



BEYOND BOOKS

Arlington Libraries Foundation
Spring 2021 Newsletter



Check It Out! Look What Robbins Library Has For You

There are many different and interesting items you can get at the library beyond books, so we asked the library staff to browse the library's extensive collection for items to spotlight - things you may not consider or even know about. To kick off this new newsletter feature, we invite you to preview three different items. If one of them piques your curiosity, use the link to . . . Check It Out!



Light Therapy Lamp

Do you suffer from Seasonal Affective Disorder? If the lack of sunshine getting you down, light up your days! Studies show light boxes may affect brain chemicals linked to mood and sleep, but it's always best to test before you invest. That's one reason why the Library of Things is here for you! [Check out this light therapy lamp](#) with a small footprint, which you can set it up on a table or desk in your home or office. Use the light therapy while reading, watching TV, talking on the phone or whenever you have a few minutes to spare. The Library of Things, which includes gadgets, tools, crafts, games and more is provided by The Friends of the Robbins Library.

American Girl Dolls

Would you like your child to experience not only the fun of dolls, but also the joy of a good book, plus the chance to learn about history and values simultaneously? [Check out one of the Robbins Library's 18 American Girl dolls](#): Addy (pictured here), Kaya, Josefina, Rebecca, Kit, Nanea, Julie, Maryellen, Melody, Logan, Z, Lea, Gabriela, Luciana, Blaire, Joss, Kira and a Truly Me Doll (the library named him Max)! Each doll comes with a carrying case, bed, book and journal for you to share your experience.

Readalongs

Did you know the Children's Room now has picture books with built-in players so the books can read to YOU? Any card holder can request and borrow one! Kids can press play to read along with their favorite books and then switch to learning mode for literacy learning and fun. Search the library catalog for "Arlington readalongs." [Check out Freedom Soup by Tami Charles](#). The Robbins Library collection of Readalongs is made possible by donations made to the Arlington Libraries Foundation, in memory of Eleanor Maskell.

Dear Patrons,

Spring evokes the opening of windows and doors and letting fresh air in, and soon we'll be opening up for you!



It's crazy to me that it's been a whole year since we hung that surreal sign on our front doors: CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. "Until further notice" turned into contactless pickup, then the launch of our popular Grab Bag service, then drop-in checkout service in the lobby.

Preparations are now underway to reopen the library for browsing. We'll be following state guidelines for capacity and doing everything else we can to make sure your return to the library is as safe – and joyful! – as possible.

Look for our announcement soon in all the usual places: the library's monthly newsletter, Town Alerts, social media, and signage at the library. In the meantime, we have so much wonderful Arlington Reads Together programming going on in March. Join the conversation!

Stay in touch and sign up to get news electronically on our website!

Best wishes,

Andrea Nicolay
Director of Libraries

Have you considered donating publicly traded securities to charity? If you already make charitable donations, this might be a good option for you to consider for the future. By donating publicly traded securities such as stocks, bonds, exchange-traded funds (ETFs), and mutual funds you can give more to yourself and to nonprofit organizations, such as the Arlington Libraries Foundation.

If your stock or other security has appreciated for more than one year, when you donate it to a charity you are giving up to 20 percent more than if you sold the stock and then made a cash donation. First, there will be no capital gains tax to pay. In addition, you will still be eligible to deduct the full fair-market value of the asset you donated on your income taxes (up to the overall amount allowed by the IRS), resulting in giving yourself more savings.

Exercising this donation option can take tax analysis and advanced planning. **While there are benefits that make it worth this extra planning, further tax and legal guidance is required.** Information on how you can donate gifts of publicly traded stock or other securities to the Arlington Libraries Foundation, can be found [here](#).

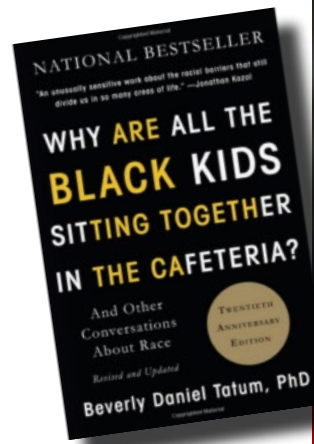
Arlington Reads Together

The Robbins Library, The Arlington Libraries Foundation, and The Arlington Education Foundation welcome Dr. Beverly Daniel Tatum, author of the 2021 Arlington Reads Together (ART) selection *Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?*, to Arlington on Sunday, March 21 at 3:00 p.m. Dr. Tatum's presentation, "A Conversation on Race and Racism with Dr. Beverly Daniel Tatum" will be held on Zoom and live-streamed on ACMi and Facebook Live.

Library visitors can pick up copies of *Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?* at the Robbins Library during drop-in pick up hours, or request a copy by phone. Events, book discussions and more take place throughout March. A full schedule of events and programs is available at robbinslibrary.org.

Those who wish to participate in the conversation with Dr. Tatum on March 21 should register at:

<https://conversationonraceandracism.eventbrite.com>



"We are honored to bring Dr. Tatum to Arlington. Necessary conversations on race are taking place in our community and across the country, and this year's read provides a new focus for this topic in Arlington. This program also furthers the town's Racial Equity Action Plan goal of fostering a safer and more equitable community."

— Andrea Nicolay, Library Director