October 4 - November 13, 2017

**THE BIG READ**

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**GAME ON!**

- **Sunday, Oct. 8, 2:00 p.m.**
  The Central Collective
  925 Central Avenue

- **Tuesday, Oct. 10, 6:00 p.m.**
  Carter Branch Library
  508 N. Cusick Street
  Maryville, TN

- **Saturday, Oct. 14, 2:00 p.m.**
  Blount County Public Library
  9036 Asheville Highway

- **Monday, Oct. 16, 6:00 p.m.**
  Powell Branch Library
  330 W. Emory Road

**GAME ON!**

- **Tuesday, Oct. 17, 6:00 p.m.**
  Howard Pinkston Branch Library
  7732 Martin Mill Pike

- **Thursday, Oct. 19, 5:30 p.m.**
  Cedar Bluff Branch Library
  9045 Cross Park Drive

- **Thursday, Oct. 19, 5:30 p.m.**
  Burlington Branch Library
  4614 Asheville Highway

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**AN EVENING WITH EMILY ST. JOHN MANDEL**

Monday, November 13, 5:30 p.m.
UT Cox Auditorium, Alumni Memorial Building
1408 Middle Drive
LIMITED SPACE
RSVP required at knoxlib.org/bigread or by calling 865-215-8767

**CONTEST: SURVIVAL IS INSUFFICIENT**

Twenty years after a flu pandemic, there are no cities, no internet, no Facebook, no email, no airplanes, no medications, no chocolate chip cookies. The world we know today no longer exists. What survives is art. A group called the Traveling Symphony bands together to present music and Shakespeare plays in the Great Lakes region to the survivors of the pandemic. A banner on one of the caravans of the Traveling Symphony reads, *Survival is Insufficient.*

Based on themes in the novel, create an expression—essay, photographs, posters, video—that describes your interpretation of the motto “Survival is Insufficient.”

**Prizes**

1st Autographed copy Station Eleven

2nd Board game Pandemonium

3rd $15 Gift certificate to Union Ave Books

Submit your creation at knoxlib.org/bigread

**ABOUT THE BOOK**

The post-apocalyptic novel has grown popular enough to warrant a movie, and one can argue that Station Eleven fits well within that category. Published by Knopf in 2014, it tells the story of a small band of actors and musicians 20 years after a flu pandemic has wiped out 99% of the Earth’s population. Like other books in the genre, it highlights the fragility of our existence, our violent nature, and our capacity to survive despite the inevitable hardships of starvation, loneliness, and chaos. But this is where the similarities taper off, for the story Emily St. John Mandel chooses to tell is not one of horror and mayhem that even she admits would befoul the survivors in the immediate aftermath of a complete societal collapse. Station Eleven describes a world of hope, of people coping with nostalgia and loss, both in the present and the future, of the power of art and relationships to fulfill us, sustain us, and nurture us back to our best selves.

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Emily St. John Mandel was born on Vancouver Island and raised mostly on Denman Island, a small, bucolic island off the coast of British Columbia, Canada. Both Emily’s parents loved to read and for no reason other than to provide the best education they could, they homeschooled Mandel, encouraging her to write every day.

Her agent found the manuscript for her first novel, Last Night in Montreal (2009), in a trash pile and shipped it around to editors for almost three years before Unbridled Books picked it up. Like many small presses that nurture talented writers overlooked by commercial houses and help them get discovered, Unbridled Books went on to publish two more of her critically acclaimed novels in the genre of literary noir: The Singer’s Gun (2010), about a young man trying to remake himself after growing up in a family of cinnamats, and The Lola Quartet (2012), a jazz-infused mystery about a man searching for an old girlfriend and a daughter who might be his.

In 2014, Mandel published Station Eleven, her fourth novel, with Knopf and her writing career took off at rocket speed. The novel won the Arthur C. Clarke Award, was a finalist for the National Book Award and PEN/Faulkner Award, was an Amazon Best Book of the Month, was named one of the best books of the year by more than a dozen publications, and has been translated into 27 languages.

**THANKS FOR MAKING THE BIG READ POSSIBLE**

**PROGRAM HOSTS**

Arts & Culture Alliance
Blount County Public Library
Clarence Brown Theatre
Community School of the Arts
East Tennessee Historical Society
Friends of the Knox County Public Library
Friends of Literacy
Great Schools Partnership
Knoxville-Knox Co. Emergency Management Agency (KEMA)
Knox Area Transit

The Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest. The Big Read aims to encourage reading for pleasure and enrichment by providing citizens with the opportunity to read and discuss a single book within their communities.

**COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

Arts & Culture Alliance
Blount County Public Library
Clarence Brown Theatre
Community School of the Arts
East Tennessee Historical Society
Friends of the Knox County Public Library
Friends of Literacy
Great Schools Partnership
Knoxville-Knox Co. Emergency Management Agency (KEMA)
Knox Area Transit

**Find out more about THE BIG READ at KNOXLIB.ORG/BIGREAD**
Prep Are Ye, Prepare Ye: Apocalypse Workshops

Thursdays, October 5 - November 2, 6:30 p.m.
The Central Collective
923 Central Ave
Not sure what you would do if civilization collapsed? Without electricity, you couldn't google it. Join us for a series of workshops on how to survive an apocalypse. From self-defense to food preservation, learn how to thrive in a post-modern world. Tickets available at thecentralcollective.com

First Friday Opening Reception for the Museum of Lost Civilization
November 3, 6-9 p.m.
The Central Collective
923 Central Ave
What would you miss if civilization as we know it collapsed? Join us for an exhibit of the work of local artists depicting what they would enshrine in a post-apocalyptic museum.

The Big Read in East Tennessee

In Blount County: Blount County Public Library
508 N. Cusick St., Maryville, TN

Get Ready...
Station Eleven is Coming September 23, 8:30-11:30 a.m. Join the team of specialists and rescue humanity from four diseases that have broken out and are threatening the world! Part of the Tennessee STEAM Festival.

Station Eleven Adult Coloring
Thursday, October 19, 1:00 p.m.
Reading Rotunda
Surviving a pandemic—then surviving in the post-apocalyptic world is stressful. So calm down and color with us.

PANELISTS:
Jennifer Willard
Community School of the Arts, Executive Director
Liz Zanni
Arts & Culture Alliance, Executive Director
Dr. Mark Rasnake
UT Medical Center, Infectious Disease Expert
Moderated by
Angela Alford
Knox County Health Department, Educator for Emergency Preparedness

Big Read Events
All events are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted.

Kick-Off Celebration
Wednesday, October 4, noon
The Stage on Market Square
Join Knox County Public Library and UT’s Office of First-Year Studies for a kick-off celebration of the Big Read featuring Station Eleven by Emily St. John Mandel. Guest Speakers include UT First-Year Studies Director Jason Mastrogiovanni, Knox County Chief of Staff Dean Rice, and Knox County Public Library Director Myretta Black with music by UT’s string ensemble and a short scene from King Lear by the Tennessee Stage Company. We will give out 100 copies of Station Eleven on a first-come, first-served basis.

Wall-e (2006)
Friday, October 6, dusk
Movies on Market Square
Station Eleven tells the story of life after civilization has collapsed due to a pandemic. Wall-E presents life after the collapse from a different point of view. Join us for a night under the stars in front of the silver screen.

What’s Art Got To Do With It?
Wednesday, October 18, noon
Knoxville Museum of Art, Bailey Room
Pre-ordered lunch available at knoxlib.org/bigread or bring your own

In Station Eleven, the main characters were part of a traveling symphony and Shakespeare troupe that brought their art from town to town because “survival is insufficient.” What is the impact of art in our community? Join leaders in Knoxville’s art world to discuss the impact of art in our daily lives.

PANELISTS:
David Butler
Knoxville Museum of Art, Executive Director
Aram Demirjian
Knoxville Symphony Orchestra, Music Director
Cail MacLean
Clairice Brown Theatre, Artistic Director
Jennifer Willard
Community School of the Arts, Executive Director
Liz Zanni
Arts & Culture Alliance, Executive Director

HELP! S.O.S.! MAYDAY!
Panel Discussion & Toy of KEMA Command Headquarters & 911 Call Center
Thursday, October 12, 6:00 p.m.
Knoxville Station

Maryville Farmers Market is Coming
Wednesday, October 18, noon
The Central Collective

“THE FEVER THAT WAS TO FATAL TO SO MANY”
Wednesday, November 8, noon
East Tennessee History Center
601 S. Gay Street
Presented by Dr. Jennifer Horr of the Tennessee Stage Company

After the collapse of civilization, what great author would you turn to for comfort? In Station Eleven, it’s the Bard. Why does 16th-century wisdom make sense in the post-modern world?

PANELISTS:
Colin Ickes
KEMA, Director
Charity Meneffe
Knox County Health Department, Regional Hospital Coordinator & Emergency Preparedness
Dr. Mark Rasnake
UT Medical Center, Infectious Disease Expert
Moderated by
Angela Alford
Knox County Health Department, Educator for Emergency Preparedness

Book Discussions in Knox County

Sunday, October 8, 2:00 p.m.
Lawson McGhee Library
500 W. Church Ave

Saturday, October 14, 6:00 p.m.
Hardin Valley Academy
4518 E. Emory Road

Monday, October 23, 7:00 p.m.
World: TVA’s Global Career
East Tennessee and the World: TVA’s Global Career Monday, Oct. 23, 7:00 p.m. Sharon Lawson Room For many, being displaced felt like an apocalypse. But TVA can also be a model for regional uplift and had an impact across the globe. Learn about TVA’s rural development program and its work in Afghanistan, India, Mexico, and many other countries.

Tickets available at thecentralcollective.com

In Sevier County:
King Family Library
408 High St.
Sevierville, TN
Post Apocalypse Party and Book Discussion Monday, Oct. 5, 5-7 p.m. The Burchfield Room has been transformed into Station 002 where survivors will gather to enjoy post-apocalyptic food and drinks. Don the one outfit you’d wear in a post-apocalyptic world, and bring one item you would keep to re-establish civilization.

\[textbf{\textit{Shakespeare in Dystopia: Surviving with the Help of the Bard}}\]

\[\textbf{\textit{With the help of the Bard}}\]

\[\textbf{\textit{Help! S.O.S.! Mayday!}}\]

\[\textbf{\textit{Panel Discussion & Toy of KEMA Command Headquarters & 911 Call Center}}\]

\[\textbf{\textit{The Fever That Was Fatal to So Many}}\]

\[\textbf{\textit{Book Discussions in Knox County}}\]

\[\textbf{\textit{What Would You Miss?}}\]