

The Holyoke Public Library  
[www.holyokelibrary.org](http://www.holyokelibrary.org)



## Who Are You?

### Interested In Researching Your Ancestry? We Can Help!

The Holyoke Public Library offers library-wide access to Ancestry Library Edition to help you answer that question! One of the most important genealogical collections available today, Ancestry Library Edition contains thousands of databases and billions of indexed names. It includes U.S. census, vital, church, court, and immigration records, as well as record collections from the United Kingdom, Canada, Europe, Australia and other areas of the world.

Just getting started with genealogy? The staff and volunteers at the Holyoke History Room can help you learn to navigate these databases and discover if the History Room has other information about your ancestors.

It is good to look to the past  
to gain appreciation for the present  
and perspective for the future. . .

Gordon B. Hinckley



You may drop in at the History Room during Reading Room hours:  
Tuesdays 10:00 – 6:00  
Wednesdays 12:00 – 6:00  
Thursdays 10:00 – 4:00

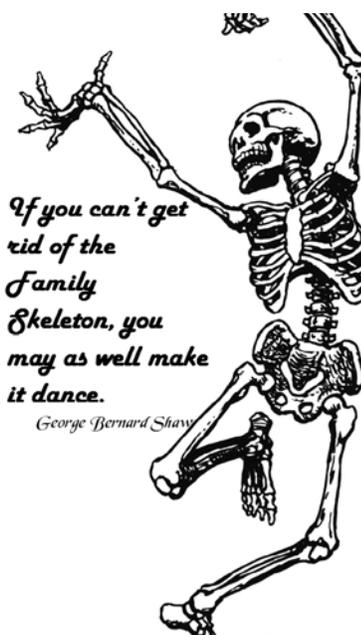
You may access Ancestry Library Edition from any Library computer or from your own device when connected to the Library's free Wi-Fi.

You may also call ahead for an appointment to get one-on-one help: (413) 420-8107.

Your Holyoke Public Library borrower's card also gives you access to HeritageQuest Online, which contains all U.S. Federal Census records through 1940 and the contents of historic City Directories from across the country. HeritageQuest Online is available in the Library or from home using your Holyoke Public Library card.

<http://www.holyokelibrary.org/historyonline.asp>

Access to our genealogical databases is made possible by the [Friends of the Holyoke Public Library](#).



*If you can't get  
rid of the  
Family  
Skeleton, you  
may as well make  
it dance.*

George Bernard Shaw



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FRIENDS' CORNER



**Save the dates April 7-8, 2017  
for**

**Mini Golf in the Library!  
¡Minigolf en la Biblioteca!**

Holyoke Public Library, 250 Chestnut Street, Holyoke, MA

Friday evening "Swing into Spring" Cocktail Party

April 7, 6:30 - 9:30 pm

Food, drink (cash bar), music, a silent auction

AND the opportunity to preview/play the 18-hole mini golf course

Saturday April 8, 9:30 am - 3:30 pm

Mini Golf for all ages

Adults \$5; Ages 5-12 \$3; Under 5 Free

[www.holyokelibrary.org/aboutfriendsgolf.asp](http://www.holyokelibrary.org/aboutfriendsgolf.asp)



## Check This Out!

## Book Sale

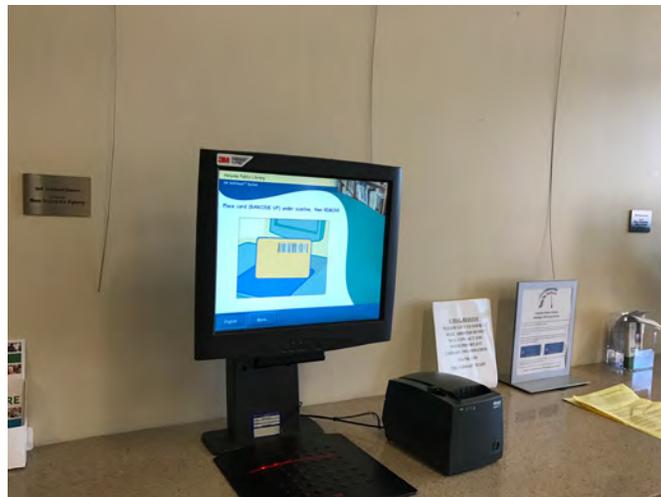
You may have noticed a bookshelf set up near the checkout desk of the Library. The books on the shelf are for sale at a very low price; one dollar for hardbound and fifty cents for paperback. Inventory is constantly changing as books fly off the shelf. Take a look.

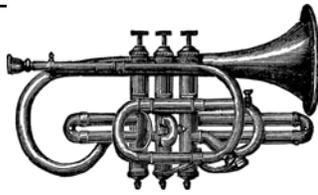
Proceeds benefit The Friends of the Holyoke Public Library to help support Library programs.

Long line at the checkout desk? Or are you the type of person who likes to take matters into their own hands? We have an option for you when you are checking out books! Directly across from the checkout desk there is a self-checkout counter with two checkout stations. All you need to do is scan your library card, scan the books you are checking out, press an on-screen button to print a receipt, and take your receipt. It is as easy as that.

Note that some items such as DVDs or books with CDs are not available for self-checkout as we need to verify that the removable media is in the case or book for your protection before you leave the Library.

Thank you.





## And Now a Word From...

**Terry Plum**  
President, Board of Directors



The October Annual Meeting of the Board of the Holyoke Public Library is an important event, because it provides the Board and the Library with the opportunity to assess accomplishments of the year and to plan for the coming year. This year the Annual Meeting went well and the support of the Director, Maria Pagan in making it a success should be recognized.

Here are some of the accomplishments for the year that were reviewed at that meeting.

Last October we dedicated the renovated Library Park, funded with CDBG funds through the Office of Community Development and approved by the Mayor. The beautiful new park area has creative landscaping designed by Milone & MacBroom, the fence separating the park from HB Lawrence Elementary School has been removed, and there is the opportunity for collaboration and games.

The Library partnered with the Puerto Rican Cultural Project to produce the *Puerto Rico Canta on Main Street* on January 2, 2016. A second concert, *Parranda on Main Street*, is scheduled for December 10, 2016.

The Author series of programs by the Library continues to thrive; this past year saw authors such as Melinda Thomas, Harry Franqui-Rivera, Charles R. Venator Santiago, Paul Clerici, Dan Shanahan, Mary C Kelly, Sonia Nieto, and many others.

In the Library building, several rooms were painted, the lights in the Teen Room were fixed, and the landscaping in the Park was improved by fixing the rain garden in the parking lot and planting trees.

The Children's librarians ran a successful Sumer Reading program, signing up 226 children over half of whom returned their reading logs. They have worked with children from the Boys & Girls Club, Lawrence School, YMCA, Girl Scouts,

the Pediatrics Department of the Holyoke Health Center, McMahon School, Children's House, Enchanted Circle Theatre, and others. There is a new active service desk established in the Teen Room, a new librarian, Rachel Dowd, and a host of new programs for teens.

Maria Pagan continues to work with the Greater Holyoke Chamber of Commerce on the SPARK program and lately on the Ecosystem Group. See <http://sparkholyoke.com/> for further details.

The collaboration with CENTRO of Hunter College continues to bear fruit, with several speakers at the Library over the year and participation in the all day *Puerto Rico, Puerto Ricans New England Summit*, organized by Enlace de Familias and CENTRO, on September 17, 2016 at the Holyoke High School.

The History Room received a Common Heritage Grant from the NEH to collect Latino Family History and has acquired an important photography collection focusing on Holyoke.

The Library received a significant bequest from Alice Newton Childs Smith, who was honorary co-chair of the Library capital campaign. The bequest enabled the Board to set up an emergency or rainy day fund, providing some safety and flexibility for the Endowment. The Library Board had two fund raising appeals, Fall and Spring, and participated in Valley Gives.

The Library is on a sound financial basis, and a number of steps were taken to tighten up the budget, to use State Aid more effectively, to conserve Endowment funds where possible, to use City funds more efficiently, and to save money on contracts. The Library is up to date on the financial audit by Meyers Brothers Kalicka.

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The Library has set up a relationship with the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission, and is now a site where clients of MRC can pursue the on-the-job evaluation program.

Finally, the Library has supported the nearby HAP Housing Library Commons project and looks forward to the beginning of construction. See further details at: <http://www.haphousing.org/default/index.cfm/library-commons-development/>

For the coming year, the Board is developing a strategic plan, and a community survey is being distributed. To generate demographic and economic data for the plan, the Library purchased Gale's *Analytics on Demand*.

The Board is currently working on goals for this year.



It has been a good and productive year for the Library, and I would like to thank the Director, the Library staff, the Board, the Friends Officers, the Friends, the Corporators, and the others who made possible this year's accomplishments by the Library.

## Need Some Assistance With That New (Or Old) Computer?



We don't have an "app" for that. However we do offer one-hour personal one-on-one training sessions in basic use of the computer. These sessions are offered most Tuesdays and Thursdays, but you must set up an appointment in advance. Appointments should be scheduled 24 hours in advance.

Workshops and One-on-One Tech Tutoring are offered in English and Spanish. A valid library card is required to participate. Space is limited and appointments should be scheduled 24 hours in advance. To register or schedule an appointment, call 413-420-8118, or write to [grivera@hol yokelibrary.org](mailto:grivera@hol yokelibrary.org). Please contact us if more information is needed.



## From The Teen Room

Each week the Holyoke Public Library Teen Room hosts a variety of programs geared toward teenagers. Ongoing weekly programs include “Game On,” a board and card game club (made possible by a generous donation from the Friends of the Library) and “Crafternoons,” which affords teens the opportunity to make beaded jewelry, to color the pages of our beautiful coloring books, to draw and doodle, and to make pins with our button maker. There are also monthly movie screenings followed by a lively discussion.

Once a week the Teen Room offers a field trip to the Gandara Center on Race St. Participants have been working with Iohann Vega, the Computer and Media Literacy Coordinator, to record and edit their own interviews, record songs, and to learn about media literacy.

There is also a theater workshop offered for teens at the Library on the first Tuesday of each month from 4:30-5:30 pm. UMass Theater student extraordinaire, Miguel Paredes will be working with the youth to help them tell stories through personal narrative and theater. Teens do not need to have any prior theatrical experience to participate!



Recording Session In Progress with Iohann Vega



## From The Children’s Room

The Holyoke Public Library Children’s Room continues to offer a variety of programs for the children of Holyoke. These include “Stories With Nathan,” “Bingo!” - the only game in town where everyone is a winner, “Drop In Craft Time,” and “Spanish Story Time.” Note that all supplies needed and prizes for “Bingo!” are provided free to the children thanks to our donors.



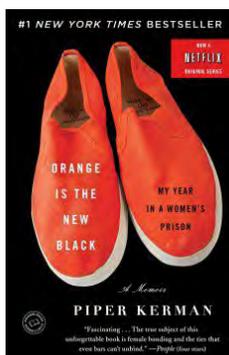
Check our [website calendar](#) for dates, times, and events. Note: Click on “Calendar View” to see all scheduled events.



## Hamptons + Holyoke Read

Holyoke Public Library is partnering with Forbes Library, Lilly Library and the libraries in Easthampton, Southampton and Westhampton and many community partners to present a Community Read in March and April, 2017. The program will invite readers to participate in book discussions, film screenings, gallery exhibits, and several other events.

The book chosen for 2017 is the *Orange is the New Black: My Year in a Women's Prison* by Piper Kerman, popularized by the Netflix series. Originally published in 2010, this book tells the true story of the author's time in a federal women's prison where she served a 15-month sentence for drug trafficking. The author attended Smith College. Although the book gives a narrow view of prison life, we are using the title to have a wide-ranging community conversation including mass incarceration, youth in prison, prison reform, community policing, and more.



### ***Orange is the New Black: My Year in a Women's Prison***

by Piper Kerman

Follows the author's incarceration for drug trafficking, during which she gained a unique perspective on the criminal justice system and met a varied community of women living under exceptional circumstances.

For more information and to join us as a community partner, please contact Lisa Downing, Forbes Library, [ldowning@forbeslibrary.org](mailto:ldowning@forbeslibrary.org), 413-587-1017.

### **Hamptons + Holyoke Read**

20 West Street  
Northampton, Massachusetts 01060 | (413) 587-1012  
<https://www.facebook.com/HamptonsHolyokeRead>

## [HolyokeLibrary.org](http://HolyokeLibrary.org): It's a Happening Place

The Holyoke Public Library website never sleeps! We never close! We are available 24/7! And what a selection of resources we have! Can't sleep? Grab a glass of milk and belly up to your home computer!

**Read a newspaper.** The Holyoke Public Library offers *Newspapers* online: *The North Adams Advocate*, *The Amherst Bulletin*, *The Berkshire Eagle*, *The Daily Hampshire Gazette*, and *The North Adams Transcript*.

**Read a magazine or research any topic.** The Holyoke Public Library offers *Gales Virtual Databases* with magazines, journals & special topics to assist with research.

**Study for a test or look for a job.** The Holyoke Public Library offers LearningExpress Library™ which helps you improve your lives every day with online access to the most comprehensive selection of academic and career-related resources available. It features skill-building tools for reading, writing, math, and science. There are tests preparation for high school equivalency and college admissions exams. The workplace resources include tools for job searching, exploring new careers, and preparing for occupational licensing exams, citizenship--and much more. All you need is a Holyoke Public Library card and internet access



*Please Consider  
a Donation to  
the Library. Our  
Programs Are Funded  
By You! We Thank  
You.*



## [HolyokeLibrary.org](http://HolyokeLibrary.org): It's a Learning Place

The Holyoke Public Library offers **Miss Humblebee's Academy**, an online resource to help prepare preschoolers for kindergarten and beyond!

With a combination of online and offline learning opportunities, children can play and learn anywhere and anytime, although we do not recommend that they stay up past bedtime.

All you need is a Holyoke Public Library card and internet access.

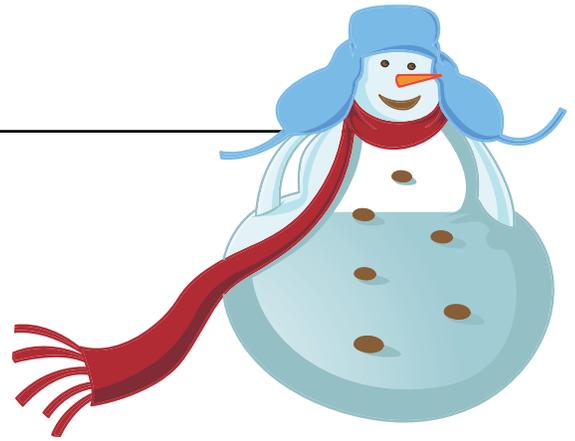
1. Access Miss Humblebee's Academy at the library or at home on a computer
2. Play and learn on mobile devices (iPads and tablets)
3. 20% of the curriculum is available as printable and practice worksheets, giving children practice using writing tools.

**Give it a try! Your preschooler will enjoy it...and so will YOU!**



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# Thank You To Our Library Staff



## Library Hours of Operation

School Year Hours  
September—May  
Monday thru Thursday  
8:30 am to 8:30 pm  
Friday and Saturday  
8:30 am to 4:00 pm

Summer Hours  
June—August  
Monday thru Wednesday  
8:30 am to 6:00 pm  
Thursday and Friday  
8:30 am to 5:00 pm  
Closed Saturday

Holyoke History Room  
Tuesday  
10:00 am to 6:00 pm  
Wednesday  
12:00 pm to 6:00 pm  
Thursday  
10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Holyoke Public Library  
250 Chestnut Street  
Holyoke, MA 01040  
(413) 420-8101

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Library Director:       | Maria G. Pagan                                    |
| Assistant Director:     | Carla Wessels<br>Jason Lefebvre                   |
| Reference Librarians:   | Michael Baron &<br>Cheryl Livengood               |
| Information Technology: | Jose Figueroa &<br>Gretcher Rivera                |
| Children's Librarians:  | Jason Lefebvre &<br>Nathan Hayes                  |
| Teen Librarian          | Rachel Dowd                                       |
| History Room Archivist: | Eileen Crosby                                     |
| Financial Manager:      | R. Andrew Parker                                  |
| Financial Assistant:    | Florence Stefancik                                |
| Development Associate:  | Nancy Kocsmiersky                                 |
| Technical Services:     | Linda Kurowski,<br>Martha Olver &<br>Meg Haley    |
| Library Assistants/ILL: | Lucy Diaz,<br>Christabel Rivera &<br>Mayra Rivera |
| Custodians:             | Mark Gadboury &<br>Aaron Lempke                   |