

Library Closings

All WRL facilities will be closed Dec. 23-25 and Jan. 1. You can always find digital items to check out at www.wrl.org.



User Request Movie Month

- 12/6 - *The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman*
- 12/13 - *Auntie Mame*
- 12/20 - *Cat Ballou*
- 12/27 - *The Russians are Coming, The Russians are Coming!*



All programs begin at 2 p.m. in the Williamsburg Library Theatre. Find complete film descriptions on our calendar at www.wrl.org/events/films.

Timeless Toys

Let's take a peek into the toy chest and learn about the most popular toys in America, and the play-makers who developed them. Join Assistant Library Director Janet Crowther in a trip down memory lane to take a closer look at the stories behind America's most popular toys.

12/11, 2 p.m., Stryker Center



After much work, the two organizations that have supported our library for decades have merged into one more focused and more efficient nonprofit. Thanks to donors, the results speak for themselves. We are delighted to report that the Friends of WRL Foundation now contributes some \$160,000 per year to support vital library initiatives like:

- Children's Summer Reading Program
- Adult Summer Reading Program
- Expanded digital and e-book purchases
- Dewey Decibel Concert Series support
- School year author visits

As the year ends, we hope you will consider a gift to the Friends of WRL Foundation. Your gifts have helped us maintain excellent programs and launch new ones. Please join us in supporting our library once again by sending your gift to the Friends of Williamsburg Regional Library Foundation or by using our secure online giving page at www.wrl.org/give.

Exploring Local History and Genealogy

Are you interested in the history of our community or in delving into your own family history here in the Williamsburg area? If so, the recent partnership between the Williamsburg Regional Library and the W&M Libraries has opened up access to new opportunities for local and family history research.

At W&M

This partnership allows WRL users the opportunity to take advantage of the millions of items in the collections at William and Mary, and to get a library card to check out materials from Swem Library and other W&M libraries. Jay Gaidmore, Director of Special Collections at the W&M Libraries notes that local history is one of the strengths of the W&M collections. Gaidmore says, "Chances are, we will have something on most local history projects," and he encourages researchers to look at Special Collections online finding aids at <https://libraries.wm.edu/research/special-collections> as a starting point for local history research.

Users also have access to The Special Collections Research Center at Swem Library, which "has numerous collections in its Manuscript, Rare Books, and University Archives sections that relate Williamsburg, Virginia. Some of these collections are specifically about the experiences of Williamsburg residents, while others deal more broadly with the Hampton Roads region."



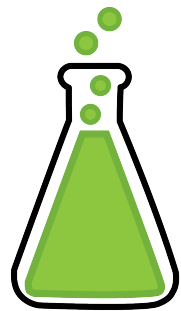
At WRL

At the Williamsburg Library, you will find a great collection of genealogical and local history materials for starting your research. We have city directories, information related to the history of the City of Williamsburg, and James City and York counties, biographical materials and oral histories featuring local residents, and the *Virginia Gazette* on microfilm from 1930-present. We also offer classes for beginners on genealogy basics.

In addition to print and microfilm resources, WRL also offers a number of online tools for genealogy and local history research. Subscriptions to Heritage Quest and Ancestry.com allow researchers to search census records, family histories, passenger lists, and more. Additionally, WRL staff have created an online index to obituaries in the *Virginia Gazette*. All of these resources can be found at wrl.org/genealogy.

Through exciting collaborations, such as the partnership with the W&M Libraries, WRL continues to bring excellent collections and services to our users and to build opportunities for future projects.

Featured Events for Kids



Chemistry Chaos

12/28, 10 a.m.

Williamsburg Library

Club SciKidz RVA will wow kids with astounding scientific demonstrations, including disappearing water, burning money, elephant toothpaste, slime, and chemical reactions.

Puppet Storytime

12/15, 11 a.m., *James City County Library*

Our puppets and teen puppeteers visit each month for a fantastic storytime. Sing and dance to holiday songs with our puppets and enjoy stories, flannel games, and other activities. This program is recommended for ages 3 and up.

Paws to Read with K-9 Connection

12/16, 2:30 p.m., *Williamsburg Library*

Kids, dogs, and books... what a great relationship! Paws to Read attracts children from the entire spectrum of reading levels to read to trained K-9 Connection therapy dogs. The dogs listen uncritically and wag their tails as the kids read, providing unspoken encouragement and affirmation.

Check out all this month's great kids events and more at www.wrl.org/kids.

Featured Events for Teens



Dungeons & Dragons Workshops

12/28 & 29, 1 p.m.

Williamsburg Library

Instructor Pierce Gaithe is here to help you level up! Learn to play or how to DM your own game. Join us for either D&D for Beginners (ages 10-adult) on 12/28 or Become a Dungeon Master (ages 13-adult) on 12/29. Please register for one class only at 757.259.4050.

Teen Writing Lounge

12/9, 2-3:30 p.m., *Williamsburg Library*

Join other teen writers for fun prompts and exercises to keep your creativity going. Both experienced writers and beginners are welcome. No homework, all fun.

Super Smash Bros. Switch Party

12/27, 5-8 p.m., *Williamsburg Library*

We need some players to help us unlock the downloadable content for our upcoming SSB tournament with our brand new Switches! Pizza and refreshments served.

Check out all this month's great teen events and more at www.wrl.org/teens.

Featured Events for Adults



Gentle Yoga

12/13, 2 p.m.

Williamsburg Library

Patti DeBlass will gently guide you through a yoga class. This is a perfect opportunity for both those interested in beginning yoga as well as more experienced practitioners.

Preparing for the Retirement Journey

12/6, 6:30 p.m., *James City County Library*

Join Deborah Wells as she discusses topics that come up as you prepare for retirement. Calling on her years of experience, Deborah will discuss social security strategies, healthcare and taxes in retirement, and other common retirement conundrums.

Ken Conger Wildlife Photography

12/12, 6 p.m., *Williamsburg Library*

Ken Conger will present a buffet of spectacular photos captured during his 2017 adventures to Ecuador, Kenya, Rwanda, India, Alaska, and a few U.S. national parks. For this talk, Ken concentrated on capturing some unique images and two special species on his "Bucket List." He will share photos, animal facts, and some short videos during this always popular presentation.

Celtic Film Series: *Flight of the Doves*

12/20, 7 p.m., *Williamsburg Library*

A greedy uncle (Ron Moody) chases brother-and-sister heirs from England to their grandmother (Dorothy McGuire) in Ireland.

Getaway Café: Timeless Toys

12/21, 2 p.m., *James City County Library*

Join us in this relaxing program for adults with early memory loss and their care partners to meet and learn about this month's topic: classic toys from days gone by.

Find all of this month's library programs & classes at www.wrl.org/events.



Happy Holidays from the Dewey Decibel Concert Series

WRL's Dewey Decibel Concert Series is closing out our Fall 2018 season with three spectacular holiday-themed performances. All shows will take place at 7:30 p.m. at the Williamsburg Library Theatre.

Bill Jenkins and the Virginia Mountain Boys (12/7)

Singer, song-writer, and cross-picking guitar virtuoso Bill Jenkins and his string band, the Virginia Mountain Boys, bring to life the authentic ballads, camp meeting songs, and early bluegrass favorites of the Southern Appalachian Mountains. This show will feature holiday favorites with some bluegrass flair.

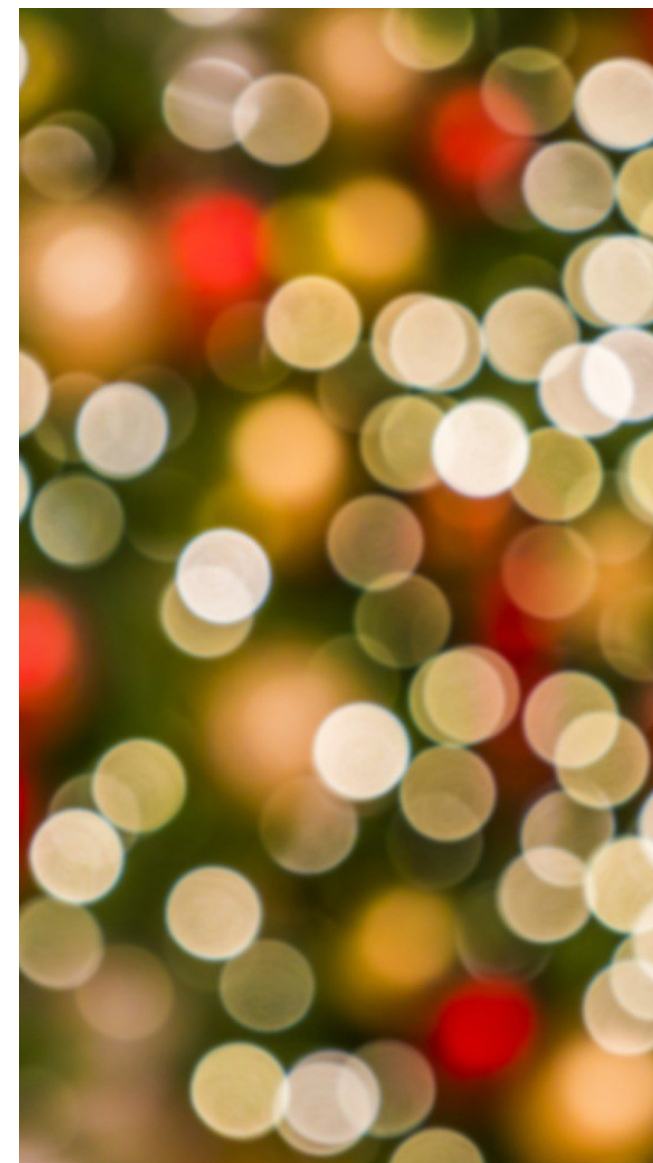
Tickets are \$5 for the general public, \$4 for members of the Friends of WRL Foundation.

Peninsula Concert Band (12/11)

The Peninsula Concert Band has been performing in the Tidewater area for sixty-six years and is a perennial favorite at the Williamsburg Regional Library. They return to our stage with a festive show of holiday favorites to help you feel the joy of the season. Admission is free.

LCV: An Acoustic Christmas (12/13)

Join the LCV Project with Louis C. Vangieri for a delightful concert experience and hear holiday music in a new and unique way -- through gentle sounds and creative arrangements for instrumental solo acoustic guitar. Peter Budnikas, who has been involved with several local bands including The Three Jolly Coachmen, Rocky Mountain High, the Hawaiian band Makena, and Blended Worship, will open the show. Admission is free.



Freegal -- Download and Stream Free Music with Your Library Card



Whether you need some tunes for a holiday party or a playlist for a winter break road trip, WRL has you covered. Stream three hours of ad-free music a day and download up to three free songs a week from Freegal, which features the entire Sony music catalog. Head to www.wrl.org/music to get started.