Season’s Readings: Naughty or Nice?

Looking for a meaningful gift for that someone special in your life? Having a hard time finding the perfect present for the person who has everything? The Library has the solution for you! Books make meaningful gifts that entertain long after the holiday season is over! Members of the East Baton Rouge Parish Library staff have compiled a great list of books, music CDs, and movies to make this holiday season one of the greatest yet. From tales of heart-warming, abiding love, to your favorite holiday recipes, the following selections are sure to please, whether you like them “Naughty or Nice”!

“Naughty” List

- Holidays on Ice by David Sedaris
- Holiday Heart – DVD
- 12 Yats of Christmas – CD by Benny Grunch & Bunch
- Elf – DVD
- Hogfather by Terry Pratchett
- National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation – DVD
- Bad Santa – DVD
- Santa Baby – CD by Eartha Kitt
- Love Actually – DVD
- The Stupidest Angel, a Heartwarming Tale of Christmas Terror by Christopher Moore
- How the Grinch Stole Christmas – Book & DVD
- Grandma Got Run Over By a Reindeer – CD by Elmo and Patsy Shropshire
- Tidings of Great Joy – by Sandra Brown
- Barenaked for the Holidays – CD by the Barenaked Ladies

“Nice” List

- Good People All: A Celtic Yuletide Tradition – CD by Magical Strings
- Christmas in Connecticut – DVD
- The Attic Christmas by B.G. Hennessy
- A Dozen Silk Diapers by Melissa Kajpust
- The Wool Cap – DVD
- Christmas Letters by Debbie Macomber
- The Littlest Angel by Charles Tazewell
- Miracle and Other Christmas Stories by Connie Willis
- A Christmas in Wales by Dylan Thomas
- The Homecoming – DVD
- Betty Crocker Christmas Cookbook by Betty Crocker
- Christmas Memory – DVD
- A Charlie Brown Christmas by Vince Guaraldi Trio – CD and Movie
- Christmas with the Rat Pack – CD
- Wintersong – CD by Sarah McLachlan

On behalf of the staff of the East Baton Rouge Parish Library — have a wonderful holiday season filled with happiness, good reading, and peace!
Library Branch Manager Corner

Driving to Pride from Baton Rouge every day might sound like a long commute, but for Jeanne Mixson it is a time to relax and enjoy the scenery. Mixson, a Baton Rouge native, became Branch Manager of the Pride-Chaneyville Branch Library in August of this year. “I often drive without the radio on and just enjoy the beautiful scenery on my ride to and from the library,” says Mixson. The Pride-Chaneyville Branch opened in December of 2005 and is nestled in the woods along Pride-Port Hudson Road. “It just feels so peaceful out here. It is a nice respite from the hustle and bustle of the city,” says Mixson.

Mixson graduated from the University of Louisiana – Lafayette with a bachelor’s degree in Interior Design. She started in the East Baton Rouge Library System as a library technician in Circulation Services in 1986. Her duties included work on the Library’s newsletter. “When we first started the newsletter, we would type it up on a typewriter,” recalls Mixson. “We eventually began to use a computer but would still have to cut and paste clip art by hand. We’ve certainly come a long way from that!”

In 2004, Mixson decided to attend Louisiana State University to receive her Master’s Degree in Library Science. “A lot of people had been encouraging me for years to get it and I finally decided it was time.” After graduating in 2006, she began to work as the Children’s Librarian for the Carver Branch.

Her new position as branch manager for the Pride-Chaneyville Branch is exceeding her expectations. “The staff here is great! They are really team oriented and strive to serve the patrons well,” says Mixson. One of Mixson’s goals for the branch is to bring an “individual service” to the library. “I am working to get to know people in the community here so that I can tailor our resources and programs to meet their needs.” The library is involved with several outreach programs in the local schools and community groups. They will also be included in the Christmas in Chaneyville Parade on December 1. “It is such a great community to work in – I really feel blessed to be here.”

Mixon resides in Baton Rouge with her husband. They have four children and three grandchildren. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, cooking, painting, and playing the piano. She also volunteers her time helping students with Conversational English Classes through the Chapel on Campus.

To reach Mixson, call (225) 658-1580.

Anarchists’ Book Club

Tired of the same old book club that reads nothing but best sellers? Look no further! Librarian, Andi Abraham, is posed to break all the rules with her brand new Anarchists’ Book Club. Abraham will introduce readers to a selection of titles from a variety of genres. Nothing is off limits! Abraham hopes this new club will expose readers to new and undiscovered talent. The club will meet at the Main Library on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

For more information, call (225) 231-3745.

Library staff will march in several area parades this holiday season.

Check us out at the following:

“Christmas in Central”
Saturday, December 1, 10:00 a.m.

“Christmas in Chaneyville”
Saturday, December 1, 11:00 a.m.

“A Fairy Tale Christmas”
(Zachary)—Saturday, December 8, 10:00 a.m.

“Welcome Back, Main Street”
(Baker)—Saturday, December 8, 2:00 p.m.

“Christmas on the Creek”
(Jones Creek)—Sunday, December 9, 2:00 p.m.

The Library will be closed in observance of

Christmas Eve
Monday, December 24

Christmas Day
Tuesday, December 25

New Year’s Eve
Monday, December 31

New Year’s Day
Tuesday, January 1

Pride-Chaneyville Branch Anniversary Celebration

The Pride-Chaneyville Branch turns “2” on December 12, and to celebrate, the Northeast High School Show Choir, Southern Harmony, will perform a holiday concert for families on Monday, December 3, at 6:00 p.m. Southern Harmony, an award-winning show choir, is directed by Okema Crawford.

Library staff will be on hand to sign up new library patrons for library cards and show new library users all the great features of the library. Refreshments will be served.

For more information, call (225) 658-1580.
The East Baton Rouge Parish Library wishes to thank the following for their special contributions this year.

The Advocate
Educational Services
Baton Rouge Zoo
Celebration Station
Central Bloomers
Chelsea’s Café
Chick-Fil-A
Coca Cola Bottling Company
Cookies by Design
Cortana Mall
Cox Communications
Creative Educational Teaching Tools
Don Carter’s All Star Lanes
Exxon Mobil
Jack-in-the-Box
Learning Express
LUBA
McDonald’s
Mellow Mushroom
Patrons of the Public Library (POPL)
The Princeton Review
School Aids
Sunshine Pages
Target
USS Kidd
Video USA
Whole Foods

The Library also extends thanks to the many groups, community organizations, and individuals that have contributed their time and talent for the many fine programs presented throughout the year.

Grant Resources for Non-Profit Organizations

Whether you are new to grant writing or a seasoned pro looking to polish your skills, the Library has the workshop for you! The River Center Branch is offering a free introductory workshop focusing on locating grant funding resources for non-profit organizations on Thursday, December 6, at 5:30 p.m. Library staff will highlight both print and online resources from the Foundation Center Cooperating Grants Collection.

To register and for more information, call (225) 389-4967.

Free Show Choir Concert

The Northeast High School Show Choir, Southern Harmony, will perform at the Baker Branch on Monday, December 10, at 6:00 p.m. Under the direction of Okema Crawford, this free concert will feature the scats, doo-wops, and swinging beats from the jazz era.

For more information, call (225) 778-5940.

Make-Believe Mom

Author, Elaine Grant, will visit the Jones Creek Regional Branch, on Saturday, December 8, at 3:00 p.m. She will discuss her new book, Make-Believe Mom. This Harlequin Super-Romance guarantees laugh-out-loud moments as well as tear-wiping sighs.

Grant is an Alabama native and has lived in Baton Rouge for 31 years. Her first book, Roses for Chloe, was released in 1998.

For more information, call (225) 756-1180.

Crafts ‘n’ Cheese

Looking for a unique gift for that someone special? The Library has you covered this holiday season! You can learn how to make great recipes, crafts, and even cheese – all at the Library near you, this December!

- Adults can learn how to make a lovely holiday table runner without the hassle of sewing at the River Center Branch on Saturday, December 1, at 10:30 a.m.
- Design and creatively package quick, inexpensive gifts at your local library! Library staff will demonstrate how to make “gifts of good taste—and gifts that taste good” at the Pride-Chaneyville Branch on Wednesday, December 5, at 1:00 p.m.
- Teens and adults can make beautiful angel ornaments at the Baker Branch, on Wednesday, December 5, at 6:00 p.m., and at the Scotlandville Branch on Thursday, December 6, at 6:00 p.m.
- Create handmade cloth dolls with Barbara Franklin. Franklin will share the time honored art of creating one-of-a-kind cloth dolls at the Bluebonnet Regional Branch on Saturday, December 8, at 2:00 p.m.
- Make a beautiful ribbon ornament with metallic ribbon at the River Center Branch on Saturday, December 15, at 10:30 a.m.

To register for any of the workshops and get the list of materials needed, call any participating library.

Say Cheese!

Are you craft impaired, but still want to personalize a special gift? Why not give the gift of cheese! Dr. Chuck Boeneke, Assistant Professor of Dairy Science at Louisiana State University, will discuss the history of cheese and lead participants through the process of making their own herbed cheese at the Greenwell Springs Road Regional Branch Library on Monday, December 3, at 7:00 p.m.

For additional information, call (225) 274-4440.
Library Awarded The Big Read Grant

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) continues its drive toward making The Big Read the largest federal reading program in U.S. history. For the second year in a row, the NEA has awarded the East Baton Rouge Parish Library a $20,000 grant for “The Big Read: One Book/One Community” program. The Big Read is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and Arts Midwest. It is designed to restore reading to the center of American culture. The Big Read brings together partners across the country to encourage reading for pleasure and enlightenment. The Big Read also addresses the national decline in literary reading as documented in the NEA’s 2004 landmark survey Reading at Risk: A Survey of Literary Reading in America.

In its inaugural year 2007, the NEA launched the Big Read nationally in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and in cooperation with Arts Midwest and had more than 70 organizations participate. Participation has since grown exponentially. The Library is one of 127 libraries, municipalities, and arts, culture, higher education, and science organizations to receive a grant to host a Big Read celebration. “In just two years, the Big Read has grown from ten communities to include nearly 200 towns and cities nationwide,” said Chairman Dana Gioia. “Although each of these communities celebrates its Big Read program in its own way, one theme we consistently hear back is that the Big Read is not just bringing citizens back to the joy of reading, but also reinvigorating the very idea of community.”

The Big Read: One Book/One Community program is sponsored by The Big Read, the East Baton Rouge Parish Library, and the Baton Rouge Area Chamber, who have partnered with libraries, school systems, religious and community organizations, and key leaders of industry and commerce throughout the nine-parish area. Ray Bradbury’s Fahrenheit 451 is the chosen title for the Spring 2008 program. Fahrenheit 451 includes themes and characters with which our entire population can relate and as such, is perfect to promote a positive dialogue in our very diverse region. Bradbury’s novel was chosen because it deals with a bevy of issues concerning our community—intellectual freedom, censorship, government control, and understanding the role the media plays in shaping our future. These are appropriate topics for discussion in our community which is still struggling with issues related to ethics, personal responsibilities, the government’s role in and response to Katrina’s devastation, and the slow process towards recovery and rebuilding.

For more information on participating in the program, and for businesses and organizations who wish to partner with the East Baton Rouge Parish Library and the Baton Rouge Area Chamber, contact Mary Stein at (225) 231-3710 or mstein@ebr.lib.la.us.

Enjoying Overdrive? MP3 players make great gifts! View a list of compatible players at http://overdrive.ebr.lib.la.us

Fa-la-la-la-la Ornaments

Is your tree bare? Teens will decorate glass ornaments at the Greenwell Springs Regional Branch on Saturday, December 8, at 2:00 p.m.
For more information and to register, call (225) 274-4470.

TLC Christmas Party

Central’s Teen Library Crewe invites all area teens to their awesome, rockin’ Christmas Party at the Central Branch on Monday, December 17, at 6:30 p.m. Guests will decorate Christmas cookies and make ornaments.
For more information and to register, call (225) 262-2660.

Deck Your Ears

Teens are invited to make fun and funky Christmas earrings at the Main Library on Saturday, December 8, at 2:00 p.m.
For additional information and to register, call (225) 231-3770.

Christmas Greetings

Tired of the same ol’ holiday greeting cards? Spice up your yuletide season with your own personalized cards! Teens will learn how to make a Christmas greeting card using Microsoft Publisher at the Delmont Gardens Branch on Friday, December 14, at 4:00 p.m.
For more information and to register, call (225) 354-7070.

Yu-Gi-Oh Duels

Teens are invited to bring their Yu-Gi-Oh cards to the library for duels and trading at the Baker Branch on Thursday, December 13, at 4:00 p.m.
For more information and to register, call (225) 778-5960.

Scrapbook Fun

Got memories? Teens are invited to bring pictures to create unique scrapbooks with supplies provided by the library at the Carver Branch on Wednesday, December 12, at 3:30 p.m.
For more information and to register, call (225) 389-7450.

Teen Book Club Meeting

The Baker Teen Book Club will meet to discuss their December selection, *Howl’s Moving Castle* by Diana Wynne Jones at the Baker Branch on Thursday, December 20, at 4:00 p.m.
For more information, call (225) 778-5960.
Poetry Slam!
Doth thou have something to say? Teens are invited to share their original poems at the Carver Branch on Wednesday, December 19, at 4:00 p.m.
For more information, call (225) 389-7450.

Teen Resume Workshop
Teens will learn the importance of having a resume, how to create their own, as well as how to fill out a job application at the River Center Branch on Saturday, December 8, at 2:00 p.m. Teens will also learn helpful interview tips and successful strategies.
For more information and to register, call (225) 389-4959.

World Drums
Children and teens, ages 7 to 14, will learn about the history of drums and their use in various cultures at the Baker Branch on Saturday, December 8, at 10:00 a.m. Following the presentation, participants will create their own drums and shakers.
For more information and to register, call (225) 778-5960.

Herpetology Club Meeting
If you have an interest in reptiles and/or amphibians, this club is for you! The Zachary Branch Herpetology Club has monthly meetings where members can learn about these fascinating creatures and even share some of their own knowledge. This month’s meeting will be held on Saturday, December 15, at 2:30 p.m.
For more information, call (225) 658-1870.

Jewelry Jamboree
Teens are invited to create necklaces and bracelets a la paper roulé. This free craft uses paper rolled into beads to make great jewelry. The fun begins at the Pride-Chaneyville Branch on Saturday, December 22, at 11:00 a.m.
For more information and to register, call (225) 658-1550.

Mrs. Santa Claus Visits the Library
During the month of December while Santa Claus is busy making toys and treats for boys and girls all over the world, Mrs. Santa Claus will be making special visits to children, ages 3 and up, at all 13 locations of the East Baton Rouge Parish Library System.
Mrs. Claus will pick up letters the children wrote and listen to their requests for Santa. Children will also be given treats and participate in storytelling, activities, and carols. The Holiday Clown will make a special guest appearance with Mrs. Santa Claus.
The schedule for Mrs. Santa Claus and the Holiday Clown’s visits is listed below. Groups must register to participate.

Monday, December 3:
River Center Branch, 11:00 a.m.
Tuesday, December 4:
Pride-Chaneyville Branch, 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday, December 5:
Zachary Branch, 10:00 a.m.
Thursday, December 6:
Delmont Gardens Branch, 10:30 a.m.
Monday, December 10:
Central Branch, 10:00 a.m.
Tuesday, December 11:
Jones Creek Regional Branch, 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday, December 12:
Bluebonnet Regional Branch, 10:30 a.m.

Thursday, December 13:
Eden Park Branch, 10:30 a.m.
Main Library, 2:30 p.m.
Monday, December 17:
Carver Branch, 10:00 a.m.
Tuesday, December 18:
Greenwell Springs Road Regional Branch, 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday, December 19:
Scotlandville Branch, 10:00 a.m.
Thursday, December 20:
Baker Branch, 10:00 a.m.

To register and for more information, call (225) 231-3760.
A Victorian Christmas
Children, ages 7 to 11, will make a Victorian yarn doll and nutcracker doll while listening to stories from the American Girls Collection at the Central Branch on Saturday, December 22, at 10:00 a.m.
For more information, call (225) 262-2660.

Game Day Celebration!
Celebrate the holidays with a day full of fun, games, and prizes! Children, ages 7 to 11, are invited to a game day celebration at the Eden Park Branch on Thursday, December 20, at 3:00 p.m.
To register and for more information and, call (225) 231-3260.

Holiday Sing-A-Long
Sing and dance to traditional holiday music! Children of all ages are invited to sing to their heart’s delight at a holiday sing-a-long featuring guitarist, David Loti, at the Main Library, on Saturday, December 8, at 2:30 p.m.
For more information, call (225) 231-3760.

Kids’ Reading Club
Do you love reading? Want to meet other kids who love reading too? Children, ages 8 to 12, will meet to read and discuss Pinocchio by Carol Collodi at the Baker Branch on Mondays, December 3 and 17, at 4:00 p.m.
For more information, call (225) 778-5960.

Special Holiday Storytimes and Crafts

Storytime gives children an excellent introduction to books and the library, increases their attention spans, and develops their social skills by involving them in stories, poetry, and songs. The Children’s Services staff hopes Storytime will be an enjoyable experience for each child, leading to a lifelong love of books and reading.
Join the following branches for special holiday themed storytimes and craft activities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Branch</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Ages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baker Branch</td>
<td>Saturday, December 15</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>5-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zachary Branch Library</td>
<td>Tuesday, December 18</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>3 – 8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chess Programs at the Library
Don’t know your pawn from your rook? Children, ages 7 to 11, will learn basic chess moves and strategies Central Branch on Saturdays, December 8 and 22, at 2:00 p.m.
Children and teens, ages 9 and up, interested in playing or learning to play chess will be matched according to age and/or skill level at the Zachary Branch on Saturday, December 15, at 10:00 a.m.
Library staff will provide assistance and basic instruction at all sessions.
For more information and to register, call (225) 262-2660 or (225) 658-1870.

Amber Brown Book Discussion
Can’t get enough of funny, spunky fourth grader Amber Brown? Neither can we! Children, ages 7 and up, are invited to the River Center Branch on Wednesday, December 19, at 4:00 p.m. to discuss their favorite Amber Brown book.
To register and for additional information, call (225) 389-4959.

All Aboard! The Polar Express
Visit the Delmont Gardens Branch on Saturday, December 15, at 4:00 p.m. for a great holiday treat. Children, ages 5 to 8, will listen to the story, The Polar Express, and then make crafts related to the story.
For more information and to register, call (225) 354-7060.

Fun with Santa Claus
Children, ages 5 to 9, will create their own version of Santa while listening to the holiday classic, Twas the Night before Christmas at the Eden Park Branch on Tuesday, December 4, at 10:30 a.m.
For more information and to register, call (225) 231-3260.

Bingo
Visit the Scotlandville Branch on Thursday, December 20, at 4:00 p.m. for a rousing game of Bingo. Children, ages 5 to 11, will play a holiday themed version of the game.
To register and for additional information, call (225) 354-7560.
On View at the Library

Bluebonnet Regional Branch Library
Oil Paintings
Experience the majestic oil paintings of Kenneth Champagne.

Greenwell Springs Road Regional Branch Library
Photographs
The Louisiana Photographic Society will exhibit how their art has changed “Through the Years.”

Jones Creek Regional Branch Library
Doll Collection
Catherine Barger displays her lovely lifelong doll collection.

Puzzle Collection
See the framed jigsaw puzzles from the Eugene Leach collection, assembled by Bernadine Bradford.

Zachary Branch Library
Cross Stitch
View the beautiful cross-stitch angels of Edith Dixon.

Due to the holidays, Recycled Reads will be closed in December and January. The book sale store will continue with its regular schedule on the last Saturday of February 2008.

East Baton Rouge Parish Library
Lydia M. Acosta, Library Director

Main Library
7711 Goodwood Boulevard (225) 231-3740
Monday – Thursday, 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Friday and Saturday, 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, 2:00 – 10:00 p.m.

Branch Libraries

Baker Branch Library
3501 Groom Road, Baker (225) 778-5940
Monday – Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Friday and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, 2:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Bluebonnet Regional Branch Library
9200 Bluebonnet Boulevard (225) 763-2240
Monday – Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Friday and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, 2:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Carver Branch Library
720 Terrace Street (225) 389-7440
Monday – Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Friday and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, 2:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Central Branch Library
11260 Joor Road (225) 262-2640
Monday – Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Friday and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, 2:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Delmont Gardens Branch Library
3351 Lorraine Street (225) 354-7040
Monday – Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Friday and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, 2:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Eden Park Branch Library
5131 Greenwell Springs Road (225) 231-3240
Monday – Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Friday and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, 2:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Greenwell Springs Road Regional Branch Library
11300 Greenwell Springs Road (225) 274-4440
Monday – Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Friday and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, 2:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Jones Creek Regional Branch Library
6222 Jones Creek Road (225) 756-1140
Monday – Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Friday and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, 2:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Pride-Chaneyville Branch Library
13600 Pride-Port Hudson Road (225) 658-1540
Monday – Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Friday and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, 2:00 – 6:00 p.m.

River Center Branch Library
(formerly the Centreplex)
120 St. Louis Street (225) 389-4967
Monday – Thursday, 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Friday and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, 2:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Scotlandville Branch Library
7373 Scenic Highway (225) 354-7540
Monday – Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Friday and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, 2:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Zachary Branch Library
1900 Church Street, Zachary (225) 658-1840
Monday – Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Friday and Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, 2:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Library Information Service
(225) 231-3750
www.ebr.lib.la.us