



Parent-Child Book Discussion: Home Is Beyond the Mountains

Kids in grades 4-8 along with an adult are invited to a special book discussion of *Home Is Beyond the Mountains* by Celia Barker Lottridge. A story of unimaginable loss and profound courage, 9-year-old Samira loses her family while fleeing her home in the face of war during World War I.

Wednesday, February 1 (Register beginning January 2)

7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Skokie Public Library, Youth Services Program Room

Craft Studio Featuring Assyrian Craft

Learn to make an Assyrian-inspired craft. For kids in grades 4-8.

Wednesday, February 8

4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Skokie Public Library, Craft Room

Assyrian Festival

Join Assyrian students and community members for a festival of music, dance, food, and fun. **\$5 entrance fee includes food and entertainment.** Children under 5 are free.

Friday, February 10

6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Oakton Community College, Skokie Campus, Room P103



Assyrian Day at Niles West

This all-day celebration of the Assyrian culture will include performances by the Assyrian students of Niles West.

Wednesday, February 15

Throughout school day

Niles West High School, Information Resource Center (IRC)

Craft Studio Featuring Assyrian Craft

Learn to make an Assyrian-inspired craft. For kids in grades 4-8.

Wednesday, February 15

4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Skokie Public Library, Craft Room



Pajama Storytime Featuring Sahra=Moon

Put on your pajamas and join us under the stars as we feature *Sahra=Moon* by the Benyamino brothers, this year's picture book for **Coming Together in Skokie**. For ages 2-7 with parent or caregiver.

Wednesday, February 15

7 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Skokie Public Library (Register starting February 1), Youth Services Program Room

Understanding Gilgamesh

Learn about the meaning, history, and cultural context of the Standard Babylonian Epic of *Gilgamesh* with Christopher Woods, associate professor at the University of Chicago. He will also address the connections between *Gilgamesh* and other works of Mesopotamian literature, its representation in the visual arts, and its legacy.

Thursday, February 16

7 p.m.

Skokie Public Library, Mary Radmacher Meeting Room

The Significance of the Epic of Gilgamesh

Hollace Graff, professor of philosophy/Co-Chair of Humanities and Philosophy at Oakton Community College and Tom Bowen, professor of philosophy at Oakton Community College, will discuss why the discovery of the Epic of *Gilgamesh* changes our understanding of Western culture.

Tuesday, February 21

12:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.

Oakton Community College, Des Plaines Campus, Room 1610

Book Discussion - Gilgamesh

Gilgamesh book discussion will be moderated by Library staff and include a representative from the local Assyrian community.

Tuesday, February 21

7:30 p.m.

Skokie Public Library, Book Discussion Room

Assyrian Day at Niles North

This all-day celebration of the Assyrian culture will include performances by the Niles North Assyrian Club.

Wednesday, February 22

Throughout school day

Niles North High School, IRC



Reading Night at Sanford-Brown

A reading night for Sanford-Brown students and their children, discussing *Home Is Beyond the Mountains*.

Wednesday, February 22
7 p.m.
Sanford-Brown College

Pajama Storytime and Craft

Pajama storytime featuring *Sahra=Moon* and an Assyrian craft (parents and children ages 2-7).

Wednesday, February 22
7:30 p.m.
NTS ELL Parent Center

Book Discussion - Gilgamesh

Gilgamesh book discussion will be moderated by Library staff and include a representative from the local Assyrian community

Thursday, February 23
10 a.m.
Skokie Public Library, Book Discussion Room

A Celebration of Assyrian Culture

Celebrate Assyrian culture by participating in an interactive dance performance, sampling Assyrian cuisine, and enjoying children's activities.

Saturday, February 25
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Skokie Park District, Oakton Community Center

Music of Mesopotamia: Classical Guitar and Setar

Lily Afshar, the first woman to earn a Ph.D. in classical guitar performance in the United States, will perform on guitar and setar and address the historical context of music and instruments throughout Mesopotamia and neighboring regions.

Sunday, February 26
3 p.m. (get free tickets at 2:30 p.m.)
Skokie Public Library, Petty Auditorium





Featured Author: Celia Barker Lottridge

Author Celia Barker Lottridge will discuss her book *Home Is Beyond the Mountains*.



Tuesday, February 28

5 p.m. NTS ELL Parent Center
6:30 p.m. Highland School (This event will also include Assyrian singing, dancing, and food.)

Book Discussion - Children of War

Book discussion of *Children of War* by Deborah Ellis.

Wednesday, February 29

12:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.

Oakton Community College, Skokie Campus, Room P103

Discussion with Medical Professional

The Assyrian Club students will hear from Dr. Belmina Michael on her journey to the United States and her professional success in the medical field.

Wednesday, February 29

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Niles West High School, Room TBD



Second Homeland: Film and Panel Discussion

Following the film, which explores the city of Urmi, related topics will be explored by Celia Barker Lottridge, author of *Home Is Beyond the Mountains*, based on the true story of her great-aunt who served as a missionary to orphaned Assyrian children in World War I; and Homer Ashurian, CIO of the Assyrian Universal Alliance Foundation.

Wednesday, February 29

6 p.m.

Skokie Public Library, Petty Auditorium

Assyrians in Chicago History

Homer Ashurian, CIO of the Assyrian Universal Alliance Foundation and Vasili Shoumanov, author of *Assyrians in Chicago*, will speak about Assyrians and their lives in Chicago.

Thursday, March 1

11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Oakton Community College, Skokie Campus, Room P103



Splendors of Assyria

From their sumptuous capitals in northern Iraq, the Assyrians ultimately subjugated two of the cradles of civilization: Mesopotamia and Egypt. Vincent van Exel of the Oriental Institute at the University of Chicago will introduce the art, archaeology, and history of the Neo-Assyrian empire, as well as its royal propaganda, religious ideologies, and military prowess.



Thursday, March 1

7 p.m.

Skokie Public Library, Mary Radmacher Meeting Room

Featured Author: Deborah Ellis

Deborah Ellis leads a discussion of her book, *Children of War: Voices of Iraqi Refugees*, and the experiences of young Assyrians who have been displaced.



Wednesday, March 7

10:30 a.m.

Niles North High School Auditorium

7 p.m.

Skokie Public Library, Mary Radmacher Meeting Room

Friday, March 9

10:30 a.m.

Niles West High School Auditorium

1:30 p.m.

NTS ELL Parent Center

Saturday, March 10

10 a.m.

National Louis University Global Fair

Book Discussion - Children of War

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7:30 a.m.

Niles West High School, IRC

3:30 p.m.

Niles North High School, IRC

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Skokie Public Library, Book Discussion Room



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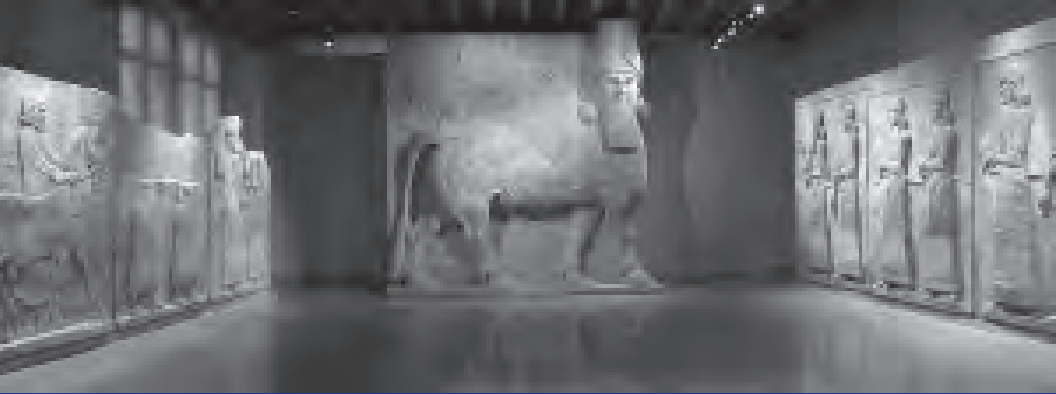


Photo Courtesy of the Oriental Institute

Tour the Ancient Wonders of the Oriental Institute

Coming Together in Skokie is providing a tour of the Oriental Institute on February 18, 2012. Bus transportation to and from the museum will be provided. You must sign up in advance for this tour, and only registered participants will be allowed to board the buses, beginning at 9:30 a.m. The buses will leave promptly at 10 a.m. Register with a Library card number at calendar.skokilibrary.info, or call (847) 673-3733 by February 9 to register. Buses will leave from and return to Skokie Public Library.

The Oriental Institute at the University of Chicago is a research center and museum devoted to the archaeology, languages, and history of civilizations in the ancient Near East. Founded in 1919, the Institute is an internationally recognized center for the study of the civilizations of Assyria, Mesopotamia, Egypt, Nubia, Anatolia, Persia and ancient Israel. The Oriental Institute's world-class museum displays art and artifacts from Oriental Institute excavations across the Near East, as well as rotating exhibits.



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