

**SPRING 2024**  
Volume 26, Issue 2

400 Richland Street  
East Peoria, IL 61611  
[fondulaclibrary.org](http://fondulaclibrary.org)  
309.699.3917

#### **LIBRARY HOURS**

**Mon-Thurs** 9a-8p  
**Friday** 9a-6p  
**Saturday** 9a-5p  
**Sunday** (Sept-May) 1p-5p

#### **Exceptions:**

**March 20** - Closed  
**March 31** - Closed  
**May 26 & 27** - Closed

#### **FINE FREE!**

Please visit our Fine Free FAQ page at [fondulaclibrary.org](http://fondulaclibrary.org) for more details about our policies!

All library programs and events are free and located at the library, unless otherwise noted. Some programs require registration.

**REGISTER** at the library, at [fondulaclibrary.org](http://fondulaclibrary.org), or by calling 699-3917, unless otherwise noted. Space may be limited.



# STAR WARS DAY

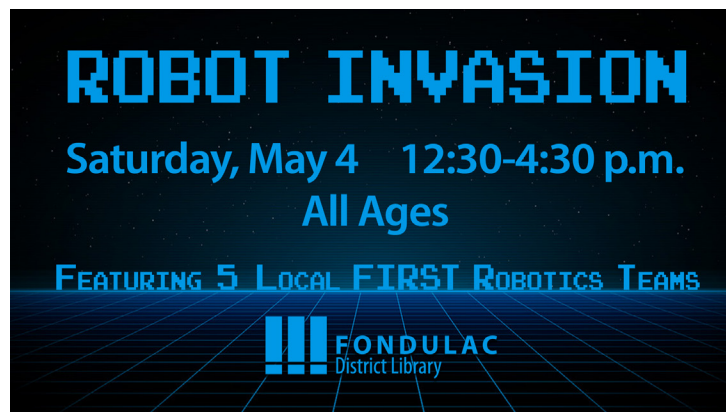
## APRIL 13, 2024

### 10 A.M. - 4 P.M.

*JEDI TRAINING, GAMES, AND MORE!*



Find the Force at FDL! Celebrate our favorite space saga with the return of our annual Star Wars Day! Join us Saturday, April 13, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for free activities for all ages, including Jedi training, real-life droids with the East Peoria Robo Raiders, crafts and games, selfie stations, prize drawings, and much more throughout the library! Special guests from the 501st Legion, the Rebel Legion, and the Mandalorian Mercs will be available for photos, so Star Wars cosplay is encouraged. Visit [fondulaclibrary.org](http://fondulaclibrary.org) or our Facebook page for more details closer to the event!




# ROBOT INVASION

## Saturday, May 4 12:30-4:30 p.m.

### All Ages

#### FEATURING 5 LOCAL FIRST ROBOTICS TEAMS



Come explore the world of FIRST Robotics and what it has to offer! Teams include EP Robo Raiders (East Peoria), Technophobia (East Peoria), Trailblazers (Dunlap), HOW (Peoria), and Retro Robotics (East Peoria). The robots have a puzzle for you: can you crack the BINARY code to release the key to the treasure? Try your hand at programming, or maybe driving is more your speed. Maybe design and build is where it's at? Check it all out and decide for yourself!

# LIBRARY

## LIBRARY BOARD MEETINGS

**Mondays • 6 p.m.**  
**March 25, April 29 & May 20**

Visit [fondulaclibrary.org](http://fondulaclibrary.org) for meeting agenda, minutes, and location. Recordings of meetings are available online at [esctv.org](http://esctv.org).

## FRIENDS OF FDL QUARTERLY MEETING

**Monday, May 6 • 6 p.m.**  
The Friends support the library's mission through advocacy, fundraising, and volunteerism. Past and upcoming events are discussed and planned at meetings. Annual dues are only \$5, and new members are always welcome.

## BOOK SALE

The Friends' ongoing Book Sale is open during library hours. Located on the 1st floor across from the elevator, great used books, music, & movies are available with suggested donations starting at 25¢.

## LITTLE FREE LIBRARY

The Friends of FDL group maintains a "Little Free Library" in the Reading Garden outside the library. Stop by and adopt a new book, courtesy of the Friends!



**ILLINOIS  
LIBRARIES  
PRESENT**

## ILLINOIS LIBRARIES PRESENT! VIRTUAL PROGRAM SERIES



**Ruth E. Carter:**

**Interweaving Tradition and Imagination Through Costume Design**  
**Wednesday, March 20 • 7:00 p.m. • REGISTER FOR ZOOM**

Best known for turning the Black Panther superhero into an African king, Ruth E. Carter is the first Black woman to win multiple Academy Awards in any category and the first costume designer to win for the first film and its sequel. SHE is known for her research and diligence to the craft of costume design.



**The Hidden Gifts of Visual Thinkers with Dr. Temple Grandin**  
**Wednesday, April 3 • 7:00 p.m. • REGISTER FOR ZOOM**

Meet Dr. Temple Grandin, one of the world's most accomplished and well-known adults with autism. Her memoir, *Emergence: Labeled Autistic*, was published in 1986. Dr. Grandin has been at the forefront of research and activism for autism and neurodiversity for decades.



**The Many LiveS of Kal Penn**

**Tuesday, May 7 • 7:00 p.m. • REGISTER FOR ZOOM**

Kal Penn is an actor, writer, producer, and former Associate Director of the White House Office of Public Engagement. He is known for his starring roles in *Designated Survivor*, *House*, and the *Harold & Kumar* franchise. From 2009 to 2011, Penn took a sabbatical from acting to serve as White House liaison to Young Americans, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and the Arts community.

*These events are made possible by Illinois Libraries Present (ILP), a statewide collaboration among public libraries offering premier events. ILP is funded in part by a grant awarded by the Illinois State Library, a department of the Office of Secretary of State, using funds provided by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services, under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA).*

## MOVIE NIGHT SING-ALONG!

**As seen on News 25's "In the Know!"**

**Tuesdays, March-May • 5:30-7:30 p.m.**

It's time to show us what you've got! Every month, we'll feature a different movie and encourage you to sing along!

**March 5: Coco • April 2: Tangled • May 7: Trolls**



# ALL AGES

## BRUNCH FOR HOMESCHOOLERS

**Friday, March 8 • 10:00-11:30 a.m. • REGISTER**

Connect with other homeschooling families while enjoying free donuts and drinks. Stop by and share what works for you while socializing with other homeschooling families in the area. Hear about resources at the library that will help you in your homeschool journey!

## BRING THE STARS TO YOU!

**Tuesday, March 19 • 7:00 p.m. • DROP IN**

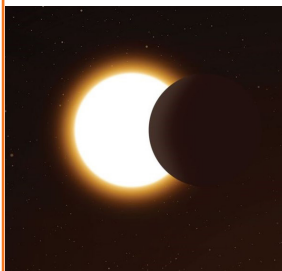
Astronomy expert Nick Rae from the Peoria Riverfront Museum gives a tour of the current night sky using an 8-inch reflecting telescope, the Moon (if visible), current planets, and deep-sky objects (galaxies, star clusters, and nebulae). Using a green laser, Nick points out constellations in the real sky and shares a star story or two! Join us in Levee Park, next to the library. Feel free to bring a lawn chair.

## SOLAR ECLIPSE WATCH PARTY

**Monday, April 8 • 1:30-2:30 p.m. • DROP IN**

On April 8, a total solar eclipse will be visible in a path across the United States! Here in East Peoria, the moon will block 94% of the sun! Eye protection is needed to view any portion of a partial eclipse. Patrons will be able to view the partial eclipse from the Reading Garden using provided eye protection (while supplies last). Even in the event of cloudy weather here, viewing will be possible, as we will stream viewing from locations experiencing totality.

Maximum Eclipse: 2:03PM (Partial Eclipse – 94.4%)  
NOTE: FDL will provide protective eyewear for all participants at the event, plus they'll be available for pickup at the Youth Services Desk, and at the 2nd Floor Reference Desk. (Limit 2 per patron)



## FAMILY FIELD TRIP: EAST PEORIA FIRE STATION

**Monday, April 29 • 6:00 p.m. • Ages 8+ • REGISTER**

Join us to check out the brand-new East Peoria Fire Station! Explore what a fire entails, and learn how they prepare for emergencies. All groups must have someone 18 or older.



## BIG RIG PETTING ZOO IS BACK!



**Saturday, May 11 • 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

What is a Big Rig Petting Zoo? It's a very unusual zoo that's perfect for the transportation enthusiast! It's a chance for the kids to touch, and climb in and on, heavy equipment. See and learn about all kinds of vehicles! Transportation-themed crafts, too! **DROP IN**

# GAMES

## GAMES & PUZZLES

The library has a huge selection of jigsaw puzzles, board games, and yard games available to check out for all ages. Take one home for a week, bring it back, and grab another!

## GAMING @ FDL

Fondulac District Library offers in-library gaming options for all ages.  
**DROP IN**

## Board & Card Games

All Ages

## Minecraft PC Game

Ages 5-13

## Nintendo Switch Games

Ages 5-19

## Steam PC Games

Ages 13-19

**Coming soon!**

## STEAM KITS

STEAM Kits are available for children of all ages to check out and take home for fun, hands-on, self-paced exploration of science, technology, engineering, the arts, and math. Kits are available from the Youth Services desk and subjects include Art, Biology, Electronics, Math, Physics, Robotics, and Weights & Measures.



# BOOK CLUBS

## ADULT BOOK CLUB

**3rd Mondays**

**1:30 p.m. • DROP IN**

For adult readers interested in all types of fiction and nonfiction. Members select titles and lead discussions together. New members are always welcome, and copies of the club's current selection are available at the library's circulation desk.

**March 18**

*Wish You Were Here*  
by Jodi Picoult

**April 15**

*The Splendid and the Vile*  
by Eric Larson

**May 20**

*Lessons in Chemistry*  
by Bonnie Garmus

## SWORD AND SORCERY BOOK CLUB

**Ongoing • Virtual  
Ages 13+**

Love fantasy? Share what you're reading, discuss your favorites, and get recommendations for your next book from local readers and librarians. Join the group at:  
<https://facebook.com/groups/fdlsandsbookclub>  
for ongoing discussion of all things fantasy!

## TEEN TUESDAYS GAME NIGHT & BOOK CLUB

**Tuesdays • 6-7:30 p.m.  
Ages 13-19 • DROP IN**

Play video games, board games, D&D, and discuss books and manga.

# ADULTS & TEENS



## GLOWFORGE PROJECTS FOR SPRING!

**Ages 13+ • REGISTER**

**Tuesday, March 12 • 3:30-5:00 p.m. - Spring Bunny**

**Tuesday, April 23 • 3:30-5:00 p.m. - Paper Flowers**

**Tuesday, May 7 • 3:30-4:30 p.m. - Birth Flower Engraving**

## PAPERBACK EASTER EGGS

**Thursday, March 14 • 6:00 p.m. • Ages 13+ • REGISTER**

Create a festive table decoration for spring by upcycling a paperback book. Use scissors, craft knives, and hot glue to construct your 3D egg. Decorate your paperback egg in bright, seasonal colors using a variety of markers.



## RETIREMENT INCOME AND SOCIAL SECURITY PLANNING

**Thursday, March 14 • 6:30 p.m. • Adults • REGISTER**

Learn ways to maximize your social security benefits, and reduce or eliminate taxes on your Social Security income. Hear about steps you can take now to protect your Social Security income from inflation.

## MINIATURE MONSTER TERRARIUMS (FOR TEENS!)

**Thursday, March 28 • 6:00-7:30 p.m. • Ages 13-19 • REGISTER**

Make tiny monsters out of polymer clay to be housed in a pocket-sized terrarium! Then decorate the interior of your terrarium with faux moss and various bits & baubles.

## SUNFLOWER CROSS-STITCH

**Monday, April 8 • 3:30-5:00 p.m. • Ages 13 • REGISTER**

As the weather warms and the flowers start to appear, come to the library and learn how to cross-stitch a sunflower. This hands-on learning session will include a pattern, and all materials will be provided.



## FILE OF LIFE - HELP FIRST RESPONDERS HELP YOU

**Wednesday, April 24 • 10:00-11:00 a.m. • DROP IN**

File of Life gives first responders your medical information when you are unable to. The program's goal is to improve emergency medical care and provide peace of mind for seniors and their families. Deputy Nathan Hastings of the Tazewell County Sheriff's Office will be here to discuss the File of Life program, and register Tazewell County residents for the program onsite. Bring your emergency contact information for yourself and any pets (if different). *Please note that for File of Life, your emergency contact should be someone in the local area. Residents outside Tazewell County are welcome, but will need to check with their home county regarding File of Life.*

# ADULTS & TEENS

## MINIATURE BOOKS & BOOKSHELF (FOR TEENS!)

**Monday, May 6 • 5:30-7:30 p.m. • Ages 13-19 • REGISTER**

Learn how to make miniature books out of polymer clay! Stack them together or let them dry separately, then assemble a tiny bookshelf to shelve them on!



## UNIQUELY ABLED: PAPER PLATE TULIP

**Thursday, May 9 • 1:00 p.m. • Adults • REGISTER**

Use your painting and gluing skills to make a beautiful spring tulip to take home! Designed in consultation with Tazewell County Resource Centers, this program is for adults with intellectual disabilities. Please register under the name of the adult who will be doing the craft. Caregiver attendance is required for participant support.

## JEWELRY NIGHT: CHAINED AND THREADER EARRINGS

**Wednesday, May 15 • 6:00-7:30 p.m. • Ages 13+ • REGISTER**  
Time for another jewelry-making night! We'll have new spools of stainless steel chain and blank threader earrings to make stylish, chained pieces. A selection of tools will be available for you to use. Make yourself a pair of earrings, a pendant, or maybe a bracelet. If you have supplies for a project you've been putting off, feel free to bring it to work on here.

*\*Allergen warning: Due to the donation aspect of the jewelry-making supplies, those with a nickel or metal allergy, as well as those allergic to cats or dogs, should participate with caution.*

## ADULT BOARD GAME NIGHT

**Thursday, May 2 • 5:00-7:30 p.m. • Ages 20+ • DROP IN**

Join us for a fun night of board games! See what the library has to offer, or bring one of your own games to play. Enjoy door prizes, pizza, and snacks (pizza while supplies last!).



## SOURDOUGH BREAD-MAKING

**Monday, May 20 • 6:00-7:30 p.m. • Adults • REGISTER**

Join us as Andrea Kempf, owner/baker of Kneading Dough located in Eureka, demonstrates how to make a sourdough starter and finished loaf.

## PAINT A SKYLINE ON COLOR GRADATIONS

**Thursday, May 23 • 4:00-6:00 p.m. • Ages 11+ • REGISTER**

Paint a colorful sunset, silhouetted by a city landscape on the ocean.



## CHINESE CULTURE AND LANGUAGE (FOR TWEENS & TEENS!)

**Saturdays March 9, April 6, May 4 • 10:30 a.m. • Ages 11-18 • REGISTER**

Learn about Chinese culture and language with MengMeng, teacher and principal of the Peoria Chinese Language School. She will start by reading popular Chinese storybooks, then students will learn Chinese games and crafts and try authentic Chinese food.

**Class 1: The Chinese Spring Festival**

**Class 2: Basic Chinese Characters**

**Class 3: Conversational Chinese Dialogue**

*Participants do not need to attend all classes.*



# ONGOING

## NEW! ZEN ZONE

**2nd Thursdays**

**6:30 p.m. • Ages 20+  
DROP IN**

An adults-only oasis of relaxing activities!

**March 14**

Coloring with Gel Pens

**April 11**

Jigsaw Puzzles

**May 9**

Calligraphy Painting with Brush Pens

## APPY HOUR

**Tuesdays**

**March 26, April 30,  
& May 28 • 2 p.m.**

**DROP IN**

Learn to access free eBooks, audiobooks, movies, and more through our apps. Bring a device for 1-on-1 help, or call to make an appointment.

## GROWN-UP VIDEO GAME NIGHT

**3rd Thursdays**

**March 21, April 18, &  
May 16**

**5-8 p.m. • Ages 20+  
DROP IN**

Adults are invited to play the library's gaming systems upstairs. Remember to bring your library card or photo ID to get started!

## SIT & STITCH

**Sundays**

**March 3 & 17; April 7 &  
21; May 5 & 19**

**Wednesdays**

**March 13, April 10, &  
May 8**

**2-4 p.m. • Ages 13+  
DROP IN**

Sew and socialize at the library! Bring your own projects to work on while sharing ideas and skills and making new friends. Stitchers of all types are welcome.

# STORY TIME

## LOUD N' PROUD STORY TIME

**Tuesdays • 11 a.m.  
March-April  
Ages 2-6**

A great storytime for all the energetic kids out there! We will dance, sing, let the kids shout, and, of course, find some time for a couple stories. Every storytime will have a fun theme that is always accompanied by a game or activity at the end.

**DROP IN**

## BABY/TODDLER STORY TIME

**Wednesdays • 10 a.m.  
March-April  
Ages 0-3**

Babies and toddlers up to 3 years old are invited to read, dance, and play with us at storytime. This program is a great way to prepare children for preschool. Every storytime will include fun playtime afterward too!

**DROP IN**

**NO STORYTIME 3/20**

## LITTLE LEARNERS

**Thursdays • 10 a.m.  
March-April  
Ages 4-6**

Visit the library for an interactive program with books, music, rhymes, and movement to nurture pre-reading skills.

**DROP IN**

# KIDS

## SPECIAL STORY TIMES **Ages 6 & under • DROP IN**

**LEPRECHAUN STORYTIME • Tuesday, March 12 • 6:00 p.m.**

**STORYTIME UNDER THE STARS • Friday, March 22 • 11:00 a.m.**

**GROW YOUR GARDEN STORYTIME • Monday, April 1 • 10:00 a.m.**

**SPRING STORYTIME • Wednesday, April 10 • 6:00 p.m.**

**FIREFLY STORYTIME • Monday, May 20 • 6:00 p.m.**



## ART PROGRAMS

### SALT PAINTING

**Monday, March 18 • 10:00 a.m. • Ages 4-8; 3:30 p.m. • Ages 8-14 • REGISTER**

A little glue and salt is all it takes to create a masterpiece! Learn how to paint a one-of-a-kind design during this cool STEAM activity.

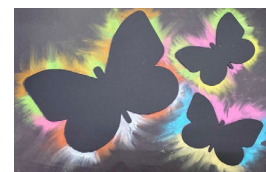
### PASTEL BUTTERFLY ART

**Monday, April 15 • 10:00 a.m. • Ages 4-8 • REGISTER**

### MAKE A TETRAHEDRAL KITE

**Saturday, April 20 • 2:00-3:30 p.m. • Ages 11-14 • REGISTER**

Be ready for Go Fly A Kite Day (4/21/24) by making your own tetrahedral kite from straws, yarn, and tissue paper! *One kite per family.*



### PAINTING WITH TISSUE PAPER

**Wednesday, April 24 • 11:30 a.m. • Ages 2-8 • DROP IN**

Create a masterpiece, a canvas of color with this popular tissue paper painting activity! Draw your own design, use your imagination!

### MAGIC PAPER TOWEL ART

**Wednesday, April 24 • 4:00 p.m. • Ages 8-14 • DROP IN**

Who knew magic could be art too? See some examples of these surprising paper towel creations, then go to town making your own during this playful STEAM activity.

### MOUNTAIN DEW PAINT 'N SIP

**Saturday, April 27 • 2:00 p.m. • Ages 11-14 • REGISTER**

### ARTWORK CANDLES FOR MOTHER'S DAY

**Thursday, May 2 • 5:30 p.m. • Ages 5-14 • REGISTER**

### FOIL EMBOSSED ART

**Wednesday, May 8 • 11:00 a.m. • Ages 8-14 • REGISTER**

### FRIENDSHIP BRACELETS

**Thursday, May 9 • 6:00 p.m. • Ages 8-14 • REGISTER**



## ALLERGEN-SAFE HOT CHOCOLATE SPOONS

**Friday, March 1 • 4:00 p.m. • Ages 14 & under • REGISTER**

Join us for an allergen-safe afternoon full of chocolate! Make and decorate a hot chocolate spoon, listen to a story or two, and enjoy crafts & other activities.



# KIDS

## BUNNY HOP

**Wednesday, March 13 • 4:30 p.m. • Ages 5+ • REGISTER**

Put on your bunny ears, dance the bunny hop, and make a bunny craft and bunny-shaped salad. *Ages 5-8 should have adult assistance.*



## ABSOLUTE SCIENCE: MEGA LEVITATOR

**Monday, March 25 • 2:00 p.m. • Ages 5+ • DROP IN**

This show is a marvelous display of what magnets and conductors can do with energy. A book floating, clear liquid turning black on a time delay, fire on ice, how can it be? This show has sound, lights, and even explosions!

## REAL TALK WITH PEYTON GODDARD AND CAROL CUJEC

**Monday, March 25 • 6:00 p.m. • Ages 8-12 • In-person or Virtual • REGISTER**

Stop in, or virtually visit, to hear Goddard and Cujec talk about their middle-grade novel, *Real*. Goddard defied all odds when she graduated valedictorian from her local college, despite a lifetime of being underestimated due to her autism. Join a group meeting in the storytime room. Get the viewing link when you register.

## SKY LAB

**Thursday, March 28**

Sky Lab is a portable planetarium providing science programs led by Nick Rae from the Peoria Riverfront Museum.

**Perfect Little Planet • 2:00-2:30 p.m. • Ages 5-8 • REGISTER**

Discover the solar system through a new set of eyes: a family from another solar system seeking the perfect vacation spot!

**Earth, Moon, Sun • 2:30-3:00 p.m. • Ages 8-11 • REGISTER**

Coyote has a razor-sharp wit, but he's a little confused about what he sees in the sky. Adapted from Native American oral traditions, this fun, fast-paced, full-dome show will explore lunar phases, eclipses, and other space mysteries.

## HOMESCHOOL STEM: HOT WHEELS RACING

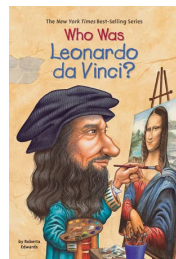
**Friday, April 12 • 10:00 a.m. • Ages 5-12 • REGISTER**

Do you have a need for speed? Put your engineering skills to the test as you attempt to soup up your team's car to make it the fastest in town (or at least in the library)! Use Hot Wheels and common household supplies to race your car at the end of the program. All families are welcome!

## WHO WAS...WAX MUSEUM

**Wednesday, April 17 • 6:00 p.m. • Ages 5-14 • REGISTER**

Choose your favorite *Who Was . . .* biography and become that person for the event. Read the *Who Was . . .* book and fill out the form available at the library. Prepare a short talk telling the audience about their history. Gather up your costume and become a figure in our "Wax Museum." Participants may have their family's help.



## JUNIOR BIRDER EXPLORER • REGISTER

**Monday, April 22 • 10:00 a.m. • Ages 4-11**

Caw, caw, calling all junior birders! Make a homemade bird feeder, play bird BINGO, and talk about your favorite birds! Everyone will go home with their own birder bag to get them started on their birding adventure!

## MOTHER'S DAY FRUIT PIZZA

**Friday, May 10 • 10:00 a.m. • Ages 2-6 • REGISTER**

Both moms and kids alike can enjoy making a special fruit pizza together before the big day!

# CLUBS

## KIDS COMIC BOOK CLUB

**Thursdays • 5 p.m.**

**Ages 8-11**

**REGISTER**

Discuss a new comic book every month. Each club meeting will have snacks and end with a fun game!

**March 21**

*The Bawk-Ness Monster*  
by Sara Goetter

**April 18**

*Misfit Mansion*  
by Kay Davault

**May 16**

Science Comics series -  
your choice of book

## POKEMON CLUB

**Friday, April 5**

**4 p.m. • Ages 5-11**


**REGISTER**

Do you want to be the very best? Join us for an afternoon of Pokémon Trading Card Game fun. Kids are encouraged to bring their TCG cards to battle and trade with other trainers. New players welcome!

## 100 CLUB READING CHALLENGE

**Ongoing • Grades K-8**  
**REGISTER**

Check out our revamped 100 Club Reading Challenge! The goal is to read 100 books before high school. Read books, earn prizes - simple as that! See Youth Services staff for details.



# Zen Zone

An adults-only oasis of relaxing activities to keep your hands busy while your mind wanders. Enjoy a cup of tea and some friendly conversation, or just take time for yourself!

2nd Thursday of every month, 6:30-7:30 p.m.  
March 14: Coloring with gel pens  
April 11: Jigsaw puzzles  
May 9: Calligraphy tracing with brush pens

## 5 GOOD BOOKS

### BEST FIRST BOOK IN A SERIES

Curated by Alice Mitchell,  
Youth Services Manager

*Katie the Catsitter*  
by Colleen Venable

*The Screaming Staircase*  
by Jonathan Stroud

*Aru Shah and the End of Time*  
by Roshani Choksi

*Hunted*  
by Skye Melki-Wegner

*The Witch Boy*  
by Tiffany Stone

Find these titles through our  
catalog at [fondulaclibrary.org](http://fondulaclibrary.org)!



Access free and discounted tickets to museums,  
science centers, park districts, and other cultural  
venues — all with your library card!