

[View our catalog for works by writer and civil rights activist James Baldwin](#)



Back to School at Durham County Library

Here at Durham County Library, we know how challenging going back to school can be for both kids and their caregivers. With that in mind, we'll be hosting a wide range of back to school-themed events throughout the month of August. See below for a selection of back-to-school events in August, and be sure to check out our calendar for [events for kids and families](#).

Kindergarten Club
Tuesdays and Thursdays in August, times vary
[North Regional Library](#)
[Registration Not Required](#)

Preparing for High School Success
Tuesday, August 12, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
[Main Library](#)
[Registration Required](#)

Touch-a-Bus with Durham Public Schools
Saturday, August 16, 10 - 11 a.m.
[North Regional Library](#)
[Registration Not Required](#)

Back to School Bash
Thursday, August 21, 4 - 5 p.m.
[East Regional Library](#)
[Registration Required](#)



Durham County Library Locations to Close Monday, September 1 for Labor Day

All Durham County Library locations will be closed on **Monday, September 1** in celebration of Labor Day. The holiday recognizes the contributions of workers and the American labor movement to the history of the United States. Take a look at our catalog for [booklists on Labor Day](#) curated by librarians! [Online resources](#) will still be available while our buildings are closed.



Library Staff Logo Contest: Staff vs. Patrons

Library Fest is Durham County Library's annual celebration of all things library! With the support of the [Durham Library Foundation](#), the [Friends of the Durham Library](#), and our community partners, our Library Fest events draw thousands of attendees from around North Carolina to celebrate everything that makes libraries great.

In 2026, the theme for Library Fest will be "The Stories That Built Us" in recognition of the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution. Before next April rolls around, however, we need to pick a logo for Library Fest! Each year, we accept logo submissions from members of the community and pick a winner that becomes the symbol for Library Fest. We're doing things a little differently this year with a friendly competition between patrons and Durham County Library team members!

Create a logo that reflects the theme Library Fest 2026: The Stories That Built Us. The entirety of the phrase "The Stories That Built Us" must be incorporated into the design. Non-digital submissions will have to be digitized if selected. Please [view our website](#) for additional design guidelines. Submissions are due by **Friday, August 15 at 5 p.m.**



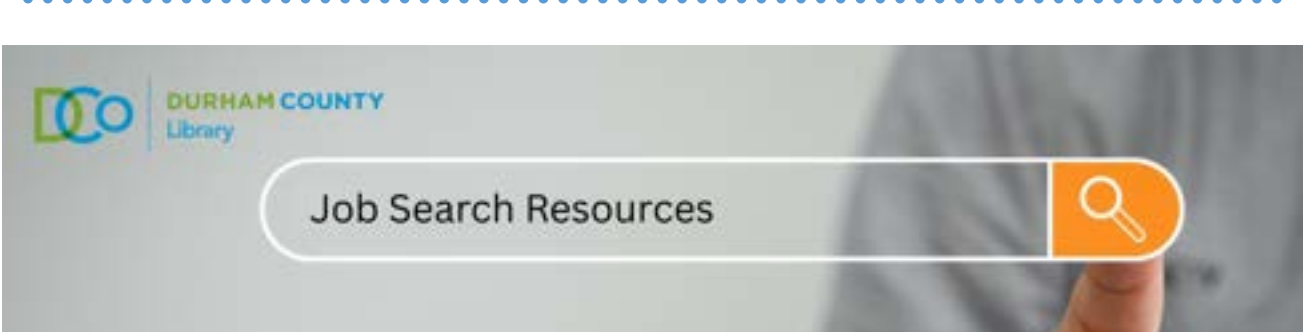
Color Our World: Summer Reading

Durham County Library's 2025 Summer Reading program has officially come to an end! As a reminder, the last day to submit reading logs is **Saturday, August 9 by 6 p.m.** when all library locations close (please note our [Bragtown Branch Library](#) is not open on Saturday). Remember that every completed reading log you submit can serve as an entry for a grand prize! Prize winners will be contacted directly on **Monday, August 11**, so be on the lookout for a message from your librarian. Thank you for participating!



Durham County Library Accessibility Services

Did you know about the fiber optic waterfall on the [fourth floor of Main Library](#)? How about the sensory tools available at every brick-and-mortar location in the system? Here at Durham County Library, we strive to make our spaces open and accessible to everyone. Check out the video below from our [Accessibility Services Coordinator](#), Jennifer Jamsky!



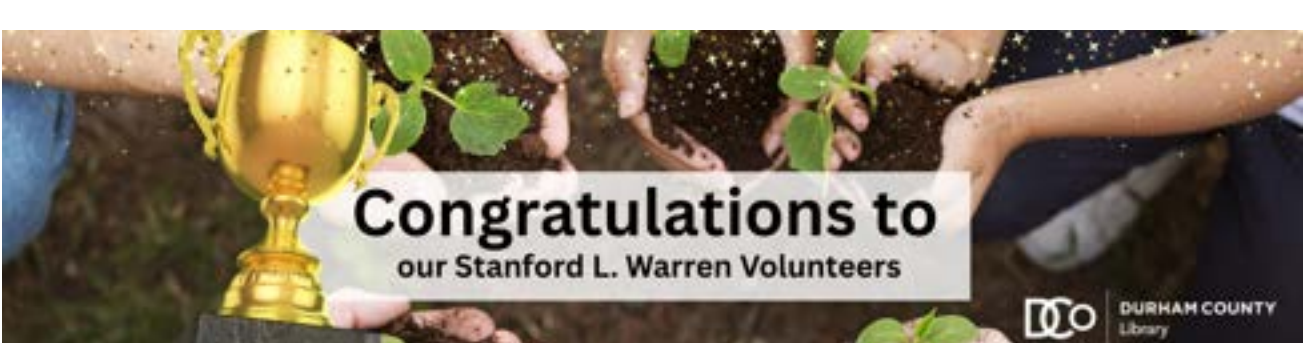
Job Search Resources from Durham County Library

Did you know Durham County Library has a wealth of resources to help you with your job search? Our [online job search resources](#) can help you prepare your resume, explore new careers, learn tips for the interview process, and acquire new skills. You may also be at the point in your life where you're ready to venture out and start your own business. Our [Small Business Center](#) at Main Library is here to help! [Attend a workshop](#) to hone your skills and build your network with Durham's small business community.



Durham County Library Recognized by INDY Week Magazine

The readers of INDY Week have spoken, and it turns out they really love Durham County Library! Our [Main Library](#) location was awarded [Best Co-Working Space](#) in Durham County, and the whole system was the runner-up in the [Best Use of Public Money](#) category. With our free Wi-Fi, public computers, and reservable study and meeting rooms, we make efficient use of public funds to deliver excellent co-working resources and other services to the community free of charge. Thank you, INDY Week, and thank you Durham!



Stanford L. Warren Branch Library Recognized for Garden Spaces

If you've stopped by our [Stanford L. Warren Branch Library](#) recently, you may have noticed a thriving native plant garden. In partnership with [NC State Extension Master Gardener volunteers](#), Stanford L. Warren library team members installed over 400 plants in October 2023 while renovations to the building were underway. We're not the only ones who appreciate all this natural beauty, because the garden just won third place in the demonstration garden category of the [2025 David Gibby International Master Gardener Search for Excellence](#)!

The "Piedmont Prairie" species were selected because they require minimal watering and maintenance. Since being planted nearly two years ago, the garden has required no supplemental watering, no fertilizer, and no pesticides. Two weeding sessions were all it took for this pollinator-friendly garden to continue thriving. Congratulations to our Stanford L. Warren Branch Library and the NC State Extension Master Gardener volunteers!



Friends of the Durham Library Highlights

Your Local Source for Affordable Books

In this back-to-school season, the Friends' online store is the place to go for some of the most affordable books in the Triangle. [Books Among Friends](#) is a great resource for teachers, school librarians, home schoolers, parents, and students given their low prices and eclectic selection of books. Shop online and pick up your purchases at Books Among Friends, [3825 S Roxboro St., Durham, NC 27715](#).

Hardcover books are \$5, softcover books are \$3, and children's books are between \$1 and \$3 each (plus tax). You will see some more expensive books in the store as some donated books have higher value; these are also available for online purchase and local pickup. Note that the monthly online category sale discount (see below) applies to these higher value books when purchased online.

August Online Sale Category: Fiction

Every month, [Books Among Friends](#) offers an online sale on select categories of books. In August, all fiction categories are 25% off when purchased online - no code needed. This includes General Fiction, Mysteries, Romance, and other fiction categories. Check it out!

FODL Pop-Up DVD Sale

Saturday, September 6, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

[Main Library](#)

[No Registration Required](#)

Join us for a pop-up DVD sale at Main Library with the Friends of the Durham Library! There will be thousands of DVDs from every genre. Some DVDs are new and still in the shrink wrap, all for just \$1 per disc. Most of the available selection will be single DVDs, but many outstanding box sets will also be available. Multi-disc sets are also just \$1 per disc.

The Friends of the Durham Library is a member-supported, all-volunteer 501(c)(3) organization that supports Durham County Library through staff scholarships, programming grants, and more. The Friends sell gently used books, CDs, DVDs, and games donated by the community. [Donating your books](#) and other media to the Friends is a fantastic way to support library team members and their programming. For upcoming events, membership information, donation instructions, and more, please [visit the Friends' website](#). You can also shop for books any time at the [Friends' online storefront](#).



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