

# Library News

Volume 14 Issue 5  
May 2024

## Library Hours

9 a.m. - 8 p.m. Monday-Thursday

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Friday & Saturday

1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Sunday

## Contact Us

402-844-2100

[www.norfolkne.gov/library](http://www.norfolkne.gov/library)

## Find us on

FB: @NorfolkPublicLibraryNE

Instagram: @NPLreads

## GOLDEN SOWER KID FEST

**Friday, May 31. Events all day.**



Kickstart summer reading at the Norfolk Public Library's Golden Sower Kid Fest on May 31! Kids ages 8 and up can attend fun sessions and workshops and meet famous authors. It's free!

Meet Golden Sower nominated authors Bellen Woodard and Jasmine Warga. Attend interview sessions and young writer's studios, and enjoy book sales and autograph sessions.

Please note that only the young writer's studios require registration. All other sessions are open. Registration for the writer's studios begins May 1.

### Schedule of events:

9 am- 4 pm: Golden Sower Book Sale with Barnes and Noble

10-10:45 am: Bellen Woodard Author Reading and Talk

11-11:45 am: Bellen Woodard Young Writer's Studio (registration required)

1-1:45 pm: Jasmine Warga Author Talk

2-2:45 pm: Jasmine Warga Young Writer's Studio (registration required)

3-3:45 pm: Jasmine Warga Young Writer's Studio (registration required)

4-4:45 pm: Autograph Session with Golden Sower Authors



# WHAT'S NEW?

We're excited to kick off our summer programs with the Golden Sower Kid Fest. Kids can meet Golden Sower authors and sign up to take writing workshops with them, all at no cost.

Summer Reading Challenge signup starts May 13th. Read more about our new challenges in this newsletter.

We've got a podcast! Starting May 13, find our Check This Out podcast anywhere you listen to podcasts.

If you missed out on our spelling bee for adults this past winter, be sure to join us for our next event on June 3rd. Individual and team signup starts May 6th.

Youth events are on pause this month while we get ready for our kids' festival and summer programming. Fun new program additions include robotics camps led by Northeast Community College Innovation Hub instructors. Look for our summer program guides inside the library.



# SUMMER READING CHALLENGES & ACTIVITIES

## Your adventure begins May 13th

Our annual reading incentive challenge is back and better than ever! New this year—pick your challenge! Sign up for a traditional time-based challenge or our new reading adventure challenge. **Reading challenges are for all ages.** Sign up online beginning May 13th.

The Adventure Challenge offers 20 reading adventures to do over the summer. The emphasis is on the reading experience rather than the amount of time spent. There is an adventure challenge for ages 0 to 12 and a different set of adventures for teens and adults.

The Time Challenge is a traditional time-based reading record for all ages. The emphasis is on the amount of time spent reading.

For very young children, our traditional Pre-K Reading Record Challenge tracks the number of books read to the child.

All challenges offer incentive prizes! Finish half of the challenge to earn your Aquaventure pass. Complete the challenge to win a prize pack.

The first day to turn in your challenge for a prize is June 1st. The last day to turn in your reading challenge for a prize is August 3rd.

Summer activities and contests are for everyone. You do not need to sign up for a reading challenge to participate. All activities are free! Some programs may require registration. Check our online calendar for details.



## AVOIDING SCAMS & FRAUD ATTEMPTS

Wednesday, May 15 at 10 a.m.



Join Ryan Sothan from the Nebraska Attorney General's Office for this informative and free program. Mobile Office Hours for Attorney General Mike Hilgers will follow the program. These office hours allow citizens to ask questions, bring concerns, and engage with their state officials. No appointment is necessary.

## HOLIDAY CLOSURES

The library will be closed on the following days in observance of holidays:

Sunday, May 12: Mother's Day

Sunday and Monday, May 26-27, Memorial Day

Our digital library is always open for e-books and e-audiobooks. You can also return your book and media items using our drive-up return/drop off on the east side of the building.

## VIRTUAL AUTHOR TALKS

### Free virtual discussions with acclaimed authors

Register and watch from anywhere! The talks are recorded, so if you miss the live event, you can watch a recording later. To see upcoming talks and to register for the event link, visit our Digital Library on our website and click on "Author Talks."

May's talks are:

**Douglas Brunt, *The Mysterious Case of Rudolf Diesel*  
Wednesday, May 1 at 2 p.m.**

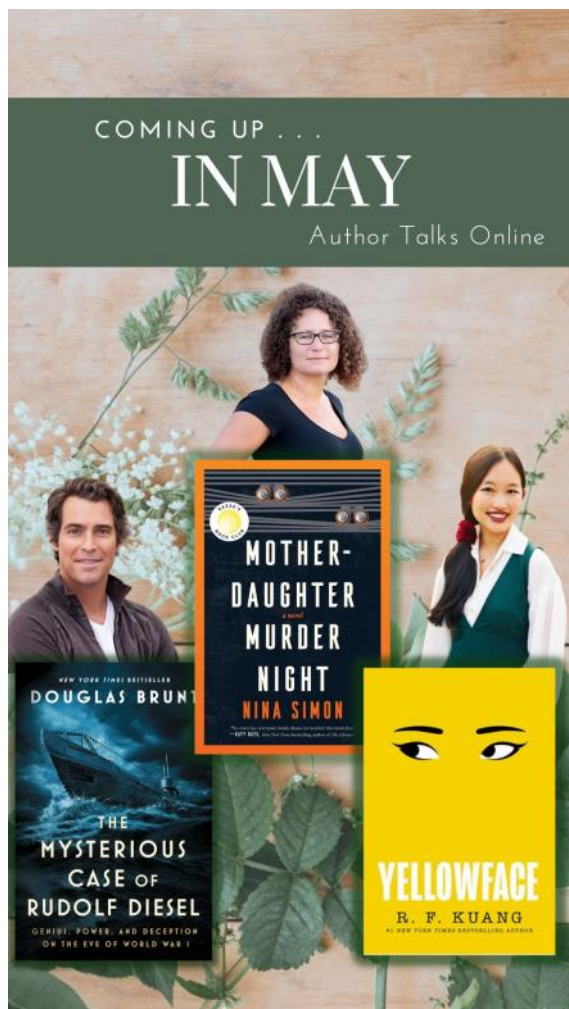
This instant bestseller reveals the hidden history of Rudolf Diesel, one of the world's great inventors, and his mysterious disappearance on the eve of World War I.

**Nina Simon, *Mother-Daughter Murder Night*  
Wednesday, May 8 at 6 p.m.**

Join Nina Simon online to chat about her lighthearted whodunnit about a grandmother-mother-daughter trio of amateur sleuths

**Rebecca F. Kuang, *Yellowface*  
Tuesday, May 21 at 6 p.m.**

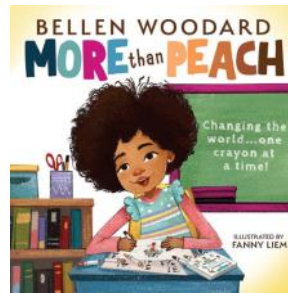
We're looking forward to a thrilling conversation with Rebecca F. Kuang (R.F.Kuang) as she chats with us about her *New York Times* bestselling novel, *Yellowface*.



# NOTEWORTHY

## GOLDEN SOWER KID FEST AUTHORS

### Bellen Woodard and Jasmine Warga



We are excited that two of the Golden Sower nominated authors will be visiting us to share insights about their books and lead youth writing workshops. This year's visiting authors are Bellen Woodard and Jasmine Warga.

Bellen Woodard is the world's first Crayon Activist and pioneer of "skin-color" crayons. She has transformed an entire industry with a first-of-its-kind innovative project and art brand. Her picture book, "More Than Peach," tells her story of how she spread the message that skin can be any number of beautiful colors.

Jasmine Warga is a #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of middle grade novels *Other Words For Home* and *The Shape of Thunder*. *A Rover's Story*, her Golden Sower nominated title, was an instant *New York Times* bestseller and named best book of the year by *Publishers Weekly* and *The Washington Post*.

**Bellen Woodard**

As the world's 1st Crayon Activist(R) and pioneer of "skin-color" crayons, Bellen has transformed an entire industry with a first-of-its-kind, innovative and inclusive project and art brand that have now become a global movement. It all began at age 8 with her story *More Than Peach*.

ILLUSTRATED BY TANNY LIEM

**GOLDEN SOWER KID FEST**

**Jasmine Warga**

Jasmine Warga is the #1 *New York Times*-bestselling author of middle grade novels *Other Words For Home*, *The Shape of Thunder*, and *A Rover's Story*, which was an instant *New York Times* bestseller and was named a best book of the year by *Publishers Weekly* and *The Washington Post*.

**GOLDEN SOWER KID FEST**

*The Golden Sower Award is Nebraska's children's choice award. Thousands of Nebraska students participate each year by reading the current nominees. Students who read at least four titles on one of the nominee lists are eligible to vote for their favorite on that list. There are three categories nominated: picture books, chapter books, and novels.*



## KIDS' CRAFT & STEM KITS TO GO

**Available Friday, May 3**

Kits are available at the service desk and our drive-up window while supplies last. Kids' craft kits are for ages 4 and up. This month's kit is a Mother's Day fingerprint craft kit. STEM kits are recommended for ages 6 and up. This month's STEM challenge is a paper helicopter. This is our last To-Go monthly kit. During the summer, we will host a weekly craft/STEM studio for ages 6-12. Registration will not be required, but the program is limited to 25 children, first-come, first-served.

## SPELLING BEE SIGNUP

**June 3 at 6 p.m. Registration opens May 6.**



Join us for an evening of friendly competition at our Spelling Bee for Adults (18+), hosted by local news anchor Eric McKay!

Teams of up to four compete in three rounds of 20 Adventure-themed words. Prizes for the first and second-place teams will be awarded. Sign up your team of 1-4 people by May 31. Registration opens on

May 6 on our online calendar. Registration is free. Spectators welcome!

## CHATS

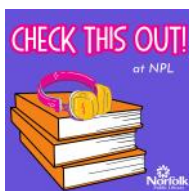
**Conversational English practice**

Improve your informal language skills. Chats are open to anyone wishing to practice their conversation skills in English. Participants should have a basic knowledge of the English language. Free! Chats will be taking a break over the summer, so be sure to join us this month on Monday, May 13, from 5:30-6:30 pm.



## CHECK THIS OUT

**New library podcast**



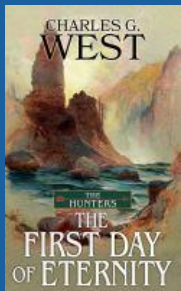
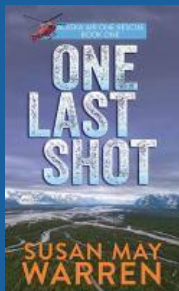
We're excited to announce the launch of our new library podcast, "Check This Out!" The first season is ten episodes that will come out weekly starting May 13. Find "Check This Out!" anywhere you listen to podcasts.

# CHECK IT OUT!

## Recent Acquisitions

Stop in to see what else is new!

### Large Print



### Movies



## KNOT JUST KNITTERS

May 11 & 25 at 2:30 p.m.

Do you enjoy handwork like weaving, crochet, or knitting? Bring a project and join us at Knot Just Knitters, an informal gathering of creators. Enjoy making friends and learning from each other.



## FREE ADULT PROGRAMS

Newcomers are always welcome!

**KNOT JUST KNITTERS:** Saturdays, May 11 & 25, at 2:30 p.m. This is a fun and friendly group for knitters, crocheters, weavers and handwork enthusiasts. Bring a project to work on and enjoy learning from each other and making new friends. Meets in the Activity Room.

**CREATIVE COLORING FOR ADULTS:** Enjoy an hour of relaxing coloring every Monday at 2:00 p.m. The library provides color pencils, coloring pages and books. This program is open to adults of all abilities. Meets in Meeting Room A.

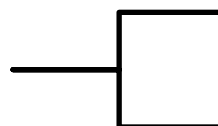
**TUESDAY NIGHT READS:** May 21 at 6:30 p.m. For adults, contact Anneka at 402-844-2100 for more information. This month's title is *The Candy House* by Jennifer Egan.

**WEDNESDAY MORNING BOOK CLUB:** May 29 at 10:00 a.m. For adults, contact Whitney at 402-844-2100 for more information. Meets in the Activity Room. This month's book is *Nomadland* by Jessica Bruder.

**VIRTUAL AUTHOR TALKS:** Free monthly author talks featuring bestselling, award-winning, and acclaimed authors from around the world. This month features Douglas Brunt, Nina Simon, and Rebecca F. Kuang. See the online event calendar to register for a session and send questions to the author.

**TECH TUTORING:** Get personalized, individual help to learn how computers and technology work. Schedule a session by contacting Mike at 402-844-2100.

**CHATS:** May 13 at 5:30 p.m. Chats is an hour of conversational English practice for English language learners. Participants should have a basic knowledge of the English language.

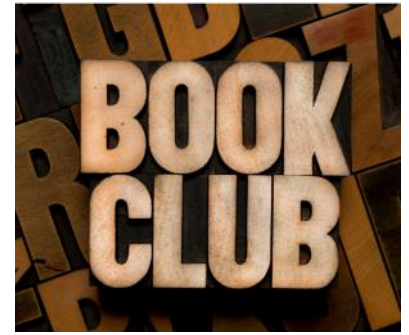


"There is no Frigate like a Book to

## ADULT BOOK CLUBS

### Read. Discuss. Repeat.

Love to read? Try one of our adult book clubs, Tuesday Night Reads or Wednesday Morning Book Club. Both clubs meet once a month and are free to join. Each has a unique reading list. There are no attendance requirements. Join in on the dates that work for you. Stop in the library for a reading list. All you need is a library card!



## FREE YOUTH PROGRAMS

**STORYTIME: *Storytime will return in June!*** Infants through age 8 are invited to enjoy a fun combination of books, songs, Spanish language experiences, storytelling, puppets, and creative early language and literacy activities. Storytime is a great introduction to library visits and literary experiences. Meets in the Youth Activity Room.

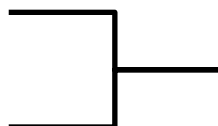
**TEEN BOOK CLUB:** Thursday, May 2, at 5:15 p.m. Teen Book Club is for any teenager who loves to read and talk about books. Group members select what books they want to read. Newcomers are always welcome. Contact Jessie in the Youth Services Department at 402-844-2100 or [jroberts@norfolkne.gov](mailto:jroberts@norfolkne.gov) for more information. This month's book is *A Rover's Story* by Jasmine Warga. Meets in the Youth Activity Room.

**COLORING FOR KIDS: *Will return next school year!*** For ages 6-15. Come relax and color using the provided materials! Meets in the Youth Activity Room.

**LEGO® TIME: *Last one for the school year!*** Monday, May 6, at 3:45 p.m. For those in kindergarten through 6th grade, this is a fun and creative opportunity to build imaginative, new projects using the library's LEGO® collection. Come see our new bricks, figures and accessories recently added to the collection. *Meets in Meeting Room A.*

**GOLDEN SOWER BOOK CLUB:** Monday, May 20, at 4:00 p.m. This is a book club for ages 8-12 whose reading selections come from titles nominated for the Golden Sower Award, Nebraska's Children's Choice Literary Award. All books are provided by the library, and newcomers are always welcome. Contact Jessie in the Youth Services Department at 402-844-2100 or [jroberts@norfolkne.gov](mailto:jroberts@norfolkne.gov) for more information. This month's book is *A Rover's Story* by Jasmine Warga. Golden Sower Book Club meets in the Youth Activity Room.

**1000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN:** Instill an early love of reading! Any child from birth until kindergarten can participate. Completion may take from a few months to a few years, depending on how often you read. The most important predictor of school success is being read to at home during early childhood. Children earn a free book and prize for every 100 books read. Just one book a day equals more than 1,000 in three years. The concept is simple, but the rewards are priceless!



# SAVE THE DATE!

## MAY 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			<b>1</b> 2pm Virtual Author Talk	<b>2</b> 5:15pm Teen Book Club	<b>3</b> (All Day) Kids' Craft & STEM Kits To Go	<b>4</b>
<i>Scheduled activities could change due to circumstances beyond our control.</i>						
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 2pm Creative Coloring for Adults 4pm LEGO Time	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 6pm Virtual Author Talk	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 2:30pm Knot Just Knitters
<b>12</b> Library Closed for Mother's Day	<b>13</b> Summer Reading Adventure Begins 2pm Creative Coloring for Adults 5:30pm Chats	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 10am Avoiding Scams & Fraud Attempts	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 2pm Creative Coloring for Adults 4pm Golden Sower Book Club	<b>21</b> 6pm Virtual Author Talk 6:30pm Tuesday Night Reads	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 2:30pm Knot Just Knitters
<b>26</b> Library Closed for Memorial Day	<b>27</b> Library Closed for Memorial Day	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 10am Wednesday Morning Book Club	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Golden Sower Kid Fest With Bellen Woodard and Jasmine Warga. Activities all day!	