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Kids events for February: Valentine's Day activities, Black History Month celebrations and more

Feel the love this February at the library! Several library branches will host Valentine's Day events for children. On February 2, the South Creek Branch invites families to attend Bee My Valentine, which features Valentine's stories, crafts and fun. The program will also take place at the Orlando Public Library on February 8. On February 12, the West Oaks Branch holds My Purrfect Valentine, which will combines hearts, cats, crafts and stories (sorry, no cats allowed – this program is for people only).

The library will also celebrate Black History Month at various locations throughout the month. Experience Orisirisi African Folklore as they return to several libraries for a live, unique folkloric performance featuring drumming, dancing and storytelling. The Orlando Public Library will also host the annual African-American Read-In on February 24. See below for times and locations.

If you have any questions about the events or information shared below, feel free to contact us as 407-835-7323. Check us out online at www.ocls.info for a complete listing of library events.

Year of the Pig

Edgewater Branch, 5049 Edgewater Drive

Friday, February 1, 10:30 a.m.

Hiawasse Branch, 7391 W. Colonial Drive

Friday, February 1, 11 a.m.

South Trail Branch, 4600 S. Orange Blossom Trail

Tuesday, February 5, 10:30 a.m.

North Orange Branch, 1211 E. Semoran Blvd., Apopka

Tuesday, February 5, 11 a.m.

Southeast Branch, 5575 S. Semoran Blvd.

Tuesday, February 5, 4 p.m.

Chickasaw Branch, 870 N. Chickasaw Trail

Wednesday, February 6, 11 a.m.

Ring in the Chinese New Year at the library! Enjoy stories, crafts and activities to kick off the Year of the Pig.

Cuisine Corner Junior: Mini Edible Arrangements

Herndon Branch, 4324 E. Colonial Drive

Saturday, February 2, 2 p.m.

Orlando Public Library, 101 E. Central Blvd.

Tuesday, February 12, 3:15 p.m.

West Oaks Branch, 1821 E. Silver Star Road., Ocoee

Tuesday, February 12, 5 p.m.

South Trail Branch, 4600 S. Orange Blossom Trail

Thursday, February 14, 4:30 p.m.

Eatonville Branch, 200 E. Kennedy Blvd., Eatonville

Thursday, February 28, 3:30 p.m.

Learn how to make a mini sweet and delicious gift for your special friend. We will pick, cut and arrange colorful treats to make a master piece. Food will be served at this event, please see staff about specific needs concerning food allergies. Recommended for upper elementary, tweens and teens.

Bee My Valentine

South Creek Branch, 1702 Deerfield Blvd.

Saturday, February 2, 2:30 p.m.

Orlando Public Library, 101 E. Central Blvd.

Friday, February 8, 3:30 p.m.

The buzz is all about Valentine's Day. Join us for fun Valentine's stories, crafts and fun!

I Love You to the Moon and Back

Chickasaw Branch, 870 N. Chickasaw Trail

Monday, February 4, 11 a.m.

North Orange Branch, 1211 E. Semoran Blvd., Apopka

Tuesday, February 12, 11 a.m.

Orlando Public Library, 101 E. Central Blvd.

Wednesday, February 13, 10 a.m.

Celebrate love, family and friendship as we share a story and interact with Valentine's Day activities and crafts.

Orisirisi African Folklore

Eatonville Branch, 200 E. Kennedy Blvd., Eatonville

Tuesday, February 5, 10:30 a.m.

Winter Garden Branch, 805 E. Plant St., Winter Garden

Saturday, February 9, 2:30 p.m.

Chickasaw Branch, 870 N. Chickasaw Trail

Wednesday, February 13, 3 p.m.

Alafaya Branch, 12000 E. Colonial Drive

Saturday, February 16, 11:30 a.m.

South Trail Branch, 4600 S. Orange Blossom Trail

Monday, February 18, 2 p.m.

Edgewater Branch, 5049 Edgewater Drive

Monday, February 18, 6 p.m.

Hiwassee Branch, 7391 W. Colonial Drive

Saturday, February 23, 2 p.m.

Southwest Branch, 7255 Della Drive

Wednesday, February 27, 3 p.m.

Share the beauty of African life and culture through a unique folkloric performance filled with drumming, dance and storytelling. Recommended for preschool, lower and upper elementary.

Black History Science Smart

West Oaks Branch, 1821 E. Silver Star Road., Ocoee

Tuesday, February 5, 5 p.m.

Chickasaw Branch, 870 N. Chickasaw Trail

Wednesday, February 6, 3 p.m.

Eatonville Branch, 200 E. Kennedy Blvd., Eatonville

Monday, February 11, 3:30 p.m.

Edgewater Branch, 5049 Edgewater Drive

Monday, February 11, 4 p.m.

Washington Park Branch, 5151 Raleigh St., Suite A.

Wednesday, February 20, 4:30 p.m.

Celebrate Black History Month with a look at scientists and inventors who've made us change the way we look at the world. Enjoy facts, trivia and challenges.

Baby's First Valentine's Day!

Southwest Branch, 7255 Della Drive

Wednesday, February 6, 10:30 a.m.

South Creek Branch, 1702 Deerfield Blvd.

Wednesday, February 13, 10:30 a.m.

Celebrate Valentine's Day with themed sensory play, where they will explore, stimulate their senses and develop motor skills.

OPMI – Music First Class

Winter Garden Branch, 805 E. Plant St., Winter Garden

Saturday, February 9, 2:30 p.m.

This music class combines sensory stimulation, body awareness in space, rhythmic coordination and movement through finger plays, circle songs, word and site imitation, repetition, through the use of simple songs, rhymes and rhythm instruments. Much of this class focuses on the introduction to various musical styles and instruments – broadening their conceptual understanding of sound, language, beat, melody (pitch), as well as sharing. Presented by Orlando Premier Music Instruction (OPMI). Registration required.

My Purrfect Valentine

West Oaks Branch, 1821 E. Silver Star Road., Ocoee

Tuesday, February 12, 11 a.m.

Do you love Valentine's Day? Do you love cats? Join us for stories, games and crafts all about love and kittens but remember, actual cats are not permitted in the library.

Alma Thomas Art

Alafaya Branch, 12000 E. Colonial Drive

Wednesday, February 13, 4:30 p.m.

Eatonville Branch, 200 E. Kennedy Blvd., Eatonville

Thursday, February 14, 3:30 p.m.

Edgewater Branch, 5049 Edgewater Drive

Thursday, February 14, 4 p.m.

Winter Garden Branch, 805 E. Plant St., Winter Garden

Saturday, February 16, 2:30 p.m.

Washington Park Branch, 5151 Raleigh St., Suite A.

Monday, February 18, 4:30 p.m.

Chickasaw Branch, 870 N. Chickasaw Trail

Wednesday, February 20, 3 p.m.

Herndon Branch, 4324 E. Colonial Drive

Wednesday, February 20, 3:30 p.m.

South Creek Branch, 1702 Deerfield Blvd.

Thursday, February 21, 4 p.m.

West Oaks Branch, 1821 E. Silver Star Road., Ocoee

Saturday, February 23, 2 p.m.

Orlando Public Library, 101 E. Central Blvd.

Tuesday, February 26, 3:15 p.m.

Hiawasse Branch, 7391 W. Colonial Drive

Tuesday, February 26, 6:30 p.m.

Windermere Branch, 530 Main St., Windermere

Wednesday, February 27, 3:30 p.m.

Celebrate Black History Month by honoring artist Alma Thomas and creating your own colorful abstract work of art.

A World of Color

Washington Park Branch, 5151 Raleigh St., Suite A.

Wednesday, February 13, 4:30 p.m.

Orlando Public Library, 101 E. Central Blvd.

Tuesday, February 19, 3:30 p.m.

Hiawasse Branch, 7391 W. Colonial Drive

Monday, February 25, 6:30 p.m.

Herndon Branch, 4324 E. Colonial Drive

Wednesday, February 27, 3:30 p.m.

Create abstract art using vivid colors inspired by the work of Disney artist, Mary Blair.

Youth Art Show

Orlando Public Library, 101 E. Central Blvd.

Thursday, February 21, 6:30 p.m.

You are invited to view artwork created by local students. Enjoy these masterpieces and converse with other art enthusiasts. Awards will be presented to the Youth Art Contest winners. Artwork will be exhibited at the Orlando Public Library until February 28.

Marvelous Marvel Party

South Creek Branch, 1702 Deerfield Blvd.

Saturday, February 23, 2:30 p.m.

Marvel comics and movie characters are the inspiration for this event filled with fun trivia, exciting crafts and all kinds of surprises. Excelsior! Recommended for upper elementary.

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