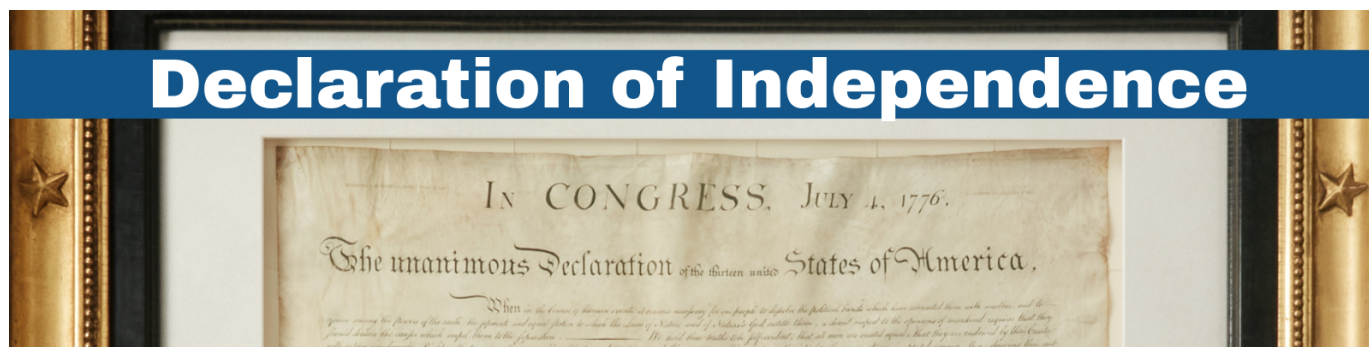




Local Partnership



Duke, Library Partner for U.S. 250th Anniversary Event

America is celebrating its 250th birthday on July 4th!

And Durham County Library wants you to know that as part of that 250th celebration, we will have a very special guest in September – an original copy of the document that started it all – the Declaration of Independence.

Partnering with Duke University, the Nasher Museum of Art, the National Archives Foundation, and other Durham organizations as part of the We the People initiative to bring the presentation of three historic copies of the Declaration of Independence, offering visitors a rare opportunity to encounter how the document was circulated and visually rendered in the early decades of the nation. [Read more about this partnership via Duke Today.](#)

Durham County Library will see these rare documents housed in Main Library at 300 N. Roxboro Street, from September 8 – 22, 2026.

The exhibition will feature three rare prints on loan from the David M. Rubenstein Americana Collection: a rare official full-sized 1823 facsimile engraved by William J. Stone (known as a Stone Declaration) alongside two historic broadside copies from the same era: an 1818 reproduction by calligrapher Benjamin Owen Tyler and a more ornate 1819 illustrated version published by John Binns.

This Stone Declaration is one of 200 facsimiles produced in 1823 using a copperplate engraving commissioned by the U.S. Department of State under John Quincy Adams; there are fewer than 50 known copies today. Created over the course of three years, the Stone engraving is one of the most faithful early reproductions of the original Declaration. Due to the condition of the original Declaration of Independence, the Stone Declaration is now one of the most reproduced versions of the document, appearing in school textbooks, media and other depictions of this founding document.

After its time at Durham County Library, the documents will travel to the Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University from September 25, 2026 to January 3, 2027.

The exhibition will be free and open to the public at both locations, with complementary programming on Duke’s campus and in partnership with Durham organizations.

“Welcoming these early copies of the Declaration of Independence is an extraordinary moment for our library and our community,” said Durham County Library Director Dana Conners. “We the People invites all of us to reflect on our shared history and imagine the future we want to build together. My hope is that this exhibition sparks curiosity, conversation, and a renewed belief in what is possible for Durham and beyond.”

We the People and Durham County Library will also partner with Durham Public Schools to engage students in conversations about civics and United States history. Field trips will be taken to the Library and Nasher Museum.

Be on the lookout for special themed events and programming from Library staff during the documents’ stay at Main Library [on our website at DurhamCountyLibrary.org](#).

Behind the Shelves



Stanford L. Warren Branch Library Recognized with NACo Award for Native Pollinator Garden

The Stanford L. Warren Branch Library has been recognized with a 2026 Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties (NACo) for its Native Pollinator Demonstration Garden. The NACo awards honor innovative, effective county government programs that strengthen services for residents.

The Library will receive the award at the 2026 NACo Annual Conference and Exposition in New Orleans, La., on Sunday, July 19. [Go to the NACo website to see a list of all the honorees, including other Durham County Government departments.](#)

This garden is a vibrant pollinator paradise brought to life through community partnership between the N.C. State Extension Master Gardener volunteers of Durham County, the Durham County Library, and Sarah P. Duke Gardens. The garden, located at Stanford L. Warren Branch Library at 1201 Fayetteville Street in the Hayti Neighborhood, was designed, planted, and cultivated by those groups. It opened in late 2024 and had a spring and summer of 2025 showing off beautiful plants and greeting our

pollinator friends.

“The native pollinator garden at the Stanford L. Warren Branch Library is both a treasured community asset and an inspiring educational space. We are thrilled that the National Association of Counties has recognized its significance,” said Durham County Library Director Dana Conners. “We hope that when residents visit the garden, it sparks the kind of curiosity and wonder that encourages them to continue exploring and learning inside the library.”

Ultimately, the garden has empowered library staff with new horticultural knowledge and provided Stanford L. Warren with a dynamic teaching resource that enhances its educational programming.

“The garden has added a vibrant and meaningful touch to our newly renovated library,” said Daniels. “It has sparked a renewed appreciation for gardening within our community, highlighting its environmental importance and lasting impact. With the addition of pollinator-friendly plantings, we also wanted to celebrate the contributions of African Americans to gardening and horticulture. That vision inspired us to host The African American Legacy on Gardening and Horticulture Symposium and launch the Hattie Meadows Gardening School in collaboration with Durham Extension.”

Be on the lookout for future events at Stanford L. Warren Branch Library by visiting the [Durham County Library Events website](#) or the [Durham County Cooperative Extension website](#).

For more information about the Stanford L. Warren Branch Library’s Demonstration Pollinator Garden, [visit the Extension Master Gardener’s website](#).

Read more about this award [on our website](#).

Holiday Closing



DCo Library to Close for Independence Day Holiday

All Durham County Library locations will be closed on Friday, July 3 and Saturday, July 4 in recognition of the Independence Day holiday. Main Library will reopen on Sunday, July 5 from 1 - 6 p.m. All locations will resume normal hours of business at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, July 6.

This July 4th is a special one as we celebrate the 250th anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, establishing the United States of America.

While our physical locations are closed, you can continue to take advantage of your Durham County Library card by accessing a broad range of FREE ebooks, E-audiobooks, movies, television programs, magazines, newspapers, learning resources, and more!

Launch into an exploration of what we have to offer by visiting [DurhamCountyLibrary.org](#)

Flashback Durham



Durham Celebrates July 4th!

This July 4th, we're celebrating 250 years since the adoption of the Declaration of Independence. How will you spend **your** Independence Day – a cookout? Watching the fireworks? How about a parade!

This photograph above from the North Carolina Collection captures the Northgate Shopping Center's annual Fourth of July parade, taken around 1970. Northgate Shopping Center started its parade tradition in 1964, with prizes for best costume and best decorations for bikes, wagons, and other human-powered transport.

In the background is Rose's department store, the anchor store for the shopping center until the 1990s. You can also see Northgate Theatre, which stood until 1986, when it was torn down to make room for the enclosed mall.

[See the image in the collection online.](#)

Image information: NCC_0391_0016. Northgate Mall photographs and other materials (NCC.0391). North Carolina Collection, Durham County Library, NC.

The photo on the bottom is a scan of an advertisement from the *Durham Sun* in 1970 announcing the parade featuring patriotic imagery.

For more information or to learn more about Durham's history, [visit the NCC website at https://durhamcountylibrary.org/ncc](https://durhamcountylibrary.org/ncc).

The North Carolina Collection – *Durham history research happens here.*



Show Your Colors



JULY Fourth



at Northgate's Parade
Saturday, July 4, 10:30 a.m.
—You Are Invited—



Sure, everyone loves a parade! That's why the annual Fourth of July parade at Northgate Shopping Center has become a tradition. Everyone is invited! Parade time on Saturday, July 4, is 10:30 a.m. Come in patriotic costume and decorate your bike, trike, wagon or any non-automotive vehicle. There will be free Cokes, prizes for best costumes and best-decorated wheels, as well as a prize drawing among all spectators and participants. And it isn't going to rain on this parade—Northgate has the situation covered, with canopied sidewalks.

- ★ Free Cokes
- ★ Costume Prizes
- ★ Vehicle Prizes

NORTHGATE

SHOPPING CENTER



DURHAM COUNTY
Library

Discover

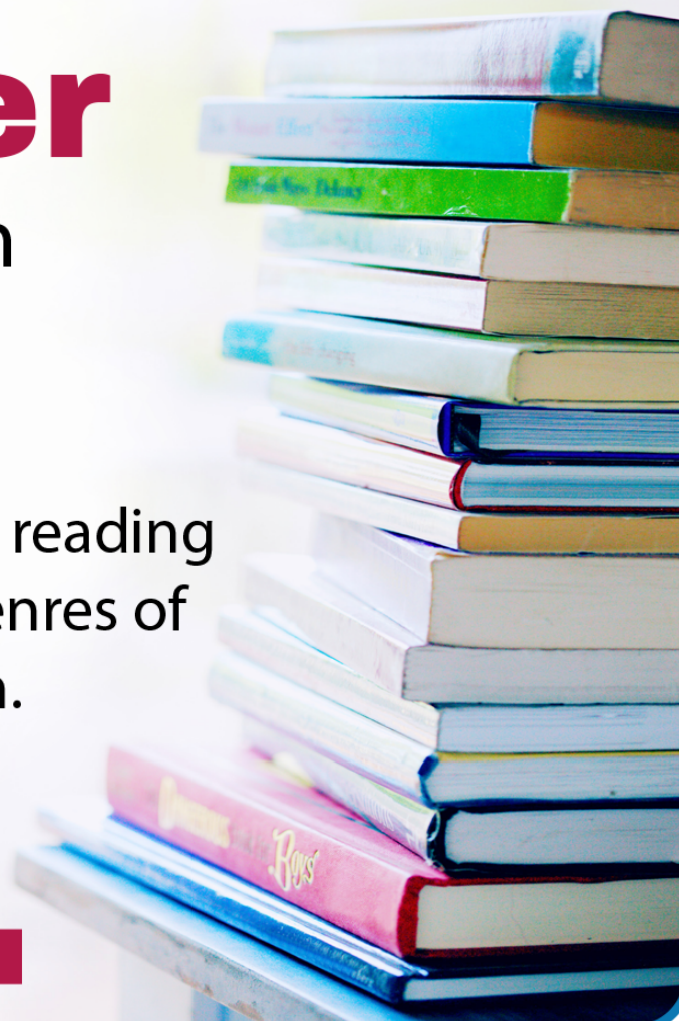
Your Next Read in

 **NoveList**
Plus

Free author read-alikes, reading lists, and more for all genres of fiction, some nonfiction.

Provided by  **NC LIVE**

For all ages



NoveList Plus a Free Resource for Readers

Love what you just finished reading? Hate that it had to end? Well, you can find more of what you like by using NoveList Plus - a free way to discover your next read provided by NC LIVE and available via Durham County Library!

You can find author read-alikes, curate or find reading lists, trending reads, for all genres of fiction and some nonfiction. It's for all ages!

But that's not all! You can find books by grade or reading level, set up search alerts so when something becomes available - you'll know immediately, articles on reading, join reading challenges, and so much more.

[Head on over to our website and start your NoveList Plus journey today.](#)

Library Inspiration



“I believe that reading and writing are the most nourishing forms of meditation anyone has so far found. By reading the writings of the most interesting minds in history, we meditate with our own minds and theirs as well. This to me is a miracle”

- Kurt Vonnegut Jr.

Kurt Vonnegut Jr. was born in Indianapolis, Indiana, in 1922, and became known for his dark humor and satirical writing of fantasy and science fiction that he used to show the ironies – and sometimes horrors – of the 20th- century world. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II, surviving the bombing of Dresden in Germany as a prisoner of war. This experience would later lead to his most well-known novel, *Slaughterhouse-Five*, which used absurdist narrative to show the cruelty of war.

To check current availability, place holds, or explore more titles, [visit the Durham County Library catalog](#) or [borrow the eBook through the Libby app with your library card](#).

[Check for titles from Vonnegut Jr. in the Durham County Library via our online catalog](#).

Color photo by Bernard Gotfryd/Adam Cuerden, [available from the United States Library of Congress's Prints and Photographs division under digital ID gtfy.04376](#). Black and white photo by WNET-TV/PBS [from appearance on show in February 1972](#).

Events and Programs by Location

Discover what's happening at Durham County Library!

Each month, Durham County Library hosts over 500 programs and there's something for everyone! There are too many to share here, but you can explore June's offerings by clicking on a location below to see programs for all age groups.

Want to know if the [Bookmobile](#) is making a public stop near you? Just click on Outreach Programs to find out!



All Programs



North Regional Library



Stanford L. Warren Branch Library



Main Library



South Regional Library



Bragtown Branch Library



East Regional Library



Southwest Regional Library



Outreach Programs

Feature Event at Main Library

Durham County Library Presents

DRAGONFLIES



WHO? WHAT? WHEN? WHERE? WHY?

Tuesday July 28 6-7:30PM

Main Library Auditorium

300 N. Roxboro Street

Register online: DurhamCountyLibrary.org/events



DURHAM COUNTY
Library

DRAGONFLIES!

DRAGONFLIES!

Who? What? Where? When? Why?

Using motion camouflage to attack prey and rivals...

Giant multifaceted compound eyes that can see in 360 degrees...

Predators in all life stages...consuming prey as large as tadpoles and small fish...

Gigantic prehistoric distant relatives had wingspans of up to 30 inches...

Flying at speeds of up to 18 miles per hour in six different directions and four types of flight...

Who are these insects that were among the first to evolve and exist with and before dinosaurs? What kind of prey do they eat? Where do dragonflies live? When do female dragonflies feign death? Why are dragonflies iridescent?

Join Chris Goforth, head of Collaborative Science at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Science, to learn more about these maestros of flight!

To be held on Tuesday July 28, starting at 6 p.m. in the Durham County Main Library auditorium located at 300 N. Roxboro Street in Durham.

[Register on Library website at DurhamCountyLibrary.org under events.](https://www.durhamcountylibrary.org/events)

Summer Reading is in Full Blast!



2026 Summer Reading Continues Through August 8

Your kids not feeling the summer reading vibes yet?

Toddlers climbing the walls?

Or maybe *you're* hunting for your next big adventure?

Durham County Library’s 2026 Summer Reading is here to save your summer!

Our staff will show you exactly why these events and programs are too good to miss and get you ready to Unearth a Story. Summer Reading programming continues through August 8.

Get all the details at DurhamCountyLibrary.org/SummerReading.

Career Opportunities

Durham County is a fantastic place to work!

A rewarding career in public service awaits you at the links below.



Durham County Careers
Library



Durham County Careers
All Departments

Durham County is committed to fair and equitable treatment in employment, rooted in the principles of merit and equal opportunity.

Friends of the Durham Library



Also:
**Puzzles
& games**
\$1 or \$3 each

pop-up CD Sale

**Saturday, July 11
11am to 2pm**



Main Library

300 N. Roxboro St.
Durham, NC 27701

CDs are \$1 per disc plus tax

Pop-Up CD Sale on July 11

The Friends of the Durham Library will conduct a pop-up CD sale at Main Library on Saturday, July 11, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

They will have thousands of CDs, featuring every type of music. Most are single CDs or 2-CD sets, and there will be many outstanding boxed sets. The CDs are in excellent shape (checked by staff). Some will be new and still in the shrink-wrap. All for the same low, low prices!

CDs are just \$1 each, with multi-disc sets being \$1 per disc, plus sales tax.

There will also be puzzles and games available, priced between \$1 and \$3 each (plus sales tax).

As always, you can shop all our fine donated books online right now at shopfodInc.org.

The Friends of the Durham Library is a member-supported, all volunteer 501(c) (3) non-profit organization. All proceeds support the Durham County Library. For more information, [visit the Friends of the Durham Library website](http://visittheFriendsoftheDurhamLibrarywebsite).

Social Media Post of the Month



[Carolina Blaze](#) players, Library staff & Read A. Bull hit one out of the park for storytime at North Regional Library on Wednesday. Check out the buzz surrounding the new professional softball team & visit our bookmobile at 6 p.m. on July 18 at Smith Family Stadium.

(Originally posted on Facebook & Instagram as a reel and story.)



DURHAM COUNTY
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DurhamCountyLibrary.org
LibraryMarketing@dconc.gov