

# January podcast

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**Amy 00:15**

Hello, everyone. Welcome to our January podcast from the Clinton-Macomb Public Library. My name is Amy, I'm an Adult Services Librarian. And with us is Meghan.

**Meghan 00:26**

Well, hello, whenever you're listening,

**Amy 00:29**

and Justine.

**Justine 00:31**

Hello.

**Amy 00:32**

So, CMPL recently subscribed to a new digital services service called Kanopy. And in it it's basically streaming content movies and documentaries and TV shows. It bills itself as thoughtful entertainment. So, it's not necessarily the Marvel movies and things like that. But there's lots of content that that I was surprised by. So, we're gonna talk about some of that today. Who wants to go first?

**Meghan 01:06**

I'll jump in. One of the things so yeah, I created a Kanopy account last month in December when we first got it. And I've been poking around a little a little bit. I've added lots of things to my watch list.

**Amy 01:24**

So, have I. I've got more things on my list than I've actually watched.

**Meghan 01:28**

Yes, same. Because there are a lot of movies and I don't always have time to watch movies. But what I one of the things that I was really looking for were things that I could watch with my recently turned nine year old. So he's at that kind of weird age where like, he doesn't really want kids stuff. And I don't want to watch, you know, really like kids stuff. So what it was there that we could watch together. And so yes, I've added a bunch of things to the watch list. Some of them are like, and they seem sort of anime adjacent because of that. So, I was excited about some of those things. There's something called Padma Patema Inverted, which looks like something we would both enjoy. There's also some old stuff like a ton of Jim Henson stuff, which I love the Muppets. We like

Fraggles. So, I'm kind of excited to watch these kind of weird things from the 80s Jim Henson's the storyteller hit those are a couple series and some other specials,

**Amy 02:35**

Jim Henson, because yes, I took my 10-year-old to the Jim Henson like exhibit. And she had no I felt like I failed as a parent because she was like, who, are these characters? I know, I know. I was like, what have I done? Or not? No.

**Meghan 02:52**

I think it helps that his 18-year-old sister is also into, like, Labyrinth.

**Amy 02:59**

Sure.

**Meghan 03:01**

The What's that other Dark Crystal?

**Amy 03:03**

Yeah, yeah.

**Meghan 03:04**

So yes, we were excited to watch those things together. And then there's some other like kind of stuff from the 80s. Like, I saw All Dogs Go to Heaven. Yes. I loved that movie. And so, I'm excited to kind of go back and see things that I forgot about that I would just absolutely make the rest of my family watch.

**Amy 03:25**

I do think that like browsing through Kanopy for the purpose of this podcast was kind of like a trip down nostalgia lane. I was like, they have this movie that I loved. And so, I do like that about it, we should probably take a moment to explain how Kanopy works. Sure, I should have done that at the beginning but I didn't. So CMPL patrons get 15 what they call tickets to us every month and everything you choose to watch costs a certain number of tickets, kids content is free. It doesn't cost you any tickets. You can watch as much of it as you want. Other content ranges between one and five tickets. So, we thought 15 was a good number that should provide a lot of quality content for people each month.

**Meghan 04:15**

Yeah, and this kid stuff the it ranges you know from one or two tickets for the movies to there are a few TV shows that are kind of in that Y-7, PG rated kind of realm that I think we would like to gather one is Atlantis from the BBC, which is something I didn't even know existed but kind of seems fantasy-esque I love stuff from the BBC. But we're not going to watch murder mysteries together.

**Amy 04:40**

That's my whole list of things to talk about.

**Justine** 04:45

Oh, yeah. Also, on the topic of kids, I think it's anything that's on the kids unlimited section. That's only one ticket right? Or is it just free?

**Amy** 04:55

It's no tickets from kids unlimited.

**Justine** 04:57

Yeah. So, anything that's in the kids that area is free to all patrons.

**Amy** 05:02

Yeah, there is like Meghan, Meghan commented, there's some stuff that that will appeal to kids, but it's not necessarily considered straight up kids programming, so that would cost tickets.

**Meghan** 05:15

But I'm excited to watch some of this stuff. As a family.

**Amy** 05:19

Sure, sure. What about you, Justine?

**Justine** 05:24

Um, I have a few animated movies. So, um, yeah, there's a lot of anime stuff. This is more adult. But a lot of Satoshi cone is on there. So, Millennium Actress. That's one of my favorite movies.

**Amy** 05:41

So not the Muppets?

**Justine** 05:42

No, not the Muppets. Um, I would say maybe Loving Vincent. This is an anime. Um, but it's animated like a Vincent van Gogh painting, and it's about a man trying to piece together the last days of Van Gogh's life. So like, maybe this cute Oh, yeah. Um, Secret of Kells, I would recommend for kids.

**Meghan** 06:08

That's on my watch list.

**Justine** 06:09

Yeah. Yeah, I really liked that one. It's like, illustrated, like an illuminated manuscript. It's very unique. I enjoyed it a lot.

**Amy** 06:19

Excellent. So, I, if anyone's ever heard me on this podcast, or anywhere else in the library, I like thrillers and crime, like that's my bag that what I like to watch. So, I was excited to see, I know you've seen it in the news lately, the Gilgo Beach murders and how they look for this suit, like, in real life, like, they've looked for this serious serial killer. And they recently caught him. And when that happened, it sparked this, like, oh, there was a documentary about these murders that I've always meant to watch. And it's on Kanopy. So, I was super excited. It's called The Killing Season. And it's from 2016. So, it's a little bit older, but it's always been in the back of my brain took to watch this. So, I'm excited to watch that there's, there's also a lot of other really interesting documentary topics, that that sort of just kept pinging my brain like, oh, yeah, I remember when that came out. And I was gonna watch it. So, I'm excited for the documentary section. Just overall.

**Justine 07:26**

I have a lot of documentaries I can recommend

**Amy 07:32**

I mean, I shouldn't talk about this because I don't know if they're in Kanopy but like, some of the documentaries I've seen are so fascinating to me, like the King of Kong. Have you seen that, Justine? No. It sounds like I'd like it. I'd like it's this guy going for the world record in Donkey Kong. And it's the most fascinating subculture I've ever watched in our about like, and then war of the words like competitive scrabble players.

**Meghan 07:46**

Hmm.

**Amy 07:49**

Fascinating. Fascinating. These people have no social life but are smarter than all of us times three. Like it's like all they do is played Scrabble it seems like, but anyway, I've gotten ridiculously off topic.

**Meghan 08:14**

Word Wars Tiles and Tribulations of the Scrabble Circuit is available on Kanopy up.

**Amy 08:20**

Shut up! Is it?

**Meghan 08:22**

Yes.

**Amy 08:22**

Justine, you have to watch.

**Justine 08:25**

I'm adding it to my list. It sounds good.

**Meghan 08:29**

One of the things King is King of Kong is not I did not say that one.

**Amy 08:34**

Okay, fair enough.

**Meghan 08:35**

One of the random like one of the things that I searched when I was looking for stuff was of Michigan, just to kind of see what was related to Michigan. And there are quite a few documentaries, based in Michigan too, some a few about the Flint water crisis. But some also about local businesses, or certain series of episodes of PBS series that take place, as well as some feature films. But if you're looking for local stuff, there's even some of that on my Kanopy.

**Amy 09:05**

That's awesome. Another thing I was excited to see was, this is not a documentary, The Whale starring Brendan Fraser. He won the Oscar last year for his portrayal. In this film, it's about excuse me, a guy in Idaho. He's a recluse. He's unhealthy. He's basically eating himself to death, but he desperately wants to reconnect with his estranged daughter. I haven't seen it yet. But I remember thinking, Oh, we should probably watch this Oscar winning film. Because when I think of Brendan Fraser I only think of The Mummy so so, that was another one I was excited to watch. And then I was excited that the Great Courses are available on Kanopy. So if you're not familiar with Great Courses, it's...it's basically their motto is now never stop learning. And they have courses or like a series classes is not the right term. But you. You can learn things from watching these episodes and so many different topics. I'm most excited for the cooking episodes. Some of them look absolutely fascinating. I think my husband already watched the beer episode to learn about all the different types of beer. But there's like learn a language public speaking how to survive a disaster, the best places to travel to and...and what you should do while you're traveling there. Like there's so many different topics. And those are all available through Kanopy as well.

**Meghan 10:43**

Yeah, what is kind of neat, too, that they talked about. And you'll...you'll see if you log in, so and is that some of these have supplemental materials. So, some of the great courses, it's not just the video, but you can download a PDF with printouts basically that go with the course. So, I thought that was kind of neat, too, so that you could have access to information even if you aren't watching him. And I say easier to do on a computer because it's an app. So, you can do it on a computer or on a mobile device. You can watch Kanopy content, but you can also put it on your TV.

**Amy 11:19**

Yeah, which was

**Justine 11:21**

oh, sorry, continue

**Amy 11:21**

you go Justine.

**Justine 11:23**

For anybody who has hoopla it's a similar system. I've noticed that canopy is available on more devices, though, that hoopla. Um, so like your Roku, if you have a smart TV, a lot of times it'll be an app on there.

**Amy 11:38**

Yeah, I am not the most tech savvy human being and I found it super easy to get it onto our TV. Yes, so I feel like I was going to mention something else and I don't remember what it was. So, someone keep talking so I can think of what it was, no pressure.

**Justine 11:55**

Or not just documentaries because I have those recommendations but also silent movies. Um, not all silent movies are public domain yet. We're getting there though. But if you want high quality, I definitely recommend going on Kanopy and checking them out. They have stuff like A Trip to the Moon, my favorite on there as Metropolis, which is a science fiction one. It's like a one a Weimar Germany one. Um,

**Meghan 12:25**

it's pretty famous.

**Justine 12:27**

Yeah, like see Threepio .

**Meghan 12:29**

I thought it was boring.

**Justine 12:30**

I loved it! The special effects. I was like, wow, they were trying their best.

**Meghan 12:38**

That's fair it was from the 20s I think right?

**Amy 12:40**

So I have very early any film without sound I would concur with Meghan is probably boring. Like, I can't think I don't know.

**Justine 12:50**

No, it's not that it's like, I just find things very quaint. I'm like, oh, it's cute, because they were trying their hardest. Yeah, um, I was gonna recommend Buster Keaton as well. I think like most of his films are on Kanopy. Um, so definitely like, if you want to watch comedy, I think some Charlie Chaplin is on there. So, definitely check out those. They're the classics.

**Meghan** 13:24

And I'm sure it is interesting to note, like how film has evolved and like what people were trying in the medium when it was new. I can see how that would be interesting in sort of an academic, academic pursuit.

**Amy** 13:41

Yeah, if you're into that. You're into that smart stuff.

**Justine** 13:47

No, I think it's fun.

**Amy** 13:50

I remember I was going to say real fast before I forget again. So, if you are interested in using Kanopy the first time you do it, you'll log in with your library card, but it will ask you to set up an account with your email address and password and going forward, you would log in that way. Some people think it's weird when they don't just use their library card. So, I wanted just to let people know that it's bad, not weird and what is supposed to happen?

**Meghan** 14:16

Yeah. On the total opposite end of the spectrum of you know, early out of copyright movies, there are things like Amy was saying like *The Whale* that was an Oscar nominee last or Oscar winner last year. There's a whole bunch of stuff from A24, which I feel like is a studio that really shoots hard for Oscar Oscar nominees. So, *The Farewell* with Akwafina I always meant to watch *The Green Knight* but I never did it is I think last year with Dev Patel. *Marcel the Shell with Shoes On* I have never seen that. Do you?

**Justine** 14:52

It's on my list too.

**Meghan** 14:55

My son gets so mad when we say it's time for bread, instead of bed is from...from that from that book, but book movie little short, but there's a full length movie and I really want to watch it. And I can on Kanopy. Amy?

**Justine** 15:12

Oh, Amy, you're muted.

**Amy** 15:14

Of course I am. I like that. In addition to like normal categories of things to browse, like movies and documentaries and dramas and comedies, I really like the category that's like, the most watched movies of 2023 on Kanopy and like that it divides it up different ways for you. So, I can be like, yeah, what's everyone else watching? That's what I want to watch, too. So, there's lots of great ways to browse on Kanopy as well. All right, do we have more to say?

**Meghan** 15:45

The only other thing that I was gonna say the stuff that I've actually watched so far is mostly shorts, which I feel like I don't often have an opportunity to see I just don't think of them. Until it's Oscar season. And exactly. Oh, no one has seen me. Yes. But perhaps now we'll be able to Oscar nominations aren't out, but the Oscar nominated or the Oscar winner from last year live action is on here. And so, we've watched just a few of those because they're anywhere from I honestly, I saw some that were like an hour long, but some of them are only like six minutes, animated and live action both. And it is just kind of neat to see. Just like I like short stories. It's kind of neat to see a whole complete thing that is just short.

**Amy 16:31**

I agree. We went we went to Disney World a few years ago, and we were so hot, like it was so hot outside. We stopped in to see like, into this air-conditioned space that was showing Disney short films. It was one of my favorite things of the trip. Like it really is a interesting sort of, I don't know that genre is the right word. But like it's...it's fascinating to watch people tell a story so quickly and have it be so good. So

**Justine 17:02**

yeah, I think Hair Love is on Kanopy, which I enjoyed that one a lot. I think that was an Oscar nominated or winning Best Short Film, I would recommend that animated one.

**Amy 17:13**

Like Megan, every time the Oscars rolled around and they're doing the short category. I'm like, are you going I seen this I would want to watch so. Yeah, that's great. All right. Are we good?

**Meghan 17:26**

I think so. I think so. It's new. encourage everybody to just get in there. And

**Amy 17:34**

Yes, new for 2024 sign up for Kanopy. If you have any questions, contact us at the library. But otherwise, thanks for listening, and we'll see you 2024.