

# December Library News

## REGISTRATION

In order to register, patrons must be in the City's RACER registration database. For more information, please visit the City of Cerritos website at [cerritos.gov](http://cerritos.gov).

### CLASSES/RACER ONLINE REGISTRATION TIPS

To check the availability or to register for classes, please visit the Cerritos website at [cerritos.gov](http://cerritos.gov) and look for the Classes/RACER link or scan the QR code below.



Scan the QR code to access the RACER Registration page.

You will not receive confirmation by mail for classes registered online.

Please print a receipt at the conclusion of your transaction and bring it with you to the first day of the event or class. For additional information, please call the Library Reservation Desk at (562) 916-1388. Computers at the Cerritos Library may be used to access RACER.

### ONLINE REGISTRATION

#### cerritos.gov

Cerritos Resident online registration for all programs listed begins **Sun., Dec. 1 at 11 a.m.**

Non-Resident online registration for all programs listed begins **Sun., Dec. 8 at 11 a.m.**

### PHONE REGISTRATION

#### Call (562) 916-1388

Cerritos Resident phone registration for all programs listed begins **Mon., Dec. 2 at 11 a.m.**

Non-Resident phone registration for all programs listed begins **Sun., Dec. 8 at 11 a.m.**

### WALK-IN REGISTRATION

Cerritos Resident walk-in registration for all programs listed begins **Sun., Dec. 1 at 11 a.m.**

Non-Resident walk-in registration for all programs listed begins **Sun., Dec. 8 at 11 a.m.**

## The following Library programs require advance registration:

For more information call (562) 916-1388, unless otherwise noted. Seating is limited for all programs.

### STORYTIMES

Cerritos Library's 30-45 minute storytimes incorporating stories and audience participation will be held in the Little Theater. Only children registered for storytime may be brought to the program. Space is limited to 40 participants.

#### Thursdays at 11 a.m. for ages 5 and under

**13899** Thurs., Dec. 12

#### Second Saturday of the month at 11:15 a.m. for ages 5 and under

**13904** Sat., Dec. 14

### HOLIDAY WREATH WORKSHOP FOR TEENS AND ADULTS

Participants will make a decorative wreath to take home and use as a beautiful decoration for the holidays. Supplies will be provided. The fee is \$5. No refunds will be given. Space is limited to 15 participants.

**13905** Wed., Dec. 11 6-7 p.m.  
Ages 13 and Over Skyline Room

### GINGERBREAD HOUSE DECORATING

Get in the holiday spirit by decorating your own gingerbread house.

We supply the house, icing, and candy, you provide the imagination! The class fee is \$5. No refunds will be given. Space is limited to 10 participants.

**13906** Wed., Dec. 11 3:30-4:15 p.m.  
Ages 7-10 Art Studio

### SQUISHIES KEYCHAIN PAINTING CLASS

Join us as we paint and decorate Squishies toys and make them into keychains. Supplies will be provided. Space is limited to 15 participants.

**13907** Fri., Dec. 13 4-5 p.m.  
Ages 8-13 Art Studio

### DIAMOND ART SNOWFLAKE ORNAMENTS

Join us as we learn how to create sparkling snowflake ornaments with diamond art. Supplies will be provided. Space is limited to 15 participants.

**13908** Tues., Dec. 17 3:45-4:45 p.m.  
Ages 8-12 Art Studio

### A BLUEY HOLIDAY STORYTIME

Join us for special holiday stories featuring Bluey and her friends, then get crafty as we create Bluey-inspired holiday crafts. Perfect for little ones who love stories, creativity, and holiday fun! Space is limited to 18 participants.

**13909** Wed., Dec. 18 11 a.m.-noon  
Ages 4-6 Little Theater/  
Art Studio

### BABIES 'N' BOOKS

Children and caregivers participate in music, nursery rhymes, simple stories, and books. The class is limited to 20 participants. No class on January 20 & February 17.

**13910** Mon., Jan. 6- Mar. 10  
11 a.m.  
Ages 6-25 mos. Little Theater

### PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

Children and adults will participate in stories, songs, rhymes, and a simple craft activity. The class is limited to 18 participants.

**13911** Tues., Jan. 7-Mar. 11  
11 a.m.  
Ages 3-5 Little Theater/  
Art Studio

### HOMEWORK HELP

An after-school homework help program will be offered for Cerritos residents. Students should bring their homework and a book to read. A parent or designated individual is required to sign students in and out of each class meeting. Space is limited to 15 participants per class. Please register for only one of the following sessions.

**13912** Tues., Jan. 14-Mar. 11  
3:30-4:30 p.m.  
Grades 1-3 Art Studio

**13913** Wed., Jan. 15-Mar. 12  
3:30-4:30 p.m.  
Grades 3-6 Art Studio

### CHILD & TEEN READ ALOUD

Children who are able to read are invited to participate in special read aloud sessions. These children will be teamed up with energetic teens during this weekly program. To be eligible for this program, all participants must attend the first day of class for testing. Space is limited to 10 participants.

**13914** Wed., Jan. 15-Mar. 12  
3:45-4:45 p.m.  
Ages 6-8 Little Theater

### CLASSIC EDUCATIONAL BOARD GAMES FOR ELEMENTARY STUDENTS

Join us as students will be introduced to, and learn how to play, different games with a tutor and other students. These games will stimulate your child's vocabulary, math, and geography knowledge and critical thinking skills. They will learn to follow rules and directions, while improving social behavior and having fun learning new games. A parent or designated individual must sign students in and out of each class meeting. Space is limited to 12 participants per class meeting.

**13915** Thurs., Jan. 16-Mar. 13  
3:45-4:45 p.m.  
Ages 8-12 Art Studio

## The following Library programs do not require advance registration:

### FAMILY STORYTIME WITH SANTA

Join us for a fun evening of stories, songs and crafts with a special guest from the North Pole.

Wed., Dec. 4 6 p.m.  
All Ages Skyline Room

### ARTS AND CRAFTS FOR KIDS

A free hands-on holiday craft will be held for children ages 2-12. This craft will take approximately 10 to 15 minutes to complete. For more information, call (562) 916-1343.

Fri., Dec. 6 11 a.m.-noon & 5-6 p.m.  
Ages 2-12 Art Studio

### HOLIDAY CONCERT BY THE CYPRESS SENIOR CHORUS

Enjoy the sounds of the season as the Cypress Senior Chorus shares beautiful holiday selections. Your spirits will be lifted by the lovely choral sounds of this class from North Orange County Continuing Education's Older Adults Program. Director Lee Lassetter is a local educator, organist, and music therapist. The choir is comprised of older, retired adults who love to share their joy of singing with the community.

Mon., Dec. 9 7 p.m.  
All Ages Skyline Room

### STREET FIGHTER 6 TOURNAMENT FOR TEENS

Get ready to unleash your video game fighting skills at the ultimate Street Fighter 6 tournament for teens! Join us for a fun competition where players will battle it out in this iconic arcade fighting game on the PlayStation 5. Whether you're a seasoned pro or new to the game, this tournament is the perfect chance to show off your moves and meet fellow gamers. Are you ready to rise to the challenge and become the next Street Fighter champion? Snacks will be provided, while supplies last. Space is limited to 16 participants.

Wed., Dec. 11 4-5 p.m.  
Ages 13-17 Hi-Tech Lab

# December Library News

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## KIEHL'S HOLIDAY SKINCARE CLASS

Join us for a fun and informative holiday skincare class from expert staff from Kiehl's Los Cerritos Center. Learn how to keep your skin healthy and glowing throughout the winter season.

Thurs., Dec. 12 6 p.m.

Ages 11 & Over Skyline Room A

## BOOK CLUB FOR ADULTS

The Book Club for Adults will meet for a book discussion. Participants will discuss the book "The Man Who Died Twice" by Richard Osman. For more information, call (562) 916-1340.

Wed., Dec. 18 11 a.m.-noon Board Room

## NIGHT AT THE MOVIES: "GHOSTBUSTERS" (1984)

Theo Siegel will discuss the making of "Ghostbusters," starring Bill Murray, Dan Aykroyd and Sigourney Weaver, followed by a screening of the film. This film is rated PG and has a running time of 105 minutes.

Thurs., Dec. 19 6 p.m.

Ages 18 and Over Skyline Room

## ELLIE THE ELF: LOST IN THE LIBRARY TUES., DEC. 17-MON., DEC. 23

Our elf, lovingly known as Ellie, has arrived at the library and is jumping from shelf to shelf. Ellie has started a new game at the library. Every day she is moving and hiding in a different location. Children are welcome to come in, find Ellie's location and submit the answer to receive a small prize. Ellie only hides in the Children's Room of the library. Daily clues to locate Ellie will be provided at the Children's Desk. For children ages 2-12.

## MATH HOMEWORK HELP

An after-school mathematics homework help program will be offered for Cerritos residents. Students should bring their math homework and a book to read. A parent or designated individual is required to sign students in and out of each class meeting. Space is limited to 20 participants per class. No class on January 20 and February 17.

Mon., Jan. 6-Mar. 10

3:30-4:30 p.m.

Grades 3-5 Art Studio

## MUSIC AND MOVEMENT MONDAYS

Children and parents will participate in 30-45 minutes of songs and movement activities that enhance both the growth and fine motor skills of the child. The class is limited to 20 participants. No class on January 20 and February 17.

Mon., Jan. 6-Mar. 10

5:15 p.m.

Ages 4-6

Little Theater

## Library Displays

### NATURE'S PALETTE:

### A JOURNEY THROUGH CULTURE AND COLOR

Darshini Aithal is a versatile artist; her creations express a profound reverence for nature and a deep connection to her cultural roots. Born in India and enriched by her education in her homeland and the United States, Aithal's artistic journey is a testament to the seamless fusion of diverse influences and the boundless power of creative expression. In acrylics, she finds a medium that allows her to express the vibrant energy of her surroundings, translating the myriad hues of nature into bold, dynamic compositions with confident strokes and rich textures, breathing life into her artwork. Aithal's artwork will be on display in the local History Room through the end of December.

### CERRITOS SENIOR CENTER

### CHINESE BRUSH CALLIGRAPHY EXHIBITION

More than 20 seniors started the Chinese brush calligraphy class in September 2011. They have met regularly at the Cerritos Senior Center ever since to practice and share ideas. Despite the diversity of their ethnicity, previous professions and different proficiency levels, members bring a great passion for the unique art of Chinese Brush calligraphy. Nineteen pieces are included in this third group exhibition, "Taoism Everywhere." The exhibition will be on display in the main lobby of the library through the end of December.

## Be cautious of coyotes in Cerritos

Residents are advised to take the following precautions to avoid encounters with coyotes:

- Feed pets indoors.
- Eliminate potential food and water sources, such as fallen fruit or standing water.
- Keep yards free of thick brush and weeds.
- Enclose the bottoms of porches and decks.
- Keep dogs on a leash at all times when outdoors.
- Keep small animals inside or supervised when outdoors. A fenced yard will not protect small animals because coyotes can easily scale residential fences.

Domestic dogs are especially vulnerable to coyote attacks. Adult coyotes are mainly active at night or in the early morning hours, while young coyotes are often active during the day. California coyotes have adapted to residential neighborhoods, parks and open spaces in urban and suburban areas. They are especially prevalent in areas bordering a flood channel.

Residents who see a coyote in their neighborhood should try to scare it away by shouting, throwing rocks, blowing portable air horns or acting in other aggressive ways in order to reinforce the coyote's fear of people. Motion-sensitive lights on houses or out-buildings may also deter coyotes from approaching.

If an aggressive or fearless coyote approaches you or your pet, consider the following tips:

- Shout in a deep voice.
- Wave your arms.
- Throw objects at the animal.
- Look the coyote directly in the eyes.
- Stand up if you are seated.
- If you are wearing a coat or vest, spread it open like a cape so that you appear larger.
- Retreat from the situation by walking backward slowly. Do not turn your back on the coyote.

The City of Cerritos contracts with Long Beach Animal Care Services to provide a wide range of services, including coyote management. The City of Long Beach has a comprehensive coyote management plan and that plan serves as the de facto plan for Cerritos by extension of the service contract. The majority of cities in the region all have similar coyote management plans as each plan must be in accord with the regulations established by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. To access the comprehensive coyote management plan, please visit <https://bit.ly/2lTHFJE>.

If you see a coyote, fill out an online "Wildlife Incident Report" on the Long Beach Animal Care Services website at [longbeach.gov/acs/wildlife/coyote-report](http://longbeach.gov/acs/wildlife/coyote-report). The website has additional information about coyotes. ■

## Official Cerritos City Council Candidate Nomination Period closes December 6

There will be three seats open on the Cerritos City Council for the Tuesday, March 4, 2025 general municipal election. The official candidate nomination period opened Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at 8 a.m. and runs through Friday, December 6, 2024 at 5 p.m. sharp in the Office of the Cerritos City Clerk/Elections Official. If an eligible incumbent does not file nomination papers by the Friday, December 6, 2024 deadline, the official candidate nomination period is extended to Wednesday, December 11, 2024 at 5 p.m., sharp, for eligible individuals other than eligible incumbents.

Cerritos registered voters who are interested in running for Cerritos City Council are encouraged to schedule appointments with the City Clerk/Elections Official to discuss the candidate nomination process or to receive the official candidate nomination paperwork.

For more information, please contact the Office of the City Clerk/Elections Official at (562) 916-1248 or [election2025@cerritos.us](mailto:election2025@cerritos.us). ■

## Santa's Holiday Float returns in December

Santa's Holiday Float returns to Cerritos neighborhoods again this month. The program will be offered on seven nights in December and feature a float with Santa traveling through the residential areas of Cerritos. Children will have the opportunity to wave at Santa and enjoy a festive float with music and holiday decorations.

Santa's Holiday Float will travel through the city starting at 6 p.m. Monday, December 9 through Wednesday, December 11; Friday, December 13; and Tuesday, December 17 through Thursday, December 19.

Maps showing the float's route each evening will be posted on the City's website at [cerritos.gov](http://cerritos.gov) by early December. A GPS tracker will be placed on the float to allow residents to track its location each evening through a link on the City's website.

In the event of rain, the float will be canceled for that evening and the route will be rescheduled to another night.

Parents are urged to supervise their children to keep them from running into the streets while the float is passing. ■

## City of Cerritos names new Public Works Director

The City of Cerritos has appointed Alvin Papa as the new Director of Public Works.

In his role, Papa will oversee the divisions of Engineering, Environmental Services, Maintenance, Parks and Trees, Water Operations, Reclaimed Water, and Electric Utility.

With 24 years of experience in engineering and public works, Papa has held key positions, including Deputy Director of Public Works for the City of Huntington Beach and City Engineer for the City of Long Beach. He holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from San Diego State University and a master's in public administration from California State University, Long Beach.

Papa also serves as President-elect of the Southern California Chapter of the American Public Works Association and resides in the neighboring city of Lakewood. ■