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## There's More to the Story this National Library Week - April 23-29

Worcester, MA – The Worcester Public Library (WPL) encourages community members to visit the library during National Library Week, April 23-29, to explore all they have to offer. Most people know about the wealth of stories available at the library, from picture books and large print to audiobooks and ebooks. But there's so much more to the story of libraries.

Libraries are welcoming spaces that bring communities together for entertainment, education, and connection through book clubs, story times, movie nights, crafting classes, lectures, and more. WPL offers a wide array of programs, classes, and resources, including open maker hours with sewing, vinyl cutting, and jewelry making. They also have audio and video conversion, the Adobe Creative Cloud Suite, as well as a library of things, which allows patrons to borrow mobile hotspots, laptops, telescopes, light therapy lamps, and much more.

Libraries play a critical role in the economic vitality of communities by providing internet and technology access, literacy skills, and support for job seekers, small businesses, and entrepreneurs. The New Americans Corner at the Main Library brings together our English as a Second Language and Literacy and citizenship collections, and our world language collections for adults, as well as resources to connect patrons to relevant services and opportunities at other organizations throughout the city.

"Libraries are incredibly important to the social fabric of a community," City Manager Eric D. Batista said. "Having a dedicated space for community members to come together and engage through books, technology, classes, lectures, and more is key to community building. As a City, we are proud to celebrate the Worcester Public Library and its great offerings during National Library Week."

The City Manager will be visiting WPL to show his support for libraries during a Stories and Songs story time for children ages 5 and under on Monday, April 24 at 11 a.m. at the Main Library, 3 Salem Square.

WPL will also be hosting an Innovation Center Open House on Tuesday, April 25 from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. at the Main Library. Patrons can stop by and check out some of the many creative services the library offers. Staff will be demonstrating the equipment that is available to patrons during open maker hours, as well as highlighting some of the classes that are taught here. Drop in if you are curious to find out how you can be part of the maker movement at the library.

If you haven't checked out WPL lately, you're missing the full story. Stop by for a visit to celebrate with them during National Library Week. Follow WPL on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and TikTok and the hashtags #MyWPL and #NationalLibraryWeek to join the online celebration. First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association and libraries of all types across the country.

During National Library Week, WPL invites all community members to visit one of the seven WPL locations across the city, access virtual services and resources on our website, or attend a visit with the bookmobiles.

For more information on the Worcester Public Library visit <u>mywpl.org</u>. For more information on National Library Week contact Linnea Sheldon, Community Relations and Communications Manager, at 508-799-1654 or <u>Isheldon@mywpl.org</u>.

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