

MUSSER PUBLIC LIBRARY

NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2025



Musser Public Library's 2025 Summer Reading Program was a tremendous success!

We're so proud of the creativity, dedication, and enthusiasm shown by our incredible library staff—and we're equally grateful for the outstanding support and participation from our community. A heartfelt thank-you to all of our generous donors whose contributions made this program possible.

This was truly a collaborative celebration of reading, learning, and fun - we're already looking forward to making next summer even better, and remember, the Library is your story!



Bobby Fiedler,
Director
Musser Public Library

I am so proud of this community and how they turned out for the 2025 summer reading program. The adults signed up and logged more than 1300 books total and I think that it is pretty amazing. A highlight of my summer was during the end of the summer reading arts festival when I sat on a blanket with young patrons and listened to the great music, watched bubbles and witnessed members of our community both young and old engage in fun activities with one another.

Emerson Taylor
Youth Services Supervisor



Storyteller Sponsors:



Novel Sponsors:



SUMMER READING PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Overall Participation

With over **1130** participants, this year's summer reading program broke our record! That's a 43% increase from 2024!

Minutes Read

369,737

(174,470 more than last year!)

Our adult readers read

1,322 books

(310% increase from 2024!)

Program Attendance

This year we offered **30** Summer Reading Program Events, with **2,600** in total attendance.



www.musserpubliclibrary.org



refmus@muscatine Iowa.gov



563-263-3065

COLOR OUR WORLD

SUMMER ARTS FEST



We wrapped up the Summer Reading Program with our final event, the Summer Arts Fest! With over 350 in attendance, we enjoyed a beautiful evening of music, activities, games and community. Our partner Hy-Vee brought out free hot dogs and chips and bottled water, and our partner Scooter's Coffee brought flavored lemonade, energy drinks and coffee.

A big "THANK YOU!"
to our wonderful community partners
who participated in this event:

Performer Celia had everyone dancing, and our own Mr. Taylor and Becca put on an appearance as well. Local musician Lucy Grey wowed us with her beautiful vocals. Absolute Science was a hit with all ages with their giant bubble station, and the art projects by Muscatine Art Center, Muscatine Arts Council and Musser Library were a huge success.



Thank you to our volunteers who helped with stations and to the Friends of the Library for showing their support. Thank you to our community for showing up in a big way for this event!



Our staff joined with local artist F. NeVada Baker and the Muscatine Arts Council to design a collaborative community art project and replica of her stunning acrylic painting "Muscatine Bridge Reflections."



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COMING SOON

Tonies arrive at Musser Public Library!

We are so excited to introduce Tonies to our collection. Tonies are a simple, portable player. Each Tonie character comes with songs and stories.

We are in the final stages of getting these out to you - our patrons! When creating this collection, we focused on the characters that were inspired by reading and fun.

Each Tonie Kit will come with a Tonie Box and four characters! There is a little something for everyone with these.

COMING SOON

Beginning Genealogy



A six-week beginner's genealogy workshop, sponsored by the Muscatine Genealogical Society. Each class is one hour.

Class dates will be: Sept. 13, Sept. 20, Sept. 27, Oct. 4, Oct. 11, Oct. 18. Registration Required.

Email wedell@skypoint.com with your name, email and phone to register.

MEET KENNA!

SHOUT OUT TO OUR VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH KENNA AVIS...

Kenna is a college student at Muscatine Community College, and plans to study radiology. She volunteers here at Musser because "I love the library environment and everyone here has been wonderful."

Thank you Kenna!



August Adult Programs:

Musser Book Club
Aug. 5th, 7-8 PM
Room 017

Discussing the book The Ride of a Lifetime: Lessons Learned from 15 Years as CEO of the Walt Disney Company by Robert Iger.

Creative Escape
Aug. 5th, 6-8 PM
Room 301

Create your own painted Muscatine sign. No registration required.

Friends of the Musser Public Library Meeting
Aug. 6th, 12-1 PM
Room 202

Musser Public Library Board Meeting
Aug. 20th, 4:30-6PM
Room 104



Did you know?

Musser Library serves over **19,000** active patrons in our community. Last year we circulated over **122,000** items!

Your Musser Library card gives you instant access to :

- Our collection of over 241,000 items
- 16 million songs via Freegal
- 12 databases and downloadable content sites
- The Rivershare Consortium catalog and inter-library loans



Looking forward to FALL at Musser Public Library...

These programs will resume in **September**

Fall Children's Programming

0 Baby Lapsit

Ages 0-3

Enjoy Songs, fingerplays, and stories with your baby or toddler, ages birth to three years.

Preschool Storytime

Ages 3-5

Stories and songs for children ages 3-5 years old with their caregiver.

Adventure Story Hike

Ages 3-9

Hike through the seasons as we explore outdoor spaces in our community. Children must be accompanied by an adult. We will hike rain/snow or shine. Dress for the weather! Location changes monthly.

Curious Child Club

Ages 4-8

The Curious Child Club is a place where curiosity is piqued and ideas grow while we explore a different topic each month through stories, games and craft activities with a caregiver.

Homeschool Reading Games Drop-In

Grade K-3

Come practice reading skills in a fun, social environment with same age peers!

Pages For All Ages

Ages 8+

Suggested for children 8 and older with a caregiver, older sibling, family member or friend. Meetings are held in the children's department and include a book discussion and relevant activities.

* if younger, use parent discretion.

Discovery Lab

Ages 8-12

Engaging hands-on learners with interactive science activities that include dissection, engineering and STEM activities.

Makers Studio

Grades 6-12

Makers Studio will offer a guided art or craft project for 6-12th graders.

Fall Adult Programming

Musser Book Club

Book Club for patrons ages 18+. Join us for a treat and great discussions!

Creative Escape

We will explore a variety of arts and crafts. Join us to try something new!

Trivia Night

Test your trivia knowledge!
Topic changes monthly.