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Library Love



Seminole County Public Library

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Leisure Services Department • Seminole County Public Library

Seminole County Library History

The League of Women Voters initiated the movement for a public library service in Seminole County. In 1974, a straw poll took place and citizens voted in favor of a countywide library system. The following year, Seminole County made a contract with the Orlando Public Library to operate the Casselberry and Sanford branches and start a bookmobile service. Seminole County residents had access to other services provided by the Orlando Public Library as well.

But in 1978, the Seminole County Public Library System was created. They developed their own bookmobile program, expanded the Casselberry branch, and established administrative and technical support units.

Between 1979 and 1980, a library advisory board was created so citizens had a way to give input and feedback on library services and development. The Friends of the Library, a non-profit organization, was also established to provide support, financially or otherwise, to the library system. Volunteers from the Friends group operate a bookstore on the ground floor of the Casselberry branch. Items for sale, including books, DVDs, and magazines, are donated, and profits benefit the library system.

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How to sign up for a Library Card

Library Cards for Minors

A parent or legal guardian can obtain a library card for a minor (0-17) if the parent/guardian is present, and if the parent/legal guardian signs accepting responsibility for any fines, fees or charges associated with the use of the juvenile library card.

- Parents of minors (0-17 years) must present photo identification with the parent's name, current address and proof of Seminole County residency at the time of application for a juvenile library card.
- The child must be present with the parent at the time the card is issued.
- A parent or guardian must sign the library card acknowledging responsibility for all fines, fees or charges associated with use of a juvenile library card.
- If the parent has a library card, the parent's library card must have a zero balance.
- Under the Memorandum of Understanding with the Seminole County Public Schools, library card applications will be distributed to students, to take home, or given to parents at the time the student is enrolled in a Seminole County Public School. The Seminole County Public Schools will return the completed library card applications to the library. Library staff will issue library cards, and mail library cards to the student's home address with library information.

For more information on getting your library card, (Click Here)



Be sure to apply for your library card in person!



Rules and Conduct

The Seminole County Public Library has adopted the Rules of Conduct to protect the right of individuals to access Library materials, services, and programs; to protect the right of Library staff to conduct Library business and pursue the goals of the Library's Mission without improper interference; to protect the right of customers and employees to enter and exit the Library's property without impediment, annoyance, or distraction from non-Library activities; and to protect Library materials and facilities from harm.

For full rules and conduct: (Click Here)

COVID-19 Guidelines

Every person working, living, visiting, or doing business in Seminole County is required to wear a Face Covering consistent with the current CDC guidelines while at all businesses, places of assembly, and other places open to the public. This section does not apply to individuals that are exempt from wearing Face Coverings, as stated in this Order.



For full COVID-19 Information: (Click Here)





Downloadable Apps

The Seminole County Public Library has tons of apps to make the best of your library experience! (Available on Android and iOS devices)

- BookMyne
- Flipster
- Hoopla
- Libby
- Lynda
- Mango
- Overdrive

Library Catalog

When you visit http://seminolelibrary.org, the button that says "Catalog" is up near the top. The main thing to remember about it is to use the drop-down menu to select "Title" if you're searching by title... the default keyword search is not very intuitive.

A NEW, much more user-friendly catalog platform should be put in place sometime in the next few months!



Benefits of your Library Card

Your Seminole County Library Card provides you with more than just apps! Your card will give you access to tools beyond your imagination!

- The Seminole County Public Library is a 5-branch system including a large Central(Casselberry) Branch, and 4 smaller branches: East (Oviedo), North (Sanford), Northwest (Lake Mary), and West (Longwood in Wekiva). We have an internal courier system so books can be placed on hold and sent to any branch for pickup, and can also be returned to any branch.
- Since COVID-19 we have offered a curbside pickup option, and are currently in the process of installing "pickup lockers" at all 5 locations.
- A collection which includes over 500,000 volumes, as well as audiobooks, magazines, and newspapers. We are continuously adding to our eBook and eAudiobook collections.
- Free access to computers and Internet access, including wireless access
- An experienced staff of reference librarians, available to answer your questions. Even when the Library is closed, we are a part of the statewide "Ask a Librarian" service that accepts chat questions after hours.
- Homebound mail service for those physically unable to travel to the library.
- A wide variety of engaging, award-winning library programs for children, teens, and adults.

You can access all the above and so much more under the "Online Resources" on the Seminolelibrary.org website! (Click Here)



Social Media

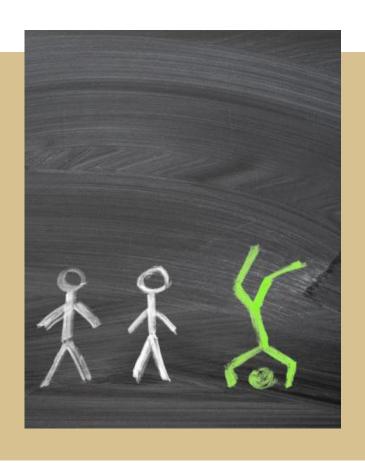
You can connect with the Seminole County Public Library in numerous ways!

- Facebook @SeminoleCountyLibrary
- Instagram /seminolecountylibrary
- Pinterest /seminolelibrary
- Twitter @seminolelibrary
- Look for us on NEXTDOOR too!

Special Resources - Exclusive to SCPL!

- 3D Printing Services
- Book Bounce (Storytime in a bag)
- Books to Go
- Homeschool Resources
- Homework Help
- Kids Programs
- Summer Reading (Branch may vary)
- Teen programs (Branch may vary)

For links and access, visit the Seminole County Library website! (Click Here)



Seminole County Public Library History Cont.

In 1982, a referendum vote was held that approved the expansion of the library system "by issuance of \$7,000,000 in Library Bonds". It was believed this was possible because of the county's population growth as a result of Disney World and Epcot Center. The same year, a books-by-mail program began, serving citizens over the age of 65 and those unable to travel to the library. The program was federally funded due to the Library Services and Construction Act. Today it is called the Homebound Mail Service. An application must be submitted with a physician's signature before service takes place.

In 1983, the Library Automation Project begins with the cataloging and interlibrary loan of materials by the Southeastern Library Network and the Online Computer Library Consortium.

In 1986, the construction of five new facilities and the renovation of the branch in Sanford commences. They are completed within the next couple years.





Seminole County Public Library implemented the Library/Day Care Connection program in 1991. This program was created to promote reading and library usage in children who were enrolled in day care. It received the National Association of Counties (NACo) Library Achievement Award in 1994.

The final phase of the Library Automation Project is completed in 1993, with the installation of the new library catalog that patrons can access.

In 1994, the magazines and periodicals indexes and inventory are added to the library catalog and the Library is awarded a Spanish Language Collection Development Grant for the purpose of acquiring children and adult books in Spanish.

On March 5, 1998, the Casselberry branch was renamed the Jean Rhein Central Branch Library in honor of the founding director of the Seminole County Library System, who retired in December 1997.

Library Classes and Girl Scout Badges

The Seminole County Public Library is jam packed full of opportunities and experiences for your Girl Scout. Oh...did we mention that all of these classes and resources are FREE!

All you need is an SCPL to have access to badge earning opportunities and more!

Below are a list of some classes, resources and the badges that can be earned:

Ancestry Library Edition: Brownie: My Family Story Badge

Arts & Crafts YouTube: All level Artist Badges (Painting, Drawing, Comic Artist, Collage Artist)

Lynda / LinkedIn Learning: Brownie - Cadette - Digital Arts Badges

STEAM events: All level STEAM Badges

The list above is just some of the many badge opportunities you can earn through your library experience! Be sure to check with your local branch to see what is offered!

