

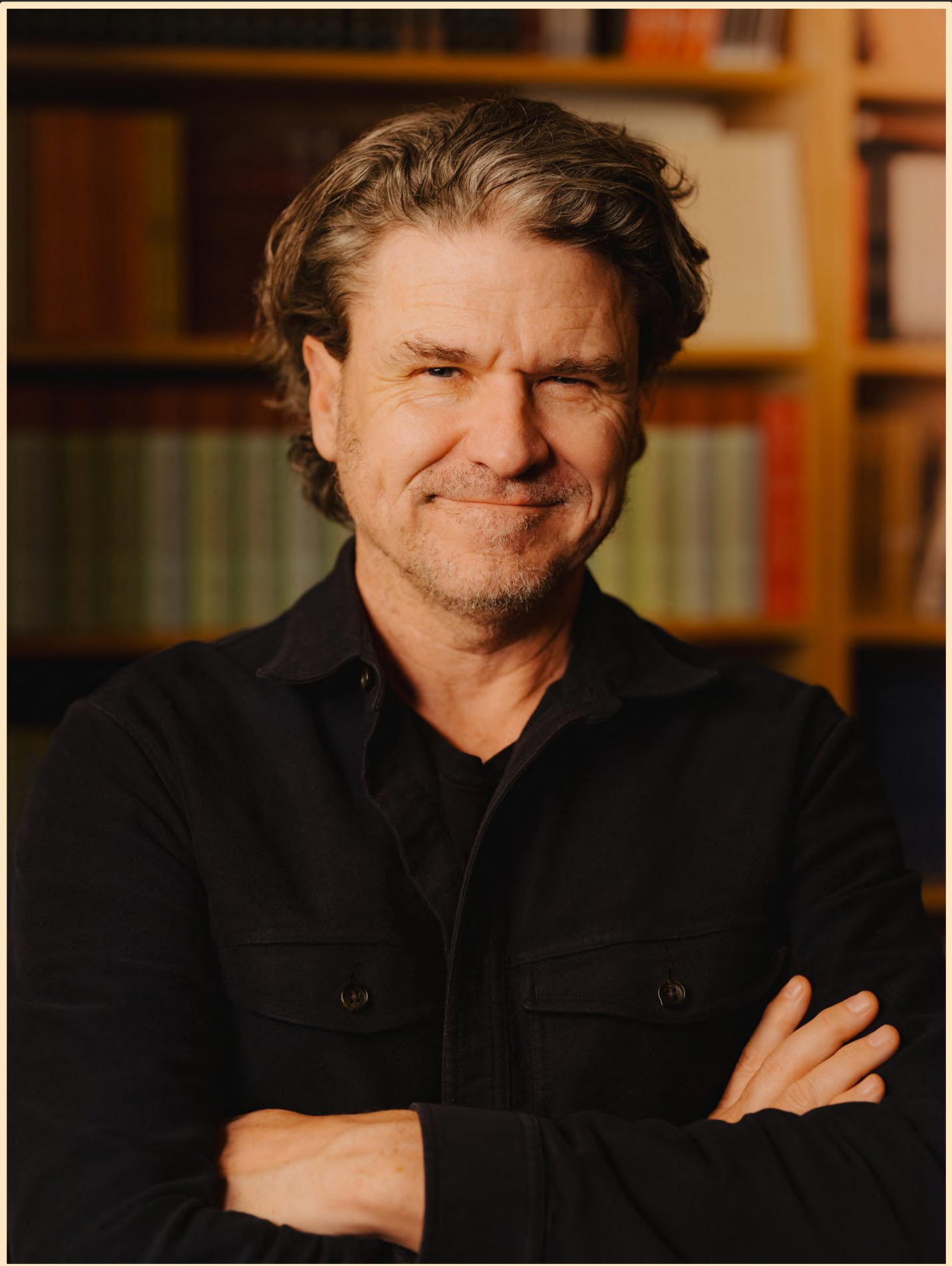


YOUR CHOICES MATTER

the 
MINI READ
 the
LITTLE READ


**THE
MIDDLE READ**


THE BIG READ





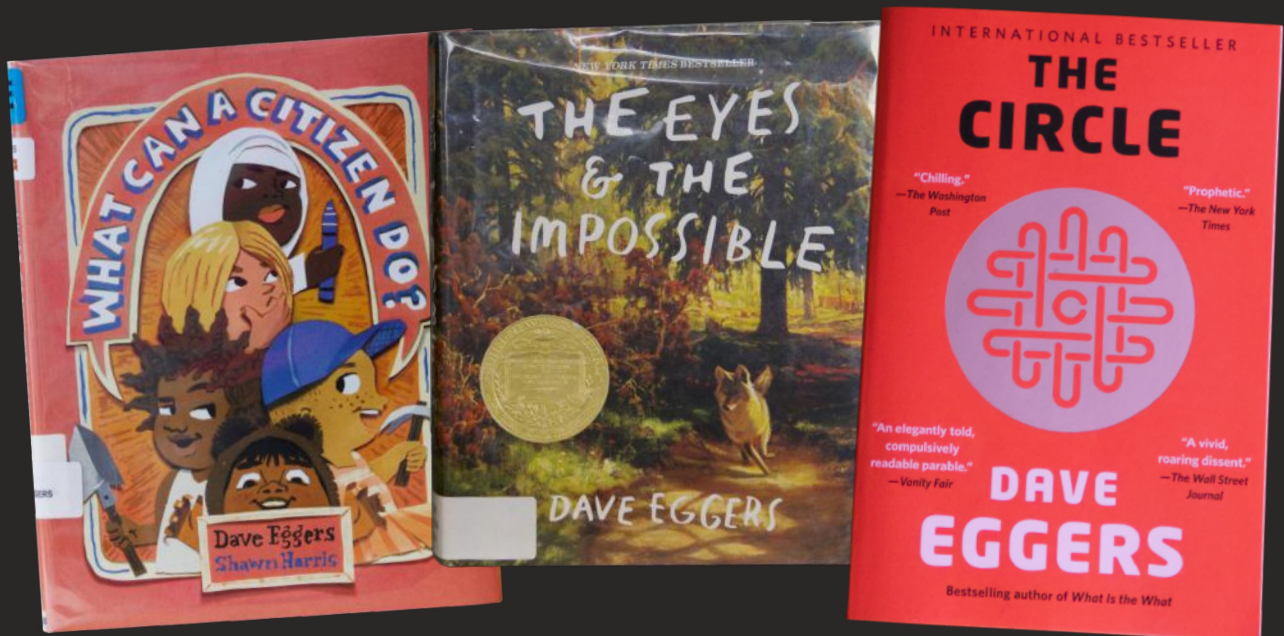
AUTHOR TALK with **DAVE EGGERS**

Dave Eggers is the award winning author of Muskegon's 2026 Big Read titles: *What Can a Citizen Do?*, *The Eyes and the Impossible*, and *The Circle* - among many others. This fall, he is coming to Muskegon! This free program is open to all ages. Sign up begins September 15.

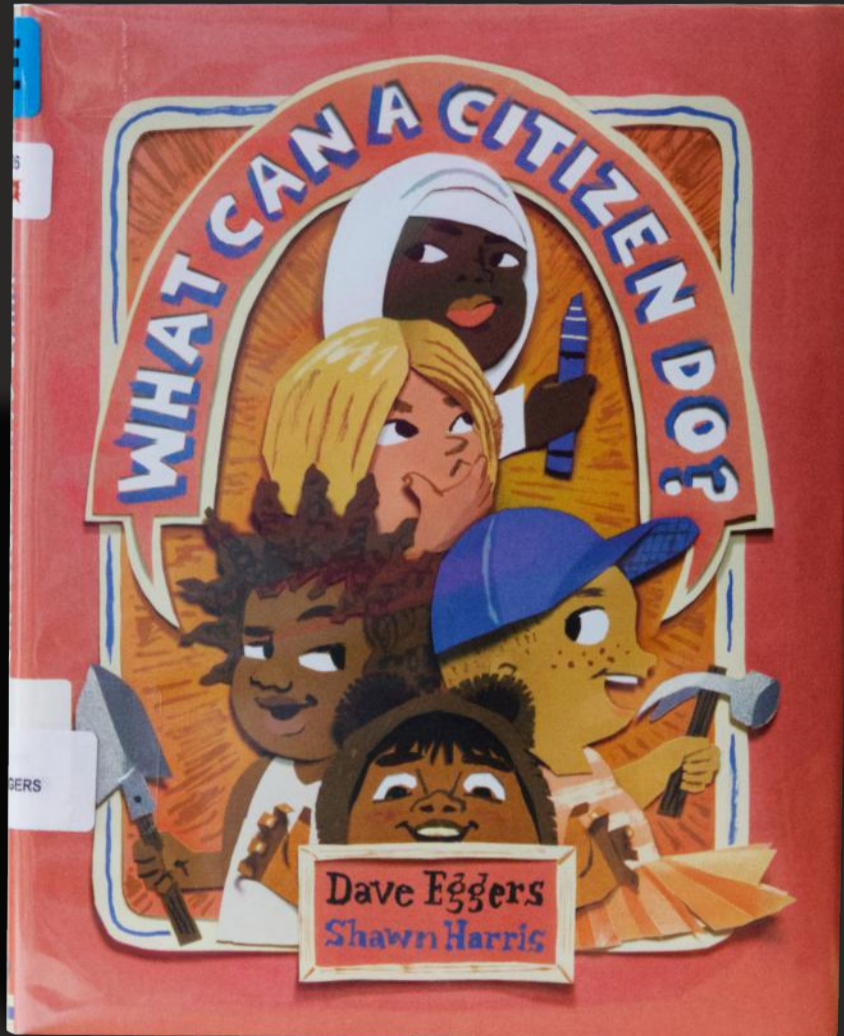
TUE, NOV 17 | 7pm

Frauenthal Theater (425 Western Ave)

**Click here to save your seat
- it's FREE!**



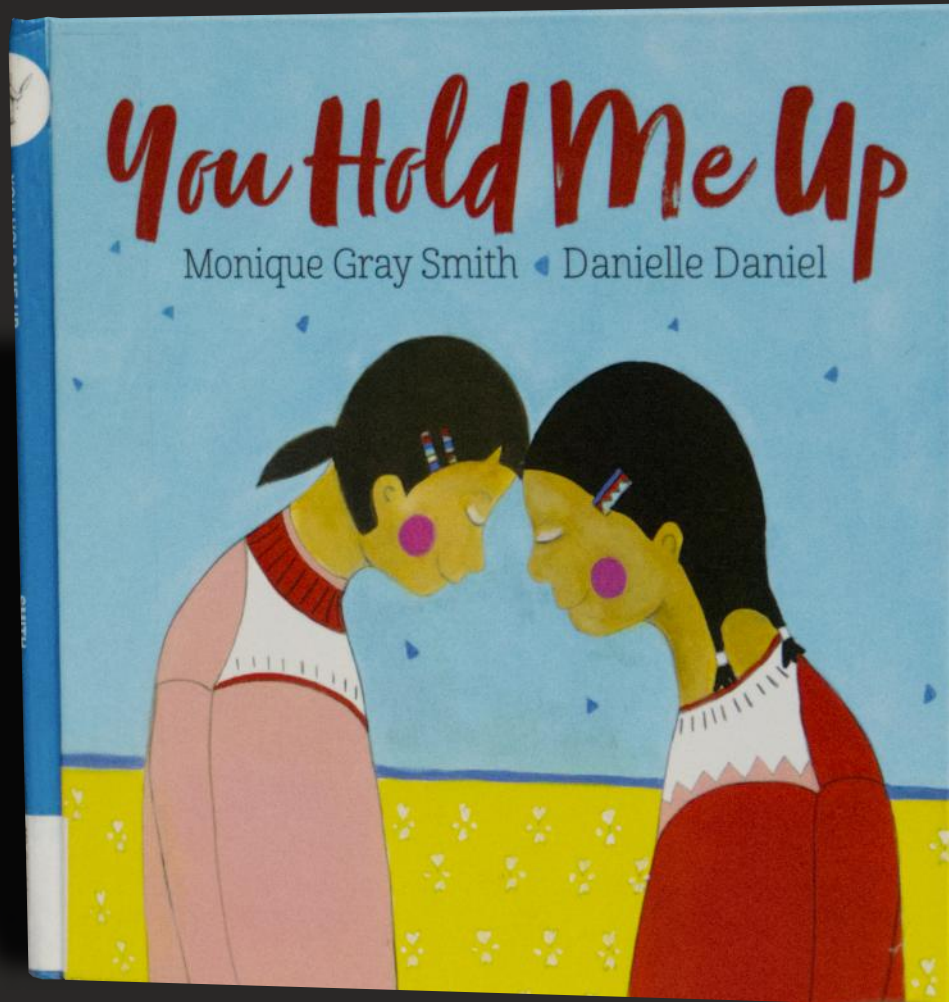
the **LITTLE READ**



What Can A Citizen Do? by Dave Eggers

An engaging introduction to civic life that shows kids how small actions can make a big difference in a democracy. This book empowers young readers to speak up, participate, and care for their community.

the **MINI READ**



***You Hold Me Up* by Monique Gray Smith**

Learn about showing love and compassion to others
in your every day life.



STORYTRAIL CELEBRATION

Celebrate with food, a foam party, and lots of community organizations! **Sign up - it's FREE!**

SAT, SEP 12 | 11am MADL Egelston Branch

STORYTRAIL BLOCK PARTY

Enjoy the Storytrail, scavenger hunt, food, crafts, and activities. **Sign up - it's FREE!**

TUE, SEP 29 | 5pm  Bethlehem Park

CITIZEN TREE

Talk about how we can help our community and write or draw your ideas onto a leaf to add to our Citizen Tree! These trees will be on display at The Frauenthal during our author talk with Dave Eggers on November 17th.

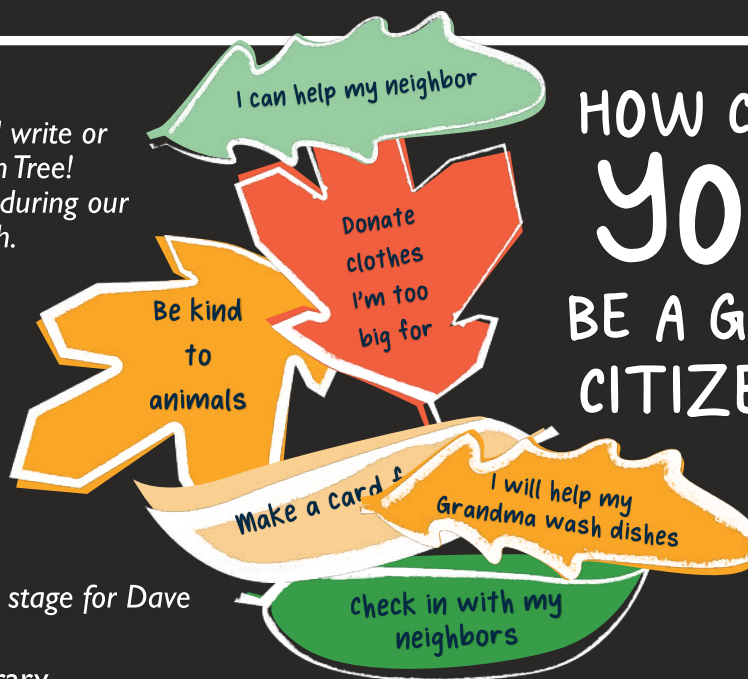
SEP 15 - NOV 5 | Open Hours

MADL Egelston Branch
MADL Muskegon Heights Branch
MADL Holton Branch
MADL North Muskegon Branch
MADL Norton Shores Branch

STAY AND PLAY

Decorate leaves for a citizen tree that will be on stage for Dave Eggers' visit in November!

OCT 5-30 | Open Hours Hackley Public Library



HOW CAN
YOU
BE A GOOD
CITIZEN?

SIGN UP - IT'S FREE! MUSKEGON COUNTY! A CIVIC ADVENTURE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Visit one or seven specially chosen spots in Muskegon County! Talk about what you think it means to be a citizen. Then fill out the Entry Form for a chance to win the books and a \$25 gift card. **Click here to get started, it's free!**

LITTLE AND MINI READ AT-HOME ACTIVITY GUIDE

and activities to help you talk, read, sing, sign, explore, & create at home with the 2026 Little and Mini Read books.

WASH & READ!

Pick up a free copy of the Mini Read or Little Read (while supplies last) and activities you can do with you child! Talk, read and sing while your wash your laundry or in other everyday moments at home and on the go!

OCTOBER | 8am-9pm Suds of Muskegon (2719 Sanford St)
Sunshine Laundromat (2300 Glade St)

BE A CITIZEN BEAR

You can earn badges when you attend these events inspired by
“What Can A Citizen Do?” by Dave Eggers!



CITIZEN BEARS UNITE

Play games and practice team work to
earn your **Bestie Badge!**

THU, OCT 1 | 4pm MADL Norton Shores Branch
TUE, OCT 6 | 3:30pm MADL North Muskegon Branch
WED, OCT 7 | 3:30pm MADL Muskegon Heights Branch
TUE, OCT 13 | 3pm MADL Ravenna Branch
WED, NOV 4 | 4pm MADL Montague Branch

GOOD NEIGHBOR GRID

Play Bingo (with a twist) to earn your **Bingo Badge!**

SAT, OCT 3 | 2pm MADL Norton Shores Branch
MON, NOV 9 | 3pm MADL Dalton Branch
FRI, NOV 13 | 3:30pm MADL Egelston Branch

GOOD CHOICES CUT & PASTE

Sort everyday actions into “Good Citizen” or “Needs
More Practice” to earn your **Bright Badge!**

WED, OCT 7 | 3:30pm MADL Muskegon Township Branch
THU, OCT 8 | 4pm MADL Egelston Branch
WED, NOV 4 | 3:30pm MADL Muskegon Heights Branch

GROW INTO A GOOD CITIZEN

Plant herb seeds to take home to earn
your **Budding Badge!**

MON, OCT 19 | 3pm MADL Dalton Branch
TUE, OCT 20 | 3pm MADL Holton Branch
THU, OCT 22 | 4pm MADL Montague Branch
TUE, NOV 3 | 3pm MADL Ravenna Branch
TUE, NOV 3 | 3:30pm MADL North Muskegon Branch
SAT, NOV 7 | 3pm MADL Norton Shores Branch



WHAT CAN A CITIZEN DO? STORYTIME

Citizen Bear Badge

MON, OCT 5 | 9:30am MADL Egelston Branch
11am MADL Ravenna Branch
TUE, OCT 6 | 9:30am MADL Dalton Branch
WED, OCT 7 | 11am MADL Holton Branch
6pm MADL Norton Shores Branch
THU, OCT 8 | 11am MADL Montague Branch
FRI, OCT 9 | 11am MADL North Muskegon Branch
WED, OCT 21 | 9:30am White Lake Community Library
FRI, OCT 30 | 10:30am Muskegon Museum of Art

BACKYARD BUNGALOWS

Build a cozy birdhouse or a bug hotel for our fellow
creature citizens to earn your **Builder Badge!**

MON, OCT 5 | 3:30pm MADL North Muskegon Branch
THU, OCT 8 | 5:30pm MADL Norton Shores Branch
WED, NOV 18 | 4pm MADL Muskegon Township Branch
MON, NOV 23 | 3pm MADL Holton Branch

SUPER SATURDAY FALL FOAM PRINTS

Super Saturday is the second Saturday of every month. Enjoy free general admission to the Museum's galleries and a FREE kids STEAM activity. Each Super Saturday is inspired by a piece of art from the MMA permanent collection or a current exhibition.

SAT, OCT 10 | 11am Muskegon Museum of Art

PLAY AND LEARN

Early literacy fun for families with children 0-5. Explore how you can be a citizen and hold each other up!

TUESDAYS IN OCT & NOV | 4pm Play Muskegon

MON, OCT 12 | 1pm Read Muskegon

THU, OCT 13 | 10:30am Orchard View Community Education

FRI, OCT 23 | 9:30am White Lake Community Library

THU, NOV 12 | 10am Muskegon Museum of History and Science



YOU HOLD ME UP STORYTIME

FRI, OCT 23 | 9:30am White Lake Community Library

TUE, NOV 17 | 11:30am MADL Norton Shores Branch

WED, NOV 18 | 11am MADL Holton Branch

THU, NOV 19 | 11am MADL Montague Branch

FRI, NOV 20 | 11am MADL North Muskegon Branch

MON, NOV 23 | 9:30am MADL Egelston Branch

FREE FAMILY MOVIE DAY

Join us for a free screening of "Where the Wild Things Are" with family fun, themed activities, and surprises at the Frauenthal Theater.

SAT, NOV 15 | 3pm Frauenthal Center

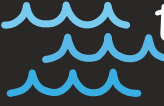


**AUTHOR
TALK with
DAVE EGGERS**

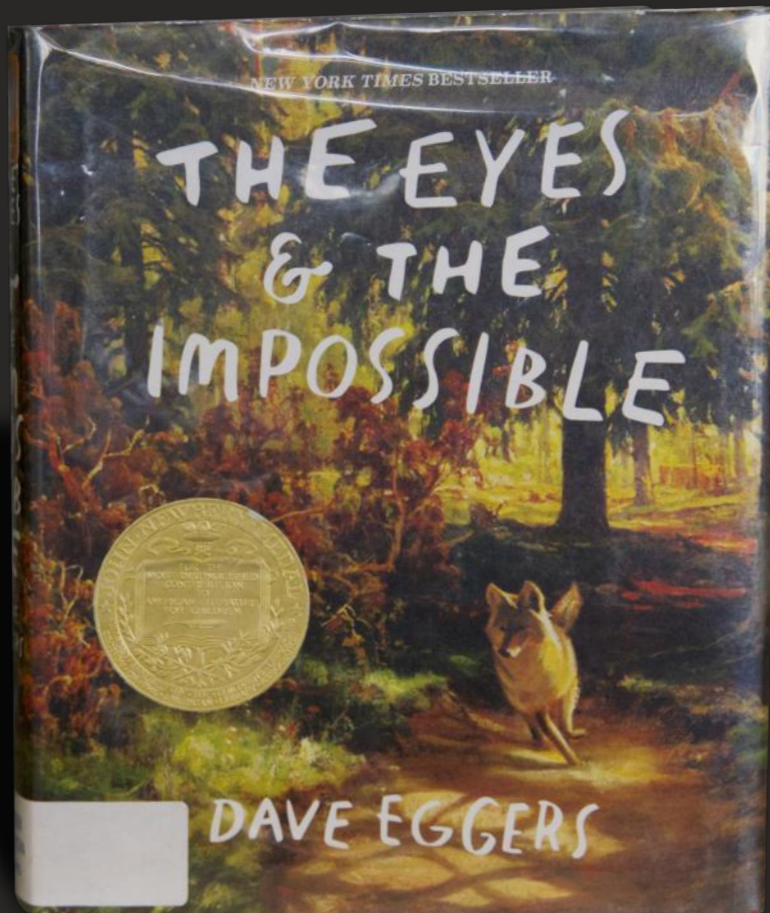
TUE, NOV 17 | 7pm

Frauenthal Theater
(425 Western Ave)

**Click here to save
your seat - it's FREE!**

 **the LITTLE READ**
 **the MINI READ**

THE MIDDLE READ



***The Eyes and the Impossible* by Dave Eggers**

A Newbery Award–winning adventure told by Johannes, a fearless dog who patrols a city park. Through humor and heart, Johannes watches his world, and himself, change and grow.

SHORT STORY CONTEST

All Muskegon County middle and high school students are invited to participate in our first short story contest inspired by the 2026 Big Read Books.

Winners will be invited to an exclusive writing workshop with author Dave Eggers in addition to a cash prize:

Middle School:

1st Place: \$200

2nd Place: \$100

3rd Place: \$50

Two Honorable Mentions: \$25

High School School:

1st Place: \$300

2nd Place: \$200

3rd Place: \$100

Two Honorable Mentions: \$50

Submissions will be accepted
SEP 21 - OCT 21. Learn more
and submit your story at
MADL.org/ShortStory





PARK PROTECTORS

Join us for a four-part adventure inspired by *The Eyes and the Impossible*! Through hands-on activities, creative challenges, and outdoor exploration, tweens and teens will discover how to observe the natural world, build connections with wildlife and their community, care for local parks, and find wonder in the everyday. Each program can be enjoyed on its own, or attend all four to become a true Park Protector!

Observation

FRI, OCT 2 | 2pm White Lake Community Library

Connection

FRI, OCT 9 | 2pm White Lake Community Library

Stewardship

FRI, NOV 6 | 2pm White Lake Community Library

Wonder

FRI, NOV 13 | 2pm White Lake Community Library

CREATIVE WRITING

A creative writing workshop tailored specifically for middle and high school students. **Sign up - it's free!**

FRI, OCT 2 & 16 | 3:30pm MADL Egelston Branch

TUE, OCT 6 | 3pm MADL Dalton Branch

MON, OCT 26 | 3:45pm MADL Muskegon Heights Branch

CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP

Find inspiration at the Art Museum with Heather, Curator of Education for the MMA.

THU, OCT 8 | 5pm Muskegon Museum of Art

THE PARK MINI GOLF

Sign up - it's FREE! the location of the story "The Eyes & the Impossible" through a game of mini-golf. **Sign up - It's FREE!**

MON, OCT 5 | 3pm MADL Holton Branch

TUE, OCT 13 | 2pm MADL Norton Shores Branch

WED, OCT 14 | 2pm MADL North Muskegon Branch

WED, OCT 28 | 3pm MADL Ravenna Branch

WED, OCT 29 | All Day MADL Muskegon Township Branch



THE MIDDLE READ

CAMERA OBSCURA

Create their own camera obscura. **Sign up - it's free!**

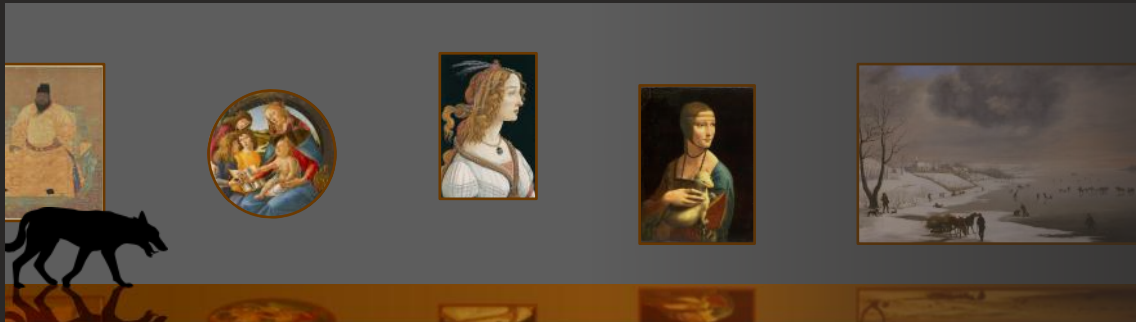
THU, OCT 8 | 3pm MADL North Muskegon Branch

WED, OCT 21 | 4pm MADL Montague Branch

LANDSCAPES & CHARACTERS

All of the illustrations in *Eyes and the Impossible* are landscape paintings from the 1800's that Shawn Harris painted Johannes into. We will provide the landscapes and you can provide the characters!

SAT, OCT 10 | 1pm Hackley Public Library



ART GALA

Guests can enjoy a variety of artistic styles and mediums while engaging with thought-provoking pieces that inspire conversation about our evolving world. Whether you are an art enthusiast, a technology lover, or simply looking for a weekend of creativity, this gala offers a welcoming experience for all ages. Join us for an inspiring celebration of art, ideas, and the connections between the digital and natural worlds.

FRI, OCT 16 | 5-7pm & SAT, OCT 17 | 11am-3pm The Lakes Mall

A VIEW FROM YOUR EYES

We will be creating canvases inspired by our Middle Read book. These canvases can be taken home, or displayed in our Youth Services Department.

TUE, OCT 13 | 3:30pm Hackley Public Library

SHOW SHELTER LOVE

Help animals in the local shelters by making an enrichment toy or blankets.

Sign up - it's FREE!



THU, OCT 15 | 4pm MADL Muskegon Township Branch

TUE, NOV 10 | 3pm MADL Dalton Branch

5pm MADL Egelston Branch

THU, NOV 12 | 3:30pm MADL North Muskegon Branch

MON, NOV 16 | 5:30pm MADL Norton Shores Branch

MON, NOV 30 | All Day MADL Muskegon Heights Branch

INSIDE THE STATE PARK

Get an inside look at the day-to-day operations of a state park. **Sign up - it's FREE!**

SAT, OCT 17 | 2pm PJ Hoffmaster State Park

SAT, NOV 7 | 2pm PJ Hoffmaster State Park

EYE CANVAS ART

Create a 4"x6" postcard. **Sign up - it's FREE!**

MON, NOV 9 | 3pm MADL Holton Branch

THU, NOV 12 | 4pm MADL Muskegon Township Branch

THU, NOV 19 | 4pm MADL Montague Branch



AUTHOR TALK with DAVE EGGERS



TUE, NOV 17 | 7pm

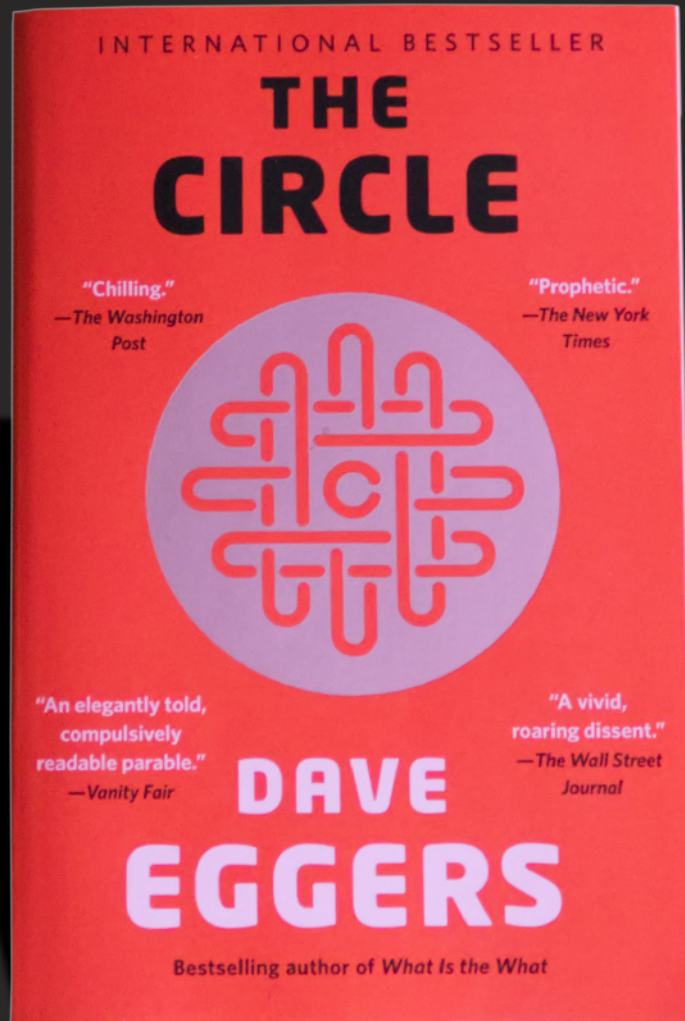
Frauenthal Theater (425 Western Ave)

Click here to save your seat - it's FREE!

THE MIDDLE READ



THE BIG READ



***The Circle* by Dave Eggers**

A gripping look at a powerful tech company that promises connection and transparency—but quietly erases privacy and choice. This novel asks what happens to our democracy when convenience and control go too far.

PLUG IN WITH THESE PROGRAMS

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE 101: WHAT IT IS, HOW IT WORKS, AND HOW TO SPOT IT

An engaging introduction to AI as we Sign up - it's FREE! what artificial intelligence is, where you encounter it online, and the strengths and limitations of today's AI tools.

THU, OCT 1 | 5:30pm The Lakes Mall

THE COST OF KNOWING EVERYTHING

What happens when convenience, social media, and technology reshape our ideas of privacy? These timely questions during a discussion of "The Circle" by Dave Eggers.

WED, OCT 14 | 5:30pm White Lake Community Library

AI SHAKESPEARE

Sign up - it's FREE! the uses and limitations of AI as you create a Shakespeare play. **Sign up - it's FREE!**

WED, OCT 14 | 5:30pm MADL Egelston Branch

WED, NOV 4 | 4pm MADL Dalton Branch

THE NEXT 100: AI, LEADERSHIP, AND THE FUTURE OF OPPORTUNITY

Mike Muse, Michigan Native, ABC News and Good Morning America Contributor, Entrepreneur, Podcast Host, and Lecturer will discuss what the opportunities and dilemmas of the next 100 years with Artificial Intelligence.

THU, OCT 15 | 6:30pm Overbrook Theater

NAVIGATING THE AI GENERATION

Learn practical ways to help younger generations navigate new technology. **Sign up - it's FREE!**

MON, OCT 19 | 6pm MADL North Muskegon Branch

THU, NOV 5 | 5pm MADL Montague Branch

TO BE DESTROYED SCREENING

Celebrate Banned Books Week with a short film about Dave Eggers as explores the banning of his own books. **Sign up - it's FREE!**

THU, OCT 22 | 6pm Muskegon Museum of Art

FOLLOW YOUR DATA FOOTPRINTS

Sign up - it's FREE! privacy, technology, and your data footprint in this hands-on Big Read Lakeshore workshop inspired by Dave Eggers' novel.

WED, OCT 28 | 5:30pm White Lake Community Library

THE SOCIAL NETWORK ACCORDING TO DAVE EGGERS

Hear from MCC faculty as they discuss Dave Eggers' novel, "The Circle." **Sign up - it's FREE!**

MON, NOV 9 | 6pm MADL Norton Shores Branch

PROTECTING YOURSELF FROM AI SCAMS

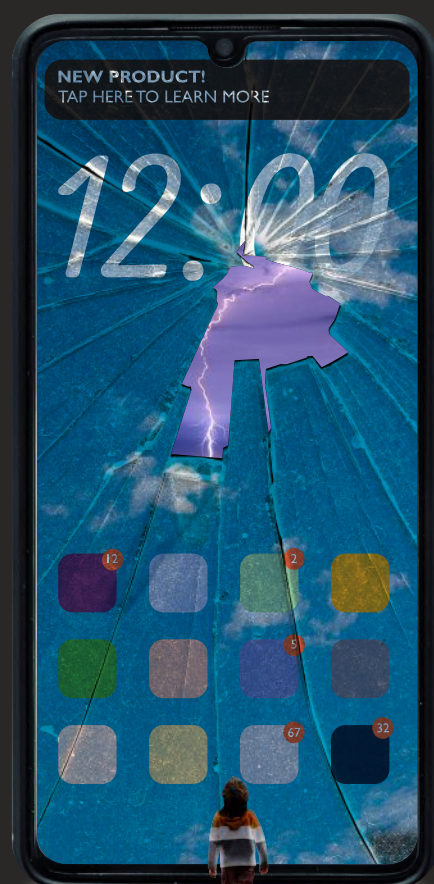
Learn to avoid scams that use AI to clone voices, fake videos, and write messages. **Sign up - it's FREE!**

MON, NOV 9 | 6pm MADL North Muskegon Branch

MOVIE NIGHT: PRIVACY IN THE DIGITAL AGE

What would you share if the world was watching? Discover a Big Read Lakeshore film that examines privacy, technology, and human connection.

WED, NOV 11 | 5:30pm White Lake Community Library



UNPLUG WITH THESE PROGRAMS

BOARD GAME & PUZZLE SWAP

Drop off games and puzzles ahead of time. Items will be swapped based on cost. **It's FREE!**

MON, SEP 21 | 5:30pm MADL Norton Shores Branch

WED, OCT 7 | 4pm MADL Dalton Branch

WED, OCT 21 | 6pm MADL North Muskegon Branch

WATERCOLOR PAINT & SWAP

Create watercolor post cards then swap with fellow attendees. **Sign up - it's FREE!**

WED, OCT 7 | 1pm MADL LVPD Branch

WED, OCT 14 | 6pm MADL Norton Shores Branch

TUE, OCT 20 | 1pm MADL Ravenna Branch

BIG LAKE HUMAN SOCIETY PET ADOPTION & ACTIVITY

Visit with adoptable animals in the MMA's front lawn of the expansion entrance, make enrichment toys for the animals and learn about the Big Lake Human Society!

THU, OCT 8 | 5pm Muskegon Museum of Art

YOGA + GUIDED FOREST BATHING

A yoga class among the trees of Muskegon State Park. **Sign up - it's FREE!**

THU, OCT 8 | 6pm Muskegon State Park

ACOUSTIC LIBRARY JAM SESSION

Join fellow local musicians for an informal, acoustic jam session. **It's FREE!**

SAT, OCT 17 | 11am MADL Montague Branch

OFFLINE IN ANDERSON WOODS

Take a quiet, phone-free hike and art journaling session. Sketching kits provided. **Sign up - it's FREE!**

SAT, OCT 24 | 10am Anderson Woods Nature Preserve

SOUND JOURNEY + MEDITATION

Pause for self-reflection in a relaxed setting. **Sign up - it's FREE!**

MON, OCT 26 | 6pm MADL Norton Shores Branch

FORAGING & WILD TENDING

Learn how to identify, harvest, and prepare wild foods for every month. **Sign up - it's FREE!**

TUE, OCT 27 | 11am MADL Holton Branch

DISINFORMATION CRIME SCENE

Solve a murder amongst real evidence and rampant disinformation. **Sign up - it's FREE!**

SAT, NOV 7 | 1pm MADL Norton Shores Branch

MON, NOV 16 | 5:30pm MADL Egelston Branch

EXPRESSION THROUGH COLLAGE

Crafting provides an excellent opportunity to Sign up - it's FREE! autonomy, decision-making through art, and communication freedom. Registration is required.

TUE, NOV 10 | 5pm Hackley Public Library

SLAY FOR THE CAMERAS MURDER MYSTERY

The rules? Unclear. The challenges? Cutthroat. The stakes? Astronomical. **Sign up - it's FREE!**

FRI, NOV 13 | 6pm MADL Norton Shores Branch

STEAMPUNK MIXED-MEDIA CANVAS

Transform a blank canvas into a steampunk masterpiece. **Sign up - it's FREE!**

MON, NOV 16 | 2pm MADL Muskegon Heights Branch

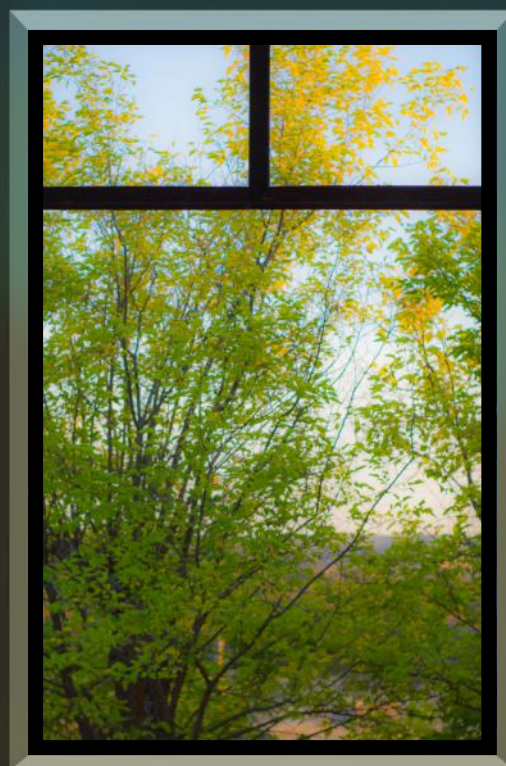
MON, NOV 16 | 4pm MADL Holton Branch

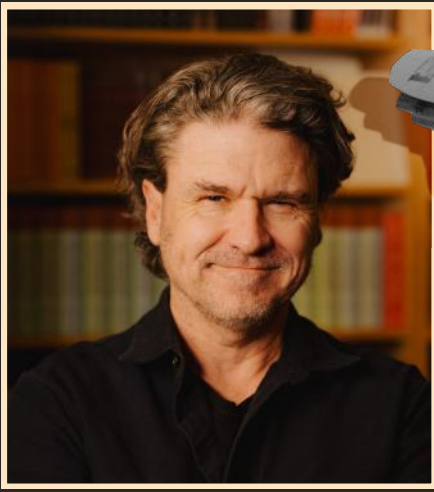
WED, NOV 25 | 4pm MADL Muskegon Township Branch

OPEN MIC NIGHT

Open Mic Night provides the freedom to share and express oneself in welcoming setting, while also enjoying the talents of fellow patrons. Please keep material family-friendly. Registration is preferred.

TUE, DEC 1 | 5:30pm Hackley Public Library





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TUE, NOV 17 | 7pm

Frauenthal Theater (425 Western Ave)

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