“CALACAS” VISITING THE LIBRARIES

During the celebration of Día de los Muertos, one cannot miss spotting "calacas" or skeletons, in various shapes and materials everywhere. They are seen taking part in daily and usually humorous life activities. Calacas are often made of decorated sugar, named for loved ones and placed upon the altar in the ofrenda ("offering" table for the honored deceased including photos, favorite meals, personal items, etc.). These sugar skulls indicate that life is sweet, and it is fleeting. The calacas or calaveras used throughout the celebration are never frightening, but lively, funny and beautiful. Through them one can mock death, recognizing that the end of life in this world does not have to be frightening.

In partnership with Denver Botanic Gardens’ annual Día de los Muertos celebration, Aurora Public Library is bringing seven larger-than-life paper-mâché “calacas” hand-painted by several Colorado artists, Alejandra Huerta, Angelica “Xencs” Jimenez, Artmando, Cal Duran, Cindy Loya, Julio “Jwl” Mendoza and UC Sepia. Each calaca provides a visual story of the artist’s roots and their own interpretation of the ancestral Día de los Muertos celebration.

The “Calacas Art Exchange Project” is a community art initiative taking place as part of the Aurora Public Library’s Hispanic Heritage Month celebration. The project was created to bring artists, organizers and community members together to promote and share the rich cultural and artistic traditions of Día de los Muertos. The skulls will remain at the libraries until Friday, Oct. 21, before heading to Denver Botanic Gardens.

All branches, except Iliff Square (given space limitations), are hosting a skull. Make sure to visit them all and take selfies. Posting selfies on social using #DBGCommunity and #APLintheCommunity will get participants a chance to win four tickets to Denver Botanic Garden’s Día de los Muertos celebration on Saturday, Nov. 5. Entries must be posted by 11 a.m. Oct. 21, and winners will be announced Oct. 25. And if you send selfies with at least five of the seven skulls to LibraryOutreach@AuroraGov.org, you’ll get a prize from the library, either a commemorative beer glass or a beer growler.

Be sure to visit all participating Aurora Public Library branches and let us know which one is your favorite. Learn more at AuroraLibrary.org.
Martin Luther King Library hosted the New Americans Arts Festival opening reception (photo) and several other events part of the festival.

Aurora Rhythms concerts at the libraries brought Skeandub, a new–traditional acoustic Celtic band, to Tallyn’s Reach in September. Next concert will take place at Mission Viejo Oct. 11. More info at TinyURL.com/AuroraRhythms

For #WorldLizardDay, Oliver shared some of his favorite lizard themed reads!

For #NationalBookLoversDays, Library staff share some of their favorites
BOOK CLUBS

NON-FICTION BOOK CLUB
• Tuesday, Oct. 4, 1 p.m., CEN
Join APL’s Non-Fiction Book Club for a lively discussion. October’s book: “Great Indoors” by Emily Anthes

BOOKS AT THE BAR
• Saturday, Oct. 8, 1 p.m., WebEx
Meet up for lively discussions on popular and contemporary literature. Register online and adults 21 and over only. Please contact the Hoffman Heights Library for more information at 303.739.1572. October’s book: “The Searcher” by Tana French

SHORT STORY BOOK CLUB*
• Saturday, Oct. 15, 4 p.m., WebEx
A virtual book club for busy adults with monthly readings that can be in an hour or less. Copies of each month’s selections may be found at the Mission Viejo or Iliff Square front desks or requested via email at library@auroragov.org.

DAYTIME BOOKLOVERS’ BOOK CLUB
• Wednesday, Oct. 19, 10:30 a.m., CEN
Join APL’s Daytime BookLover’s Book Club for a lively discussion. October’s book: “Everyone Brave is Forgiven” by Chris Cleave

LITERATURE TO FILM BOOK CLUB
• Saturday, Oct. 22 and 29, 2 p.m., TLR
The book is always better...or is it? Join us at the Tallyn’s Reach Library for our Literature to Film Book Club each month to read and break down books that became blockbuster sensations! This month, we’ll dig into Stephen King’s “The Shining”.

LUNCH TIME BOOK CLUB
• Tuesday, Oct. 25, Noon, HOF
Join us for a lunch time chat for our featured book of the month! October: “Educated” by Tara Westover

OUT OF THIS WORLD BOOK CLUB*
• Wednesday, Oct. 26, 5 p.m., WebEx
Come read sci-fi and fantasy literature in this virtual book club! In October, we’re reading about necromancers and sword-fighters in space as they navigate a mysterious, murderous contest: it’s global bestseller Gideon the Ninth! October’s book: “Gideon the Ninth” by Tamsyn Muir

BOOK REVIEW

LOCKED TOMB SERIES
BY TAMSYN MUIR

October always makes me crave the trappings of Halloween: skeletons and monsters, spooky decorations, candy, costumes, mazes, and a nearby light switch when things get too scary. Books don’t normally provide light switches, but I’m delighted to announce that Tamsyn Muir’s Locked Tomb series contains all of my other favorite Halloween things – in books available right now from the library.

Tamsyn Muir’s Locked Tomb starts with the baffling, compelling “Gideon the Ninth,” and its description is a mouthful: lesbian necromancers in space and their sword-fighting cavaliers solve mysterious riddles in a deadly competition. Winners are promised immortality; losers are getting murdered, and no one knows who’s behind it. I love this book’s unique, complicated premise, but more than that, I love how much fun it has with language: a slow fighter advances “like a glacier with an agenda,” old furniture is “sighing apart,” but doors also go “BLA-BLANG” and nicknames range from “umbral mistress” to the far more casual “bucko.” Readers will either love the irreverent mix of Fancy Fantasy/Sci-Fi Speech with slang, or they’ll hate it; there isn’t generally an in-between. The tricky series continues with “Harrow the Ninth” and “Nona the Ninth,” as the names imply, these stories follow entirely different main characters as they struggle to unravel the mysteries behind their post-apocalyptic world. The audiobooks are just as good as the books: it’s difficult to narrate a series with changing narrators, a variety of wildly different characters, and hints for puzzles throughout its pages, but Australian reader Moira Quirk more than delivers. For anyone hunting a unique science-fiction/fantasy/mystery mash-up, anyone who enjoys puzzles, or anyone who just wants to laugh and then scream in frustration, try The Locked Tomb. All three books are available as hard copies through your nearest library branch and as audiobooks through Aurora Public Library’s digital Hoopla collection.

By Eli Bernhardt,
Librarian at Iliff Square Library

HAVE YOU READ THIS BOOK?
Share your thoughts on social media with #ReadWithAPL
**LEARN AND PLAY**

- **Tuesdays, 11 a.m., HOF**
- **Wednesdays, 11 a.m., TLR**

Freeform play group for children 2- to 6-years-old and their caregivers. Listen to music and play with early literacy toys while connecting with other parents.

**MUSIC PLAYGROUP**

- **Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11 a.m., TLR***

Freeform music play group for children 18-months to five-years-old and their caregivers. Listen to music and play with musical toys while making new friends.

**BABY PLAY GROUP**

- **Fridays, 10:30 a.m., TLR**

Freeform music playgroup for babies 23 months and younger and their caregivers. Listen to music and play with early literacy toys while connecting with other caregivers.

**DRESS UP STORYTIME**

- **Wednesday, Oct. 19, 4 p.m., MLK**

Enjoy making fall crafts and munching snacks as a very special storyteller reads about the joys of make-believe. Costumes encouraged!

**ROCK AND READ**

- **Wednesday, Oct. 26, 10:30 a.m., CHA**

Join us for a special musical storytime on the last Wednesday of the month! This will be a time to get up and dance, shake, and wiggle as we share stories, songs, and rhymes for kids of all ages.

**PLEASE NOTE:** All Tallyn’s Reach Early Literacy Programs will be suspended starting Oct. 17 while the Community Room is used for voting. Regular programming will resume in December.

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**PROGRAM NAME**

**LOCATION**

**MON.**

**TUE.**

**WED.**

**THU.**

**FRI.**

**SAT.**

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**Storytime (All Ages)**

- **CEN**
- **CHA**
- **HOF**
- **MVL**
- **TLR**
- **MLK**

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**Cuentos Bilingües/Bilingual Storytime**

- **MLK**

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**Babies (0-23 mos.)**

- **CEN**

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**Baby Playgroup**

- **TLR**

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**Toddlers (2-3 yrs.)**

- **CEN**

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**Preschool (3-5 yrs.)**

- **CEN**

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**Tots’ Tunes* (18 Mos. - 6 yrs.)**

- **TLR**

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**LEGO CLUB**

- **Tuesdays, 4 p.m., MLK**

We supply the LEGO bricks, you bring the creativity. Come and create to your heart’s content!

**STEAM TUESDAYS**

- **Tuesdays, 4 p.m., CEN**
- **Tuesdays, 4 p.m., TLR**

Visit the library after school every Tuesday for a fun activity focusing on Science, Technology, Engineering, Art or Math. Designed for students in first through fifth grade.

**FRIDAY FUN**

- **Fridays, 4 p.m., CEN**

Celebrate the end of another week creatively! New projects and activities each week. Appropriate for kids in first through fifth grade.

**COOKIE-CON**

- **Thursday, Oct. 6, 4 p.m., HOF**

We’ll turn these sweet treats into cookie superheroes!

**SPIDER-FRIENDS**

- **Tuesday, Oct. 25, 4 p.m., ILF**

Spiders don’t have to be scary! Make delicious spider-friends at the Iliff Square Library.

**PUMPKIN VOLCANOES**

- **Monday, Oct. 31, 4 p.m., MLK**

Enjoy pumpkin volcanoes and treats to celebrate the fall.

*Registration is required via PerfectMind.*
Hoffman Heights Game Space
- Weekdays 3-5 p.m.
  Saturdays, all day, HOF
Drop in for Hoffman Heights Library’s youth gaming spaces for tweens and teens to play video games solo or with friends! Variety of games available.

Teen Hang
- Thursdays, 4 p.m., CEN
Every week come together with friends to hang out while doing an activity. Designed for students in middle school and high school.

Anime Club: Naruto Headbands
- Tuesday, Oct. 4, 4:30 p.m., MVL
Hang out, talk about your favorite anime, and craft this cool DIY cosplay piece for conventions or Halloween.

Make Your Own Slime
- Wednesday, Oct. 5, 4:30 p.m., MVL
Ooey, gooey, goopy slime that you get to make yourself and keep. Prepare to get a little messy!

DIY Halloween Decorations
- Thursday, Oct. 6, 4 p.m., MLK
Make your own decorations for the spooky season! Supplies provided; no advanced crafting experience is necessary.

Teen Dungeons & Ducks
- Thursday, Oct. 6, 4:30 p.m., MVL
Come plot adventures and fight monsters at this off-the-wall Dungeons & Dragons game for teens!

Hero Battle Arena
- Friday, Oct. 7, 4:30-5:30 p.m., HOF
Battle it out in the Nerf Area, superhero style! Put your tactics to the test and see who will come out victorious!

Fandom Debates
- Friday, Oct. 7, 6:30-8:30 p.m., TLR
Is Darth Vader a Hufflepuff? Who is the strongest hero in the Marvel Universe? Camp Half-Blood or New Rome? Join us for a night of fun debating!

Library Game Night: Teen Session*
- Fridays, 5:30 p.m., WebEx
A virtual game night every Friday featuring Jackbox games, social deduction games, trivia, and more.
  Oct. 7: Outburst
  Oct. 14: Poll Mine
  Oct. 21: Weapons Drawn
  Oct. 28: Trivia Murder Party

Leatherworking Class: Wristbands
- Saturday, Oct. 8, noon, MVL
This introductory leatherworking lesson, presented by Tandy Leather, will teach kids and teens the basics of the leatherworking craft. They’ll make a customized leather wristband to keep.

Teen D&D One-Shot Wonders: The Ghost House
- Wednesday, Oct. 12, 4 p.m., ILF
Try a faster D&D with our one-shot wonders campaign! All of these adventures last only an afternoon but are full of surprises. In October, team up with your fellow supernatural teens to scare a new family away from your haunted house. Can you persuade them to move out before they make your beloved home too cozy to haunt?

Gingerbread Haunted Houses
- Wednesday, Oct. 12, 4:30 p.m., MVL
Make a creepy, candy-covered abode that you can take home and eat!

Tabletop Games
- Thursdays, Oct. 13 & 27, 4:30 p.m., TLR
Play popular tabletop games like Catan, Fluxx, Unstable Unicorns, and more!

Tabletop Games: Betrayal At The House On The Hill
- Tuesday, Oct. 18, 4 p.m., MVL
Play one of the coolest and spookiest tabletop games around, just in time for Halloween.

Halloween Lanterns
- Thursday, Oct. 20, 4 p.m., HOF
Make a spooky lantern to light up your Halloween night!

Rainbow Round Table
- Friday, Oct. 21, 4:30 p.m., HOF
Are you part of the LGBTQ+ community or an ally? Join us at the Hoffman Library every month for fun crafts, guest speakers, activities and more!

Teen Ghost Hunting
- Friday, Oct. 21, 6-7:30 p.m., CEN
Is the library haunted? Join us for a ghost-hunting adventure after dark in the stacks. Led by our teens, for kids ages 8-12. Pizza will be provided. Registration required.

Teen Movie Hangout: Night Of The Living Dead + Zombie Snacks
- Saturday, Oct. 29, 3 p.m., MVL
BRAAAAINS. Hang out and watch the original film that jump-started the zombie horror genre, with some delightfully disgusting zombie snacks to go with.

* Registration is required via PerfectMind.

Teen Advisory Group (TAG)
- Central: Thursday, Oct. 27, 4 p.m.
- Mission Viejo: Thursday, Oct. 27, 4:30 p.m.
- Tallyns Reach: Thursdays, Oct. 6 and 20, 4:30 p.m.
Teens! Join your local Teen Advisory Group and let your voice be heard! Help create displays, plan programs and activities while earning volunteer time. Enjoy snacks and meet new friends too!

Volunteer Teen Book Reviewer
Earn two hours of volunteer time for each approved review you submit. Reviews may be published online and posted in the library. Books must be shelved in our Young Adult sections and be available at any Aurora Public Library. Contact libraryoutreach@auroragov.org for more information, review guidelines and final review approval.
FAMILY (ALL AGES)

FANDOM NATION STATION
• Friday, Oct. 7, 4-6 p.m., MLK
Science fiction, fantasy, and comics galore! Celebrate the diverse passions of fandoms at several exciting creativity or activity stations. Meant for all ages.

CHESS 101
• Wednesday, Oct. 12-Nov. 16, 4-5 p.m., MLK
• Friday, Oct. 14-Nov. 18, 4-5 p.m., HOF
In this 6-week class, members from the Denver Chess Club will show you how to play chess and improve your game. This program is open to all ages. Registration is encouraged, but not required.

STAMP IT
• Friday, Oct 14, 4-6 p.m., MLK
Make personalized cards and towels with rubber stamps, ink, and fabric paint.

PUMPKIN PAINTING
• Saturday, Oct. 15, 2-4 p.m., TLR
Decorate your very own pumpkin to fall into autumn! All participants decorating a pumpkin must be registered through PerfectMind.

HALLOWEEN GLOW PARTY
• Saturday, Oct. 15, 2-4 p.m., MLK
Celebrate the spooky season with glow-in-the-dark toys, slime, trick-or-treating, and other fun surprises!

A VERY SPOOKY STORYTIME
• Saturday, Oct. 29, 10:30 a.m., ILF
• Monday, Oct. 31, 4-5 p.m., HOF
Trick or treat! Come join us in costume for a Halloween-themed storytime, complete with silly songs, candy, and a special craft.

HALLOWEEN STORYTIME AND PARADE
• Friday, Oct. 28, 10:30-11 am, CEN
• Monday, Oct. 31, 10:30-11 am, TLR
Join us for a fun and spooky storytime. Costumes encouraged as we will parade through the library for treats and maybe some tricks. Ages 5 and under with caregiver.

ADULT

NEEDLE & THREAD
• Tuesday, Oct. 4, 5 p.m., ILF
Come learn to cross-stitch or work on an existing project at the Iliff Square Library! New patterns every month; materials provided for beginners.

DIY HALLOWEEN DECORATIONS
• Thursday, Oct. 6, 4 p.m., MLK
Make your own decorations for the spooky season! Supplies provided; no advanced crafting experience is necessary.

LEATHERWORKING CLASS: WALKING STICK GRIPS
• Saturday, Oct. 8, 2 p.m., MVL
Have you ever thought about learning leatherworking for costumes, cosplay, or crafting? A professional instructor from Tandy Leather will teach you the basics in this 2-hour class.

OPEN SEWING LAB
• Thursday, Oct. 13, 3-5 p.m., HOF
Need to stitch, sew or darn? Drop by the Sewing Lab and work on a current project or dream up something new!

QUILTING 101: BLOCK OF THE MONTH
• Monday, Oct. 24, 4-5:30 p.m., HOF
Interested in quilting? Join us every month to create a quilt block, and by next January you’ll have enough block to piece together into a quilt, table runner or other project. This series concludes in January 2023 with a class on how to finish your project (quilting and binding).

DIY (ARTS/CRAFTS/PROJECTS)
HOFFMAN HEIGHTS CREATESPACE
• Mondays: 10-1 p.m.
• Tuesdays: 3-5 p.m.
• Wednesdays: 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
• Saturdays: 3-5 p.m.
Need a space to create? Drop in on Hoffman Library’s CreateSpace to craft, sew, paint and make! The CreateSpace is open for community use for personal projects; limited supplies will be available for crafting and sewing.

*Are you a beginner sewer? Join us during the Open Sewing Lab to learn the basics first!*

*Registration is required via PerfectMind.*
GET SOCIAL

LIBRARY GAME NIGHT: ADULT SESSION*
• Fridays, 8 p.m., WebEx
A virtual game night every Friday featuring Jackbox games, social deduction games, trivia and more.
Oct. 7: Outburst
Oct. 14: Poll Mine
Oct. 21: Weapons Drawn
Oct. 28: Trivia Murder Party

HORROR FILM CLUB
• Fridays, 6 p.m., CEN
Do you enjoy horror movies? Join us for an adults only club where we meet to discuss a selection of films! Movies are available to watch through the library’s Kanopy service. All you need is a library card and an internet connection! Watch the film when you have time, then join us to share your thoughts!
Oct. 7 - Hereditary
Oct. 21 - The Babadook
Oct. 28 - Night of the Living Dead

GOAL KEEPERS—ACCOUNTABILITY GROUP
• Thursday, Oct. 6 & 20, 4:30 p.m., MVL (adults)
Find support in reaching goals at the library! The group meets twice a month to talk about small successes and steps toward goals. Support and accountability can help lead to success!

SO, I HEARD ON A PODCAST
• Saturday, Oct. 22, Noon, WebEx
Like a book club, but with podcasts. Each month we explore a new theme and listen to a playlist of podcasts, both emailed upon registration. For more information, call 303.739.1572.

THE MORE YOU KNOW...

ENGLISH CONVERSATION GROUP/CLASES DE CONVERSACIÓN EN INGLÉS
• Mondays, 4:30 p.m., CEN
Practice speaking and listening with others in English. Free, walk-in classes. For more information, call 303.739.6630.

COMPUTER TUTORING
From computer basics, to learning about MS Word, Excel or PowerPoint, APL staff can provide one-on-one instruction. Call select locations for available dates and times to register.
• Hoffman Heights: Call 303.730.1572 to make an appointment
• Martin Luther King Jr.: Call 303.739.1940 to make an appointment
• Tallyn’s Reach: Call 303.627.3050 to make an appointment

THE HISTORY OF AURORA
• Saturday, Oct. 1, 2 p.m., MVL
In collaboration with the Aurora Commission for Older Adults, learn more about the history of our city with a presentation from the Aurora History Museum. Refreshments will be provided.

LEGAL CLINIC
• Tuesday, Oct. 4, 3:30 p.m., MVL (adults)
Free Legal Clinic via computer for those with no attorney. No registration is required, and the clinic is on a first-come, first-served basis. Please head to the Reference Dept for the clinic. For more information, call the Adult Services dept. at: 303.739.6630.

PUTTING THE GARDEN TO BED
• Saturday, Oct. 8, 10 a.m., Nome Community Garden
1200 Nome St.
Are your seeds ready for next season? Will they be viable? What is the process for wet and dry seed harvesting? Join APL and Revols Beehive to learn best practices and techniques to put your garden to bed and ready for next season.

DRMAC GETTING THERE TRAVEL TRAINING*

• Wednesdays, 10 a.m., CEN

101: INTRO TO RTD (OCT. 5)
Learn how to use public transportation safely, how to plan a trip, read a map, find a bus or train and much more.

102: RTD FARES & TICKETING (OCT. 12)
Learn how to apply for discounts, use mobile ticketing apps.

103: HOW TO RIDE RTD (OCT. 19)
Learn how to board local buses and trains, use their bike racks, what fare inspections are and much more.

104: LYFT, SCOOTERS AND DISCOUNTS (OCT. 26)
Learn how to use Lyft’s scooters, e-bikes, apply for their discount program, and much more. Lyft scooters and e-bikes operate in Denver. The e-scooter operator in Aurora is Bird.

*If you complete all 4 trainings, you will receive a free ticket from RTD. Classes provided by Denver Regional Mobility & Access Council (DRMAC).

MEET WITH MAYOR MIKE AT THE LIBRARY
• Saturday, Oct. 15, 2-3 p.m., CEN
Join a community conversation with Aurora Mayor Mike Coffman. The mayor will provide updates on important issues and, most importantly, will listen to community comments and concerns. No appointment needed.
There are some books you must have, no matter how many times you have checked them out from Aurora Public Library. If you don’t want to, or can’t, pay full price, consider the Friends of the Aurora Public Library Book Outlet. Many current and popular books, as well as classics and special interest, are available at a fraction of the price. The bonus is that with your purchase you also support your library, as all proceeds from the book sales fund Aurora Public Library’s programs and offerings. A win-win-win situation! But wait, there’s more, you can also donate books to the store, and with that you would be doubling up your support the library as a customer and donor! The Friends also take monetary donations and those are tax deductible. Learn more at fapl.info or visit the store, 2243 S. Peoria St., open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturdays.

**WANTED: Library Board Members**

Consider joining the Library Board. Help advise City Council, the city manager and the director of the Library and Cultural Services Department on matters relating to the library system. The volunteer members of this board meet the first Thursday of the month. To learn more and apply, visit AuroraGov.org/Boards.