

# Transform Old Film Images Into New Ornaments at MPL During “Make It at MPL-Digitize and Design”

Mar 4, 2026 | 8:19 AM  
[Local News](#), [State News](#)



*Submitted by MPL Public Services Associate, Lisa Devins-Horohoe*

When you think of the library, you probably picture books and magazines, right? Well, let me tell you, Manitowoc Public Library has so much more to offer! Join us at Manitowoc Public Library in the Idea Box on Friday, March 27, from 2-4 PM for the latest [Make It At MPL—Digitize and Design: Old Film to Glowforge Ornaments](#).

Now, if you’re wondering what the Idea Box at Manitowoc Public Library is all about, it’s our awesome makerspace where Teens and Adults can dive into hands-on learning and creativity. We’ve got some really high-tech gear like a Sound Booth, a Prusa CORE One 3D Printer, Sewing Machines, and yes, a Glowforge!

What’s a Glowforge? It’s basically a super cool desktop “laser printer” that cuts, engraves, and scores designs into materials like wood, leather, and acrylic. Think of it as your Digital Craft Buddy that helps you make personalized signs, jewelry, and all sorts of home décor. At [Make It At MPL—Digitize and Design: Old Film to Glowforge Ornaments](#), you’ll get to digitize your old filmstrips and slides, and turn those digital images into beautiful wooden ornaments using the Glowforge! Not sure how to digitize? Don’t worry—we’ve got a Kodak Scanza that makes it super easy. Just pop your negatives or slides in and it snaps a photo in about half-a-second!

To join in on the fun [Make It At MPL: Digitize and Design](#) on March 27, bring your own filmstrips or slides. Each of you will get to make one ornament, but it’s a good idea to bring a few options to work from just in case! High-contrast photos work best for engraving, by the way. And if you want to take home a digital file of your scanned images, bring a flash drive! We even sell them for \$5 at the Service Desk if you don’t have one at home.

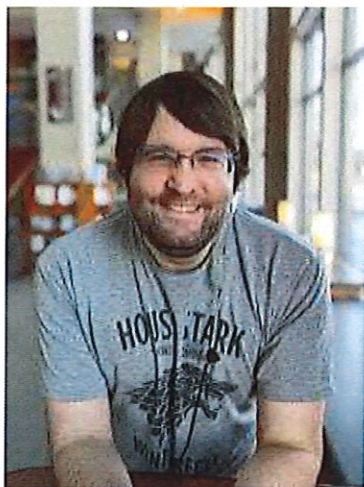


Just a heads up—space is limited for [Make It At MPL: Digitize and Design: Old Film to Glowforge Ornaments](#) and you need to register for this event. Registration opens on Friday, March 13, at 9 AM, so head to [www.manitowoclibrary.org/event/photo-ornaments](http://www.manitowoclibrary.org/event/photo-ornaments) then to secure your spot. Also, you need to be 18 or older to join in.

So, dig out those old slides and filmstrips tucked away in your basement or closet and come hang out with us at Manitowoc Public Library for some creative fun at [Make It At MPL!—Digitize and Design: Old Film to Glowforge Ornaments](#). The great thing is that no previous experience is needed. And you can check out everything that Manitowoc Public Library’s Idea Box Makerspace has to offer while you’re creating your ornament. Still have some questions? Just call the Library at 920-686-3000 and ask away! We can’t wait to see you there!

# MPL's "Whatcha Watching?" Returns Online for a Post-Academy Awards Discussion

Mar 10, 2026 | 2:30 PM  
[Local News](#), [State News](#)



Article submitted by Matt Mottl, MPL Public Services Assistant

It's that time of year again where movie lovers come together to watch and discuss the celebrated films of the year, and those who act in them. Oscar season is upon us and as your local favorite movie aficionado, I am here once again to have a good discussion about everything Oscar related. It's time once again for the Oscar Edition of Manitowoc Public Library's [Whatcha Watching!](#)

Joined once again by my amazing co-hosts, Tim Gadzinski and Lisa Devins-Horohoe, we will discuss the Oscars a few days after they have aired. We'll give our thoughts and opinions on the winners and, honestly, anything else we feel like! It truly is one of my favorite times of the year, and I look forward to it each time it comes around. This year's nominees have been some of the most exciting yet, so I am very excited to dive in.

Typically, with the Oscars, you usually get the same old expected nominees, but things have been changing over the years and this year has quite a few pleasant surprises. We're seeing recognition for films that never really got love from the Academy in the past.

Obviously, the most important award of the night is the Oscar for Best Picture, so here are brief snippets of what's nominated this year:

- Once again from the twisted mind of Greek director, Yorgos Lanthimos, is the story of two cousins who are convinced a CEO is an alien in *Bugonia*
- The ever-charming Brad Pitt as a Formula One driver in the thrilling and intense *F1*
- A classic story through the eyes of visionary director, Guillermo Del Toro, is the newest version of *Frankenstein*
- A heartbreaking and beautiful showcase of grief through the eyes of William Shakespeare and his wife in *Hamnet*
- The life of a hustler who also excels at table tennis in the very chaotic *Marty Supreme*
- A chaotic on-the-run film with plenty of action and suspense in *One Battle After Another*
- A look at a professor on the run and others he encounters in a divided Brazil in *The Secret Agent*
- The relationship between a father and his two estranged daughters is explored in *Sentimental Value*
- Vampires and music reign supreme in the captivating horror film *Sinners*, which is now officially the most nominated movie ever in Oscar history!
- And finally, we have a beautifully shot slice of life film about a logger navigating grief amidst nature in *Train Dreams*



Some of the pleasant surprises that occurred this year for nominees is the love for the horror genre which has typically been ignored award season. With *Sinners* being one of those films and having the record for the most

nominations in history is a huge accomplishment for horror films as well as the nomination for Amy Madigan in her sinister role in the horror film *Weapons*. Foreign films are also steadily rising for nominations the past few year and *Sentimental Value* and *The Secret Agent* are at the top of the pack for those films this year.

We will of course discuss some of the other categories as well so if you are ready for a great Oscar discussion please join us on March 19 at 6:00 for [Whatcha Watching Oscar Edition](#) on our Facebook page and enjoy the camaraderie between fellow movie lovers.

# “Take a Seat!” Chair Yoga with Kate Casey at Manitowoc Public Library

Mar 18, 2026 | 12:53 PM

[Local News](#), [State News](#)

*Article submitted by Kate Casey, Owner, Cats on Mats Yoga, LLC*

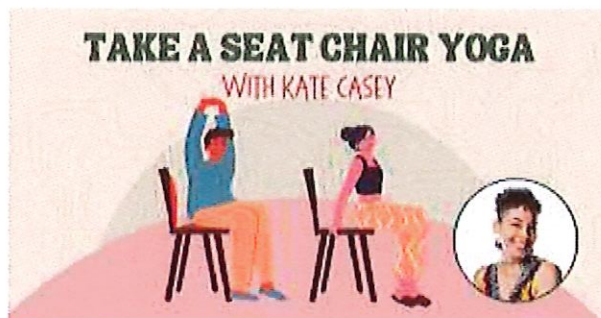


I’m sure you’ve heard it all before:

- “Yoga would be so good for you.”
- “You should really try yoga sometime.”
- “I always feel so much better after my yoga class.”

But for some of us, trying something new—especially physical movement like yoga—can be quite intimidating. There anxiety about whether you’ll fit in at (or even find!) a local yoga studio. Then, there’s the struggle of trying to understand what the instructor is asking you to do (god forbid the class is taught in sanskrit, a dead language). Not to mention worrying about whether the instructor is adequately trained to keep you safe. Plus, on top of all this, you also have to figure out what style of yoga is right for you (there are different kinds?!!).

We’ve all seen images as we scroll on our phones of thin, young people wearing tight clothes doing seemingly impossible acrobatics and contortions. While these images can be inspiring (or terrifying depending on your perspective), I’ll let you in on a little secret—It’s likely that those folks with their knees behind their heads (and noses way too close to their own butts) posting photos of themselves on the internet are likely not *really* doing yoga.



Yoga is not about looking cool to others nor is it about abusing your body to the point of pain in order to get into an arbitrary shape that someone randomly decided is now the latest trend. The true heart of yoga—REAL yoga—is a longstanding tradition going back thousands of years. The original yoga pose is simply a comfortable seat, in which the practitioner observes their breath. That’s it! That’s yoga! If you have a body and you’re still breathing, you can do yoga.

For many years, people have known me at Manitowoc Public Library as the “cat yoga” person. And while “Cats on Mats” will always be dear to my heart, my real passion is bringing the calming, contemplative practice of yoga to people who have never tried it before. I like to say that I specialize in ‘beginners,’ but really all yoga practitioners are beginners. It doesn’t matter if you’ve done a pose 1 time or 10,000 times. Each visit in that pose is a new experience, one to explore and observe with rapt excitement. What new thing will you learn about your body, your breath, yourself today?

New to my roster of classes this year is [Chair Yoga](#) with two classes held on [April 8](#) and September 23, both at 6 PM, in the Balkansky Community Room. Chair yoga is designed to be even more accessible than any other type of yoga class. Oftentimes, I hear from hesitant students that, “Oh, if you put me on the ground, I won’t be able to get back up.” The great news is that with chair yoga, that fear and hesitation can be eliminated.

With an emphasis on seated movement, those with chronic pain, weakness, limb differences, or balance concerns can let all that fall by the wayside and enjoy a yoga practice that is inclusive of ALL people and ALL levels of mobility. Chairs will be provided and you don't even need to invest in an expensive yoga mat. Simply bring yourself and a blanket or towel that you can fold as a cushion for your seat. That's it.

Actually, there are two more things that I need to mention. First, this is an Adults-Only class, which means that you must be 18-years old or older to attend. The second is that class size is limited and registration is required. Register beginning at 9 AM on Wednesday, March 25 at 9 AM (for the April 8 session) at [www.manitowoclibrary.org/event/chair-yoga](http://www.manitowoclibrary.org/event/chair-yoga).

Now you can be ready to attend a yoga class confidently! You know where the class will be held (Manitowoc Public Library). Class will be taught in English and every movement will be demonstrated right in the room with you. You can trust that my level of training (RYT-500) and experience (teaching for 10+ years) will keep you safe and that class has been designed specifically with you in mind. What are you waiting for? Pull up a chair, take a seat, and join me in feeling more present, calm, and at-home in your body.

# “Bug Lab: Learn & Create” Brings Science and Art to Life at Manitowoc Public Library

Mar 24, 2026 | 2:30 PM  
[Local News](#), [State News](#)



Article submitted by Kirsten Smith, MPL Youth Services Associate

Manitowoc Public Library is buzzing with excitement as we invite young explorers to dive into the incredible world of insects at [Bug Lab: Learn & Create](#), a hands-on program designed especially for elementary-aged kids. This lively workshop takes place on Tuesday, March 31, at 10:30 AM. It blends science, art, and imagination, giving children the chance to discover what makes insects so extraordinary while creating their own clay creatures to take home.

Insects are some of the most diverse and fascinating animals on Earth, and [Bug Lab](#) gives kids a close-up look at the features that make them unique. Participants will explore the building blocks of insect anatomy, from segmented bodies to jointed legs, delicate wings, and curious antennae. Through guided discovery, children learn how these structures help insects move, sense the world, adapt, and survive in their habitats. The goal is not memorization but wonder, helping kids notice details, ask questions, and see the natural world with fresh eyes.

Once children have examined real-world insect traits, the creative fun begins! Using clay, participants will sculpt their own imaginative insects, combining scientific understanding with artistic expression. Some may design creatures inspired by familiar insects like butterflies, beetles, or dragonflies. Others may dream up entirely new species with elaborate wings, extra antennae, or unexpected adaptations. The clay component encourages kids to think like scientists and artists at the same time, translating what they have learned into something they can shape with their hands.



This blend of learning and creativity is at the heart of [Bug Lab](#). Hands-on activities help children build confidence, strengthen fine motor skills, and engage deeply with new ideas. As they sculpt, kids naturally revisit what they have learned about insect bodies, reinforcing concepts through play. The process invites experimentation and problem-solving: How many legs should my insect have? Where should the wings attach? What might this creature eat? These small decisions help children practice observation, reasoning, and imaginative thinking all at once.

[Bug Lab](#) also creates space for collaboration and conversation. Kids share ideas, compare their creations, and learn from one another’s discoveries. The atmosphere is welcoming and low-pressure, allowing each child to work at their own pace and express their own style. Library staff will be on-hand to guide activities, answer questions, and support young learners as they explore.

Programs like [Bug Lab](#) reflect Manitowoc Public Library’s commitment to offering enriching, accessible experiences that spark curiosity and celebrate creativity. By combining science and art, this workshop encourages children to see learning as something joyful and connected, not limited to textbooks or classrooms, but alive in the world around them.

At the end of the session, every child leaves with a one-of-a-kind clay insect and a deeper appreciation for the tiny creatures that share our planet. More importantly, they leave with the confidence that comes from exploring, imagining, and creating something all their own. Join us on Tuesday, March 31, at 10:30 AM. *Please Note: Supplies are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis.*

# Producer of “No Packers, No Life” to Appear at Manitowoc Public Library Special Screening

Mar 30, 2026 | 12:15 PM

[Local News](#), [State News](#)



*Article submitted by Ty Morse, Producer, of “No Packers, No Life”*

I was born in Wisconsin, on the shores of Lake Michigan—which means I grew up believing that weather is an adventure sport and that a horizon line is something you’re meant to stare at until it tells you a secret.

Like many kids raised near big water, I developed a taste for distant shores. Mine happened to be Japan. Long before I ever set foot there, I dreamed of neon city streets, quiet temples, and trains that arrived exactly when they said they would—a concept that felt almost supernatural to a Midwesterner raised on snowstorms and “we’ll get there when we get there.”

Eventually, I did make it to Japan. Not just as a traveler, but as an entrepreneur and business owner. These days, I work there regularly. I’ve learned the language just well enough to order ramen confidently and apologize profusely when I do everything else incorrectly. I’ve built friendships, partnerships, and a life rhythm that bridges two very different worlds.

And somewhere in the middle of all that—between boardrooms and ramen counters—I stumbled upon something that stopped me in my tracks.

I found Japanese fans of the Green Bay Packers.

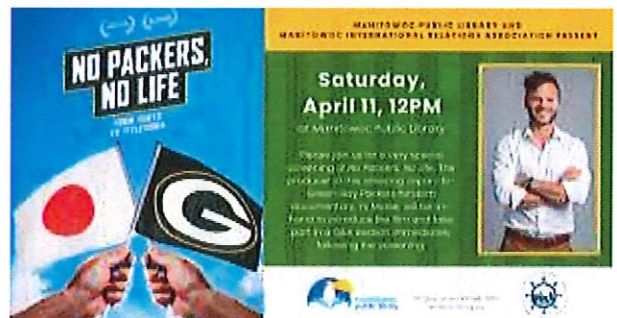
Not casual fans. Not “I watched one Super Bowl” fans. But, fully committed, paint-your-face, stay-up-until-4-AM, arrange-your-living-room-like-a-shrine fans. People who knew Wisconsin geography better than some Wisconsinites. People who spoke about Green Bay the way pilgrims speak about sacred cities.

I remember thinking: I traveled across the world chasing a dream of Japan . . . and here are people in Japan dreaming of Wisconsin.

That’s where *No Packers, No Life* truly began.

On the surface, yes, this is a film about football. But, only in the same way a doorway is about wood. The real story is what’s on the other side. This film is about human beings reaching for connection. About how we build identity from stories, symbols, teams, traditions—anything that helps us feel part of something larger than ourselves.

In Japan, I saw people finding belonging in Wisconsin culture from ten-thousand miles away. And in doing so, they reminded me of something easy to forget when you grow up here: that what feels ordinary to us can be extraordinary to someone else. That a small town, a cold winter, a loyal fanbase, a way of life—these can glow across oceans.



There's something almost comical and beautiful about it all. The universe, after all, has a strange sense of humor. You chase one dream across the sea and find another dream chasing you back.

And that's why bringing this film to Manitowoc feels important. This isn't a story about "them." It's a story about "us," reflected in an unexpected mirror. It's an invitation to see our own culture, our own communities, our own rituals through fresh eyes—and maybe to realize we're more interesting than we give ourselves credit for.

When you come to the screening—taking place on Saturday, April 11, from noon until 2 PM in Manitowoc Public Library's Balkansky Community Room—you'll see laughter, obsession, devotion, friendship, and the quiet tenderness of people who simply want to belong. You may come for the Packers. But, you'll leave thinking about something much larger—the strange, invisible threads tying strangers together across the world.

I dreamed of Japan. I went there. And in Japan, I found people dreaming of home.

Sometimes the world is wide. Sometimes it's small. Most days, it's both at once.

And that, I think, is worth celebrating.