

BPD NEWSLETTER

THE LATEST NEWS FROM THE ARKANSAS LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND



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2026 SUMMER READING PROGRAM

The 2026 Summer Reading Program is about to begin! The theme for this year is “Unearth a Story,” and there will be reading challenges, activities and giveaways from June 15 to August 11. Join us as we discover all the stories that can be unearthed through activities and reading! We will soon be sending Summer Reading packets to our juvenile patrons that include reading and activity challenges as well as mail-and-make crafting materials.

Everyone who participates by reading or completing activities has a chance to win prizes!

If you or your child would like to sign up for Summer Reading, give us a call at 501-682-1155 or Toll-Free: 1-866-660-0885.

ADULT SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Calling all adults who want to participate in Summer Reading and have a chance to win a gift card! This summer, the National Library Service, in partnership with the Braille Institute Library, invites you to participate in their 2026 virtual Summer Reading Program. There are two exciting ways to participate:

Webinars — Tune in live for fascinating conversations with authors, artists, national park rangers, and other compelling voices. These are held over Zoom every other Tuesday.

Narrated Soundscapes — Enjoy immersive audio experiences exploring four national parks, added to the Braille Institute webpage every other Monday.

Adults can register for the entire series by going to www.brailleinstitute.org/summer-reading-program/ or by calling 1-888-245-2471 to register by phone.

To be eligible for gift card drawings, patrons need to read 5 books or attend 3 of the virtual programs between June 15-August 11. You can call or email us with your list of books read or programs you attended, and you will be entered into the drawing.

DA2 VIRTUAL OFFICE HOURS

If you have questions about the DA2 reader, feel free to drop in to one of our Zoom sessions! These are designed to be an informal open forum where patrons can ask any burning questions that they have about the new player.

Dates and times:

Thursday, June 25 at 3:00 p.m.

Wednesday, July 22 at 10:00 a.m.

Thursday, August 20 at 3:00 p.m.

You can call us to request the Zoom link or dial in using a touchtone phone at 1-312-626-6799 with the Meeting ID of 397 900 0365.

BRAILLE CALENDARS

If you would like a pocket or wall-sized braille calendar for 2026, it's not too late to contact us! The library has a small supply of extra calendars for anyone who may have missed the subscription window.

TALKING BOOK TOPICS

This is a reminder that NLS produces a bimonthly list of new titles called Talking Book Topics that can be accessed in several ways. Patrons can subscribe to receive it automatically on cartridge or through BARD. You can also access the HTML and printable PDF through the NLS website at: <https://www.loc.gov/nls/new-materials/talking-book-topics/>. Additionally, it is listed as a publication on NFB-Newsline. If you are interested in subscribing to this publication, please give us a call!

AUDIO DESCRIPTION AT THE THEATER

Did you know that the Arkansas Rep includes one Audio Described performance for each of their plays? This is typically scheduled for the second Saturday evening performance, and the following dates are set for their Summertime Season:

- June 6 - Steel Magnolias
- June 27 - Ain't Misbehavin'
- July 18 - Joseph & the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat
- August 22 - The Remarkable Resignation of Dr. Joycelyn Elders
- Sept 19 - Side by Side by Sondheim

If you have any questions or want to purchase tickets, contact the Box Office at 501-378-0405.

BOOK LIST: SOCCER

DB 128523	Messi Mania by Luis Miguel Echegaray Discover the seismic effect Leo has had on MLS and global soccer, woven through with fascinating insights into his family background, childhood, teenage years, and career to date. 2025.
DB 80424	Why Soccer Matters by Pele International soccer legend Pele explores the history of the sport and provides insights into soccer's role connecting and galvanizing players around the world. 2014
DB 105172	The Barcelona Complex: Lionel Messi and the making--and unmaking--of the world's greatest soccer club by Simon Kuper A financial journalist explores FC Barcelona's rise, spotlighting Johan Cruyff and Lionel Messi. Unrated. 2021.
DB 91771	Red Card: how the U.S. blew the whistle on the world's biggest sports scandal by Ken Bensinger A journalist investigates FIFA's 2015 corruption scandal involving wire fraud, racketeering, and money laundering. Unrated.
DB 86015	When Nobody Was Watching: my hard-fought journey to the top of the soccer world by Carli Lloyd with Wayne Coffey Star of the US Women's National Soccer Team shares her life and career story, including a pivotal moment when she considered quitting soccer. Strong language. 2016
DB 95014	Wolfpack: how to come together, unleash our power, and change the game by Abby Wambach In her 2018 Barnard commencement speech, the soccer star urges women to unite, embrace their power, and be wolves--not Little Red Riding Hood. Unrated. 2019

BOOK LIST: SOCCER

DB 86577	Forward: a memoir by Abby Wambach Wambach shares how prioritizing soccer success to gain love and approval led to struggles with identity, purpose, and addiction after her retirement. Strong language. 2016
DB 16992	My Life and the Beautiful Game: the autobiography of Pele by Pele with Robert Fish Rags-to-riches biography of the famous Brazilian soccer player who has captured the respect and imagination of the lovers of the sport.
DB 12134	The Education of an American Soccer Player by Shep Messing with David Hirshey Messing relates anecdotes about his Bronx childhood, Harvard education, participation in the Munich Olympics, and career with the New York Cosmos. 1979.
DB 21056	The Arco Book of Soccer Techniques and Tactics by Richard Widdows Introduction to playing the game of soccer. Provides instruction on goalkeeping, on individual skills such as passing, dribbling, heading, and tackling, and on team tactics in offense and defensive situations. 1984.
DB 90974	The Language of the Game: how to understand soccer by Laurent Dubois A professor at Duke University sets out to give readers a primer on the game of soccer, including the game's history, positions, tactics, and fandom. Arranged in chapters named for key positions. 2018.
DB 71423	Outcasts United: a refugee soccer team, an American town by Warren St. John Describes American-educated Jordanian coach, Luma Mufleh's efforts to establish soccer teams for refugee boys in Clarkston, Georgia. 2009

POPULAR BARD FICTION

DB 103718	Project Hail Mary	Andy Weir
DB 134328	The Invisible Woman	James Patterson & Susan DiLallo
DB 133042	The Widow	John Grisham
DB 131887	Theo of Golden	Allen Levi
DB 132396	The Secret of Secrets	Dan Brown
DB 131733	Brain Damage	Freida McFadden
DB 133660	The Proving Ground	Michael Connelly
DB 133584	The Intruder	Freida McFadden
DB 133207	Gone Before Goodbye	Reese Witherspoon & Harlan Coben
DB 133328	Nash Falls	David Baldacci
DB 134741	The Baby on my Doorstep	Miranda Smith
DB 133326	Exit Strategy	Lee Child & Andrew Child
DB 134019	The Switch	Elmore Leonard
DB 129105	The Correspondent	Virginia Evans
DB 134782	My Husband's Wife	Alice Feeney
DB 133034	Coyote Hills	Jonathan & Jesse Kellerman
DB 133329	Return of the Spider	James Patterson

LIBRARY STAFF

Manager: Natalie Marlin

Reader's Advisors:

Jeff Kersey - Covering last names A-K

Kelly Smith - Covering last names L-Z

Machine Circulation: Rachel McBroom

Children's Programmer: Thomas Sepe

CONTACT INFORMATION

Toll Free: 1-866-660-0885

Local: 501-682-1155

Email Address: nlsbooks@ade.arkansas.gov

Website Address: library.arkansas.gov

HOURS & HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

The Arkansas Library for the Blind and Print Disabled
is open Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Upcoming holiday closings:

May 25 - Memorial Day

July 3 - Independence Day

September 7 - Labor Day

THE BPD NEWSLETTER IS MADE POSSIBLE
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