

By Laura Stoll, Assistant to the Director/Office Manager

This winter, we've been doing some programs, activities, and events designed to help you stay busy and stimulated during the long cold winter months. "We'll Get You Through the Winter" has a different theme each month. In January, it was nourish and in February we found many ways to explore. In March, we'll examine all different aspects of being creative.

One thing I have learned while helping to plan the March activities is that there are many different ways to create. I don't think of myself as particularly artistic or crafty but I do enjoy cross stitch and writing, which are definitely creative. Some of my family members do quilting or carpentry, play the guitar, and dance. This doesn't include the many types of art (painting and sculpture), crafts (knitting and jewelry making), filmmaking, podcasting, and many more. The list of creative endeavors is probably longer than the list of books in the Kirkland Town Library!

Since it was impossible to include all of these types of creativity in our March game board, we selected 24 ideas and made them into challenges for you. To participate, get a copy of the game board either inside the KTL or at our curbside pick-up area. Jump around the game board, choosing the activities you would like to do. The instructions for each activity are listed in a booklet (also available inside the KTL and curbside). All of this information is also available to read and download at www.kirklandtownlibrary.org/winter2021/.

Once you have done an activity, color in or check off the square on the game board. At the end of the month, bring your completed board back to the Library. Everyone who does at least one activity earns a prize. For each additional activity, you earn a ticket that can be redeemed in April for items on our prize board. This month, several activities are worth two, three, and four tickets!

Here are a few of the activities you can get creative with in March.

Each Thursday at 4 p.m., we'll host a Zoom call where anyone can bring a project they've been doing, work on one of our take and make activities, or tune in to chat about being creative. Tea or coffee is encouraged! Contact the Library for the Zoom login.

The Thursday sessions will kick off on March 4 at 4 p.m. with a working session about our community art project. First, stop by the KTL any time in March and get the instructions and all the materials you need, which include a used compact disc and some yarn. Follow the steps to weave the yarn onto the CD, creating colorful patterns. We'll hang everyone's creation at the KTL, showing off our creative community. Even if you haven't had time to get the supplies, join us on March 4 to watch us make one or just to say hello.

Movies showcase a lot of creativity so we're encouraging you to check out a DVD from our collection in March. To make it fun and give you some ideas for what to watch, we've come up with a list of movies that either take place in a library or feature an important scene in a library. Some of the

films our staff came up with are Beauty and the Beast, Breakfast at Tiffany's, The Breakfast Club, and The Music Man. Let us know what else you can think of!

Library patron and Master Gardener Susan Kimball finds a lot of ways to be creative in her garden. She sat down with us to give some tips on how to get started with your garden, even when the snow is still on the ground. Starting March 8, check out the video on our Facebook page and YouTube channel. We'll also post some other resources to help you think about spring planting.

In addition to these activities, there are a lot of other resources for creativity at the Library that you can enjoy in the building or bring home. We have a wide variety of biographies on creative people, a collection of fifty cake pans that you can use to bake with, an extensive collection of art by local artists, a collection of music on compact disc, and much more.

Be sure to check out the "We'll Get You Through the Winter" page on our website to see all the other activities we have planned for March.

Most importantly, take a few moments to explore your own creativity, no matter what that is.