



December 2, 2025

Dear SPHERE:

We are excited to share with you our programming information for 2026.

Please review the individual program information and the fee schedule for each one, then complete the form that follows. If you have questions about a specific program, contact the program lead directly or Lori Berisford at loriberis@aol.com.

To participate in each of the programs listed below (even if they are free programs), you **must** submit a new Member Application and pay the **\$50.00 Member Fee** each year. The program fees for each class cover the period from January 5 to December 19, 2026. **Classes will be filled on a first come, first served basis – DO NOT assume you have a spot in a program without confirmation.**

Application, membership dues and program fees are due no later than December 15, 2025.

Art Class

Come and make art with us on Wednesday nights! SPHERE artists work in a variety of media including drawing, painting, and collage. Projects range from the creation of large-scale works of art suitable for framing, to smaller, seasonally themed cards and crafts. What remains consistent is the wide range of personal expression, style, and variety that every member brings to each project!

- Wednesday Evenings
- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. – SPHERE Shop, 421 Main Street
- Run by Megan Marden – megmarden@gmail.com
- **Limited to 15 Members**
- **Fee - \$100 Payable Now**

Walking Club (weather permitting)

The group will meet at various locations in town and walk for 30 to 45 minutes, while enjoying pleasant conversation and camaraderie. An email rsvp is required so that the meeting location can be shared prior to the event.

- To be Determined Weekly
- Run by Arlene Litt - arlene.litt@att.net
- **Fee: Free**

SPHERE-It Creations

This night involves exploring what can be created out of beads, clay, metal, leather, and other items. Artists discover the satisfaction of creating jewelry and other adornments, ornaments, home decor, and other items that will ultimately be for sale in the shop at 421 Main Street, festivals, some stores. The group works with trained jewelers and volunteers to finesse their skills. Jewelry creations are also sold on Etsy and Instagram.

- Tuesday Evenings
- 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. – SPHERE Shop, 421 Main Street
- Run by Wendy Lionetti – lionden5@comcast.net
- **Limited to 15 Members**
- **Fee: \$100 Payable Now**

Next Chapter Book Club

The premise is simple. A group of adults and older teens with IDD, along with two trained facilitators, gather weekly via Zoom to delve into some wonderful books. Anyone can participate, whatever their reading or ability level. NCBC members range from those who read proficiently to those who cannot read at all.

Members, as a group, determine all aspects of their participation in NCBC meetings (i.e., book selection) and are encouraged to express their opinions, wants, and needs.

- Monday Evenings via Zoom
- 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
- Run by Andy Forsyth - ALForsyth@ridgefieldlibrary.org and Jill Barberie - jilledelman@gmail.com
- **Fee: Free**

Cooking Club – Class Closed for January Session

SPHERE's Cooking Club is an interactive program that encompasses all aspects of cooking. Classes will include different recipes that will be prepared and enjoyed family style by the members. Due to the increase in security on the school's grounds, we cannot accommodate any late arrivals. If you cannot attend the week's class, we ask that you please send an email to one of the program leads - the attendance at each class determines how much shopping our volunteers must do!

- Wednesday Evenings
- 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. - Ridgefield Academy, 223 West Mountain Road
- Run by Michele Barricelli - michele.barricelli@gmail.com and Lauren Radigan - laurencalrad@gmail.com
- **Limited to 12 Members/No Spots Available for January Session**

Performing Arts

Rehearsals for SPHERE's next musical, *The Lion King*, began in January 2025, leading up to our performance on Sunday, May 17, 2026, at the Ridgefield Playhouse

As we work toward the production we have high expectations for all cast members. We ask for weekly, punctual attendance, dedication to learning songs, dances, and lines outside of rehearsals, and a commitment to teamwork and collaboration.

Please join Emily Pambianchi, our Performing Arts lead, and supportive team of encouraging volunteers for an exciting year filled with acting, singing, dancing, friendship, and fun! Participants will also benefit from

our amazing partnerships with nonprofits in our community and work with a choreographer on dances, enriching the experience for all who are involved.

- Thursday Evenings
- 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. - Jesse Lee Memorial Church, 207 Main Street, Ridgefield, CT
- Run by Emily Pambianchi – emily.pambianchi@gmail.com
- **Fee: \$150 Payable Now**

Bingo

Bingo is usually held on Friday afternoons but there are times when it is offered on weekend afternoons.

- Usually held Friday afternoons, but occasionally offered on weekends
- Run by Arlene Litt - arlene.litt@att.net
- **Fee: No fee to attend but \$2 for your first bingo card, \$1 for each additional card**

Board Games

Game days occur multiple times a month at 421 Main Street. Share some laughs and play board games like Uno Attack, 5 second rule, Pictionary, Yahtzee, Monopoly, Aggravation, and others with your friends!

- Usually held Monday evenings, but occasionally offered on weekends
- Run by Arlene Litt - arlene.litt@att.net
- **Fee: Free**

SPHERE Talks

Our series of educational workshops offers hands on learnings about important topics affecting our members' well-being and everyday living. While our audience is primarily our SPHERE members, we also invite members' families, caretakers, and our own volunteers to participate when *Talks* topics are relevant to them too.

Talks workshops currently under development for 2026.

- To Be Determined
- Four to Six times/year during the evenings (6:30 to 8:30 pm)
- Run by Caitlin Granucci – caitlina.schneider@gmail.com
- **Fee: Free**

Continuing in 2026, members must also commit to volunteering at least five (5) hours per year at SPHERE events. We have found that the same members offer a helping hand when needed and it would nice if all members gave back at times when we need some help (town events, jewelry workshops, art shows, etc.)

SPHERE In Action

SPHERE in Action members will coordinate volunteers for multiple SPHERE events as well as providing an opportunity to engage with other community organizations as a means of fostering community involvement. All members and volunteers need to commit to **five** hours of volunteer time - whether for a SPHERE event or a community partner.

You may earn your five (5) hours in two different ways:

1. By volunteering for SPHERE in Action Events. These opportunities will be announced at programs and/or sent by email notification.
2. By volunteering on your own in your own community. If you choose this option, please send a picture of yourself, email it to arlene.litt@att.net or judyannmcc@yahoo.com, so that we may document your volunteer activity.

SPHERE in Action is a service group. This group will NOT be planning social events for members. We will be planning and coordinating volunteers as a means of service to SPHERE and the local community.

- Multiple events for 2026 – Information to come out per event via email
- Run by Arlene Litt - arlene.litt@att.net and Judy McCormick – judyannmcc@yahoo.com

Free Programs: All **active SPHERE Members** are invited to participate in Bingo and Board Games at 421 Main Street (participants must pay \$2 for the first bingo card and \$1 for any additional bingo cards to play).

SPHERE Walking Club is also a fee-free way to stay involved in SPHERE and stay in shape! Walking Club will resume in the Spring if there is an interest by members.

Membership also permits SPHERE Members to participate in other SPHERE activities, such as the SPHERE-wide celebrations, SPHERE Talks, Field Trips, and special events. **You must be a member to participate in any of the free programs (which includes our celebrations).**

There are also a limited number of financial scholarships for members who may not be able to pay the entire fee(s). To request a scholarship, please send an email to Lori Berisford at loriberis@aol.com. Needs will then be presented to the SPHERE Board for final determination.

Not all scholarships are able to be granted and you are still responsible for \$50 annual dues.

Every SPHERE Member must complete the enclosed application every year and include a \$50 check for annual membership. You also need to pay for the programs you will be attending this year. Membership dues and program fees are due no later than December 15th.

Please be sure to mark on the invoice ALL the programs you will attend (whether they have a fee or not).

As always, parents and support staff are invited to attend our SPHERE Talks. If you are not on our email distribution and would like to be, please let Lori know.

If you have any questions, please email me at loriberis@aol.com or call me at 203.788.1892.

Thank you!
Lori Berisford
President & Board Chair



Please select the programs you wish to attend. Payment is due by December 15, 2025:

SPHERE
PO Box 1136, Ridgefield, CT 06877

	Fee	Check if Participating	Amount Due
<i>Annual Membership</i>	\$50	X	\$50 REQUIRED FOR ALL
<i>Art Class</i>	\$100		
<i>Walking Club</i>	No Fee		
<i>SPHERE-It Creations</i>	\$100		
<i>Book Club</i>	No Fee		
<i>Cooking Class</i>	\$150/session	CLASS CLOSED	CLASS CLOSED
<i>Music & Performing Arts</i>	\$150		
<i>Bingo or Board Games</i>	No Fee		
<i>SPHERE Talks</i>	No Fee		
		Annual Membership	\$50 REQUIRED
		Program Fees	
		GRAND TOTAL	

Member Name: _____
Shirt Size: _____

SEND CHECKS AND A COPY OF THIS INVOICE TO:

**SPHERE OF CT
P.O. Box 1136
Ridgefield, CT 06877**

OR DIGITAL OPTION:

Email Invoice to loriberis@aol.com with your program choices and pay fees via VENMO*, @SPHERE-CT.
***Please note member's name in the note/memo area.**