



Summer 2026

CTBL News

Colorado Talking Book Library • Denver

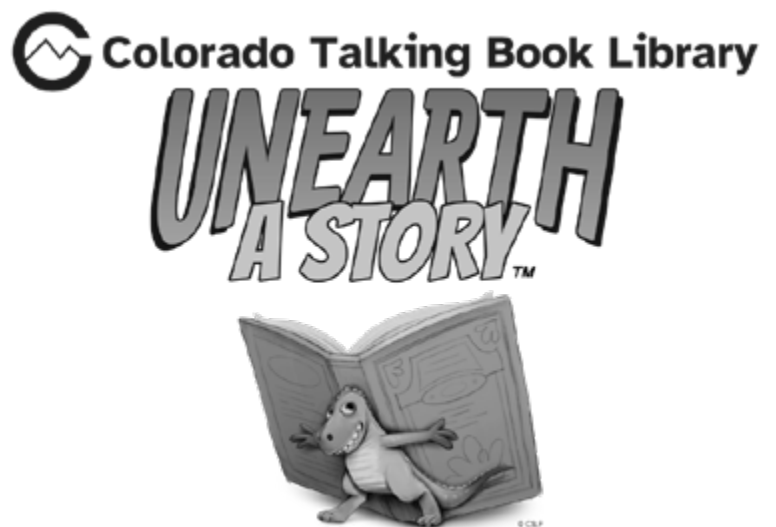
Get Ready for Summer Reading!

Dinosaurs, paleontology, archeology, gardening, and more are part of Unearth A Story™, CTBL's all ages Summer Reading program. Starting June 1 call (303-727-9277 or 800-685-2136), email (ctbl.info@cde.state.co.us), or fill out the form at myctbl.org to register for Summer Reading. We'll even send you a small prize just for signing up!

Once you have registered, complete five activities from our Activity Guide and call or email the library to let us know which activities you did. All individual patrons who complete five activities and report those activities to the library will be entered into a drawing for an Amazon Echo Dot Smart Speaker.

To celebrate the start of Summer Reading CTBL will be hosting a special in-person kickoff event! Join us June 5, from 1 – 4 for an afternoon of paleontology and dinosaur themed activities for library patrons on-site in the library parking lot.

The Denver Museum of Nature and Science will be bringing a fully tactile paleontology mini exhibit and CTBL patrons will have a chance to meet Dinger, the Colorado Rockies mascot.



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Get Ready for Summer Reading!, continued from page 1

Patrons will be able to sign up for the Summer Reading program, engage in some crafting activities, and Happy Cones Ice Cream will be on hand providing frozen treats.

If you can't make it to the event let us know and we'll send out a special dinosaur themed craft kit (available while supplies last).

There will also be online programs hosted by the National Library Service and CTBL throughout the summer, as well as special activities posted on the Summer Reading page at myctbl.org.

Remember you don't have to attend the event to participate in Summer Reading. Activity Guides, Summer Reading Booklists, extra activities, and the full schedule of online events will be posted on the Summer Reading page at myctbl.org beginning June 1. If you have any questions please reach out to the library via phone or email, and we hope you ROAR into Summer Reading with CTBL this summer!

UNEARTH A STORY™

COLORADO TALKING BOOK LIBRARY

2026 SUMMER READING KICKOFF

Date: Friday, June 5th

Time: 1 - 4 PM

Location: CTBL Parking Lot

Schedule

Denver Museum of Nature and Science: 1 - 4 PM

Colorado Rockies Mascot Dinger: 1:30 - 2:15 PM

Happy Cones Ice Cream: 1 - 3:45 PM



A special thank you to the Friends of the Talking Book Library and the Telecom Pioneers for their generous support of the CTBL Summer Reading program and the CTBL Summer Reading Kickoff event.

Directors Letter

At CTBL, we're gearing up for a busy—and exciting—summer!

Our staff have been hosting a series of successful online events, including a monthly CTBL Book Club and a quarterly Patron Advisory Group. Everyone is welcome to join—just give us a call or send an email if you'd like to participate. I've had a peek at the upcoming book club selections, and it looks like a great lineup.

In June, we're especially excited to host our Summer Reading kick-off event. It's been several years since we've held an in-person gathering, so we're really looking forward to reconnecting with patrons face-to-face. This year's theme, *Unearth a Story*, brings a bit of prehistoric fun, with dinosaur-themed activities for all ages. It's also a new program format for us, so come join the fun in the parking lot and help us kick off summer.

All of this is happening alongside ongoing controlled maintenance projects at the library. Our building is more than 50 years old and due for some important updates, including improvements to our security and electrical systems. We expect minimal disruption to library services, though there may be a brief closure for a day or two. Before stopping by, we recommend giving us a call or checking the website for the latest updates.

We value every opportunity to connect with our patrons and hope you'll find a way to be part of our community. As one attendee of the Patron Advisory Group shared, "I just love these quarterly meetings—they make me feel like I'm part of the library. It's so nice to connect with you."

Happy Reading!

Nicolle

What are You Reading?

Books Recommended by CTBL Staff

Our four Reader Advisor Librarians are here to help you with any questions you may have or to help you find your next favorite book! Here are some favorite titles they recommend:

Andrea recommends...

After the Forest

Written by Kell Woods ** Narrated by Esther Wane

Twenty years after the gingerbread house, Greta struggles to keep her family alive in a war-ravaged land using a stolen grimoire that makes irresistibly addictive gingerbread. In a starving, superstitious village, her uncanny success draws suspicion and fear. As dark magic returns to the woods, Greta may be the only one who can stop it—if the power she wields doesn't destroy her first. Strong language, some descriptions of sex, and some violence. Fantasy Fiction.

Audio DB118267

Here in Avalon

Written by Tara Isabella Burton ** Narrated by Devon Sorvari

Rose investigates the disappearance of her irresponsible and impetuous sister who followed a cult-like cabaret troupe that only appears at night on a mysterious red boat that sails around New York and is blamed for several disappearances. Contains strong language. Suspense.

Audio DB125828

Judy recommends...

Erotic Stories for Punjabi Widows

Written by Balli Kaur Jaswal ** Narrated by Meera Syal

After spending much of her twenty-two years distancing herself from her Sikh heritage, Nikki Grewal finds a spot volunteering to teach creative writing at a community center in London's close-knit Punjabi community. A group calling

itself the “moral police” soon threatens the growing class. Strong language and descriptions of sex. Family Fiction.

Audio DB092278

Light From Uncommon Stars

Written by Ryka Aoki ** Narrated by Cindy Kay

Shizuka has made a deal with the devil to deliver the souls of violin prodigies, and when she meets a talented young transgender runaway, she knows she’s found her final candidate. But when Shizuka meets retired starship captain Lan Tran, her plans are soon derailed. Some violence and some strong language. Science Fiction.

Audio DB105930; Braille BR024241

Liz recommends...

Tilt

Written by Emma Pattee ** Narrated by Ariel Blake

Annie is nine months pregnant and shopping for a crib at IKEA when a massive earthquake hits Portland, Oregon. With no way to reach her husband, no phone or money, and a city left in chaos, there’s nothing to do but walk. Making her way across the wreckage of Portland, Annie experiences human desperation and kindness. Some violence, some descriptions of sex, and strong language. Thriller Fiction.

Audio DB128385; Large Print PR032891; Braille BR026542

Mexican Gothic

Written by Silvia Moreno-Garcia ** Narrated by Frankie Corzo

Mexico City, 1950. After receiving a frantic letter from her newly-wed cousin begging for someone to save her from a mysterious doom, socialite Noemí Taboada heads to High Place, a distant house in the Mexican countryside. Both the home and its owners seem to have a dark past. Violence, strong language and descriptions of sex. Horror Fiction.

Audio DB099404; Large Print PR030723; Braille BR023483

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What are You Reading?, continued from page 5

Lorrie recommends...

Cuckoo

Written by Gretchen Felker-Martin ** Narrated by Amy Landon
In the summer of 1995, seven queer kids abandoned by their parents at a remote conversion camp came face to face with it. They survived-but at Camp Resolution, everybody leaves a different person. Sixteen years later, only the scarred and broken survivors of that terrible summer can put an end to the horror before it's too late. The fate of the world depends on it. Unrated. Occult Fiction.

Audio DB122087

My Best Friend's Exorcism

Written by Grady Hendrix ** Narrated by Gabriella Cavallero
Charleston, South Carolina; 1988. High school sophomores Abby and Gretchen have been best friends for years, when Abby notices Gretchen begins to act strangely. While some would dismiss it as teenage mood swings, Abby knows Gretchen has been possessed by a demon. Violence and strong language. Horror Fiction.

Audio DB086233; Spanish Audio DB133800



Want more reading recommendations from our librarian?
Call or email CTBL and ask about our booklists!

NLS Update: Talking Book Topics

Looking to discover something new to read each month? Talking Book Topics is a list that is published every two months with new books from various genres. You can access Talking Book Topics online, or request it through the library on audio or braille. To learn more, call and talk to a librarian about Talking Book Topics!

From the Colorado Collection

— Audio Books

These newly recorded audio books were produced in the CTBL studios and feature Colorado authors and local history, as well as books of general interest.

Newly Recorded Fiction

Breathe. Homeward Trilogy #1

Written by Lisa T. Bergren ** Narrated by Geri Gingras

In 1883 Colorado Springs, Odessa arrives at a famous sanitarium seeking a cure for the disease that killed her brothers, but she witnesses a murder in the hospital where she is being treated and must uncover the killer before she succumbs to her disease. 2009. Historical Mystery Fiction.

Audio DBC13085

Candy Apple Dead. Candy Shop Mystery #1

Written by Sammi Carter ** Narrated by Stephanie Briggs

Abby Shaw has returned to her hometown of Paradise, Colorado to take over her aunt's candy shop, Divinity. Things turn sour when a fellow merchant dies in a fire. With all clues pointing to arson—and Abby's brother as the number one suspect—she must find the killer. Some violence. 2005. Cozy Mystery.

Audio DBC25845

Let's Mooove! Magic on the Map Series #1

Written by Courtney Sheinmel ** Narrated by Rosalyn Gregg

Twins Finn and Molly Parker discover a camper in their driveway—and it talks! When the RV transports them to a cattle ranch in Colorado, the twins know something magical has happened. The camper disappears, leaving them to wonder how will they get home? Along the way, they will learn facts about Colorado. For grades 1-3. 2019. Action & Adventure Fiction.

Audio DBC25810

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What if We Were Somewhere Else: Stories

Written by Wendy J. Fox ** Narrated by Lori Kinney

Following the employees of a corporation and their loved ones, these stories examine the connections they forge and the choices they make as they try to make their lives mean something in soulless corporate life, asking what it means to work, love, and age against the uncertain backdrop of modern America. Colorado Book Award winner. Strong language and some descriptions of sex. 2021. Human Relationships.

Audio DBC25858

Newly Recorded NonFiction

A Colorado History: Tenth Edition

Written by Carl Ubbelohde ** Narrated by Stephanie Briggs

Begins with the prehistoric cliff dwellers of Mesa Verde and proceeds chronologically with accounts of Colorado's role as a frontier territory, and continues to the present day political, economic, cultural, and environmental issues. The tenth edition features a new chapter on recent events and an updated bibliography section. 2006. Colorado History.

Audio DBC25819

Colorado Frontiersmen: Forts, Fights and Legacies

Written by Linda Wommack ** Narrated by Hille Dais

As western migration came to Colorado, forts were established. Scout Thomas Tate Tobin oversaw the workers who built Fort Garland. Fort Sedgwick was attacked by the Cheyenne Dog soldiers. Fort Lyon became the staging point for Colonel Chivington's march to Sand Creek. Revisit the glory and mistakes of these times. 2023. Colorado Pre-20th Century.

Audio DBC25829

Ranching Traditions: Legacy of the American West

Written by Guy William Logsdon ** Narrated by Mark Hintz

A collection of essays examining the history, work, and traditions of ranching in the American West. Contributors describe the origins of ranching, the role of the cowboy, and the structure of ranch families across generations. 1989. U.S. History – Western United States.

Audio DBC25876

Remembering Ludlow but Forgetting the Columbine: The 1927-1928 Colorado Coal Strike

Written by Leigh Campbell-Hale ** Narrated by Stephanie Berg Oram

A comparative biography of: A. S. Embree, IWW strike leader; Josephine Roche, owner of the coal mine property; and Powers Hapgood, who came to work for Roche after signing the 1928 United Mine Worker's contract. Campbell-Hale examines the causes, context, and legacies of the Columbine Massacre in relation to the history of labor organizing. 2023. Colorado Biography.

Audio DBC25866

Key to Book Numbers

Each book number is preceded by two or three letters. Here's a quick guide to help you get the book you want in the format that works best for you.

BR = braille book

DBC = locally recorded digital audio book

DB = digital audio book

PR = large print book

Resource Alert—See3D: 3D Printing for the Blind

See3D increases access to 3D printing to people who are blind or visually impaired. Anyone who is blind or visually impaired, or their teacher or caregiver, can place a request to have a model printed. Once a request is placed, See3D uses a network of volunteers to print the item. Printing can take 2 to 8 weeks, and completed models are mailed via USPS Free Matter for the Blind. See3D can assist in model design and has a small selection of educational model kits that can be printed by request. For more information, or to get started, go to See3d.org.

Contacting CTBL

Whether you need help with your account, want new books, or just moved, CTBL's Reader Advisors can help.

Contact us by phone or email:

Phone: 303-727-9277 | **Toll-Free Phone:** 1-800-685-2136

Email: ctbl.info@cde.state.co.us | **Website:** www.myctbl.org

Legacy Gifts

Legacy gifts to the Friends of CTBL are a vital way to ensure ongoing support for all the services the library provides to patrons. The Friends have established **Eyes to the Future** that honors and recognizes the generosity and vision of patrons, families and friends who have chosen to leave a legacy through their estates or other deferred gifts.

We invite you to become a member of **Eyes to the Future**. Enrollment in this honorary group is simply a matter of advising us about your plans to make a legacy gift, such as a bequest in a will or living trust or designating The Friends of CTBL as beneficiary of an individual retirement plan, 401k or life insurance policy. The Friends of CTBL is a public 501 c 3 charity and the tax ID is 23-7243950.

Contributions to The Friends of the Colorado Talking Book Library and The Colorado Talking Book Library

An additional way to contribute to either the Friends or to CTBL is through a charitable bequest as part of a will or through life insurance. You do not have to rewrite your current document but can add a written amendment called a codicil. Such a bequest only becomes irrevocable at your death. Giving to the library helps support the programs and service we provide to our patrons and helps to secure the future.

How to Reach Us:

Colorado Talking Book Library
180 Sheridan Blvd.
Denver, CO 80226

303-727-9277 Metro Denver
1-800-685-2136 Outside Denver
www.myctbl.org

- Susana Córdova, Commissioner of Education
- Nicolle Steffen, CTBL Director



The Colorado Department of Education does not discriminate on the basis of disability, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or age, in access to, employment in, or provision of any of CDE's programs, benefits, or activities.

CTBL will be closed on the following days:

Monday, May 25, 2026

Monday, September 7, 2026

Friday, June 19, 2026

Monday, October 5, 2026

Friday, July 3, 2026

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Colorado Talking
Book Library
180 Sheridan Blvd.
Denver, CO 80226

Free Matter for the
Blind & Handicapped



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