

Add Something New to Your Holiday Season

During the holiday season, families and friends often gather for meals, exchanging gifts, or spending time together. Whether you are hosting, helping to plan, or attending a get-together, the Columbus Public Library has a variety of resources to help make it a success.

Use our fee-free online resources via a web browser or app for all aspects of your holiday experience. Research holiday traditions celebrated in countries around the world with AtoZ the World, stream a holiday music playlist on Freegal Music or create your own playlist of your favorite songs. Find holiday e-books for all ages on Overdrive, Freading, RBdigital Books, or Cloud Library, or use the same apps to download an audiobook for the family to listen to on those long holiday drives. RBdigital Magazines has many magazines that could help you prepare for holiday gatherings or entertain your guests during their stay. From recipes to gift ideas, crafts to make with your guests, or current events to discuss – with over 180 magazines in the collection, you are sure to find one of interest. Entertain and impress your family & friends by streaming popular British TV & film, indie movies, full-length concerts & music documentaries, or Spanish-language telenovelas and movies with RBdigital Entertainment. Access these resources and more with your Columbus Public Library card by going to our website, www.cplconnect.us and clicking the Digital Library link.

If you plan to unplug from your electronics or prefer physical materials, we also offer audiobooks on CD, magazines, DVDs, and of course print books that you can check out.

With the added number of guests visiting your home, this time of year is perfect for checking out “coffee table” or “oversized” books. You could also bring them along as you travel to someone else’s home for a holiday stay. Oversized books offer excellent illustrations and interesting information that can be enjoyed during brief spurts of time and without reading the entire book. This entertainment option is especially helpful for those visits to distant relatives or your new in-laws, with whom you may not yet have formed close relationships. They can be used to start conversations about a variety of new and neutral subjects, depending on the book you choose. The Columbus Public Library has oversized books about sports, history, music, movies & television shows, art, fashion, travel, and more.

Try an oversized book that celebrates musical theater like “Musicals: The Definitive Illustrated Story” by Elaine Paige. This book is organized chronologically and groups musicals in four time periods: The Modern Musical, A Golden Age, New Inventions, and A Musical Revival. A joy to explore, this book features facts, photos, and storylines from many musicals, as well as biographies of composers, songwriters, actors, dancers, and singers.

National Geographic’s “The Photo Ark” is primarily composed of photos, as the mission of the photographer, Joel Sartore, is to inspire people to protect the biodiversity of the planet. The detail of each creature captured on these pages is fascinating and will engage you and your guests for hours.

A book I am excited to bring to holiday gatherings this year is “Hamilton: The Revolution” by Lin-Manuel Miranda and Jeremy McCarter. Capturing the musical’s lyrics, this book is also interspersed with photos from the original Broadway show and interesting details about the development of the production.

These are just a few of the oversized books available for you to check out from the Columbus Public Library, so stop by to search or browse oversized books that would be perfect for your next holiday gathering.