

A Visual Journey of Family: Book of Life Scrapbook-Making Workshop Preparatory Checklist

Before the workshop, participants spend time delving into their own personal history to gather family photos, vital records, and other materials that will help shape the story of their families.

To best prepare for the workshop, participants should follow the [Preparatory Checklist](#) below.

- Choose ONE side of the family (paternal or maternal) to focus on.
- Gather...
 - A photo of you as a child.
 - Photos of your parents/guardians.
 - Photos of your early life.
 - Photo of you with ONE parent/guardian of focus.
 - Photos of your parent/guardian of focus.
- Choose which ancestor's story you will highlight.
- Find old family photos, memorabilia, or other records (like newspaper clippings, obituaries, baptismal records, etc.).
- Access vital records (marriage, birth, and death certificates, census, deeds, etc.) using the library's archives or online searches on ancestry sites.
- Make high quality copies of the original documents. (Do not use original photos or other records.)
- Be prepared to provide contextual information about an historic moment or memory connected to your ancestor's life. (Maybe they fought in the Battle of Midway in the Pacific Theater during WWII. You may not have an image of them during the battle, but if you can find a newspaper article about the battle, it can be included in your BOL.)

Research and Workshop Prep

If you're planning to attend the BOL workshop at the Spurlock Museum on Friday, October 25 or Saturday, October 26, the Champaign County Historical Archives at The Urbana Free Library is here to help!

To complete items from the [Preparatory Checklist](#), you can use the genealogy databases available at the Archives. Here's how.

1. Visit during regular business hours to access the genealogy databases.
2. Receive guided assistance from Champaign County Genealogical Society volunteers during the evening Research and Workshop Prep dates.
3. Print records from your search and make color copies of family photos during the workshop prep.

Research and Workshop Prep dates

October 3, 10, and 17 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Urbana Free Library
210 W Green St, Urbana, IL 61801