

# Santa sightings reported at library decked out for the holidays

The Georgetown Public Library is wrapping up 2019 with art, music and holiday programs, as well as garland, tinsel, trees and, well, there might be a bowl of peppermints on the Reference Desk, too.

Last week, a library visitor asked me when the library's holiday decorations would be going up and I was not sure. Later that day, though, they were up. Li-

## BIBLIOFILES

Dana Hendrix

brary director Eric Lashley (who moonlights around the library as Santa Claus) worked with our Friends of the Library group to decorate the building, so we're ready to celebrate.

This month, Live Music at the Library is back on

Sunday with *Sounds Like Home* featuring Jessica Mathaes, violin, and Alex Maynegre-Torra, piano. The program will include American violin and piano sonatas from the 20th century. Jessica Mathaes is concertmaster of the Austin Symphony, and Alex Maynegre-Torra is principal keyboardist of the Austin Symphony. Free and open to the public, this performance is a gift of the Friends of the Georgetown Public Library.

Photographer Karen Limbaugh's solo exhibit in the library will continue through December on the first floor, and we'll also have a new art exhibit opening on the second floor this month.

Members of the Waterloo Watercolor Group will install their exhibit *Tell Me a Story ... Art as Narrative*, which explores the connection between narrative and art.

The exhibit will feature a variety of artwork including an example of a "tunnel book," a construction made of a series of paintings that creates an illusion of depth.

And then there are the holiday events coming up. On Friday, kids of all ages can enjoy a reading of the magical book *The Polar Express* by Chris Van Allsburg, make crafts, eat treats



Austin Symphony Orchestra concertmaster Jessica Mathaes and principal keyboardist Alex Maynegre-Torra will perform in the Georgetown Public Library at 2 p.m. Sunday.

and visit with Santa. ("Santa! I know him!" is something the library staff say often, quoting Will Ferrell in the movie *Elf*.)

On Saturday, tweens ages 9-12 can enjoy coding, snacks and fun, programming a flappy game, journeying through Minecraft with code or creating a LEGO soccer penalty shootout. Due to limited space, free tickets will be issued at the Kids Desk beginning an hour before the program, which is limited to 32 participants.

The same day, teens

ages 12-18 can step into character and help solve a murder at a mysterious masquerade ball at the library. (No tickets or sign up is required, but fancy attire is encouraged for those who want to dress up for the ball.)

The last holiday event is Noon Year's Eve. December 31 at 11:30 a.m. we'll have a kids' new year celebration. We will countdown to noon, followed by a balloon drop. There will also be crafts, treats and a photo booth. This one is open to children of all ages.

Holiday hours in the library start on December 16 when we begin closing at 6 p.m. on weekdays through the end of the year. Our weekend hours, when we close at 5 p.m., remain the same. The library will be completely closed December 24 and 25, and on January 1. Then on January 2, our regular hours will go back into effect.

Busy as this time of year can be, we hope to see you in the library!

*Dana Hendrix is the Fine Arts Librarian at the Georgetown Public Library.*



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### Select Events

- Through January 5 Karen Limbaugh: *Sharing my View of Nature* exhibit
- Through January 12 Waterloo Watercolor Group: *Tell Me a Story ... Art as Narrative* exhibit. Artist reception Sunday, January 12, 2-4 p.m.
- December 13, 6:30 p.m., Polar Express in PJ's (open to children of all ages)
- December 14, 1-2:30 p.m., Tween Cool Coding (ages 9-12; limited to 32 participants; free tickets available one hour before the program)
- December 14, 3-4:30 p.m., Teen Mystery Masquer-

- ade (ages 12-18)
  - December 15, 2 p.m., *Sounds Like Home* with Jessica Mathaes and Alex Maynegre-Torra (Live Music at the Library)
  - December 16-January 1 Holiday hours will be in effect
  - December 27, 2 p.m. *Aladdin* film showing
  - December 31, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Noon Year's Eve
- Consult the Library Events Calendar at [library.georgetown.org](http://library.georgetown.org) for more information about these and other library programs.

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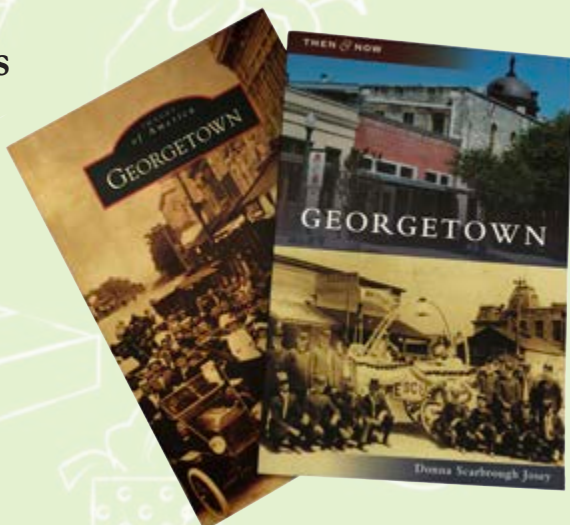
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