



**BLOUNT COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY**

508 N. Cusick Street, Maryville, TN 37804

Phone: (865) 982-0981 Web site: [www.blountlibrary.org](http://www.blountlibrary.org)



BCPL – Celebrating History, Creating Connections, Inspiring Imagination

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact:** Joan VanSickle Sloan, Public Relations Manager  
Phone: (865) 273-1408 or 982-0981; Email: [jsloan@blounttn.org](mailto:jsloan@blounttn.org)  
**Date:** November 26, 2017  
**Release Date:** Immediately –

**December 2017 Events at the Blount County Public Library**

MARYVILLE, TN (November 26, 2017) For your holiday pleasure, the library is delighted to announce many events, musical and otherwise, which will almost certainly add to your enjoyment of the season. Some of these events include

- City of Maryville Tree Lighting & Music, along with Santa at the library for free photos with Santa.
- Holiday music performed by area school students,
- Many holiday exhibits throughout the library, including one featuring 1920s-era Letters to Santa,

In addition, a local author, Gail Palmer, will relate stories from “Cemeteries of the Smokies.” And to assist the public with health insurance enrollment, certified counsellors with the Affordable Care Act will be present at the library on Thursdays through December 14, so schedule an appointment by calling 1-844-644-5443, or you can visit [www.GetCoveredTenn.org](http://www.GetCoveredTenn.org) From the library staff, we wish for you a cheerful and peaceful holiday season!

**HOLIDAY MUSIC & EVENTS: Phone (865) 982-0981 or (865) 273-1428**

- **“Holiday Music and Events at the Library.”**
  - **Monday, December 4, 6:30 p.m.** **“City of Maryville Tree Lighting & Music,”** at the end of the Pedestrian Bridge across from the library (or, in the event of inclement weather, in the Reading Rotunda of the library).
  - **Monday, December 4, 7:30 p.m., “Santa at the Library!”** Children can have their pictures taken with Santa in the library. Photos are free. The event is sponsored by the City of Maryville, Blount County Parks and Recreation and hosted by the Blount County Public Library.

- **Tuesday, December 5, 7 p.m., “*Holiday Scenes From Stage and Film,*”** performed by the **Maryville High School Drama Students** under the direction of **Clarissa Feldt**, in the Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery of the library.
- **Wednesday, December 6, 11 a.m., “*Clayton Bradley Academy Singers,*”** directed by **Lisa Kosier**, in the Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery of the library.
- **Thursday, December 7, 11 a.m., “*Alcoa Middle School Chorus,*”** directed by **Trent Gilmore**, in the Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery of the library.
- **Monday, December 11, 2 p.m., “*William Blount High School Cadence Choir,*”** directed by **Carol Bellgrau**, in the Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery of the library.
- **Tuesday, December 12, 11 a.m., “*Heritage Middle School 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir,*”** directed by **Tyler Owens**, in the Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery of the library.
- **Tuesday, December 12, 12 p.m., “*William Blount High School Singers,*”** directed by **Carol Bellgrau**, in the Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery of the library.
- **Tuesday, December 12, 2:30 p.m., “*William Blount High School Beginning Choir,*”** directed by **Carol Bellgrau**, in the Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery of the library.
- **Wednesday, December 13, 11:45 a.m., “*Heritage Middle School 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir,*”** directed by **Tyler Owens**, in the Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery of the library.
- **Wednesday, December 13, 1:30 p.m., “*William Blount High School Concert Choir,*”** directed by **Carol Bellgrau**, in the Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery of the library.
- **Thursday, December 14, 1:30 p.m., “*Eagleton Elementary School Choir,*”** directed by **James R. Gann, Jr.**, in the Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery of the library.
- **Friday, December 15, 11 a.m., “*Carpenters Elementary School Choir,*”** directed by **Rachel Owens**, in the Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery of the library.

**Save the Date:**

- **Saturday, January 13, 11 a.m., “*Puccini’s Turandot Opera,*”** directed by **Maestro Brian Salesky**. This opera, still among the world’s finest operas and one that made Luciano Pavarotti famous, was originally bereft of its final scene due to Puccini’s untimely death and had to be completed by a “mere mortal.” The opera tells the story of Princess Turandot and her plan to remain unmarried by forcing potential suitors to answer three riddles. Until Prince Calaf arrives, all suitors have met their deaths by answering the riddles incorrectly. Although even the king, Turandot’s father, beg Prince Calaf not to ring the gong signaling his attempt to answer the riddles and win Princess Turandot in marriage, the Prince proceeds with the challenge. The performance at the library will have stage sets, props and artists to perform a “mini” version of the opera as an educational program for the library audience, children and adults. Following the performance, Maestro Salesky and the artists will answer questions from the audience. The performance will be in the Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery. (In the event that the library is closed due to inclement weather on January 13, the opera will be performed the following Saturday, January 20, at 11 a.m.)

**NEW EVENTS: Phone (865) 982-0981 or (865) 273-1428 (See recurring events below the new events)**

- **Through January 31, “Coats for the Community.”** The Blount County Public Library and Blount County Fire Department invite you to donate new or gently used winter coats, sweaters, hats, gloves and scarves. Two donation barrels are located inside the library’s main gallery front doors, near the circulation check-in desk. Thank you for participating in this needed program. For further information, check the website <http://www.blountfire.org/coats-for-our-community.html>
- **Thursdays, November 30, Dec. 7 and 14, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. “Affordable Care Act Health Care Enrollment.”** A certified counselor will be at the library to meet with individuals and families to help with registration for the Affordable Care Act. An **appointment is required** by calling 1-844-644-5443, or you can visit [www.GetCoveredTenn.org](http://www.GetCoveredTenn.org) ACA will meet in Dorothy Herron Room B, with the exception of Thursday, December 7, ACA will meet from 3-5 p.m. in Dorothy Herron Room B and from 5-7 p.m. in the Reference Area (Study Room A) of the library.
- **Monday, November 27, 7 p.m., “Southern Appalachian Studies Series: Stories From a Mountain Kid”** presented by **Roxanna Jones**, Director of Connectional Ministries, Fairview United Methodist Church. Everybody has a story and in Southern Appalachia storytelling has been honed to a fine art. Roxanna Jones has many great stories to tell. Get a jump start on the holiday season by listening to these personal stories about mountain living. This program will be presented in the Sharon Lawson Room.
- **Tuesday, November 28, 7 p.m., “ACA Health Plans & Lowering Your Costs.”** This program will cover options that will help to decrease costs in health insurance and will cover these topics:
  - Why & How this year is different!
  - Open Enrollment ends Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>
  - Overview of 4 Blue Cross/Blue Shield ACA plans
  - Tax Tips to qualify for affordable rates: HSA’s, IRA’s and more
  - How to set up a Health Savings Account or IRA
  - How to get an exemption to avoid penalty, if plans not affordable
  - Hints and how to get extra help, **844-644-5443**.

Presenters will be **Laura Sell**, THCC Volunteer & Moderator, **Andrew Bennett**, Owner/Agent, Insurance That Fits, a Tax Advisor, **Janine Stinnett, Sr.**, VP/Financial Advisor, Pinnacle and **Nick Meals**, Ingram, Overholt & Bean. This presentation will be in the Sharon Lawson Room of the library.

- **Saturday, Dec 2, 2:00 p.m., “Documentary + Discussion of I Am Not Your Negro.”** One of the most talked-about documentaries of recent years, “I Am Not Your Negro” is based on the work of author-activist James Baldwin and narrated by Samuel L. Jackson. Baldwin’s writing changed American literature, and his life and work intersected with some of the most influential and divisive people in the Civil Rights Movement. Co-sponsored by the Blount County United Education Committee and SURJ-Blount County, this Oscar-nominated documentary brings Baldwin’s voice vibrantly to life, encouraging renewed focus to the important racial history he wrote about. There will be two discussion sessions, one during an intermission and one after the film, which takes place in the Sharon Lawson Room.
  - **NOTE: This film is rated PG-13** for violent images (including scenes of beating, lynching and riots); for profanity (in a song during closing credits) and racist

- language; and for very brief nudity. The difficult subject matter is of clear cultural importance, but please consider very carefully whether to bring younger children to the film. Library staff can help parents research the film's content and ratings criteria.
- **Monday, December 4, 6:30 p.m., “City of Maryville Tree Lighting,”** at the end of the Pedestrian Bridge near The Daily Times building. If there is inclement weather, the ceremony will be conducted in the library's Main Gallery.
  - **Monday, December 4, 7:30 p.m., “Santa at the Library!”** Children can have their pictures taken with Santa in the library. Photos are free. The event is sponsored by the City of Maryville, Blount County Parks and Recreation and hosted by the Blount County Public Library.
  - **Tuesday, December 5, 7 p.m., “Holiday Scenes From Stage and Film,”** performed by **Maryville High School Drama Students** and directed by **Clarissa Feldt**, in the Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery of the library.
  - **Holiday Concerts at the Library:**
    - **Wednesday, December 6, 11 a.m., “Clayton Bradley Academy Singers,”** directed by **Lisa Kosier**, in the Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery of the library.
    - **Thursday, December 7, 11 a.m., “Alcoa Middle School Chorus,”** directed by **Trent Gilmore**, in the Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery of the library.
  - **Thursday, December 7, 6 p.m., “Southern Appalachian Studies Series: Stories from Cemeteries of the Smokies.** Author, **Gail Palmer, Ph.D.**, will tell some of the story behind the publication of “Cemeteries of the Smokies” and will relate stories about some of the people who lived there before formation of the Park, and who are buried there. A Blount County native, Dr. Palmer's connection to the Park is through her mother, Mary Sparks Palmer, related to the Sparks' families of Cades Cove. Light refreshments will be served. This Appalachian Studies program is in conjunction with Southland Books of Maryville and will be in Dorothy Herron Rooms A & B.
  - **Thursday, Friday and Saturday, December 7, 8 and 9, “Pre-Owned Book Sale.”** This fundraiser for the library offers more than 50,000 books available for sale—\$1 for soft cover and \$2 for hard cover, plus movies (DVD & VHS), audiobooks and specially priced rare books, collectibles and others—by the Friends of the Blount County Public Library (FOL):
    - **Thursday, December 7, 12 noon until 6 p.m., “Members Only Sale”** is an opportunity for FOL members to purchase books before other members of the public are admitted to the sale. FOL memberships are available at the elevator doors, before accessing the Library Lower Level.
    - **Friday and Saturday, December 8 and 9, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., “Pre-Owned Book Sale – Open to the Public”** in the Library Lower Level.
  - **Holiday Concerts at the Library:**
    - **Monday, December 11, 2 p.m., “William Blount High School Cadence Choir,”** directed by **Carol Bellgrau**, in the Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery of the library.
    - **Tuesday, December 12, 11 a.m., “Heritage Middle School 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir,”** directed by **Tyler Owens**, in the Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery of the library.
    - **Tuesday, December 12, 12 p.m., “William Blount High School Singers,”** directed by **Carol Bellgrau**, in the Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery of the library.

- **Tuesday, December 12, 2:30 p.m., “William Blount High School Beginning Choir,”** directed by Carol Bellgrau, in the Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery of the library.
- **Wednesday, December 13, 11:45 a.m., “Heritage Middle School 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir,”** directed by Tyler Owens, in the Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery of the library.
- **Wednesday, December 13, 1:30 p.m., “William Blount High School Concert Choir,”** directed by Carol Bellgrau, in the Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery of the library.
- **Thursday, December 14, 1:30 p.m., “Eagleton Elementary School Choir,”** directed by James R. Gann, Jr., in the Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery of the library.
- **Friday, December 15, 11 a.m., “Carpenters Elementary School Choir,”** directed by Rachel Owens, in the Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery of the library.
- **Saturday through Tuesday, December 23, 24, 25 & 26, “Library Closed for Winter Holiday.”**
- **Monday, January 1, “Library Closed for New Year’s Day.”**
- **Monday, January 8, 6:30 p.m., “Fiscal Fitness: Homeowner’s Insurance”** will be presented by **Charlotte Chance**, Agency Owner, Farmers Insurance. Buying a home is likely the largest investment most of us will make in our lifetime. So, how do we protect this large and important investment? How do we make sure we are protected in the event of an accident or a natural disaster? Homeowners Insurance not only protects your investment, but it is also often required by the lender of your mortgage. Do you understand the basic parts of homeowner’s insurance, what it covers, how to best use it when needed and how important it is to your lender? Charlotte Chance has 20 years of experience in the financial and insurance industry. This program will be in the Kathy Pagles Board Room at the library.
- **Saturday, January 13, 11 a.m., “Puccini’s Turandot Opera,”** directed by **Maestro Brian Salesky**. This opera, still among the world’s finest operas and one that made Luciano Pavarotti famous, was originally bereft of its final scene due to Puccini’s untimely death and had to be completed by a “mere mortal.” The opera tells the story of Princess Turandot and her plan to remain unmarried by forcing potential suitors to answer three riddles. Until Prince Calaf arrives, all suitors have met their deaths by answering the riddles incorrectly. Although even the king, Turandot’s father, beg Prince Calaf not to ring the gong signaling his attempt to answer the riddles and win Princess Turandot in marriage, the Prince proceeds with the challenge. The performance at the library will have stage sets, props and artists to perform a “mini” version of the opera as an educational program for the library audience, children and adults. Following the performance, Maestro Salesky and the artists will answer questions from the audience. The performance will be in the Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery. (In the event that the library is closed due to inclement weather on January 13, the opera will be performed the following Saturday, January 20, at 11 a.m.)
- **Monday, January 15, “Library Closed in Honor of Martin Luther King Day.”**
- **Saturday, January 20, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., “Smart Bicycling Skills for Adults (16+),”** presented by **Donna Dixon**, with the Jeff Roth Cycling Foundation, using the League of American Bicyclist BikeEd Program. This course combines online instruction with parking lot and on-road practice of vehicular bicycling principles. **Preregistration is required: email: [donnasuedixon@hotmail.com](mailto:donnasuedixon@hotmail.com) or call Smoky Mountain Wellness at 865-803-8887.**

For more information about the Jeff Roth Foundation and to learn more about the League of American Bicyclists, go to [www.jeffrothcyclingfoundation.org](http://www.jeffrothcyclingfoundation.org) For certification, the course begins with participants completing an online, self-guided course. **The Certificate of Completion must be printed by the participant and brought to the biking skills course.** The Smart Bicycling Skills course will be held at the Blount County Public Library's Learning Lab @ BCPL Parking Lot.

- **Saturday, January 20, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every other month)** *"Appalachian Reads."* The book group will read and discuss works of Southern Appalachian authors. Sharyn McCrumb's *King's Mountain* will be the topic of this meeting, facilitated by A. J. Coulter. Sponsored by Friends of the Library, meetings will be held the third Saturday of every other month in Dorothy Herron Room A.
- **Wednesday, January 24, 11 a.m., "Managing Photo Collections and Digitizing Items"** will be presented by **Wil Davenport**. If you have boxes and boxes of photographs – or many albums assembled, and don't know what to do with them so that you can leave a legacy for your children, you are invited to attend this presentation. Please bring your laptop, if you have one, to the program. Davenport will offer suggestions for organizing photograph collections, digitally, and will suggest different types of software that can be used. Part of the Focus on Seniors series, this presentation is co-sponsored by the Blount County Public Library and the Blount County Office on Aging and will be in the Sharon Lawson Room of the library.
- **Saturday, January 27, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., "One Book Blitz Festival"** will be held at the library, in cooperation with the Maryville City Schools, Alcoa City Schools and Blount County Schools. Activities and events will include a movie, vendors, games, book distribution and more. This event will be conducted in multiple rooms at the Blount County Public Library.
- **Saturday, January 27, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., "Pop-Up Book Sale."** Blount County Friends of the Library will offer pre-owned books for sale in the Entry Rotunda of the library
- **Monday, January 29, 7 p.m., "Southern Appalachian Studies Series: Little River Railroad and Lumber Company."** Neal Stone will discuss the history, influence and impact of the Little River Railroad and Lumber Company upon the local economy and peoples. This program will be in the Sharon Lawson Room of the library.

**RECURRING EVENTS: Phone (865) 982-0981 or (865) 273-1428**

- **Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m. until 8:30 pm., "Dungeons & Dragons."** All ages (12 and up) and skill levels can join in the fun of this tabletop role-playing game by learning about D&D and sharing your love of fantasy gaming! Coordinated by **Brandon Clackum**, a Maryville City Schools teacher, this group meets in the Reading Rotunda at the end of the Main Gallery (but may move to another area, depending on other events).
- **Tuesdays, 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m., "Tech Time."** Need help with technology and don't know where to start? Tech Time is designed to be a space to get your questions answered and set you on the path you need for technology success! Having trouble with **email**? Can't find what you need on the **internet**? Curious about **Facebook, Twitter or Pinterest**? Need help with **eBooks**? Bring your technology questions and get assistance from a Tech Time facilitator. Tech Time will be held in Study Room A in the Reference area of the library.
- **Thursdays, November 30, Dec. 7 and 14, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. "Affordable Care Act Health Care Enrollment."** A qualified Navigator will be at the library to meet with individuals and

families to help with registration for the Affordable Care Act. **An appointment is required by calling 1-844-644-5443, or you can visit [www.GetCoveredTenn.org](http://www.GetCoveredTenn.org)** ACA will meet in Dorothy Herron Room B, with the exception of Thursday, December 7, ACA will meet from 3-5 p.m. in Dorothy Herron Room B and from 5-7 p.m. in the Reference Area of the library.

- **NO “Blount County Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting”** in December.
- **Thursday, December 21, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month), “Adult Coloring.”** Remember the carefree joy of picking up your favorite crayon or marker and adding color to a beautiful picture? Experience the same fun and relaxation even though you are now an adult! For this program, sponsored by the Blount County Friends of the Library, participants (**teens and older**) can bring their own coloring books and materials, or you can select from a variety of intricate adult coloring pages and utilize coloring supplies provided at the library. Just show up at the library at 7 p.m., on the third Thursday of every month, select a fun design and color away to your heart’s content. This program will be in Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery.

### **Tennessee R.E.A.D.S. HELP!**

If you have an e-reader, tablet or other device, you may check out e-books, audiobooks and streaming movies from Tennessee R.E.A.D.S., through the library website. You can seek personalized help by calling the Reference Desk at (865) 982-0981, ext. 302, or (865) 273-1428 to schedule a time for an appointment or attend a Tech Time session (check monthly calendar for day and time) for help. To set up access to download e-books, audiobooks and materials from the library, bring these items:

- **library card in your name and in good standing,**
- **your device (fully charged),**
- **email account user name and password,**
- **Kindles e-readers: Amazon sign-in and password**

You are ready to enjoy your Tennessee R.E.A.D.S. experience!

### **COMPUTER COURSES:**

**For more information, go to the Blount County Public Library Reference Desk or call (865) 273-1428 or (865) 982-0981, ext. 4.**

### **TECH TIME – in Study Room A/Reference Area:**

**Tuesdays, 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m., “Tech Time.”** Need help with technology and don’t know where to start? Tech Time is designed to be space to get your questions answered and set you on the path you need for technology success! Having trouble with **email**? Can’t find what you need on the **internet**? Curious about **Facebook, Twitter or Pinterest**? Need help with **eBooks**? Bring your technology questions and get assistance from a Tech Time facilitator. Tech Time will be held in Study Room A in the Reference area of the library.

## Microsoft Computer Courses: Registration Required



Free computer classes are offered in Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint (2016) and Email. **Check back for future class dates and times in 2018.** Receive an opportunity to gain a nationally recognized certificate from Northstar Digital Literacy. Seeking employment? At end of each class session receive résumé help, online job searches, online applications, practice interview skills or create and update LinkedIn account. Course descriptions and schedules are listed below. The free classes meet in the Blount County Public Library's new Learning Lab (outside the library in the former First Tennessee Bank branch building). Spaces are limited and registration is required. (If a person desires to enroll in the Microsoft courses but has had no computer experience, you will need to practice using a mouse before you may enroll. Listed are a few practice websites available: <http://www.mouseprogram.com/> and <http://www.pbclibrary.org/mousing/mousecise.htm>)

*The free computer courses are offered through a partnership between the Blount County Public Library and the Adult Education Foundation of Blount County and made possible by generous funding from the ARCONIC Foundation.*

**Microsoft Word 2016 Essentials** – This free class offers a general orientation to Word 2016, including topics such as toolbars/ribbons, shortcuts, save/save as, files/folders, selecting text, moving text, drag and drop, editing, formatting, spell check/thesaurus, page setup, line spacing, the ruler, navigating, changing margins, changing case, word count, bullets/numbering and attachments.

**Time:** To Be Announced (TBA).

**Dates:** *This is a 2-session class, so plan to attend both sessions. Please bring a USB Drive. Check back for upcoming dates TBA in 2018.*

**Microsoft Excel 2016 Essentials** – This free class is an introduction to Excel 2016. Topics include toolbars/ribbons; navigation; entering text and formulas; editing and viewing worksheets; introduction to formulas and functions; formatting the contents of cells; changing the appearance of worksheets; changing column width and row height; auto complete; fill series; selecting cell ranges; move and copy shortcuts; inserting/deleting columns and rows; inserting/deleting worksheets; renaming worksheets; and moving worksheets.

**Time:** TBA.

**Dates:** *This is a 2-session class, so plan to attend both sessions. Please bring a USB Drive. Check back for upcoming dates TBA in 2018.*

**Microsoft PowerPoint 2016 Essentials** – This free class will provide students with the skills needed to produce a professional-looking presentation. Topics include editing, outlining, drawing, graphing, images, and presentation management functions.

**Time:** TBA

**Dates:** *This is a 2-session class, so plan to attend both sessions. Please bring a USB Drive.*

Check back for upcoming dates TBA in 2018.

**Email How-to's** - An Intro to Email class will discuss how to register for a new email account, create a username and secure password, send and reply to emails, etc. This class will also include instruction on attaching files, moving and deleting emails, email etiquette, as well as pitfalls to avoid when using email, such as opening files with viruses. Online assessment will be given at the end of class.

**Time:** TBA.

**Dates:** *This is a single session class. Please bring a USB Drive.*

Check back for upcoming dates TBA in 2018.

### **Paid Internship Program for Young Adults: Registration Required**



*The ARCONIC Global Internship Program is made possible through a generous grant from the ARCONIC Foundation. It is provided by the Adult Education Foundation of Blount County, Blount Partnership, and the Blount County Public Library.*

### **Paid Internship Program for Young Adults Interested in Manufacturing Careers:**

Are you between the **ages of 18 – 26** and would you like to get **paid to intern** at a local manufacturer? **Check back for future dates and times to be announced** to gain training and real-world, hands-on manufacturing experience with the possibility of getting hired permanently. Spaces are limited and registration is required.

**The program consists of three components:**

- 1) **3 weeks of *Workforce Readiness Training***
  - *Training* will run for specific periods of time, with another session beginning soon, Monday through Friday. During this time participants will receive training in skills needed to obtain and maintain a job in the manufacturing field. Participants will receive a \$300 stipend upon completion of this component.
- 2) **100 hours of hands-on manufacturing experience interning with a Blount County manufacturer**
  - *The Internship* will be at a local manufacturer where participants will be paid \$10/hr. for 100 hours, get hands-on job experience, and potentially get certifications such as forklift operation.
- 3) **2 half-days of *Follow-up, Career Fair and Graduation***
  - **Participants then return** for *Follow-up, Career Fair and Graduation*. Participants will receive a \$40 stipend upon completion of this component.

**Participants must complete all three components.**

## **TEEN PROGRAMS – Phone (865) 273-1414:**

### **Special Programs:**

- **Saturday, Dec 2, 2:00 p.m., “Documentary + Discussion of *I Am Not Your Negro*.”** One of the most talked-about documentaries of recent years, “I Am Not Your Negro” is based on the work of author-activist James Baldwin and narrated by Samuel L. Jackson. Baldwin’s writing changed American literature, and his life and work intersected with some of the most influential and divisive people in the Civil Rights Movement. Co-sponsored by the Blount County United Education Committee and SURJ-Blount County, this Oscar-nominated documentary brings Baldwin’s voice vibrantly to life, encouraging renewed focus to the important racial history he wrote about. There will be two discussion sessions, one during an intermission and one after the film, which takes place in the Sharon Lawson Room.
  - **NOTE: This film is rated PG-13** for violent images (including scenes of beating, lynching and riots); for profanity (in a song during closing credits) and racist language; and for very brief nudity. The difficult subject matter is of clear cultural importance, but please consider very carefully whether to bring younger children to the film. Library staff can help parents research the film’s content and ratings criteria.
- **Saturday, Dec. 9, 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. (2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month), “Gaming @ Your Library.”** Games of all kinds! Board games, Wii Sports, Super Smash Bros., MarioKart, or bring your own Wii or tabletop game to share. There will be multiple screens to multiply the fun. Bring friends! Gaming will take place in the Sharon Lawson Room.
- **Thursday, Dec. 14, 6 p.m., “Star Wars Episode VII: The Force Awakens.”** The best way to get even more pumped for the release of the newest Star Wars film, “Episode VIII: The Last Jedi” is to review the previous installment in the saga! Join fellow fans to cheer on Rey, Finn and Poe (or hiss at Kylo, General Hux and Captain Phasma). This film is rated PG-13 for “sci fi-action violence,” including scenes of intense (but rarely bloody) fighting. It screens in the Sharon Lawson Room.

### **Regular Teen Events:**

- **Thursdays, 1 p.m. until 4 p.m., “Play Chess at the Library.”** All Ages are invited to play chess (or learn how to play) most Thursdays in the Teen Central area of the library.
- **Once per month: “Sanctioned Chess Tournament,”** is held at the library in the Teen Central Area.
- **Saturdays, 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., “Play Chess at the Library.”** All Ages are invited to play chess (or learn how to play) most Saturdays in the Teen Central Area of the library. On one Saturday of every month, there will be a rated tournament at the Blount County Public Library.
- **Sundays, December 3 and December 17, 2 p.m. until 3 p.m. (Meets every other Sunday of each month), “Teen Writers Group.”** Calling all writers! If you’re looking for inspiration, motivation, feedback or camaraderie, this is your group. Teenagers are invited to join writing colleagues for discussion and inspiration. The Teen Writing Group, coordinated by **Hannah Spirko**, meets in the Boardroom. Follow the library on Facebook for dates for the Teen Writers Group.
- **There will be NO, Blount County Nerd Group, for the month of December. It will resume on Saturday, January 6, 2018.** Saturdays, 2:30 p.m. until 4 p.m., “Blount County Nerd Group.” Teens can learn the basic principles of computer programming, also

known as coding. By participating in the Blount County Nerd Group, students seventh grade and up can learn coding skills, such as making simple games, developing professional websites and creating mobile apps. Experienced web developers, **Kaleb Davenport** and **Garrett Smith** are students at local high schools who have worked very hard to learn about many different technologies and are excited to share their expertise with local teens. In the constantly changing job market, coding is a huge advantage for students and job seekers. Participating students are encouraged to bring their own devices, including a laptop. However, students who do not have adequate technology will be provided a laptop by the library. The Nerd Group meets in the Board Room.

- **Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m. until 8:30 pm., “Dungeons & Dragons”** All ages (12 and up) and skill levels can join in the fun of this tabletop role-playing game by learning about D&D and sharing your love of fantasy gaming! Coordinated by **Brandon Clackum**, this group normally meets in the Reading Rotunda at the end of the Main Gallery (but may move to another area, depending on other events).
- **Saturday, Dec. 9, 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. (2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month), “Gaming @ Your Library.”** Games of all kinds! Board games, Wii Sports, Super Smash Bros., MarioKart, or bring your own Wii or tabletop game to share. There will be multiple screens to multiply the fun. Bring friends! Gaming will take place in the Sharon Lawson Room.

**CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS: Phone: (865) 273-1414**

**Special Programs for Children (Preschool through Tween)**

- **Saturday, Dec. 16, 10:30 a.m.: “Sensory Movie Fun with Star Wars!”** If your little ones – or bigger ones! – struggle with the stillness and quiet expected at a movie theater, or if they find the darkened room or loud sound system of a commercial cinema overstimulating, this new family event is for you! Enjoy “LEGO Star Wars: The Yoda Chronicles” without the pressures of stillness and silence, and with a low, constant light level. LEGOs will be set up in part of the room to add to the fun and give short attention spans an extra way to engage. Everyone is welcome! The movie will be shown in the Sharon Lawson Room.
- **Saturday, Dec. 30, 10:30 a.m., “Family Storytime: Noon Year’s Eve.”** Ring out the old year and ring in 2018 a little early! Bring the whole family out for stories, songs, movement and activities that are fun for all ages and that help encourage important early literacy skills. Join Chelsea for a “Noon Year’s Eve” party with music, stories and crafts in the Children’s Library.
- **Save the Date: Mon., Jan. 8, “One Book Blitz.”** Last year, local schools teamed up to read the beloved classic “Charlotte’s Web.” In 2018, it’s happening again! The book is top secret, but rest assured that the library, the schools and many local businesses have lots of fun activities planned around a book that young readers will love. The big announcement of the title happens on Jan. 8, and the events and activities will occur throughout the month!
- **Saturday, January 27, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., “One Book Blitz Festival”** will be held at the library, in cooperation with the Maryville City Schools, Alcoa City Schools and Blount County Schools. Activities and events will include a movie, vendors, games, book distribution and more. This event will be conducted in multiple rooms at the Blount County Public Library.

### **Elementary Age Activities:**

**Please Note! There will be NO regular programming in the Children’s Library from December 18 through January 7. STEAMkids and LEGO Club will resume the week of January 8.**

- **Tuesdays, 4 p.m. until 5 p.m., “LEGO Club,” for Grades K-5,** will take place in the Children’s Library. Kids will complete different-themed and timed LEGO Challenges, as well as have some time for free building. The library will provide the LEGOs, so all you have to bring is your imagination.
- **Fridays, 4 p.m. until 5 p.m., “STEAMkids,” for Grades K-5.** Every week will be a different adventure, from hands-on science experiments to art projects and everything in between. Materials may be limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Unless otherwise noted, STEAMkids takes place in the Children’s Library.
  - **Dec. 1: Keep Blount Beautiful.** On the first Friday of the month, community partner Keep Blount Beautiful brings a special “green” craft activity to STEAMkids. This month, recycle aluminum cans into lovely winter ornaments.
  - **Dec. 8: Home Depot** will bring a special building activity to STEAM kids! To get youngsters ready for the winter season, make gingerbread yardsticks and stamped wrapping paper.
  - **Jan. 12: One Book Blitz Meets STEAMkids!** In January, the library is joining local schools in again celebrating a beloved children’s book. STEAMkids will have science, arts and tech activities themed to the book, which will be revealed January 8.
- **Thursdays, 1 p.m. until 4 p.m., “Play Chess at the Library.” All Ages** are invited to play chess (or learn how to play) most Thursdays in the Teen Central area of the library.
- **Once per month: “Sanctioned Chess Tournament,”** is held at the library in the Teen Central Area.
- **Saturdays, 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., “Play Chess at the Library.” All Ages** are invited to play chess (or learn how to play) most Saturdays in the Teen Central Area of the library. On one Saturday of every month, there will be a rated tournament at the Blount County Public Library.

### **Growing Ready Readers -- Early Literacy Programs:**

The Blount County Public Library is committed to growing ready readers and equipping caregivers with the tools they need to help their child be school-ready. Check the Blount County Public Library website ([www.blountlibrary.org](http://www.blountlibrary.org)) or stop by the Children’s Library for more information on supplemental literacy activities for caregivers and early literacy programming for our youngest patrons.

**Please Note! There will be NO regular programming in the Children’s Library from December 18 through January 7 with the exception for Family Storytime: Noon Year’s Eve, see below. Regular Storytimes will resume the week of January 8.**

- **Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:30 a.m., “Little Learners,” recommended for ages 3-5.** Interactive sessions focus on language acquisition and pre-literacy skills incorporating stories, music, motion, play, crafts and more in the Children’s Library.

- **Wednesdays, 10 a.m. and 11 a.m., “Baby and Me,” recommended for ages 2 and under.** These lapsit sessions for baby and caregiver feature short stories, action rhymes, music and pre-literacy tips and tricks for caregivers. It is also a great time for caregivers and babies to socialize! These sessions are in the Children’s Library.
- **Tuesday, Nov. 28, 6 p.m., “Sensory Story Time: Water,”** An interactive story time with stories, songs, movement and activities designed to increase early literacy skills and provide a safe and open space for children and families to learn and interact. Open to children of all abilities, but especially designed for kids with special needs between the developmental ages of 3-5. Sensory Storytime takes place in the Children’s Library.
- **Saturday, Dec. 30, 10:30 a.m., “Family Storytime: Noon Year’s Eve.”** Ring out the old year and ring in 2018 a little early! Bring the whole family out for stories, songs, movement and activities that are fun for all ages and that help encourage important early literacy skills. Join Chelsea for a “Noon Year’s Eve” party with music, story and crafts in the Children’s Library.

### **Library Tours and Outreach**

Please call the Children’s Library at (865) 273-1414 or email [jspirko@blounttn.org](mailto:jspirko@blounttn.org) to schedule tours for your group, class or organization. Also if you would like a librarian to come to your class, community event, or parent night and share about awesome library resources and services for patrons ages 0-18, please get in touch!

### **EXHIBITS & COLLECTIONS:**

#### **December 1 to 31:**

- **“Letters to Santa: The Roaring 20’s Exhibit,”** by Information Services Department will be in the Genealogy display case at Temporary Books Shelves.
- **“Letters to Santa: The Roaring 20’s” Christmas Tree** in the Genealogy area of the library. Read what local children asked Santa for during the 1920’s and see what someone the age of your great-grandma wanted for Christmas when she was 7 years old!
- **“Holiday Surprises!” Exhibit** by Information Services in the Teen Central area of the library. Find a holiday-themed book to read, maybe even a vampire holiday book ....
- **“WWII Christmas Cards” Exhibit,** by Wes Beaver, will be in two mid-gallery display cases near the Magazine Shelves in the Main Gallery of the Library.
- **“Holiday Exhibit”** in the square pedestal display case near the Audio Visual (AV) area in the Main Gallery.
- **“Heritage Dickens Village” Exhibit** donated to the library by Martha Black and displayed in the Bookmark Café exhibit case.
- **“Christmas Exhibit”** by Information Services located in the Reference Area of the library. Grab a rocking chair, book, relax by the fire and find a moment of peace during the hectic holiday days.
- **“Jim Joyce Photographs” Exhibit,** by Jim Joyce, will be on the Art Wall at the Bookmark Café.
- **“Blount County Middle Schools Student Art” Exhibit,** coordinated by Marsha Krout, on the Art Panels at the Reading Rotunda end of the Main Gallery, in one vertical display case near the Audio Visual (AV) area in the Main Gallery, and in one square pedestal display case in the Entry Rotunda of the library.

- **“Computer Clocks” Exhibit**, by **Bill Cochran**, will be in the vertical display case in the nook of the wall at the end of the Circulation Check-In Desk of Main Gallery.
- **“Blount County Arts and Crafts Guild Member Art” Exhibit**, coordinated by **Lyda Plemons**, will be on two easels in the sitting area of the Main Gallery.
- **“Confederate Civil War Submarine: Working Scale Model” Exhibit**, donated to the library by **Lee Reynolds**, will be on the Magazine Counter in the Main Gallery.

### **LIBRARY TOURS & COMMUNITY INFORMATION:**

- **Group Tours of the Main Library** and Reference Department may be scheduled by contacting Joan VanSickle Sloan at (865) 273-1408 or Kathleen Christy at (865) 273-1403 or (865) 982-0981, ext. 4.
- **Group Tours of the Children’s Library** may be scheduled by contacting Jennifer Spirko at the Children’s Check-out desk (865) 273-1414.
- **Community Information about Nonprofit Services or Fine Arts Events (flyers and brochures)** is available for the public on the Community Information wall at the Reference area of the library. If interested in displaying materials, contact Joan VanSickle Sloan at (865) 273-1408 or make an appointment to see her at the library.
- **Outreach programs** can be presented by the Library Director, Public Relations Manager, Information Services Manager or Youth Services Manager for civic organizations, community events, school fairs and special events or parent organizations. Call (865) 273-1408 (for adult presentations) or (865) 273-1414 (for children’s programs).

Open to the public, this program is hosted by the Blount County Public Library, located at 508 N. Cusick Street, Maryville, where services are an example of your tax dollars at work for you.

For further information about library programs or services, call the library at (865) 982-0981 or visit the Web site at [www.blountlibrary.org](http://www.blountlibrary.org). To sign up to receive a monthly calendar by email, go to the library’s Home Page and go to What’s Happening? on the Menu Bar. Then under News and Events click on Join Calendar Email List. Also check out Facebook at “Blount County Public Library,” Twitter at “Blount\_Library,” Pinterest and Instagram.    

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*Blount County does not discriminate based on race, color or national origin in federal or state sponsored programs, pursuant to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d).*