



Racine Public Library

75 Seventh Street
Racine, WI 53403
(262) 636-9217
RacineLibrary.info

Library Hours

Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Friday & Saturday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Deputy Director Nick Demske



This winter, the Racine Public Library appointed Nick Demske its deputy director. Demske, who has worked for the library for 15 years, brings a focus on equity, diversity, inclusion (EDI) and antiracism to the role. The deputy director role is new to the Racine Public Library, created to serve on the library's leadership team through public service and by supporting the library's broader strategic work. Demske's first goals for the role: ensure staff and patrons feel awesome about coming into the building every day, and amplify the library's reputation as one "radically committed" to EDI

throughout the Racine community and international library field.

In March of 2007, which ended up being one of Demske's foundational moments, the library called to tell him he got the job. He's remained at the library ever since, and he attributes his employment there to who he is today as an employee, activist, elected official and proud Racine community member.

From his early circulation role, Demske and the library soon morphed his role into one that ran programs to support teens' leadership and community engagement. It wasn't long before he also became the recipient of the library's continuing education endowment, through which he earned his Master of Library and Information Science at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

His new experiences led to Demske and the library crafting the Racine Public Library's unique community resource librarian position (his subsequent role) — effectively an in-house community organizer position — from the inside out. He also established the BONK! arts and culture series, founded the Mary Finley and Marcie Eanes Black History Month Read-In, and helped lead the library's successful Hispanic Heritage Month celebrations — all of which he proudly passed on to other community leaders as these efforts gained momentum.

"Nick stood out as someone who would not only fulfill the responsibilities of the position, but would also be able to mold the role, grow within it, and use his skills and dedication to contribute to a brighter future for the library and the entire community," said Angela Zimmermann, executive director of the Racine Public

Library. "His community-centric focus and leadership skills will serve the Racine Public Library exceptionally well."

"Sometimes we choose communities, and sometimes communities choose us," Demske says. "I feel like the community did choose me. I want to spend the rest of my life prioritizing making good on that investment that this community and this library has put into me."

125th Anniversary Celebrations



Last Call for Tickets!

A limited number of tickets are still available for Trivia Night. On **Saturday, March 26, 7-10 p.m.**, join us after-hours for professionally hosted trivia, a dinner catered by Captain Mikes and cash prizes. First drink's on us!

[Buy Tickets](#)

Pricing

Single ticket: **\$30**

Table for 8: **\$200**

Maximum team size: **8**

Prizes

First place: **\$125**

Second place: **\$100**

Third place: **\$50**

RACINE PUBLIC LIBRARY'S
125th
ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATING 125 YEARS

CELEBRATE 125 YEARS
OF LITERACY WITH US

Winter Literacy Fest
Feb. 26 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Retro Gaming Night
March 25 6 to 8 p.m.

Trivia Night
March 26 7 to 10 p.m.

National Library Week
April 4-10

Earth Day Cleanup
April 23 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Poetry Slam Jam
Early June in the evening

125th Block Party
July 16 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Storytime Revival
Sept. 7 6 p.m.

Fall Literacy Fest
Sept. 10 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Milwaukee Maker Fair
Late September

International Games Day
Nov. 12 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Grand Reopening
Late 2022

RACINE PUBLIC LIBRARY
RacineLibrary.info/125-years

Pictures from the Past

Celebrating 125 Years in Racine



Mrs. Emily A. Lee and her husband Charles were among the first benefactors of the Racine Public Library. Lee passed away in 1927 at the age of 79, leaving \$100,000 to the library — an equivalent to \$1.6 million in today's dollars. The Lee Room is named in honor of this life-long library supporter.

[More Library History](#)

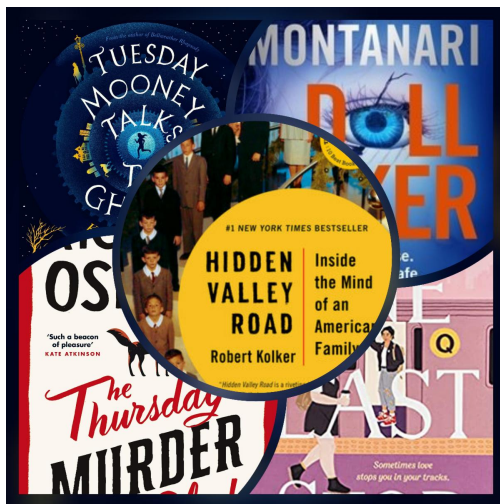
Explore Your Library



Free Language Learning with the Duolingo App

Learning with Duolingo is fun, and [research shows that it works!](#) With quick, bite-sized lessons, you'll earn points and unlock new levels while gaining real-world communication skills. This is a free service that lets you choose from dozens of different languages. [Start learning today.](#) and you'll be fluent in no time!

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Adult Reading Recommendations from Local History Librarian Rebecca

- **"Tuesday Mooney Talks to Ghosts"** by Kate Racculia
- **"The Thursday Murder Club"** by Richard Osman
- **"Hidden Valley Road: Inside the Mind of an American Family"** by Robert Kolker
- **"The Doll Maker"** by Richard Montanari
- **"One Last Stop"** by Casey McQuinston

[Read the Descriptions](#)



Explore Historic Newspapers

The library houses an extensive collection of newspapers from the past century, all preserved on microfilm. Our archive can help you locate old articles, obituaries not online, and ads from the past. To view, just select a paper and load it on the microfilm machine (or ask a staff member for help).

Wisconsinites can also access papers of the 1700s to 2000s on Newspapers.com. This database contains thousands of regional, state and local newspapers from the United States and beyond.

[Digital Newspaper Database](#)

Upcoming Programs



Senior Scams

A liaison from the Wisconsin Bureau of Consumer Protection will share information about the latest scams and frauds you might encounter. Learn tips for spotting these scams and how to protect yourself.

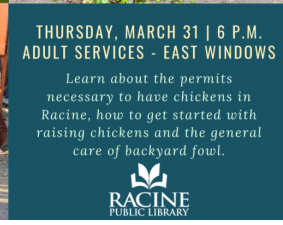
Saturday, March 30 | 10 a.m.
Zoom | Registration Required



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BACKYARD CHICKENS

with Angie Molina



THURSDAY, MARCH 31 | 6 P.M.
ADULT SERVICES - EAST WINDOWS

Learn about the permits necessary to have chickens in Racine, how to get started with raising chickens and the general care of backyard fowl.



Library News

Racine Public Library

March & April | Kids and Teen Programs | 2022



Storytimes, Programs, Resources and Events
75 7th Street, Racine, WI, 53403
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Upcoming Children and Teens' Programs

Never miss a storytime, teen crafting session or coding class again. [Download the calendar](#) of kid and teen events and programs for March and April, or pick one up next time you stop by the library.

[View the Calendar](#)

[New Adult DVDS](#)

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