

# FELLOWS ATHENAEUM TRUST ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

*Please sign up for Public Comment by 12:30pm via the “CHAT” or send written comments to the Clerk of the Board, [pcarver@bpl.org](mailto:pcarver@bpl.org). Comments left in the chat will not be acknowledged.*

*April 2, 2025*

*Evelyn Arana Ortiz, Chair*

# BPL OPENING STATEMENT

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The Trustees of The Boston Public Library reaffirm our commitment to racial equity and to principles of diversity equity and inclusion, more broadly.

The Library is formally committed to becoming an anti-racist organization in response to systemic racism, inequity, and injustice prevalent in our society.

We acknowledge also that the Boston Public Library's Central Library stands on land that was once a water-based ecosystem providing sustenance for the indigenous Massachusett people *and is a place which has long served as a site of meeting and exchange among nations*. We are committed to land acknowledgements for all locations at which we operate.

*We reaffirm this commitment to set the context for our planning, deliberations, and public engagement so that they take place from the spirit of welcome and respect, found in our motto 'free to all.'*

*Taken from the Institutional Statement Ratified by the Board of Trustees for the Boston Public Library on September 29, 2020.*

# *Committee Chair Report*

*Evelyn Arana Ortiz*

**BOSTON  
PUBLIC  
LIBRARY**



- A. Acknowledgement of the EDI Statement
- B. Roll call of members
- C. Approval of Meeting Minutes of 11.24.24
- D. Review of current budget

# FY25 Budget

FY25 Funds Available	132,657.21
<u>FY25 Expenses to Date</u>	
• Project Management	(25,545.30)
• Fellowes Programs	(23,998.49)
• Branch Librarian Programs	(1,805.00)
• Program Supplies/Advertising	
• Books/Subscriptions	
• <u>Security/Custodian Charges</u>	<u>(720.00)</u>
• <b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>(52,068.79)</b>
• Purchase Orders	(73,062.60)
• <u>Budget remaining for Branch Librarian</u>	<u>(3,195.00)</u>
<b>Available Balance</b>	<b>4,330.82</b>

***Priscilla Foley***

*Director of Neighborhood Services*

**BOSTON  
PUBLIC  
LIBRARY**



- General BPL Updates

# Strategic Roles

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**A Bold Path Forward.** Our vision demands transformation. We will revolutionize how we serve our communities by focusing on four powerful roles:

## Community Engager

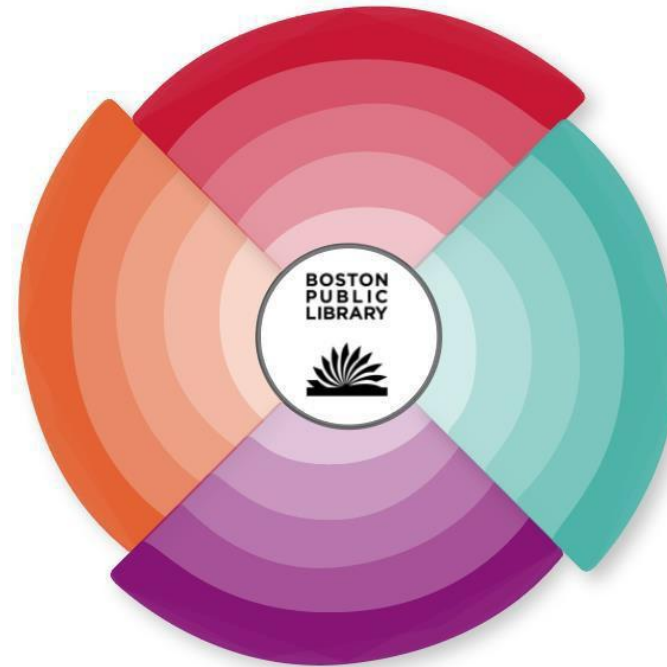
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*Expanding the reach of the library beyond its physical walls so we can meet and engage communities where they are.*

## Life-long Learning and Research Partner

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*Empowering curiosity and a love of reading, discovery, and scholarly exploration for all.*



## Welcoming Destination

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*Creating active, inclusive third spaces where every person can chart their own path.*

## Trusted Resource

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*Connecting all people to reliable information and services that meet their needs and enrich their lives.*



### ***Adult Summer Reading***

- The Adult Summer Reading Program takes place June 1 through August 31! Sign up in person at any one of our branches to receive a Summer Reading sticker while supplies last. You may also sign up online at [bpl.org/bingo](https://bpl.org/bingo), where you may also fill out, download, and print your bingo card.
- The available cards include the regular Bingo Challenge with reading and activity squares, the Read More bingo card without activity squares, and the regular bingo card in Spanish, Chinese, Portuguese, and Haitian Creole.

### ***Youth Summer Reading***

- Immerse yourself in summer programming and develop stronger reading skills with Boston Public Library's summer reading program for youth 0-17 years old.
- The program runs from June to August.



*Candelaria Silva-Collins*

*FATC Program Manager*

**BOSTON  
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- FY25 Programming Recap/Updates



# FATF Programs

December 2024 - March 2025

Presentation by  
Candelaria Silva-Collins



# Program Categories

## ARTS

- Afro-Latin Drumming & Culture
- Book Fair
- Concerts
- Film
- Piano Lessons
- Visual Arts

## INSTRUCTION

- Chair Yoga
- Cartooning
- Collage

## INSTRUCTION

- Art + Meditation
- Movers & Makers
- Afro-Latin Drumming
- Piano
- Sewing Classes (Adults & Families)
- Creative Activities for Learning Mindfulness
- Genealogy/Black History



# Program Categories-2

## HEALTH & WELL-BEING

- Art & Meditation
- CALM Experience Tween Program
- Chair Yoga
- Movers and Makers

## AUDIENCE CATEGORIES

- Families
- Youth
- Adults
- Seniors
- General

# Recent Programs

Photos



# Kwanzaa Celebration

## Kwanzaa Celebration!

Inform, Inspire, & Empower

Roxbury Branch Library

Thursday, December 26 - Tuesday December 31, 2024

Times vary (please see schedule below)

All Ages

Registration Required



Kwanzaa, observed annually from December 26 to January 1, provides a time for families and communities to come together to remember the past and to celebrate African American culture. Celebrate with us with history, live performances, music, fashion, vendors, refreshments, and more! Come ready to have fun! Also, bring your drums and/or percussion instruments to jam with us!

**Opening Festival** | Thursday, December 26 | 2:00pm - 5:00pm

**Did You Know? Workshop** | Friday, December 27 | 10:00am - 4:00pm

**Networking** | Saturday, December 28 | 10:00am - 4:00pm

**Teen Night** | Monday, December 30 | 4:00pm - 7:30pm

**Closing Ceremony** | Tuesday, December 31 | 2:00pm - 5:00pm

Please register at: [tinyurl.com/KwanzaaRX](https://tinyurl.com/KwanzaaRX) or scan QR code. For more information, please call Safiya at 617.682.6667 or email [ssanyika@gmail.com](mailto:ssanyika@gmail.com).

(Partially funded by Fellowes Athenaeum trust Fund of the Boston Public Library.)



**Accessibility Notice:** We strive to make our events accessible. To request a disability accommodation and/or language services, call 617.442.6186 or email [aeneh@bpl.org](mailto:aeneh@bpl.org). Please allow at least two weeks to arrange accommodation.

Roxbury Branch Library

149 Dudley St., Roxbury, MA 02119

For more information, call 617.442.6186 or visit [bpl.org](https://bpl.org).





# Luminous Joy: Yoga Classes (2/24/2025)





# Luminous Joy: Yoga Classes

(2/10)





# Roxbury Concert Series – (Yeemz & Carnival of the Animals)

## YEEMZ: LIVE IN CONCERT

A Roxbury Concert Series Presentation

**Roxbury Branch Library**  
**Saturday, February 15, 2025**  
**12:00 PM – 1:00 PM**

All Ages

Registration Recommended




In collaboration with the Celebrity Series of Boston, we are proud to present the extraordinary cellist and singer-songwriter Yeemz in her solo debut at the Roxbury Concert Series!

Join us for a captivating performance that highlights Yeemz's innovative musical style—a seamless blend of classical traditions and contemporary songwriting. Known for her soulful voice and expressive cello playing, Yeemz crafts original compositions that resonate deeply, drawing from her rich classical training and a love for modern storytelling through music.

In addition to her original works for cello and voice, Yeemz will perform some of her favorite solo cello pieces by visionary composers Gabriella Smith, Andrea Casarrubios, and others, showcasing her versatility and passion for boundary-pushing repertoire.

Reception to follow!

This program is funded by a grant from the Fellowes Athenaeum Trust Fund.

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Roxbury Branch of the Boston Public Library  
149 Dudley St., Boston, MA 02118  
For more information, visit [www.roxburyconcertseries.org](http://www.roxburyconcertseries.org).



## Roxbury Concert Series

*The Carnival of the Animals*



**Roxbury Branch Library**  
**Saturday, December 14, 2024**  
**12:00 PM – 1:00 PM**

All Ages

Registration Recommended



The Roxbury Concert Series is proud to present the second concert of the 2024-2025 season featuring award-winning faculty members and students of the Boston Conservatory at Berklee. Step right into a world of musical enchantment with Camille Saint-Saëns' *Carnival of the Animals*! This whimsical suite invites you on a captivating journey through a magical menagerie where each movement brings a different animal to life.

Picture this: elegant swans gliding gracefully, playful kangaroos hopping to joyful rhythms, and the majestic roar of lions. Experience the enchantment as pianos mimic the prancing of donkeys and flutes flutter like charming aviary friends. Join us for an unforgettable event where music and imagination merge, bringing the animal kingdom to life through Saint-Saëns' timeless masterpiece.

RSVP encouraged. To register, please email: [roxburyconcertseries@gmail.com](mailto:roxburyconcertseries@gmail.com).

Funded by the Fellowes Athenaeum Trust Fund.

 **Accessibility Notice:** We strive to make our events accessible. To request a disability accommodation and/or language services, call 617.442.6186 or email [roxbury@bpl.org](mailto:roxbury@bpl.org). Please allow at least two weeks to arrange accommodation.

Roxbury Branch Library  
149 Dudley St., Roxbury, MA 02119  
For more information, please call 617.442.6186 or visit [bpl.org](http://bpl.org).





# Roxbury Concert Series



## Carnival of the Animals

12-14-2024



## Carnival of the Animals

12-14-2024



## YEEMZ

2-15-2025



# Piano Classes



Carlos & Twin  
Sisters

March 1<sup>st</sup> - 11 o'clock class



3 students

February 8<sup>th</sup> - 9 o'clock class



Carlos & student at  
board

February 1 - 9 o'clock class



# More piano classes



Carlos 1-on-1

February 8<sup>th</sup> - 9 o'clock



Brother w sister #1

February 8<sup>th</sup> - 11 o'clock

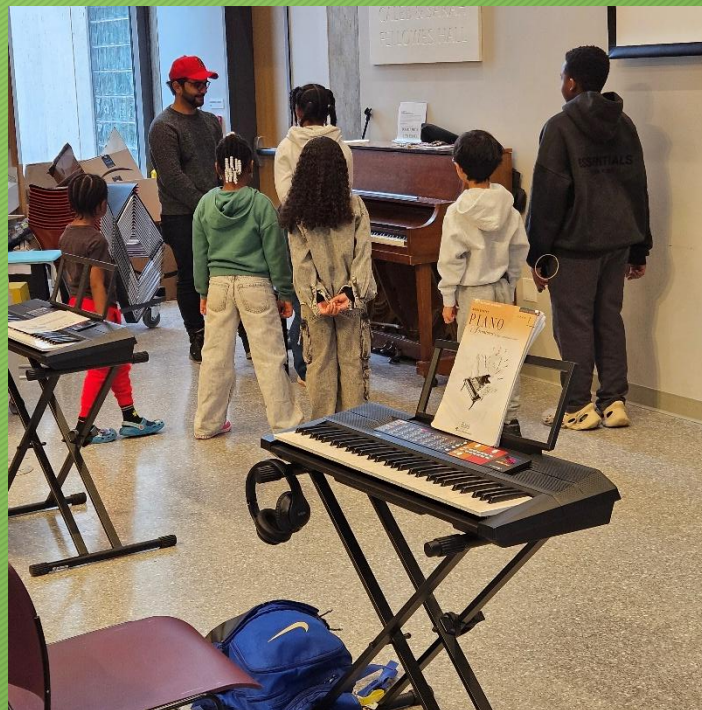
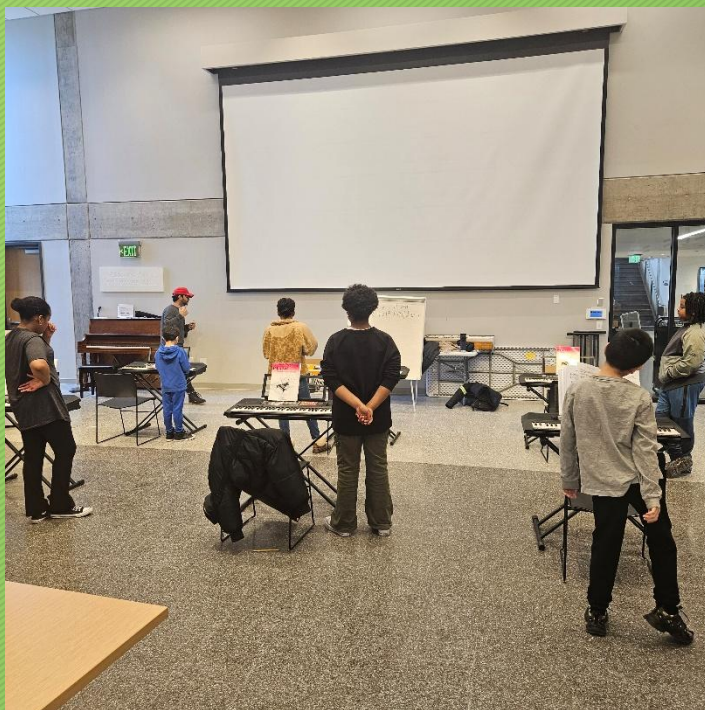


Brother w younger sister

February 8<sup>th</sup> - 11 o'clock



# Piano Classes - March 8





# March 22 - Sebastian & Sanjana



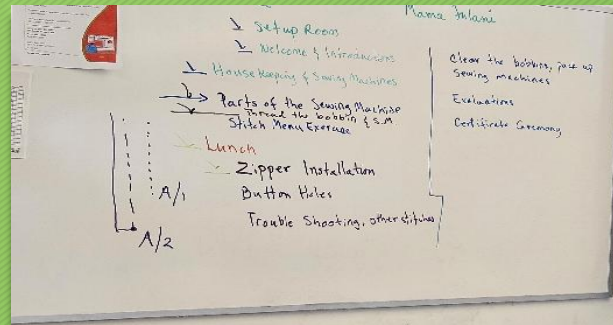


# Sewing 101 Bootcamp



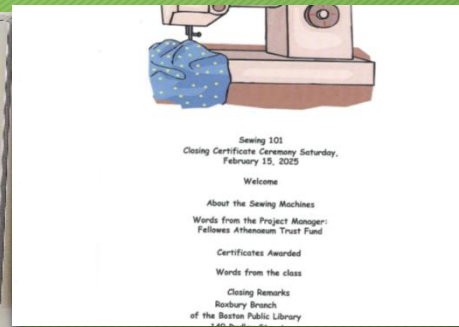
Leslie English,  
Instructor

February 15th



Sewing 101 outline

February 15th



Closing Ceremony

February 15th



# Sewing 101 Students



Students

February 15<sup>th</sup>



Students

February 15<sup>th</sup>

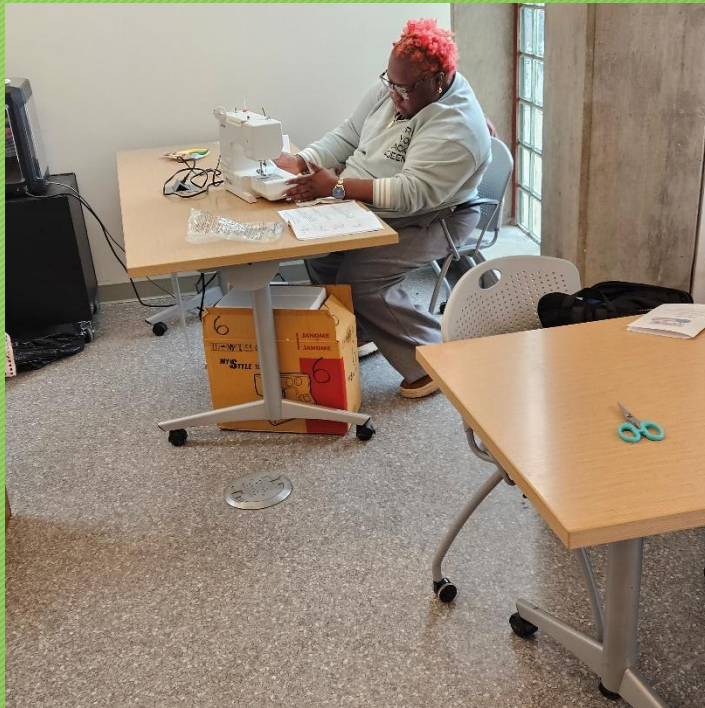


Student

February 15<sup>th</sup>



# Sewing 101 Bootcamp





# Makanda Project - Charles Tolliver

**THE MAKANDA PROJECT**

FEATURING  
**CHARLES TOLLIVER**



All time jazz great, trumpeter and composer Charles Tolliver returns to perform with the Makanda Project at the Roxbury Library again in 2025. This year's concert will feature more of his glorious compositions and stunning big band arrangements.

**CHARLES TOLLIVER (TRUMPET, CONDUCTOR) with THE MAKANDA PROJECT:**  
**SAXOPHONES:** KURTIS RIVERS, SETH MEIGHT, SEAN BERRY, TEMDAYO BALOGUN, CHARLIE KOHLIASE | **TRUMPETS:** JERRY SABATINI, HAKEEF NELSON, MIKE PEIPMAN, SARAH OTYAR | **DRUMS:** ALFRED PATTERSON, RICHARD HARPER, AIGEN COLEMAN, BILL LOWE | **PIANO:** JOHN KOROLEWSKI | **BASS:** AVERY SHARPE | **DRUMS:** YORIN ISRAEL

**SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 2025** Two shows:  
**FREE** Boston Public Library, Roxbury Branch 7:00 PM and  
149 Dudley Street, Roxbury MA 02119 8:30 PM  
RESERVATIONS RECOMMENDED: VISIT MAKANDAPROJECT.COM/UPCOMINGPERFORMANCES

**ACCESSIBILITY NOTICE:** We strive to make our events accessible. To request a disability accommodation and/or language services, call 617-442-6186 or email [access@bpl.org](mailto:access@bpl.org). Please allow at least two weeks to arrange accommodation.

**BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY**

THIS PROGRAM IS FUNDED THROUGH THE FELLOWSHIP ATHENAEUM TRUST FUND, AND SUPPORTED BY THE HAMILTON COMPANY CHARITABLE FOUNDATION, THE EASTERN BANK FOUNDATION AND BOSTON CULTURAL COUNCIL.

**FREE ADMISSION THROUGH MARCH 2**


**THE CLARK**

**WILLIAMSTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS**

**FUN ON FIRST SUNDAY WALL POWER! March 2**

Art-making activities, 1-4 pm.  
No registration required.  
Family programs are generously supported by Allen & Company.

**THE MAKANDA PROJECT**  
Featuring Trumpeter-Composer  
**Charles Tolliver**



**Roxbury Branch of the Boston Public Library**  
Saturday, March 8, 2025, 7:00 and 8:30 pm



# The concert crowd





# Lining up for 2<sup>nd</sup> show & desserts





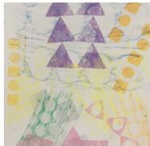
# Upcoming Programs

Spring 2025

# Coming this spring

## ART + MEDITATION

with Faith Johnson of Full Circle Healing Arts



Roxbury Branch of the Boston Public Library

*Funded through the Fellowes Athenaeum Trust Fund*

**Thursdays:** April 3, 10, & 17; May 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29

**10:30 AM - 1:00 PM**

Adults

Registration Required



**RELAX** through guided meditation, **REFLECT** through journaling,  
**REPLENISH**, and **CONNECT** through contemplative creativity.

- April 3: Collage
- April 10: Abstract Drawing
- April 17: Watercolors
- May 1: Mono Prints + Rubbings
- May 8: Nature Art
- May 15 & May 22: Weaving 1 and Weaving 2
- May 29: Mixed Media

*\*Attend one or all with the exception of weaving workshops which require two sessions. Workshops are limited to 15 people.*

**Please register at [FullCircleArts.com](https://FullCircleArts.com) OR use QR Code.**



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Roxbury Branch of the Boston Public Library

149 Dudley St, Roxbury, MA 02119

For more info email [FullCircleArts@gmail.com](mailto:FullCircleArts@gmail.com) or visit [bpl.org](https://bpl.org).



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## Sewing 102: Spring 2025 Boot Camp

*Taught by Leslie R. English*

In this one-day sewing Boot Camp workshop, students will elevate their sewing experience and add to their sewing skills previously learned in the Sewing 101 workshop. Students will learn additional sewing terms, sewing machine tools and garment or home décor project construction. With step-by-step instructions, students will be introduced to reading and understanding the language of patterns. Utilizing the Sewing 101 skills, students will sew some seams and complete an individual sewing project.

Program begins promptly at 9:30am on Saturday, April 12, 2025 at the Roxbury Branch of the Boston Public Library. There will be a Closing Certificate Ceremony from 2:30pm - 3:30pm. Registration required. To register, please email: [roxburysewing101@gmail.com](mailto:roxburysewing101@gmail.com) or call 617-595-0016.

*This program is funded by the generous support of the  
Fellowes Athenaeum Trust Fund.*

**Sewing 102: Spring 2025 Boot Camp**

**Date:** Saturday, April 12, 2025

**Time:** 9:30am - 3:30pm

Registration required.

Roxbury Branch Library  
149 Dudley St., Roxbury, MA 02119  
617-595-0016

For more, visit [www.bpl.org](https://www.bpl.org)



Adults



# Two more programs

## Exploring Black History and Genealogy Through Dolls



Roxbury Branch Library

Saturday, May 3, 2024 and Saturday May 10, 2024

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

**Ages 18+** Registration Required for each session. Space limited.

Join the Black Gold Doll Club of New England for a Unique Two-Part Workshop!

### Part 1: Black History Through the Eyes of Dolls

Discover notable Black figures from Boston and New England through dolls and books. Learn research techniques and create a personalized doll journal or timeline.

### Part 2: Genealogy and Dolls – Connecting Our Stories

Learn to trace your family history with Joyce Stamps, Outreach Coordinator from the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society-NE. Use library resources and hands-on materials to build your family tree and uncover personal links to Black history.

Participants will receive a Doll & Genealogy Folder and Tote Bag with exclusive resources. Enjoy surprises, interactive games, and a celebration of African American heritage!

To register or for more information, email [bgdcpresents@gmail.com](mailto:bgdcpresents@gmail.com).

This program is funded by the generous support of the Fellowes Athenaeum Trust Fund.



**Accessibility Notice:** We strive to make our events accessible. To request a disability accommodation and/or language services, call 617.442.6186 or email [roxbury@bpl.org](mailto:roxbury@bpl.org). Please allow at least two weeks to arrange accommodation.

Roxbury Branch of the Boston Public Library

149 Dudley Street, Roxbury MA 02119

For more information, call 617-442-6186 or visit [bpl.org](http://bpl.org).



## COMICS CAMP: ROXBURY

Comic Drawing Classes with Artist Dave Ortega



Roxbury Branch Library – Learning Lab

Tuesday to Friday, April 22-25, 2025

10:30 AM – 1:30 PM

**Ages 10-15**

**Registration Required**



Comics Camp: Roxbury is a 4-day intensive drawing workshop series with a focus on comics! Led by artist Dave Ortega, with a special guest artist, the workshops will cover character design, setting, dialogue, and storytelling.

No experience necessary! All workshop materials provided.

For more information, or to register by phone, please contact: S. Matt Read at [sread@bostoncomicarts.org](mailto:sread@bostoncomicarts.org) or 617-721-1411.

This program is generously funded with support from the Fellowes Athenaeum Trust Fund and produced by the Boston Comic Arts Foundation.



**Accessibility Notice:** We strive to make our events accessible. To request a disability accommodation and/or language services, call 617.442.6186 or email [roxbury@bpl.org](mailto:roxbury@bpl.org). Please allow at least two weeks to arrange accommodation.

Roxbury Branch of the Boston Public Library

149 Dudley St., Roxbury, MA 02119

For more information, call 617.442.6186 or visit [bpl.org](http://bpl.org).





# Another two

## THE ROMANTIC TRIO

A Roxbury Concert Series Presentation



Roxbury Branch  
Saturday, April 5, 2025  
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM



All Ages

Registration Recommended

Join us for an unforgettable concert as pianist **Carlos Vargas** is joined by the acclaimed cellist **Francisco Vila** and Boston Symphony Orchestra violinist **Sophie Wang** for a breathtaking performance of **Tchaikovsky's Piano Trio in A Minor**—a work of profound depth, soaring melodies, and heartfelt expression. Experience the beauty and intensity of this masterpiece, written as a tribute to Tchaikovsky's beloved mentor, blending virtuosic brilliance with deeply personal emotion. With its sweeping themes, fiery virtuosity, and moments of aching lyricism, the trio showcases Tchaikovsky's unparalleled ability to turn personal grief into transcendent musical storytelling.

 **Accessibility Notice:** We strive to make our events accessible. To request a disability accommodation and/or language services, call 617.442.6186 or email [roxbury@bpl.org](mailto:roxbury@bpl.org). Please allow at least two weeks to arrange accommodation.

Roxbury Branch of the Boston Public Library  
149 Dudley St, MA 02119  
For more information, visit [roxburyconcertseries.org](http://roxburyconcertseries.org).



## The CALM Experience

Creative Activities for Learning Mindfulness

Roxbury Branch Library

Tuesday, April 22 - Friday, April 25, 2025





2:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Ages 9-12

Registration Required



The CALM Experience (Creative Activities for Learning Mindfulness) is a four-day program that engages children ages 9-12 in fun and informative activities that teach mindfulness practices such as emotional regulation, mindful eating, anxiety reduction practices, and meditation through play, art, literature, and technology. The CALM Experience will include but is not limited to the following activities:

-  Using video games, remote control cars, and drones to learn about emotion regulation and how to navigate through anxiety, anger, and sadness
-  Creating delicious drinks and snacks like smoothies, fruit kabobs, and sushi, while being educated on the risks of emotional eating and the benefits of mindful eating
-  Making crafts such as slime, jewelry, scented sports sleeves, and glow in the dark crafts to help with focus and relaxation techniques that participants can use in their daily life
-  Learning and sharing effective strategies to reduce anxiety and manage challenging emotions via the creation of a social media video

*This program is funded by the generous support of the Fellows Athenaeum Trust Fund.*

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Roxbury Branch Library  
149 Dudley Street, Roxbury, MA 02119  
For more information | 617.764.9592 | [emergedwellness.com](http://emergedwellness.com) |  
[t.ly/calmexperience](http://t.ly/calmexperience)





# Two again

## Movers + Makers The Story of Us



Age 7-99

Registration Required

20 Participants Max

Sponsored by Fellowes Athenaeum Trust

For more information and to register, please email [teammoversandmakers@gmail.com](mailto:teammoversandmakers@gmail.com).  
Registrants can join any time between program hours.  
Children must be accompanied by parent or caregiver.



Exploring Our Story: Illustrative Photo Panels || Friday, April 11th 1:30-4:30pm

Layering Our Story: Mexican Nichos || Friday, April 18th 1:30-4:30pm

Crafting Our Story: Character & Caricatures || Friday, May 2nd 1:30-4:30pm

Discovering Our Story: Self-Audio Portraits || Friday, May 9th 1:30-4:30pm

Engaging Our Story: Themed Slimes || Friday, May 16th 1:30-4:30pm

Carrying Our Story: Traveling Suitcases || Friday, June 6th 1:30-4:30pm



Accessibility Notice: We strive to make our events accessible. To request a disability accommodation and/or language services, call 617-468-8837 or email [teammoversandmakers@gmail.com](mailto:teammoversandmakers@gmail.com). Please allow at least two weeks to arrange accommodation.

Roxbury Branch Library | 2nd Floor Learning Lab  
149 Dudley St, Roxbury, MA 02119

For any questions, email [teammoversandmakers@gmail.com](mailto:teammoversandmakers@gmail.com) or visit [bpl.org](http://bpl.org).



## Sewing 101: Mother's Day - Family Sew 2025 Boot Camp

*Taught by Leslie R. English*

In this one-day sewing workshop, families will learn the basics of using a sewing machine, including: set up, care, and stitching. This hands-on, building-block workshop, is designed to introduce and explore the multiple features of the sewing machine. With step-by-step instructions, students will learn how to use the various stitches and create a unique sewing project.

Program begins promptly at 9:30am on Saturday, May 3, 2025 at the Roxbury Branch of the Boston Public Library. There will be a Closing Certificate Ceremony from 2:45pm to 3:30pm.

Registration is required. To register, please email: [roxburysewing101@gmail.com](mailto:roxburysewing101@gmail.com) or call 617-595-0016.

*This program is funded by the generous support of the Fellowes Athenaeum Trust Fund.*

### Sewing 101: Mother's Day - Family Sew 2025 Boot Camp

**Date:** Saturday, May 3, 2025

**Time:** 9:30am - 3:30pm

Registration required.

Roxbury Branch Library  
149 Dudley St., Roxbury, MA 02119  
617-595-0016

For more, visit [www.bpl.org](http://www.bpl.org)



Adults



# Programs coming

(Flyers not yet submitted)

- Greater Roxbury Book Fair
- Afro-Latin Drumming & culture classes for youth

Thank you. Any questions?

# Review of Programming Services

**BOSTON  
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Michael Colford, Director of Library Services



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# **BPL Programs Department**

**Gianna Gifford**

*Chief of Adult Library Services*

**Deandra Williams**

*Adult Programs Supervisor*

**Caren Rosales**

*Systemwide Programs Librarian*

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## What's New?

### **Adult Programs Supervisor**

- *Created in 2024*

### **Systemwide Programs Librarian**

- *Created in 2019*

- Department size has doubled since 2019
  - Shift from Central Library focus to system-wide programming
  - Develop systems & structure to support programming throughout the BPL
  - Added capacity to support major initiatives like the Fellowes Athenaeum
-

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## **Benefit for FATF Program**

- Additional funding to go directly to programs
- Stronger collaborative ties to Branch staff
- Better integration with BPL programming systemwide
- Existing system to reach potential program partners

## **Existing Strengths**

- Community input is vital
  - Committee involvement does not change
  - Established partners well documented
-



# New Business

**BOSTON  
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*Evelyn Arana Ortiz, Committee Chair*

\* Schedule next meeting

# Public Comment

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- People will be chosen in the order they were received and allowed 2 minutes to speak.
- The Moderator will unmute your mic when you are called on.
- Comments made in chat during meeting will not be acknowledged.
- If follow up is required, please send your contact email or phone number to the Clerk of the Board at [pcarver@bpl.org](mailto:pcarver@bpl.org)



# Adjournment

**BOSTON  
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***Please visit [bpl.org/Board of Trustees](http://bpl.org/Board of Trustees)  
for upcoming meeting  
details/information***

*\*Subject to change*