



Culinary Curiosity exhibit at four libraries, including Santori

The Aurora Public Library welcomes Culinary Curiosity, an exhibit experience featuring cooking and food related artifacts from the 19th and early 20th centuries. On public display for the first time on October 4 through January 5, this exhibit comes to us from the personal collection of Mel and Janet Mickevich and is made available to four powerhouse libraries, including Gail Borden Public Library, Arlington Heights Memorial Library, Schaumburg Township Public Library, and the Aurora Public Library. Sponsored by Kendall College Trust, Culinary Curiosity was originally featured at Kendall College in Chicago, IL as an education piece for students enrolled in their Culinary Arts School.

The Santori Library Atrium will showcase the Liquid Refreshments and Global Gastronomy stories within the larger Culinary Curiosity exhibition. “This is the first ever exhibit share of this kind, and the Aurora Public Library is thrilled to be part of this experience with such amazing libraries in Illinois! We encourage our customers to travel to Elgin, Schaumburg, and Arlington Heights, as well as Santori Library right here in Aurora, to get the full Culinary Curiosity story, and win prizes at the same time” says Krista Danis, Events and Program Coordinator.

Why the Liquid Refreshments and Global Gastronomy? With a diverse range of social gathering spaces to choose from, downtown Aurora speaks to the collective human drinking experience, from chatting over tea at Calla Lily Victorian Tea Room to a celebratory toast with unique local brews at Two Brothers Roundhouse. Collaboration and partnerships, as well as the strong bonds of friends and family, are forged between sips from all manner of vessels as we explore the various methods of liquid refreshment used throughout history and across the globe.

Likewise, we offer Global Gastronomy in honor of the unique diversity of our Aurora community. In this collection, you will witness tea being poured in early 20th century India and the aeration of cocoa in Mexico.

Join us for an official kickoff as we unveil the Culinary Curiosity Exhibition on First Friday, October 4, with a global celebration for all ages! The evening starts at 6 p.m. with a local beer tasting, Hispanic Heritage Month craft for kids, and exclusive tastings from Chupacabra Puerto Rican food truck for the first 200 library visitors. We are proud to present music by local legends Chicago Latin Groove, an 11-piece band offering high-energy “tropical” tunes to get your feet moving.

Be the first to grab a Culinary Curiosity passport to earn prizes for visiting two or more Culinary Curiosity libraries! Passports are available starting First Fridays, October 4.

Present your passport at any exhibit location to view as much of the collection as possible, collecting stamps and prizes along the way. The exhibits include:

- Equipment Evolution at Arlington heights Memorial Library
- Sweets and Dairy at the Gail Borden Public Library
- Cider and Meat at the Schaumburg Township Public Library
- Liquid Refreshments and Global Gastronomy at the Santori Library

Do you have a recipe to share? Stop by Santori Library any time between October 4 and January 5 or access the upcoming Culinary Curiosity Tours Libraries website (<https://culinarycuriositytourslibraries.com>) to download your favorite recipe to our shared cookbook.