



A Message from the Director

Dear Baldwin Community,

"Don't you love New York in the fall? It makes me want to buy school supplies. I would send you a bouquet of newly sharpened pencils if I knew your name and address." —*Nora Ephron*

I also love New York in the fall, and I can smell those sharpened pencils (number 2s, of course) right now. I can also smell the apple pies you'll be able to assemble here at the Library (p.5). The weather starts to cool off a bit this time of year - just balmy enough to enjoy our walking club (p.12). Rather walk on your own? Make an artisan hiking stick (p.6) and take it out for a spin.

School is starting for the kids and teens; we'll have plenty of fun ready to fill their free time, from Diwali celebrations to zombie special effects workshops (p.13 and 17). For the first time, we will have a Halloween costume drive and giveaway for the littlest trick-or-treaters (p.15). Community members of all ages will have the opportunity to help others during the Great Give Back this October.

While all of this is going on, we're busy renovating the Library's second floor. Some progress photos are available on our website. We can't wait until it's time to share the new spaces with you.

This really is the perfect time to apply for or renew your Baldwin Public Library card, especially since September is National Library Card Sign-Up Month. Your card unlocks access to so much here at BPL, from online program registration to online services such as eBooks, downloadable audiobooks, and eMagazines from Libby; tutoring from HelpNow; and test prep from Mometrix.

Happy fall!

Elizabeth Olesh

Library Director

September is National Library Card Sign-Up Month

**Don't have a library card yet?
What are you waiting for?**

Baldwin Public Library serves the entire Baldwin Union Free School District. We want every resident (including babies!) to have and use a BPL card.

Stop in today to apply or apply online at:
<https://www.baldwinpl.org/card/> It's quick and easy!



The Great Give Back

The Great Give Back is a community service initiative that enables people to participate in meaningful experiences at public libraries throughout New York.



This year, the Baldwin Public Library will again give back to The INN, a not-for-profit, volunteer-based organization with the largest soup kitchen on Long Island. The INN provides a broad variety of essential services to assist those challenged by hunger, homelessness, and profound poverty.

From October 1 - October 15, we are asking for donations that will be used to create activity kits for children of families who are guests of The INN. All items should be new and unopened.

Please donate: Coloring books, crayons, decks of playing cards, puzzle books, and sticker books with stickers.

2025 INN the Bag

Sunday, October 19, 2:00-3:00PM

Join us to create activity kits for children of families who are guests of The INN.

FOR ALL AGES. Children under 10 should be accompanied by an adult. Community Service hours will be provided for teens. No registration required.

"Neither this material, nor the content thereof, are sponsored or endorsed by the Baldwin Union

Free School District or its officials."

NEW!

Tools for Back to School

Live Homework Help and More with *HelpNow*™

As the school year begins, we are pleased to introduce *HelpNow*™, our new homework help service. For learners of all ages, *HelpNow*™ includes our popular (and free) online tutoring as well as other features:



- **Live Homework Help**

Get live online tutoring from expert tutors in math, reading, writing, science, and more right when you need it. Just log in, choose your grade and subject, and then start your session! Spanish-speaking tutors are available.

- **SkillSurfer Lessons & Videos**

Prep, practice, and learn with lessons, video tutorials, practice tests, and one-click access to live tutoring. Includes SAT, ACT, GED, TOEFL, U.S. Citizenship Test, and more.

- **Writing Lab**

Send your paper to a tutor for personalized feedback. You can also meet with a live tutor for help at any stage of the writing process.

- **Adult Learning Center**

Prepare for the High School Equivalency and U.S. Citizenship tests, build academic skills, improve writing, and get resumé help with live tutors and a resume lab.

HelpNow™ is on our website at www.baldwinpl.org under "Learning & Research." Choose "Research/Databases" and then "Careers and Test Preparation" or use this shortcut: www.baldwinpl.org/HelpNow.

First-time visitors to *HelpNow*™ should make a free account to make best use of the service's features. Under "My Account" click "Login", then click "Don't have a username or password? Sign up" to choose a user name and password.

Mometrix Test Preparation

What You Need, Always Available

No more waiting for that test preparation book you need right now. *Mometrix* has online test preparation material for over 1,500 standardized exams that's always available. If you are looking to do well on a civil service exam, enter nursing school, pass a teacher certification exam or prepare for a specialized career exam, *Mometrix* has it covered. There're NYSTCE and Praxis teacher certification exams, ATI TEAS, HESI A2, NCLEX (PN and RN), and other professional licensing certifications prep.



Mometrix includes:

- **Study Guides:** Comprehensive subject review, along with study strategies and test-taking tips to help build confidence and reduce test anxiety.
- **Practice Tests:** Realistic practice exams to assess knowledge and identify areas for improvement. There is an answer key and explanation for every question. Print out tests to take on paper (up to 30 pages at a time), in order to simulate the real exam.
- **Flashcards:** Digital flashcards for efficient memorization and review of key concepts.
- **Tutorials:** Online video lessons and tutorials to enhance understanding.

Mometrix is on our website at www.baldwinpl.org under "Learning & Research." Choose "Research/Databases" and then "Careers and Test Preparation" or use this shortcut: www.baldwinpl.org/Mometrix.

CHECK OUT OUR LIBRARY OF THINGS!

BPL's Library of Things, sponsored by the Friends of the Library, is a collection of non-traditional items we have available to lend. Why buy when you can borrow first to try?

Fall weather can be perfect for outdoor family game fun with our Jumbo 4-to-Score, Giant Chess, or other lawn games. Use our Video2Digital converter to digitize a VHS tape or create an audio file of a beloved and irreplaceable cassette. You can take pictures with help from our selfie stick/tripod (with a remote), and then hang up your framed photos with our tool kit.

Visit www.baldwinpl.org/BPLthingsvideo to see some of our items in action on our TikTok account (Baldwin Public Library), demonstrated by our friendly staff. But we don't advise you to try pickleball indoors!

Visit our website or stop by the Library to find out more, reserve an item, and check out the unexpected. As with our museum pass program, Library of Things items are available only to adult Baldwin cardholders, and can be reserved up to 30 days in advance. The loan period is seven days. Borrowers will need to sign an agreement/waiver form.

TEENS - GRADES 6-12

Register for teen programs via the Library Events Calendar, in person at the Teen Reference Desk, or by telephone, unless otherwise noted. All programs are open to grades 6-12 unless otherwise noted. Library card required for registration. Baldwin School District residents receive priority when registering for programs. All others may register for programs one week after registration begins.

National Library Card Sign-Up Month

Teen Library Card Raffle

If you apply for your first BPL library card or renew and are in grades 6-12, bring your card to the Teen Zone, where you will be entered to win a raffle for a \$25 GrubHub gift card! *The winner will be picked on Wednesday, October 1.*



Color Your Own Bookmark

September 2 -
September 30

Visit the Teen Zone to design your own bookmark! Supplies will be provided by the Library. *No registration required. First come, first served.*

Make a Quesadilla!

Saturday, September 20
11:30AM-12:30PM

Presented by Chefs of d'Future
Celebrate Quesadilla Day (September 25) by making your very own with Chef Julie.
Registration begins Tuesday, September 2.

Money Decision-Making For Teens

Presented by Accredited Personal Finance Instructor Donna Cirillo

Saturday, September 27, 3:00-4:00PM

Ms. Cirillo is an expert educator in finance who will discuss big spending decisions such as car buying and higher education planning with teens and parents.
Registration begins Saturday, September 6.



100 Books Before Graduation is a reading initiative for teens to read 100 books before they graduate from high school. You can sign up on our website at: www.baldwinpl.org/100. Receive prizes for every 25 books you read.

Manga & Anime Club

Saturday, October 4, 3:00-4:00PM

Are you an anime or manga fan? Feel free to drop-in and talk about your favorite manga, watch anime on our Crunchyroll account, and meet new people or bring your friends.

Registration begins Saturday, September 20.

Pumpkin Decorating Contest

Presented by the Teen Advisory Council

Saturday, October 11, 2:30-3:30PM

Bring your own pumpkin and join us to decorate it in any theme you like. Teens will get to choose the winner! All pumpkins will be displayed in the Teen Zone for the month. Decoration supplies will be provided by the Library. *Registration begins Monday, September 22.*

Let's Celebrate Diwali for Teens

Presented by Subrina Singh

(Session III; Grades 8-12)

Sunday, October 19, 2:00-3:00PM

Join us for a Diwali Mela (gathering) celebrating South Asian culture and traditions with diya painting, a henna artist, and music. Indian snacks and chai will be served.

Registration begins Wednesday, October 1.

Zombie Special Effects Workshop

Presented by Chris Vivas

Saturday, October 25, 12:00-1:30PM

Zombify yourself! With a step-by-step process, we will transform you into a zombie. Using special effects techniques applied in movies, we will create cuts, tears, wounds, and other forms of zombification. Join us as we learn about the history of zombies and turn ourselves into the living dead!

Registration begins Wednesday, October 1.



TEENS - GRADES 6-12

Register for teen programs via the Library Events Calendar, in person at the Teen Reference Desk, or by telephone, unless otherwise noted. All programs are open to grades 6-12 unless otherwise noted. Library card required for registration. Baldwin School District residents receive priority when registering for programs. All others may register for programs one week after registration begins.

Free Practice Tests with The Princeton Review

Princeton Review offers free practice SATs and information about the college admission process.

Go to: www.princetonreview.com/college/free-sat-practice-test?ceid=nav-hs#!practice



Community Service Opportunities

For more information go to:
www.baldwinpl.org/teen-community-service/

Teen Tote Bags

October 1 - 31

It's Teentober! We are celebrating the talents of our Baldwin teens by coloring tote bags that will be given to the Circulation Desk for patrons. Stop by the Teen Zone to color a bag anytime during the month of October.

One hour of community service will be provided.

Book Trailer

Create a book trailer for an upcoming teen book that you are excited about. Send your trailer to teens@baldwinpl.org and we'll post it on our social media.

Two hours credit will be provided.

Social Media

Create a BookTok, Bookstagram, or Spotify playlist about a book you've enjoyed reading. Make sure to tag the Library. Once you've posted it, email teens@baldwinpl.org to let us know it's for community service.

One post = one hour credit.

Teen Advisory Council: School Supply Drive (Grades 9-12)

Sunday, October 19, 2:00-3:00PM

Bring in school supplies to be donated to those in need. Discuss upcoming Library programs and community service opportunities for the winter with fellow teens and the Teen Librarian.

Registration begins Wednesday, October 1.

One hour of community service will be provided for attending, another hour for bringing in supplies, and more hours can be credited if you create and implement a program.

Live Homework Help and More with HelpNow™ **NEW!**

As the school year begins, we are pleased to introduce HelpNow™ (from Brainfuse), our new homework help service. (This service replaces Tutor.com.) HelpNow™, for learners of all ages, includes our popular (and free) online tutoring as well as skills-building for ACT and SAT testing.

• Live Homework Help

Live, online one-on-one tutors are available Monday-Sunday from 2:00-11:00PM. Get live online tutoring from expert tutors in math, reading, writing, science, and more right when you need it. Just log in, choose your grade and subject, and then start your session! Both English and Spanish-speaking tutors are available.

• SkillSurfer Lessons & Videos

Prep, practice, and learn with lessons, video tutorials, practice tests, and one-click access to live tutoring. Includes SAT, ACT, GED and more.

• Writing Lab

Send your paper to a tutor for personalized feedback. You can also meet with a live tutor for help at any stage of the writing process.

Set up a free account and get started. You can access HelpNow™ on the Teen Page under "Live Homework Help" or directly here: www.baldwinpl.org/HelpNow.

Tween Scene (Grades 4-7)

Wooden Mandala Painting

Saturday, September 13, 11:00AM-12:00PM

Color your own unique design.

Registration begins Monday, September 1.

Halloween Haunted Houses

Saturday, October 18, 11:00AM-12:00PM

Paint your own haunted house scene. There will be different options to choose from.

Registration begins Wednesday, October 1.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Register for Children's programs via the Library Events Calendar, in person at the Children's Reference Desk, or by telephone, unless otherwise noted. Library card required for registration. Baldwin School District residents receive priority when registering for programs. All others may register for programs one week after registration begins.

Ten minutes after an in-person program has begun, individuals from the waiting list who have come to attend the program will be allowed to enter and may take the place of individuals who have not yet arrived. If you take any photos while you're at a Library event, tag us on Facebook and Instagram @baldwinlibny or email it to Childrens@baldwinpl.org.

Halloween Costume Drive

September 2 - 30

Do you have old Halloween costumes taking up space in your closet? Donate your child's lightly used or unused costume to help make this Halloween more sustainable.

Halloween Costume Giveaway

October 6 - 31

Parents are invited to stop by the Children's Room and take home a pre-owned child-sized Halloween costume free of charge. These costumes have been generously donated to the Library.

ART CORNER

Drop-In Crafts (All Ages)
Make a craft to take home!

September: Washi Tape Library Card Holders and Design Your Own Bookmark for National Library Card Signup Month

October: Lollipop Ghosts
Materials available while supplies last.
No registration required.

Babies, Toddlers, and Preschoolers

Music for Aardvarks

(Ages 4 Months-4 Years with Parent/Caregiver)

Presented by Music for Aardvarks

Wednesdays @ 10:00AM

September 17, 24, and October 1 and 8

Classes that incorporate singing, dancing, musical storytelling, and instrumental jam sessions for a rockin' good time.

Registration for Baldwin Public School District residents begins Wednesday, September 3; all others may register beginning Wednesday, September 10.

Learn & Play

(Ages 1 to 3-Year-Olds with Parent/Caregiver)

Tuesdays @ 10:00AM

September 16, 23, 30 and October 7, 14

Professionals (nutrition educator, speech-language pathologist, etc.) informally meet with parents/caregivers and answer questions while children enjoy playtime and circle time.

NOTE: Caregivers are advised that Playtime involves the use of toys that young children touch and may put in their mouths. The Library sanitizes toys between sessions. Wipes will be available for your use during the program.

Registration for Baldwin School District residents begins Tuesday, September 2; all others may register beginning Tuesday, September 9.

1,000 Books Before Kindergarten

(Newborn to Age 5, Not Yet in Kindergarten)

Work towards a reading goal of 1,000 books to give your child an advantage before they start school. Receive a free tote bag at registration and a prize for every 100 books read.

Registration is ongoing.



Story Time

(Ages 2 - 4 Years with Parent/Caregiver)

Join us for stories, songs, and a craft.

Thursdays @ 11:15AM

September 18, 25 and October 2, 9, 16, 23

Registration for Baldwin School District residents begins Wednesday, September 3; all others may register beginning Wednesday, September 10.

Little Learners

(Ages 18 Months - 4 ½ Years with Parent/Caregiver)

Presented by A Time for Kids

Join us for three mornings of fun and fast-paced programming for your little one, celebrating the fall season. Activities include music, movement, fine and gross motor skills, storytelling, and a craft. Sign up for one session or for all three.

Farmer Rabbit

Saturday, September 27 @ 11:00AM

Registration for Baldwin School District residents begins Friday, September 12; all others may register beginning Friday, September 19.

Harvest Owl

Saturday, October 4 @ 11:00AM

Registration for Baldwin School District residents begins Friday, September 19; all others may register beginning Friday, September 26.

Pumpkin Fun

Saturday, October 25 @ 10:00AM *(Note time)*

Registration for Baldwin School District residents begins Friday, October 10; all others may register beginning Friday, October 17.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Register for Children's programs via the Library Events Calendar, in person at the Children's Reference Desk, or by telephone, unless otherwise noted. Library card required for registration. Baldwin School District residents receive priority when registering for programs. All others may register for programs one week after registration begins.

Ten minutes after an in-person program has begun, individuals from the waiting list who have come to attend the program will be allowed to enter and may take the place of individuals who have not yet arrived. If you take any photos while you're at a Library event, tag us on Facebook and Instagram @baldwinlibny or email it to Childrens@baldwinpl.org.

Babies, Toddlers, and Preschoolers

My First Signs

Presented by Miss Jessie

(Ages 3 Months – 2 Years with Parent/Caregiver)

Wednesdays @ 10:30AM

October 15, 22 & 29 and November 5

Learn to communicate with your little one through sign language with an emphasis on vocabulary relevant to young learners. This program features songs, books, and fingerplays.

Registration for Baldwin School District residents begins Wednesday, October 1; all others may register beginning Wednesday, October 8.

Playtime (Ages 1 - 3 Years with Parent/Caregiver)

Playtime and circle time for tots.

Tuesdays @ 10:00AM

October 28, November 18, 25, and
December 2, 9, 16

Registration for Baldwin School District residents begins Tuesday, October 14; all others may register beginning Tuesday, October 21.

Story Time

(Ages 2 – 4 Years with Parent/Caregiver)

Join us for stories, songs, and a craft.

Thursdays @ 11:15AM

November 6, 13, 20 and December 4, 11, 18

Registration for Baldwin Public School District residents begins Wednesday, October 22; all others may register beginning Wednesday, October 29.

Children in Grades K - 6

DIY Baby Owl Ceramics (Two Sessions)

Saturday, September 13

SESSION I (Grades K-2) @ 2:00PM

SESSION II (Grades 3-6) @ 3:15PM

Swoop into the autumn season and decorate your own ceramic baby owls.

Registration for Baldwin Public School District residents begins Tuesday, September 2; all others may register beginning Tuesday, September 9.

Fall Paper Bag Trees (Grades 3-6)

Monday, September 15 @ 4:00PM

Get into the fall mood by creating a fall tree decoration using a paper bag!

Registration for Baldwin Public School District residents begins Tuesday, September 2; all others may register beginning Tuesday, September 9.



Girls Who Code

Information Session (Grades 3-6 & Parents)

Tuesday, September 23 @ 7:00PM

Is your child interested in joining our Girls Who Code program? Come to our information session to learn more about it.

*This program is designed for female participants but all children in Grades 3-6 are welcome regardless of gender identity.

No registration required.

LEGO® Tower Challenge (Grades K-2)

Presented by Fun Concepts Engineering

Saturday, September 27 @ 3:00PM

Join forces with your fellow peers to design and build a LEGO® tower. Learn basic civil engineering concepts, explore ideas like load distribution and center of gravity, and discover how thoughtful design can outperform sheer height.

Registration for Baldwin Public School District residents begins Friday, September 12; all others may register beginning Friday, September 19.

Beaded Fall Corn Craft

(Grades K-2)

Monday, October 6 @ 4:00PM

It's harvest time. Use a variety of multi-colored beads to create your own fall corn craft.

Registration for Baldwin Public School District residents begins Monday, September 22; all others may register beginning Monday, September 29.



Girls Who Code (Grades 3-6)*

Tuesdays @ 7:00PM, October 7 & 21

Build the foundational skills and understanding of computer science concepts through reading, discussion, activities, and sisterhood!

Registration for Baldwin Public School District residents begins Tuesday, September 23; all others may register beginning Tuesday, September 30. Sessions will continue through May with ongoing registration.

*This program is designed for female participants but all children in Grades 3-6 are welcome regardless of gender identity.

Children's Programs K-6 continued on next page.

Children's Programs K-6 continued from page 16.

Let's Learn About Diwali

Presented by Miss Subrina

Saturday, October 18

SESSION I (Grades K-3) @ 1:00PM

SESSION II (Grades 4-7) @ 2:30PM

Celebrate Diwali - the five-day festival of lights holiday! We'll explore South Asian culture and traditions through engaging stories and crafts. Indian snacks will be served. (Refreshments may contain allergens.)

Registration for Baldwin Public School District residents begins Friday, October 3; all others may register beginning Friday, October 10.



Spooky Spellbooks (Grades 3-6)

Wednesday, October 22 @ 4:00PM

Craft a Sanderson Sisters-inspired spellbook using fake spiderwebs, creepy crawlies, eyeballs, and more.

Registration for Baldwin Public School District residents begins Wednesday, October 8; all others may register beginning Wednesday, October 15.

Zombie Makeup (Grades 3-6)

Presented by Chris Vivas

Saturday, October 25 @ 2:00PM

Zombify yourself! With a step-by-step process, we will transform you into a zombie. Using special effects techniques applied in movies, we will create cuts, tears, wounds, and other forms of zombification. Join us as we learn about the history of zombies and turn ourselves into the living dead!

Registration for Baldwin Public School District residents begins Friday, October 10; all others may register beginning Friday, October 17.



Witch Hat Breakable Treat! (Grades K-2)

Tuesday, October 28 @ 4:15PM

Create a delicious, chocolate-covered witch hat out of a sugar cone! The sugar cone will be filled with treats, decorated with candy and sprinkles, and glued onto a cookie base. Each treat will come with a small wooden mallet to break it open.

Registration for Baldwin Public School District residents begins Tuesday, October 14; all others may register beginning Tuesday, October 21.



Library Board Meetings

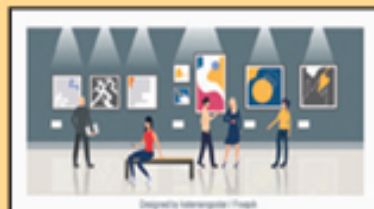
The regular monthly Library Board Meetings will take place on Wednesdays, September 17 and October 15 at 7:00PM in person and via Zoom.

Meeting ID: 830 7717 1570

Passcode: 236844

For call-ins: +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

EXHIBITS



SEPTEMBER Conner Sturm

Long Island artist Conner Sturm, 29, will show his mixed media artworks in an exhibit titled *Friends and Family* with materials such as paint, markers, cardboard, collage, and appliqués.



OCTOBER Girl Scouts

In honor of Girl Scouts of USA founder Juliette Gordon Low's birthday (October 13), the Library will keep its tradition of featuring art by our local Girl Scout troops during the month of October. Stop by and see the creations of these young community members, depicting their shared experiences through an array of collages, photos, and other works of art that convey just what scouting is all about.

Grand Baldwin Festival

Saturday, October 4, 12:00-4:30PM

(Raindate: Sunday, October 5)

The Grand Baldwin Festival is a celebration of the Baldwin community featuring a pop-up marketplace, food vendors, musical performances, an art showcase, and various activities for all ages. The festival takes place in the municipal parking lot in front of the Library's main entrance. Parking is available on the west side of Grand Avenue, behind the firehouse.

Baldwin Public Library

2385 Grand Avenue

Baldwin, NY 11510-3218

Phone: 516-223-6228

Fax: 516-623-7991

email: info@baldwinpl.org

www.baldwinpl.org

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Elizabeth Olesh, Director

CURRENT HOURS

Monday-Wednesday: 9-9

Thursday: 11-9, Friday: 9-5

Saturday: 9-5, Sunday: 1-5

CLOSED

Labor Day Weekend:

Saturday, August 30-

Monday, September 1

Columbus Day Weekend:

Sunday, October 12 -

Monday, October 13

baldwin public library piper

New Series Vol. 54 #5 - Whole #277 September/October 2025