

Librarian.



No Boundaries In Sight.

Celebrate National Library Week

You are cordially invited to celebrate National Library Week (NLW) with Braille Institute Library! National Library week begins April 4 and ends April 10 and this year's theme is "Welcome to Your Library." While we may not be able to celebrate with you in person this year, we do have a special week of virtual activities planned you can enjoy from the comfort of your own home!

There will be informative workshops throughout the week, and our main event will take place on April 7 at 2:00 p.m., broadcast live on our Braille Institute YouTube Channel. Our "Welcome to Your Library" program will be an entertaining and educational hour featuring a guest speaker from the National Library Service (NLS), readings from two popular narrators.

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Stephen Prine is the Assistant Chief of the NLS Patron and Network Engagement Division. He will share exciting news and updates about the NLS' plans to enhance library services.

You will probably recognize the voices of our two guest narrators, Laura Ginannarelli and Mare Trevathan. Ms. Giannarelli has narrated nearly 1,000 audio books to date for the Library of Congress (L.O.C.). Titles narrated include the Award-winning *Little House on the Prairie* series, many titles in the Mrs. Murphy series by Rita Mae



Guest narrators, *Laura Ginannarelli and Mare Trevathan*

Brown including *Nine Lives to Die* DB 79414, *The Roman Spring of Mrs. Stone* by Tennessee Williams DB 37632 and hundreds of others.

Mare Trevathan has led immersive theater in Ahmedabad, studied Chekhov in Vladivostok, performed in Barrow, and lived in Paris and Tokyo. She has recorded about 700 titles for the National Library Service, Dreamscape, Audible and others. Some of the titles available through NLS include *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott DB 58830, *A Family Affair* by ReShonda Tate Billingsley, *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee DB 77672, and many more.

We will also have a jazz performance from David Nash and a poetry reading featuring the work of our own Braille Institute staff Debbie Lawrence.

The program will also be available for viewing on YouTube after the initial airing. It is FREE and open to all, so spread the word! To register for NLW events, please visit our website www.brailleinstitute.org/ events or call 1-800-BRAILLE (272-4553) with any questions.

National Library Week 2021 Online Workshops

Monday, April 5, 10a-11am

"BARD Workshop" hosted by Bob and Kelly

Learn about BARD, a free braille and talking book library service for people with temporary or permanent print disability that lets you search for, download and listen to audio or read Braille books instantly once you're signed up. During this workshop, you'll learn about how to sign up for the BARD service, what devices you can use to access BARD, how to download and read audio books and magazines for free using the BARD service, and what to expect when you use the Bard Mobile app.

Tuesday, April 6, 3:30p - 4:30p

"Silly Story Time For Kids!" hosted by Christian

Attention boys and girls and families! Join Christian, The Library Guy, for some silly fun! We will use Mad Libs to write our own hilarious story, listen to a fun book, and sing our hearts out with live guitar playing! Christian will also talk about the Digital Talking Book Player and how qualified individuals can get one for free. Please contact Christian at 619-363-0190 or ckoleo@brailleinstitute.org to register for this presentation. Please note that presentation will be on Microsoft Teams.

Thursday, April 8, 10a-11a

"Easy Tips for Downloading Books Workshop" hosted by Siran, Tina and Julius

Come and learn easy ways to search by title, author and subject using your BARD Mobile devices and BARD Express, which is the

A New Resource to Protect What You Love Most

Braille Institute serves to better the future of our community — and that starts with you. We are excited to introduce a new resource that will support you and your loved ones' future: a free estate planning tool.

F R E E W I L L

We've partnered with FreeWill to help you write a legal will or trust for free. Nearly 70% of Americans don't have an updated estate plan, despite it being a powerful way to protect the people you love. This resource makes the process simple, quick, and free. And you can complete the process in the comfort of your home.

Get started at FreeWill.com/Braille to create your free plan and get peace of mind for the future.

online app for Windows PC users. You will also learn how to search for and download magazines from BARD and how to download books using the Online Catalog (WebOPAC).

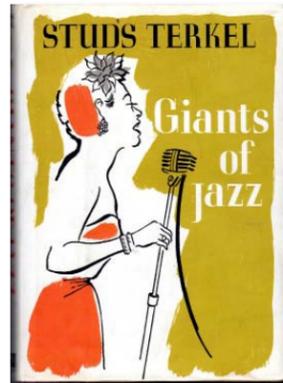
Friday, April 9, 2p-3p

"Getting Published" hosted by Elena with special guest Nate Streeper

The opportunity to self-publish a novel has never been greater. While there is no single way to go about it, Nate will touch on universal aspects such as: original ideas, rough drafts, beta readers, the editing process, cover design, page-setting, online distributors, audiobooks, and marketing strategies. Come away feeling inspired to write your own book!

JAZZ APPRECIATION MONTH

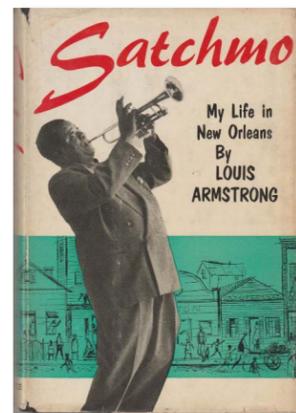
Book Recommendations



Giants of Jazz

By Studs Terkel
Narrated by Robert Sams
Book DB 60829

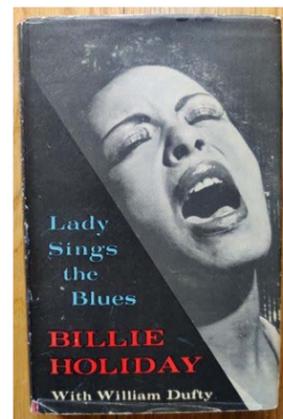
Collective biography of thirteen American jazz greats: Joe Oliver, Louis Armstrong, Bessie Smith, Bix Beiderbecke, Fats Waller, Duke Ellington, Benny Goodman, Count Basie, Billie Holiday, Woody Herman, Dizzy Gillespie, Charlie Parker, and John Coltrane. Portraits blend musicians' life stories with information about the evolution of jazz. Includes discography. 1957.



Satchmo: My Life in New Orleans

By Louis Armstrong
Narrated by Chuck Young
Book DB 63277

Autobiography of jazz legend Louis Armstrong (1900-1971) chronicles his early years in New Orleans. Describes Armstrong's home life and his foray into the music scene, playing in bars with the biggest names in New Orleans until his 1922 departure to Chicago. Includes 1986 introduction by Dan Morgenstern. 1954.



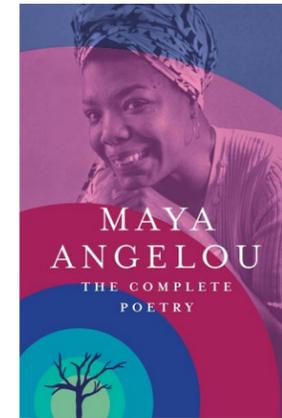
Lady Sings the Blues

By Billie Holiday
Narrated by Dawn Ursula
Book DB 83025

Memoir of the famous jazz and blues singer, written in 1956, just three years before her death at forty-four. She shares details of her Baltimore youth, her rise to fame in the jazz world, and the struggles she experienced with racism and drug addiction. Some strong language. 1956.

NATIONAL POETRY MONTH

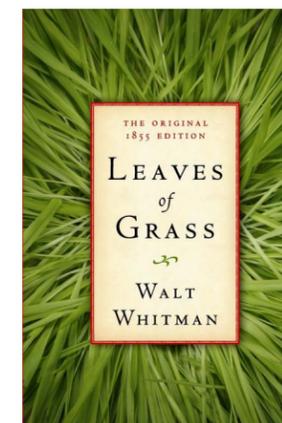
Book Recommendations



The Complete Collected Poems of Maya Angelou

By Maya Angelou
Narrated by Gail Nelson
Book DB 42918

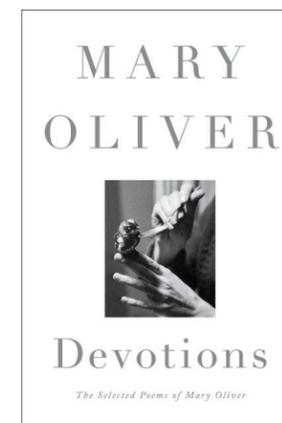
In this collection of more than 150 poems, Angelou celebrates the lives of black people, though many of her poems are universal in their appeal. She uses speech patterns of southern blacks and of the street-wise hip, the currents of blues and jazz, and the rhythm of rap. The collection includes "Still I Rise" and "On the Pulse of Morning."



Leaves of Grass

By Walt Whitman
Narrated by Alexander Scourby
Book DB 73834

Digital restoration of the American Foundation for the Blind's 1961 recording of the first version of Walt Whitman's major work, narrated by Alexander Scourby and Kevin McCarthy. Although revised by the poet many times during his life, the core content remained. Introduction by Malcolm Cowley. 1855.



Devotions: The Selected Poems of Mary Oliver

By Mary Oliver
Narrated by Eva Wilhelm
Book DB 94183

Collection of more than two hundred poems by Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Upstream* (DB 87127) and *Felicity* (DB 84944) originally published between 1963 and 2015. Curated by Oliver herself to highlight poems that she thought best represented her work in observing the natural world. 2017.



Five Easy Ways to Order Your Books

Here are a few ways for you to order your library books:

- 1. BARD (Braille and Audio Reading Download):** You can download titles using BARD on your mobile devices or through BARD Express on your Windows PC;
- 2. TELEPHONE:** You may phone in with your book orders by calling 323-906-3154, 1-800-BRAILLE, or 1-800-808-2555;
- 3. EMAIL:** You may email your book requests to readers@brailleinstitute.org;
- 4. USPS MAIL:** You may write to us with your requested titles and send it via Free Matter for the Blind. If you receive the printed Talking Book Topics catalog, you may also use the form at the end of the catalog to make selections and mail that form to the Library. Our mailing address is:

Braille Institute Library Services
741 North Vermont Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90029
- 5. ONLINE CATALOG:** If you use the online catalog on our website (WebOPAC), you can add books to your request list or you can download titles directly from the catalog. Our website is: <http://www.brailleinstitute.org/Library>.

Patron Spotlight: Karen Arcos

Throughout my time as a Braille Institute Library (BIL) patron, it continues to play an important role in my life as a Latina who is totally blind. BIL was key for me in developing my love of reading thanks to its braille and audio book collection.



Braille institute was also helpful for me learning assistive technology using JAWS screen reader. More recently, I was fortunate enough to receive Orientation and Mobility training through Braille Institute during my time as an undergraduate at the University of Southern California and while earning my Ph.D. in Cognitive Neuroscience with an emphasis in Chicano/Latino Studies at the University of California, Irvine.

Using braille and JAWS was critical during my science program researching the roles of memory and the senses in adults who are blind and sighted. Thanks to the BIL allowing me to collect details from participants there, I completed a study, which I am submitting for publication in a Psychology journal.

The number of visually impaired adults pursuing Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) fields is very low, in part because scientists typically convey information visually using charts and figures. To all those interested in starting or improving your careers, I recommend learning relevant skills, putting them into practice, and finding a community of supportive individuals. Patiently educate them along the way about accommodating your needs while remembering to be yourself and to do you.

Again, I am grateful to Braille Institute Library and look forward to continuing to be involved as I develop a research project as a Postdoctoral Scholar at UC Santa Cruz!



Librarian.

The *Librarian* newsletter is published in large print, braille, and audio formats to share information about Braille Institute programs and services with our clients and community of partners. It is also available on our website, brailleinstitute.org/Library, and on the Telephone Reader Program. Braille Institute is a nonprofit providing free programs and services to people with vision loss since 1919. For more information about the *Librarian* newsletter, or about library services, please call 1-800-808-2555.



Library Services
741 N. Vermont Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90029

Free Matter
For The
Blind

Braille Institute Notice regarding CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

With the extended “Stay-at-Home” order, Braille Institute is now offering remote services with online workshops, classes and virtual sessions while our centers remain physically closed. We will continue to monitor and follow local guidelines. Meanwhile, online and phone support also remain available Monday-Friday. We’re still here for you! Call **1-800-BRAILLE (272-4553)**

While there have been NO reported coronavirus cases at a Braille Institute

facility, we are taking precautionary measures to eliminate risk by suspending in-person service at all of our centers. However, you can continue to download books digitally using BARD.

If you need assistance with BARD, please email **therbison@brailleinstitute.org** or call **1-323-906-3154**. We will respond to you as quickly as possible. Updates on when we will reopen will be provided via email, on our website (www.brailleinstitute.org) and social media channels. You can also feel free to call **1-800-BRAILLE (272-4553)**.