



WESTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

3D Printing is Here!

What would you say if I said you can now instantly create any object you can think of? You'd probably say that sounds like the Star Trek replicator or something straight out of the Jetsons — *unless* you've heard of 3D printing. Then you'll know this is reality.

In fact, 3D printing is changing fields like education and manufacturing, and some even say it will start the next Industrial Revolution. So if you've been following us on Facebook (and if you read this column's title), you've probably already guessed I'm here to announce that we will now be offering staff-guided 3D printing programs at Westchester Library. That's right — beginning this June, our Youth Dept will include 3D printing as part of its Summer Reading programming!

After months of planning, we now have four Dremel 3D40 printers, the most popular models in schools and libraries today. These printers build objects with melted plastic in three basic steps. First, you download or design your own digital model using a regular old computer. Next, send the design to a 3D printer via USB drive. Finally, press the 'build' button to start printing. The printers read the digital models as thousands of tiny layers of plastic and build them from the bottom-up, one layer at a time. When cool, these tiny layers stick together to form a solid object.

Is 3D printing fun? Absolutely! So far, we've made toy frogs and boats, finger puppets, food-safe cookie cutters, and a miniature princess castle. (I've personally had more fun printing chess pieces than I ever had playing an actual game of chess!) One popular website offers almost 800,000 different designs for free and includes everything from earbud holders to coffee cup sleeves to models of the Millennium Falcon.

Is 3D printing educational? Without a doubt! Hands-on, project-based learning with 3D printing makes science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) more interactive, especially when students design their own objects. Free programs, like Google's *SketchUp*, involve users in all stages of the creative process, from daydreaming to design to building. This experience gives them the chance to explore ideas, solve problems, and develop the skills they'll need to excel in fast-growing STEM fields!

Maybe the coolest part about 3D printing is its place in the real world. As President Obama said in 2013, "*3D printing has the potential to revolutionize the way we make almost everything.*" 3D printers are already being used to make prosthetics, while medical researchers are printing functioning organs and creating lab models of diseases to find treatments faster. Astronauts aboard the International Space Station even used a 3D printer to create a socket wrench from digital plans that were emailed to the station by NASA Mission Control—on earth!

While we won't be doing any of that here at the Library, we do see 3D printing as the coolest, most engaging STEM tool around, and we are eager to begin offering this experience to the community. So be sure to check our website, Facebook page, and, especially, the June newsletter for upcoming 3D printing program announcements!

Patrick Callaghan is a reference librarian in the Adult Department.

Vacation Reminders

Memorial Day is the start of long weekends and vacations. If you're going out of town this summer, ask our circulation staff about a "vacation loan" for any books you bring along. Also, make sure your Library card won't expire while you are away, in case you plan to download any ebooks or audiobooks from **MyMediaMall** or **Axis 360**.

Take a tip from cell phone and iPad users — an insulated lunch bag or inexpensive cooler is a good option to consider to avoid sun or heat damage if you leave any CDs, DVDs, Playaways, or mobile devices locked in your car.

Summer Hours Begin Memorial Day Weekend

The Library will be closed Sunday, May 28 and Monday, May 29 for Memorial Day, marking the start of the Library's Summer Hours.



Summer Hours (through Labor Day)
Monday - Thursday 9:30 am-**8 pm**
Friday 9:30 am-6 pm
Saturday 9:30 am-5 pm
Closed Sunday

YOUTH PROGRAMS

The Youth Dept is preparing an awesome Summer Reading program to be announced in the June newsletter! Registration begins **Monday, June 5** downstairs in the Youth Dept.

Look for exciting announcements about 3D printing!



Teen Programs

Be sure to check our website, the Teen Facebook page and the June newsletter for announcements about upcoming programs for teens!



Registration for the Teen Summer Reading program begins **Monday, June 5** downstairs in the Youth Dept!



Adult Programs

Adult Book Discussion Thurs, May 18 at 7:00 pm

All the Old Knives by Olen Steinhauer

Hooked on Crochet Tues, May 9 at 7:00 pm

New members welcome to join the group — be sure to contact Ann or Pat for details and supply list: 708-562-3573.

CLEAN EATING *with Chef Cherise*

SUNDAY, MAY 21 — 2:00 PM

Hazelnut Market's **Chef Cherise Slattery** is back to explain the Clean Eating movement and teach you knife techniques that will make preparing all those fruits and vegetables a breeze! Learn how to make Oats'n Flax Granola, Tangy Vegetable Salad, and Organic Fruit Crumble.



TASTY BITES WILL BE SHARED!

Tickets are free but required — contact Adult Dept at 708-562-3573.

Page Turners Reading Club

June 1 - July 31

Summer marks the start of the **Page Turners Reading Club**, open to any Westchester adult with a valid Westchester Public Library card! Here's your motivation to squeeze in time for some recreational reading!

Participation is easy: when you finish reading a book (ebooks and audiobooks qualify also), fill out an entry form at the Circulation Desk or Adult Reference Desk so you can be entered into the drawing for prizes in August. **Deadline for entries: Monday, July 31.**



WESTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY ■ 10700 Canterbury ■ Westchester, IL 60154

708-562-3573 ■ askus@westchesterpl.org ■ www.westchesterpl.org

Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:30 am-9:00 pm, Friday 9:30 am-6:00 pm, Saturday 9:30 am-5:00 pm, Sunday 1:00-5:00 pm.

Library Director Fidencio Marbella ■ Board of Trustees Cathy Kuratko, president, Gerald Chenski, Demitrus Evans, Jenice Hampton, John Lamberti, and Sandy Laszkiewicz ■ Board Meetings on 4th Monday of every month.