



### A Message from the Director

Dear Baldwin Community,

#### Happy New Year!

You may have heard of the Danish and Norwegian concept of hygge (pronounced "hoo-ga"). It's a way of enjoying life's simple pleasures and creating a sense of coziness and warmth. According to Meik Wiking, director of the Happiness Research Institute in Copenhagen and author of *The Little Book of Hygge*, "Hygge is about an atmosphere and an experience....A feeling of home. A feeling we are safe."

I think our library cultivates a hygge environment all year long, but most certainly during these cold, dark months. As you browse through this edition of our newsletter, you will find many opportunities to get your cozy on:

- Teens and adults can learn to crochet (p.2)
- Adults can knit a chunky scarf (p.2)
- Adults can learn to make sourdough (p.3)
- Teens can enjoy National Hot Cocoa Day (p.9)
- Tweens can decorate winter cookies (p.10)
- Kids can transform old books into snowmen or make a ceramic snowy owl (p.13)

This is just a little taste of the many activities that will take place in January and February. And sometimes, it's not about a program - just a simple visit to pick out a few books can be a hygge moment.

Technology can also be part of this. Consider the possibilities: streaming a video from Hoopla or Kanopy at home while wearing fuzzy socks and your favorite pajamas sounds warm and cozy to me. Reading an eBook you've checked out from Libby while enjoying a cup of hot cocoa also comes to mind.

This winter, let the Library be a place you find your hygge. Sincerely,

*Elizabeth Olesh*

Library Director

## WINTER READING CHALLENGE BPL BOOK BINGO

(Adults 18 and Over)

Through February 27

Take a chance on reading! Stop by the Reference Desk and pick up a bingo card or we can email you a copy to download and print on your own. One card per patron.

Here's How It Works:

- Complete "bingo" vertically, horizontally, OR diagonally by reading or listening to five books following the cues on the bingo card. You do not need to complete the whole card.
- Place an X in each box you complete.
- Be sure also to fill in the back of the bingo card with your name, phone number, email address, and the titles of the five books you read or listened to.
- Bring your completed card to the Reference Desk and you will be entered to win a \$25.00 gift card.
- Four prizes will be awarded: one prize per winner.
- Bingo cards must be received by 4:30PM on Friday, February 27.
- If you win a raffle prize, you will be notified by telephone or email on or before Friday, March 6.
- If you do not pick up your prize by Friday, March 13, another winner will be selected.

Questions? Stop by the Reference Desk or call 516-223-6228 ext. 145. *Please note: ReadSquared will still be available as an online tool to help you keep track of your reading.*

## BLIND DATE WITH A BOOK

February 1 - 27



Select wrapped books from the display. When you return the book or books you selected, drop off a "Rate Your Date" card at the Reference Desk and let us know what you thought. Your "Rate Your Date" card also enters you into a prize drawing.

The drawing will be held Monday, March 2.

You will be notified by email or telephone before Friday, March 6. You must claim your prize by Friday, March 13 or another winner will be selected.

"Neither this material, nor the content thereof, are sponsored or endorsed by the Baldwin Union Free School District or its officials."

SR 1/6/26

## 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.

### Prom Attire Drive: January 3 - March 31

We're doing it earlier, just in time for spring! Do you have an old prom dress or formal wear taking up space in your closet? We're collecting again for a giveaway! You can donate new or gently used gowns, tuxes, dresses, suits, shoes, bags, and jewelry to the Teen Zone. Your donation will help make prom a fun, fabulous, and memorable experience for the teens in our community.



### Beginner Crochet with Sandy

(Grade 7 through Adult)

Saturdays, 10:00-11:00AM

January 10, 24, February 7, 21, March 7, 21

In six sessions, held every other week, learn the basics of crochet in a social and nurturing intergenerational environment. You will need to bring the following materials to participate in this class:

- Hook (H, I, J)
- Light colored worsted weight yarn
- Stitch marker for crochet



Registration is ongoing.

### Puzzle Competition

Saturday, January 10, 2:00-4:00PM

In celebration of Puzzle Day on January 29, work in teams of four, or individually to solve a 500-piece puzzle before time runs out! There will be an array of puzzles to choose from.

No registration is required.

### Study Saturday

Saturday, January 17, 3:00-5:00PM

Grab a bag of fresh popcorn from our machine while you study for midterms and Regents week.

No registration required.

### National Hot Cocoa Day

Saturday, January 31, 3:00-4:00PM

Celebrate National Hot Cocoa Day in the Teen Zone. Top your cup off with some marshmallows! First come, first served.

No registration required.



### Fake News Detective: Spot Lies Before They Fool You

(Appropriate Grade 7 through Adult)

Presented by Technology Specialist Lindsay Citrano

Monday, January 12, 4:00-5:00PM

The internet is full of misleading headlines and clickbait.



In this eye-opening workshop, you'll discover fact-checking tools, strategies for evaluating sources, and ways to recognize fake news before you hit "share." Sharpen your critical thinking and become a savvy online sleuth.

Registration is ongoing.

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### Valentine Heart Suncatchers

Thursday, February 12, 4:00-5:00PM

Paint your own heart-shaped suncatcher.

Registration begins Thursday, January 29.



### Diamond Art

Tuesday, February 17, 2:30-3:30PM

Pick out a beautiful landscape and bring it to life with diamond beads while listening to music.

Registration begins Sunday, February 1.

### Teen Movie:

#### *The Fantastic Four: First Steps*

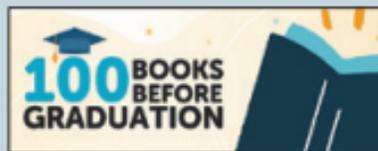
Thursday, February 19, 2:00-4:00PM

Bring your own snacks or grab popcorn from our machine and watch the movie!

Forced to balance their roles as heroes with the strength of their family bond, the Fantastic Four must defend Earth from a ravenous space god called Galactus and his enigmatic herald, Silver Surfer.

Rated PG-13. 115 minutes.

Registration begins Sunday, February 1.



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](http://www.baldwinpl.org/100). Receive prizes for every 25 books you read.

### Teen Video Games

Use our Nintendo Switch games or bring your own. *First come, first served.*

(Librarian must be present and personal games must be rated E or T.)



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### Brainfuse HelpNow\*

Brainfuse HelpNow offers personalized academic assistance in core subjects (math, reading, writing, science), a 24/7 writing lab, academic content, practice tests for skills-building (including SAT preparation), and much more. Live tutoring from Brainfuse experts is available from 2:00-11:00PM.

\*Replaces Tutor.com.

### 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](http://www.princetonreview.com/college/free-sat-practice-test?ceid=nav-hs#!practice)

### Research Databases

We offer a variety of databases for research papers, career and test preparation, and language learning for free with your library card. You can access the databases from a library computer or from home for free.

Go to: <https://www.baldwinpl.org/findinfo/>

## Tween Scene (Grades 4-7)

### Winter Cookie Decorating

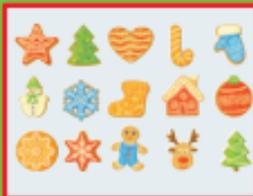
Saturday, January 24

12:00-1:00PM

Presented by *Them's the Breaks*

Sugar cookies will be pre-made in a variety of winter shapes (hats, mittens, snowflakes). Various colored icing, sprinkles, and candy will be available to decorate your cookies.

Registration begins Saturday, January 3.



### Mardi Gras Masks

Saturday, February 14

11:30AM-12:30PM

Get ready for Mardi Gras on February 17 by decorating your own mask!

Registration begins Sunday, February 1.

## Community Service Opportunities

For more information go to:  
[www.baldwinpl.org/teen-community-service/](http://www.baldwinpl.org/teen-community-service/)

### Cards of Hope

January 2-31

Throughout the month of January come into the Teen Zone to write letters for foster children. One hour of credit will be provided.

### Letters To Our Elders

February 1-28

February 26 is **National Letter to an Elder Day!** Throughout the month of February come into the Teen Zone to write letters to the elderly.

One hour of 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](mailto:teens@baldwinpl.org) to let us know it's for community service.

One post = one hour credit.

### Book Trailer

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

Two hours of credit will be provided.

### Students Rebuild: Unique and United

Unique and United invites students to explore their identities - what makes you different, what shapes your perspectives. You'll use that discovery to build bridges across cultures, communities, and experiences. You will have the opportunity to explore the topic through two themes - Celebrate Uniqueness or Build Unity, through creative projects in any medium, including visual art, writing, performance, digital media, or STEM. Each work will spark a \$5 donation to support organizations worldwide that foster connection and champion collaborative change. You will receive three hours of community service per art piece by emailing your art to [teens@baldwinpl.org](mailto:teens@baldwinpl.org). More information about the project can be found here: [www.studentsrebuild.org/projects](http://www.studentsrebuild.org/projects)

# 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.

## ART CORNER

### Drop-In Crafts

Make a craft to take home!

**January:** Penguin Craft

**February:** Paper Heart Craft

No registration required. While supplies last.

## Babies, Toddlers, & Preschoolers

### Playtime

(Ages 1 - 3 Years with Parent/Caregiver)

Playtime and circle time for tots.

Tuesdays @ 10:00AM

January 6, 13, 20, 27

February 3 & 10

Registration is ongoing.

### Do Re Mi & Me Music & Sign Language

(Ages 12 Months - 4 Years with Parent/Caregiver)

Presented by Miss Jessie

Wednesdays @ 10:30AM

January 7, 14

Children will explore rhythm, expression, and basic musical concepts while learning to connect those experiences through visual language. This live music program features egg shakers, rhythm sticks, bells, xylophones, themed movement, scarves, and ASL signs.

Registration is ongoing.

### Story Time

(Ages 2 - 4 Years with Parent/Caregiver)

Join us for stories, songs, and a craft.

Thursdays @ 11:15AM

January 8, 15, 22, 29

February 5, 12

Registration is ongoing.

## Little Learners

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

Presented by A Time for Kids

Celebrate the winter season with four mornings of fun and fast-paced programming for your little one. Activities include music, movement, fine and gross motor skills, storytelling, and a craft. Sign up for one session or all four. Each session has a separate registration date.



### Snowmen at Night

Saturday, January 10 @ 10:30AM

Registration for Baldwin School District residents begins

Saturday, December 27. All others may register Saturday, January 3.



### Penguin Problems

Saturday, January 17 @ 10:30AM

Registration for Baldwin School District residents begins

Saturday, January 3. All others may register Saturday, January 10.



### Groundhog's Shadow

Saturday, February 7 @ 10:30AM

Registration for Baldwin School District residents begins

Saturday, January 24. All others may register Saturday, January 31.



### Valentine's Surprise

Saturday, February 14 @ 10:30AM

Registration for Baldwin School District residents begins

Saturday, January 31. All others may register Saturday, February 7.



## Tuney Tots

(1 - 4 Years with Parent/Caregiver)

Presented by Miss Jeannie

A fun-filled music and movement class featuring parachute activities, limbo, bubbles, dance, ribbons, scarves, and hula hoops to promote knowledge of colors, shapes, numbers, letters, seasons and the senses, spatial awareness, and body awareness.

**Four Sessions - Sign up for one session or all four. Each session has a separate registration date.**

Friday, January 16 @ 11:15AM

Registration for Baldwin School District residents begins Friday, January 2.

All others may register beginning Friday, January 9.

Friday, January 23 @ 11:15AM

Registration for Baldwin School District residents begins Friday, January 9.

All others may register beginning Friday, January 16.

Friday, February 13 @ 11:15AM

Registration for Baldwin School District residents begins Friday, January 30.

All others may register beginning Friday, February 6.

Friday, February 27 @ 11:15AM

Registration for Baldwin School District residents begins Friday, February 13.

All others may register beginning Friday, February 20.

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### Babies, Toddlers, and Preschoolers

#### Music for Aardvarks

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

Presented by Music for Aardvarks

(Additional session added. Please choose one)

Wednesdays @ 10:00AM OR 11:00AM

January 21, 28 & February 4, 11

Singing, dancing, musical storytelling, and instrumental jam sessions for a rockin' good time.

Registration for Baldwin Public School District residents begins Wednesday, January 7. All others may register beginning Wednesday, January 14.

#### Preschool Jam (Ages 2-5)

Presented by Ms. Andrea of Jungle Bungle Friends Music

Songs on guitar and plenty of fun for building early language and literacy skills, early math skills, school readiness, and foundations of music.

Saturday, January 24 @ 12:30PM

Registration for Baldwin School District residents begins Friday, January 9. All others may register beginning Friday, January 16.

Saturday, February 28 @ 12:30PM

Registration for Baldwin School District residents begins Friday, February 13. All others may register beginning Friday, February 20.

#### Let's Get Talking:

##### A Toddler Vocabulary Building Program

(For Parents of Children Birth – 3 Years)

Presented by Shavon St. Germain

Saturday, February 21 @ 11:00AM

Speech-language pathologist Shavon St. Germain will present an informative and interactive workshop designed to foster your child's language skills and build their vocabulary. Toys will be available for use by children who accompany their parents.

Registration for Baldwin School District residents begins Saturday, February 7. All others may register beginning Saturday, February 14.

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

Tuesdays @ 10:00AM

February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31

Playtime and circle time for tots.

Registration for this event opens Tuesday, February 10. All others may register beginning Tuesday, February 17.

#### Zumbini with Johanna

(Birth-4 Years Old with Parent/Caregiver)

Presented by Miss Jessica

Wednesdays @ 11:00AM

February 25, March 4, 11 & 18

This program combines music and movement for the ultimate learning experience. Sing, dance and play together while developing your little one's social, cognitive, emotional, and motor skills.

Registration for Baldwin School District residents begins Wednesday, February 11. All others may register beginning Wednesday, February 18.

#### Story Time (Ages 2-4 Years with Parent/Caregiver)

Join us for stories, songs, and a craft.

Thursdays @ 11:15AM

February 26, March 5, 12, 19, 26 & April 2

Registration for Baldwin Public School District residents begins Wednesday, February 11. All others may register beginning Wednesday, February 18.

### Children in Grades K - 6

#### Girls Who Code

(Grades 3 - 6)

Tuesdays @ 7:00PM

January 6, 20, February 3, 17

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

Registration is ongoing.

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



#### MLK Day Inspirational Wooden Sign

Grades K - 2: Wednesday, January 14 @ 4:00PM

Grades 3 - 6: Thursday, January 15 @ 4:00PM

In celebration of Martin Luther King Day, create a wooden sign with your very own affirmations, dreams, and inspirational words.



Registration for this event opens Friday, January 2.

All others may register beginning Friday, January 9.

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## Children in Grades K - 6

### Dog Man LEGO® Creation

(Grades K - 2)

Presented by Creatology Kidz

Saturday, January 17

@ 11:00AM



Calling all Dog Man and/or LEGO® fans! Join us in bringing Dav Pilkey's books to life with LEGObricks.

Registration for Baldwin School District residents begins Saturday, January 3. All others may register beginning Saturday, January 10.

### Fellas and Families

Calling all dads, grandpas, uncles,  
and male role models!

#### Story and Craft

(Grades K-2 with Parent/Caregiver)

Presented in collaboration with Brookside School PTA

Saturday, January 17 @ 2:00PM

Listen to a story and complete a craft together.

We welcome all Baldwin School District families of children in grades K-2, and any adult loved one is invited to accompany a child.

Registration for Baldwin School District residents opens Friday, January 2. All others may register beginning Friday, January 9.

#### Art Adventures

(Grades 3-5 with Parent/Caregiver)

Presented by the CreativiDAD Project in collaboration with Brookside School PTA

Saturday, January 17 @ 3:30PM

Join artist and educator Candido Crespo of the CreativiDAD Project as he walks you and your loved one through the artistic process of collage.

We welcome all Baldwin School District families of children in grades 3-5, and any adult loved one is invited to accompany a child.

In-person and phone registration for Baldwin School District residents begins Friday, January 2. All others may register beginning Friday, January 9. No online registrations.

### Play with Clay: Winter Scene

Saturday, January 31 - Two sessions:

Grades K - 2 @ 11:00AM

Grades 3 - 6 @ 2:30PM

Create your own winter wonderland scene with animals, snowmen, and trees out of clay.

Registration for this event opens Saturday, January 17. All others may register beginning Saturday, January 24.

### Valentine's Day

#### Ceramic Snowy Owl

(Grades K - 2)

Saturday, February 14 @ 3:00PM

Celebrate Valentine's Day by painting your own ceramic snowy owl with hearts.

Registration for this event opens Saturday, January 31. All others may register beginning Saturday, February 7.

### Sanrio-Themed Tote Bags

(Grades 3-6)

Presented by CREATE Programs

Wednesday, February 18 @ 2:30PM

Use Sanrio-themed stencils to design and paint your own tote bag.

Registration for Baldwin School District residents begins Wednesday, February 4. All others may register beginning Wednesday, February 11.

### Old Book Snowman Painting

(Grades K - 2)

Presented by Traveling Art Programs

Thursday, February 19 @ 7:00PM

Create a mixed media snowman painting by using old book pages, paint, and pencils on canvas.

Registration for this event opens Thursday, February 5. All others may register beginning February 12.

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

Children's Programs K-6 continued from page 13.

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH Make Some Noise!

(Grades 1 - 5)

Presented by The Whaling Museum & Education Center  
of Cold Spring Harbor

Friday, February 20 @ 12:00PM

Set sail on a musical adventure! Discover how African-American whalers shaped the songs of the sea and inspired rhythms that became jazz and hip hop. Then use shells to make your own African-inspired sistrum (a traditional shaker) to take the beat home!

Registration for Baldwin School District residents begins Friday, February 6. All others may register beginning Friday, February 13.



## LUNAR NEW YEAR: Year of the Horse Painting Parties

Presented by Key to My Art

Saturday, February 21

Two Sessions:

Grades K - 2 @ 2:00PM

Grades 3 - 6 @ 3:15PM

Join us to celebrate the Year of the Horse for Lunar New Year. Each child will bring home their own canvas. Materials will be provided by the Library.

Registration for Baldwin School District residents begins Friday, February 6. All others may register beginning Friday, February 13.



## EXHIBITS



### FRANCISCO FELIZ

On display in the New Year is the work of Baldwin artist Francisco Feliz. The exhibit will showcase the multicultural roots that have impacted Feliz as an artist. His works utilize vibrant colors in acrylic, which, for the artist, represents the melting pot that is New York. Feliz states that music, food, and poetry are also influences reflected in his art.

### LOOKING FOR ARTISTS

If you are an artist living locally (age 18 and older) and would like an opportunity to exhibit your artistry at Baldwin Public Library, please send images of your artwork and your CV to [emuller@baldwinpl.org](mailto:emuller@baldwinpl.org). We will contact you when we have space in our exhibit calendar.

### Library Board Meetings

The regular monthly Library Board Meetings will take place on Wednesdays, January 21 and February 18 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)



Friends of the  
**BALDWIN  
PUBLIC LIBRARY**

The Friends are a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit with a mission to support the Library through fundraising, awareness, and advocacy.

To become a member or make a donation, go to: [www.baldwinpl.org/friends](http://www.baldwinpl.org/friends)

Our next online meeting is on January 8 at 8:00PM.

Join using this link:

<https://meet.google.com/uxr-buwe-ugi>

Alternatively, you may call into the meeting using 1-720-500-2821 / PIN: 393 311 726

**Baldwin Public Library**  
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Baldwin, NY 11510-3218  
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Fax: 516-623-7991  
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[www.baldwinpl.org](http://www.baldwinpl.org)  
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### CURRENT HOURS

Monday-Wednesday: 9-9  
Thursday: 11-9, Friday: 9-5  
Saturday: 9-5, Sunday: 1-5

### CLOSED

New Year's Day: Thursday, January 1

Martin Luther King Jr. Observance:  
Sunday 1/18/26 & Monday 1/19/26

Presidents Day Observance:  
Sunday 2/15/26 & Monday 2/16/26

**baldwin public library piper**

New Series Vol. 55 #1 - Whole #279 January/February 2026

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