

NEWS & EVENTS BCLS

Bay County Library System

DECEMBER 2025

BAYCOUNTYLIBRARY.ORG



REINDEER AT YOUR LIBRARY



AUBURN:
TUE, DEC 2
5-7 PM

WIRT:
TUE, DEC 9
5-7 PM

PINCONNING:
THU, DEC 11
5-7 PM

SAGE:
THU, DEC 18
5-7 PM

SEE LIVE REINDEER OUTSIDE AND MAKE REINDEER CRAFTS
INSIDE THE LIBRARY. FAMILY FUN FOR ALL AGES!

No registration required. Camera use is encouraged!

**GLIDE INTO
READING**
WINTER READING PROGRAM

Save the Date

JANUARY 5 - MARCH 7, 2026
baycountylibrary.org/WRP



ADULTS

Ages 18 and up

® = Registration required. Registration opens 1 month before each program at 9 am.

Auburn Area
Branch Library

Sage Branch
Library

Pinconning Branch
Library

Alice and Jack Wirt
Public Library

Multi-branch
or Offsite

CRAFTS & MORE

Knitting Solutions

Wirt: Tuesdays, 10 am-12 pm

Drop in to knit and crochet with others! Expert knitters on site to help those who need assistance. Supplies not provided; please bring your own project to work on.

Wednesdays with Walt: Technology Help ®

Wirt: Wednesdays, 11 am-12 pm OR 2-3 pm

Reserve a spot with Walt, our Technology Supervisor, for help with your device or any tech questions you may have.

Holiday Gift Wrapping

Wirt: December 1st-23rd during regular library hours

Drop in to wrap your holiday gifts! Wrapping paper, scissors and tape provided. You are welcome to bring your own supplies, too.

Books & Brews ® (Adults)

Tavern 101: Dec 3, 7-8:30 pm

December Title: The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store by James McBride

Name that Tune Bingo ®

Sage: Fri, Dec 5, 10:30-11:30 am

Play along and win prizes as we listen to snippets of popular music through the ages to complete our bingo boards.

All Together Now Club

Auburn: Tue, Dec 9, 12:30-1:30 pm

The library isn't just a place that has books- it's also a place for everyone of all abilities to connect, learn, and create! We welcome adults with disabilities, their caregivers, and any adults who like to craft, play games, explore the library, and everything else in-between.

Cribbage Night

Wirt: Wed, Dec 10, 2025, 6-7 pm

Drop in to play cribbage with others. Bring your own board if you have one.

Team Jigsaw Puzzle Challenge ®

Sage: Wed, Dec 10, 6-7:30 pm

Adults, register a team of friends or family to see who can complete a 500 piece puzzle first! Prize awarded to the winning team. Unplug and play at the library!

Santa Gnome Craft ®

Wirt: Thu, Dec 11, 6-7 pm

Craft a Santa Gnome for the Holiday season.

Romance & Rosé ® (Adults)

Riverfront Grille: Dec 16, 5:30-6:30 pm

Are you a romance reader with no one to talk about your latest read? Join us to dish on your favorite reads and tropes and to get recs from fellow romance readers. There is no assigned reading, instead bring what titles you've read recently to share.

A full list of monthly adult Book Club dates and locations can be found at: www.baycountylibrary.org/book-clubs.

PASSPORT TO READING

Stop into any branch to pick up your passport. Read 12 books from at least 3 different continents and your name will be entered into a drawing for a basket filled with goodies from around the world!

You must be a Bay County Resident to be eligible for the prize drawing. Passports are valid October 1, 2025 to May 31, 2026.



BCLS
Bay County Library System

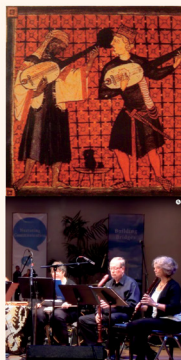
EVENING SESSIONS
SPEAKER SERIES
BAYCOUNTYLIBRARY.ORG



Northern Renaissance: A Renaissance Christmas

**Sat, December 6, 2025
2:00 PM**

Northern Renaissance is a small group of area musicians who enjoy playing music from the 14th-early 17th centuries. Join us for an afternoon of holiday music that would be heard by aristocrats in the main hall of a castle, folks in a tavern, and worshippers in an ancient cathedral.



PRESENTED IN PERSON AT WIRT LIBRARY COMMUNITY ROOM 

ADULTS & TEENS

® = Registration required. Registration opens one month before each program at 9 am.

Both adults and teens welcome (Grade 6-Age 18 & up)

Auburn Area Branch Library	Sage Branch Library	Pinconning Branch Library	Alice and Jack Wirt Public Library	Multi-branch or Offsite
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Needle Crafters Club

Auburn: Wednesdays, 6-7:30 pm

All hand-sewing crafters welcomed.

Podcasting for Beginners: A Workshop with Alex the Greek® (Ages 9 & up)

Pinconning: Tue, Dec 2, 6-7:30 pm

This is the third session in a three-part workshop with Alex Alexandrou (Alex the Greek). Don't miss this opportunity to learn how to develop, record, and edit your own podcast - right at the library!

Unraveled: An Ugly Sweater Craft Night®

Auburn: Fri, Dec 5, 6-8 pm

Join us after hours at the Auburn Area Branch Library for a cozy and creative evening full of crafting, cocoa and cheer! Get festive with holiday crafts, warm up at our hot cocoa bar, and show off your best (or worst!) holiday sweater to be entered into a drawing for a holiday gift basket!

DIY Aroma Stones®

Pinconning: Tue, Dec 9, 6-7 pm

Winter Mug Centerpiece®

Pinconning: Sat, Dec 13, 10-11:30 am

Chess at the Library®

Sage: Wed, Dec 17, 3:30-5 pm

TEEN ZONE

Teen-only programs
(Grades 6-12)

® = Registration required.
Registration opens 1 month before
each program at 9 am.

Auburn Area Branch Library	Sage Branch Library	Pinconning Branch Library	Alice and Jack Wirt Public Library	Multi-branch or Offsite
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Gamer Club® (Grades 4-12)

Auburn: Wed, Dec 3 & 17, 3-4:30 pm

Do you love gaming? Come join your fellow gamers for games and snacks! Games available on the Wii and Switch.

Arts & Snacks! Shrinky Dinks, Buttons, and Hot Cocoa!®

Sage: Tue, Dec 9, 3:30-4:30 pm

Join us as we create little charms and pins while sipping on hot cocoa!

Monthly Mug Meals for Teens®

Auburn: Wed, Dec 10, 2:30-4 pm

Learn how to make a new meal each month with just a microwave! This month we will be making pizza.

Dungeons & Dragons®

Sage: Wed, Dec 10, 3:30-5:30 pm

Use your wit, skill, and some lucky rolls of the dice to create characters, fight bad guys, and maybe even save the world. No experience necessary!

Gingerbread House Decorating (Grades 4th-12th)

Auburn: Thu, Dec 11, 3:30-4:30 pm

Join us for a fun afternoon making your own edible gingerbread house! No registration required.

Pom Pom Ornaments®

Wirt: Thu, Dec 11, 4-5 pm

Create reindeer and gnome ornaments while enjoying a hot cup of cocoa!

Film Crew Club®

Sage: Tue, Dec 16, 3:30-4:30 pm

TEEN BOOK BOXES

Middle Pages Loot Box®

(Grades 6-8)

Pick up December 15-20

Teen LitLoot Box®

(Grades 9-12)

Pick up December 1-6

December Theme: FICTION

Each box contains a library book related to the month's theme, a book to keep, and a few complimentary treats or a craft. Check out the box, enjoy the treats, then return the library book and box.

Due to the popularity of this program, loot boxes are limited to Bay County resident cardholders only. Thank you!

CHILDREN & FAMILY

Please note: Children under the age of 6 must be accompanied by an adult at all programs.

® = Registration required. Registration opens 1 month before each program at 9 am.

WINTER STORYTIMES January 5-February 20, 2026

Baby Storytime (Ages 0-2)

Wirt: Mondays, 10:30-11 am
Sage: Tuesdays, 11-11:30 am
Auburn: Thursdays, 10:15-10:45 am

Toddler Storytime (Ages 18 months-3 years)

Wirt: Wednesdays, 10:30-11 am

Preschool Storytime (Ages 2-5)

Sage: Tuesdays, 10-10:30 am
Auburn: Wednesdays, 10:15-10:45 am
Wirt: Wednesdays, 11:30-12 pm
Wirt: Thursdays, 10:30-11 am
Auburn: Thursdays, 11:15-11:45 am

Family Storytime (Ages 0-6)

Sage: Mondays, 10-10:30 am
Pinconning: Wednesdays, 10:30-11 am
Wirt: Wednesdays, 6:30-7 pm

We offer storytimes for a variety of age groups filled with stories, music, activities and more! Registration opens for all sessions December 5th.

Registration &
Online Calendar:



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Coats for Kids

All BCLS Branches



Drop off new or gently used coats at any BCLS branch library. In partnership with the Salvation Army of Bay City, all BCLS branches are drop-off locations for the Coats for Kids program! Donations will be accepted through the end of December.

1000BOOKS Before Kindergarten

Bay County Library System

Sign up at
your closest
BCLS branch,
or online using
READsquared.
Tracking logs
are available
at all branch
locations.



Read your way toward kindergarten readiness! 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten (1000B4K) is a self-guided, read-at-home program for all children, from birth up until the time they start school. The goal? For every child to be exposed to at least 1000 books before kindergarten. Earn badges and prizes along the way, and build a strong early literacy foundation to help get your child ready to read on their own.

Online resources and more
information can be found at
baycountylibrary.org



PUPS & PAGES

Register
online

Read to a Certified Therapy Dog!
Ages 4-12

Bring a book from home or come a few minutes
early to look for books at the library.

DECEMBER DATES

AUBURN: SAT, DEC 6,
11 AM-12 PM

SAGE: WED, DEC 17,
5:30-6:30 PM

PINCONNING:
THU, DEC 18, 6-7 PM

WIRT: SAT, DEC 20,
2-3 PM



CRAFTS & MORE

Legacy Coffee House Storytime (Ages 0-5 + Adult)

Legacy Coffee House: Mon, Dec 1, 9-9:30 am

Families with young children. Join the Wirt library downtown at Legacy Coffee House for storytime.

Read, Talk, Create: Lava Lamps! ® (Ages 9-12)

Wirt: Tue, Dec 2, 4:30-5:15

Bring a book you've read or listened to, share your favorite parts, then make your own lava lamp!

Gamer Club ® (Grades 4-12)

Auburn: Wed, Dec 3 & 17, 3-4:30 pm

Do you love gaming? Come join your fellow gamers for games and snacks! Games available on the Wii and Switch.

Walking on a Trail Book Event ® (Ages 10 & under)

Pinconning: Wed, Dec 3, 4:30-5:15 pm

Join local author, Allison Bartlette, for a free event featuring her new book *Walking on a Trail!* This event will include nature based activities including songs, toys, crafts, and an indoor scavenger hunt all connected to the story! Our event will begin at 4:30 and is great for preschool and early elementary students! Registration will be required so that we can plan for the amount of items to have ready for the event. We look forward to seeing you there!

Baby Book Club ® (Ages 0-3)

Sage: Wed, Dec 3, 5:30-6 pm

Bring your baby to sing, rhyme, dance, and take home a new book to keep. Stay to play and chat with other parents.

Move & Groove (Ages 0-5 + Adult)

Wirt: Thu, Dec 4, 11, 18, 10:30-11 am

Join us for a story, music, and dancing! Both kids and their caregivers will enjoy shaking their sillies out in this movement-based program.

Gamer Club Jr. ® (Grades 1st-4th)

Auburn: Thu, Dec 4 & 18, 3:30-4:30 pm

Join us for an after school club where we'll play a variety of video games, make new friends, and explore the world of gaming in a positive and fun environment.

Make a Gift ® (Ages 12 & under)

Sage: Thu, Dec 4, 4:30, 5:15 or 6 pm

Decorate a winter wooden sign, card, and wrapping paper to give away this holiday season.

Little Explorers: Hibernation Station ® (Ages 5 & under)

Pinconning: Thu, Dec 4, 5:30-6:30 pm

For many creatures, winter is the season of rest. Explore the fascinating world of hibernation with your little one through a variety of interactive sensory activities! Learn how wilderness winds down for a slow winter's sleep, settle down with a soft storybook, and even experiment with creating your own ideal hibernaculum! This is the perfect way for Little Explorers to practice mindfulness for the new year ahead.

Playdate @ Wirt (Ages 0-4 + Adult)

Wirt: Fri, Dec 5 & 19, 10-11 am

Little ones can play, discover & meet new friends. Drop in for playtime fun in the Wirt Children's program room.

Toddler Time! (Ages 4 & under)

Pinconning: Fridays, Dec 5 & 19, 11-11:45 am

Bring your littles to the Pinconning Branch every other week for play and to make new friends! Hot beverages will be provided for adults.

Storytime at Risers Kitchen (Family)

Risers Kitchen: Sat, Dec 6, 10:30-11:30 am

Join Ms Ashley or Ms Miranda from the Auburn Branch for a special offsite storytime at Risers Kitchen in Auburn!

Adventure by Mail ® (Ages 8-12)

Ongoing Event 12/8-12/12

Registered patrons ages 8-12 will have an escape room adventure sent to an address of their choice. It will contain 3 challenges to complete in order to win. Bring the completed puzzles into the library of your choice and receive a free book to keep as well as a mystery prize!

Excited Goat Storytime (Ages 0-5 + Adult)

Excited Goat Coffee Company: Mon, Dec 8, 10-10:30 am

Families with young children. Join the Wirt library at Excited Goat Coffee Company in Essexville for storytime.

Gingerbread Story Time ® (Ages 2-5 + Adult)

Sage: Mon, Dec 8 OR Tue, Dec 9, 10-11 am

Gingerbread stories, activities and craft.

Ugly Sweater Magnets ® (Ages 2-12)

Auburn: Tue, Dec 9, 4:30-5:30 pm

Join us for a fun program where we'll be creating adorable (and tacky) magnets that look like your favorite festive sweater, perfect to keep or give as a gift!

Wiggle Worm Wednesday (Ages 0-5 + Adult)

Auburn: Wed, Dec 10, 11 am-12 pm

Wiggle Worm Wednesday is a joyful playdate designed for children 0-5 and their grown-ups! Each session is packed with wiggly fun, playful learning, and social connection. Drop in for wiggly fun!

Gingerbread House Decorating (Grades 4th-12th)

Auburn: Thu, Dec 11, 3:30-4:30 pm

Join us for a fun afternoon making your own edible gingerbread house! No registration required.

Mad Scientists: Electric Cards ® (Ages 6-12)

Sage: Thu, Dec 11, 5:30-6:30 pm

Create a circuit that will light up your art!

Jolly Babies & Toddlers ® (Ages 0-5 + Adult)

Auburn: Fri, Dec 12, 10:30-11:30 am

Join us for a fun morning of jolly keepsake crafts, sensory bins, and light snacks!

Little Wiggles ® (Ages 2-5 + Adult)

Sage: Fri, Dec 12, 10:30-11 am

Move and dance our wiggles out at our fun musical program.

Spongebob Trivia ® (Ages 8-12)

Wirt: Sat, Dec 13, 11-11:45 am

Celebrate the upcoming release of The Spongebob Movie by testing your knowledge of everyone's favorite underwater sponge.

Busy Book Café ® (Ages 0-3 + Adult)

Sage: Mon, Dec 15, 11 am-12 pm

Craft supplies and directions will be available for parents to build a page for a baby busy book. Toys will be out for children to play while adults craft and visit.

Make Your Own Elf on the Shelf ® (Ages 6-12)

Auburn: Tue, Dec 16, 4:30-5:30 pm

Have you heard of "Elf on the Shelf"? Well now you can make your own version out of clay and other craft materials! Want to make "Shrek on a Deck"? Or "Pikachu on a Shoe"? Or even "Potato on a Rainbow"? Then come get to crafting!

Sensory Play (Ages 1-5 + Adult)

Wirt: Wed, Dec 17, 10:30-11:30 am

Drop in for hands-on discovery fun and family time!

Young Scientists: All About Me ® (Ages 2-5 + Adult)

Sage: Fri, Dec 19, 10:30-11:30 am

Fun, scientific exploration through STEAM stations, play and craft.

A is for Art: Reindeer Garland ® (Ages 2-5 + Adult)

Auburn: Fri, Dec 19, 10:30-11:30 am

Create a cute reindeer garland that can be used to decorate your home or given as a gift to someone special.

Paint a Nutcracker ® (Ages 5-12)

Wirt: Mon, Dec 22, 11-11:30 am

Paint your own mini nutcracker to get in the holiday spirit.

Lifesize Hungry Hungry Hippos ® (Ages 8-12)

Wirt: Tue, Dec 23, 2-3 pm

Challenge yourself and your partner to catch as many balls as you can with just a basket and a scooter.

Winter Solstice Celebration ® (Ages 4-12)

Pinconning: Tue, Dec 23, 3:30-4:30 pm

Celebrate the anticipation of longer days through fun and play! You and your little one will gather with friends to help bring light to some of the longest nights of the year. Create your own lantern, listen to stories, play games, and make snacks for the local wildlife to support them through this cold season—the official start of winter!

Lifesize Fortnite ® (Ages 8-12)

Wirt: Mon, Dec 29, 11 am-12 pm

Compete as a team to build the best fort and defend it against enemy attacks. Free build to follow.

Noon Year's Eve Countdown Party ® (Ages 0-12)

Auburn: Tue, Dec 30, 11:30 am-12:30 pm

Join us in celebrating the New Year! Wear your pj's for a cozy time with cake, dancing, and a countdown to 12 (noon)!

Glow Party (Ages 0-12 + Adult)

Wirt: Tue, Dec 30, 2-3 pm

Join us for glow in the dark dancing, crafts, and more! Wear white or neon if you want your clothes to glow under the blacklights.

Wee Mouse in a Tin House ® (Ages 4-12)

Pinconning: Tue, Dec 30, 3:30-4:30 pm

Never worry about feeling bored or lonely again! Put together your own pocket-sized mouse friend that adventures with you wherever you go! Design a home for your forever friend inside a repurposed tin— all ready for your wee, whimsical friend to move on in!

Clay Creations ® (Ages 5-12)

Wirt: Fri, Jan 2, 2-2:30 pm

Make and decorate your own sculpture or pottery using air-dry clay.

Parachute Party (Ages 5-8)

Wirt: Sat, Jan 3, 2-2:30 pm

Get ready to laugh, jump, and shake! From bouncing balls to making giant waves, every movement is a blast with friends under the parachute.

Alice & Jack Wirt Public Library

500 Center Ave., Bay City, MI 48708
Ph: (989) 893-9566 TDD: (989) 893-7052
Mon-Thu: 10 am-8 pm
Fri-Sat: 9 am-5 pm
Sun: *1-5 pm (*Sep-May only)

Auburn Area Branch Library

235 W. Midland Rd., Auburn, MI 48611
Ph: (989) 662-2381
Sun-Mon: Closed
Tue-Thu: 10 am-8 pm
Fri-Sat: 9 am-5 pm

Pinconning Branch Library

218 Kaiser St., Pinconning, MI 48650
Ph: (989) 879-3283
Sun-Mon: Closed
Tue-Thu: 10 am-8 pm
Fri-Sat: 9 am-5 pm

Sage Branch Library

100 E. Midland St., Bay City, MI 48706
Ph: (989) 892-8555
Mon-Tue: 9 am-5 pm
Wed-Thu: Noon-8 pm
Fri: 9 am-5 pm
Sat-Sun: Closed

Bookmobile

500 Center Ave., Bay City, MI 48708
Ph: (989) 385-0837
Visit us on the web for a current schedule.

Newsletter printing cost courtesy of Friends of the Bay County Libraries

FRIENDS OF THE BAY COUNTY LIBRARIES

Yes! I would like to support my libraries by joining the
Friends of the Bay County Libraries!

Membership Categories

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AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: Friends of the Bay County Libraries.
Mail your form and payment to 500 Center Avenue, Bay City, MI 48708
or drop it off at any branch library.

All BCLS branches will be closed December 24-26, 2025 as well as
December 31-January 1, 2026. All digital resources will continue to be available.

EXCITING NEWS!

OUR NEWSLETTER

IS CHANGING!

Please note: BCLS will be publishing a new and
refreshed format of our newsletter in January 2026.
With this, our mailing list will now include Bay
County residents only. If your address is outside of
Bay County, Michigan and you would like
to keep receiving news and events from
BCLS, please scan the QR code to sign
up for our email newsletter.



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