

What's On

September–December 2025

Local Author Day

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**Beyond Barriers
Art Show**

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Visit the NovelBranch

at Ajax Community Centre

Inside the NovelBranch Vending Machine, you'll find popular adult, teen, and children's books to borrow anytime the Ajax Community Centre is open. All you need is your Ajax Public Library card.

Learn more at ajaxlibrary.ca/NovelBranch.

Fill a Purse for a Sister Campaign

September 1–October 31 | Main Branch



Donate a new or gently used purse filled with personal necessities to bring comfort and dignity to women and youth in crisis. Filled purses will be donated to services that support women.

For more information, including which items are most needed, visit fillapurseforasistercampaign.ca.

Art Shows at Main Branch

Did you know you can view art shows by local artists in the Rotary Room at Main Branch? And if you're an artist, you can connect with us to inquire about offering a showcase.

For more information, visit ajaxlibrary.ca/Art-Shows.



Welcome!

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Holiday Hours

All branches will be closed:

- Monday, September 1 (Labour Day)
- Tuesday, September 30 (National Day for Truth and Reconciliation)
- Monday, October 13 (Thanksgiving)
- Thursday, December 25 (Christmas Day)
- Friday, December 26 (Boxing Day)

Remembrance Day

We remember the sacrifices made by others during wars, peacekeeping, and NATO actions. On Tuesday, November 11, we will observe two minutes of silence at 11 a.m. at all branches.



Honouring Truth and Reconciliation

Each year, September 30 marks the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, honouring the survivors of residential schools and the children who never returned home. Learn more about Indigenous history, access book lists, and view additional resources at ajaxlibrary.ca/Reflect.



First Nation Public Library Week

October 6–10 is First Nation Public Library Week.

It's a celebration focused on raising awareness of First Nation resources, services, programs, and activities. It seeks to spotlight First Nation peoples and cultures, both past and present, as well as provide materials that accurately and sensitively portray First Nation culture.

Art from First Nation Public Library Week poster
"7 Teachings Between the Shelves" (2025)
by Syanna Rogers (Kettle and Stony Point First Nation)



Special Events

Adults

***Author Visit with Michelle Good**
Tuesday, September 9, 7–8 p.m.
Main Branch and Zoom

Join us for a special online conversation with Michelle Good, award-winning author of *Five Little Indians* and a member of the Red Pheasant Cree Nation in Saskatchewan. Michelle will read from her latest work, *“Truth Telling: Seven Conversations about Indigenous Life in Canada,”* and share insights into her path to becoming a writer. Attend virtually or come to the Main Branch for a special watch party! Presented in partnership with the public libraries of York Region and Durham Region.

***Break the Fake: How to Tell What’s True Online**
Monday, October 27, 6:30–7:30 p.m.

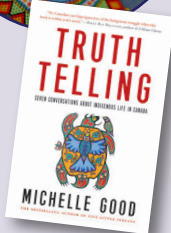
Zoom
October 27–31 is Media Literacy Week. Learn four quick, easy steps to spot misinformation. This workshop will also cover methods for recognizing AI-generated misinformation as well as tips on how to use AI to verify information. Presented in partnership with MediaSmarts.

***Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) Awareness Month Event**

Wednesday, November 19, 6:30–8 p.m.

Main Branch

Registration encouraged, but drop-ins welcome
November is Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) Awareness Month. Honour IPV Awareness Month with a story from a survivor and an educational session on the prevalence of IPV. Learn about community supports available for those affected and engage with community partners at information tables. There will also be light refreshments and a children’s activity corner. Presented in partnership with Victim Services of Durham Region.



Kids & Families

***Rili Budding Scientists Lab: Light Up Your Insect**
Sunday, September 21, 1–2 p.m.

Grades 3–5 | Audley Branch

Use LED lights, wires, and a clothespin to create a light-up insect and learn about electricity.

Pumpkinville

Saturday, October 18, 11 a.m.–5 p.m.

All ages | Greenwood Conservation Area

Drop by the Library’s booth for spooky crafts and activities! Learn more about Town of Ajax Pumpkinville at ajax.ca/Pumpkinville.



Teens & Adults

***Dispelling the Myths: Trustworthiness and AI**
Wednesday, November 12, 7–8 p.m.

Main Branch

In this talk and Q&A, Dr. Peter Lewis, the Canada Research Chair in Trustworthy AI at Ontario Tech University, will give an introduction to the phenomenon of generative artificial intelligence, including ChatGPT and Midjourney.

International Day of Persons with Disabilities

Beyond Barriers Art Show celebrating International Day of Persons with Disabilities

In recognition of International Day of Persons with Disabilities (December 3), the Library and the Town of Ajax are proud to host the Beyond Barriers Art Show, celebrating creativity, resilience, and diverse perspectives. Ajax artists of all ages who identify as persons with disabilities are invited to submit their artwork on the theme of “No Limits” for display in this special exhibition.

Artwork on Display: December 1–19 at Main Branch

Opening Reception: Wednesday, December 3, 6:30–8:30 p.m. at Main Branch

Registration encouraged, but drop-ins welcome

For more information and to get an entry form, visit ajaxlibrary.ca/ArtShows or ajax.ca/Access.

Special Events

Celebrate Canadian Library Month and Culture Days!

October is Canadian Library Month, and Culture Days is September 19–October 12.

*“The Family Orchestra” – Music 101 for Families Saturday, October 4, 11 a.m.–12 noon Main Branch

Explore musical instruments, enjoy interactive games, and learn how music supports kids’ mental wellness and growth at this hands-on music workshop for families. Presented in partnership with Bangladeshi Canadian Musical Alliance.

*Local Author Day Saturday, October 4, 2–4 p.m. Main Branch

Registration encouraged, but drop-ins welcome
Meet local authors, learn about their artistic journeys, and stay for live readings. Authors will have copies of their books available for purchase.

*Author Visit Featuring Liann Zhang and Ann Y.K. Choi Wednesday, October 8, 7–8 p.m. St. Francis Centre for Community, Arts and Culture

Enjoy a compelling conversation with authors Liann Zhang and Ann Y.K. Choi. A book signing and refreshments will follow. Presented in partnership with the Town of Ajax and Blue Heron Books.



October is Islamic Heritage Month

Islamic Heritage Month Storytime Saturday, September 27, 10:30–12:30 p.m. Audley Branch

Celebrate Islamic Heritage Month by learning about the contributions of Muslims to the arts and sciences. Enjoy reading, colouring, crafts, and henna! Presented in partnership with Muslim Women of Durham Region.

November is Hindu Heritage Month

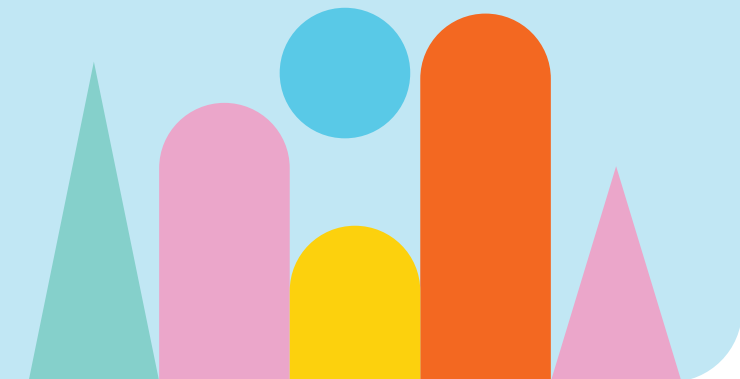
Hindu Heritage Month Showcase Saturday, November 1, 1:30–4 p.m. Main Branch

Stay tuned for showcase details presented in partnership with Sankat Mochan Hanuman Mandir & Cultural Centre Inc.

December is Christian Heritage Month

Christmas Family Storytime with Catholic Women’s Guild–St. Bernadette Saturday, December 6, 10–11:30 a.m. Main Branch

Discover the True Meaning of Christmas! Join us for a joyful celebration featuring the Nativity Story, carol singing, Nativity “wheel” craft, and a Christmas-themed photobooth—come dressed in your favorite Christmas outfit! Presented in partnership with the Catholic Women’s Guild–St. Bernadette.



Kids & Families

Storytimes (September 7–December 6)

STEAM Storytime Ages 2+	STEAM Storytime Ages 2+	Books for Babies Ages 0–2	Books for Babies Ages 0–2
Mondays 10–11 a.m.	Tuesdays 10:45–11:45 a.m.	Wednesdays 10–11 a.m.	Thursdays 1–2 p.m.
McLean Branch	Audley Branch	Main Branch	Audley Branch
There will be no Storytimes on September 30, October 13, or October 29			

Family Storytime

Saturdays, September 6, October 25, 10 a.m.–12 noon
Ages 3–12 | Grandview Kids Express Branch

Sensory Storytime

Thursdays, September 11, October 9, November 6, December 4, 10–10:30 a.m.
Ages 2–6 | Main Branch

Thursdays, September 25, October 23, November 20, 10–10:30 a.m.
Ages 2–6 | Grandview Kids Express Branch

Family Storytime + Ajax Reading Circle

Saturdays, September 20; October 4, 18; November 1, 15, 29; December 13, 10 a.m.–12 noon
Ages 3–12 | Audley Branch



1000
Colourful Stories

A reading club just for preschoolers! From birth to four years is the best time to nurture a love of reading in your child. Sign up at any branch, get your first reading log, take it home, and read. Once your first reading log is full, come back to the Library for the next one and keep reading together until you've read 1000 books together!

1000 Colourful Stories Storytime

Sunday, September 28, 10:30 a.m.–12 noon

Saturdays, October 25, November 22, 10:30 a.m.–12 noon

Ages 0–4 | Audley Branch

Drop by for a storytime and to get your next reading log!

Kids & Families

Craft & Make

LEGO!

Saturdays, September 13, October 11, November 8,
December 6, 10 a.m.–12 noon

McLean Branch

Sundays, September 28, October 26, November 23,
December 7, 12 noon–2 p.m.

Audley Branch

Imagination Station

Thursdays, September 25, October 30, November 27,
December 18, 6–7:30 p.m.

McLean Branch

PA Days

Craft and Movie: Lilo and Stitch

Monday, October 20, 10 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Main Branch

*Craft and Movie: Lilo and Stitch

Monday, October 20, 1:30–4 p.m.

Grandview Kids Express Branch

Craft and Movie: How to Train Your Dragon

Friday, November 14, 10 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Main Branch

*Craft and Movie: How to Train Your Dragon

Friday, November 14, 1:30–4 p.m.

Grandview Kids Express Branch



Find weekly themes at
ajaxlibrary.ca/Events



Study Better with SOLARO

SOLARO is an online self-directed learning resource. Students in grades 3–12 can access Ontario curriculum content in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science. Use your Library card to take practice quizzes and tests, create study notes, access lessons, and more.

Find SOLARO at ajaxlibrary.ca/Online-Resources.


solaro

Kids & Families

EarlyON

*Family Music and Movement

Thursdays, September 4–December 18, 9–10 a.m.

Ages 0–6 | Main Branch

Thursdays, September 4–December 18, 10:30–11:30 a.m.

Ages 0–6 | Audley Branch

Saturdays, September 6, October 4, November 1, December 13, 10:30–11:30 a.m.

Ages 0–6 | Audley Branch

This program will introduce children to interactive songs, nursery rhymes, music, creative movement, and musical instruments. Learn how to make and incorporate music and musical instruments into your child's everyday play experiences while promoting a healthy lifestyle and intimate social bonds. Learn more and register at keyon.ca.

For Babies

*Infant Hearing Screening Clinics

Wednesdays, September 3–December 17, 9:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

Ages 0–2 months | Main Branch

Babies up to two months of age are eligible to receive a hearing screening if they did not receive a screening at birth or require a follow-up screen. For more information or to book an appointment, visit childdevelopmentprograms.ca/BookMyBaby or call the Tri-Regional Infant Hearing Program at 1-888-703-5437, ext. 4.

For Homeschool Learners

*Little Light Book Club

Fridays, September 12, 19, 26; October 3, 17, 24, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Ages 8–15 | Audley Branch

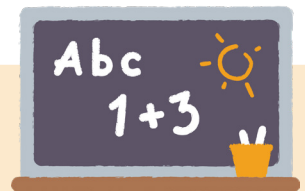
Join us for a one-of-a-kind book club experience that blends reading, creativity, and meaningful personal growth. Over six sessions, youth will explore stories, play engaging literary games, and explore themes like courage and identity. Through guided discussions, hands-on activities, and book-inspired projects, participants will grow as readers and as people.

Homeschool Club

Wednesdays, September 17, October 15, November 19, December 17, 1:30–3 p.m.

Ages 6–12 | Audley Branch

Explore fun and informative STEAM activities and connect with other homeschool learners at this monthly meet-up!



Kids & Families

Multilingual

*Le Club Français

Mondays, October 6–December 8 (no program October 13), 6:30–7:30 p.m.

Ages 6–12 | Main Branch

Children in Grades 1–6 can improve their reading skills en français by practicing reading and speaking at this weekly session led by high school reading buddies!

Les enfants en 1^{re} année à 6^e année peuvent améliorer leur compréhension française en pratiquant la lecture et la compréhension orale dans ce programme hebdomadaire avec des compagnons de lecture du niveau secondaire.

Coding & STEM

*Family Scratch Coding

Saturday, September 13, 10:30–11:30 a.m.

Ages 10–14 | Main Branch

Discover coding as a family with fun challenges! We focus on beginners, but all skill levels are welcome.

*Ontario Tech Coding and STEM Workshops

Coding Workshop: Saturdays, October 18, 25, 10 a.m.–12 noon | Grades 1–4

STEM Workshop: Saturdays, November 1, 8, 2–4 p.m. | Grades 5–8

Audley Branch

These workshops introduce youth to the fundamental concepts of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) and coding through engaging activities that inspire confidence! This is a beginner program, so no coding experience is required.

*Black Youth Empowerment STEM Club

Wednesdays, October 22, 29; November 5, 4:30–6 p.m.

Grades 4–6 | Audley Branch

The Black Youth Empowerment STEM Club is a collaborative effort between Ajax Public Library, the Congress of Black Women of Canada Ajax/Pickering Chapter, and Ontario Tech University. It's designed to spark interest in STEM among Black youth through hands-on activities and mentorship from Black STEM students at Ontario Tech.



Kids & Families

DESIGN A BOOKMARK CONTEST!

September 8–October 3

Ajax kids in Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8 can showcase their love of reading by designing an original bookmark! 12 winning bookmarks will be printed and distributed in all branches each month in 2026, and winners will receive 25 copies of their bookmark.

The contest deadline is Friday, October 3, 2025!
For more information, visit ajaxlibrary.ca/BookmarkContest.



Winter Wonderland Holiday Events

Plan your winter break with the Library! Our full calendar of special holiday programs will be out in mid-November. Find it online at ajaxlibrary.ca/HolidayEvents or pick one up at any branch.

Santa's Spectacle of Lights Parade & Warm-up Party

Saturday, November 22, 6–9 p.m.

Main Branch

Follow the Town's annual evening parade, then visit Main Branch for a children's craft and hot chocolate, hosted by the Library's Teen Advisory Committee.

Letters to Santa

Saturday, November 22–Saturday, December 6

Write a letter to Santa, drop it off at any branch, and we'll make sure he gets it!



Tweens & Teens

Learn

***Toastmasters Youth Leadership Program**
Mondays, September 22, 29; October 6, 20, 27;
November 3, 10, 24, 6:30–8:30 p.m.
Registration is for eight weeks
Ages 13–18 | Audley Branch

Youth will learn to evaluate their speaking abilities, prepare and deliver speeches, and provide feedback. Presented in partnership with Ajax Outspoken Speakers.

Chill & Create

Needle Felting
Friday, September 26, 6:30–8:30 p.m.
Grades 9–12 | Main Branch

Ready for a creative way to relax this fall? Shape soft wool into a fun fall ornament—perfect to keep or as a thoughtful gift. No experience needed, all materials provided.

***Crock A Doodle**
Thursday, December 4, 6:30–8:30 p.m.
Grades 9–12 | Audley Branch
Drop by to paint a cute tile, perfect to keep or as a gift. All materials provided.

TAC Presents

Islamic Heritage Month
Thursday, October 16, 7–8:30 p.m.
Grades 9–12 | Audley Branch
Celebrate Islamic Heritage Month with snacks and a craft.

Halloween Celebration!
Thursday, October 30, 6:30–8:30 p.m.
Grades 9–12 | Main Branch
Wear your costumer and drop by for snacks and all kinds of spooky fun!

TAC Presents

Hindu Heritage Month
Thursday, November 13, 7–8:30 p.m.
Grades 9–12 | Audley Branch
Explore Hindu Heritage Month with snacks and crafts.

Fun & Games

Gamers' Club
Saturdays, September 27, October 11, November 22,
December 20, 1–3 p.m.
Ages 10–14 | Main Branch
Come out to play Super Smash Bros. and Mario Kart!

Hip Hop Reads
Wednesdays, October 1, 8, 15, 6:30–8 p.m.
Grades 10–12 | Main Branch
Explore the world of Hip Hop—tracing its humble beginnings, celebrating its evolution, and dissecting the powerful literary works that define the genre.

Study Hall

Saturdays & Sundays, December 6, 7, 13, 14
Audley Branch open late to 7 p.m.
Are you looking for a place to cram for your exam? Hours will be extended until 7 p.m. with the Multipurpose Room available for quieter study.



Youth for Entrepreneurship Program

Curious about entrepreneurship? Check out this program for youth ages 15–24, presented in partnership with the YMCA of Greater Toronto. **Learn more on page 14!**

MAKERSPACE @ MCLEAN

Explore, Make, and Create!

Sundays are for Makers

Weekly on Sundays, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

Learn about (and create!) something new every Sunday. From robotics to bookbinding, there's a ton to explore. Find themes online at ajaxlibrary.ca/Events.

Digital Roots Ajax

Wednesday, September 24, 1–2:30 p.m.

Why was knitting a heavily encouraged activity during World War 2? Learn more about the war effort, plus how to cast on, knit, and purl. Limited supplies are available, participants are encouraged to bring needles and yarn.

*How to Start a Podcast: A Hands-On Workshop

Saturday, November 1, 10–11:30 a.m.

Makerspace at McLean Branch

In this beginner-friendly workshop, you'll explore how to choose a podcast topic, format, and schedule, plus learn about hosting options and tips for a confident launch. No tech experience needed—just bring your curiosity (and optionally, a smartphone)!

For Entrepreneurs

*Building Your Business Story: "Tell the Truth, Release the Shame, and Build Community"

Wednesday, September 17, 9:30–10:30 a.m.

Makerspace at McLean Branch

Incorporate vulnerability within your key messages, build deeper trust and resilience within your chosen community, and discover how this maintains and increases sales. Presented in partnership with Orange Blossom Communications.

Do It In Durham Entrepreneurship Week:

Makerspace Open House

Tuesday, November 18, 9–11:30 a.m.

Makerspace at McLean Branch

Tour the Makerspace and meet local entrepreneurs who have used it to benefit their businesses. Part of Do It In Durham Entrepreneurship Week, a celebration of entrepreneurship and economic growth. For more information, visit bacd.ca/Do-It-In-Durham.



Think Creatively, Be Inspired!

The Makerspace is a collaborative workspace for people of all ages to create, invent, and learn! Open whenever the Library is open, you can drop by to work on your own projects or attend a program.

Learn more about all the ways you can create in the Makerspace at ajaxlibrary.ca/Makerspace.



Adults & Seniors

Health & Wellness

*Building Your Wellness Toolkit

Wednesdays, September 10, 17, 24; October 1, 8
1–2:15 p.m.

Main Branch

Registration is for all five weeks

Learn more about building your own personal wellness toolkit in this five-week series. Presented in partnership with Ontario Shores Recovery College.

*Monthly Meditations

Sundays, September 21, October 19, November 23
9:30–10:30 a.m.

Main Branch

A hypnotherapist and 5D healer will guide you through a transformative and relaxing experience.

*Getting the Most from Your Healthcare

Appointment

Monday, September 22, 10:30 a.m.–12 noon

Main Branch

Discover practical strategies to prepare for appointments, communicate with your healthcare provider, and follow up effectively.

The Compassionate Friends Ajax

Tuesdays, September 23, October 28, November 25,
December 30, 6:30–8:30 p.m.

Intended for any parent who has lost a child

Audley Branch

We are here to journey alongside the bereaved until they can make their own choice to reinvest in life again. Contact ajax@tcfcanada.net for more information.

*Biblio Banter

Tuesdays, September 23, October 28, November 25,
December 16, 7–8 p.m.

Zoom

Join this guided group discussion centered around readings that inspire well-being. No pre-reading is necessary, materials will be provided.

*Smart Living Series: Nourish, Move, Hydrate

Wednesdays, September 24, October 8, 22, 1–2 p.m.

Audley Branch

Explore the foundations of healthy living with this three-part series. With interactive presentations and practical tips, each session will empower you to make informed choices about nutrition, hydration, and physical activity to build a healthier, smarter life.

*The Basics of Consent:

Understanding Boundaries and Respect

Wednesday, October 15, 3–4 p.m.

Main Branch

Learn what consent is, who it applies to, what it looks like, and how it can be applied in a variety of interactive scenarios. Led by a registered massage therapist, participants will learn by example how consent is navigated in one's personal life.

*Understanding Blood Pressure

Thursday, November 27, 10:30 a.m.–12 noon

Main Branch

Learn what blood pressure is, how it affects your body, how your heart plays a role, and what those numbers really mean.

Adults & Seniors

For Movie Lovers

Cultural Cinema

Tuesdays, September 2, October 7, November 4, December 2, 1:30–3:30 p.m.

Main Branch

September 2: A Complete Unknown (14A)

In 1961, an unknown 19-year-old Bob Dylan arrives in New York City with his guitar and forges relationships with musical icons on his meteoric rise, culminating in a groundbreaking performance.

October 7: Thelma (PG)

When 93-year-old Thelma Post gets duped by a phone scammer pretending to be her grandson, she sets out on a treacherous quest across the city to reclaim what was taken from her.

November 4: One Life (PG)

Sir Nicholas 'Nicky' Winton, a young London broker who, in the months leading up to World War II, rescued over 600 children from Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia.

December 2: Mrs. Harris Goes to Paris (PG)

In 1950s London, a widowed cleaning lady falls madly in love with a couture Dior dress, deciding she must have one. She embarks on an adventure to Paris that will change not only her own outlook, but the future of Dior.



September 2



October 7



November 4



December 2

Small Business

***Youth for Entrepreneurship Program**

Wednesday, September 24: Entrepreneurialism 101

Wednesday, October 29: Types of Businesses

Wednesday, November 26: Canva

6:30–8 p.m.

Ages 15–24 | Audley Branch

Registration required for each workshop

Youth for Entrepreneurship (Y4E) is a national program designed to inspire and empower youth ages 15–24 who are curious about entrepreneurship. Y4E helps you build knowledge, confidence, and skills to get started. Presented in partnership with the YMCA of Greater Toronto.

***You Don't Have to Go It Alone:**

Tools for Solo Entrepreneurs

Wednesday, October 15, 9–11:30 a.m.

Main Branch

Starting a business isn't easy, especially if you are a solo founder. Join us for an energizing morning of insights, networking, and practical tools to help your business grow. Presented in partnership with BReady Talent and the Town of Ajax Economic Development.

Small Business Resources

Explore how the Library can help increase your skills and help your business achieve its goals.

Learn more at
ajaxlibrary.ca/SmallBusiness



Adults & Seniors



Environmental Literacy

***Bloom and Learn Gardening Series: Rain Gardens**
Wednesday, September 3, 6:15–7:30 p.m.

Zoom

Learn how and why water runoff has become a serious threat to our environment and what you can do to help offset the problem on your own property. Discover the basic principles of creating a rain garden and how a rain garden works. Presented in partnership with the Town of Ajax and Durham Master Gardeners.

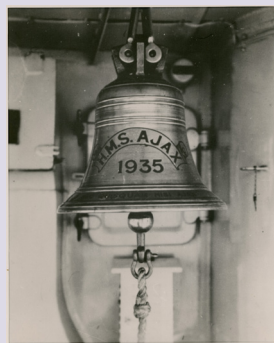
Ajax Archives

Battle of the River Plate

Thursday, December 4, 10:30–11:30 a.m.

Main Branch

Learn about the events of the naval battle that inspired Ajax's name with the Archives Services Librarian. See video footage filmed by crew members on board HMS Ajax in the early days of World War 2 and find out where to read or listen to firsthand accounts of the battle.



Games

Social Bridge

**Thursdays, September 4, 18; October 2, 16, 30;
November 6, 20; December 4, 11, 18, 2–4:30 p.m.**
Main Branch

Friendly Euchre

**Fridays, September 5, 19; October 3, 17, 31;
November 14, 28; December 12, 2–4 p.m.**
Main Branch

Beginner Bridge

**Thursdays, September 11, 25; October 9, 23;
November 13, 27, 2–4:30 p.m.**

Main Branch

All levels of experience welcome!

Cribbage

**Fridays, September 26, October 24, November 21
2–4 p.m.**

Main Branch

Dungeons & Dragons

D&D Café

**Tuesdays, September 2–December 16 (no session
September 30), 5:30–8:30 p.m.**

Main Branch

Bring your D&D group to the Library to slay monsters, enjoy free snacks, and connect with other tabletop gamers! All are welcome! Interested in attending, but don't have a group?

Contact carly.midgley@ajaxlibrary.ca.



New! Borrow a Digitization Kit: MovieMaker Pro!

Digitize those old 8mm films! This fully automated digitizer can convert 8mm and Super 8 movie reels into digital videos. The kit contains everything you need for high-quality digital conversion.

To place a hold, visit ajaxlibrary.ca/Library-Things.

Adults & Seniors

Learn

*Stay Connected Training

Thursdays, 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 12 noon, 1 p.m.

Main Branch

Saturdays, 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 12 noon

Audley Branch

Learn how to stay in touch with these technology training sessions. To register, call 905-683-4000 ext. 8813.

*Genealogy Group

Wednesdays, September 17, October 15,

November 19, 1:30–2:30 p.m.

Main Branch

September 17: The Power of Family Legends

October 15: The Uses of AI in Genealogy

November 19: More Family Photo Detective

To register, email events@ajaxlibrary.ca.

Headline Hunters

Tuesdays, September 23, October 28, November 25,
December 16, 1:30–3 p.m.

Main Branch

For more information, call 905-683-4000 ext. 8806 or email elaine.lievaart@ajaxlibrary.ca.

*Job Readiness Workshop

Friday, September 26, Tuesday, November 25

9:30–11 a.m.

Main Branch

Learn to craft standout resumes and cover letters, master interview strategies, and how to present your best professional self. Presented in partnership with the Pickering Welcome Centre.

*Resume Critique Booth

Friday, September 26, Tuesday, November 25

11 a.m.–1 p.m.

Main Branch

Registration encouraged, but drop-ins welcome

Meet with an employment specialist to get guidance on how to strengthen your resume. Presented in partnership with the Pickering Welcome Centre. Book an appointment by email events@ajaxlibrary.ca or call 905-683-4000 ext. 8809.

Durham Children's Aid Society Foster Parent Information Session

Thursday, October 2, 6:30–8:30 p.m.

Main Branch

Interested in becoming a foster parent? Durham Children's Aid Society has an urgent need. Learn more at this session or contact foster@durhamcas.ca.

*Tenant Rights Workshop

Thursday, November 13, 6:30–7:30 p.m.

Zoom

Learn about the protections available to you as described in the Residential Tenancies Act. This presentation will cover what landlords can lawfully do, tenant rights in leases, and more. Presented in partnership with the Durham Community Legal Clinic.

*Calm & Creativity: Needle Felting Ornaments

Saturday, November 15, 1:30–3 p.m.

Main Branch

Enjoy a cozy and creative needle felting session where you'll learn how to sculpt wool into a charming seasonal ornament—perfect as a gift or holiday décor! Beginner-friendly, all materials provided.

Find Your Next Great Read!



NoveList Plus is an online database that helps readers find books that match their preferences and moods. Sign in with your Library card, then search based on age, genre and more to find your next great read!

Try it at ajaxlibrary.ca/Online-Resources.

Adults & Seniors

Parent Café

*Lunchbox Lifesavers: Simple Strategies for Stress-Free School Lunches

Thursday, September 25, 6:30–7:30 p.m.

Zoom

Say goodbye to lunch-packing dread and hello to a system that actually works! Learn how to plan balanced, realistic meals.

Infant and Toddler Sleep Clinic

Thursday, October 23, 1:30–2:30 p.m.

Audley Branch

Learn about safe sleep practices and nap schedules and get tips for healthy sleep habits for children. Bring your questions about baby and toddler sleep! Presented by a Certified Child Sleep Consultant from Good Night Sleep Site.

*Self-Care Over the Holidays

Tuesday, November 18, 11 a.m.–12 noon

Grandview Kids Express Branch

Learn about boundaries, strategies to tackle holiday stress, and the value of self-care with a peer navigator from Grandview Kids. Presented in partnership with Grandview Kids.

Thinking Ahead Series

Based on the **Older Adults Advisory Committee (OAAC) Caregiver Supports Guide** (available at ajaxlibrary.ca/Policies), Thinking Ahead is a series of monthly workshops that address some of the areas where you can plan ahead as a caregiver or care recipient.

*Family, Finances & Foundations:

Navigating Multi-Generational Living

Wednesday, September 17, 6:30–8 p.m.

Main Branch

Join two Realtors, a Lawyer, and a Mortgage Broker as we explore how to choose the right home, structure ownership and financing, navigate legal agreements, and set up sharing living arrangements that work for everyone.

*Pre-Planning for End-of-Life Decisions

Tuesday, October 21, 1:30–3 p.m.

Main Branch

Prepare for end-of-life decisions and have a say in how you would like your legacy to be remembered. Presented in partnership with Arbor Memorial.

Level Up Your Skills

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ajaxlibrary.ca/Online-Resources



Adults & Seniors

Multilingual & Multicultural

*Afghan Women's Organization Refugee and Immigrant Services

Weekly on Mondays, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.
(no session October 13)

Main Branch

Afghan Women's Organization Refugee and Immigrant Services provide settlement service for Durham Region residents. Services provided in English, Hindi, Pashto, Persian, and Urdu. To book an appointment, contact Muska Wardak, Settlement Counsellor, at 437-235-2871 or by email at mwardak@afghanwomen.org. Funding provided by Citizenship & Immigration Canada.

*Afghan Women's Organization Refugee and Immigrant Services Citizenship Preparation Class

Weekly on Mondays, 1–2 p.m.

(no session October 13)

Main Branch

To register, contact Muska Wardak, Settlement Counsellor, at 437-235-2871 or by email at mwardak@afghanwomen.org.

*WMRCC Seniors Social (formerly Spanish Seniors Social)

Weekly on Mondays, 2–5 p.m.

(no session October 13)

Main Branch

Meet new people, learn new things, and socialize with other Spanish-speaking seniors! For more information and to register, contact Cristina Gomez at 289-928-2037. Presented in partnership with the Women's Multicultural Resource and Counselling Centre of Durham (WMRCC).

French Conversation Circle

Mondays, September 15–December 8 (no session October 13), 6:30–8 p.m.

Main Branch

Hone your French skills with drop-in French discussions for adults. For more information, email Tasnuba Rahman at trahman@cdcd.org.

*English Conversation Circle

Wednesdays, September 17–December 10

6:30–8 p.m.

Main Branch

Practice English, meet new adults, and join our lively discussions. Alternates between Zoom and in-person. For more information and to register, email Tasnuba Rahman at trahman@cdcd.org.

*Litmus Chinese Dancing

Saturdays, September 13, November 29

10 a.m.–12 noon

Main Branch

Celebrate cultural diversity in Canada with traditional Chinese dances, instruments, and folk songs, as well as classic favourites such as the cha cha, rumba, and samba. For more information, contact Jenny Shao at jenny.shao@kss-sep.com.

DCCC Seniors and Durham Happy Seniors Alliance

Saturdays, September 13, 27; October 11, 25;

November 8, 22; December 6, 20

12:30–4 p.m.

Main Branch

Enjoy Chinese-style games, dance, Tai Chi, and more. Languages spoken: Cantonese and Mandarin. For more information, email info@durhamchinese.ca. Presented in partnership with Durham Chinese Canadian Culture Centre.



**Adventure
in the palm
of your
hand**



Learn a new language with Mango Languages! Mango prepares you for realistic conversations and communication in over 70 languages.

To access, visit ajaxlibrary.ca/Online-Resources.

Adults & Seniors

Discover

Knitting and Crochet for Community
Wednesdays, September 3, October 1, November 5,
December 3, 1–3 p.m.
Audley Branch

Crafters' Corner
Wednesdays, September 10, 24; October 8, 22;
November 12, 26; December 10
10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
Main Branch

***Armchair Travel**
Tuesdays, September 16, November 18
1:30–3:30 p.m.
Main Branch

September 16: Along the Rhine
Follow the path of the Rhine River as it winds its way
through the southwestern region of Germany.

November 18: Greece
Enjoy an aerial tour as we explore some of the most
famous sites in the world.

***Virtual Armchair Travel: South Korea**
Tuesday, October 21, 1:30–3 p.m.
Zoom

Jet around the world without ever leaving the
comfort of your home! South Korea is a country of
contrasts ranging from ancient Buddhist temples to
the ultra-modern skyscrapers of Seoul.

***Holiday Piano Concert with Paul Butler**
Wednesday, December 3, 1:30–3 p.m.
Main Branch
Enjoy an afternoon filled with holiday tunes and
popular old favourites featuring Ajax's own piano
man, Paul Butler.

Financial Literacy

Mobile ID and Benefits Access Hub
Wednesday, November 5, 1–6 p.m.
Main Branch

Drop-in, registration required for tax filing
Get help accessing benefits that may put money
in your pocket. Organizations will be available to
help you open a Registered Education Savings Plan,
get a Social Insurance Number, file your taxes, and
more.

To make an appointment to have your taxes filed
with a volunteer from the Community Volunteer
Income Tax Program, call 905-683-4000 ext. 8809
or email julia.campbell@ajaxlibrary.ca.

***Preparing Your Financial Umbrella**
Thursday, November 6, 6:30–7:30 p.m.
Zoom

Plan for surprise expenses, protect yourself in the
event of illness or incapacity, and navigate the
challenges of inflation and market volatility.

***Buying New and Used Vehicles**
Thursday, November 27, 7–8 p.m.
Zoom

Get tips on how to research a vehicle's history,
understand your consumer rights, and more.
Presented in partnership with the Ontario Motor
Vehicle Industry Council.

Adults & Seniors

Book Clubs

Interested in joining one of our book clubs? Join the discussion, connect with new people, and pick up suggestions for your next great read. To join, email events@ajaxlibrary.ca and let us know which group you are interested in joining.

*Book Chat

Fridays, September 5, October 3, November 7, December 5, 10:30–11:30 a.m.
Main Branch

September 5: The Secret Keeper by Genevieve Graham

October 3: The Alice Network by Kate Quinn

November 7: Moon of the Turning Leaves by Waubgeshig Rice

December 5: What Have You Done by Shari Lapena

*Shelf Indulgence

Tuesdays, September 16, October 21, November 18, December 16, 7–8 p.m.
Main Branch

September 16: Girl on the Train by Paul Hawkins

October 21: The Midnight Library by Matt Haig

November 18: The Mystery Guest by Nita Prose

December 16: The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett

*The Pageturners

Wednesdays, September 17, October 15, November 19, December 17, 7–8 p.m.
Audley Branch

September 17: The Woman in Me by Britney Spears

October 15: Crow Lake by Mary Lawson

November 19: Such a Fun Age by Kiley Reid

December 17: The Testaments by Margaret Atwood

*Aud Readers

Thursdays, September 25, October 23, November 27, December 18, 7–8 p.m.

Audley Branch

September 25: The Maid by Nita Prose

October 23: The Girl on the Train by Paula Hawkins

November 27: The Flight Girls by Noelle Salazar

December 18: The Bittlemores by Jann Arden

New Book Club!

*Silent Book Club

Mondays, September 22, October 20, November 17, December 15, 6:30–8 p.m.

Audley Branch

Registration encouraged, but drop-ins welcome

Love books but not the pressure of a traditional book club? Join our new Silent Book Club! Bring a book you're currently reading or pick one from our collection, grab a warm beverage, and enjoy some quiet reading time with fellow book lovers. Socialize after or keep reading! Tea, coffee, and light refreshments will be provided.



***Box Office Books and Brews: "A Haunting in Venice"**
Wednesday, October 29, 6:30–9 p.m.

St. Francis Centre for Community, Arts and Culture

Is the book actually better than the movie? Enjoy a book club and movie screening all rolled into one evening! Pick up a copy of "A Haunting in Venice" by Agatha Christie before the screening and enjoy a group discussion after the movie. Enjoy a movie-themed cocktail, wine, or beer as well as snacks available for purchase.



Adults & Seniors

55+ Amateur Short Story Contest

Tuesday, September 2–Friday, October 31

Get your creative juices flowing! The Ajax Public Library Older Adults Advisory Committee and the Town of Ajax Recreation & Culture Older Adults Task Force are pleased to bring you the third annual 55+ Amateur Short Story Contest.

This year's theme is **"What I Wish I Had Known When I Was 20."**

Visit ajaxlibrary.ca/55PlusContest for more information, or pick up an entry form at any branch. Winners will be announced in November.



For Writers

***Ajax Public Library Writers' Group**

Thursdays, September 11, October 9, November 13, December 11, 6:30–8:30 p.m.

Main Branch

Registration is required for September 11 and October 9

Social writers and avid authors alike—ignite your creativity using our provided topics and phrases! Every month, we challenge you to create an original piece based on a new topic. Bring your tale to the circle for sharing. Snacks provided, we ask that you bring your own writing supplies.

BlackLit Durham

Wednesdays, October 22, December 10, 7–9 p.m.

St. Francis Centre for Community, Arts and Culture
Celebrate Black Canadian literary voices of all genres at a night of amazing performances and Q+A with the artists. Sign-ups for open mic poetry sessions start at 6:30 p.m. Visit blacklitudurham.com for more information.



New! Borrow a VHS Digitization Kit!

Convert your old VHS tapes to digital! The kit includes a VHS player, and video capture cable to convert VHS tapes to digital formats.

To place a hold, visit ajaxlibrary.ca/Library-Things.



Seniors Centre Without Walls

Join using
Zoom or call in
Mondays through
Wednesdays at
1:30 p.m.

Join us for a FREE interactive program from the comfort of your home. Themes include fun activities, education, health & wellness and more. Each month a new calendar will highlight the upcoming days of activities.

Information Highway

Join informative guest speakers on topics like health, entertainment, and finances; discuss local & global news; explore Ajax history with the Ajax Public Library; and enjoy short stories from various genres.

Fit and Fun

Keep your mind and body fit through exercises led by knowledgeable and nationally accredited Town of Ajax fitness instructors and end your week laughing with the joke of the week.

Worldly Wonders

Travel the world from the comfort of your home; learn about people from different countries and cultures; boldly go where your taste buds have never gone before with recipes from around the globe.

Challenge Accepted

Put your knowledge to the test during weekly themed trivia questions, games and fun or fiction trivia; guess who dun' it during Minute Mysteries; challenge yourself with memory games.

ajax.ca/55plus



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OACAO
The Voice of Older Adult Centres
La voix des centres pour aînés

This content is available in alternative formats upon request by contacting 905-683-4550 or emailing contactus@ajax.ca

September 2025 Program Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
1 No Programming	2 No Programming	3 Information Highway: Linda Dempster
8 Worldy Wonders: Armchair Travel - Italy (Part 2)	9 Information Highway: Durham Storytellers	10 Fit or Fun: 52 Card Bingo and Riddles
15 Challenge Accepted: Word Game	16 Fit or Fun: Charades on Zoom	17 Information Highway: Tim Westhead
22 Information Highway: Film Friends	23 Fit or Fun: Fall Trivia	24 Information Highway: Summi Siddiqui
29 Information Highway: Biographies - Wayne Gretzky	30 Information Highway: Dalia Gesser	

Summi Siddiqui

Enjoy lectures, stories, poems and paintings as Summi connects cultures beyond borders.

Linda Dempster

Enjoy conversation and music with singer and songwriter Linda Dempster!

Durham Storytellers

A dedicated group, who love to continue the verbal tradition without using books or notes and are considered part of the performing arts.

Hollywood:

An Insider's View

Join film buff Tim Westhead to find out what's beyond the silver screen!

Dalia Gesser

Join in the conversation as Dalia Gesser, a published author, reads stories that will trigger memories and anecdotes to share.

Space
is limited.



To join Zoom:

Meeting ID: 936-9272-5495
Passcode: SCWW55+001



To join by phone:

Dial: 647-558-0588
Meeting ID: 936-9272-5495#
Participant ID: 1409113169#



October 2025 Program Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
		1
		Challenge Accepted: Trivia – So You Think You’re a Disney Fan
6	7	8
Worldly Wonder: Armchair Travel – Italy (Part 3)	Information Highway: Durham Storytellers	Challenge Accepted: Two Truths and a Lie
13	14	15
No Programming	Challenge Accepted: Fact or Fiction	Information Highway: Tim Westhead
20	21	23
Challenge Accepted: 20 Questions	Information Highway: Dalia Gesser	Fit or Fun: 52 Card Bingo
27	28	29
Information Highway: Biographies – Pierre Trudeau	Fit or Fun: Trivia	Information Highway: Linda Dempster

Summi Siddiqui

Enjoy lectures, stories, poems and paintings as Summi connects cultures beyond borders.

Linda Dempster

Enjoy conversation and music with singer and songwriter Linda Dempster!

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Meeting ID: 936-9272-5495#
Participant ID: 1409113169#



November 2025 Program Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
3 Worldly Wonders: Armchair Travel - Italy (Part 4)	4 Information Highway: Durham Storytellers	5 Fit or Fun: Minute Mysteries
10 Information Highway: Historical Tidbits - VE Day	11 Information Highway: Dalia Gesser	12 Fit or Fun: Word Game
17 Information Highway: Book Chat	18 Fit or Fun: Charades on Zoom	19 Information Highway: Tim Westhead
24 Information Highway: Biographies - George Washington	25 Fit or Fun: 52 Card Bingo	26 Information Highway: Summi Siddiqui

Summi Siddiqui

Enjoy lectures, stories, poems and paintings as Summi connects cultures beyond borders.

Linda Dempster

Enjoy conversation and music with singer and songwriter Linda Dempster!

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December 2025 Program Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
1 Worldly Wonders: Armchair Travel - Rome and the Vatican City	2 Challenge Accepted: Holiday Minute Mysteries	3 Challenge Accepted: Who Am I? Holiday Edition
8 Fit or Fun: Trivia: Holiday Songs	9 Fit or Fun: Holiday Pictionary	10 Fit or Fun: Holiday Riddles
15 Information Highway: Biographies - Jimmy Stewart	16 Fit or Fun: Holiday Trivia	17 Information Highway: Linda Dempster
22 No Programming	23 No Programming	24 No Programming
29 No Programming	30 No Programming	31 No Programming

Linda Dempster
Enjoy music and
conversation with singer
and songwriter Linda
Dempster!

**Space
is limited.**



To join Zoom:

Meeting ID: 936-9272-5495
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Ajax Public Library

Community Connections

Connect with these organizations and their staff for the following services:

Durham French Employment Centre (COFRD)

- Resume and cover letter assistance
- Connect French-speaking job seekers with employers that wish to hire francophone or bilingual (French/English) workers

**Wednesdays, September 3, October 1,
November 5, December 3**
9 a.m.–12 noon
Main Branch

Pickering Welcome Centre Outreach Employment Table

- Free employment support services for newcomers to Canada, including resume help, interview techniques, and more

Thursday, September 4
10 a.m.–12 noon
Main Branch

Conseil des organismes francophones de la Région de Durham (COFRD)

- Settlement services tailored to French-speaking newcomers

**Fridays, September 5, October 3, November 7,
December 5**
9 a.m.–4 p.m.
Main Branch

Housing Help Durham

- Rental accommodations and tenant rights
- Subsidized, non-profit, and emergency housing

**Wednesdays, September 10, October 8,
November 12, December 10**
2–4 p.m.
Main Branch

Durham Region Unemployed Help Centre

- Resume and cover letter critique and services related to your job search

**Fridays, September 12, October 10, November
14, December 12**
12 noon–4 p.m.
Main Branch

John Howard Society Harm Reduction Services

- Harm reduction and safe practices
- Naloxone kits and training on their use available upon request

**Wednesdays, September 17, October 15,
November 19, December 17**
1–3 p.m.
Main Branch

Alzheimer Society of Durham Region Information Table

- Learn about services and programs available to those living with dementia and their care partners
- Drop by to collect information and resources

**Thursdays, September 18, October 16,
November 6, December 11**
1–3 p.m.
Main Branch

Achēv Information Table

- Learn about free language assessments and language support services available to newcomers and community members

**Wednesdays, September 24, November 26,
6:30–8:30 p.m.**
Main Branch

Monday, October 20, 9:30–11:30 a.m.
McLean Branch

Wednesday, December 17, 2:30–4:30 p.m.
McLean Branch

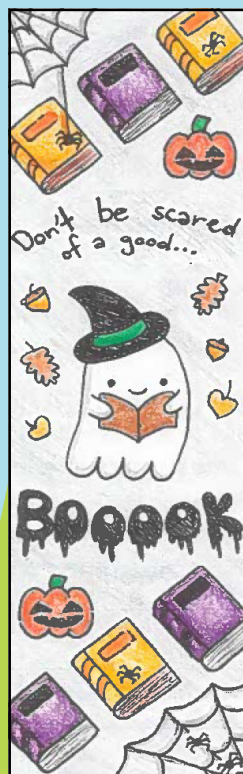
2025 Design a Bookmark Contest Winners!

Congratulations to the September–December Design a Bookmark Contest winners!

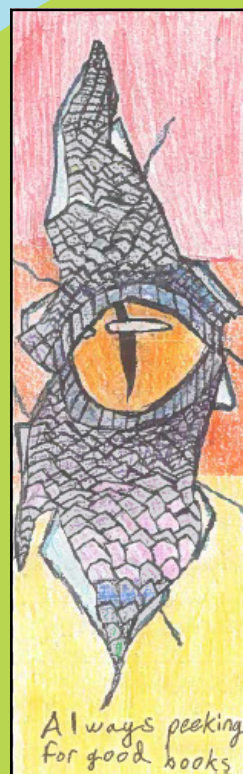
Pick up a new winning bookmark each month at any branch.



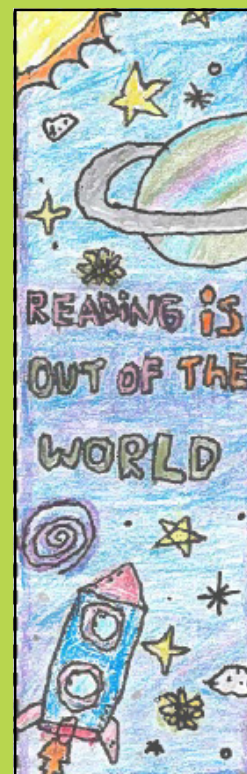
September
winner:
Emaan A.



October
winner:
Zoey L.



November
winner:
Riya R.



December
winner:
Akshara G.

Branch Locations

Main Branch

55 Harwood Ave. S.

Audley Branch

1955 Audley Rd. N.

McLean Branch & Makerspace

95 Magill Dr.

Ajax Community Centre NovelBranch

75 Centennial Rd.

Branch Hours

Monday–Friday

9 a.m.–9 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday

9 a.m.–5 p.m.

Stay Connected

Get the What's On delivered straight to your inbox! Sign up for our eNews at ajaxlibrary.ca/eNewsletter

Grandview Kids Express Branch

1461 Harwood Ave. N.

Monday–Thursday

9 a.m.–8 p.m.

Friday

9 a.m.–6:30 p.m.

Open alternate Saturdays

9 a.m.–4 p.m.

Sunday closed

Please note: Grandview Kids Express Branch will be closed on Saturdays in December.

Contact

905-683-4000

libraryinfo@ajaxlibrary.ca

Live chat online at
ajaxlibrary.ca

