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The Juanita Gray award honors African American men, women and youth who make outstanding contributions to the Denver Metro area and who exemplify the ideals and spirit represented by Gray’s commitment to the community.

**Tay Anderson**

Tay Anderson is a 2017 graduate of Manual High School. After high school he was an educator at University Park Elementary and North High School. Tay served in the Colorado State Legislature as a legislative aide. He was awarded the Murphy Roberts Award by the Colorado Democratic Party for his continuous service. He has dedicated his life to protect the rights of women, African Americans, Latinx, LGBTQIA, Indigenous, Muslim, and disabled persons. He participated in public demonstrations and dialogues with school district leaders, state leaders, and members of Congress. Tay’s family includes educators that have 115 years of combined teaching experience. He gets his passion and perseverance from his mother and grandmother.

**Terri Lynne Smith Gentry**

Terri Gentry is a 3rd generation Denverite. She is married to Dwight Gentry and has four children and nine grandchildren. Terri attended Rocky Mountain College of Art & Design and has a Bachelor’s Degree in African/African American Studies from Metropolitan State University and a Master’s Degree in Humanities from CU Denver. Terri is an interior designer and owner of A Terrific Design; she is also a sales manager at Joy's Consigned Furnishings. She is a member of the Aurora chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Terri is a board member of the Black American West Museum and Heritage Center. She conducts museum and walking tours and gives presentations to schools, community groups, government agencies, and businesses.
Jayla Hemphill
Ms. Jayla Hemphill is a senior at Northfield High School. She currently maintains a GPA of 3.72 and has been a member of the National Honor Society since 2018. As a vocal community activist, she was a speaker at the DPS #BlackLivesMatter Rally and participated in the “Be the Change” event. Additionally, she delivered a speech at a gun control rally advocating for gun laws at the Colorado State Capitol. Ms. Hemphill is an active member of “Students Demand Action” and has been instrumental in the effort to recruit teachers of color for employment for her school. She is a change agent.

Jason McBride
Mr. Jason McBride is a champion for our youth. Born and raised in Park Hill, he has worked in the East Denver community since 2010. He creates an environment for youth that is both safe and fun. He hosts an annual school supply drive as well as gives out hot lunches. Mr. McBride hopes to show young people in our community there are options in education and expose them to different career choices. His work highlights four points to success:
1. Surround yourself with the right people.
2. Self-motivation.
3. Tell your family and friends you LOVE them.
4. Don’t be afraid to achieve!

Other nominees:
Dr. Joyce Brooks, Sandy Douglas, Bishop Kevin Foreman, Elijah Huff, Ariel Lipscomb, Janice McDonald, Jonathan McMillan, LaDios Muhammad, Maedella Stiger, LaDawn Sullivan, Marcus Weaver, and Sondra Young.

George W. and Juanita Gray, Lee and Thelma Gash viewing the first Black History Month Exhibit at Ford-Warren Branch Library.

Image courtesy Denver Public Library, Western History and Genealogy.
Carter G. Woodson is credited with founding Black History Week in 1926, which would become nationally recognized and expanded to a full month of celebration in 1976. Woodson purposely selected February to recognize the contributions of African Americans in honor of the birthdays of Frederick Douglass and President Abraham Lincoln, two individuals who he felt had greatly influenced the Black American population. Then why, 95 years later do we continue to recognize African Americans during the month of February?

The short of it is, February is the kick-off to a yearlong celebration of remembrance, perseverance, achievement, and the intersectionality of the African diaspora which includes the global struggle and triumph of all Black people of African ancestry. Much of American history has minimized the Black experience to the mental, physical, and spiritual pain and trauma inflicted on enslaved Africans. While this is part of their collective history, Black Americans are not the sum of their circumstances, but the embodiment of their ancestor’s wildest dreams and desires.

Lonnie Bunch, the founding director of the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History & Culture said it best, “there is no more powerful force than a people steeped in their history. And there is no higher cause than honoring our struggle and ancestors by remembering.”

Out of the proverbial ashes, Black people have risen and excelled not only in the arts and sciences but also in the creation of culture, traditions, and identities rooted in excellence and pride. This is the foundation for the popular hashtag #BlackExcellence, which serves to remind all that stereotypes, prejudice, and racism do not define a person or who they can potentially become.

The resilience of Black people through the many watershed moments of history are unmatched. As we celebrate Black History Month, we ask if you’ve considered the physical and mental toll placed on an individual, family, or community you may know. What does resilience look like in the face of opposition and a history of oppression? Taking into account the history of racism in America and specifically within the medical profession, let’s consider recent events like for instance the pandemic; lauding on how resilient Black people are without acknowledging and repairing the harm caused will never get us to a place of healing and reconciliation.

It is not uncommon for one of the attributes attached to Blacks in America to be their resiliency as a people; a people who have struggles through a history of oppression and abuse under a system that has operated under the banner of white supremacy. Although resilience means to adapt to temporary circumstances or recover quickly,
this would imply that people are not to remain in this state permanently. However, for Black people resilience means to endure hardships in such a way that it has become normalized within the Black experience in America, normalized in such a way that once they spring back into action, they must now brace themselves for the next wave of hardships that are sure to come their way: a wave of hardships (not self-imposed contrary to some beliefs) but imposed by systemic and structural racism.

What we have experienced during this pandemic has highlighted an ongoing conversation that Black people have been having throughout history and that is: the harm that Blacks have suffered at the hands of physicians and those in medical science. The basic part of the human condition is: Our past can cause hurt and pain in such a way that it defines how we interact with the world and how the world interacts with us. Presently, COVID-19 has brought to the forefront the reality of health disparities. While hospitalizations due to COVID-19 have highlighted disparities in care offered to Black patients, vaccinations will bring to the forefront the history of unethical practices as seen in the Tuskegee Syphilis Experiment which lasted for 40 years starting in 1932.

What does resilience look like in the face of opposition and a history of oppression? It looks like those who have paved the way for change, those who understood that Black lives matter and did not let racism and discrimination stop them from challenging the beliefs of racial inferiority, which is the root of white supremacy. In memory of our collective American history, let us pay tribute to those who have persevered to become pioneers in the medical profession.

Dr. Rebecca Lee Crumpler - first African-American woman to become a doctor of medicine in the United States.

Daniel Hale Williams - The first Black physician to perform open heart surgery

Charles Richard Drew - Developed a way to store blood plasma (blood banks)

Dr. Patricia E. Bath - Pioneer of laser cataract surgery

Black History Month and beyond is an open invitation to celebrate and honor the contributions of Black people and also consider the barriers broken in unchanging environments that have inspired past and present generations towards excellence.

Resources:
The Man Behind Black History Month: history.com/news/the-man-behind-black-history-month
How We Fail Black Patients In Pain: aamc.org/news-insights/how-we-fail-Black-patients-pain
The Myth of Innate Racial Differences Between White and Black People's Bodies: Lessons From the 1793 Yellow Fever Epidemic in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6727282/
'It Just Weighs On Your Psyche': Black Americans On Mental Health, Trauma, And Resilience: statnews.com/2020/07/06/it-just-weighs-on-your-psyche-Black-americans-on-mental-health-trauma-and-resilience/
Carter G Woodson: asalh.org/about-us/our-history
Tuskegee Syphilis Experiment: history.com/news/the-infamous-40-year-tuskegee-study
Dr. Rebecca Lee Crumpler: cfmedicine.nlm.nih.gov/physicians/biography_73.html
Daniel Hale Williams: britannica.com/biography/Daniel-Hale-Williams
Charles Richard Drew: britannica.com/biography/Charles-Richard-Drew
Dr. Patricia E. Bath: cfmedicine.nlm.nih.gov/physicians/biography_26.html
In a very challenging year, when everybody had to adapt to keep on serving our community, Pedro Mendez and Vera Atilano rose to the occasion with the LENA Start Program. *LENA Start™* offers classes - in English and Spanish - for parents of children ages 3 and under. They employ LENA “talk pedometer” technology to measure how much parents are talking with their children, and how much children are responding.

Research has found that the amount of conversation children experience during the first few years of life is related to their brain *structure* and *function*, and their *IQ* in adolescence. LENA Start provides a series of efficient, engaging parent sessions where caregivers learn to use data about their home language environment from LENA technology, along with simple strategies to increase interactive talk with their children. Talking with children supports healthy brain development during the critical early years when babies’ brains are building more than one million *neural connections* every second.

During 2019 and 2020 B.C. (before COVID) Mendez, in coordination with multiple members of the library’s Early Learning Department, brought the LENA Start Program to multiple library locations. Although the basic concept of the initiative is very simple, the actual logistics and commitment required by participants required a close collaboration and intentional community engagement.

The first cohorts in April 2019 took place in person and we partnered with local organizations, who supported both participant recruitment and delivery of the sessions.

The program launched at the Montbello, Valdez-Perry, and Westwood Branch Libraries, welcoming families for 10 weeks. Branch staff welcomed parents and children, introducing the library and our programs and resources. Additionally, the teams came together to navigate how to provide childcare during LENA Start classes by engaging the community and recruiting volunteer caretakers who were also parents from the community.

As of February 2020 83 families had been equipped with the knowledge to understand the impact of conversing and interacting with their children with this program. Many of the families who were new to the library also started going to the library as part of their weekly routines.
And then... COVID hit...And the questions started...

How could a program based in community connection transfer to the virtual world? How do you create community in Zoom? Are families still interested in learning and attending a 10 week program without having childcare available? How is remote learning for older kids going to be affected?

Using well-established connections in the community, Mendez and Atilano found ways to serve families online. Parents saw the value of the program and despite logistical challenges, they took the experience to a new level.

Since there were no more actual in-person meetings, Mendez and families had to either arrange a meeting weekly or coordinate with branches to exchange materials. And this brought LENA to a position where families’ needs, DPL resources and health regulation all had to align. Because families were at home with children, sessions were shortened to 30 minutes, and instead of all gathering to watch videos or read articles, materials were sent or shared ahead of time. This meant more time to talk and share experiences and ideas...and it was great!

Branches were again instrumental in the success of the program, as they worked to provide support to LENA families via curbside pickup. This collaboration and the flexibility of the virtual environment allowed LENA to expand from the three original branches to almost the entire city, since families participating were not restricted to just their neighborhood. This made it possible for families across the city to share their parenting experiences, which definitively enriched the program.

By the last session all families received celebratory ice cream. All of those involved in LENA brought the community a valuable service despite all the challenges. Throughout the journey, families were supported by library staff willing to help and innovate no matter what and they learned that Denver Public Library was an experience worth joining.

The next LENA cohort begins March 30 and is expected to be primarily virtual. Learn more and register at kids.denverlibrary.org/lena

Denver Public Library
CORRESPONDENCE SOCIETY
for Teens

The DPL Correspondence Society is a mail exchange program for teens. Part chain letter, part creative writing/art club, part show and tell, it’s a fun and easy way to make stuff with people from all over the place. Here’s how to participate:

1. Sign up at denverlibrary.org/dplcorrespondencesociety
2. We'll mail you a prompt to the address provided
3. Send it back in the stamped and addressed envelope.
4. Once we get your response, we’ll mail you a new prompt!
Late in 2020, the Denver Public Library’s Splendid Free Store and Warm Clothing Bank opened at Central Library with little fanfare, and began to provide coats, socks, jackets, sweaters, belts and more for our customers in need. From our curbside service stations, we are also able to provide snacks and hygiene kits, emergency blankets, and winter survival guides. What we have in stock changes depending on donations received, but the quality and care are standard.

Additionally, we’re really proud to offer a beautiful collection of hand knitted wool caps, lovingly made by a grandmotherly community member. Money can’t buy this kind of soft and warm magic!

The Clothing Bank has been popular and as the word spreads, the number of our customers grows. The community’s response has been positive and appreciative, knowing we are part of the community and that when one needs help, the library is the place to turn.

Needless to say, the pandemic has been particularly hard on our neighbors experiencing homelessness. The Library’s Central location was a major part of people’s survival strategy before the shutdown. In those days, folks looked to the library for shelter from the elements, clean bathrooms, hand washing facilities, human connection, learning and entertainment. The sudden and ongoing pandemic closure was an abrupt adjustment and many had nowhere else to turn.

As the pandemic has continued, the situation on the street has grown more difficult. Many community free meals have stopped or have less capacity, and hunger has become more commonplace. Water, taken for granted at one time, is a precious resource; electricity and wifi are often enough out-of-reach luxuries. Adding to this is the fact that trauma is not in short supply. Social issues all serve to perpetuate the crisis in our neighbors living on the streets.

In all of this turmoil, the Denver Public Library has strived to be community bedrock: to provide something constant, to be there, as we can, when we are needed. Knowing that we can only truly change what is before us, we do what we are able, with small gestures of goodwill and care and the hope that we helped lighten another’s burden for a time. Sometimes, and more often during a Denver winter, this comes in the form of dry socks and expertly knitted caps.

As ever, this has been a team effort, with members from all Central Library departments contributing to the ongoing success of the Splendid Free Store and Warm Clothing Bank. Many thanks to all who have made this venture possible, and to those who continue to meet our customers with dignity and respect.

For further information, or to find out how you can help, please email the Community Resources Outreach team at together@denverlibrary.org
Doc & Talk Series
Thursdays, 7-8 p.m.
Each week we’ll discuss a new film selection available for streaming on Kanopy with your library card.
View the film at your leisure anytime before the online video discussion.
February titles have been selected in celebration of Black History Month.

Feb. 4: Mavis! - Gospel Music Legend and Civil Rights Activist Mavis Staples
Feb. 11: The Order of Myths - Racism in Mardi Gras Celebrations
Feb. 18: Thunder Soul
Feb. 25: Jean-Michel Basquiat: The Radiant Child

We’re Better Than This: Congressman Cummings’ Political Memoir
Wednesday, Feb. 17, 5-6 p.m.
Join us for an evening with Dr. Maya Rockeymoore Cummings, the Founder, President, and CEO of Global Policy Solutions and Congressman Elijah Cummings’ widow, along with co-author James Dale as they discuss Cummings’ inspiring book, We’re Better Than This. They will be joined by Dr. Derrick Hudson, teaching Associate Professor of International Relations at the Colorado School of Mines.

Medicines of the Black American Captive with Community Herbalist Monticue Connally
Monday, Feb. 22, 6-7p.m.
How did enslaved Africans survive in the harshest of conditions without the resources of their oppressors? Herbs! Enslaved communities had people within them that had knowledge of the healing powers of plants. Come and learn about these plants, how slaves used them, and how you can use them today.

R.A.D.A. Social Justice Book Discussion
Tuesday, Feb. 23, 6-7:30 p.m.
The R.A.D.A (Read. Awareness. Dialogue. Action.) program provides a safe and responsible space to discuss community issues and movements of the day with respect and compassion within a structured environment. Our Black History Month selection, The Home Place: Memoirs of a Colored Man’s Love Affair with Nature, by J. Drew Lanham, examines the connection between the unwelcome reception of BIPOC folks in outdoor spaces and the weaponization of race. Participants are encouraged to read the book in advance.

Virtual Social Justice Book Club (18+)
Wednesday, Feb. 24, 6-7:30 p.m.
Are you passionate about social justice and want to connect with like-minded individuals? Connect virtually over tea with like-minded individuals with a passion for social justice. This month we will be discussing Ghost Boys by Jewell Parker Rhodes and I Am Every Good Thing by Derrick Barnes.

Other special selections in honor and celebration of Black History Month.

LitLine - Dial in to hear short stories, essays, and poetry 24/7 (720-865-2003)
Phone-A-Story - 24/7 stories, rhymes and songs for kids (720-865-8500)
Digital Collections - Browse historical photos online history.denverlibrary.org/gallery/black-history-month

Cover photo, photos on this page and photo on page 12, courtesy Denver Public Library, Western History and Genealogy. Check out our digital collections at digital.denverlibrary.org
AUTHOR VISITS AND WRITING

Hard Times Writing Workshop with Lighthouse Writers Workshop
Tuesday, Feb. 23, 3-5 p.m.
Learn to put challenging life experiences into words as a seasoned instructor provides writing prompts and then positive feedback for those who choose to share. No experience required. For help registering, call 720-314-8013.

BOOK CLUBS

To find and register for book clubs, visit denverlibrary.org/bookclubs

Virtual By the Book Club (18+)
Wednesday, Feb. 17, 2-3 p.m.
Join us via Google Meet to discuss this month’s book: Apex Hides the Hurt by Colson Whitehead.

Yak, Snack and Read (18+)
Thursday, Feb. 25, 4-5 p.m.

YA Book Club for Adults (18+)
Saturday, Feb. 6, 12-1 p.m.
A social club for adults who enjoy YA fiction! Action-adventure, sci-fi, fantasy, romance - we read it all. Check out this month’s pick, These Violent Delights by Chloe Gong, and join the virtual discussion at google.com/ffo-ajtr-icx

Short Story Happy Hour
Tuesday, Feb. 9, 5-6 p.m.
Bring a cocktail or just yourself and join us to read and discuss a short story. No preparation required!

The Probably Awesome Book Club (Grades 6-12)
Tuesday, Feb. 2, 4-5 p.m.
Whether you’re reading books, manga, magazines, blogs, or cereal boxes, you can join us on the first Tuesday of the month for great recommendations as we talk about the best or even the worst thing you’ve been reading.

Kids’ Virtual Book Clubs
Tuesday, Feb. 2, 4-5 p.m.: Ages 10-12
Thursday, Feb. 4, 4-5 p.m.: Ages 5-8
Share what you’ve been reading, and participate in fun games and activities. Space is limited so join early and bring your paper, markers and/or crayons.

A Political Memoir Discussion
Wednesday, February 17, 5 p.m.

Register online now at denverlibrary.org/we-are-better
Kids Virtual Book Club (ages 8-10)
Wednesday, Feb. 3, 4-5 p.m.
We’re reading *I Survived the Sinking of the Titanic, 1912* by Lauren Tarshis. Starting January 13, the first 15 children to request a book club kit will receive a free copy of the book to keep with fun activities at the Virginia Village Branch Library during curbside pickup hours.

Wreck This Book Club! (ages 8-12)
Wednesdays, Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24, 4-5 p.m.
View video tutorials on Denver Library’s YouTube channel where we follow a prompt from *Wreck this Journal*. Then, join us via Google Meet where you can talk to other artists, ask questions, and show off your work!

Kids’ Virtual Book Club (ages 6-9)
Wednesday, Feb. 10, 4-5 p.m.
We’ll discuss an historical fiction account of the first seeing eye dog told from the dog’s point of view from *Dog Diaries: Buddy* by Kate Klimo with special guest Puppy Raisers. Pick up your optional book club kit from the Park Hill Branch Library starting Friday, Jan. 22 while supplies last. Space is limited.

Kids’ Virtual Book Club (ages 10-12)
Tuesday, Feb. 16, 4-5 p.m.
Join staff from the Green Valley Ranch Branch Library for a casual book discussion. Share what you’ve been reading, and get some recommendations from fellow kids. Siblings & pets are welcome – we will also be playing some games and other activities!

Virtual Little University (birth-age 5)
Online registration required at denverlibrary.org/littleuniversity
Thursdays, 3:30-4 p.m.
Feb. 4: Sense-a-tional Rocky
Feb. 11: Kids Yoga
Feb. 18: Camouflage & Coloration with Nature’s Educators
Feb. 25: Sing & Dance with Mr. Wil

Saturdays, 10:30-11 a.m.
Feb. 6: Kids Concert with Hunk-Ta-Bunk-Ta Music
Feb. 13: Inside an Airplane with Wings Over the Rockies
Feb. 20: Pigment Creation with Chelsea Gilmore
Feb. 27: Inside the Denver Botanic Gardens

Diversión en español (birth-age 5)
Online registration required at denverlibrary.org/diversion
Every Tuesday, 3:30-4 p.m.
Feb. 2: Arte con La piñata de aprendizaje: Tarjetas para San Valentín
Feb. 9: Canta con Chufo
Feb. 16: Movimiento y baile con Jenn
Feb. 23: Animales en invierno con el Parque nacional de las montañas rocosas
**FILM**

**Saturday Matinee: Walter Chaw and Natasha Lyonne Talk The Seventh Seal, 1957**
Saturday, Feb. 6, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Join film critic Walter Chaw and actress Natasha Lyonne (Orange Is the New Black, Russian Doll, But I’m a Cheerleader) to talk about this film. The Seventh Seal is free to watch on the streaming service Kanopy which you can subscribe to using your library card.

**Denver Cinema Club Presents M (1931) with John Anzalone**
Sunday, Feb. 21, 1:30–3 p.m.
Film professor John Anzalone hosts this insightful discussion and scene analysis of M, a black-and-white classic thriller directed by Fritz Lang. English subtitles. Watch this award-winning film for free on Kanopy with your library card, then join us online for the discussion.

**FOOD & WELLNESS**

**Healthy Cooking During COVID: Delicious Soups with Author Alan Roettinger**
Monday, Feb. 22, 4-5 p.m.
Join us for the first in a series of cooking demonstrations focused on healthy foods. Author, food designer and blogger, Alan Roettinger, will show us easy plant-based soups that are simple to make and great for a cold day! Funded by the NextFifty Initiative.

**Gratefulness Gathering**
Tuesday, Feb. 23, 6-7 p.m.
Come together for a guided practice to explore different aspects of grateful living.

**Live in Harmony Through the Ayurveda Way**
Saturday, Feb. 27, 1-2 p.m.
Natural Grocers presents an introduction to help you discover your Ayurvedic body type (dosha). Knowing your dosha can help you maximize your health through individualizing your diet and lifestyle.

**HISTORY**

**Active Minds: Pirates, Tales, and Legends**
Thursday, Feb. 11, 1-2 p.m.
From the swashbuckling privateers of the Golden Age of Piracy to the modern-day pirates plying the waters off the coast of Africa, pirates are a captivating class of criminal and antihero. Sail with us on the seven seas as Active Minds discusses the history, personalities, and tales of the pirates. Sponsored by the Central Park Master Community Association.

**Agricultural Strategies and Environmental Change in Ancient Anatolia**
Saturday, Feb. 13, 1-2 p.m.
Explore recent work in Gordion of ancient Anatolia (modern Turkey), where complex agricultural strategies were employed to adapt to coincident environmental and social change on both local and regional scales.

**Ghost Towns of the American West**
Tuesday, Feb. 23, 5:30-7 p.m.
Explore a fascinating new collection of Old West legends with Ethan Knightchilde, creator of Best Documentary Award-winner, Ghosts of the West: The End of the Bonanza Trail, and author of Ghosts of the West: Tales and Legends from the Bonanza Trail.
Active Minds: Iraq
Thursday, Feb. 25, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
We will review the history of Iraq with an eye toward U.S. involvement that has resulted in an American military presence in the country since the 2003 invasion that toppled the government of Saddam Hussein. Sponsored by the Central Park Master Community Association.

MUSIC & MORE

Winter of Reading Trivia Walk
Monday, Jan 11-Sunday, Feb 28
Enjoy the brisk winter air and discover a new book. Walk around Cranmer Park’s sundial and see if you can find all 10 featured books from Ross-Cherry Creek Branch. Bonus: answer the trivia question via the QR code or by calling us and be entered to win library swag!

Make It Move! Family Creative Learning Workshop
Tuesday, Feb. 2, 6-7 p.m.
Make an object in your house fly or act surprised! Join other families online and learn to make everyday objects come to life by taking a series of pictures and putting them together in a GIF using stop motion animation. No prior experience is necessary.

Don’t Stand So Close To Me: Virtual Trivia With Your Library
Wednesdays, Feb. 3, 10, 17, & 24, 7-8 p.m.
All the fun you have come to expect from one of our trivia night events, but virtual. Play as a single or compete as a team.

Explore Scratch! Family Creative Learning Workshop
Tuesday, Feb. 9, 6-7 p.m.
Learn how to use pictures, sounds, and animations in Scratch, a beginner-friendly, block-based coding environment to tell a story! No prior experience with Scratch or coding is necessary.

Stickers, Slaps and Digital Arts: An Interactive Kids and Family Virtual Workshop
Tuesday, Feb. 9, 6-7 p.m.
Join artist Shawn Bowman and special guest, Wiser Owner, the lead designer at Pureblind Wraps and Graphics company, for a hands-on workshop that will explore hand drawn and digital stickers, cool tools and look at the history and influence of stickers in contemporary urban art.

Light Up Valentine Card Workshop
Saturday, Feb. 13, 2-3 p.m.
Celebrate Valentine’s Day by crafting a unique light up card for a friend or loved one in this online follow-along session. To get an ideaLAB Take & Make Kit with the supplies for the project, stop by Hadley, Hampden, Montbello, Rodolfo “Corky” Gonzales, or Sam Gary branches during curbside hours starting Saturday January 30. Supplies are limited, first come first served.

Virtual D&D for Adults
Sunday, Feb. 14, 2-4 p.m.
Join us every month on the 2nd Sunday to play Dungeons & Dragons D&D and the 4th Sunday for a oneshot RPG. All experience levels are welcome; we will be using 5e rules.

International Mother Language Day: Music Sharing
Tuesday, Feb. 16, 6-7 p.m.
Celebrate International Mother Language Day by sharing a part of a song from your mother language or a language you feel connected to.

Tools for the Creative Life: Managing Your Money Now and Into the Future
Wednesday, Feb. 17, 12-1:30 p.m.
There are several ways creative entrepreneurs, contractors and small business owners can strategically start saving and planning for retirement. This webinar will provide practical tips and handouts to manage cash flow and budgeting now, and implement strategies to prepare for the future.

Virtual RPG for Adults
Sunday, Feb. 28, 2-3 p.m.
Do you want to play a roleplaying game that is more simple than Dungeons and Dragons? Join us on the fourth Sunday of the month for a new one-shot, one-page roleplaying game.

OLDER ADULTS

Email adelpo@denverlibrary.org if you need assistance or have questions about older adult programs and services. For more info, visit denverlibrary.org/olderadults

Art After Noon
Monday, Feb. 1, 1:30-3 p.m.
Monday, Feb. 8, 1:30-3 p.m. with Eric Dallimore
Monday, Feb. 22, 1:30-3 p.m.
Art After Noon brings professional artists from throughout Colorado into your own home through Zoom to teach art and provide engaging, unique experiences. All of the projects use materials readily available in your own home.
Mindfulness and Meditation  
Mondays, Feb. 1, 8, & 22, 4-4:45 p.m.  
Fridays, Feb. 5, 12, 19 & 26, 10-10:45 a.m.  
A regular meditation practice can help you cultivate kindness and inner peace - two things we desperately need in these stressful times. Join us for teaching on mindfulness themes followed by 30 minutes of practice.

Qi Gong Exploration and Practice  
Tuesdays, Feb. 2 & 9, 10-10:45 a.m.  
Qi Gong includes slow, dance-like movements to improve breathing, reduce stress, and gently move and stretch the body. It can be done standing or in a chair. Funded by the NextFifty Initiative.

Virtual Memory Cafe  
Tuesdays, 1:30-2:30 p.m.  
Virtual Memory Cafe is a fun place to socialize, relax, and engage with people experiencing memory loss and their families/caregivers. Each cafe has a unique focus to facilitate social connection for individuals with shared experiences. For more information, go to denverlibrary.org/memorycafe  
Feb. 2: Something Sweet featuring the Denver Art Museum  
Feb. 9: Valentine’s Day featuring Jody Tafoya & Amy Sweetin  
Feb. 16: Reconnect with Your Body featuring Art as Action

Mental Health and Wellness Series (Session 4): Living Well With Dementia  
Thursday, Feb. 4, 2-3 p.m.  
Join us for part one of a four-part series on mental health and wellness. This talk will be framed around ways people living with dementia, their loved ones, and their community all can contribute to living well with dementia.

Getting Started with eBooks  
Wednesdays, Feb. 10 & 24, 10:30-11:30 a.m.  
Learn how to access library eBooks, audiobooks and video with your library card. Bring your own smartphone, tablet, or laptop, or explore the eBooks website using your personal computer.

Denver Reflective Storytelling Workshop  
Friday, Feb. 12, 12-1:15 p.m.  
StoryCenter, a non-profit that helps people find and tell stories from their lives, will offer a supportive, online space where we can gather together as a community to share our personal struggles and joys and moments of resilience. Funded by the NextFifty Initiative.

Write On! with Jana Clark: Recording Your Progress with Diaries, Journals & Letters  
Saturday, Feb. 20, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.  
Be led through a series of thinking and writing exercises designed to develop skills and inspire creativity. Discover yourself through words. Record your progress with diaries, journals and letters.

Virtual Kindness Club  
Wednesday, Feb. 24, 4-4:30 p.m.  
Let’s embark on a kindness adventure together. We’ll focus on ways to be kind through mindfulness and meditation. All ages welcome.

TECHNOLOGY

The Cloud: Access Your Files Anywhere  
Monday, Feb. 1, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.  
Join us for our community conversation where we’ll cover how to access your files no matter where you are, and get answers to your cloud questions.

Earn your limited edition mug, notebook, or neck gaiter!  
denverlibrary.org/winterofreading
**TEENS**

**Virtual D&D for teens Campaign: Trouble on the Highroad (ages 13+)**  
**Mondays, Feb. 1, 8, 15, & 22, 4:30-6:30 p.m.**  
Based in the Forgotten Realms setting, you’ll play a group of heroes exploring the Northern Sword Coast trying to make a name for themselves. Come prepared with a fourth level character and be ready for adventure.

**Virtual D&D Campaign for Teens: Everbrite Academy**  
**Mondays, Feb. 1, 8, & 22, 5-7 p.m.**  
Join the growing forces of Everbrite Academy to defeat The Mourning and prevent anything like the centuries long war from happening ever again.

**Virtual Write & Talk for Teens with Lighthouse Writers Workshop (ages 13-18)**  
**Wednesday, Feb. 17, 4-6 p.m.**  
Join local author and Lighthouse Writers Workshop instructor, Whitney Gaines, to try a new genre or topic with plenty of time for freewriting and conversation.

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