

# Harvard Public Library Children's Programs April 2024

Children's Room direct line: (978) 456 - 2381  
[childrensroom@harvardpubliclibrary.org](mailto:childrensroom@harvardpubliclibrary.org)

## Registration Information

Register for children's programs  
by using the link below to access Eventkeeper:

[http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=  
HARVARD](http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD)

Individual program descriptions also have  
registration information and links.

## Children's Room Contact Information

Email:  
[childrensroom@harvardpubliclibrary.org](mailto:childrensroom@harvardpubliclibrary.org)

Website:  
<https://www.harvardpubliclibrary.org/children>

Phone:  
(978) 456 - 2381



## Friends of the Harvard Public Library Annual Book Sale Donation Collection Dates!

The Friends of the Harvard Public Library will be  
holding their Annual Book Sale this year **May 10 – 12!**

This is the main fundraising event for the Friends.  
Did you know that 95% of children's programs  
at the HPL are supported by the  
**Friends of the Harvard Public Library?**

Support the Friends of the HPL  
with donations of used books, audiobooks,  
CDs, DVDs, and jigsaw puzzles.

### Book Sale Donation Collection Dates

**Saturday, April 27 from 9:00 AM – noon**

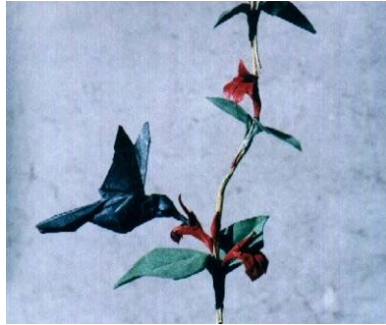
**Sunday, April 28 from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM**

**Thursday, May 2 from 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM**

**Saturday, May 4 from 9:00 AM – noon**

**For more information about the Friends Book Sale:**  
[https://www.harvardpubliclibrary.org/about/programs/fri  
ends-book-sale](https://www.harvardpubliclibrary.org/about/programs/friends-book-sale)

# Origami with Michael LaFosse



**Wednesday, April 3**

**Ages 6 to 12 from 2:00 to 3:00 PM**

*and*

**Grades 6 through Adult from 3:15 to 4:15 PM**

Don't miss this wonderful program on origami!

Author and artist Michael LaFosse is one of the most seasoned and respected presenters of the paper arts.

He and Richard Alexander have authored 32 books on origami, and produced over a dozen DVDs.

They have also built major origami exhibits for the Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, MA; the Louvre, Paris; the Arizona Sonora Desert Museum, Tucson, and the Morikami Japanese Museum, Delray Beach, FL.

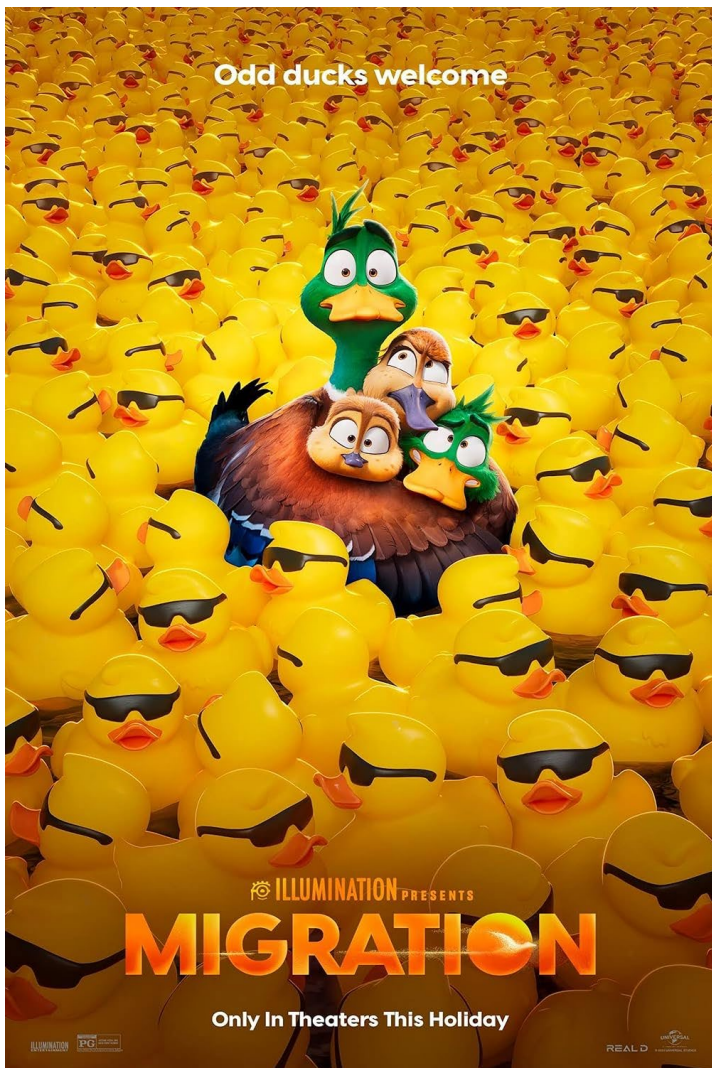
For more information on Michael and the Origamido Studio, visit their website:  
[www.origamido.com](http://www.origamido.com)

Michael will teach two separate sessions at the Harvard Public Library on April 3, the first for ages 6 to 12, the second for grades 6 through adult. Please register for the session that best meets your family's needs.

**Register here:** <http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7495640>



# Family Movie Night!



**Migration (PG)**

**Friday, April 5  
at 6:30 PM**

Come watch a movie on the big screen at the library!  
Please register so that we can inform you of weather  
cancellations or other last minute schedule changes.

*Note that the library will not be providing snacks, but  
you are welcome to bring your own snacks.*

Register here:

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7495346>

# Paws and Read



**Wednesdays, April 10 and 24**

**Appointments at 3:45, 4:00,  
4:15, & 4:30 PM**

**Grades K through 6**

Reading to Rhia or Chase, the library's  
Therapy Dogs, is a fantastic way to bolster  
a child's reading confidence!

Children who are independent readers can  
make a 15 minute appointment to read  
to one of these wonderful therapy dogs;  
on each date, eight children total will get a chance  
to have either Rhia or Chase's  
undivided canine attention.

Registration is required – please choose one fifteen  
minute slot when you register.

Register here:

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7503810>



# Circle of Songs with Hugh Hanley



**Tuesday, April 2  
at 10:30 AM**

**Ages 0 – 6+**

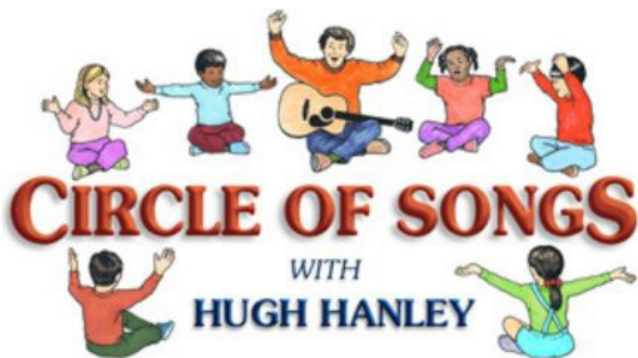
Hugh Hanley has been singing with young children for over twenty years in his work as an early childhood educator, music specialist, and entertainer.

His work has helped him gain an understanding of young children as developing music makers and a familiarity with the environments in which they play and learn.

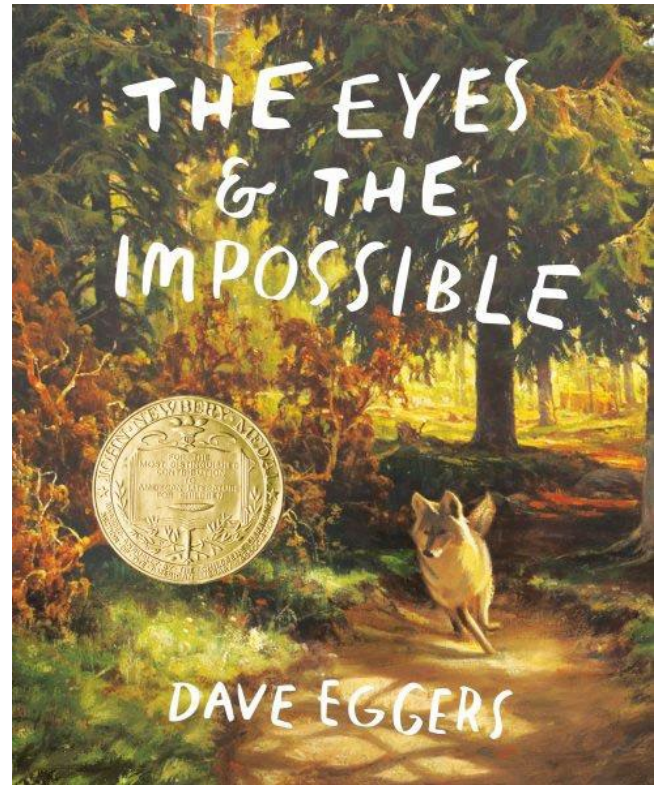
He draws from a wide and varied repertoire of songs, fingerplays, and music activities that are appropriate, accessible, and highly engaging. Hugh has learned all of the material he uses in his work from folk traditions, children, and their teachers and parents.

Register here:

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7495307>



# Children's Literature Book Discussion Group for Grownups



**Thursday, April 25  
at 7:00 PM**

Are you a grownup who loves to read children's books? You're not alone!

Join this monthly book group for grownups and discuss children's literature with an awesome group of like-minded readers.

We usually read and discuss recently published novels for elementary and middle school aged readers, and we always have terrific, broad-ranging discussions. We'd love to have you join us!

In April we will be discussing *The Eyes and the Impossible* by Dave Eggers.

Register here:

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7503636>

This book group meets in a hybrid model: attend in person in the story room, or attend virtually via Zoom.



# Kids Afterschool Movie in the Story Room



***Trolls Band Together (PG)***

**Thursday, April 11  
at 3:45 PM**

Join us for an afterschool movie for elementary age kids in the Story Room! Afterschool movies are supervised by teen volunteers; no refreshments are served (but it is ok to bring your own snack).

Parents are also welcome to attend.

Please register – enrollment is limited.

Register here:

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7503620>

# Book Buddies



**Thursday, April 25  
from 3:45 to 4:45**

**Grades 1 to 4**

Book Buddies is a once-monthly one hour program that pairs teen volunteers with children in grades 1 to 4 for shared reading, word games, and snacks.

Though the goal of Book Buddies is to help children become more confident readers, this is not a tutoring service, but rather a buddy and mentoring program.

**Registration is required –  
enrollment is limited to 5 children.**

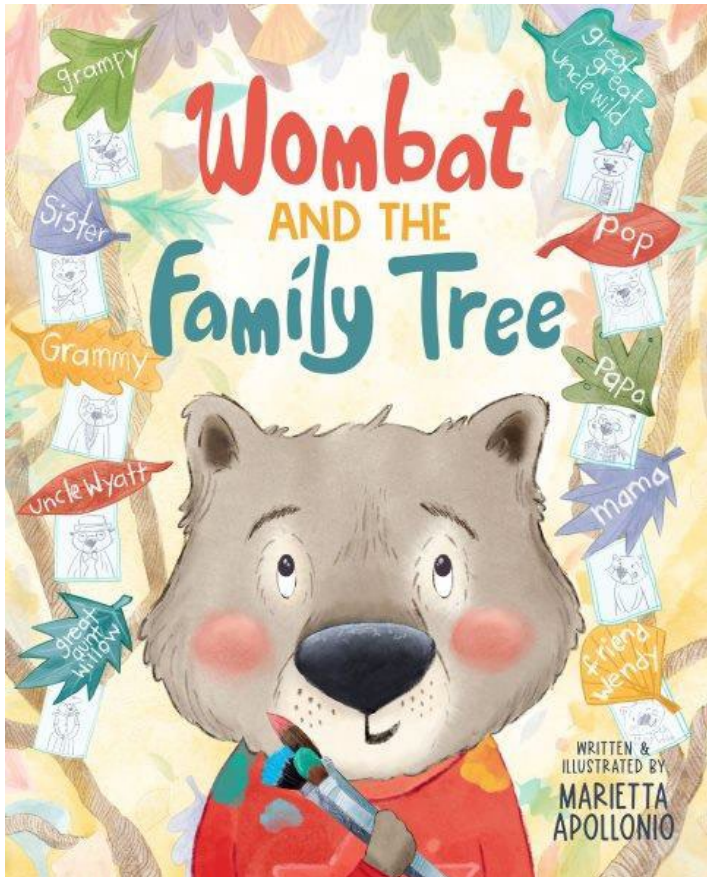
Register here:

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7503624>





# Special Storytime with Marietta Apollonio



**Saturday, April 27  
at 10:30 AM**

**All Ages**

Author, illustrator, and Harvard resident Marietta Apollonio will be coming to the library to read from her new picturebook, *Wombat and the Family Tree* (published by HarperCollins), followed by Q & A and a live drawing session!

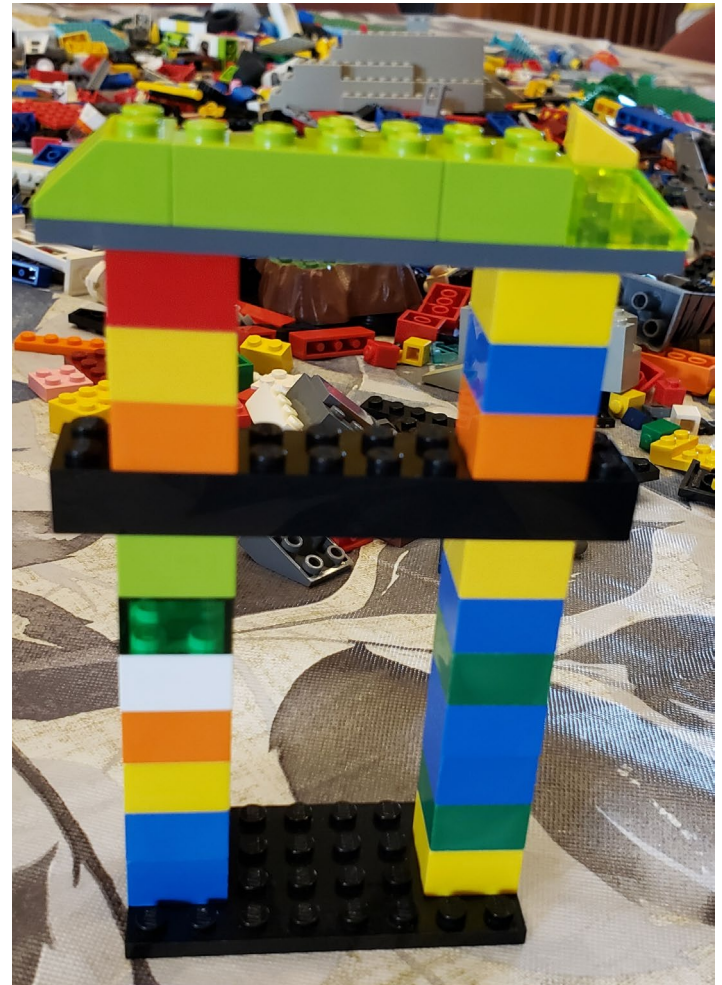
There will be a book sale and signing at the conclusion of the event with books sold by the Silver Unicorn Bookstore.

Registration is not required, but if you register you will get an email reminder the day prior to the event!

**Register here:**

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7503339>

# LEGO Club



**Saturday, April 27  
from 1:30 to 3:00 PM**

**Grades K – 6**

Come have fun building LEGO creations with other Harvard LEGO fans!

Participants can use the library-owned LEGO bricks to build creative models. Creative building is encouraged, and the library will have various LEGO books available for inspiration.

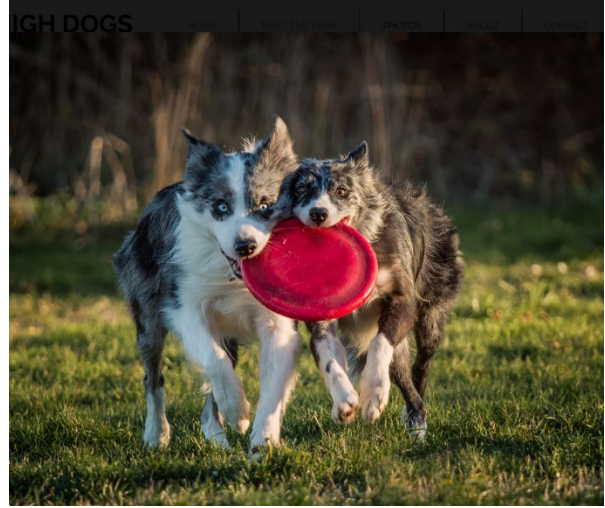
LEGO Club is supervised by the children's librarian – parents are also encouraged to stay and help supervise.

**Registration is required** – enrollment is limited to 12 children in grades K through 6.

Register here:

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7503627>

# Flying High Dogs



**Wednesday, May 1  
at 1:45 PM**

**All Ages**

High Flying, Dynamic & Thrilling! Mike Piazza is a world record holder & multiple time world finalist in K9 Frisbee.

Mike and his 4 flying high Frisbee dogs are the #1 dog entertainment act in the world!

Mike has appeared on Animal Planet, ESPN, commercials, magazines, and performed for the NFL, NBA, Minor league baseball, music festivals, fairs, kids camps, schools, and libraries.

The show is educational, interactive, dynamic, family orientated and fun.

Mike performs with some of the most athletic Border Collies on the planet to entertain audiences of all ages.

The team performs a variety of Frisbee & other entertaining tricks during the performance, and there is a lot of audience participation!

This show will be outdoors on the library lawn – bring a blanket or chairs for your family to sit on.

***Please note that the presenter strongly discourages attendees from bringing their own dogs for safety and distraction reasons.***

Registration is not required, but if you register you will get an email reminder the day prior to the event, and you will be notified by email if we have to reschedule due to weather.

**Register here:** <http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7503361>



# Saturday Storytime

## Cat Stories



**Saturday, April 13  
at 10:30 AM**

**Ages 3 to 7**

Teen volunteers lead these fun drop-in, half-hour Saturday Storytimes for children ages 3 to 7 and their caregivers in the story room.

April's theme is Cat Stories.  
*(Just stories about cats – no actual cats will be in attendance. ☺)*

***Drop-in – no registration required.***



# STORYTIMES

**Mother Goose on the Loose Storytime**

**Ages 0 – 2+**

**Mondays & Thursdays at 10:30 AM**

***No storytime on 4/8, 4/11, 4/15 and 4/18***

Mother Goose on the Loose is an early literacy program that uses rhymes and songs to help pre-reading children get ready for reading. It incorporates music, movement, ritual, repetition, positive reinforcement, developmental tips, nursery rhymes, puppets, musical instruments, colored scarves, and book reading into a fun-filled 30 minute session for infants to 2-year-olds and caregivers.

***Registration is not required –  
but if you register you will be added to the email list  
for last minute schedule changes.***

**[Register here.](#)**

**Storytime for 2's & 3's ~ Ages 2 & 3**

**Wednesdays at 10:30 AM**

***No storytime on 4/10 and 4/17***

This 20 to 30 minute storytime includes songs and fingerplays, simple stories, feltboard stories, and phonemic awareness activities appropriate for children aged 2 & 3 years old and their caregivers (older siblings are also welcome). Our phonemic awareness activities will focus on learning and practicing some consonant sounds, reviewing the short vowel sounds, and learning to put sounds together to make simple words.

**Registration is required** for the spring session.  
*Enrollment is limited to 10 children and their caregivers.*

**[Register here.](#)**

**Art & Stories for 4's & 5's**

**Ages 4 & 5 and up**

**Mondays at 1:30 PM**

***No storytime on 4/8 and 4/15***

This 30 to 45 minute program, appropriate for children ages 4 to 7, begins with a few longer picturebook stories and phonemic awareness activities, then ends with a process art project that encourages preschoolers to explore art materials in an open-ended, creative manner.

Make sure to wear clothes that can get messy!  
Our phonemic awareness activities will focus on learning and practicing some consonant sounds, reviewing the short vowel sounds, and learning to put sounds together to make simple words.

**Registration is required** for the spring session.

*Enrollment is limited to 12 children.*

**[Register here.](#)**



# BOOK GROUPS!

Want to join a book group? We'd love to have you – new members are always welcome!

Book group membership is limited to children who are Harvard/Devens residents/HES students, in order to keep the book groups small.

**Maximum group size per grade is 12 children.**

We will request for you a copy of the book we will be discussing. We can get you a copy of the book in print format and/or in audiobook format (either on CD, Playaway, or in e-audio format)!

**Registration links for each book group are listed below that book group's description.**

## **Book Gobblers Book Group for 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders**

**Monday, April 29 from 4:00 to 4:45 PM**

In this read-aloud book discussion group, Abby reads a story aloud to the group, then we discuss the book together.

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7359135>

## **3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Book Group**

**Monday, April 1 from 4:00 to 4:45 PM**

The 3rd Grade Book is:

*Alvin Ho: Allergic to Girls, School, and Other Scary Things* by Lenore Look

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7358801>

## **4<sup>th</sup> Grade Book Group**

**Monday, April 22 from 4:00 to 4:45 PM**

The 4th Grade Book is:

*The Magic Misfits* by Neil Patrick Harris

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7358813>

## **5<sup>th</sup> Grade Book Group**

**Tuesday, April 9 from 4:00 to 4:45 PM**

The 5th Grade Book is:

*Out of My Mind* by Sharon Draper

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7359034>

## **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Book Group**

**Tuesday, April 30 from 3:00 to 3:45 PM**

The 6th Grade Book is:

*Map of Flames* by Lisa McMann

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7359046>

# Write Stuff



**Tuesday, April 2  
from 4:00 to 4:45 PM**

**4<sup>th</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> Grade**

This low-key, supportive, once-monthly writing group is for kids in grades 4 through 6 who love to write.

We talk books and writing, do some fun writing exercises, and share as much (or as little!) of our writing with each other as time allows. Writing group membership is limited to 12 children who are Harvard/Devens residents/HES students to keep the group size small.

**Register here:**

<http://www.eventkeeper.com/code/events.cfm?curOrg=HARVARD#7359158>

# Puzzles

[Borrow a jigsaw puzzle from the library!](#)

Puzzles are on display in the children's room, and can be checked out at the circulation desk.

Loan period is three weeks plus one renewal. Puzzles are available on a walk-in basis (not holdable).

# Board Games

Thanks to the generous support of the *Friends of the Harvard Public Library*, we have a [fantastic collection of over 80 board games](#) that can be borrowed.

We have games that are good for families, competitive games, strategy games, cooperative games, math games, and games focused on reading and storytelling.

Loan period is two weeks, no renewals. Games are available on a walk-in basis (not holdable).