



LIBRARY NEWS

North Chicago Public Library
2100 Argonne Drive, North Chicago, IL 60064
P: (847) 689-0125
Website: www.ncplibrary.org

April-May 2022

“Creating a City of Lifelong Learners”

Interview with Local Author and Longtime Patron Ebony Cox



Ebony Cox discusses her writing and why she values the library

How long have you been a patron of the NCPL?

EC: I moved to North Chicago in 2012, my son had just turned six. It was something for us to do on the weekends; we lived nearby and didn't have a car. We would walk to the library on weekends and rent movies and books, and it was a different way to spend quality time together. With him coming and having that joy and love for reading and books like I had when I was a kid, it was something that I was able to share with him from my childhood.

Who is your favorite author?

EC: Right now? J.K Rowling will always be in my top 5 because I am a lover of Harry Potter, but right now I really love Tiffany Jackson, she writes for young adults and teens.

I understand that you are an author yourself?

EC: I am! I have recently written two empowerment books, one for women, one for teenage girls. I am hoping to have my third book, solely written by myself, out at the end of 2022.

What inspired you to become an author?

EC: I've always been a writer. I've written poetry. When I moved to North Chicago as a teenager, my aunt introduced me to writing in my journals. It was something for me—just creating short stories—it inspired me, it gave me that calm and that peace, and I continued on with it. Somebody reached out to me a couple years ago saying they were working on this project and asked me if I would submit a story. At first, I was very hesitant, but then another friend pushed me, saying, “No, you should do it, you really have a story, you need to put that out there!” And from there, it was like, okay, what's next?

Interview with Ebony Cox ctd.

How often do you spend time writing? How long did it take to write your first manuscript?

EC: So for those [two books], they were books I was writing with other women that had these amazing stories and they were all compiled into a book. For myself, I try to write a couple times a week. Just generally getting things off my mind, it's something that helps me sleep. But to fully sit and write a book? It's taking me time. I don't want to rush it, and I really want to write when I'm feeling it and not just writing to produce. I want to write what I feel in my heart and what's very genuine. So this book, it's taking me a while, but I feel it's all going to be worth it.

If you had to speak to a young person who wants to be a writer, what advice would you give them?

EC: You keep producing whether or not you have all the tools to produce or don't feel like producing. In my case, if I don't feel like writing, I still write something. If [you] don't have a nice notebook to write in, still write. If [you] don't have a computer to write on, come to the library and write. Get a flash drive and just type. Don't worry about how it sounds, don't worry about editing, don't worry about any of that stuff, because it isn't going to matter until the project is complete anyway. You start with where you are and what you have, and you build upon that.

How would you describe the NCPL staff when you come here with your children to check out books?

EC: I would say welcoming. Even when I don't bring my kids, [the staff] ask me how they are doing. Being a single mom, my kids are a very big part of my life, so when someone takes the time to ask about my children or how I'm doing... or just remember small facts about you, it makes you feel good. It makes that sense of community that much more important, because there are people that aren't related to you, but they remember you and know your family.

So you would look at the library as being vital to the community?

Definitely. Definitely.

Interview with Ebony Cox ctd.

Would you recommend NCPL events to family and friends?

EC: I share them all the time. I'm not able to make it to them because I work during the day. But there are some things that you do for the younger children, and I feel like starting them off by letting them know how important books and things are—I think it needs to start from a very young age in order to build that up [for when they are older].

Is there anything else you would like to share with the community and library staff?

EC: I work with a local organization that was a part of revitalizing the library a few years back, and if you thought it was amazing before, you need to see it now! I am sitting in this beautiful room in the library now, which I think the community doesn't know about and needs to see more of. I think utilizing these spaces and working with these amazing people that are here to serve you in our community is something that we need to take advantage of more often.



Library Events

Note: Registration is required to attend events. To register, call 847-689-0125 or speak to a librarian.

Children/Teens

S.T.E.A.M. Zone for grades K-5

Every Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 3:00PM-4:30PM

After school, bring your kids to the library where we'll be having fun with educational activities involving science, technology, math, and more!

India Ink Drawing for Kids

Wednesday, April 6th, 2:00PM-4:00PM

We'll be doing an Indian Ink Drawing craft for your children to enjoy! All are welcome!

Bottle Cap Art for Kids

Wednesday, April 13th, 2:00PM-4:00PM

After school, bring your kids to the library where we'll be making bottle cap art!

Children's Color Easter Eggs and Story Time

Saturday, April 16th, 1:00PM-2:00PM

Need something for your children to do on Saturday? Bring them down to the library and we'll dye eggs for Easter!

Make a Poster & Sidewalk Chalk Art for National Child Abuse Prevention Month

Saturday, April 16th, 2:00PM-3:00PM

To recognize National Child Abuse Month, we'll be making posters and chalk art!

Kids' Make a Terrarium Craft

Wednesday, April 20th, 2:00PM-4:00PM

Bring your kids to the library after school where we'll be making nature terrariums out of soda bottles!

Kohl's Children's Museum

Wednesday, April 27th, 10:30AM-2:30PM

The Kohl's Pop-up Children's Museum will be making its monthly stop the last Wednesday of the month! Don't miss out!

Tie-Dye Gym Shoes for grades 5-8 (registration required)

Wednesday, April 27th, 2:00PM-4:00PM

Be sure to register well in advance and let us know your shoe size if you want to attend this program! We'll be tie-dyeing white shoes for your kids to take home and enjoy! For grades 5 through 8.

Children/Teens (ctd)

Mexican Folkloric Dancers

Saturday, May 7th, 1:00PM-1:30PM

The first Saturday of May, we'll be hosting the extremely talented Mexican Folkloric Dancing troupe, just as we do every year! These young people are extremely talented, so don't miss it!

Adults

Tuesday Movie Matinee: Odds Against Tomorrow

Tuesday, April 12th, 2:00PM-4:00PM

In need of quick money, a fallen former cop recruits a hard-bitten ex-con and a debt-ridden nightclub singer to pull off a bank job. But as the animosity between them boils over, the entire plan threatens to implode in this classic 1959 film starring Harry Belafonte.

Rosalind Franklin Health Clinic

Wednesday, April 13th, 1:00PM-4:00PM

The Rosalind Franklin mobile health clinic will be making its monthly visit to the library today.

Tuesday Movie Matinee: Blue Velvet

Tuesday, April 19th, 2:00PM-4:00PM

The discovery of a severed human ear found in a field leads a young man on an investigation related to a beautiful, mysterious nightclub singer and a group of psychopathic criminals who have kidnapped her child in David Lynch's breakout 1986 hit.

Tuesday Movie Matinee: Lone Wolf and Cub: Sword of Vengeance

Tuesday, April 26th, 2:00PM-4:00PM

Ogami Itto, the official Shogunate executioner, has been framed for disloyalty to the Shogunate by the Yagyu clan, against whom he now is waging a one-man war, along with his infant son in this 1972 Japanese cult classic. Subtitled.

Open Mic Poetry with Renowned Chicago Poet, Hoodrased

Thursday, April 28th, 4:00PM-6:00PM

For ages 15+. Come read your own poetry or just a poem that you love. Free refreshments will be provided. Sign-up starts at 3:45PM.

Adult Events (ctd)

Adult Book Club: Assata

Saturday, April 30th, 2:00PM-3:00PM

For adult book club this month, we will be reading the autobiography of former member of the Black Liberation Army, Assata Shakur.

Tuesday Movie Matinee: The Ruling Class

Tuesday, May 3rd, 2:00PM-4:00PM

A member of the House of Lords dies, leaving his estate to his son. Unfortunately, his son thinks he is Jesus Christ. Their other, somewhat more respectable, family members plot to steal the estate from him; murder and mayhem ensue in this 1972 cult classic.

Tuesday Movie Matinee: Planet of the Apes

Tuesday, May 10th, 2:00PM-4:00PM

An astronaut crew crash-lands on a planet in the distant future where intelligent talking apes are the dominant species, and humans are the oppressed and enslaved in this 1968 sci-fi classic.

Tuesday Movie Matinee: Cure

Tuesday, May 17th, 2:00PM-4:00PM

A frustrated detective deals with the case of several gruesome murders committed by people who have no recollection of what they've done in this unnerving Japanese horror film from 1997. Subtitled.

Tuesday Movie Matinee: Haxan

Tuesday, May 24th, 2:00PM-4:00PM

Fictionalized documentary showing the evolution of witchcraft, from its pagan roots to its confusion with hysteria in Eastern Europe in this classic silent film from 1922.

Tuesday Movie Matinee: Mikey and Nicky

Tuesday, May 31st, 2:00PM-4:00PM

Nicky is on the run from the mob, and he turns to old pal Mikey for help in this 1976 crime drama starring Peter Falk and John Cassavetes.

Adult Book Club: We Own This City

Saturday, May 28th, 2:00PM-3:00PM

For May's book club we will be reading the book "We Own This City," which details the real-life corruption scandal within the Baltimore police department and the rise and fall of the department's Gun Trace Task Force. Soon to be developed into an HBO series produced by David Simon of *The Wire*.



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STILL NEED A LIBRARY CARD??

It's easy! Bring *two* forms of identification to the Circulation Desk: one must be a photo ID (driver's license or State ID) and the second form must be a billing statement with your name and address, dated within the last two months.

Hours of Operation:

Monday-Thursday: 9:00 a.m. to 7:45 p.m.
Friday & Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.
Sundays: CLOSED



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