

Newsletter

September

2026



DCo
Library

Behind the Shelves



Resources for Students Abundant at DCo Library!

On Monday, August 24, most Durham County traditional calendar students went back to school in Durham County!

Durham County Library wants to remind all Durham County Public Schools students, parents, and caregivers that we are here to help with plenty of FREE resources at our library locations and online.

First of all, all Durham County residents are eligible for a FREE Durham County Library card. All you need to do is come to one of our locations – and the bookmobile – and sign up. But we also have [Bull City, NC SLAM](#) – a partnership with Durham Public Schools that allows students, teachers, and staff to access Durham County Library print and online resources. All DPS students have a SLAM ID (same as their lunch number) unless they opt out. For new students, your SLAM ID will be available to use within about one month of your DPS start date.

DPS teachers and staff can get a library card by presenting your DPS ID at any [DCoL location](#). You don't need to be a Durham County resident. Your SLAM card works like a normal [adult borrower card](#).

One of our favorite tools is [Brainfuse](#). This online hub offers live virtual tutoring for all ages. Patrons can get help with writing assignments, take practice tests, prep for the GED, work on language help, create flashcards, tests, and games to help study, discover college majors and careers that match your skills and interests, and so much more!

Looking for help with research? We recommend [Credo Reference](#). Students can gather background information on their topic from full-text encyclopedias, dictionaries, and subject-specific titles, as well as images, audio files, and videos.

[ProQuest Research Companion](#) is another helpful tool for homework help and developing and researching papers. This resource guides students through the research process with learning modules about finding, evaluating, and using information.

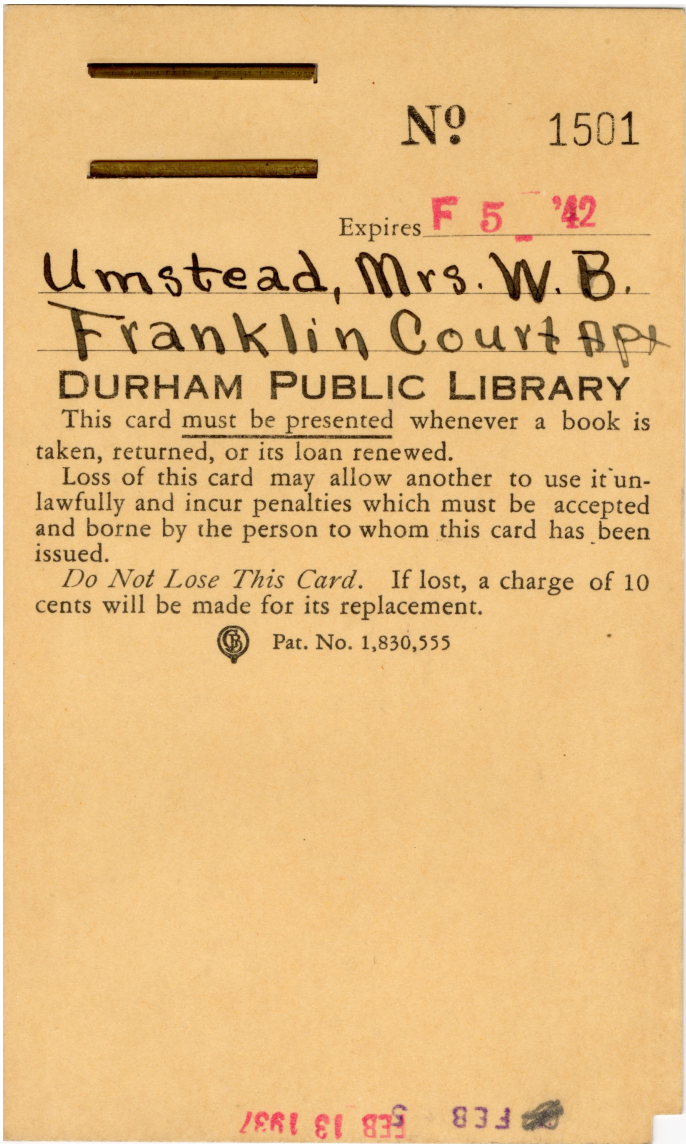
We have databases full of peer-reviewed articles and scholarly works, such as [ProQuest Central](#). It's a general reference database for multiple subjects from magazines, journals, and newspapers.

Many students and teachers are interested in our primary source material. You can access primary sources through [Digital Public Library of America \(DPLA\)](#) or [DigitalNC](#).

“All of these resources can be accessed from students’ homes with their library card,” said Tina Economou, Durham County Main Library Children’s Services Manager. “We really have so many online resources, and patrons can filter them by category or audience. Also, you can come to any of our locations and ask a Librarian for help! We can’t wait to see you.”

You can see all of our online resources on our website at [DurhamCountyLibrary.org/online-resources/](#). Here’s to a successful 2026-2027 school year for everyone!

Flashback Durham





Library Cards Have Come a Long Way!

September is the American Library Association's Library Card Sign-up Month, and in this flashback, we compare library cards past and present!

When you sign up for a Durham County Library card today, your card often features a striking image of one of our library buildings. Our early library cards, however, were... let's just say, not as visually appealing.

The old cards, like this one from the late 1930s were paper based (left photo) and included a metal plate engraved with the library card number (right photo). With the aid of specialized equipment, librarians used the plate to stamp a book with the borrower's number. [According to old library policy](#), if someone lost their card the library had to specially order a new plate with the same number and the cardholder was charged 10 cents. Luckily these days, we do not have to specially order replacement cards.

Come on down to any Durham County Library location and get your new or replacement library card today!

For more information or to learn more about Durham's history, visit <https://durhamcountylibrary.org/ncc>.

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

Digital Resource Highlight

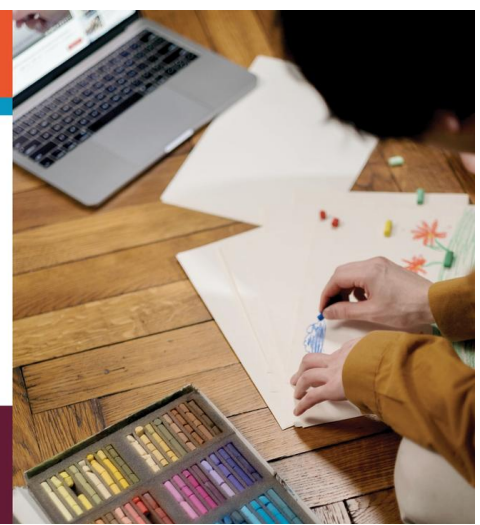
Craftsy - A Place for Creative Makers!

Instructional video classes, articles, projects & tips to create

FREE Through



DURHAM COUNTY
Library



Craftsy - A Place for Creative Makers!

Craftsy is an online resource for all creative makers, where you can find everything you need – from basic instruction to advanced techniques. It's a community of enthusiastic makers, from quilters and sewers to cake decorators and painters, wanting to create beautiful things and express their creativity.

Features include:

- Over 1,400 in-depth instructional video classes; covering 20 different creative passions
- Over 3,500 total hours of detailed commercial-free video instruction
- Each class includes downloadable class materials to support the video
- Access to thousands of written articles, projects, and tips
- Supported Language: English; closed caption available

And it's all free through Libby with your Durham County Library card! Or through the Libby app.

[Take a trip to the Durham County Library website to begin your crafting adventures today!](#)

Library Inspiration



“My sense of politics and justice was deeply shaped in adolescence by my involvement with the underground punk–rock scene, and though lots of social and political issues had come forth in my comics, it wasn’t until my late 20s that I felt

properly equipped to address certain issues of race, power, and violence in my work.”

- Nate Powell

Nate Powell is a National Book Award-winning cartoonist who began self-publishing comics as an Arkansas teenager in 1992.

Creating both fiction and nonfiction, his work includes *Fall Through* and *Come Again*, a comics adaptation of James Loewen's *Lies My Teacher Told Me*, *Save It For Later*, civil rights icon John Lewis' *March* trilogy and its follow-up *Run*.

From 1992 to 2010, he performed and toured in multiple underground punk bands including Soophie Nun Squad and Universe, and managed DIY label Harlan Records.

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 Powell in the Durham County Library via our online catalog.](#)

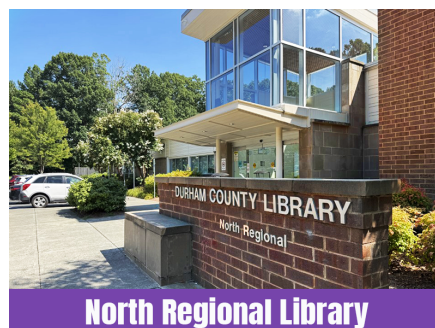
Photo credit: Anna Powell Denton - <https://www.seemybrotherdance.org/>

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 August'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!





Stanford L. Warren Branch Library



Main Library



South Regional Library



Bragtown Branch Library



East Regional Library



Southwest Regional Library



Outreach Programs

Feature Event at DCo Library



Declaration of Independence: Rare Prints on Display

September 8 - 20, 2026

We invite you to view rare 19th-century prints of the Declaration of Independence and participate in local reflection on our shared future.



Durham County Main Library
300 N. Roxboro St. | Durham, NC 27701

Exhibit Hours:

Monday – Wednesday: 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Thursday – Saturday: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Sunday: 1:30 – 5 p.m.

Exhibit entry is on the 2nd floor of Main Library

Visit DurhamCountyLibrary.org/events for details.

Bringing 10 or more people? Let us know you're coming!

To help us manage gallery capacity and staffing, we ask that groups of 10+ register in advance.



Scan to register groups of 10 or more.
tinyurl.com/DeclarationRegistration



DURHAM COUNTY
Library



**19th-Century Copies of the Declaration of Independence at DCo Library
from Sept. 8 - 20!**

It's time! Durham County Library is so excited to welcome everyone out to Main Library to view three rare 19th-century prints of the Declaration of Independence!

This is presented as part of [We the People](#), an exhibition that invites reflection on the nation's founding ideals and their continuing influence today, in partnership with the Duke University Nasher Museum of Art and the David M. Rubenstein Americana Collection.

From [Tuesday, September 8 through Sunday, September 20](#), encounter three rare historic prints of the Declaration of Independence – including an official 1823 Stone Declaration – at the Durham County Main Library. It will then head over to the [Nasher Museum of Art from September 24, 2026, through January 3, 2027](#).

The three rare prints on loan from the David M. Rubenstein Americana Collection include 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.

Visitors can also engage in interactive activities and explore featured library resources on display alongside the historic prints.

The display will be open to the public on Tuesday, September 8 beginning at 10:30 a.m. and remain open until 7 p.m.

Hours for the exhibit will be:

Monday – Wednesday: 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Thursday – Saturday: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Sunday – 1:30 – 5 p.m.

If you have a group larger than 10, [you may pre-register to take a tour between 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., Monday – Friday by visiting our website](#).

Individual visitors are welcome at all times, but please note you may experience a brief wait to enter if the gallery is at capacity or if a large group is inside.

Want to learn more? Our staff have prepared reading lists for children and adults:

[US Constitution/Declaration of Independence Children's Booklist](#)

[US Constitution/Declaration of Independence Adult Booklist](#)

We will also be hosting three events with exhibition-related themes that you can pre-register for:

[Redeeming the Promise of the Declaration of Independence: Louis Austin, the Black Press, and the 20th Century Freedom Struggle](#)– Wednesday, September 9 at 6 p.m.

[Her Fight, His Name: The Story of Gwen Carr and Eric Garner](#)– Thursday, September 10 at 6:30 p.m.

[The American Revolution at 250: Historians Discuss the Many Worlds of 1776](#)– Tuesday, September 15 at 6 p.m.

[Ethics of Now with Erica Armstrong Dunbar](#) – Friday, September 25 at 7 p.m.

We can't wait for this historical event at Durham County Library and for all Durham County residents! Come out and witness a piece of our shared history!

Durham Library Foundation



County Commissioners Recognize DLF Gift of \$248K

At the Monday, August 24, 2026, Regular Session meeting of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, the Durham Library Foundation was recognized for its Fiscal Year 2027 Gift of \$248,317.31 in support of Durham County Library programs.

The Durham Library Foundation supports the Durham County Library by raising money and managing investments for capital projects, programs, collections, and special needs.

Contributions made by DLF fund events such as Library Fest and regional projects like take home literacy and science materials.

During the meeting, the Board celebrated and thanked the DLF's generosity and commitment to the Durham County Library. Their recent gift will be used during the current fiscal year.

Library Director Dana Conners and DLF Executive Director Kara Nunnally offered comments during this ceremonial item. [Watch the meeting on the Durham County Government website.](#)

Pictured in the photo are, from left to right, DLF Board member Erin Gasch; Commissioner Wendy Jacobs; Commissioner Stephen Valentine; Executive Director of DLF, Kara Nunnally; Board Chair Mike Lee; Library Director Dana Conners; Commissioner Michelle Burton; Vice Chair Nida Allam; President of the DLF Liz Gustafson; County Attorney Larissa Williamson; DLF Board member Judith Ruderman; and County Manager Claudia Hager.

[Learn more about the Durham Library Foundation on its website.](#)

Labor Day



All Locations Closed for Labor Day on Sept. 7

All Durham County Library locations will be closed on Monday, September 7, 2026, in observance of the Labor Day holiday. All locations will reopen with normal hours of operation on Tuesday, September 8.

Be sure to swing by the library ahead of time to stock up on reading, listening, and viewing material!

When 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, and music in our digital collections! [Launch into an exploration of what we have to offer by visiting our website.](#)

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



September Online Sale

Get **25% off** EVERYTHING in all these categories:

Literature

Essays

Poetry

Plays

**Short
Stories**

now through
September 30th at **shopfodInc.org**

Online Sale in September!

The smell of freshly sharpened pencils has us feeling especially literate this time of year. Thus, the Friends of the Durham Library's Books Among Friends bookstore is putting all of its most literary categories on sale in the month of September in the online store!

Here are shortcuts to the categories currently on sale:

[Literature](#)

[Essays](#)

[Poetry](#)

[Plays](#)

[Short Stories](#)

On sale at 25% off, now through September 30th.

The FoDL's bookstore has over 20,000 fine donated books of all kinds, suitable for readers of all ages. It also has a wide selection of puzzles and games. [Shop all our fine donated books online right now at shopfodInc.org.](#)

Want to be a member and get exclusive access to many of the sales? Memberships are available at the door of Books Among Friends (3825 S. Roxboro St.), or online anytime at on the [Friends of the Durham Library website at fodInc.org.](#)

Online shopping on our site is very easy. Browse our thousands of books and our selection of puzzles & games, buy from the comfort of home (or wherever), and pay at the on-line checkout. Your order will be ready for pick-up within 3 days. You do not need an appointment to pick up your items.

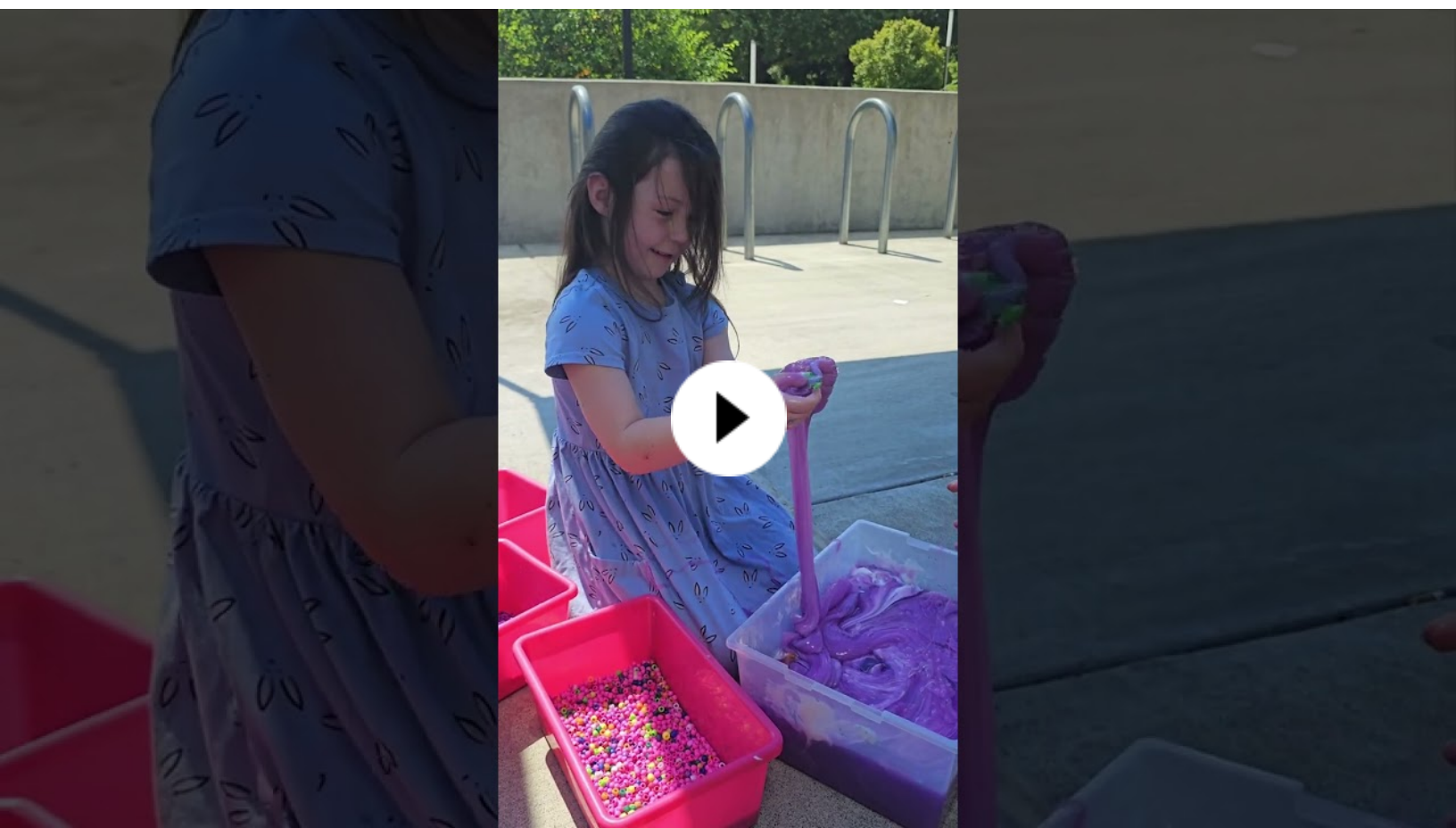
YOU MUST PICK UP YOUR ITEMS. WE CAN NOT SHIP THEM TO YOU.

Regular pick-up hours at the *Books Among Friends* store are:

Tuesdays 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Thursdays 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.; and Saturdays 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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](#).

Social Media Post of the Month



The Durham County Library Card Odyssey!

Odysseus battled monsters and spent 10 years lost at sea, but now he has an even more arduous task - finding the perfect read! So, where does he go? The Durham County Library, of course! Where librarians await to provide him with knowledge, instructions, and most importantly - a Durham County Library Card!

This combined version of our three-video social media series ends with our alternative endings.

Tell us which is your favorite in the comments on [YouTube](#)!!

Want to see more funny, exciting, and informative videos from Durham County Library's Marketing Team? Click follow on our social media accounts below.





DurhamCountyLibrary.org
LibraryMarketing@dconc.gov