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## Happy New Year from Phoenix Public Library

It is the beginning of a new year and time when most set intentions and resolutions. Whether you want to pursue a dream, develop a new course, [plan for college](#), [start a business](#), [grow a garden](#), explore [Phoenix or Arizona art and cultural scene](#), or simply entertain yourself without breaking the bank, we are here for you with something for everyone.

Adding more reading in 2024? We are definitely here for it! With [17 library locations](#), a robust [eBook and eAudiobook collection](#), ample [in-person book clubs](#), the [Just Read](#) online book club, and our [Best of 2023](#), reading with us has never been easier!

Two distinctive library resources we launched in 2023 and are very pleased to provide throughout the next year (and beyond) are [Phoenix Public Library's app](#) and [1000 Books Before Kindergarten](#).



Download our new mobile app and have the best card in your wallet on your device! With it you can search our catalog, scan your digital library card to check out materials, manage your account, and more. You can even scan the ISBN code on any book to see if it's available at your favorite Phoenix Public Library location. Find and download the Phoenix Public Library app for your [Apple](#) or [Android](#) device.

Studies have shown that families who start reading aloud to their children at birth help strengthen language skills and build vocabulary. 1000 Books Before Kindergarten is a nationwide early literacy initiative designed to encourage parents and caregivers to read with their young children. Phoenix Public Library makes it both fun and easy to read 1,000 books before kindergarten, you can find it on our [app](#), [sign up online](#) or register at any [Phoenix Public Library location](#).



We wish you the very best in the year to come and hope you plan to spend part of 2024 with [Phoenix Public Library](#)!

## Calling Young Artists!

Celebrate Black Voices Virtual Art Exhibit. Students in Kindergarten through 12th grade are invited to submit a drawing of a significant person or event to celebrate the African American experience for Phoenix Public Library's annual *Celebrate Black Voices - Virtual Art Exhibition*.



Entries will be accepted through 5 p.m., January 19, 2024 and will be exhibited in an online gallery on Phoenix Public Library's website and featured on the library's social media. Learn more and print out a submission form by visiting [Celebrate Black Voices: Virtual Art Exhibit](#)

## Register for Business Road Map and Mapa Para Su Negocio in 2024



Register now for [StartUpPHX](#)'s Business Road Map Series with dates in early 2024. This 8-session program helps entrepreneurs interested in starting a business in Arizona. Topics include legal issues, target markets, budgeting, and pricing, setting milestones, and accessing capital. Sessions are being offered in person and online in both English and Spanish. [Learn more and register](#).

## VITA Free Tax Prep

File for free this tax season with the City of Phoenix Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA)! There are three options available:

1. Use our free tax software with help from a VITA volunteer. Individuals and families must make less than \$79,000/year.
2. Make an in-person appointment with an IRS-certified volunteer tax preparer. Individuals and families must make less than \$68,000/year.
3. File for free, online at [MyFreeTaxes.com!](#)



Interested in serving as a VITA volunteer? Visit [Become a VITA Volunteer](#) and learn how you can help your community. For all other VITA information or to make an appointment learn more at [phoenix.gov/taxhelp](#).

## Join us at a Bike Rodeo in 2024



Families, hop on your bikes and pedal on over to the library to learn safe cycling tips from Phoenix Children's Hospital. Practice your bike safety skills on our bicycle course. Participate in a helmet giveaway, while supplies last.

[Learn more about Bike Rodeo locations and dates.](#)

## College Depot's Annual Scholarship Expo

Get connected to loads of scholarship providers! Make College Depot's Scholarship Expo on February 1, 2024 part of your plan. Attend a panel presentation featuring the Anatomy of a Scholarship and How to Write a Winning Scholarship Essay, mix and mingle with scholarship providers from around the Valley, community organizations and College Depot staff and receive hands-on scholarship assistance in our Digital Classroom. Snacks and raffle prizes will be included.



[Sign Up Today](#)

*Registration required.*

### College Depot Scholarship Expo

4:30 - 6:30 p.m.  
Thursday, February 1

[College Depot at Phoenix Public Library](#), 2nd Floor, [Burton Barr Central Library](#)

## Keeping Up with City of Phoenix

### Make a Splash, Earn Some Cash!



It's a great time to be a City of Phoenix Lifeguard with the return of incentive pay and increased wages!

Eligible staff can receive up to \$3,000 in incentive for the 2024 Pool Season. Move fast, lifeguard interviews are Saturday, March 16.

Learn more and find a certification near you by visiting [phoenix.gov/lifeguard](#).

### City of Phoenix Website Needs Your Insight

City of Phoenix is working to improve the City's website, [phoenix.gov](#) and looking for volunteers to participate in brief online user testing exercises. Sign up at [Participate in Website User Research](#). Testing will only take a few minutes and can be done on your schedule.



### Take Part in Stormwater Awareness Week



The City of Phoenix invites you to help reduce stormwater pollution by participating in **Stormwater Awareness Week from January 22 to 28**. Stormwater can pick up pollutants such as oil or trash and impact our rivers, washes, and parks. Your simple everyday actions can make a huge difference and improve stormwater quality and our environment. To learn more about what you can do to prevent stormwater pollution, visit [phoenix.gov/stormwater](#).

To attend a one-hour virtual conference on Wednesday, January 24, 2024, email [WSD.ESD.Outreach@phoenix.gov](mailto:WSD.ESD.Outreach@phoenix.gov).



## Mark Your Calendars for Library Closures

All Phoenix Public Library locations will be closed the following days:

- **Monday, January 1** in observance of New Year's Day
- **Monday, January 15** in observance of **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**

Book drops are open 24/7 at all [Phoenix Public Library locations](#).

