

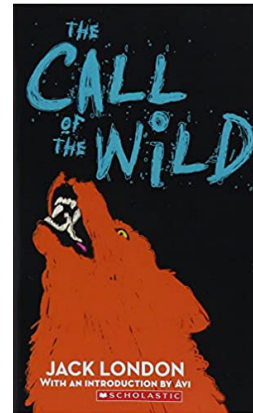


Montrose Regional Library

# Educator Newsletter

Fall 2021

Montrose Regional Library news specifically for educators and schools



## NEA Big Read: A Community-Wide Read in Montrose County

The Montrose Regional Library District has been chosen as an NEA Big Read recipient! NEA Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest and aims to broaden our understanding of our world, our communities, and ourselves through the joy of sharing a good book. Kicking off in September, Montrose will be reading Jack London's *Call of the Wild*, with companion titles and events for readers of all ages. On September 18, from 11am to 1pm on the east lawn of the library/CMU Quad, anyone and everyone can pick up free copies of the book and enjoy music, games, and activities. We would love for educators (including home educators), students, and their classrooms to be involved in exploring the work and its themes, whether through library programs and resources or in-class activities!

### Events include:

- a presentation from Iditarod competitor Karen Land and her sled dog, Noggin, with a free companion book for kids under 15
- an event with the Montrose Historical Society on mining, trapping, and gold panning, designed for kids under 15, with a free companion book
- a family-centric program at the Ute Indian Museum about dog evolution
- a multigenerational program at the Black Canyon about its history and ecosystems
- a Teen Book Club read of the graphic novel version of *Call of the Wild*

The Montrose Library website and Facebook page will post specific program dates.

Related kits will be available for checkout, including book club kits for all ages and the Black Canyon Geology kit, designed for middle school grades. Youth Services' Badge Quest Program will include a Big Read badge, which can be earned by reading three informational books and completing a project of associated subject matter. Librarians can bring the badge-making supplies to classrooms, if desired.

We hope you'll join us in reading, discovering, and discussing together, and we welcome all ideas for collaboration.

Direct inquiries about the grant or programs for youth to Tina Meiners, [tmeiners@montroselibrary.org](mailto:tmeiners@montroselibrary.org), and inquiries about programs for adults to Taylor Evans, [tevens@montroselibrary.org](mailto:tevens@montroselibrary.org). Middle and high school teachers and librarians interested in hosting a student book club can reach out to Amy Dickinson, [adickinson@montroselibrary.org](mailto:adickinson@montroselibrary.org). Educators can always make use of Educators' Requests, if they would like books on specific subject matter, and professional cards, which allow extended check-out times.

## Youth Services for Educators

### Afterschool Programming at Your Library

The school year is back in full swing, and Montrose Regional Library has several afterschool activities for students this fall!

STREAM Club, from 4-5pm on Tuesdays, is for eight to eleven year olds who want to explore science and art through stories, activities, and crafts, alongside others from the community. Topics change every week, so there will always be something new!

STREAM Junior Club, from 4-4:30pm on Mondays, is designed for children ages five to eight, plus their adults, and is a scaled-back version of STREAM Club. Participants will make crafts, conduct experiments, and learn cool science through stories.

Reading to Rover also takes place on Tuesday afternoons. Kids can develop their reading skills with the help of furry friends. Held in the Story Hour Room, students sign up for 15-minute sessions to read to a therapy dog. These dogs are specially trained to sit and listen while they are petted and talked to. If you know of a struggling reader or any kid who enjoys dogs, this weekly program is for them.

Who doesn't like LEGOs?! From 3-4pm on Wednesdays, kids can join us in the library meeting room to build a specific design provided by a librarian or to create something new. All LEGO pieces are provided by the library, so kids don't bring their own, and creations are photographed (pending child approval) before getting pulled apart and put away at the end of each session. Ages four to 11 are welcome, but younger participants need an adult present.

The strategically inclined might enjoy Chess Club. This gaming event takes place from 3:30-5:30pm on Thursdays, and in-person and online options are available. Chess boards, game pieces, and instruction are provided with new techniques and strategies every week. Chess Club is open to those four years and older, so tweens, teens, and adults are encouraged to participate as well!

### Safe Sitter

Are your students of age to be by themselves at home? Do you know young people looking for their first jobs? If you answered "maybe" or "yes," then the Montrose Regional Library has an opportunity.

For two years, the library has served as a training center for tweens and teens learning safe independence at home and babysitting skills. Using curriculum from the nationally renowned Safe Sitter organization, students are certified in basic home-alone safety, caretaking skills, and First Aid and CPR. Starting this fall, courses will take place on Saturdays at the library.

Interested families should call Youth Services Librarian James at 970-964-2551, or email him at [jstetson@montroselibrary.org](mailto:jstetson@montroselibrary.org) for more information.



Contact James at:

970-964-2551

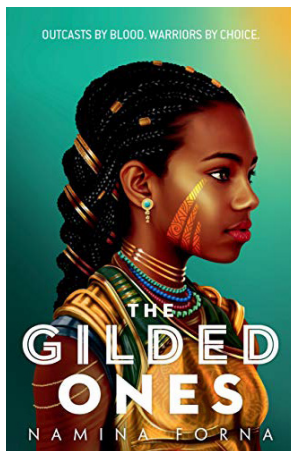
[jstetson@montroselibrary.org](mailto:jstetson@montroselibrary.org)

## Teen Services for Educators



The MRLD Teen Advisory Board is seeking new members! Participants must be 13 years or older and willing to commit at least one hour a week. Meetings will take place in the fall semester on Wednesdays at 6pm at the library. TAB members advise library staff on decisions affecting teens and sign up to work on committees to lead teen programs, create displays, or spearhead special projects. Members can receive community service hours for their work.

Educators, if you have any students you think would be a great fit, please encourage them to reach out to Amy via email at [adickinson@montroselibrary.org](mailto:adickinson@montroselibrary.org) or in person at the library. We're seeking students from all schools, including the homeschool community, and we hope to include a diverse set of viewpoints and backgrounds.



The Teen(ish) Book Club reconvenes on Wednesday, September 29, at 4pm in the library's meeting room. September's pick is *The Gilded Ones* by Namina Forna, and the first 15 registrants receive free copies of the book. For ages 12(ish) to 18(ish). Teens can sign up at <https://bit.ly/mrldtypeen> or by emailing Amy at [adickinson@montroselibrary.org](mailto:adickinson@montroselibrary.org).

The next Teen(ish) Book Club will be the graphic novel version of Jack London's *Call of the Wild* in early November!

These are casual low-pressure conversations, and all are welcome (including people who don't think of themselves as big readers).

## Electronic Resources for Educators



### Fall E-Resource Spotlight: Learning Express Library

Did you know...

- You can get resources to study for PSAT, ACT, SAT, and AP exams with just your library card!
- The site features downloadable practice guides and multiple practice exams for free for MRLD patrons.
- All college prep practice exams can be found under "College Admissions Test Preparation."
- Additional categories include subject-specific skill-building for elementary, middle, and high school, with science, social studies, math, and language practice in the form of downloadable e-books.

Find the resource: 1) visit [montroselibrary.org](http://montroselibrary.org) and choose "Online Tools." 2) Click on the link for "Databases." 3) Scroll down and click on "Learning Express Library." 4) Create your account to log in, choose the category relevant to you, and start practicing!

# Upcoming Programs

## For All Ages

Kick off the NEA Big Read of Jack London's Call of the Wild on Saturday, September 18, from 11am-1pm. Music, crafts, food, games, and prizes.

Plus, pick up your free copy of Call of the Wild!

No sign-up required. Join us on the east library lawn/CMU quad.



## Teen/Tween Programs

### Teens vs. Librarians Trivia

Teens will compete on a team against three Reference Librarians, and both teams will suggest categories in advance. The big event takes place on Wednesday, September 15, at 7pm, after hours in the library.

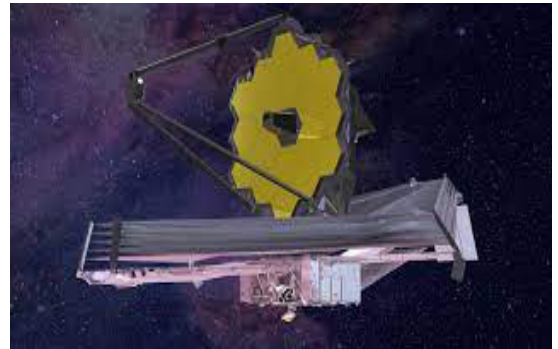
Register at <https://bit.ly/mrldteen> or email Amy at [adickinson@montroselibrary.org](mailto:adickinson@montroselibrary.org)



## Youth Programs

### James Webb Space Telescope Launch

In anticipation of NASA's launch of the James Webb Telescope in November, and in recognition of International Observe the Moon Night, the library will host a workshop for kids and families on Thursday, October 14, from 6-7pm, featuring a short presentation from the Black Canyon Astronomical Society and astronomy activities for various levels.



<https://montroselibrary.org>

Give us your feedback on what you want to see in the Educator Newsletter!

<https://bit.ly/MRLDfeedback>  
(URL is case-sensitive)



Sign up at <https://bit.ly/MRLDednewsletter>  
(URL is case-sensitive)

The Montrose Regional Library District fosters community by providing resources, encouraging reading, and supporting lifelong learning.