


 214 Main Street, Chatham, NJ 07928 | 973-635-0603 | [www.chathamlibrary.org](http://www.chathamlibrary.org)

## Save the Mural Painted by Michael Rex

In anticipation of the upcoming library renovation, some residents have asked what will happen to the library mural.

In 1994, funding for the Ida Benigno Children's Room was given to the library in memory of Ida Marie Benigno by her husband Russell and daughters Rosemary Fuss and Valerie Olpp. A Chatham resident, Mrs. Benigno was a teacher at the Fairmount Avenue Elementary School and later a volunteer at Library of the Chathams.

Author/illustrator of *Goodnight Goon*, Michael Rex was commissioned to create original art in the Benigno Room where library programs



and community meetings have been held ever since. Mr. Rex is the creator of more than 40 delightful books for children. He learned to draw in Chatham and studied at the School of Visual Arts in New York City.

Over the years, the walls and mural have been damaged, and they will be further affected by the planned renovation. The images will be preserved and moved to a new children's program room on the upper level of the library through digitization. The library has initiated a Kickstarter campaign to raise funds for the project at [chathamlibrary.org/save-the-mural/](http://chathamlibrary.org/save-the-mural/). We are excited for the opportunity to preserve this artwork for the enjoyment of current and future generations.

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## FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY NEWS

### Book Collection

**January 13 through February 21**

The Friends of the Library will be accepting gently used books, CDs and DVDs for the Annual Book Sale. Bring your donations to the rear entrance of the library and deposit them in the hallway.

Please donate books that are in good condition.

We do not accept textbooks or encyclopedias.

The Book Sale begins on March 14.

### Annual Friends Meeting

Make 2020 the year you become a Friend of the Library!

Please join us for our annual meeting on January 8 at 9:30 am. Support great programming and events!



Connect with us!

# Programs and Events Adults

## JANUARY

### C.A.L.L.: Art and Architecture of Rome

Mondays, January 6, 13, 20 & 27

11 am to 12:30 pm

See back cover for details.

### Vaccines for Good Health

Tuesday, January 7 – 7 pm

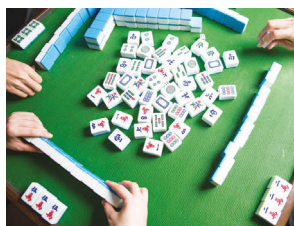
Health Educator Amy Lewis from the Westfield Regional Health Department will provide an overview of new vaccine recommendations for adults. Included in this presentation will be a discussion concerning different flu vaccines, pneumonia vaccines, the updated shingles vaccine, and others.



### Mahjong Lessons and Club

Wednesdays, January 8, 15, 22 & 29 – 1 to 3 pm

Would you like to learn how to play Mahjong? Here is your chance to learn from two experienced players. Class size is limited to 8, so please register early. Mahjong sets will be provided, but all players will need a 2019 Mahjong card. If you don't have one, you can buy it at the library for \$9. If you are already a Mahjong player and are looking for somewhere to play and partners to play with, come with your own set and card and enjoy the game! \*



### English as a Second Language



Thursdays, January 9  
through February 27  
1:30 to 2:30 pm  
Registration required

For those wanting to improve their English language skills, we are starting our next cycle of ESL classes. The program will be conducted by LEARN Associates and volunteer tutors for 8 weeks. Students will be divided into small groups by skill level. Books and other learning materials will be provided. The program is free – all you need is a commitment to learn! Register online, in person, or call 973-635-0603.

### Women's Fight for Voting Rights and the 19th Amendment

Tuesday, January 14 – 7 pm

Attorney Sharon M. Hallanan, an active member of the New Jersey State Bar Foundation's Speakers Bureau, will present a lecture on voting rights and the struggle for women to obtain the right to vote in the 20th century. New Jersey's own Alice Paul, who was instrumental in advocating for the passage of the 19th Amendment, will be highlighted.



### Keep This, Toss That for a Clutter-Free New Year

Wednesday, January 22 – 7 pm

Professional organizer and author Jamie Novak will present a workshop on getting organized this winter. You will learn simple strategies to get things together after the holidays, how to clear the closets, get the top of your table back and more.



### C.A.L.L.: Watercolor Painting with Peggy Dressel

Thursdays & Fridays, January 24, 31;

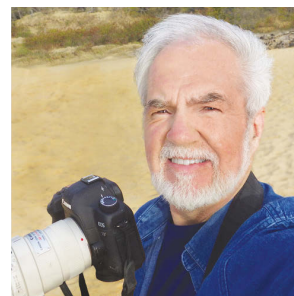
February 6, 7, 13, 14, 20 & 21 – 10:30 am to 12 pm

See back cover for details.

### ABCs of DNA: Introduction to Genetic Genealogy and Genomics

Monday, January 27 – 7pm

Former science teacher Walter Choroszewski will discuss DNA testing and how to discover hidden information in one's DNA. Walter decodes the confusing science of DNA and translates it into common language. He compares genetic testing companies and explains how to find your genetic relatives, biological origins, and more.



### Book Group: *The Overstory*

Wednesday, January 29 – 1 pm

The group will discuss *The Overstory* by Richard Powers. You may pick up a copy of the book at the Information Desk.

\* Sign up at [www.chathamlibrary.org](http://www.chathamlibrary.org) or call 973-635-0603.

# January 2020 Programs

ADULT (A) TEEN (T) CHILDREN (C)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Library Closed	2 Yoga Storytime 10, 10:45 am (C)  Blood Pressure 11 am-12 pm (A)	3 Video Game Club 3-4:45 pm (T)	4
5	6 Stories with Librarian 10-10:30 am (C)  Art and Architecture of Rome 11 am-12:30 pm (A)  ShopRite Nutrition: Snow Day Snacks 4-5 pm (C)	7 Vaccines for Good Health 7 pm (A)  Italian Conversation Group 7:15 pm (A)	8 Mahjong 1-3 pm (A)  Gen Y Networking Group 7 pm (A)	9 Music with Carolyn Dempsey 10, 10:45 am (C)  ESL 1:30-2:30 pm (A)  Movie Night 7 pm	10 Arcade Weekend 3-5:30 pm (All Ages)	11 Arcade Weekend 9:30 am-4 pm (All Ages)  Super Smash Bros. Tournaments Ages 10 & Under 11:30 am Ages 11 & Up 2 pm
12	13 Stories with the Librarian 10-10:30 am (C)  Art and Architecture of Rome 11 am-12:30 pm (A)	14 Miss Jolie 10-10:45 am (C)  Culinary Adventure: Poland and Ukraine 5-6 pm (C)  19th Amendment 7 pm (A)	15 Mahjong 1-3 pm (A)  Homework Helpers 3:30-5 pm (C)  Read Aloud to Therapy Dogs 4-5 pm (C)	16 Miss Carol Dance 10, 10:45 am (C)  ESL 1:30-2:30 pm (A)  Chess for Kids 4, 5 pm (C)	17 Italian Conversation Group 1 pm (A)  Video Game Club 3-4:45 pm (T)	18
19	20 Storytime 9:45, 10:15, 11 am (C)  Art and Architecture of Rome 11 am-12:30 pm (A)  Library Cinema 2 pm (C)	21 Storytime 10, 10:30 am (C)	22 Mahjong 1-3 pm (A)  Gen Y Networking Group 7 pm (A)  Keep This, Toss That 7 pm (A)	23 Jumpin' Jamie 10, 10:45 am (C)  ESL 1:30-2:30 pm (A)  Chess for Kids 4, 5 pm (C)  Movie Night 7 pm	24 Watercolor Painting 10:30 am-12 pm (A)  Video Game Club 3-4:45 pm (T)	25 Drop-In Storytime 11 am (C)
26 Legopalooza! 2:30-4 pm (C)	27 Storytime 9:45, 10:15, 11 am (C)  Art and Architecture of Rome 11 am-12:30 pm (A)  ABCs of DNA 7 pm (A)	28 Storytime 10, 10:30 am (C)	29 Mahjong 1-3 pm (A)  Book Group: <i>The Overstory</i> 1 pm (A)  Homework Helpers 3:30-5 pm (C)  Chinese Conversation 7:15 pm (T)	30 Drop-In Crafts 10, 10:45 am (C)  ESL 1:30-2:30 pm (A)  Chess for Kids 4, 5 pm (C)	31 Watercolor Painting 10:30 am-12 pm (A)  Video Game Club 3-4:45 pm (T)	

## WINTER STORYTIME

Storytime is a progressive program for preschoolers and their caregivers.

Registration is required and opens on Monday, January 13

**Mondays, January 20 through March 9**

9:45 - 10:15 am 24 months & younger  
10:15 - 11 am 3½ - 5 years  
11 - 11:30 am 2 - 3 years

**Limit: One 8-week session per child**

**Tuesdays, January 21 through March 10**

10 - 10:30 am 24 months & younger  
10:30 - 11 am 2 - 3 years

## DROP-IN STORYTIME

No registration required  
**January 25 through**

**March 14**

11 - 11:30 am  
All Ages (Families)



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Mon-Thu 9:30 am - 9 pm • Fri 9:30 am - 6 pm • Sat 9:30 am - 5 pm • Sun 2 pm - 5 pm



# February 2020 Programs

ADULT (A) TEEN (T) CHILDREN (C)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> SAT Practice Test 10 am-2 pm (T)  Drop-In Storytime 11 am (C)  Jacob Mathews 2:30 pm (T)
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Storytime 9:45, 10:15, 11 am (C)  ShopRite Nutrition: Heart Health Month 4-5 pm (C)	<b>4</b> Storytime 10, 10:30 am (C)  Italian Conversation Group 7:15 pm (A)	<b>5</b> VITA 10 am-2 pm (A)  Gen Y Networking Group 7 pm (A)	<b>6</b> Yoga Storytime 10, 10:45 am (C) Watercolor Painting 10:30 am-12 pm (A)  Blood Pressure 11 am-12 pm (A)  ESL 1:30-2:30 pm (A)  Paper Mill Playhouse <i>Seussical Jr.</i> 4-5 pm (C)  Chess for Kids 4, 5 pm (C)  Movie Night 7 pm	<b>7</b> Watercolor Painting 10:30 am-12 pm (A)  Video Game Club 3-4:45 pm (T)  The Beatles 7 pm (A)	<b>8</b> Drop-In Storytime 11 am (C)
<b>9</b> Essex Water Color Club Art Show Reception 2:15-4 pm (A)	<b>10</b> Storytime 9:45, 10:15, 11 am (C)  Medicare Basics 7 pm (A)	<b>11</b> Storytime 10, 10:30 am (C)	<b>12</b> VITA 10 am-2 pm (A)  Homework Helpers 3:30-5 pm (C)  Chinese Conversation 7:15 pm (T)	<b>13</b> Music with Carolyn Dempsey 10, 10:45 am (C) Watercolor Painting 10:30 am-12 pm (A)  ESL 1:30-2:30 pm (A)  Chess for Kids 4, 5 pm (C)	<b>14</b> Watercolor Painting 10:30 am-12 pm (A)  Anti-Valentine's Day Party 3-4:30 pm (T)	<b>15</b> Drop-In Storytime 11 am (C)
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Storytime 9:45, 10:15, 11 am (C)  Library Cinema 2 pm (C)	<b>18</b> Storytime 10, 10:30 am (C)  Culinary Adventure: The Netherlands 5-6 pm (C)	<b>19</b> VITA 10 am-2 pm (A)  Read Aloud to Therapy Dogs 4-5 pm (C)  Gen Y Networking Group 7 pm (A)	<b>20</b> Miss Carol Dance 10, 10:45 am (C) Watercolor Painting 10:30 am-12 pm (A)  ESL 1:30-2:30 pm (A)  Chess for Kids 4, 5 pm (C)  Movie Night 7 pm	<b>21</b> Watercolor Painting 10:30 am-12 pm (A)  Italian Conversation Group 1 pm (A)  Video Game Club 3-4:45 pm (T)	<b>22</b> Drop-In Storytime 11 am (C)
<b>23</b> Emily Dickinson's Gardening Life 2:30 pm (A)  Legopalooza! 2:30-4 pm (C)	<b>24</b> Storytime 9:45, 10:15, 11 am (C)	<b>25</b> Storytime 10, 10:30 am (C)	<b>26</b> VITA 10 am-2 pm (A) Book Group: <i>Mrs. Everything</i> 1 pm (A)  Homework Helpers 3:30-5 pm (C)  Chinese Conversation 7:15 pm (T)	<b>27</b> Jumpin' Jamie 10, 10:45 am (C)  ESL 1:30-2:30 pm (A)	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Drop-In Storytime 11 am (C)

*For preschoolers and their caregivers...*

## EVERY THURSDAY IS LIBRARY DAY!

Choose either 10 - 10:30 am or 10:45 - 11:15 am No registration required

**Yoga Storytime with  
Miss Rachael**

January 2  
February 6

**Music with  
Carolyn Dempsey**

January 9  
February 13

**Miss Carol  
Dance**

January 16  
February 20

**Jumpin' Jamie Music  
and Puppets**

January 23  
February 27

**Drop-In Crafts  
January 30**



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## FEBRUARY

**Income Tax Assistance**

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) will be held on **Wednesdays, February 5 to April 15 from 10 am to 2 pm.**

Appointments for this free service may be made in person or by calling the library at 973-635-0603. Please bring all your financial records from 2019, copies of your 2018 Federal and State tax returns, photo ID, all printed and blank forms from the Internal Revenue Service, and proof of Social Security Number for all dependents.

**The Beatles: The Beginnings**

**Friday, February 7 – 7 pm**

Liverpool native John Groom will speak about the Beatles before they became famous. Mr. Groom lived in the same village as John Lennon and George Harrison and went to the same high school as John Lennon and Paul McCartney. His presentation will give a description of Liverpool during the 50s and 60s, the Beatles' families, musical influences, as well as The Quarrymen, the group formed by Lennon which evolved into the Beatles.

**Essex Water Color Club Art Show**

**Opening reception Sunday, February 9 – 2:15 to 4 pm**

The Essex Water Color Club, the oldest watercolor club in New Jersey, will hold its annual show through February.

*Reception sponsored by Friends of the Library*

**Medicare Basics for Boomers**

**Monday, February 10**

**(snow date Monday, February 24) – 7 pm**

Neil Berger, advisor and educator, will discuss Medicare issues including the impact COBRA will have on Medicare, working past retirement age, how Medicare coordinates with group health insurance, and other concerns. A question and answer session will follow the lecture. \*

\* Sign up at [www.chathamlibrary.org](http://www.chathamlibrary.org) or call 973-635-0603.

**Emily Dickinson's Gardening Life with Marta McDowell**

**Sunday, February 23 – 2:30 pm**

Marta McDowell, Chatham resident, Master Gardener, author, and instructor of landscape history at the New York Botanical Garden, will speak about her recent book *Emily Dickinson's Gardening Life*. She will describe the flowers Emily Dickinson grew at her family home in Amherst, Massachusetts, and how they were an inspiration for her poetry.

**Book Group: Mrs. Everything**

**Wednesday, February 26 – 1 pm**

The group will discuss *Mrs. Everything* by Jennifer Weiner. You may pick up a copy of the book at the Information Desk.

## Programs and Events Teens

*All Teen programs and events sponsored by Friends of the Library, unless noted otherwise*

**JANUARY****Video Game Club**

**Fridays, January 3, 17, 24 & 31;**

**February 7 & 21 – 3 to 4:45 pm**

**Grades 6 to 12**

Stop by to play Super Smash Bros. Ultimate for Nintendo Switch on the big screen!

Feel free to bring your own Joy-Cons or Switch Pro controller.

**Arcade Weekend**

**Friday, January 10 – 3 to 5:30 pm**

**Saturday, January 11 – 9:30 am to 4 pm**

**All Ages**

This event is for all gamers out there – teenagers, children and their parents. There will be many systems set up to play, from the original Atari, Nintendo, and Sega consoles to newer systems like the Nintendo Switch.

*In Memory of Alexander Butta*

**Super Smash Bros. Tournaments**

**Saturday, January 11**

**Registration opens Friday, December 27**

**Limit: 16 players per tournament**

**Ages 10 & Under – 11:30 am**

**Ages 11 & Up – 2 pm**

Prizes will be awarded in each tournament:

\$25 GameStop gift card for 1st place

and \$15 GameStop gift card for 2nd place.

*Sponsored by Friends of the Library*

**Chinese Conversation Group**

Wednesdays, January 29;  
February 12 & 26 – 7:15 pm

This program is for teens and young adults, but anyone who is interested in Chinese culture is welcome. Meetings will include practice in daily conversation, learning new words, introduction to Chinese culture, as well as crafts and games. \*

**FEBRUARY****Free SAT Practice Test**

Saturday, February 1 (snow date February 8)  
10 am to 2 pm

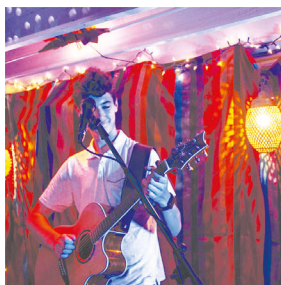
Registration required

Take this free, full-length practice test administered by Princeton Review. See how you would do if you took the test without it appearing on your official record. You will get your score in 2 weeks. Arrive at 9:45 am, bring a calculator and #2 pencils. \*

**Jacob Mathews Concert**

Saturday, February 1 (snow day February 8)  
2:30 pm

Jacob launched his musical career in 2016 with the release of his EP *Roads Unknown*. 2019 was a big year for Mathews with the release of two seven-track original albums, *A Fool's Paradise* and *Inspire*. Jacob has played Chatham's Relay For Life, National Night Out, Colony Pool, and many other town events. He is coming back to the library to perform for the fourth time with brand new originals and sing-along covers of classic rock songs for all to enjoy!

**Teen Anti-Valentine's Day Party**

Friday, February 14 – 3 to 4:30 pm  
Grades 6 to 12

Not in the mood to celebrate this Hallmark holiday?

Whatever reason you have for not loving Valentine's Day, from heartbreak to just not liking the color pink, we have a party to help you forget all of that. Bring your friends and join us at our Anti-Valentine's Day Party for snacks, crafts, games, and fun!



# Programs and Events

## Children

*All Children's programs and events made possible by  
Friends of the Library*

**JANUARY****Stories with the Librarian**

Mondays, January 6 & 13 – 10 to 10:30 am

All Ages

No registration required

Children and caregivers can enjoy stories and songs.

**ShopRite Nutrition: Snow Day Snacks**

Monday, January 6 - 4 to 5 pm

Ages 5 to 8

Limit: 15 children

Registration opens Thursday, December 26

Join Tory, ShopRite Registered Dietitian, to celebrate winter and make some healthy snow day snacks.

**Arcade Weekend**

Friday, January 10 and Saturday, January 11

See Teen section for details.

**Winter Move & Groove with Miss Jolie!**

Tuesday, January 14 – 10 to 10:45 am

For preschoolers and their caregivers

No registration required

Join us for a Winter Move & Groove with Miss Jolie! We will celebrate the winter season by singing, dancing, twirling, clapping, and more! Miss Jolie will be performing interactive songs with her ukulele along with other musical instruments and props for the children.

**Culinary Adventure Around the World: Poland and Ukraine**

Tuesday, January 14 – 5 to 6 pm

Ages 8 & Up

Limit: 20 children

Registration opens Thursday, January 2

Come and learn how to make desserts from two Eastern European countries - Poland and Ukraine. You will make and taste babka (sweet bread) and sour cream poppy seed cake. We will also listen to the countries' music and learn a bit of their culture.

This Cultural Committee of the Chathams program is presented by Deirdre Rajoppi.

\* Sign up at [www.chathamlibrary.org](http://www.chathamlibrary.org) or call 973-635-0603.



## CHESS FOR KIDS

Thursdays, January 16 through February 20  
Registration opens Thursday, January 2  
*Register only if you can attend all 6 classes.*

**Group 1:**  
Players with little or no  
experience with chess  
4 – 4:45 pm  
Suggested ages 6 to 8  
Limit: 12 children

**Group 2:**  
Players who can finish a  
game with checkmate  
5 - 5:45 pm  
Suggested ages 8 & Up  
Limit: 16 children

Chess instructor and Class A player Max Farberov  
will lead this series of Chess for Kids.

## Library Cinema

Monday, January 20 (MLK Day) – 2 pm

All Ages

Bring a mat or a pillow to get comfortable.  
We'll provide the popcorn.

## FEBRUARY

### ShopRite Nutrition: Heart Health Month

Monday, February 3 – 4 to 5 pm

Ages 5 to 8 Limit: 15 children

Registration opens Monday, January 20

February is Heart Health Month! Join Tory,  
ShopRite Registered Dietitian, to talk about red  
fruits and vegetables, how they are beneficial to your  
heart and to make a nutritious and tasty red treat!

## Paper Mill Playhouse

### Children's Theater on Tour Performs *Seussical Jr.*

Thursday, February 6 – 4 to 5 pm  
Ages 4 & Up Audience limit: 100

The Cat in the Hat narrates the story of Horton  
the Elephant, who discovers a speck of dust  
containing tiny people called the Whos. Horton  
must protect the Whos, and although he faces  
ridicule and danger, ultimately the powers of  
friendship, loyalty and family emerge triumphant!



## Library Cinema

Monday, February 17 (Presidents' Day) – 2 pm

All Ages

Bring a mat or a pillow to get comfortable.  
We'll provide the popcorn.

## Culinary Adventure Around the World: The Netherlands

Tuesday, February 18 – 5 to 6 pm

Ages 8 & Up Limit: 20 children

Registration opens Tuesday, February 4

Saint Nicholas, patron saint of children, sailors  
and the city of

Amsterdam, arrives  
by boat from Spain  
with his white horse  
and his helpers. It  
is a busy time for  
St. Nick, crossing  
the rooftops with  
his horse while the  
helpers carry the  
presents down the chimneys and scatter peppernut  
cookies ("pepernoten"). These delicious Dutch  
treats appear around the holidays, but can be  
enjoyed any time of year.

This Cultural Committee of the Chathams  
program is presented by Ursula von Rydingsvard.



## RECURRING PROGRAMS

### Homework Helpers

Wednesdays, January 15 & 29

February 12 & 26 – 3:30 to 5 pm

Grades K – 5 Limit: 6 children per session

Registration opens two weeks prior  
to each session

Two Chatham High School students will  
provide homework help for children in  
grades K to 5. All subjects welcome!

### Read Aloud to Therapy Dogs

Wednesdays, January 15 & February 19

4 to 5 pm Grades K & Up

Sit down and read your favorite book  
to a gentle and loving therapy dog  
certified by St. Hubert's.

### Legopalooza!

Sundays, January 26 & February 23

2:30 to 4 pm All Ages

Build your own LEGO creation from our  
enormous collection of LEGOs. Creations  
will be displayed in the Children's Room.

### 2019 Board of Trustees

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### Elected

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Victoria Fife, Borough Mayor's Designee Alternate

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\*\*\*\*\* ECRWSSEDDM\*\*\*\*\*

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## Featured Programs

### Art and Architecture of Rome

Mondays, January 6, 13, 20 & 27 – 11 am to 12:30 pm

Rita Keane, Associate Professor of Art History at Drew University, and Margaret Kuntz, Professor of Art History

at Drew University, will present this four-part course. The course will consider the art and architecture of the city of Rome from its origins to the seventeenth century. We will discover a history of Rome through the study of its monuments and how works of art and architecture reflected and created ideological currents (political, religious, and social) in the ancient, medieval, Renaissance and Baroque city. A fee of \$40 will be charged for the series or \$10 per individual class.



### Watercolor Painting

Thursdays & Fridays, January 24, 31; February 6, 7, 13, 14, 20 & 21  
10:30 am to 12 pm

Back by popular demand, Peggy Dressel will teach this course in watercolor painting. This series of 8 lessons will cover the basics of watercolor, such as picking a palette, how to mix colors, and different watercolor techniques. You do not have to know how to draw to take this course. A demonstration will be given at each class. A fee of \$80 will be charged for the course. In addition, students will need to purchase supplies. The list of supplies will be available on the library's website and at the library.

