Spring Events 2024

Collaboratory @ WALLINGFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

WALLINGFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY
Our Doors Open to Endless Possibilities
200 North Main Street, Wallingford, CT 06492
(203) 265-6754 | wallingfordlibrary.org

Featured Events

Registration is required for all programs unless otherwise noted. Collaboratory programs are open to adults & teens in grades 9+ unless otherwise noted.

You may enter the Collaboratory program registration lottery from the 20th to the 22nd of the month prior. Participants will be selected via random drawing on the following business day. All others will be placed on the wait list. Due to high demand, we may limit individual participants to one program per month. If there are available seats after the lottery, registration will be directly through our online calendar.

Enter the lottery here: April | May | June

Program project photos can be found at: https://walpublib.org/UpcomingCollaboratory

Paint Your Pet For Adults

Tuesday, April 9 | 6:30-8:30pm

Create an original watercolor portrait based on a photo of your pet. This session is for adults ages 18+, but there is a 3pm session open to teens entering grades 6-12.

Note: this is a repeat program. Please do not register if you have attended previously.

Note: You must bring a 5x7 photo of your pet to the program. Library staff can print a 5x7 color copy of your pet's photo, but you must email the photo at least 2 days in advance to wplcollaboratory@gmail.com with "Paint Your Pet" in the subject line. A close-up of your pet's face with a high-contrast background is best, but a full-length photo is also acceptable. Please call us at (203)265-6754 if you have questions about the photo specifications.

Kinetic Sculpture - Miniature Water Scene

Saturday, April 27 | 11am-12:30pm

This laser-cut paint and assemble project illustrates a miniature water scene. Water movement is simulated through the use of tiny camshaft, which moves the waves.

Etsy Artisan Spring Market

Saturday, May 4 | 10am-2pm | All ages

Spring is finally here and with that comes a season of celebrations... Mother's Day, graduations, birthdays, weddings, baby showers, and Father's Day, to name a few. Forget the big box stores and celebrate your loved ones with a special handmade gift, made locally by crafters from Wallingford and surrounding towns. There's something for everyone, in a range of prices.

Spring Gnome

Tuesday, May 21 | 6:30-8:30pm OR
Thursday, May 23 | 2:30-4:30pm

Paint a charming spring gnome on a wooden board.

Rainbow Fish

Wednesday, May 22 | 6-8:30pm

Create a whimsical polymer clay rainbow fish sculpture using the millefiori technique.

Painted Daisy Wine Bottle

Monday, June 3 | 6:30-8:30pm OR
Tuesday, June 4 | 2:30-4:30pm

Celebrate spring by painting daisies on a wine bottle.

Note: This is a repeat program. Please do not register if you have attended previously.

Koi Rock

Tuesday, June 18 | 6:30-8:30pm OR
Thursday, June 20 | 2:30-4:30pm

Paint a swimming koi onto a rock using decorative painting techniques.

Talking TED @ Home

Join librarian Cindy Haiken to watch and discuss a popular TED talk. Registration required.

Thursday, April 11 | 7-8pm | Diana Nyad: Never, Ever Give Up
Thursday, May 2 | 7-8pm | Sue Klebold: My Son Was a Columbine Shooter. This Is My Story
Thursday, June 13 | 7-8pm | Norman Lear: An Entertainment Icon on Living a Life of Meaning

Maker Activities

Registration is required for all programs unless otherwise noted. Collaboratory programs are open to adults & teens in grades 9+ unless otherwise noted.

You may enter the Collaboratory program registration lottery from the 20th to the 22nd of the month prior. Participants will be selected via random drawing on the following business day. All others will be placed on the wait list. Due to high demand, we may limit individual participants to one program per month. If there are available seats after the lottery, registration will be directly through our online calendar.

Enter the lottery here: April | May | June

Program project photos can be found at: https://walpublib.org/UpcomingCollaboratory

Resin Suncatchers

Wednesday, April 3 | 7-8:30pm OR
Thursday, April 4 | 3-4:30pm

Spring is here and so is the sun! Learn how to use UV-resistant epoxy resin, alcohol inks, and mica powders to make suncatchers with beautiful abstract patterns.

Embroidery Hoop Tool Organizer

Wednesday, April 10 | 7-8:30pm OR
Thursday, April 11 | 3-4:30pm

Use one of the Collaboratory's sewing machines to sew pockets for a craft tool organizer that will fit into an embroidery hoop. No previous sewing experience needed.

Wooden Quilting Block

Wednesday, April 24 | 7-8:30pm OR
Thursday, April 25 | 3-4:30pm

Use laser cut wooden pieces to create decorative wooden quilting blocks! There will be three classic quilt block patterns from which to choose. *Please note that this is not a quilting program.*

Etched Vases

Wednesday, May 1 | 7-8:30pm OR
Thursday, May 2 | 3-4:30pm

Create a design in CorelDRAW to etch onto a glass vase using the laser cutter.

Sublimation Puzzle

Wednesday, May 8 | 7-8:30pm OR
Thursday, May 9 | 3-4:30pm

Make you own beautiful full color 120-piece 8-inch by 11-inch jigsaw puzzle! If there are specific images you want to use, be sure you bring the originals to scan or have access to them digitally.

Note: This is a repeat program. Please do not register if you have attended previously

Laser Cut Cactus

Wednesday, May 15 | 7-8:30pm OR
Thursday, May 16 | 3-4:30pm

Assemble and paint a laser cut cactus, a great decoration for the warmer months! All pieces will be cut out of wood prior to the program.

Note: This is a repeat program. Please do not register if you have attended previously

Resin Jewelry

Wednesday, May 29 | 7-8:30pm OR
Thursday, May 30 | 3-4:30pm

Resin jewelry is beautiful, customizable in an infinite amount of ways, and easier to make than it seems! We will use resin, molds, dyes, and small objects to create earrings and pendants.

Note: This is a repeat program. Please do not register if you have attended previously

Japanese Side Sewn Sketchbook

Wednesday, June 5 | 7-8:30pm OR
Thursday, June 6 | 3-4:30pm

Learn a Japanese style sewn bookbinding technique to bind a small book perfect to use as a sketchbook or journal. This tutorial is available online through Creativebug for Wallingford card holders.

Decorative Bowls

Wednesday, June 12 | 7-8:30pm OR
Thursday, June 13 | 3-4:30pm

Make a beautiful wooden bowl, perfect for decoration (but sadly not for holding food, and definitely not liquids). These bowls are exclusive to the Wallingford Public Library!

Note: This is a repeat program. Please do not register if you have attended previously

Sublimation Decorated Hats

Wednesday, June 26 | 7-8:30pm OR
Thursday, June 27 | 3-4:30pm

Use the sublimation printer to create artwork to iron onto a trucker-style baseball hat. If there are specific images you would like to use, be sure you are able to access them digitally.

Note: This is a repeat program. Please do not register if you have attended previously

Drop-in Groups

Knit @ WPL

First and third Monday of the month
6-7:30pm | Open to teens and adults

Knit @ WPL is a place where knitters and crocheters can practice their work in the company of others. Newcomers are welcome to join, but knitting experience is required. *Please note: The group meets in the Board Room.*

Open Sew

Tuesdays, April 2, May 7, & June 4
6-8:30pm | Open to teens and adults

Do you like to sew? Join people who enjoy quilting and sewing at a casual "drop in" program anytime from 6:00 to 8:30pm in the Collaboratory the first Tuesday evening of each month. Bring your unfinished projects, either hand sewing or machine. There are 4 portable sewing machines (or bring your own) and lots of sewing supplies and tools provided by the library for your use. Stop by for 10 minutes or for the full 2.5 hours for a fun evening of sharing and learning!

Pride No-Sew Tote Bag

Saturday, June 22
11am-12pm | Open to teens and adults

Drop by the Collaboratory to make a no-sew tote bag out of a "Libraries are for Everyone" Wallingford Public Library t-shirt! All materials are provided.

This is a drop-in program with limited supplies, so first-come, first-served.

Technology Training

Introduction to the Collaboratory

Saturday, May 11 | 2-3:30pm OR
Monday, May 20 | 2-3:30pm

Ever wonder exactly what is in the Collaboratory (or what the Collaboratory even is)? Come to this class and learn about each and every thing in there!

Intermediate Canva

Monday, May 13 | 2-3:30pm

Use Canva to practice different design principles such as visual hierarchy, negative space, and balance that will help your designs shine! This will be a hands-on, guided class. Basic experience with Canva is required.

Coding Basics

Monday, June 10 | 2-3:30pm OR
Saturday, June 22 | 2-3:30pm

Ever wonder how websites are created? This class will go over the basics of HTML & CSS, coding languages that are used to make up about 95% of all websites, by coding a webpage featuring a recipe card! Basic computer skills are required, but prior coding experience is not.

Collaboratory Full-Service Hours

Monday-Friday	9:30-1:00 & 1:30-9:00
Saturday	9:30-1:00 & 1:30-5:00
Sundays (Jan-April)	12:00-4:00

Appointments Available

To access equipment in the Vault you will need to sign a waiver and undergo training on the piece of equipment you would like to use. Training appointments are 30 minutes and are one-on-one sessions. Training is available for the **Brother DreamMaker XE VE2200** embroidery machine, **Baby Lock Crown Jewel III** long arm quilting machine, and **Brother Homelock 1034D** serger.

Please call us at (203)265-6754 to set up an appointment.

During full-service hours, all equipment is open and staff are available to assist you. Self-service hours are the remaining operating hours of the Main Library.

During self-service hours, certain equipment is unavailable and there are no dedicated staff on hand.