

April 2024 | Section B

Neighborhood Summit: 3

Free Outdoor Fitness: 10

GRPL News: 14

## MOVING AHEAD!

The draft plan is ready for review!  
Attend a Bridge to Our Future Workshop  
for the Grand Rapids Community Master Plan.

**TUE, MAY 7**

5-7 p.m.  
GRPS University  
1400 Fuller Ave. NE

**WED, MAY 8**

5-7 p.m.  
Ottawa Hills High School  
2055 Rosewood Ave. SE

**THU, MAY 9**

5-7 p.m.  
Sibley Elementary School  
943 Sibley St. NW

**5-6 p.m. Self-paced review of draft recommendations**

**6-6:15 p.m. Dinner provided**

**6:15-7 p.m. Small group conversations of chapter areas**

We're creating a new Community Master Plan (CMP) that will define the vision of how our city will grow and develop over the next 20 years. These workshops are family friendly and provide an opportunity to give feedback on the draft recommendations of the CMP.

For planning purposes, please RSVP using the QR code below.



Learn more  
[BridgeToOurFuture.com](https://www.BridgeToOurFuture.com)



Can't attend? Visit our website to learn about other ways to get involved!

## Make A Generational Impact On Our Community



Dear Community Member,

I want to thank those members of the community who have engaged in the Community Master Plan (CMP) process during the past 18 months. A Community Master Plan is a long-range visionary plan that defines how a city wants to be, look and feel in the future. This plan will serve as a roadmap to inform the growth of our city, providing guidance for the development of a community with an emphasis on future land, environment, transportation and asset planning. Your voice has been critical in drafting a blueprint for how our community will grow and evolve over the next 20 years. Over 5,030 community members have already participated in various meetings and surveys. As one of the premier growing cities in Michigan, Grand Rapids is a great place to live for many residents. We know there are challenges for ensuring a high quality of life for all residents, but I am confident we will make progress.

While we are about 85% of the way through our CMP development process, the work is far from done. The draft plan is almost ready for review and we will need additional feedback on our community-engaged draft plan that addresses essential topics such as growth, economic prosperity, housing, transportation, equity, sustainability and land use. With your help, we will build community consensus as we define our long-range vision for a prosperous future.

Your chance to review our draft CMP takes place at our Bridge to Our Future workshops scheduled on May 7, 8 and 9 (see graphic for meeting specifics). This will allow residents to offer feedback before the draft is finalized and presented to the Planning Commission and ultimately the City Commission. Additional opportunities for feedback will occur at the Planning Commission meeting and City Commission meeting before the Community

## BRIDGE TO OUR FUTURE

Master Plan is approved. Upon final approval, we will begin the process of evaluating which zoning ordinances, plans and policies must be changed in order to align with the master plan.

So far, we've had an overwhelmingly positive response to ideas for increased housing density, mobility options, and green space, among other topics. It's not too late for you to join the process and give us your feedback too, if you have not done so yet.

If you cannot attend the Bridge to Our Future workshops in May, we will have an online engagement opportunity to hear your thoughts. We also will have our Community Connectors and Neighborhood Organizations hosting meetings and pop-up events with the information to gather more input, so please keep your eye on our webpage to learn more.

Finally, I would be remiss if I also didn't thank members of our approximately 50-member CMP Steering Committee who meet regularly to guide this important work. The committee is comprised of neighborhood representatives, business owners and other community members who represent a diverse cross-section of the city.

Again, I thank you for helping us craft a unified vision for the next generation and urge you to get or stay involved.

Regards,

Mark Washington, City Manager

## Bing Goei Appointed Third Ward Commissioner

At its Tuesday, March 19 meeting, the Grand Rapids City Commission unanimously approved and appointed Bing Goei to fill the Third Ward Commissioner position left vacant by the resignation of Commissioner Nathaniel Moody. Goei will serve out the remaining eight months of the Third Ward commissioner position's unexpired term.

Bing Siong Goei, a 64-year Grand Rapids resident, is the first Asian American to serve on the Grand Rapids City Commission. He is a small business entrepreneur and owner of two Grand Rapids businesses – Eastern Floral and the Goei Center.

In his application for appointment, Commissioner Goei wrote, “I am blessed to be at a stage in my life which will allow me to provide the necessary time to listen to and serve the residents of the Third Ward. It will be an honor and a privilege to represent the Third Ward. Throughout my life, I have made a commitment to celebrate the accomplishments and contributions of all the residents living in the Third Ward. Most of my efforts have focused on ensuring that underserved communities are not forgotten.”

The process to appoint a new Third Ward commissioner began January 23 when the

City opened the application period (through February 1). On February 6, the City Commission's Committee on Appointments (COA) reviewed the applications and recommended seven qualified candidates. On February 20, the COA interviewed those candidates and then narrowed the field to three – Bing Goei, Marshall Kilgore and John Krajewski. On March 5, the City Commission interviewed the finalists before making its selection this morning and confirming the vote this evening.



## We've Got You Covered For The 2024 Elections

It's a busy year of elections, and your City Clerk's Office wants to make sure you're prepared. Here are important dates and information for each upcoming election:

**August 6:** Partisan Primary election for federal, state, and county offices – Democratic and Republican candidates are listed on the ballot. You need to select one or the other – can't cross between parties. There may also be a Non-Partisan Primary for City Mayor, City Commission, Library Board, Judges and proposals.

**November 5:** Presidential General election – You may vote a straight party for partisan offices or select candidates individually. This ballot includes federal, state, county, judicial, city and school offices as well as proposals.

Proposal 2 of 2022 gives voters more options

- **Early Voting** – Voters may go to an early voting site to get a ballot, vote and place the ballot in the tabulator during a nine-

day period between the two Saturdays before the election through the Sunday before the election. Hours of operations are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. – Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday. You may also bring your absentee ballot to the EV site to tabulate that ballot.

Sts Peter and Paul School	1430 Quarry NW
GRPS University	1400 Fuller NE
Ottawa Hills HS	2055 Rosewood SE
DeVos Place	303 Monroe NW NOV. ONLY

- **Absentee Voting** – Voters may choose to be placed on a Permanent Ballot List. A voter will apply once for all future elections. A voter may still choose to fill out an application for every election.

Some reminders before you head to the polls:

- **Voter registration** – Residents who are 18 or older and a United States Citizen are automatically registered to vote when they make a transaction with the Secretary of State. You may register to vote by mail up to 15 days before an election and in person at the City Clerk's Office within 14 days of the election up to Election Day. You need to prove residency in the city.

Check your registration information at [michigan.gov/vote](https://michigan.gov/vote).

- Check your voter registration status, register to vote, view a sample ballot, apply for and absentee ballot or find your polling location at [michigan.gov/vote](https://michigan.gov/vote).

Get involved – Become an Election Worker

- In order to run successful elections, we need help from the community. Election workers are on the frontline of democracy. You will be able to see firsthand how the election process works. Election workers report how rewarding it is to experience the voting process, especially when you see someone vote for the first time. Please check out this website about becoming an election worker.

[grandrapidsmi.gov/Residents/Elections/Election-Workers](https://grandrapidsmi.gov/Residents/Elections/Election-Workers)



## Community Cleanup Marks 15th Anniversary With City-Wide Event

The Grand Rapids Community Cleanup is thrilled to announce its 15th annual event, Saturday, April 20 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. This city-wide initiative, organized by the West Grand Neighborhood Organization (WGNO) in partnership with multiple neighborhood associations, businesses and organizations on the Cleanup Committee, has become a beloved tradition aimed at fostering community engagement and preserving the natural beauty of our city.

Please join this impactful event by signing up and registering ahead of time at [westgrand.org/wscleanup](https://westgrand.org/wscleanup). With 17 launch pads across the city, volunteers can choose

their preferred location to begin their cleanup efforts. Whether coming alone, with family, colleagues, or friends, everyone is welcome to contribute to this meaningful cause.

The Community Cleanup offers a rewarding experience for volunteers, culminating in an after-party at John Ball Zoo. Following a few hours of trash collection, participants are treated to a complimentary meal and beverage(s), including adult options. The event also features a range of children's activities and community partners, with attendees receiving free access to the zoo (voucher valid for one week).

This year's food vendors include Taste of Toya's World, Rise Bakery (vegan/GF), Fratelli's, Mercadito, El Caribe, Kona Ice and more, with John Ball Zoo serving as the title sponsor. The event's rich history traces back 15 years when Westside residents Brian & Erica Van Ee, initiated efforts to clean up their neighborhood after the snowmelt to prevent debris from entering the watershed. Over time, the event grew in popularity, attracting over 700 participants last year.







## Dumpster Days Coming to a Neighborhood Near You!

As part of your spring-cleaning routine, don't forget about neighborhood Dumpster Days! This program is an annual partnership between the Public Works Department, area Neighborhood Associations, community, civic groups and area places of worship. The current program was developed during the summer of 2001 with the help of the Fuller Avenue Neighbors Association.

The program consists of dumpsters being dropped-off at a volunteer-staffed central location within the selected cleanup area. Residents are notified of the impending cleanup and are asked to bring identification verifying their residency within the selected cleanup area. It's a great way to declutter your home, garage and yard.

For more information on when your Dumpster Day is scheduled, contact your neighborhood association.

## In-Road Pedestrian Signs Spring Up Once Again

Our Mobile GR Department will be placing in-road pedestrian signs throughout the city in the month of April. These signs are put up every spring, as they must be removed every year for snow clearing. They serve as a helpful reminder that in Grand Rapids it is the law to stop for pedestrians at crosswalks and intersections.

Drivers should always be vigilant and prepared to stop at crosswalks and intersections. Keep your eyes on the road, be

predictable and follow signage. Pedestrians, use designated crosswalks and intersections to cross the street. Wait for the signal to safely cross at signalized intersections. To be extra safe, make eye contact with drivers before stepping onto the road to ensure they see you and are prepared to stop. Pedestrian safety is a shared responsibility. We must all work together to be as safe as possible when traveling.



# SAVE THE DATE!

EMBRACING THE POWER OF **TENSION**, **TENACITY**, & **INTENTIONALITY**



**SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2024**



**8 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

*followed by a community celebration*



**Grand Valley State University,  
Pew Campus 401 Fulton St W,  
Grand Rapids, MI 49504**

**JOIN US FOR OUR TENTH GRAND RAPIDS NEIGHBORHOOD SUMMIT!**

REGISTER AT [PUBLICINPUT.COM/2024GRSUMMIT](https://PUBLICINPUT.COM/2024GRSUMMIT)

## City Invests In Community Through Neighborhood Match Fund Projects

We recently made our latest round of Neighborhood Match Fund (NMF) investments of \$75,509 to support 24 community projects. In its two-rounds this fiscal year, the NMF supported a total of 52 projects with an investment of \$165,309. Each NMF project brings our community together and promotes a deeper sense of belonging among neighbors.

"These are exciting projects proposed by our neighbors that will enhance our community and the neighborhoods they serve," said Brandon Davis, interim managing director of the Office of Oversight & Public Accountability & The Office of Equity & Engagement. "We're fortunate to have active partners that care deeply about this community and work to enhance the quality of life here in our city."

Next round of NMF project submissions will be accepted June 1-30 for projects taking place September through February. Since its



inception in 2017, the Neighborhood Match Fund, has awarded from \$850,832, funding 260 community-led projects.

For a list of NMF contract awards please search "2024 Neighborhood Match Fund" at [grandrapidsmi.gov](https://grandrapidsmi.gov).

## Economic Development Department

## 2023 Annual Report

**We worked hard to create pathways to financial growth and security for residents, employees, and businesses.**

This report highlights some of the work the Grand Rapids Economic Development team led in 2023, a year in which we surpassed many of our goals in our three key service areas: real estate development, business development, and neighborhood business corridors. In this report, we celebrate the projects we've been able to support, and we hold ourselves and our partners accountable by showing that the companies, organizations, and individuals we worked with over the last five years are delivering more than promised—exceeding both committed investments and new jobs.

## A SNAPSHOT OF OUR CORE FOCUS AREAS

Real Estate Development 

**10 Projects**  
supported

**321 jobs**  
impacted

\$24.29 average wage for new jobs  
309 new jobs committed  
12 jobs retained

**\$287,619,317 in private investments**

Business Development 

**132**

actual unique  
companies served

**75**

underrepresented  
companies served

**33**

startup  
tenants

Neighborhood Business Corridors 

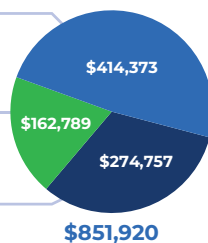
75 Streetscapes and  
Public Art Projects Supported



21 Events and  
Sponsorship



33 Facade Grants



Visit us online and see the full report!



CITY OF  
GRAND  
RAPIDS | Economic  
Development  
Department

## City Boosts ENERGY STAR Building Status

Five of our City of Grand Rapids facilities have earned the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) ENERGY STAR® certification for superior energy performance. Two additional buildings – City Hall (300 Monroe Ave. NW) and the Development Center (1120 Monroe Ave. NW) – joined three other City buildings that were ENERGY STAR® certified over the past five years. Those three – 1 Monroe Center St. NW, 201 Market Ave. SW and 509 Wealthy St. SW – also saw improved scores in 2023.

ENERGY STAR certified buildings are verified to perform in the top 25 percent of buildings nationwide, based on energy use that considers occupancy, hours of operation, and other key metrics. ENERGY STAR is the only energy efficiency certification in the

United States that is based on actual, verified energy performance.

City staff have worked with local engineering and energy consultant, E3M Solutions over the last five years to complete the certifications to add new buildings and remain in the top 25 percent with improved scores. Not all buildings qualify for certification, but with the addition of these two new buildings, all city owned buildings managed by the facilities department and qualify are now certified.

On average, ENERGY STAR certified buildings and plants use 35 percent less energy, cause 35 percent fewer greenhouse gas emissions, and are less expensive to operate than their peers—all without sacrifices in performance or comfort.



**WATER  
POOL-OOZA** 2024

**FREE!**

**ON THE GRAND!**

**JUNE 1**

**10 AM - 2 PM**

**RIVERSIDE PARK**

2001 Monroe Ave NE

Grand Rapids, MI 49505

JOIN US FOR A FREE FAMILY EVENT  
DESIGN TO HELP 1ST-12TH GRADE  
STUDENTS TO DISCOVER CAREERS IN  
WATER, CONSERVATION EFFORTS, AND HOW  
TO BECOME A WATER CHAMPION! ENGAGE  
IN HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES LED BY WATER  
PROFESSIONALS, NONPROFITS &  
COMMUNITY PARTNERS.

REGISTER HERE!



Questions? Email [waterprogram@grcity.us](mailto:waterprogram@grcity.us) for more information!



## Office of Emergency Management Updates

Picture this: The sun is shining, birds are chirping and flowers are blooming—it's finally springtime! But along with all the joy of this season comes something less cheerful: severe weather and the risk of flooding. Did you know that spring is the most active weather season of the year? So, while you can't control Mother Nature, you can prepare for it.

Review the following information to help protect your home and your household from spring storms and flooding:

- **Clean up, clean up, everybody everywhere!** Remove debris from gutters, drains and spouts so that rain can run smoothly off your roof and home. Deep clean your dryer, even if you clean the lint trap after every load! Follow the manufacturer instructions for the best results based on your appliance. Check your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are in working order. They should be dusted with a dry cloth and checked with the test button. Replace the batteries if needed and replace the entire unit if it's past its printed expiration date.
- **Be informed.** Have multiple ways to be notified if there is an emergency impacting your area. Did you know the City of Grand Rapids has a \*free\* opt-in emergency alert system? Visit [grandrapidsmi.gov/emergencyalerts](http://grandrapidsmi.gov/emergencyalerts) to learn more. Additionally, consider downloading the FEMA mobile app, purchasing a NOAA Weather Radio, or tuning it into AM/FM radio or the television when an emergency is happening or expecting to happen soon.
- **Know the difference between "Watch" and "Warning."** A severe thunderstorm or tornado watch means that the conditions are right, or favorable, for a storm or tornado to happen, so be prepared to

watch the situation. A warning means severe weather, or a tornado, is imminent or occurring now—take action!

- **Be prepared.** Make an emergency plan and ensure everyone in your family knows what to do in case of an emergency. Consider what you'll do if you have to evacuate your house or neighborhood. Identify responsibilities for each member of your household. Additionally, build and maintain a disaster supplies kit with enough supplies to last you a minimum of three days. Some items to consider are drinking water, non-perishable food, NOAA radio, flashlight w/ extra batteries, first aid kit. More suggestions can be found at [ready.gov/kit](http://ready.gov/kit)!

Anywhere it rains, it can flood! The best way to protect your home and belongings from flood damage is to purchase flood insurance—don't let your hard work be washed away. Did you know that most homeowners insurance policies do not cover flood damage? Did you know that just one inch of flood water can cause more than \$25,000 in damage? Here are a few more flood facts:

- Flooding is the most common and costly natural disaster in the U.S.
- 1 in 4 flood insurance claims come from outside high-risk areas.
- If a flood does occur, most types of federal disaster assistance require a presidential disaster declaration and come in the form of low-interest disaster loans that must be repaid—with interest!

Kent County and the City of Grand Rapids participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). To learn more, call the NFIP Help Center at 800-427-4661, visit [FloodSmart.gov](http://FloodSmart.gov), or call your insurance agent to ask about the program.



## Summer Youth Employment Opportunity

**APPLY TODAY**

[www.grandrapidsmi.gov/GRow1000](http://www.grandrapidsmi.gov/GRow1000)

Grand Rapids Residents

Ages 15 to 24-years-old

Application Deadline

Friday, May 3, 2024

Dates of Employment: June 10 to July 19, 2024

20 hrs./wk.

Pay - \$13.00/hr.

For more information, contact Our Community's Children at 616.456.3102 or [occyouth@grcity.us](mailto:occyouth@grcity.us).



**FREE**  
**SMOKE ALARMS**



**GRATIS**  
**ALARMAS DE HUMO**

## Grand Rapids Fire Department Celerates 10 Years of Residential Safety Program

The Grand Rapids Fire Department is celebrating the completion of ten years of operation for its Residential Safety Program. Over the past decade, GRFD staff performed home safety assessments in more than 13,000 of the city's owner-occupied homes, installing close to 73,000 smoke alarms and 13,000

carbon monoxide alarms.

As it moves into year 11, the GRFD reminds residents that working smoke alarms increase the chances of surviving a house fire by almost half. Captain Dan VanderHyde, Grand Rapids acting fire marshal, also reminds

residents to test their alarms monthly. He also invites owner-occupants who were of the first to receive alarms in 2013, to contact 311 to schedule a home safety assessment check-up and to get replacements for their original smoke alarms. Postcards will be sent to those

homes in the coming weeks alerting each of this program.

Homeowners who have yet to participate in the program are also invited to contact 311 to schedule an initial Home Safety Assessment and smoke alarm installation.



### ONBASE WITH GRPD



## PLAY BALL!

These free baseball skills clinics provide instruction on all phases of the game, coached by GRPD officers, area coaches, and volunteers. Equipment and lunch provided.

Open to kids aged 9-12.

Dates and locations coming soon. Visit GR Parks and Recreation's registration website or look for sign-up links on GRPD's Facebook and Instagram accounts.



**JOIN GRAND RAPIDS**  
POLICE DEPARTMENT  
[JOIN.GRPD.COM](http://JOIN.GRPD.COM)

Building a safer, stronger community starts with you!

Our next sponsored recruit class will be at the GRCC Academy in January 2025. Look for applications to open in late May or connect with us at [joiningrpd.com](http://joiningrpd.com) for more information.



## T2C Studio... Your Front Door to College!



### Our Services

- Financial Aid Assistance - FAFSA
- Scholarship Search
- Opportunities with College Representatives
- College Success Workshops
- Social Events
- Essay Review
- Text Message Alerts
- And More....



**Grand Rapids Public Library**  
111 Library Street; 3rd Floor  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

**Gina Peters, T2C Studio Coordinator**  
(616) 881-6767 (Cell)  
[gpeters@grcity.us](mailto:gpeters@grcity.us)

[www.t2cstudio.us](http://www.t2cstudio.us)

@T2CStudio

The T2C Studio is a project managed by Our Community's Children (OCC). OCC is a public/private partnership between the City of Grand Rapids, Grand Rapids Public Schools and community partners.

Schedule FAFSA Appointments



### 3RD ANNUAL

## CLEAN SLATE GR: EXPUNGEMENT FAIR

### EVENT INFO:

SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2024  
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

KROC CENTER  
2500 DIVISION AVE S, GRAND  
RAPIDS, MI 49507



Clean Slate Fair open to all Michigan residents. We CAN NOT expunge out of state or Federal Convictions.

### A CLEARED RECORD ASSISTS

- ✓ Employment Opportunities
- ✓ Housing Opportunities
- ✓ Education Opportunities

### ATTORNEYS ON SITE

- ✓ Free ICHAT
- ✓ Free Fingerprinting & Consultation
- ✓ File Expungement petition

For more information and to pre-register visit: <https://t.ly/RJlfC> or scan below:







CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS

Parks and Recreation

# SUMMER RECREATION

Adult Fitness 7-10

Youth Recreation 12-13

Youth Sports 11-12

Pools & Splashpads 13



**Register online**  
grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr



**Register by phone**  
616.456.3696, option #1



**Register in person**  
245 State St SE

## VIRTUAL YOGA

Register online: [grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr](http://grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr)  
Registration for Jul/Aug opens June 3.

CLASSES BEGIN THE WEEK OF MAY 6 AND RUN FOR 8 WEEKS UNLESS NOTED

CLASS	DAY(S)	TIME(S)	LOCATION(S)	INSTRUCTOR	COST
<b>BASIC YOGA</b> Discover your inner yogi in a class that builds strength and body awareness. Begin with gentle stretching and move to flowing through and holding poses. Class will come to a restful end.	MON* WED SAT	5:30 - 6:25 PM 6:00 - 6:55 PM 9:00 - 9:55 AM	VIRTUAL VIRTUAL VIRTUAL	TERRI S. SARA R. SARA R.	\$39 \$44 \$44
<b>GENTLE YOGA</b> A balanced practice that will center you, leaving your body feeling open and relaxed. Basic poses and a slower flow unlock body tension, strengthen your core and help you tune into personal peace.	TUE THU	9:15 - 10:10 AM 9:15 - 10:10 AM	VIRTUAL VIRTUAL	TERRI S. TERRI S.	\$44 \$44
<b>POWER YOGA</b> This energetic class is designed to build strength, flexibility, and balance! Challenging peak poses, breath to movement flows, and mind body connections will encourage students to find their edge. Modifications are always offered and body awareness is always encouraged.	TUE	6:30 - 7:25 PM	VIRTUAL	SARA R.	\$44
<b>VITAL MOVEMENT</b> Strength, flexibility and balance are vital to our well-being. This class combines yoga stretches and poses (from the chair and standing only), along with light core work. No mat required. Perfect for anyone needing to stretch, improve their range of motion, or modify their practice as they recover from injuries. This class is great for any age, especially those 50+.	WED	9:15 - 10:10 AM	VIRTUAL	TERRI S.	\$44

\*7-week class

\*\*Add \$10 for non resident

## VIRTUAL DANCE FITNESS

Register online: [grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr](http://grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr)  
Registration for Jul/Aug opens June 3.

CLASSES BEGIN THE WEEK OF MAY 6 AND RUN FOR 8 WEEKS UNLESS NOTED

CLASS	DAY(S)	TIME(S)	LOCATION(S)	INSTRUCTOR	COST**
<b>GENTLE MUSICAL MOVEMENT</b> This 45-minute class encourages freedom for body, mind + spirit while working range of motion, strength, flexibility and balance. Class is created around music and combines simple dance and stretch moves for all body parts. Move your body in ways outside of your daily routine, inviting in both fun and freedom of personal expression. Perfect for all ages, especially those 50+. This class can also be adapted to the chair.	MON*	9:15 - 10:00 AM	VIRTUAL	TERRI S.	\$39
<b>MINDFUL MUSICAL MOVEMENT</b> Move in new ways, get your heart pumping, and infuse your whole body with joy in this not-so-typical dance class set to a variety of great music. Simple steps designed to work your whole body are provided and you are encouraged to supply the intensity level and flair. Perfect for all levels, all you need is space to move freely.	WED	5:30 - 6:25 PM	VIRTUAL	TERRI S.	\$44

\*7-week class

\*\*Add \$10 for non resident

## INDOOR YOGA

CLASSES BEGIN THE WEEK OF MAY 13 AND RUN FOR 7 WEEKS UNLESS NOTED

Register online: [grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr](http://grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr)  
Registration for Jul/Aug opens June 3.

CLASS	DAY(S)	TIME(S)	LOCATION(S)	INSTRUCTOR	COST**
<b>BASIC YOGA</b> Discover your inner yogi in a class that builds strength and body awareness. Begin with gentle stretching and move to flowing through and holding poses. Class will come to a restful end.	MON*	12:00 - 12:55 PM	245 STATE ST SE	SARA R.	\$34
	MON*	6:30 - 7:25 PM		SARA R.	\$34
	THU	6:30 - 7:25 PM		AMY K.	\$39

\*6-week class

\*\*Add \$10 for non resident

## INDOOR DANCE FITNESS

CLASSES BEGIN THE WEEK OF MAY 13 AND RUN FOR 7 WEEKS

Register online: [grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr](http://grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr)  
Registration for Jul/Aug opens June 3.

CLASS	DAY(S)	TIME(S)	LOCATION(S)	INSTRUCTOR	COST**
<b>ZUMBA</b> Zumba is a high energy, dance fitness class that incorporates Latin and international music. All fitness levels are welcome.	WED	6:30 - 7:25 PM	GARFIELD GYM	AMY K. & BRI C. AMY K.	\$39
	SAT	9:00 - 9:55 AM	GARFIELD GYM		\$39

\*\*Add \$10 for non resident

## INDOOR CARDIO & STRENGTH

CLASSES BEGIN THE WEEK OF MAY 13 AND RUN FOR 7 WEEKS, UNLESS NOTED

Register online: [grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr](http://grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr)  
Registration for Jul/Aug opens June 3.

CLASS	DAY(S)	TIME(S)	LOCATION(S)	INSTRUCTOR	COST**
<b>BARRE</b> Barre is a low impact, high intensity total body workout that incorporates elements of Pilates, Ballet and Yoga. This workout is fast paced and set to fun upbeat music. During the workout you will use light hand weights, resistance bands, and your own body weight. You will complete small range movements at high repetitions meant to fatigue your muscles to build strength and endurance, and then stretch everything out to increase your flexibility. Barre is a great workout for any fitness level as there are options to level up or down based on your own body. Barre is for EVERYBODY.	WED	5:30 - 6:25 PM	245 STATE ST SE	ROSE H. ERIN L.	\$39
	SAT	8:00 - 8:45 AM	245 STATE ST SE		\$39
<b>KETTLEBELL AMPD</b> Kettlebell AMPD is a group fitness format that takes heart-pumping music and kettlebell moves and combines them into a calorie torching fun workout! The program uses lightweight kettlebells, in both traditional and non-traditional ways, to create a fun, effective, full body workout. Combining the benefits of strength training, functional movements and cardiovascular exercise, this program is a safe and effective workout for all ages and fitness levels. No experience necessary!	THU	4:30 - 5:25 PM	245 STATE ST SE	MONICA S.	\$39
<b>PILATES</b> Tone muscles, improve posture and learn flexibility and balance. Focus on moving as one unit with control and grace. Improve circulation, endurance and reduce stress.	WED	5:30 - 6:25 PM	GARFIELD GYM	ZIYAH D.	\$39
<b>STRENGTH &amp; ROW CIRCUIT</b> This high intensity class will improve your endurance and strength to row faster and for longer. Each class will include a rowing and strength training circuit to maximize calorie burn!	TUE	6:30 - 7:25 PM	245 STATE ST SE	AMANDA B. AMANDA B.	\$39
	SAT	9:15 - 10:10 AM	245 STATE ST SE		\$39
<b>STRENGTH &amp; POWER</b> This laser-focused strength class will work all your muscle groups with a variety of exercises to elevate your current routine. It will combine compound exercises to engage as many muscles as possible in a single move, as well as incorporate isolation moves. Modifications and challenges will be offered to make the class appropriate for all levels.	MON*	5:30 - 6:25 PM	245 STATE ST SE	AMANDA B.	\$34

\*6-week class

\*\*Add \$10 for non resident



### PADDLEBOARD BASICS

Join our GR Outside division for beginner-friendly paddleboarding training! Paddleboard Basics will be held at Richmond Park Pool to help you gain confidence on calm, clean waters. Registration will open May 1 at [grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr](http://grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr)


### KAYAKING ADVENTURES

GR Outside will host kayaking adventures for all skill levels through the summer. Programs include "Learn to Kayak" sessions, \$5 rentals at Canal Park every Saturday, and free community demo nights. Registration will open May 1 at [grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr](http://grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr)



# OUTDOOR FEE-BASED CLASSES

CLASSES BEGIN THE WEEK OF MAY 13 AND RUN FOR 7 WEEKS, UNLESS NOTED

Register online: [grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr](http://grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr)   
Registration for Jul/Aug opens June 3.


CLASS	DAY(S)	TIME(S)	LOCATION(S)	INSTRUCTOR	COST***
<b>CYCLING</b> Reach your fitness goals while building leg and core strength! Powerful music and pace-setting instruction helps you climb steep hills, move across flat road and master intense intervals.	MON* TUE	5:30 - 6:15 PM 5:30 - 6:15 PM	555 MONROE AVE	CAROL S. MICHELLE D.	\$34 \$39
<b>CYCLE &amp; TONE</b> A combination of high-intensity cycling intervals followed by strength exercises that target the arms, abs and lower back.	MON* WED	6:30 - 7:25 PM 6:00 - 6:55 PM	555 MONROE AVE	CAROL S. JULIE S.	\$34 \$39
<b>WATER AEROBICS (CLASSES RUN JUNE 10 - AUGUST 15)</b> Build core strength, conditioning, endurance and all-over toning. Class features deep and shallow water exercises. A great low/non-impact workout. Float belts are available.	MON WED THU**	7:15 - 8:10 PM	BRIGGS PARK POOL	KATHLEEN H.	\$52 \$52 \$47

\*6-week class

\*\*9-week class

\*\*\*Add \$10 for non resident

# ENRICHMENT

Register online: [grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr](http://grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr)   
Registration for Jul/Aug opens June 3.

PROGRAM	DATES	TIME(S)	LOCATION	INSTRUCTOR	COST**
<b>BEGINNER PICKLEBALL LESSONS (AGES 18+)</b> Learn the basic rules, skills, and strategies needed to play the sport of pickleball!	TUE & THU MAY 21-30	2:45 - 4:00 PM	GARFIELD PARK COMMUNITY GYM	JJ VANDENBERG	\$25
<b>TAE KWON DO (AGES 7 - ADULT)</b> Learn the basics of the Korean martial art form of Tae Kwon Do. Participants will develop confidence, increase flexibility, concentration, balance, and learn how to defend themselves.	TUE, MAY 7 - JUN 25 TUE, JUL 9 - AUG 27	6:00 - 7:30 PM Green belts and higher will meet until 8:00 PM	GARFIELD PARK COMMUNITY GYM	MASTER BEAN	\$40 \$50

\*\*Add \$10 for non resident

# FREE PROGRAMS FOR AGES 50+

All activities are held at Garfield Park Community Gym (2111 Madison Ave SE) These programs are designed for people over 50 years of age, but are open to everyone. Below are our ongoing weekly programs. Check out our monthly calendars at [grandrapidsmi.gov/recreation](http://grandrapidsmi.gov/recreation) or find us on Facebook @GRParksandRec.

PROGRAM	DAY(S)	TIME(S)
<b>CARDIO &amp; STRENGTH LOW IMPACT WORKOUT FOR BEGINNERS</b> This workout provides aerobic benefit, as well as improving mobility and strength. Hand weights and resistance bands are used. Bring your yoga mat.	MONDAYS	10:15 - 11:10 AM
<b>PILATES (LOW IMPACT)</b> Tone muscles, improve posture, and learn flexibility and balance. Focus on moving as one unit with control and grace. Improve circulation, endurance and reduce stress. Limited number of mats available	MONDAYS	11:15 AM - 12:10 PM
<b>STRETCH &amp; FLEX FITNESS</b> This class begins in a chair and works on increasing your strength, balance, and flexibility. Hand weights are provided	TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS	11:15 AM - 12:10 PM
<b>ZUMBA GOLD</b> Zumba Gold is a Latin based dance fitness class which uses easy-to-follow choreography focusing on balance, range of motion and coordination.	WEDNESDAYS	10:00 - 10:55 AM
<b>ACTIVE ADULTS</b> Designed for everyone, this class combines cardio and strength training. Hand weights are provided.	WEDNESDAYS	11:15 AM - 12:10 PM
<b>OPEN WALK</b> Need a dry, safe and warm place to walk? Come get your steps in at the gym.	TUE & WED THURSDAYS	11:00 AM - 12:15 PM 10:00 AM - 12:15 PM

# FREE OUTDOOR CLASSES

CLASSES RUN FOR 15 WEEKS STARTING MAY 13. **DROP-IN, NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED!**

All outdoor classes are weather dependent. Follow us on Facebook @GRParksandRec or call our cancellation hotline at 616.456.3699 for up-to-date cancellation information.

CLASS	DAY(S)	TIME(S)	LOCATION(S)	INSTRUCTOR
<b>AFRICAN DANCE</b> This class combines Afro Dance, a mix of dance styles from across the continent set to pop African music characterized by energetic and cheerful movements and facial expressions, with West African Dance, a more traditionally rooted dance style set to percussion-heavy music using rhythmic hip, torso and limb movements, into a unique experience.	WED	7:00 - 7:45 PM	555 MONROE	SEBEN DANCE
<b>BARRE</b> Barre is a low impact, high intensity total body workout that incorporates elements of Pilates, Ballet and Yoga. See full description above in previous section.	TUE	5:30 - 6:15 PM	THE BLUE BRIDGE	THE BARRE CODE
<b>BASIC YOGA</b> Discover your inner yogi in a class that builds strength and body awareness. Begin with gentle stretching and move to flowing through and holding poses. Class will come to a restful end.	MON THU THU	6:00 - 6:45 PM 12:00 - 12:45 PM 6:00 - 6:45 PM	MULICK PARK SIXTH ST PARK MLK PARK	DARCEL S. SARA R. VALERIE J.
<b>GLUTE AEROBICS</b> Ready to sculpt your glutes and tone your lower body? Glute Aerobics is a fun body weight rhythmic class! This class will leave you feeling strong, accomplished, and sweaty by incorporating dance fitness, high reps and cardio blasts!	TUE	6:30 - 7:15 PM	555 MONROE	VALERIE J.
<b>HIGH LOW FITNESS (LOW-IMPACT HIGH FITNESS)</b> HIGH Low Fitness is an energetic, fun, low impact fitness class that incorporates interval training with pop music, and easy-to-follow fitness choreography. Full description on page 9.	THU	6:00 - 6:45 PM	CALDER PLAZA	AMANDA B.
<b>LINE DANCING</b> Enjoy line dancing while exercising mind, body, and spirit. In QK Linedance we dance to all genres of music and everyone is welcome!	THU	6:30 - 7:15 PM	ROOSEVELT PARK	QUEEN J.
<b>PUMPED UP STRENGTH</b> Pumped Up Strength combines functional movement patterns together for a fully integrated upper and lower body workout set to the beat of music. Get ready for a party with plenty of squats!	WED	6:00 - 6:45 PM	CHERRY PARK	ASHLYNN H.
<b>POUND®</b> Using Ripstix®, lightly weighted drumsticks engineered specifically for exercising, POUND® transforms drumming into an incredibly effective way of working out. Instead of listening to music, you become the music in this exhilarating full-body workout that combines cardio, conditioning and strength training with yoga and pilates-inspired movements.	THU	5:30 - 6:15 PM	THE BLUE BRIDGE	JANNA S.
<b>SOULFUL MOTION</b> SoulfulMotion is an exciting class of fitness and inspiration. This is a high intensity interval training (HIIT) class set to Christian and inspirational music. Designed for anyone regardless of age or fitness level.	MON	6:30 - 7:15 PM	MACKAY-JAYCEES PARK	AMBER M.
<b>SUNRISE YOGA</b> Add some relaxation to your day. Begin with gentle stretching and move to flowing through and holding poses. Class will come to a restful end.	WED	6:30 - 7:15 AM	INDIAN TRAILS GOLF COURSE	DARCEL S.
<b>SUNSET YOGA</b> Add some relaxation to your day. Begin with gentle stretching and move to flowing through and holding poses. Class will come to a restful end.	TUE	7:00 - 7:45 PM	LOOKOUT PARK	AMY K.
<b>WERQ</b> WERQ is a nonstop cardio dance class with fun and unique routines set to the hottest pop and hip hop music. Participants will get a high calorie burn, and a non stop workout, combining repetitive athletic moves with fresh dance steps. Anyone can WERQ it!	WED	7:00 - 7:45 PM	HIGHLAND PARK	JEANNIE W.
<b>ZUMBA</b> Zumba is a high energy, dance fitness class that incorporates Latin and international music. All fitness levels are welcome.	MON	6:30 - 7:15 PM	ROSA PARKS CIRCLE	AMY K. & BRI C.
<b>30-MINUTE HIIT</b> 30 minutes is all you need to get a full workout in! This class uses high intensity interval training (HIIT) to increase your heart rate, strengthen your muscles, and boost your metabolism. Participants will be given 30 seconds to do as many reps of a single body weight exercise as possible. Then rinse, repeat, with a new move!	TUE	6:15 - 6:45 PM	LOOKOUT PARK	AMY K.



# OUTDOOR CLASS LOCATIONS

555 Monroe - 555 Monroe Ave NW  
 The Blue Bridge - Between Front Ave and Campau Ave  
 Cherry Park - 725 Cherry St SE  
 Indian Trails Golf Course - 2776 Kalamazoo Ave SE  
 Lookout Park - 801 Fairview Ave NE

MLK Park - 1200 MLK Jr St SE  
 Mulick Park - 1632 Sylvan Ave SE  
 Roosevelt Park - 739 Van Raalte Dr SW  
 Rosa Parks Circle - 135 Monroe Center St NW

FREE CLASSES MADE POSSIBLE BY



**DOWNTOWN**  
GRAND RAPIDS INC.



**Priority Health**

## YOUTH SOCCER CAMP

Register online: [grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr](http://grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr)

Participants will learn ball work, dribbling, shooting, passing and control. Skills will be taught using drills, games and competitions. Teamwork, sportsmanship and safety will be emphasized.

PROGRAM	DATE(S)	TIME(S)	LOCATION(S)	COST**
DAYTIME SOCCER CAMP (AGES 5-12)	MON - THU JUNE 11 - 14	9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	MACKAY-JAYCEES PARK	\$46
EVENING SOCCER CAMP WITH MICHIGAN POWER FUTBOL ACADEMY (AGES 5-13)	MON & WED JULY 8 - 17	AGES 5-7 5:45-7:00 PM AGES 8-13 7:15-8:30 PM	MACKAY-JAYCEES PARK	\$48

\*\*Add \$10 for non resident

## THE LAB - INTRO TO STREET SOCCER

The Soccer Rebellion, with support from DGRI and Parks & Recreation, will be running a 4-week camp to introduce young players, ages 8 through high school, to the Street Soccer style of game. The program is designed to teach players to play creatively with the ball at their feet and conduct pick-up on their own. As mentioned by the world's best soccer players to ever play the game - Pick-up/street soccer is where they learned to develop their game. **\$5 residents/non.**

PROGRAM	DATE(S)	TIME(S)	LOCATION(S)	COST
THE LAB - AGES 8-10	MON & WED JULY 8 - 31	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	LAS CANCHAS (250 SEWARD AVE NW)	\$5
THE LAB - AGES 11-13	MON & WED JULY 8 - 31	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	LAS CANCHAS (250 SEWARD AVE NW)	\$5
THE LAB - HIGH SCHOOLERS	TUE & THU JULY 9 - AUG 1	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	LAS CANCHAS (250 SEWARD AVE NW)	\$5

## YOUTH BASKETBALL

Register online: [grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr](http://grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr)  
 Registration for Jul/Aug opens June 3.

PROGRAM	DATE(S)	TIME(S)	LOCATION(S)	COST**
BASKETBALL CLINICS (AGES 5-8) This youth basketball program, in partnership with All-In Sports, will provide introductory basketball education and development for youth ages 5-8. Emphasis will be on the basketball basics (dribbling, layups, footwork, and body development) to promote physical and mental growth.	SUNDAYS MAY 19 - JUNE 2	12:00 - 1:30 PM	ROOSEVELT PARK GYM	\$23

\*\*Add \$10 for non resident

## FREE SUMMER DAY CAMP

PROGRAM	SESSIONS	TIME(S)	LOCATION(S)
SUMMER DAY CAMP (AGES 6-14) At Summer Day Camp, our goal is to provide each day filled with sports and activities that will contribute to campers' intellectual, social, emotional, and physical growth, all while having fun! Registration opens April 29 at <a href="http://grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr">grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr</a> .	SESSION 1: JUNE 10 - JUNE 28 SESSION 2: JULY 8 - JULY 26 SESSION 3: JULY 29 - AUGUST 16	12:00 - 4:00 PM OR 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM	GARFIELD PARK, MLK PARK, OR ROOSEVELT PARK

## YOUTH RUN CLUB

Running for Wellness – Join us for Run Club. The benefits of running include improved physical and mental health. We'll work on endurance, speed, agility, breathing, form, strength training, and stretching.

Register online: [grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr](http://grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr)  
Registration for Jul/Aug opens June 3.

PROGRAM	DATE(S)	TIME(S)	LOCATION(S)	COST**
RUN CLUB - AGES 5-8	WEDNESDAYS JUNE 5 - JULY 10	5:30 - 6:30 PM	MACKAY-JAYCEES PARK	\$46
RUN CLUB - AGES 9-12	WEDNESDAYS JUNE 5 - JULY 10	6:30 - 7:30 PM	MACKAY-JAYCEES PARK	\$46

\*\*Add \$10 for  
non resident

## YOUTH TEE BALL/BASEBALL

Register online: [grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr](http://grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr)  
Registration opens May 1.

PROGRAM	DATE(S)/TIME(S)	AGE GROUPS	LOCATION(S)	COST**
<b>YOUTH LEAGUES</b> Our youth tee ball and baseball program is open to all kids ages 4-12. All programs meet for practices and games on Tuesdays and Thursdays, beginning July 9. Final games will be played on Saturday, August 3. Practices are held in the evening. Baseball/softball glove and athletic shoes are required.	TUE & THU, JUL 9-AUG 1 SAT: AUG 3	TEE BALL (4-6) COACH PITCH (6-8) PLAYER/COACH PITCH (9-12)	HUFF PARK (NORTH) OR PLASTER CREEK PARK (SOUTH)	\$48

\*\*Add \$10 for  
non resident

## ON BASE WITH GRPD - CLINICS

Register online: [grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr](http://grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr)  
Registration opens May 1.

The Grand Rapids Police Department, in partnership with Parks & Recreation, will be hosting clinics to teach the game of baseball, and to give kids a chance to get to know their local officers in a positive, non-enforcement capacity. The program is geared towards kids who have little to no experience with baseball, but all levels of experience will be welcome! Due to generous donations by local individuals and businesses there is no cost to participate, but space is limited, so be sure to register early.

LOCATION	AGE GROU	DATES	TIMES	COST
HUFF PARK	6-8	WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12	10:30 AM-12:00 PM	FREE
	9-12	TUESDAY & THURSDAY, JUNE 11 & 13	10:00 AM-12:00 PM	
SULLIVAN FIELD	6-8	WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19	10:30 AM-12:00 PM	FREE
	9-12	TUESDAY & THURSDAY, JUNE 18 & 2	10:00 AM-12:00 PM	
MLK PARK	6-8	WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26	10:30 AM-12:00 PM	FREE
	9-12	TUESDAY & THURSDAY, JUNE 25 & 2	10:00 AM-12:00 PM	

## YOUTH YOGA

Register online: [grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr](http://grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr)  
Registration for Jul/Aug opens June 3.

PROGRAM	DATE(S)	TIME(S)	LOCATION(S)	COST**
<b>PLAY &amp; POSE CHILDREN'S YOGA (AGES 2-6)</b> Children can enjoy and benefit from yoga and mindfulness from toddlerhood through middle school and beyond. These yoga classes will include mindful movement, music, yoga, games, and fun and simple breathwork. This series is designed to be playful while still challenging children to develop their focus, awareness, and movement in new ways. Children will build regulation skills, healthy social skills, and positive self-esteem. They'll also have a lot of fun!  Required Clothing: athletic clothing with shirts that can be tucked in, comfortable with stretch	WEDNESDAYS MAY 15 - JUNE 19	4:15 - 5:00 PM	LINCOLN PARK	\$45

\*\*Add \$10 for  
non resident



# YOUTH GYMNASTICS

Register online: [grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr](http://grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr)  
 Registration for Jul/Aug opens June 3.

CLASS	DATES	TIME(S)	LOCATION	COST**
<b>PARENT &amp; ME TUMBLE &amp; PLAY (AGES 2-3)</b> Laugh, play, and tumble with your child while creating balance, strength, and learning fundamental movements. Also includes activities and games to get the wiggles out! Required Clothing: leotards, athletic clothing with shirts that can be tucked in, comfortable with stretch.	THU, MAY 16 - JUNE 20	5:15 - 5:45 PM	GARFIELD PARK COMMUNITY GYM	\$45
	THU, JUL 18 - AUG 22	4:15 - 4:45 PM		
<b>GYMNASTICS I (AGES 4-6)</b> For the younger gymnast to encourage success and fun in the gym. Kids learn tumbling and balancing basics with emphasis on strength and flexibility. Required Clothing: leotards, athletic clothing with shirts that can be tucked in, comfortable with stretch.	MON, MAY 13 - JUNE 17*	5:00 - 5:45 PM	GARFIELD PARK COMMUNITY GYM	\$38
	THU, MAY 16 - JUNE 20	6:00 - 6:45 PM		\$45
	THU, JUL 18 - AUG 22	5:00 - 5:45 PM		\$45
	THU, JUL 18 - AUG 22	6:00 - 6:45 PM		\$45
<b>GYMNASTICS II (AGES 7-10)</b> A follow-up to Gymnastics I. Activities increase strength, movement, coordination, agility and flexibility.	MON, MAY 13 - JUNE 17*	6:00 - 6:45 PM	GARFIELD PARK COMMUNITY GYM	\$38
	THU, MAY 16 - JUNE 20	7:00 - 7:45 PM		\$45
	THU, JUL 18 - AUG 22	7:00 - 7:45 PM		\$45

\*No class May 27

\*\*Add \$10 for non resident

# YOUTH SWIM LESSONS

OUTDOOR CLASSES HAPPENING JUNE THROUGH AUGUST

Register online: [grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr](http://grandrapidsmi.gov/recgr)  
 Registration for Jul/Aug opens June 3.

## SWIM LESSON LEVELS

### PARENT CHILD (AGES 6M-3Y)

Introduce water safety and basic swim skills to parents and children. Parents will learn skills to safely work with their child in the water, including how to correctly support/hold them in the water and how to encourage them. Children will gain confidence in the water through games and songs and receive an introduction to swim foundations, like submerging and kicking.

### PRESCHOOL LEVEL 1 (AGES 3-5)

Introduces water safety and basic swim skills. Children will work with instructors to gain confidence, develop positive attitudes around the water, and receive an introduction to swim foundations like submerging, floating, and the movements of front and back crawl.

### PRESCHOOL LEVEL 2 (AGES 3-5)

Builds on the skills introduced in Preschool Level 1. Children will continue to develop a positive relationship with the water while mastering swim foundations like floating, submerging, and the basics of front and back crawl.

### YOUTH LEVEL 1 (AGES 6+)

Youth Level 1 aims to develop positive relationships with the water while mastering swim foundations – like floating, submerging, and the basics of front and back crawl. At the end, participants will be able to perform swim foundations independently or with minimal assistance.

## SWIM LESSON LEVELS

### YOUTH LEVEL 2 (AGES 6+)

Builds on the foundations in Level 1 to support the correct execution of foundational swim skills. Focuses on proper technique of foundational skills to ensure participants are strong and capable in the water independently. Repetition is used to build endurance and muscle memory. Participants will learn how to float, glide and move forward in the water with no support and will continue to develop the foundations for future swim strokes.

### YOUTH LEVEL 3 (AGES 6+)

Aims to increase proficiency of previously learned skills by providing additional practice with an emphasis on technique. Participants will learn and practice survival floating and improve their front crawl, back crawl, breaststroke, and elementary backstroke technique while swimming longer distances. Participants will also learn safe headfirst entries and begin learning the foundations of butterfly. After successfully completing Level 3, participants will have achieved basic, independent water competency in a pool environment.

### YOUTH LEVEL 4 (AGES 6+)

Participants will improve their technique and increase endurance in previously learned strokes. Swimmers will gain better control over front crawl, back crawl, and breaststroke and will continue to learn butterfly foundations. Emphasis will be placed on headfirst entries and swimming underwater to provide the basic skillset for competitive swimming. After successfully completing Level 4, swimmers will be well equipped with the skills needed to transition to a swim team setting.



**Pools and splash pads will open June 7!**

Learn more at [grandrapidsmi.gov/aquatics](http://grandrapidsmi.gov/aquatics)





**Main Library**  
111 Library St NE  
616.988.5400

**Madison Square**  
1201 Madison Ave SE  
616.988.5411

**Ottawa Hills**  
1150 Giddings Ave SE  
616.988.5412

**Seymour**  
2350 Eastern Ave SE  
616.988.5413

**Van Belkum**  
1563 Plainfield Ave NE  
616.988.5410

**West Leonard**  
1017 Leonard St NW  
616.988.5416

**West Side**  
713 Bridge St NW  
616.988.5414

**Yankee Clipper**  
2025 Leonard St NE  
616.988.5415

grpl.org

## Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month

May 1 – 31, 2024

Celebrate Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month with the Grand Rapids Public Library! Join us in the month of May for programs for both kids and adults that highlight and celebrate our Asian American Pacific Islander community.

Special thanks to the Grand Rapids Public Library Foundation and the Wege Foundation for their support of this program.

**Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month Craft Kits**  
All locations

These free take-home kits include age-appropriate crafts for toddlers and kids and are inspired by traditional Pacific Islander bark cloth and by South Asian henna and mehndi body art. Craft kits can be picked up at any GRPL location. Available while supplies last.

**Grand Rapids' Asian History Exhibit**  
Main Library – 111 Library St NE

Visit the Main Library during the month of May to explore the Grand Rapids Asian Pacific Foundation's Local Asian History exhibit.

**Taolu Wushu with Shifu Mei**

*Saturday, May 25, 11:00 am*  
Main Library – 111 Library St NE

Kids are invited to learn about Taolu Wushu, a traditional Chinese Kung Fu form, with Shifu Mei and her students from Golden Tiger Kung Fu Academy. Academy students will showcase Broadwords, Long Fist techniques, traditional forms, and weapons forms.

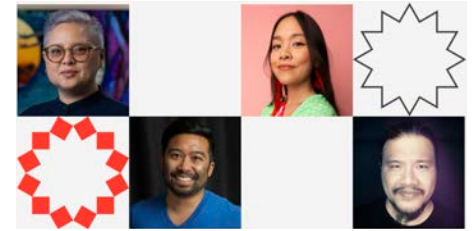
Shifu Mei, a 6th-degree black belt and seven time National Wushu Champion, will teach some basic Taolu Wushu techniques right after the student demonstration!

**Grand Rapids History | Chinatown's Most Prominent Family**

*Thursday, May 16, 6:30 – 7:30 pm*  
Main Library – 111 Library St NE

Join GRPL and Jennifer Tompkins, Community History and Education Director of the Grand Rapids Asian Pacific Foundation, to learn how Chan Hoy, Charles B. Young, and Harry Clyatt left their mark on Grand Rapids and the nation. Refreshments will be provided.

A recording of this event will be available on GRPL's YouTube channel after the experience.



**Artist Talk with Jeffrey Songco, Chein-An Yuan, & Kim Thái Nguyễn**

*Thursday, May 30, 6:30 – 8:00 pm*  
Main Library – 111 Library St NE  
Registration required: [www.grpl.org/register](http://www.grpl.org/register)

Join regional artists Jeffrey Songco, Chein-An Yuan, & Kim Thái Nguyễn for a panel discussion moderated by Laura Kina. Learn how these multidisciplinary artists' AAPI heritage has influenced their work and what it's like being an artist working in the Midwest. Panelists will be presenting a selection of their work.

## New Exhibition



**Exhibition Opening | For the Love of the Game**

*Thursday, May 23, 6:30 – 8:00 pm*  
Main Library – 111 Library St NE

Join us for the launch of a new exhibit featuring archival images of the Detroit Tigers, Grand Rapids Chicks, and Grand Rapids Black Sox. The exhibit highlights Robinson Studio images from the library's archives, with up-close views of baseball players in the 1940s and 1950s.

Exhibit curator William M. Anderson will share his knowledge, memories, and personal connections in a presentation during the opening night event. Light refreshments will be served.



Special thanks to the Grand Rapids Public Library Foundation – Vander Veen Center for the Book Fund for their support of this program.



## Free Events at the Library



### Comedy Magic with Cameron Zvara

Cameron's magic show is filled with mind-blowing magic, comedy, juggling, music, and tons of audience participation. For ages 6 – 13.

*Wednesday, June 12, 3:00 – 3:45 pm*  
LINC UP – 1167 Madison Ave SE

*Thursday, July 25, 3:00 – 3:45 pm*  
West Leonard Branch – 1017 Leonard St NW

### Dungeons & Dragons for Teens

*Wednesdays, June 19 & July 17, 1:00 – 4:00 pm*  
Main Library – 111 Library St NE  
Registration required: [www.grpl.org/register](http://www.grpl.org/register)

Whether you're trying D&D for the first time or you're a longtime player looking for something new, come by the library for some drop-in fun! Each session will feature a different one-shot campaign. Players can use one of our premade characters or bring their own. No materials or experience required. For ages 11 – 18 years old.

### Bike Workshop with Switchback

*Saturday, June 29, 1:00 – 2:00 pm*  
Van Belkum Branch – 1563 Plainfield Ave NE

Drop-in for a family-friendly bike maintenance and repair workshop hosted by Switchback. Topics will focus on basic bike maintenance and simple repairs to keep your bike road-ready. For all ages.

### Improv Comedy Workshop for Teens

*Thursday, July 25, 1:00 – 3:00 pm*  
Grand Rapids Civic Theatre –  
30 Division Ave N  
Registration required: [www.grpl.org/register](http://www.grpl.org/register)

Do you like to tell jokes? Join teaching artists from the Grand Rapids Civic Theatre for an improv workshop that will teach you how to think on your feet, read the room, and collaborate with those around you to make others laugh! For ages 11 – 18.



### Mad Science Mayhem

*Thursday, August 1, 5:30 – 7:00 pm*  
West Side Branch – 713 Bridge St NW

Join us for an evening of fun, kid-friendly science experiments.

What happens when you mix baking soda and vinegar in a sealed bag? How can you build a rocket launcher out of a pop bottle and a pool noodle? Find out the answers to these questions and more.

Special thanks to the Grand Rapids Public Library Foundation – Meijer Fund and Edsko & Claire Hekman Family Fund, Friends of the Library, and Michigan Arts and Culture Council.

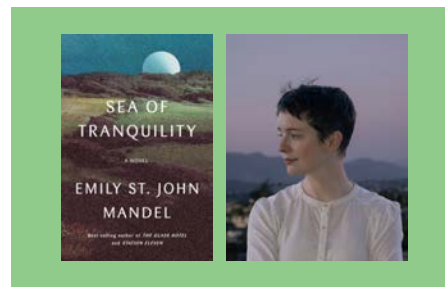
## Author Events

### Michigan Author Series | A People's History of Grand Rapids

*Thursday, June 6, 7:00 – 8:30 pm*  
Main Library – 111 Library St NE

Explore the history of Grand Rapids from the perspective of the people, communities, and organizations that struggled and organized to fight for greater freedoms and equality.

Led by local author Jeff Smith, this discussion will present a counter narrative to the official history that is often presented about Grand Rapids. *A People's History of Grand Rapids* provides information about the systems of power and oppression that sought to prevent people from achieving justice and equality. This discussion will cover a span of the 1820s to the early 21st century.



### Author Talk with Emily St. John Mandel

*Saturday, June 15, 6:30 – 8:30 pm*  
Fountain Street Church, 24 Fountain St NE  
Registration required: [www.grpl.org/register](http://www.grpl.org/register)

Join the Grand Rapids Public Library for an evening with Emily St. John Mandel, who will discuss her most recent novel, *Sea of Tranquility*.

Emily St. John Mandel is the author of the critically acclaimed novel *Station Eleven*. The discussion will be followed by a book signing.

Special thanks to the Grand Rapids Public Library Foundation and the Vander Veen Center for the Book Fund for their support of this program.

## Introduction Workshops

### Introduction to Fiction Writing

*Wednesday, June 19, 6:00 – 8:00 pm*  
Main Library – 111 Library St NE  
Registration required: [www.grpl.org/register](http://www.grpl.org/register)

Join local author Oindrila Mukherjee for a writing workshop. Learn how to develop characters and how to create original fictional characters.

### Introduction to Songwriting

*Thursday, June 27, 6:00 – 8:00 pm*  
Main Library – 111 Library St NE  
Registration required: [www.grpl.org/register](http://www.grpl.org/register)

Join School of Rock Grand Rapids for a songwriting workshop. Examine and analyze some of the greatest compositions of the last 60 years and learn the basics of song structure, chord progressions, and instrumentation.

The workshop will end with a guided freewriting exercise. This event is designed for beginning and intermediate musicians who have some knowledge of their instrument and the basics of music theory.

### Introduction to Line Dancing

*Wednesday, July 10, 6:00 – 7:30 pm*  
Main Library – 111 Library St NE  
Registration required: [www.grpl.org/register](http://www.grpl.org/register)

Join instructors from Social Dance Studio to learn a variety of line dancing basics. Most commonly seen in country western clubs, this style of dance is friendly to all skill levels, does not require a partner, and can be performed to almost any type of music. This workshop is designed for adults, but all ages are welcome.

### Introduction to Hip Hop Dancing

*Thursday, July 25, 2024, 6:00 – 7:30 pm*  
Main Library – 111 Library St NE  
Registration required: [www.grpl.org/register](http://www.grpl.org/register)

Learn an array of hip-hop dance moves before attempting an entire dance. One of the most popular and influential styles of dance, hip-hop combines a variety of movements such as popping and locking. Deavondre Jones of DanceSpire will lead the workshop, which is suited for all skill levels. This workshop is designed for adults, but all ages are welcome.

### Introduction to Podcasting

*Wednesday, August 7, 7:00 – 8:30 pm*  
Main Library – 111 Library St NE  
Registration required: [www.grpl.org/register](http://www.grpl.org/register)

In this workshop led by the Grand Rapids Community Media Center, learn the basics of podcasting. Explore interview techniques, plan your program, and discover what makes a good story. Practice how to record clean sound, edit your project, and share your show with the world.

### Introduction to Smartphone Photography

*Wednesday, August 21, 7:00 – 8:30 pm*  
Main Library – 111 Library St NE  
Registration required: [www.grpl.org/register](http://www.grpl.org/register)

In this workshop led by the Grand Rapids Community Media Center, learn the basic concepts and practices of photography and how they can be applied when shooting with a smartphone or digital camera. This class will cover basic editing and demonstrate tools you can use to improve your photos. Finally, learn ways to back up and store your photos so you can make space on your device for more memories. Attendees should bring their own Apple or Android smartphones or tablets.

Special thanks to the Grand Rapids Public Library Foundation and the Vander Veen Center for the Book Fund for their support of these programs.

## Board of Library Commissioners

Rachel S. Anderson  
President

Kelly Boston  
Vice President / Secretary

Kathryn Dilley

Sheila García Mazari

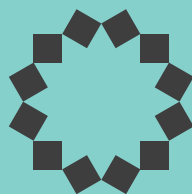
Kristin Kopec

Kevin Peterson

Lauren Woolsey

## Library Director

John J. McNaughton



GRAND  
RAPIDS  
PUBLIC  
LIBRARY

## Join a Book Club at GRPL



### Sci-Fi Book Club

Wednesdays, May 8, June 12, July 10,  
August 7, 7:00 – 8:00 pm  
Main Library – 111 Library St NE

Join other science-fiction readers for a book club led by GRPL staff. Participate in a discussion about each book with members of the community. This book club is designed for adults.

May: *Sea of Tranquility*  
by Emily St. John Mandel  
June: *All Systems Red* by Martha Wells  
July: *This is How You Lose the Time War*  
by Amal El-Mohtar and Max Gladstone  
August: *The Long Way to a Small, Angry Planet* by Becky Chambers



### Popular Pages Book Club | Main Library

Saturdays, May 4, June 1, July 13, August 10  
12:00 – 1:00 pm  
Main Library – 111 Library St NE

Join us for our monthly book club! Enjoy popular fiction and nonfiction titles selected by GRPL librarians and participate in a discussion about each book with members of the community and library staff. Meet new friends, explore real and imagined worlds, and discover new perspectives. This book club is designed for adults.

May: *Severance* by Ling Ma  
June: *Frick Mirror: Reflections on Self-Delusion*  
by Jia Tolentino  
July: *Drive Your Plow Over the Bones of the Dead* by Olga Tokarczuk  
August: *This Is How They Tell Me the World Ends* by Nicole Perlroth

### Popular Pages Book Club | Yankee Clipper

Mondays, May 13, June 17, July 15,  
August 19, 6:00 – 7:00 pm  
Yankee Clipper Branch – 2025 Leonard St NE

Join us for our monthly book club! Enjoy popular fiction and nonfiction titles selected by GRPL librarians and participate in a discussion about each book with members of the community and library staff. Meet new friends, explore real and imagined worlds, and discover new perspectives. This book club is designed for adults.

May: *Klara and the Sun* by Kazuo Ishiguro  
June: *Entangled Life* by Merlin Sheldrake  
July: *Such a Fun Age* by Kiley Reid  
August: *Big Friendship* by Aminatou Sow and Ann Friedman

## Summer Reading Challenge: For All Ages

### May 28 – September 7, 2024

Join the Summer Reading Challenge! Discover new hobbies, interests, and skills through our fun and educational reading challenge designed for all ages. Participation is free and does not require a library card. Learn more at [www.grpl.org/summerreading](http://www.grpl.org/summerreading).

### Sign up

Sign up online or in-person at any GRPL location to receive your Summer Reading Challenge booklet at the end of May. Follow the challenges included in your summer-themed passport and track your progress by marking pages as you go.

Earn mini prizes for meeting reading milestones and, once you've completed all of the challenges in your passport, drop by any GRPL location to get your special badge and pick up your grand prize!

### Sponsors



Meijer Fund  
Edsko & Claire Hekman Family Fund  
Vander Veen Center for the Book Fund

Friends of the Library

Michigan Arts and Culture Council

Office of Special Events Sponsorship

Toys for Tots Literacy Program

TEGNA Foundation/  
WZZM 13 On Your Side

### Partners

Bricks & Minifigs, Grand Rapids Office of Special Events, Grand Valley State University, Grandville Avenue Arts and Humanities, Hispanic Center of West Michigan, John Ball Area Neighbors, Kent County Parks, Kent County Toys for Tots, Kona Ice of West Grand Rapids, League of Enchantment, Men of Color Read, Roosevelt Park Neighborhood Association, and Vault of Midnight.



## Free Summer Storytimes



### Outdoor Storytime

If you love stories, songs, and rhymes, join the Grand Rapids Public Library for outdoor storytime. This fun event for kids ages 0-5 is the perfect way to get some wiggles out. Each child will take home a free Storytime Kit at the end of the program while supplies last.

*Mondays, May 20, June 17, July 22, August 19*  
10:30 am | Lincoln Park  
231 Marion Ave NW

*Mondays, May 13, June 10, July 15, August 12*  
10:30 am | Mulick Park  
1632 Sylvan Ave SE



### Family Storytime

Parents and caregivers are invited to bring their children ages 0-5 years to this storytime featuring great books, songs, fingerplays, and hands-on fun. Classes end with an art activity and playtime designed to help your child's brain grow.

*Mondays, June 3, 10, 17, 24, July 8, 15, 22, 29*  
6:30 pm | West Leonard Branch  
1017 Leonard NW

*Tuesdays, June 4, 11, 18, 25, July 9, 16, 23, 30*  
10:30 am | West Side Branch  
713 Bridge St NW



### Storytime on the Lawn

Join us for this outdoor storytime held on the lawn! Children ages 0-5 and their caregivers will love this half-hour event that features stories, songs, rhymes, and playing on the lawn. In case of inclement weather, this event series will be moved indoors.

*Wednesdays, June 5, 12, 19, 26,*  
*July 10, 17, 24, 31*  
10:30 am | Seymour Branch  
2350 Eastern Ave SE

*Thursdays, June 6, 13, 20, 27,*  
*July 11, 18, 25, August 1*  
10:30 am | Yankee Clipper Branch  
2025 Leonard St NE



### Bilingual Family Time

Join us for an evening bilingual storytime filled with fun stories, movement, and musical activities. This 30-minute English and Spanish storytime is followed by a hands-on activity and playtime.

*Thursdays, June 6, 13, 20, 27,*  
*July 11, 18, 25, August 1*  
6:00 pm | Madison Square Branch  
1201 Madison Ave SE

## Spotlight on Collections & Services



### Grand Rapids Press Digital Edition (1893-current)

Grand Rapids Public Library cardholders enjoy online access to the *Grand Rapids Press* without needing an individual paid subscription.

Residents can access the daily edition of the *Grand Rapids Press* featuring content spanning from 1893 to today, can research local profiles and historical events, and can explore their family history.

Special thanks to the Grand Rapids Public Library Foundation – Titche Family Fund for their support of this digital resource.

### Open Lab | Walk-in Technology Help

*Wednesdays, May 1 – August 28*  
*11:00 am – 1:00 pm*  
Main Library – 111 Library St NE

Need help with your computer, laptop, or smartphone? Have questions about email, the Internet, or the library's digital resources? Stop by during our drop-in sessions, and library staff will help answer your basic technology questions.

### Visit the Mobile Library

We're visiting community centers, preschools, and apartment complexes throughout the city to share library services with our neighbors.

Drop by any stop on our route to sign up for a library card, check out books and movies, access free WiFi, and more. Find more information about our scheduled visits and Mobile Library route by visiting [www.grpl.org/mobile-library](http://www.grpl.org/mobile-library) this summer.