

BOOKENDS



May - June 2026



214 Main Street, Chatham, NJ 07928 | 973-635-0603 | chathamlibrary.org

Library Secures \$2.45M Grant!

The State Legislature's Joint Budget Oversight Committee has approved \$2.45 million to support the library's project to modernize its spaces and renovate critical infrastructure.

This grant brings the library one step closer to reaching the funding required to move the *A Space for Everyone* renovation project forward, which will transform the interior of the 100-year-old library building with an improved children's room, new meeting rooms, a new STEM room, core HVAC and electrical upgrades, and much more. Public surveys and focus groups show that new and reimagined spaces are needed to meet the community's evolving needs along with the need to replace century-old infrastructure.

"This is a win for all Chatham residents," said Karen Brodsky, Director of the Library of the Chatham. **"This project is about ensuring the library remains a vibrant, safe, and accessible *Space for Everyone* in our community."**

The funding culminates a years-long, highly competitive process under the 2017 New Jersey Library Construction Bond Act, and results from the dedicated efforts of library staff, the past and present Library Board of Trustees led by President Andy Hollander, and our residents and donors to the project. It is an essential building block of the multimillion-dollar *A Space for Everyone* project, adding to the \$2+

million the Library will contribute from savings and prior community donations.

Work continues to secure the remaining funding needed to move the project forward and fully realize the vision of a next-level library.



Scan the QR code to read the full press releases.

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Community Puzzle Project

Monday, May 4 — 4 to 5 pm

Calling all ages! Join us to decorate a jumbo puzzle piece (or two!) with a unique design that is meaningful to you. Once completed, we will assemble the pieces and display the finished puzzle in the library as a collaborative work of art.

This program is in partnership with the Senior Center of the Chatham.

Puzzle pieces will also be available to decorate at the Senior Center.




THANK YOU, FRIENDS!

The Friends of the Library had a record-breaking Book Sale in March, raising over \$50,000 to help support library programs, an author talk series, museum passes, and more. Many thanks to the Friends for their tireless efforts!

Mark your calendars! The Friends will be accepting donations of books, puzzles, games, and more on Saturday, June 13, 10 am to 2 pm.

May 2026 Programs ADULTS TEENS CHILDREN CHILDREN/TEENS TEENS/ADULTS ALL AGES

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Scan this QR code to go to our MAY events calendar. ★		Celebrating the 250th Anniversary of the United States Join us for events, interactive exhibits, and more highlighting American history. Scan the QR code to learn more about upcoming activities in our <i>America250</i> series! 			1 Cross Stitch Club: 4:15 pm	2 Chatham Chapters Book Club: 1 pm
3	Storytimes: 10, 10:45 & 11:30 am Puzzle Project: 4 pm Mother's Day Project: 4 pm Bollywood Dance: 7 pm Live Charcuterie Demo: 7 pm	Storytimes: 10 & 10:45 am D&D Club: 6 pm Spanish Conversation: 6:30 pm Rules of Retirement: 7 pm	Toddler Sensory Play: 10 am Italian: 1 pm Mahjong: 1 pm Spanish: 2 pm Spray Bottle Art: 4 pm Suncatcher Craft: 4:30 pm Turkey Tacos: 6 pm Anxiety/Stress Support: 6:30 pm Medicare Overview: 7 pm Break a Chicken: 7:30 pm	Guitar Bob: 10 & 10:45 am 4th Grade Book Club: 4:15 pm Sahaja Meditation: 6 pm Spring Salads: 6:30 pm Mapmaker/Minemaster: 7 pm Marjan Kamali: 7 pm	Alphabet Activities: 10 am Reception-Revolutionary Lives Display: 3:30-6 pm Cross Stitch Club: 4:15 pm	Revolutionary Lives Display
10	Revolutionary Lives Display Storytimes: 10, 10:45 & 11:30 am Bollywood Dance: 7 pm	Storytimes: 10 & 10:45 am Dr. Vivienne Ming: 2 pm Bring Your Device: 3:30 pm D&D Club: 6 pm STEAM It Up! Gr. 4-8: 7 pm The Peale Family: 7 pm	Once Upon a Paintbrush: 10 am Italian: 1 pm Mahjong: 1 pm Spanish: 2 pm Creative Canvas: 4:15 pm Shepherd's Salad: 6 pm Long-Term Care: 7 pm Keto Lifestyle Basics: 7:30 pm	Music with Miss Susan: 10 & 10:45 am 4th Grade Book Club: 4:15 pm Sahaja Meditation: 6 pm Secrets of Orchids: 7 pm	Baby Open Play: 9:30 am Cross Stitch Club: 4:15 pm	Farmers' Market: 10 am-2 pm Suspenseful Saturday Book Club: 3 pm
17	Art Reception- NJ Art Association: 2:15-4 pm	Microsoft Word: 4 pm Bollywood Dance: 7 pm	Nir Eyal: 2 pm Read to Therapy Dogs: 4 pm D&D Club: 6 pm	STEAM It Up! Toddlers: 10 am Italian: 1 pm Mahjong: 1 pm Spanish: 2 pm STEAM It Up! Gr. K-5: 4 pm Dog Days of Summer: 7 pm College Applications: 7:30 pm Dill Potato Salad: 7:30 pm	Guitar Bob: 10 & 10:45 am PJs & Movie: 4 pm Sahaja Meditation: 6 pm The Beatles - Beginnings: 7 pm	Alphabet Activities: 10 am
24	LIBRARY CLOSED	D&D Club: 6 pm	Book Group: 1 pm Italian: 1 pm Mahjong: 1 pm Spanish: 2 pm Retirement Tax Planning: 7 pm	Dance Innovations: 10 & 10:45 am Sahaja Meditation: 6 pm Mayors Wellness Book Group-The Anxious Generation: 7 pm	Baby Open Play: 9:30 am	30
31	LIBRARY CLOSED					

June 2026 Programs ADULTS TEENS CHILDREN CHILDREN/TEENS TEENS/ADULTS ALL AGES

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
 Scan this QR code to go to our JUNE events calendar. ★	Storytimes: 10, 10:45 & 11:30 am Bollywood Dance: 7 pm	Storytimes: 10 & 10:45 am D&D Club: 6 pm	Italian: 1 pm Mahjong: 1 pm Smithsonian, Mary Savig: 2 pm Spanish: 2 pm Creative Canvas: 4:15 pm Turkey Pinwheels: 6 pm Anxiety/Stress Support: 6:30 pm Cupcake Decorating: 7 pm Joint & Bone Health: 7:30 pm	Yoga Storytime: 10 & 10:45 am Sahaja Meditation: 6 pm The Beatles - Stardom: 7 pm	Alphabet Activities: 10 am	Fishawack Festival: 10 am-4 pm Chatham Chapters Book Club: 1 pm	
7	Tanzania Safari Travelogue: 3 pm	Storytimes: 10, 10:45 & 11:30 am Bollywood Dance: 7 pm	Storytimes: 10 & 10:45 am D&D Club: 6 pm What's Eating My Plants?: 7 pm STEAM It Up! Gr. 4-8: 7 pm	Toddler Sensory Play: 10 am Italian: 1 pm Mahjong: 1 pm Spanish: 2 pm Summer Teen Volunteers: 4 pm Pancake Muffins: 6 pm Pickled Watermelon Rind: 7:30 pm	Music with Miss Susan: 10 & 10:45 am STEAM It Up! Gr. K-5: 4 pm Sahaja Meditation: 6 pm Stream TV Content: 7 pm Matt Dinniman: 7 pm	Baby Open Play: 9:30 am	Friends Book Sale Collection: 10 am-2 pm Hsin Ruy Art Show Reception: 2:15-4 pm
14	LIBRARY CLOSED	Storytimes: 10, 10:45 & 11:30 am Lost Mayan Cities: 2 pm	Storytimes: 10 & 10:45 am D&D Club: 6 pm From Sea to Shining Sea: 7 pm	Once Upon a Paintbrush: 10 am Italian: 1 pm Mahjong: 1 pm Spanish: 2 pm PJs & Movie: 3:30 pm Read to Therapy Dogs: 4 pm 20-Minute Family Meal: 6 pm Breathwork Basics: 7:30 pm	Guitar Bob: 10 & 10:45 am Ted Page: 2 pm Zoophoria: 5 pm Sahaja Meditation: 6 pm Shipwrecked!: 7 pm	Alphabet Activities: 10 am Bring Your Own Device: 10 am-12 pm	Farmers' Market: 10 am-2 pm Suspenseful Saturday Book Club: 3 pm
21	LIBRARY CLOSED	Storytimes: 10, 10:45 & 11:30 am Summer Reading Kickoff: 6 pm	Storytimes: 10 & 10:45 am Sana Javeri Kadri & Asha Loupy: 2 pm D&D Club: 6 pm	Book Group: 1 pm Italian: 1 pm Mahjong: 1 pm Spanish: 2 pm Dinosaur Zentangle: 4:30 pm Dinosaur Zentangle: 5:45 pm	Music with Carolyn Dempsey: 10 & 10:45 am Sahaja Meditation: 6 pm	Baby Open Play: 9:30 am Blood Drive: 10:30 am-3:30 pm Lego-Palooza: 4 pm	
28	LIBRARY CLOSED	Dinosaur Painting: 4 pm Red, White, & Blue Sangria: 7 pm	D&D Club: 6 pm	<div style="text-align: center;">  For all ages! Try out video tutorials from <i>Craft & Hobby</i> or attend live online classes on topics from painting and sewing to photography and woodworking. Scan the QR code or visit chathamlibrary.org to get started!  </div>			

Programs and Events

Adults

Virtual Author Talks ★

Register online at libraryc.org/chathamlibrary and also find conversations you missed. Offered in partnership with the Library Speakers Consortium and with help from the Friends of the Library.



Marjan Kamali
The Lion Women of Tehran
Thurs., May 7 – 7 pm



Dr. Vivienne Ming
Robot-Proof
Tues., May 12 – 2 pm



Nir Eyal
Beyond Belief
Tues., May 19 – 2 pm

Past Speakers
Did you miss a conversation you really wanted to hear?
Go to libraryc.org/chathamlibrary/archive to view previously broadcast author talks.



Smithsonian: Mary Savig
State Fairs: Growing American Craft
Wed., June 3 – 2 pm



Matt Dinniman
A Parade of Horribles
Thurs., June 11 – 7 pm



Ted Page
Good Grandpa
Thurs., June 18 – 2 pm



Sana Javeri Kadri & Asha Loupy
The Diaspora Spice Co. Cookbook
Tues., June 23 – 2 pm



Online Cooking Classes ★

Discover new dishes and cooking techniques with the experts at Library Chef.
Register at: app.librarychef.com

Break a Chicken
Wed., May 6 – 7:30 pm

Keto Lifestyle Basics
Wed., May 13 – 7:30 pm

Zippy Dill Potato Salad 🌿
Wed., May 20 – 7:30 pm

Joint & Bone Health
Wed., June 3 – 7:30 pm

Pickled Watermelon Rind 🌿
Wed., June 10 – 7:30 pm

20-Minute Family Meal
Wed., June 17 – 6 pm

Breathwork Basics
Wed., June 17 – 7:30 pm

🌿 Join Our Spice Club!

Each month, pick up a sample of a new spice with a recipe; then join a live, online class featuring that spice!

May Spice: Dill

June Spice: Star Anise

LIBRARY BOOK GROUPS

Chatham Chapters:

1 pm – Teens & Adults

Saturday, May 2

The Names by Florence Knapp

Saturday, June 6

The Correspondent by Virginia Evans

Suspenseful Saturday Book Club:

3 pm – Adults

Saturday, May 16

With a Vengeance by Riley Sager

Saturday, June 20

The Dentist by Tim Sullivan

Book Group:

1 pm – Adults

Wednesday, May 27

Theo of Golden by Allen Levi

Wednesday, June 24

Raising Hare by Chloe Dalton

★ Registration required at chathamlibrary.org or call 973-635-0603.

More Adult Programs

Live Charcuterie Demonstration *

Monday, May 4 – 7 pm

Chef Leia Gaccione will demonstrate how to artfully arrange a charcuterie board.



Rules of Retirement *

Tuesday, May 5 – 7 pm

Learn about Social Security benefits and how IRMAA and Medicare costs affect them.



Medicare Overview *

Wednesday, May 6 – 7 pm

Hear about the benefits and costs for Medicare Parts A & B, Medigap, and more.



Spring Salads Demonstration *

Thursday, May 7 – 6:30 pm

Chef Glassberg will show how to prepare colorful salads that celebrate the season.



Bring Your Own Device Help Sessions *

Tuesday, May 12 – 3:30 to 5:30 pm

Friday, June 19 – 10 am to 12 pm

Get individualized help.



Long-Term Care in Retirement *

Wednesday, May 13 – 7 pm

Learn why long-term care is one of the biggest risks to retirement security.



Art Reception: NJ Art Association

Sunday, May 17 – 2:15 to 4 pm

View varied works by member artists.



Tech Workshop: Microsoft Word *

Monday, May 18 – 4 pm

Learn the basics of Microsoft Word, a widely used word-processing tool.



GARDENING

Presented by Rutgers Master Gardeners. Online only.



Secrets of Orchids *

Thursday, May 14 – 7 pm

What's Eating My Vegetables & Plants? *

Tuesday, June 9 – 7 pm



Check out our Seed Library!

Scan the QR code to learn more.

Weekly Programs:

Conversation Groups *

Italian: Wednesdays – 1 pm

Spanish: Wednesdays – 2 pm



Mahjong

Wednesdays – 1 pm

For experienced players.



Sahaja Yoga Meditation *

Thursdays – 6 pm

The Dog Days of Summer *

Wednesday, May 20 – 7 pm

Discover the origins of English language idioms and sayings. Online only.



The Beatles *

Thursday, May 21 – 7 pm

Thursday, June 4 – 7 pm

In two sessions, hear the story of the Fab Four's rise from obscurity to international stardom. Please register for each program.



Tax Planning in Retirement *

Wednesday, May 27 – 7 pm

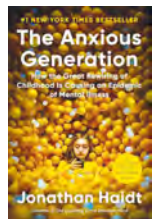
Learn how tax planning changes through four stages of retirement.



Mayors Wellness Campaign Book Club

Thursday, May 28 – 7 pm

The group will be discussing *The Anxious Generation* by Jonathan Haidt.



Cupcake Decorating Workshop *

Wednesday, June 3 – 7 pm

Baker Franca of Delightful Bakery will demonstrate decorating techniques.



Tanzania Safari Travelogue *

Sunday, June 7 – 3 pm

See Tanzania through the eyes of birdwatchers! In person or online. Offered with the Chatham Township Historical Society.



Cord Cutting: Stream TV Content *

Thursday, June 11 – 7 pm

Find out how to cut the cord with this guide to streaming TV content.



Art Reception: Hsin Ruey Art Group
 Saturday, June 13 – 2:15 to 4 pm
 Enjoy paintings featuring traditional Chinese brushwork in watercolor.



The Lost Cities of the Mayans ★
 Monday, June 15 – 2 pm
 Explore ancient Mayan cities.



Shipwrecked! ★
 Thursday, June 18 – 7 pm
 Trace the development of maritime technology through NJ shipwrecks.



American Red Cross Blood Drive ★
 Friday, June 26 – 10:30 am to 3:30 pm
 Help ensure a safe and reliable blood supply. Sign up at redcrossblood.org.



AMERICA

Celebrating America's 250th Anniversary: 1776-2026

Chatham 250 Interactive Exhibit
 On display now through July
 Try your U.S. trivia knowledge or vote on America's most popular representative symbol. *Presented with Chatham Historical Society.*



Exhibition: Revolutionary Lives
 Opening Reception: Friday, May 8 – 3:30 pm
 Exhibit on display through May 12 at 12 pm
 An exhibition exploring the tumultuous American Revolution. *Presented with Chatham Township Historical Society.*

The Peale Family ★
 Tuesday, May 12 – 7 pm
 Hear about this influential artistic and intellectual family dynasty. Online only.



NJ250 Virtual Exhibit
 On display now
 Investigate New Jersey's extraordinary story by tracing its evolution across 3 constitutions. *Presented with NJ State Library.*



Our American Journey Exhibit
 On display June through July
 Explore our shared history. *Presented with the Chatham Historical Societies.*

General Robert Erskine: Mapmaker & Minemaster ★
 Thursday, May 7 – 7 pm
 Discover this ardent patriot who served as General Washington's master mapmaker. (In person or online.) *Presented with Chatham Township Historical Society.*



From Sea to Shining Sea ★
 Tuesday, June 16 – 7 pm
 Explore American landscape painting and how it helped establish a national identity. Online only.

Red, White, and Blue Summer Sangria Workshop ★
 Monday, June 29 – 7 pm
 Mixologist Maureen Hyppolite crafts the perfect summer sangria. 21 years+.



Programs and Events
Teens

All teen programs and events are sponsored by Friends of the Library, unless otherwise noted.

Spray Bottle Art ★
 Wednesday, May 6 – 4 pm
 Grades 6 to 12
 Design and paint a universe theme with spray bottle paint.



Create Compelling College Applications ★
 Wednesday, May 20 – 7:30 pm
 Grade 11 & Parents
 Learn about the application process and how to use the summer productively. Online only.



Summer Reading Volunteer Orientation
 Wednesday, June 10 – 4 pm
 Grades 6 & Up
 Earn volunteer hours helping with our summer reading program.



★ Registration required at chathamlibrary.org or call 973-635-0603.

Programs and Events Children & Teens

All teen programs and events sponsored by Friends of the Library, unless otherwise noted.

Unearth a Story: Dinosaur Zentangle ★

Wednesday, June 24 – 5:45 pm

Grades 4-8

Create unique and beautiful dinosaurs using this easy, mindful art form.



Unearth a Story: Dinosaur Painting ★

Monday, June 29 – 4 pm

Grades K-12

Help paint a dinosaur masterpiece for the Summer Reading program!



Dungeons & Dragons Club

Tuesdays, 6-8 pm, Grades 3-12

Join this tabletop role-playing game, create your own character, and embark upon imaginary adventures.



Toddlers (Ages 2-4)	BALL PLAY ★ Wednesday, May 20 – 10 am We'll focus on gravity, motion, and force through ball play.	
Children (Grades K-5)	STEAM CENTERS Wednesday, May 20 – 4 pm Challenges and experiments in engineering, art and science.	STEAM CENTERS Thursday, June 11 – 4 pm Challenges and experiments in engineering, art and science.
Tweens / Teens (Grades 4-8)	AIRPLANES ★ Tuesday, May 12 – 7 pm Learn about aerodynamics, design and physics, and make paper airplanes.	LEGO Robotics ★ Tuesday, June 9 – 7 pm Experiment with robotics using LEGO Education kits.

Library Chef Junior ★

** Online only.*



Shepherd's Salad

Wednesday, May 13 – 6 pm; Ages 5-9

Turkey & Cheese Pinwheels

Wednesday, June 3 – 6 pm; Ages 5-9

Turkey Tacos

Wednesday, May 6 – 6 pm; Ages 10 & up

Pancake Muffins with Strawberry Sauce

Wednesday, June 10 – 6 pm; Ages 10 & up

Programs and Events Children

Made possible through the generosity of: Friends of the Library; Ann L. Buesing Children's Fund for the Library of The Chathams of the Community Foundation of NJ; and the Marlee and Carl Frahn Fund for the Library of The Chathams of the Community Foundation of NJ.

Children's Craft Club: Cross Stitch ★

Fridays, May 1, 8 & 15 – 4:15 pm

Grade 3

Learn how to use a needle and embroidery tools.



Mother's Day Project ★

Monday, May 4 – 4 pm

Grades K-3

Start a pollinator garden for transplanting.



Toddler Sensory Play ★

Wednesdays, May 6 & June 10

10 am, Ages 2-4

Activities to engage the senses.



THURSDAY IS LIBRARY DAY!

For preschoolers and their caregivers.
Choose 10 - 10:30 am or 10:45 - 11:15 am
No registration is needed.

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Guitar Bob
May 7 & 21, June 18 | Dance Innovations
May 28 |
| Music & Movement with Miss Susan
May 14, June 11 | Yoga Storytime
June 4 |
| Music with Carolyn Dempsey
June 25 | |

Storytime★

For preschoolers and their caregivers.
Due to high demand, registration is limited to Chatham Borough and Chatham Township residents.
Registration opens Tuesday, May 26.

Mondays, June 1-22
10-10:30 am (Ages 9 to 24 months)
10:45-11:15 am (Ages 2 to 3)
11:30 am-12 pm (Ages 3½ to 5)

Tuesdays, June 2-23
10-10:30 am (Ages 9 to 24 months)
10:45-11:15 am (Ages 2 to 3)

Suncatcher Craft ★

Wednesday, May 6 – 4:30 pm
Grades K-3
Materials will be provided to create a beautiful design.



Alphabet Activities

Fridays, May 8 & 22 and June 5 & 19
10 am – Drop-in for all ages
Each week features a different letter.



Once Upon A Paintbrush ★

Wednesdays, May 13 & June 17
10 am – Ages 2-4
Enjoy a story and create book-themed art.



Creative Canvas ★

Wednesdays, May 13 & June 3
4:15 pm – Grades K-3
Transform a blank canvas into art.



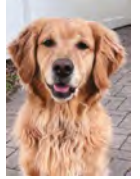
Baby Open Play

Fridays, May 15 & 29 and June 12 & 26
9:30 to 10 am
Ages 0-24 months with caregiver
Socialize in a warm and welcoming environment.



Read to Therapy Dogs ★

Tues., May 19 & Wed., June 17
4 pm – Grades K & Up
These neutral listeners are certified by The Bright & Beautiful Therapy Dogs.



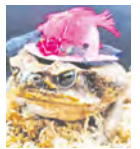
PJs & Movie

Thursday, May 21 – 4 pm, All Ages
Chicken Little (G)
Wed., June 17 – 3:30 pm, All Ages
The Good Dinosaur (PG)



Unearth a Story: Zoophoria

Thursday, June 18 – 5 pm
All Ages
Meet colorful reptiles, amphibians, and invertebrates including a giant, live tortoise!



Unearth a Story: Dinosaur Zentangle ★

Wednesday, June 24 – 4:30 pm
Grades K-3
Create unique and beautiful dinosaurs using this easy, mindful art form.



Lego-Palooza

Friday, June 26 – 4 pm
Grades K & Up
Build a wonderfully creative design with our Legos.



OUT IN THE COMMUNITY

@ the Fishawack Festival
Saturday, June 6 – 10 am to 4 pm
Learn about upcoming events, sign up for the summer reading program, try out our button maker, sign up for a library card, and more!

@ the Farmers' Market
3rd Saturday of the month
10 am to 2 pm
Stop by for a fun craft, learn about library events and services, or sign up for a library card.

★ Registration required at chathamlibrary.org or call 973-635-0603.

BOOKENDS: May - June 2026

Library of The Chathams

214 Main Street

Chatham, NJ 07928

Board of Trustees

Andy Hollander, President
Kevin Sullivan, Vice President
Susan M. Allen, Secretary
Mariela Gilmore, Treasurer
Lynn Magrane, Trustee
Christina Mott, Trustee

Elected

Carolyn Dempsey, Borough Mayor
Marty McHugh, Deputy Mayor/Township Representative

Joint

Mary Donohue, Superintendent's Representative

Trustees Emeriti

Fredric Pucci
Mary T. Benton, Served 1996-2012
Marlee F. Frahn, Served 1981-2007
Alice B. Lundt, Served 1992-2010
Peggy Nelson, Served 2013-2019
Emery Westfall, Served 1995-2010

SUMMER READING

June 22 to August 13 for all ages
Chatham residents only

Register at the Fishawack Festival on June 6 or at the library starting June 22. Prizes provided by the Friends of the Library.

ADULTS (Ages 18 & up) – Read books and fill out a Bingo Board for a chance to win a prize drawing!

TEENS (Entering Grades 6-12) – Read and review books to be entered to win weekly prize drawings and more!

KIDS (Ages 12 & under) – Read and report on books to win prizes & attend the Summer Reading Club Picnic!

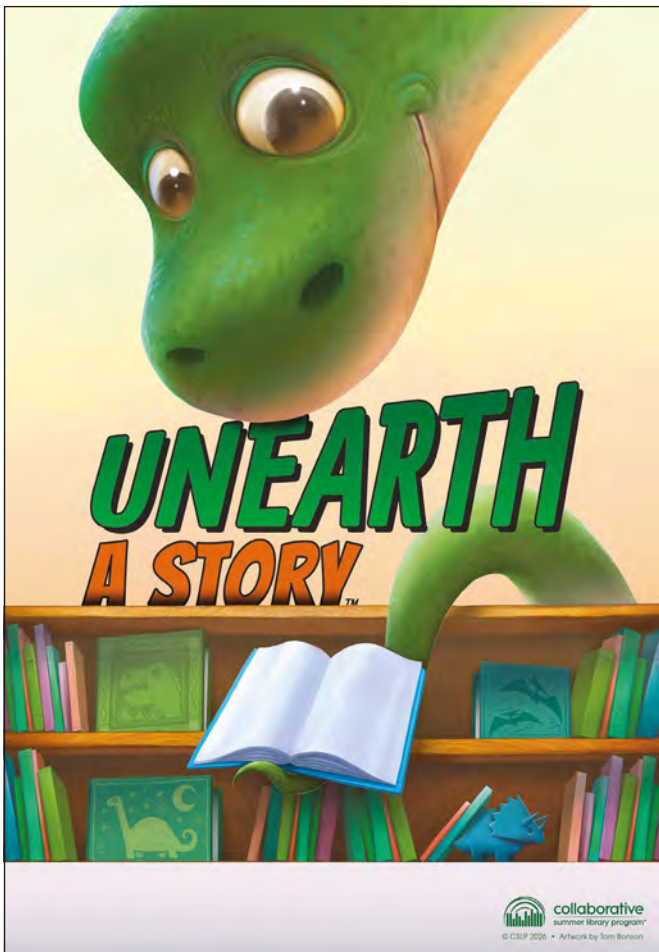
Don't miss the Summer Reading Kickoff:

SCIENCE CIRCUS STAGE SHOW

from Liberty Science Center

Monday, June 22 – 6 to 7 pm

This exciting show brings science to life with over a dozen dazzling experiments and many volunteer opportunities for the whole family to enjoy! Drop-in; for ages 4 & up.



Connect with us!    