

# UPCOMINGEVENTS

## EASTSIDEFAMILY

### MOVIE NIGHTS

Location: Eastside Neighborhood Resource Center

Join us for our free, family-friendly movie night series, indoors at the Eastside Neighborhood Resource Center! Light refreshments will be provided.  
1st Friday, January - April, 6:00PM - 8:00PM

### JANUARY 2ND | TROLLS (PG)

In the magical world of Trolls, follow along as Princess Poppy goes on an adventure not only to save her friends, but to show those around her the magic of optimism, determination, and acceptance.

### FEBRUARY 6TH | WRECK IT RALPH (PG)

Ralph is tired of being the bad guy in his video game, so he ventures to the greater arcade to prove he's a good guy and can win as well.

### MARCH 6TH | FINDING NEMO (G)

Nemo is a Clownfish that differs from others due to his smaller fin. When he gets separated from his father and is lost at sea, he learns, while making friends, that our differences are what make us special.

### APRIL 3RD | MONSTERS, INC. (G)

In a world of monsters and humans, separated only by portals, the scariest monster accidentally lets a human girl into Monstropolis, and along with his best friend, has to figure out how to get her home.

## OPENMIC + POETRYWORKSHOPS

AGES: 16+

Location: Eastside Neighborhood Resource Center  
Calling all artists! Rappers, singers, artists-this is your moment to shine! Join us for open mic nights and creative poetry workshops, where you can unleash your creativity and showcase your amazing skills. Registration Suggested  
6:00PM - 8:00PM

**ART OF THE HEART** | Exploring the heartbeat behind every emotion and story | **W, 2/11/26**

**THE WINDS OF CHANGE** | Exploring transformation, motion, and letting go | **W, 3/18/26**

**RAINDROPS & REVELATIONS** | Finding meaning in the rhythm of April showers | **W, 4/15/26**

**THE SOUND OF SUNSHINE** | Uplifting poems that radiate warmth, gratitude, and light | **W, 5/13/26**

### FUN NIGHTS

Location: Eastside Neighborhood Resource Center

Family Fun Nights are based on the idea that, when it comes to creating connections - fun comes first! These events provide families a positive, no-cost opportunity for connection & recreation.  
3rd Friday, January - April | 6:00PM - 8:00PM

### JANUARY 16TH | HOT CHOCOLATE SOCIAL

Come cozy up on Spruce Street at our Hot Chocolate Social! Bring your friends and family to mingle, enjoy some relaxing tunes, and play your favorite board games. Be sure to show up in your comfiest pajamas!

### FEBRUARY 20TH | ARTS AND CRAFTS NIGHT

Unleash your creativity with a variety of festive arts and crafts activities, including Valentine's Day themed craft kits, card making, and more!

### MARCH 20TH | TRIVIA NIGHT

Bring the whole crew for a night of laughs, learning and family-friendly fun at our all-ages Trivia Night - where everyone can play and anyone can win!

### APRIL 17TH | PUZZLE & LEGO NIGHT

Let your imagination run wild at our Puzzle & LEGO Night! Enjoy various puzzles, brain teasers & LEGO-based activities.

## LEISURELABS

### HOT CHOCOLATE SOCIAL

Location: Leisure Labs at Mahoney Center  
Come to Leisure Labs for a cup of delicious hot chocolate with customizable toppings such as marshmallows, sprinkles, and whipped cream!  
F, 12/12/25 | 6:00PM - 7:30PM

### VALENTINES THEMED CUPCAKES

Location: Leisure Labs at Mahoney Center  
Want to show your love? Come join us and decorate a Valentine's Day-themed cupcake for yourself or your valentine.  
F, 2/13/26 | 6:00PM - 7:30PM

### ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Location: Leisure Labs at Mahoney Center  
Join us for two scoops of chocolate, strawberry, or vanilla ice cream with customizable toppings!  
F, 3/13/26 | 6:00PM - 7:30PM

## LEISURELABS DROP-IN ART

### 1/6 - 1/8 | SNOWMAN DOOR HANGER

Join us in creating a door-hanger snowman using the letters of your name.

JANUARY

### 1/13 - 1/15 | PAINTING SNOWY TREES

Paint a winter scene featuring snowy trees.

### 1/20 - 1/22 | HANDPRINT SNOW GLOBES

Create a winter scene for a handprint snow globe.

### 1/27 - 1/29 | FINGERPAINT SNOWFLAKES

Make unique snowflakes using finger paints.

### 2/3 - 2/5 | BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Join us in creatively celebrating historical change-makers during Black History Month

FEBRUARY

### 2/10 - 2/12 | LOVELY PIZZAS

Create paper heart pizzas to share with someone special

### 2/17 - 2/19 | 3D HEART CARDS

Construct three-dimensional heart-shaped cards.

### 2/24 - 2/26 | HANDPRINT HEART TREE

Create a handprint tree adorned with paper hearts.

### 3/3 - 3/5 | INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Join in celebrating the remarkable women worldwide who are catalysts of positive change.

**3/10 - 3/12 | PIPE CLEANER SHAMROCK RINGS** create fashionable shamrock ring using pipe cleaners.

MARCH

### 3/17- 3/19 | LUCKY BUGS

Make fun spring bugs to bring good luck.

### 3/24 - 3/26 | LUCKY POT OF GOLD

Create a fun craft of the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow to decorate our art room.

### 3/31 - 4/2 | HANDPRINT SHAMROCKS

Come and paint a lucky handprinted shamrock to celebrate St. Patrick's Day

APRIL

### 4/7 - 4/9 | APRIL SHOWER NAME UMBRELLAS

Decorate paper umbrellas with your name for April showers

# UPCOMINGEVENTS

## MANCHESTER'S GREAT EGG HUNT

An EGGcellent Adventure for the entire community. Our Egg Hunt is coming back! Make sure to follow all our social media accounts so you are up to date about this event as it approaches.

## COLOR DASH | AGES: ALL AGES WELCOME

**Location:** Northwest Park Pavilion, 448 Tolland Tpke  
Get ready to sprint, splash, and shine! Join us for the COLOR DASH, a vibrant fun run where participants are doused in bursts of color at every checkpoint. Whether you run, jog, or walk, you'll cross the finish line covered head to toe in a rainbow of bright hues. Perfect for all ages and fitness levels—bring your friends, your family, and make memories in full color! Pre-Registration Encouraged  
**Sat, 5/9/26 | 11:00AM - 2:00PM**



## SEEDS OF CHANGE: START YOUR POLLINATOR GARDEN THIS WINTER | AGES 18+

**Location:** Eastside Neighborhood

**Resource Center**

Join us for our town's first Pollinator Pathway workshop and discover the method of winter seed sowing to grow native plants right in your own backyard! This simple approach supports pollinators and helps create healthier habitats in our community. You'll leave this free workshop with a pot of seeds and the instructions to grow them on through the winter!

**Th, 1/8/26, 6:30PM**

**No registration required**

**REC ON THE RUN**  
POP-UP CREATIVE ARTS, SPORTS & GAMES



## REC ON THE RUN PAINT NIGHTS

**Location:** Leisure Labs at Mahoney Center

Enjoy a relaxing evening at our Free Paint Nights! All materials are provided—just bring your creativity! Follow along with guided instructions or paint at your own pace. No experience needed! Great for all ages and skill levels. Unwind, express yourself, and take home your very own masterpiece!

**F, 1/9/26 - 5/1/26 | 6:30PM - 8:00PM**

**Registration Required**

## MARCH MADNESS SKILLS CHALLENGE

**Location:** Leisure Labs at Mahoney

Show off your hoop skills! Test your speed, accuracy, and agility in our Basketball Skills Challenge.

Participants will dribble, pass, and shoot their way through fun, timed stations designed to put their abilities to the test. Whether you're a rising star or just love the game, compete, cheer on friends, and see who takes home the title of skills champion!

**F, 3/13/26 | 6:30PM - 8:00PM**

## MARCH MADNESS 3-POINT CONTEST

**Location:** Leisure Labs at Mahoney

Think you've got range? Step up to the arc and prove it in our Basketball 3-Point Contest!

Players will race against the clock to sink as many shots as possible from beyond the line. Bring your best form, your fastest release, and your confidence

**F, 3/20/26 | 6:30PM - 8:00PM**

## DINE AROUND THE WORLD

**DINNER IN THE PARK - ITALY | AGES: ALL AGES**

**Location:** Northwest Park Pavilion

Enjoy a delicious Italian meal and community celebration with music and culture.

**T, 6/29/26 | 5:00PM - 7:00PM**

**No cost. Registration required**

## MANCHESTER'S EARLY CHILDHOOD FAIR

see page 13

# EASTSIDEENGAGE

## SPRUCE STREET COMMUNITY GARDEN: PROSPECTIVE GARDENER APPLICATION | AGES: 18+

The newly renovated Spruce Street Community Garden will offer 20 new galvanized steel growing beds for rental by Manchester residents. The Prospective Gardener Application will open on Wednesday, January 7th at 9:00AM. Successful completion of this application will add you to our lottery system for the 2026 growing season. Winners will be drawn on Thursday, March 5th and will be notified immediately. All chosen gardeners must attend a mandatory Community Garden Orientation, held on Thursday, March 12th from 6:00PM - 7:00PM.

**Application Opens | W, 1/7/26, 9:00AM**

**Fee:** Gardeners will pay \$40 / season

If selected by lottery system.

## COMMUNITY PROJECT & EVENT FUND

The Community Project & Event Fund is an initiative that aims to support local grassroots and non-profit organizations and their cultural projects, programs, celebrations and commemorations. The Neighborhoods and Families Division is requesting proposals for funding opportunities of up to \$1,000 per application from Manchester-based non-profit groups, clubs and organizations. Qualifying candidates must plan to facilitate a project, program or celebration that is accessible to the public, culturally inclusive and meets one of the following categories: Community Cultural Events, Commemorative Projects or Arts and Culture Initiatives. Priority will be given to programs & projects that will be held at the Eastside Plaza. Submissions are due by Sunday, April 19th, no later than 11:59 PM.

**Application Opens | M, 1/12/26, 9:00AM**



To register or for more information, scan QR code or email [mcheverier@manchesterct.gov](mailto:mcheverier@manchesterct.gov) with any questions.