

Library Hours:

	Middlebury	East Middlebury
Monday	10 - 6	
Tuesday	10 - 8	9 - 12
Wednesday	10 - 6	
Thursday	10 - 8	2 - 6
Friday	10 - 6	9 - 12
Saturday	10 - 4	
Sunday	1 - 4	
(Oct - Apr)		

Jr. Inklings

- news and events -
Sarah Lawton & Kathryn Laliberte
Youth Services



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Ilsley Public Library Celebrates Music with May

"Music needs a champion," proclaims Toner Quinn in a 2010 article published in Utne Magazine. Noting a lack of emphasis on singing in contemporary society, Quinn argues that the common singing is not an innate skill but something we bring to life by sharing. The Middlebury community has found their musical champion in local parent and educator, May Poduschnick.

May doesn't really consider herself a musician. She picked up the guitar in junior high and kept it up as a fun hobby, not a professional aspiration. It wasn't until she had kids of her own and attended a music and movement class for parents and youngsters that she started to think about the importance of exposing children to positive experiences with music. And from observing the class, she decided she could do the same for her kids and her friends. So she dusted off her guitar, gathered various instruments and props, listened to a lot of Raffi CDs and developed a repertoire of classic singalongs. May's belief in the value of giving all kids the opportunity to have music in their lives eventually led her to Ilsley Public Library, where she has volunteered her time to lead free Music & Movement classes since spring 2010.

As any visit to Ilsley's children's room will demonstrate, kids are social animals. From early infancy, children observe and absorb the world around them, developing behaviors and social expectations that will shape the people they become. Most children develop basic language competence by around 3 years of age and research demonstrates that young children also have the capacity to achieve basic musical competencies, such as the ability to keep an accurate rhythm and sing in tune. Yet many kids lack the simple prerequisite to musical success offered Kenneth Guilmarin, founder of the Center for Music and Young Children. In order to develop basic music skills, kids need "exposure to a rich musical environment, (without) expectations for specific musical behaviors." All we have to do is sing in front of our kids, not even necessarily sing all that well. This is a big relief to those of us who can't carry a tune. May is the first to stress that parents and caregivers do not need a "great voice" to introduce kids to the joys of music. May's classes aren't about performance, they're designed to cultivate a musical space in our community.

May's Music & Movement classes are fun and enriching. Kids get to experiment with a variety of simple instruments, dance their wiggles out, be exposed to a variety of musical arrangements and sing, sing, sing. Adult caregivers are encouraged to participate fully as their children's model for engagement and to show that music is a fun form of self-expression. May will start a new 8-week session for ages birth-5 at the end of February.

Free classes will be held in the Community Meeting Room at Ilsley Public Library every Monday from 10:30-11:15 am from February 27th - April 16th.

Our Heartfelt Thanks to May Poduschnick!

75 Main St. • Middlebury, Vt. 05753-14
431 East Main St. East Middlebury, Vt. 0



Storytimes!

Join us for stories, rhymes and songs that help young children develop early literacy skills.

Ilsley Public Library Community Room:

Wednesdays with Sarah from 10:30-11:15 am

Thursdays with Kathryn from 10:30-11:15 am

If schools are closed for inclement weather, we may provide an alternative activity in the Children's Room.

Preschool Storytime at Sarah Partridge Library:

Tuesdays at 10:30-11:00 am

Ilsley Detectives' Club

for kids in grades 5-6

Mondays, February 27th - April 16th

3:30 - 4:30 pm Community Meeting Room

Join Middlebury College student Fanny Zhao to read and discuss the world of Sherlock Holmes, play detective games and craft an original mystery story.



Writing Together

Joanne Markey Weber & Kendra Weber Gratton



Saturday, February 11th

10:30 am - 12 pm

Community Meeting Room

Join Vermont's mother-daughter picture book team for a special presentation of their book Flabby Rabbit. Then, create a special book to take home and write your own stories together.

Valentine's Craftacular

Monday, February 13th 3:30 - 4:30 pm

Young Adult Room

Stop in to make some sweet cards for all of the loves in your life.



Lights, Camera, Action!

Youth Filmmaking Camp

10 AM - 12 PM

Tuesday, February 21st - Friday, February 24th

Learn the fundamentals of video production or sharpen your skills as we work on a few short projects. No experience necessary. This class is for kids ages 7-13. Advance registration is required and space is limited. This collaborative program is offered by IPL and MCTV.



Leap Day Writing Project

Wednesday, February 29th 3:30-5 PM

Join us to mark this year's bonus day.

Celebrate with a letter-to-the-future writing project. You can also take the LEAP and register to participate in Ilsley's March Reading Blizzard.



So Many Events!

We couldn't fit all of our events in this month's *Inklings*. Stop by the Children's Room or give us a call for updates on Japanese classes, Hogwarts Reading Society & Hand in Hand Volunteer Club!

services 388-4095 Youth services 388-4097

• (802) 388-7588