Celebrate the Dream
Martin Luther King Day

Celebrate Martin Luther King Day at Martin Luther King Library on Monday, January 19.
Martin Luther King Library, located at 310 W. Locust Street, will be the only Milwaukee Public Library open on January 19, with hours from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Special programs will take place throughout the day including live music, dancing, dramatic presentations, art activities and more. Make plans to also attend programs for children in celebration of Black History Month. Pick up a calendar of events at your library or access a copy online at mpl.org/foryou/kids.

Imani Dancers - 12 p.m.
Enjoy a hip-hop dance presentation brought to you by Martin Luther King Elementary School’s African American Immersion Program.

African American Children’s Theater - 12:30 p.m.
Be inspired by this group of young actors as they perform a scene from their latest play, Milwaukee Heroes.

Music of the Civil Rights - 2 p.m.
Join the Larry Moore Trio on a musical exploration of the Civil Rights Movement.

Dasha Kelly - 3:30 p.m.
Experience a live poetic performance highlighting the importance of Dr. King’s life and dream by author and spoken word artist Dasha Kelly.

Black History Month Read-In
Alderwoman Milele A. Coggs invites families to listen to heartfelt stories celebrating the lives and contributions of African Americans. A craft will be included and light refreshments will be served.
Martin Luther King Library
Wednesday, Feb. 18, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
You may have seen or read some of the wonderful coverage we received on the November 22 grand opening of our new East Branch. It was a wonderful day and an important part of library history. We were thrilled to see nearly 2,000 people excited about a new library in their community. If you were unable to join us, I hope you’ll visit the new East Branch soon.

But we’re not resting on our laurels. With the start of the new year we look forward to the development of two new facilities replacing the Forest Home and Mill Road libraries.

We held our first community meeting on the new Forest Home library on December 2 and the first community meeting on the new Mill Road library on December 9. More news on these projects will be coming this year.

When we adopted our new strategic plan, MPL 2020, our vision was to “establish MPL as an anchor institution that helps build healthy families and vibrant neighborhoods – the foundation of a strong Milwaukee.”

Creating these new libraries is an important step towards fulfilling that vision. We want to build libraries that become a Third Place, a community gathering place, that fosters community dialog and development through programs and services.

And from the looks on the faces of those who attended the grand opening of the East Branch, that’s what our customers want, too. They want to feel connected to their neighborhood and their community by embracing and taking pride in their library.

While keeping abreast of changes in technology and the ways people use information to feed the mind, we’ve continued to put emphasis on feeding the soul as well through inspired public art, repurposed materials, and holding to our tradition of providing a space for our customers to read, learn and connect.

Ray Chi, one of the artists who contributed to the public art adorning the new East Branch, will discuss his sculptures on Saturday, January 31 from 2-3:30 p.m. at the East Branch.

Chi is a Mary Nohl Fellowship recipient whose work varies greatly from furniture and film to public art. His commission for the East Branch consisted of three distinct sculptural interventions situated around the library exterior.

Rack begins as a typical row of steel bike racks which leap and transform into a perfect circle. Serpent is a living, growing sculpture made from Corten steel and planted with grass and a variety of sedums. Boulder (to be installed in spring) will take material and external cues from the concrete floor surface and respond directly to the architectural conditions of the library entrance.

A resident of Milwaukee for more than 16 years, Chi considers the East Branch to be “his library.” He is currently an associate lecturer at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

The art of kathryn e. martin will be presented by the artist on Saturday, March 28 from 1-3 p.m. at the East Branch.
A Message from the MPL Foundation

With the generous support of our donors and the Friends of the Milwaukee Public Library, the MPL Foundation had one of the best years in its 26-year history in 2014.

Some of our highlights include: the Benjamin Franklin Award Celebration honoring Dr. Mary Kellner and the Faye McBeath Foundation raised more than $600,000, the Jeff Cirillo Charity Golf Classic raised $20,000 for Summer Reading, and our Milwaukee Public Library East Branch campaign raised more than $130,000 to date to support artwork, programming, and prominent features of the new building such as the fireplace and the children’s room.

We are also looking ahead to a promising 2015. Planning is already underway for many exciting initiatives at MPL: the Tippecanoe branch library will be remodeled this year, MPL will host an interactive exhibit commemorating the 50th anniversary of Maurice Sendak’s Where the Wild Things Are, and we will continue expanding service of the Summer Reading and Ready to Read with Books2Go programs in innovative ways to reach even more children in Milwaukee.

2015 promises to be busy and exciting with great author events, family programming, and new community partnerships, and we hope that you will be part of another wonderful year at MPL.

Thank you for all that you do!

Make a Difference for Your Library

The Friends of the Milwaukee Public Library advocate for libraries, literacy, and lifelong learning through annual memberships. To join the Friends or renew your membership, please visit www.mpl.org and click on “Support the Library” or call (414) 286-8720.

Tours of historic Central Library are free and open to the public Saturdays at 1:30 p.m. To schedule a special tour or to learn about becoming a tour guide, please call (414) 286-TOUR.

Spring Sale: Saturday, March 7, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Central Library, 814 W. Wisconsin Ave., Meeting Room 1

Featuring a large selection of used books, books on tape, magazines, comics, sheet music, children’s books and more. All proceeds from this sale benefit the Milwaukee Public Library. Friends members may enter sales 30 minutes before the public with current membership card. Please use the Eighth Street entrance and present your card.

There will be a 1/2 price sale in the Bookseller Used Book Store during the sale.
First Frost by Sarah Addison Allen. Romance. 2015.
First Frost picks up ten years after the eventful summer at Waverley mansion told in Garden Spells. The story of Claire, with her gift for cooking food that can mend a broken heart, and Sydney, who creates hairstyles that spark true love with the flip of a curl, continues. An old man appears with a beat-up suitcase and stories to tell; stories that could change the lives of the Waverley women forever.

West of Sunset by Stewart O’Nan. Fiction. 2015.
The Golden Age of Hollywood is brought to life in this novel inspired by F. Scott Fitzgerald’s last years. Romantic intrigue is mixed with a cast including Humphrey Bogart, Ernest Hemingway and Dorothy Parker. Fitzgerald falls in love with gossip columnist Sheilah Graham, starts writing The Last Tycoon and tries to maintain a semblance of family life.

The Rosie Effect by Graeme Simsion. Fiction. 2015.
Rosie and Don are back! In this sequel to The Rosie Project, Don Tillman is coping with the complications of marriage by finding ways to manage their lives with maximum efficiency. Things are going smoothly until he’s confronted by his wife Rosie’s announcement… that she is pregnant.

Wherever the wealthy Duncan family goes, drama follows. They’ve earned their money through a Queens, NY car dealership (and a few less savory sources), and here their jaw-dropping story continues. After a long stretch in prison, Vegas Duncan agrees to surrender the family business to his younger brother. At the same time he battles his judgmental mother and a mysterious rival who attacks his older brother.

Winter at the Door by Sarah Graves. Mystery. 2015.
Lizzie Snow is a big-city cop taking over as police chief in remote northern Maine. Freak accidents and suicides have left many dead – all former local cops. The people in town know better than to share anything with an outsider. When a blizzard swallows the town, and a child goes missing, Lizzie is forced into a showdown that could leave behind the stain of blood.

The Magician’s Lie by Greer Macallister. Fiction. 2015.
The Amazing Arden, a female magician at the turn of the 20th century, is known for sawing a man in half on stage, until one night, when she exchanges her saw for a fire ax. Later, her husband is found dead beneath the stage and many believe it wasn’t just a new version of the illusion, but a cold blooded murder.

Welcome back to Scion in this sequel to The Bone Season. Paige has escaped the brutal penal colony, but is now the most wanted person in London. The clairvoyant community is split with bitterness and dark secrets while Jaxon and his Seven Seals prepare to take center stage. But where is Warden? And why are the Rephaim emerging?

Etta and Otto and Russell and James by Emma Hooper. Fiction. 2015.
Eighty-two year old Etta has never seen the ocean. So she grabs a rifle and some chocolate and starts walking from rural Canada eastward to the coast. Otto, her husband, wakes to a note on the kitchen table; he has seen the ocean, so he understands. Russell has always loved Etta and wants to go after her. And James, well, you have to read the book to meet him and understand his role in this astounding journey.

Contributed by Central Library fiction selector, librarian Jackie Potratz.
Ring in the New Year with reading and make it part of your family’s daily routine in 2015. Aside from being both fun and entertaining, reading is a lifelong habit that has many benefits. Reading and enjoying a book together as a family is a great way to encourage this habit for children. The family can curl up with a charming story, take an adventure, or explore the world through a book. Reading is one of the most vital skills for success and lifelong learning, making it a winning resolution. Check out a book for free from your Milwaukee Public Library and resolve to make reading as a family a resolution to keep.

100 Things that Make Me Happy by Amy Schwartz. PIC SCHWART. (Ages 3-8). Rhyming text highlights 100 everyday things that make preschoolers happy. This charming read is a reminder for all to appreciate the little things in life.

Ivan: The Remarkable True Story of the Shopping Mall Gorilla by Katherine Applegate; illustrated by Brian G. Karas. 599.884 A648. (Ages 5-10). The true story of Ivan, the inspiration behind Applegate’s Newbery-winning book The One and Only Ivan, is shared in simple yet dramatic text and illustrations. End notes offer additional information. This book will move readers and inspire further reading.

The World According to Musk Ox by Erin Cabatingan; illustrated by Matthew Myers. PIC CABATIN. (Ages 5-9). A high-spirited musk ox is taken on an exploration of the seven continents by his bad-tempered friend Zebra in this laugh-out-loud adventure.

Creature Features: Twenty-five Animals Explain Why They Look the Way They Do by Robin Page & Steve Jenkins. 571.31 J528. (Ages 5-9). Find out why strange animals look the way they do – straight from the source! Hilarious interviews with some of the world’s most misunderstood creatures will give kids the fascinating facts.

Lives of the Explorers: Discoveries, Disasters (And What the Neighbors Thought) by Kathleen Krull; illustrated by Kathryn Hewitt. 910.922 K944. (Ages 8-13). The latest in Krull & Hewitt’s Lives of... series brings to life the explorations, achievements, and unique characteristics of some of the most significant explorers throughout history.

Winter Bees & Other Poems of the Cold by Joyce Sidman; illustrated by Rick Allen. 811.54 S566WB. (Ages 5-10). The wonderfully visual poems and richly textured illustrations create a breathtaking book exploring creatures and objects in winter. The factual information included with each poem makes this a book worth sharing.

Emmanuel and the Blue Genie by Cornelia Funke; translated by Oliver Latsch; illustrated by Kerstin Meyer. INT FUNKE. (Ages 7-10). After Emma frees a genie from his bottle prison, they set out to recover his magic ring which has been taken by a wicked genie.

Nuts to You by Lynne Rae Perkins. FIC PERKINS. (Ages 8-12). The adventure begins for a squirrel named Jeb when a hawk carries him off in his talons. What happens next is a tale of friendship and a survival journey in the forest.
Each month the Wisconsin Historical Society makes history come alive in a Wisconsin city.

See an exhibit of historic photographs, documents and stories about the Wisconsin community at the Central Library in January.

Educational events, lectures by authors, genealogy workshops, demonstrations and more will also be held at Central Library. All events are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted. For more information about each of the events, visit the Society’s website at www.wisconsinhistorytour.org/ or the library’s website at www.mpl.org.

Wisconsin History Tour Visits Milwaukee in January

Free programs will be offered every day from January 20 through January 24 at Central Library, beginning with a meet and greet at the exhibit with Jim Draeger, Society Director of Outreach and Mary Jane Connor, Wisconsin History Tour coordinator on Tuesday, January 20 at 12 p.m. Then plan out the rest of your week and choose from presentations on Wisconsin Lighthouses, Urban Indians, preserving your family treasures, the Wisconsin State Fair Murals, the car ferry “Milwaukee” and other Lake Michigan shipwrecks, foods from the Old World, the flavors of Wisconsin.

End the week with an architectural tour of Central Library on Saturday, January 24 at 10 a.m. with Jim Draeger, and a free concert for children by Cris Plata, author and musician, in the Herzfeld Children’s Room at 2 p.m.