



For more information, contact:

Erin Sullivan, Public Relations Administrator

407-835-7480

sullivan.erin@ocls.info

15 Fun Things to do at the Library in July

Take a break from the heat and visit the library this month for some great events and programming as the Orange County Library System continues its annual Summer Reading Program. Check out a performance from Alborea Dances or Shaun David Williams, learn about Bitcoin or get some inspiration for outdoor cooking. For more information about Summer Reading Program events, visit ocls.info/srp.

The Melrose Center hosts Orlando-based lyricist E-Turn and local musicians Leisure Chief for Melrose in the Mix on July 7. Experience a live studio-recording by both groups and learn about the process in recording and creating music.

Have you ever dreamed of becoming the next big comic book writer? Join us at the Orlando Public Library on July 14 as cartoonists Leslie Salas, Nathan Holic and Ryan Winet lead an interactive workshop on Writing Comics. Learn the process of reading, writing and creating your own material in one of the fastest-growing fields of literature.

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.

Knitting and Crochet Nook

South Creek Branch, 1702 Deerfield Blvd.

Thursday, July 5, 2–4 p.m.

Join us for our weekly knitting and crochet club. Beginners welcome. Please bring your own yarn and needles.

Rock the Library with Dance

Orlando Public Library, Library Central, 101 E. Central Blvd.

Saturday, July 7, 11 a.m.

Chickasaw Branch, 870 N. Chickasaw Trail

Tuesday, July 10, 11:30 a.m.

South Trail Branch, 4600 S. Orange Blossom Trail

Wednesday, July 18, 1 p.m.

Enjoy a lively performance of Spanish folk dances by Alborea Dances.

Music in the Library: Shaun David Williams

Southwest Branch, 7255 Della Drive

Saturday, July 7, 2 p.m.

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

Saturday, July 14, 2 p.m.

South Creek Branch, 1702 Deerfield Blvd.

Saturday, July 21, 2 p.m.

Every acoustic performance from Shaun Williams delivers a fun, unique blend of popular cover music and original acoustic songs that everyone is sure to enjoy. As a consistent member of the Orlando music scene for over 20 years, Shaun always combines his music with a wonderful display of virtuosity and showmanship that leaves a lasting impression so positive you'll want to see him again and again!

Melrose in the Mix: E-Turn with Leisure Chief

Orlando Public Library, Melrose Center, 101 E. Central Blvd.

Saturday, July 7, 3:30 p.m.

Orlando-based emcee extraordinaire E-Turn brings her indelible lyrics and style to the Melrose Audio Studio for the July Melrose in the Mix session. She'll be backed by local musical collective Leisure Chief, who will lend their funk, soul and jazz fusion-influenced sound to E-Turn's original numbers. Seating is limited. Register at ocls.info/melroseinthemix.

Tea & Conversation

South Creek Branch, 1702 Deerfield Blvd.

Sunday, July 8, 2-4 p.m.

Interested in meeting new people and building exciting friendships? Join us for a meet up that will help break the ice and expand your circle of friends. This monthly social is designed to bring individuals together through tea, conversation, cooperative gameplay and interactive media.

Introduction to Augmented Reality

Orlando Public Library, 101 E. Central Blvd.

Sunday, July 8, 4:30 p.m.

Thursday, July 19, 2:30 p.m.

Learn about the wild world of augmented reality that recognizes images and displays interactive, educational and fun content using your device's camera!

Bitcoin/Blockchain and the Tech Revolution

Orlando Public Library, Tech Central, 101 E. Central Blvd.

Wednesday, July 11, 6:30 p.m.

Join members of Crypto Cooperative to learn the basics of what the blockchain is, why it's so revolutionary and what the future might hold for this powerful decentralized revolution in technology. Crypto Cooperative will discuss the different technologies that are competing with blockchain and

Bitcoin as well as how to protect yourself from scams. There will be a Q&A for attendees and many valuable resources will be shared.

Early Learning Resource Fair

Orlando Public Library, 101 E. Central Blvd.

Saturday, July 14, 9 a.m.–Noon

Calling all families with young children! Join us as we play, learn and explore the many resources and programs available for early childhood and kindergarten readiness. Gain access to valuable organizations and services from around Orange County along with plenty of fun activities to grow your little one's mind.

Writing Comics

Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room, 101 E. Central Blvd.

Saturday, July 14, 1–3 p.m.

The medium of comics is used to in short- and long-form literary and mainstream fiction, nonfiction and even poetry, as well as testimonials, educational texts and blogs. It's one of the fastest-growing fields of literature, and is utilized in the classroom, in the workplace, in medicine and especially popular culture. In this interactive workshop, three cartoonists will guide you through the process of reading, writing and making your own comics. Presented by Leslie Salas, Nathan Holic and Ryan Winet.

Consumer Protection: Tips to Avoid Scams, Fraud and Identity Theft

Hiawasse Branch, 7391 W. Colonial Drive

Tuesday, July 17, 6:30 p.m.

Edgewater Branch, 5049 Edgewater Drive

Tuesday, July 24, 6:30 p.m.

If you have been the victim of scams, fraud or identity theft or would like to know more about your rights as a consumer and how to avoid these situations, join us for this valuable presentation. Presented by The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' Division of Consumer Services, which is the state's clearinghouse for consumer complaints, information and protection. The Department regulates various businesses and protects consumers and businesses from unfair and unsafe business practices across a wide range of market sectors.

Cooking Outside: Turn Your Patio into a Gourmet Restaurant

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

Wednesday, July 18, 6:15 p.m.

Join Chef Warren Caterson as he shares tips and hints to elevate your grilling from 'ho-hum' to 'oh my!' Whether its steaks, chicken, veggies or dessert, learn the secrets of the great grilling masters. In this two-part series, he will demonstrate how to make his recipe for flat iron steak with honey and balsamic vinegar. On Wednesday, August 22, join us for part two, featuring grilled shrimp. Book sale and signing to follow event. For more information on Chef Warren, visit chefwarrencaterson.com.

Art of Meditation

Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room, 101 E. Central Blvd.

Thursday, July 19, 12:10 p.m.

Attendees will learn the different types of meditation and how to begin a practice to meet their individual needs. This seminar is part of the LIFE Information for Elders series presented by the Orange County's

Commission on Aging. Call 407.836.7446 or email officeonaging@ocfl.net to register. A small lunch is provided to the first 50 people to RSVP.

Learn Italian Through Songs

Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room, 101 E. Central Blvd.

Saturdays, July 21 & 28, 9:30 a.m.

Songs are a great way to learn Italian! Listening to a song and singing along allows you to practice Italian pronunciation while committing to memory new vocabulary through repetition. Song after song, you will familiarize yourself with famous Italian singers and songwriters from the last 40 years and their greatest hits – songs that virtually all Italians know. Join Italian native, Professor Donatella from italianizeyou.com as she provides you a window to Italian culture in this two-part series.

Melrose Meetups: Out Tonight Theatre Improv with SAK Comedy Lab

Orlando Public Library, Melrose Center, 101 E. Central Blvd.

Sunday, July 29, 4 p.m.

Would you like to play in a world where “there are no mistakes?” SAK Comedy Lab instructor and performer Mike Carr joins us this month to introduce improv in a space that is safe, supportive and fun! This session will be similar to the group exercises and games taught in the SAK Comedy Lab.

Entrepreneurs Small Business Workshop

Orlando Public Library, Albertson Room, 101 E. Central Blvd.

Tuesday, July 31, 5:30–7:45 p.m.

Join the U.S. Small Business Administration, SCORE and Operation Hope as we present a small business workshop where you will learn how to start, grow or finance a small business and how to establish or rebuild your credit profile. Each representative will also be available to speak one-on-one with those who attend. Registration required. To register, visit ocls.info or call 407.835.7323.

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