DO YOU HAVE ANY THOUGHTS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF VOLUNTEERING OR STORYTELLING AND HOW IT HAS INFLUENCED YOUR LIFE? 

Volunteering at the Orem Public Library has deepened my investment in our community. The library has been called the city’s “living room,” and I’ve come to feel particularly at home there by being a volunteer. We need public spaces like the Orem Public Library, especially in our digital age. The library is a living symbol of our investment in each other as community members, and as such, deserves our support.—Gina C.

Volunteering has helped me to stay connected with the library. Going to the library is normal for my kids. I’ve done it when I was 8½ months pregnant and when my kids were 3 weeks old. Nothing keeps us from getting to the library. We regularly hit my 100-book limit on my library card.—Alison S.

As a child growing up, I saw my parents volunteering and serving others. This brought happiness and joy into their lives. As a young mother I did my best to mirror my parents’ example of service to my children. Today, my grandchildren are seeing what fun it can be to volunteer as they sit and watch their grandma telling stories at the library! I feel privileged to have these great opportunities in my life.—Cindy T.

DO YOU THINK IT TAKES TO MAKE A GOOD STORYTELLER? ANY TIPS OR WORDS OF ADVICE? 

Take every opportunity you can to observe professional and local tellers.—Cindy T.

Flexibility and a sense of humor.—Gina C.

Don’t be afraid to be silly. Parents might enjoy that. Kids will like it when I was 8½ months pregnant and when my kids were 3 weeks old. Nothing keeps us from getting to the library. We regularly hit my 100-book limit on my library card.—Alison S.

Be yourself. One of the things that I love about the Orem Library is the variety of personalities and interests in the storytellers. Each one brings something that they love to share with the children.—Laura H.

WHAT DO YOU THINK HAS INFLUENCED YOUR LIFE? 

It’s the most wonderful time of the year—but with the chaos of finals, parties, shopping, and traveling, it can feel like the most stressful time of the year. Whether you’re looking for ideas to inspire your holiday creativity or a haven to escape the busle and noise, the Orem Public Library is here to help. Here are ten ways you can use the library to have a very merry holiday season.

1. READ A BOOK. Reading is not only fun and relaxing, but gives you great conversation starters and creates traditions and memories. Try a classic holiday book on display, check out our top ten lists on our blog, jisbrowningpl.wordpress.com, or ask a librarian for ideas. If you’re looking to share a holiday reading experience with others, sign up at a reference desk to join our Orem Library Book Club as they read and discuss A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens on November 18.

2. GET A GIFT. We can’t imagine a better gift than a good book, or better yet, several books and a stylish library bag book. If you’re looking for great book bargains to put on your wish list or to give as gifts, visit our Holiday Book Sale or our Author Extravaganza on December 5, where you can get signed copies of some of your favorite Utah authors’ newest books and find new and exciting books and authors.

3. MAKE A CRAFT. Need something to keep your hands busy while you unwind in the long winter evenings? Explore your creative side or learn a new skill by checking out some of our many crafting books for kids and adults on how to make great homemade gifts, cards, decorations, and more. If you want a more social crafting experience, join our library craft group, Pins & Needles, which meets Tuesdays at 7 pm to work on individual knitting, crocheting, and other crafting projects.

4. MAKE A TREAT. What better way to embrace the holidays than to make and share delicious meals and treats with your family, friends, and neighbors (or just yourself)! Our library holiday cookbooks are a great resource for finding new holiday recipes and ideas. You can also check out our Monday blog post archives to read about our experiences making various recipes from library books.

5. WATCH A MOVIE. Our media collection is popular all year long, but especially around the holidays. Start a holiday movie-watching tradition (our library blog and our media librarians would love to give you suggestions), or come to our Monday/Friday film screenings if you want a movie night out. If you’re a teen, be sure to come to our After Hours Movie Night featuring Elf (PG, 2003) on November 28.

6. LEARN MORE. Learning about holiday customs around the world and the history behind holidays will not only give you interesting stories and facts to share, but will increase your understanding of and appreciation for the meaning of your holiday traditions. Get started with a Subject Alphabetical search for “Thanksgiving Day” or “Christmas customs.”

(continue on back)
I am a retired kindergarten teacher and grandmother who LOVES young children and knows the importance of early literacy. I was a longtime resident of Orem and I had wanted to be involved with the program as soon as I retired. –Marilyn P.

WHAT IS YOUR APPROACH TO STORYTELLING? HOW DO YOU COME UP WITH YOUR IDEAS?

I always assume that the same things that make me like a story will also appeal to the children. I try to explain and answer questions as I go because I know that children are sponges for knowledge. I want to increase their knowledge about the world and encourage curiosity. As adults, we sometimes forget how magical and wonderful the world is to a child. –Laura H.

My life is laptime mode, so I can test out my ideas on my kids. I try hard to leave moms with something they can sing and play throughout their day. I show them they don’t have to be caught up in doing it the right way—they just have to do whatever creates joy and connection and their kids like and they can remember. –Alison S.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PART OF BEING A VOLUNTEER STORYTELLER?

Seeing smiles and hearing laughter! –Cindy T.

Now Playing at the Library

High Definition Film Screenings and film events in the Media Auditorium Monday and Friday evenings.

DECEMBER SCREENINGS: LET IT SNOW, LET IT SNOW, LET IT SNOW

DECEMBER 4, FRIDAY 6:30 PM
Cool Runnings (PG, 1999)
When a Jamaican sprinter is disqualified to the Olympic Games, he enlists the help of a dishonored coach to start the first Jamaican Bobsled Team.

DECEMBER 7, MONDAY 6:30 PM
Ice Age (PG, 2002)
A sabertooth tiger, a sloth, and a wooly mammoth find a lost human infant and try to return him to his tribe.

DECEMBER 11, FRIDAY 6:30 PM
Encounters at the End of the World (G, 2007)
Filmmaker Werner Herzog travels to the McMurdo Station in Antarctica, looking to capture the continent’s beauty and investigate the characters living there.

DECEMBER 14, MONDAY 6:30 PM
March of the Penguins (G, 2005)
A look at the annual journey of Emperor penguins as they march to their traditional breeding ground.

DECEMBER 18, FRIDAY 6:30 PM
Mouse Hunt (PG, 1997)
Two stumblesbum inheritors are determined to rid their antique house of a mouse who is equally determined to stay where he is.

DECEMBER 21, MONDAY 6:30 PM
Elf (PG, 2003)
After inadvertently wreaking havoc on the elf community due to his ungainly size, a man raised as an elf at the North Pole is sent to the U.S. in search of his true identity.

DECEMBER 25, FRIDAY 6:30 PM
Happy Holidays!

DECEMBER 28, MONDAY 6:30 PM
Home Alone (PG, 1990)
An 8-year-old troublemaker must protect his home from a pair of burglars when he is accidentally left home alone by his family during Christmas vacation.
DECEMBER 11, FRIDAY
6:30 PM  Media Auditorium
Film Screening: Encounters at the End of the World (G, 2007)

DECEMBER 12, SATURDAY
2:00 PM  Media Auditorium
Tumbleweeds Film Festival Screening: Cinderella (G, 1950)

DECEMBER 13, SUNDAY
2:00 PM  Media Auditorium
Tumbleweeds Film Festival Screening: Cinderella (G, 1950)

DECEMBER 14, MONDAY
6:30 PM  Media Auditorium
Film Screening: March of the Penguins (G, 2005)

DECEMBER 15, TUESDAY
7:00 PM  Firepace
Wasatch Classical Guitar
Nothing calms your holiday madness like a quiet evening listening to traditional Christmas carols played on classical guitar.
Young guitarists from the local Wasatch Classical Guitar Studio will play several arrangements of your favorites.

DECEMBER 16, WEDNESDAY
3:00−6:00 PM North Mezzanine
Library Study Hall
The Library Study Hall program at the Orem Library provides elementary through middle school-aged students the opportunity to work one-on-one with a librarian in using library resources to complete school assignments. Librarians can help students locate books for projects or reports; use our databases to find information; and use our computers and computer programs to increase their abilities or complete assignments. The Library Study Hall is not a tutoring program. Librarians do not teach concepts or do homework with or for students. Parents must stay on the mezzanine with students under the age of 10.

DECEMBER 17, THURSDAY
6:00 PM  Storytelling Wing
Utah Valley Writers

DECEMBER 18, FRIDAY
5:30 PM  Media Auditorium
Film Screening: Elf (PG, 2003)

DECEMBER 19, SATURDAY
12:00 PM  Fireplace
Christmas Concert
Bob Peterson and friends will bring a snow shower of Christmas favorites, featuring many of Bob’s own arrangements done in the US Army Bands and afterwards.

DECEMBER 20, SUNDAY
2:00 PM  Media Auditorium
Film Screening: Home Alone (PG, 1990)

DECEMBER 21, MONDAY
6:30 PM  Media Auditorium
Film Screening: March of the Penguins (G, 2005)

DECEMBER 22-26  LIBRARY CLOSED

DECEMBER 27, TUESDAY
7:00 PM  Media Auditorium
Film Screening: Elf (PG, 2003)

DECEMBER 28, MONDAY
6:30 PM  Media Auditorium
Film Screening: Home Alone (PG, 1990)

DECEMBER 29, TUESDAY
7:00 PM  Media Auditorium
Film Screening: Elf (PG, 2003)

DECEMBER 30, WEDNESDAY
6:30 PM  Media Auditorium
Film Screening: Elf (PG, 2003)

DECEMBER 31, THURSDAY
6:00 PM  Storytelling Wing
Utah Valley Writers

JOSI KILPACK

NATHAN HALE

ALLY CONDIE

DAN WELLS

JOSI KILPACK

AND MORE

HOLIDAY AUTHOR

Extravaganza

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5
11 AM TO 1 PM | FIREPLACE
NOVEMBER 6, FRIDAY
6:30 PM Media Auditorium
Film Screening: Robin and Ed (PG-13, 1991)

7:00 PM Fireplace
Vocal Performance: Connie Jensen & Lee Pierce
Join Connie Jensen and Lee Pierce as they sing famous opera arias from Don Giovanni, The Marriage of Figaro, and Samson and Delilah, as well as musical theatre selections and folk songs.

NOVEMBER 9, MONDAY
6:30 PM Media Auditorium
Film Screening: Santa Claus Conquers the Martians (NR, 1964)

NOVEMBER 12, THURSDAY
6:30 PM Media Auditorium
Ready to Learn: Welcome Baby
Join presenters from United Way of Utah County as they teach a class for parents introducing babies and young children to early literacy and education. Register for the free class here: http://www.welcomebabyuc.org/node/72

NOVEMBER 13, FRIDAY
6:30 PM Media Auditorium
Film Screening: Reelfoot Maiden (PG, 1936)

NOVEMBER 14, SATURDAY
9:00 AM–12:45 PM City Council Chambers
Free ACT Practice Test
How would you score on the ACT? Take a free practice test at Orem City Center to find out. The test is proctored like the real thing, but your score won’t go on record. Scores will be returned in about two weeks. Register online at: kaptest.com/satvarsat

2:00 PM Media Auditorium
Tumblewords Film Festival Screening: The Prophet (PG, 2014)
The Prophet, by Lebanese author Khalil Gibran, is among the most popular volumes of poetry ever written. The book’s timeless verses have been given enchanting new form in this animated anthology film that assembles a host of renowned international artists to reconfigure Gibran’s elegant text as a painterly cinematic adventure. Recommended for ages 9+

3:00 PM Storytelling Wing
Book Talk and Signing: Pack Dynamics by Julie Frost
Julie Frost is a Utah writer of speculative fiction whose work has appeared in Cosmos, Unlikely Story, Plasma Frequency, Stupefying Stories, and many other venues, and has been a finalist at Writers of the Future and the Golden Prize for Prose. Her first novel, Pack Dynamics, was released at Salt Lake ComicCon by WordFire Press to a sell-out crowd.

NOVEMBER 16, MONDAY
6:30 PM Media Auditorium
Film Screening: Bride of the Monster (NR, 1955)

7:00 PM Fireplace
Cantorum
Cantorum Chamber Choir is an elite early music vocal ensemble of twenty-six singers from across the Wasatch Front. They specialize in performing a cappella sacred vocal music and regularly present concerts spanning 500 years of choral music. Cantorum frequently collaborates and will be performing with Consortium and Lux Singers this season. This year’s tour will take the ensemble to Ohio to premiere pieces with the Cincinnati Fusion Ensemble.

NOVEMBER 18, WEDNESDAY
7:00 PM Media Auditorium
Book Discussion Room
Orem Library Book Club: A Christmas Carol
In November the Orem Library Book Club will be reading A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens. Published in 1843, this popular novel tells the story of Ebenezer Scrooge, a bitter miser who is visited on Christmas Eve by the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present, and Future. With its social criticism, moral lessons, and heartfelt message of charity and generosity, the book is a timeless celebration of the Christmas spirit and season. Call Julie at 801-229-7379 to sign up, or see a reference desk for more information.

NOVEMBER 19, THURSDAY
6:00 PM Media Auditorium
Utah Valley Writers
Utah Valley Chamber Orchestra:
A Celebration of the American Heritage at Harvest Time
Join the UVU Chamber Orchestra’s celebration of American harvest time with three staple American works for the string orchestra — Arthur Foote’s lush string serenade, John Williams’ sentimental Schindler’s List, and the all-time favorite Hoe Down by Aaron Copland.

6:30 PM Media Auditorium
Film Screening: Troll 2 (PG-13, 1990)

7:30 PM Fireplace
UVU Chamber Choir:
Pizzetti’s Messa di Requiem, conducted by Reed Criddle
Thrill to the evocative strains of the great masterpieces of modern choral music, as Ildebrando Pizzetti’s Requiem Mass weaves Gregorian chants through a tapestry of lush neo-Romantic harmonies.

NOVEMBER 21, SATURDAY
12:00 PM Fireplace
Discovery Day Concert
Bob Peterson, Millie Matsen, and Rod Matsen, along with young, aspiring jazz musicians from the community, present a fast-paced jazz concert with hits like “Four” by Miles Davis, “Down Under” by Dizzie Gillespie, “Take a Train,” and a few surprises.

2:00 PM Fireplace
Viola d’Amore Concert: Caryn Jackman
BYU viola graduate student Caryn Jackman will perform a recital on the viola d’amore, accompanied by piano and harpsichord.

2015 Utah Music Educators Association Conference.

DECEMBER 4, FRIDAY
6:30 PM Media Auditorium
Film Screening: Cool Runnings (PG, 1999)

7:00 PM Fireplace
American Ballet Academy: Holiday Performance

DECEMBER 5, SATURDAY
11:00 AM–1:00 PM Fireplace
Holiday Book Sale & Author Extravaganza
Featuring celebrated Utah authors such as Ally Condie, Dan Wells, Nathan Hale, Jodi Kilpack, and more, this event is the perfect occasion for you to meet your favorite local authors, purchase signed copies of their latest books to keep and exchange as Christmas gifts, and find out what they’re working on now.

4:00 PM Fireplace
Holiday Concert: Connie Jensen
Accompanied by Aaron Foster, UVU professor Connie Jensen and her students will present a concert featuring classical arias, art song, Christmas selections, and contemporary music.

DECEMBER 7, MONDAY
6:00 & 7:30 PM Fireplace
Utah Baroque Ensemble
Join the Utah Baroque Ensemble for a fun, informal family concert. The choir will alternate music from their recent Christmas concert with sing-along carols with the audience. Children are welcome.

6:30 PM Media Auditorium
Film Screening: Ice Age (PG, 2002)

DECEMBER 8, TUESDAY
7:00 PM Fireplace
Chauntenettes
Come fill your ears with Christmas at the Chauntenette’s 66th annual Christmas concert including a variety of family-friendly, fun, and sacred music.

DECEMBER 9, WEDNESDAY
5:30 PM & 7:00 PM Fireplace
Utah Vocal Arts Academy (UVAA) presents holiday tunes to enjoy and more in its annual Singer's Showcase, a recital featuring songs from classical, Broadway, and commercial genres sung by award-winning vocalists.

DECEMBER 10, THURSDAY
6:30 PM Media Auditorium
Ready to Learn: Welcome Baby

DECEMBER 21, SATURDAY
12:00 PM Fireplace
Thanksgiving

DECEMBER 22, WEDNESDAY
7:00 PM Fireplace
The Consortium Ensemble
Founded in 2012 by Tad Harris and Rex Kocherhans, this premiere male acapella group is made up primarily of alumni from BYU, Utah Valley University, and the University of Utah. They frequently collaborate and will be performing with Consor ticium and Lux Singers this season. This year’s tour will take the ensemble to Ohio to premiere pieces with the Cincinnati Fusion Ensemble.

DECEMBER 23, MONDAY
6:30 PM Media Auditorium
Film Screening: Batman & Robin (PG-13, 1997)

7:00 PM Fireplace
UVU Chamber Orchestra:
A Celebration of the American Heritage at Harvest Time
Join the UVU Chamber Orchestra’s celebration of American harvest time with three staple American works for the string orchestra — Arthur Foote’s lush string serenade, John Williams’ sentimental Schindler’s List, and the all-time favorite Hoe Down by Aaron Copland.

7:00 PM Media Auditorium
Timp Tellers: Holiday Story Share
One of the best ways to generate personal stories is to hear stories from others. Join us as we discuss and relive some of our favorite holiday memories, generating stories for your family history and personal story files.

DECEMBER 25–27, SATURDAY
LIBRARY CLOSED

DECEMBER 30, MONDAY
LIBRARY CLOSED