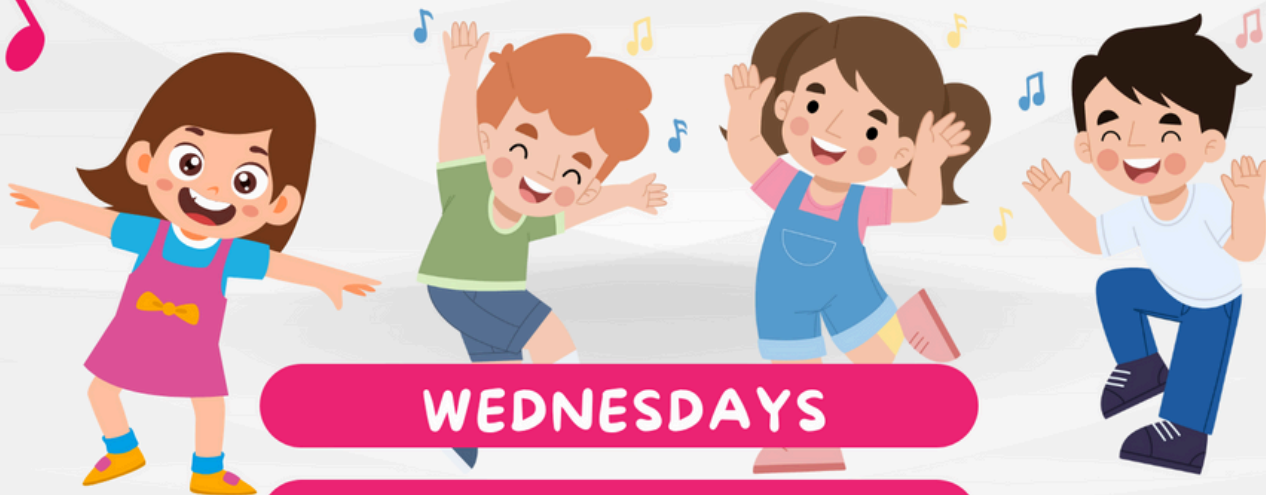
Let's all sing and dance together with Gwyn

THURSDAY AT 3:30PM

1/8, 1/15, 1/22, 1/29

MOVE & GROOVE

STORYTIME



STARTING Wednesday, January 7, 2026

Join us for a dynamic **STORYTELLING** session paired with **Zumba**-inspired movements! Explore the joy of reading together and get moving with easy, playful dances that everyone can enjoy. It's a perfect mix of imagination and active fun for little ones and their grown-ups!

 **Register Now**



Our Contact
Children's Room
508-894-1431

304 Main St Brockton, MA 02301



Coordinated
Family &
Community
Engagement



Build your own Igloo Night!

FREE

Brockton Public Library
304 Main Street, Brockton MA 02301

FREE

Join us for a fun night where kids and families are able to build
their own Igloo!

January 26, 2026 at 4PM

Children ages 5 to 18 years old are invited!

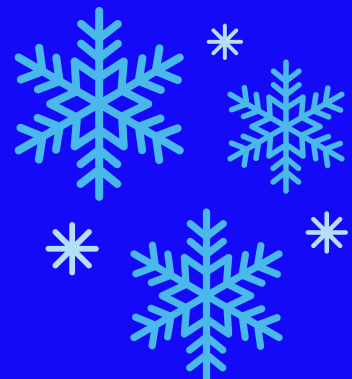
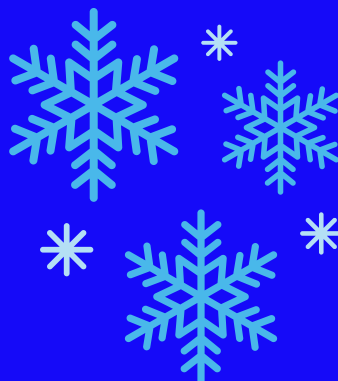
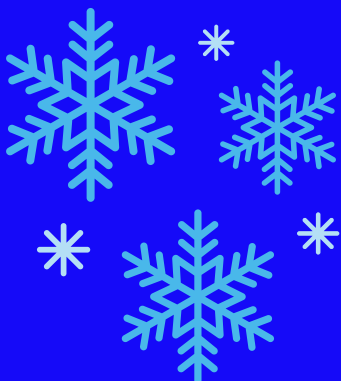


FREE

Scan to register



FREE



BOOK RELEASE AND SIGNING EVENT

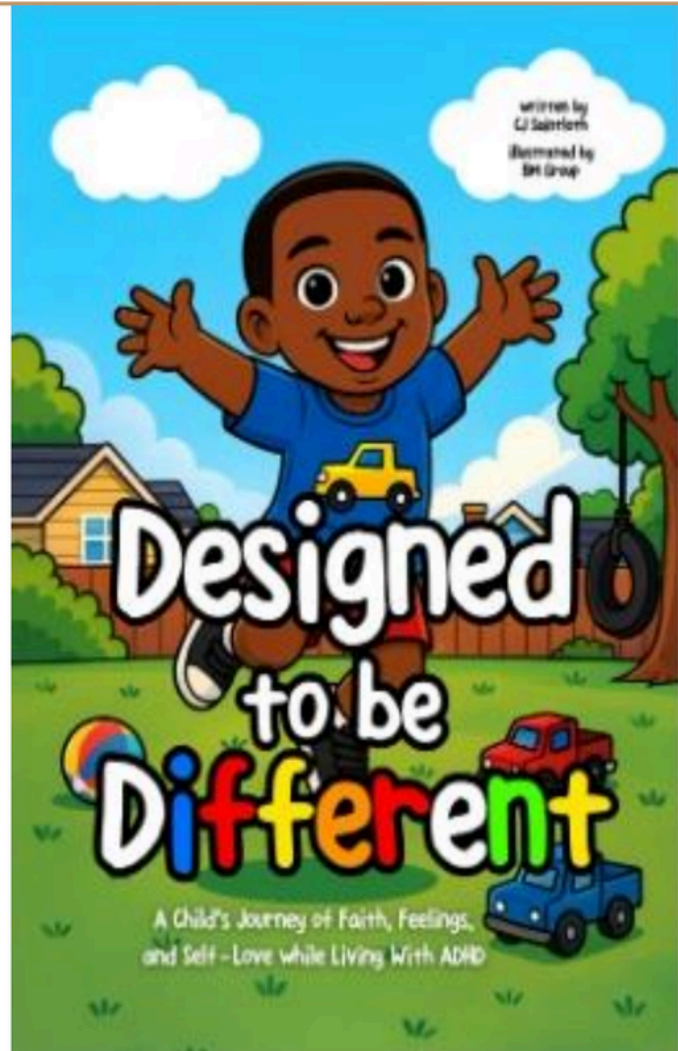
@ Brockton Main Library
304 Main Street, Brockton, MA
Saturday January 31 at 3pm

Come celebrate and meet the community's new local author Chrismanie Saintloth, and her family.

The book embraces self-love, faith, community support for a young child named Zeak who feels different due to living with ADHD.

It will be an exciting time filled with:

- Education
- Snacks
- Games
- Prizes



For more information, call children's room @ 508-894-1434



**Thursday, January 1
Library Closed
&
Monday, January 19
Martin Luther King Jr.
Library Closed**

**Main Library
304 Main St.
(508) 894-1400
btlib@ocln.org
Mon & Tues 12pm - 9pm
Wed 9am - 9pm
Thu - Sat 9am - 5pm**

**East Branch
54 Kingman St.
(508) 894-1460
bteast@ocln.org
Mon 8am-4pm
Tues & Wed 9am-5pm
Thurs 12pm-8pm**

**West Branch
540 Forest Ave.
(508) 894-1470
btwest@ocln.org
Mon 8am-4pm
Tues & Wed 9am-5pm
Thurs 12pm-8pm**



Calling All *Artists*

Showcase your Artwork at
the Brockton Public Library

Do you have artwork that's just waiting to be displayed? If you do, our library is a great opportunity to begin at. Please contact Jonathan Stroud to setup an appointment at jstroud@cobma.us or 508-894-1423.

LIBRARY FOUNDATION



**President
Donna Frett**

Members fundraise and provide financial support for library programs. The foundation meets the first Tuesdays at 6:30 pm at the Main Branch.



Library Matters

The newsletter of
Brockton Public Library

January 2026

Volume 23

Issue 1

List of Programs - For The Month Of January

General Programs

January 7, 14, 21 and 28- SMART Recovery Meeting

January 8, 15, 22 and 29- Law Librarian

January 8- Create a Mini-Zen Garden

January 13 & 27- East Branch Chess Club

January 14- Selma Movie Night

January 14 & 28- Main Branch Chess Club

January 15 & 22- Air Dry Clay Pottery

January 15 & 29- West Branch Chess Club

January 17- Open Enrollment Event

January 17- Voices of Liberation

January 17- Everyone Has a Voice

January 20- 60 Years of the Beatles in America

January 31- Bailey Street Brass Concert

Mondays - Computer Basics

Mondays - Intermediate Computer Class

Tuesdays - Canva Basic 101

Thursdays - Google Classroom

Thursdays - Drop-in Tech Help

Children's Programs

Wednesdays- Let's Make Friends

January 6, 13, 20 and 27- Toddler Story Time

January 7, 14, 21 and 28- Move and Groove Storytime

January 8, 15 and 22- Math Everywhere Playgroup

January 8, 15, 22 and 29- Singing in a Winter Wonderland

January 26- Build Your Own Igloo Night

January 31- Designed to be Different Signing Event

Book Discussions

January 12- The Coworker by Freida McFadden (COA)

January 14- The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo (COA)

January 17- The Cider House Rules by John Irving

