



North Country Virtual Manga Book Club: Info Sheet

First Meeting: Tuesday, August 25, 2026, 5pm

Zoom Link:

<https://zoom.us/j/93506869020?pwd=WWhVweddemYrMkrGAjb4MdrxWMu6Di.1>

What is it? The North Country Virtual Manga Book Club is a monthly book club, launching in August 2026 and held via Zoom, open to anyone across the North Country of New York. It is a joint project of the Northern NY Manga Interest Group and will be facilitated by library workers from a range of libraries across the region, including the Akwesasne Cultural Center, Canton Free Library, Fulton Public Library, Gouverneur Public Library, Northern New York Library Network, and Plattsburgh Public Library.

What will happen at the first meeting of the NoCo Virtual Manga Book Club? The first meeting will be a chance for participants to meet each other, review some ground rules for participation, share the manga they've been reading, ask and provide recommendations, and make decisions about how the book club will proceed. (e.g., *Will the group read the same book? Will the group read different books by the same manga artist? Will the group read different books in the same manga genre or subgenre? Will the book club need to split into groups?*)

When will the book club meet? The first book club will meet via Zoom on *Tuesday, August 25 2026, at 5:00pm*. Subsequent book clubs will meet via Zoom on a recurring monthly date, to be decided at the August meeting of the book club.

Who is welcome? Anyone in northern New York is welcome to attend: seasoned manga readers, manga novices, you name it. The book club is for all ages. Parental or caregiver guidance and participation is recommended for participants under 13. Parents or caregivers of

all participants, no matter their age, are welcome. Intergenerational programs offer special opportunities for lifelong learning and exchange of skills and perspective, and we hope to foster an environment where this is possible. Depending on the quantity of participants, or on the reading interests of the group, the book club may split into smaller groups to allow for more rich, diverse, or in-depth conversations or reading experiences. Library workers hosting manga clubs that want to connect with others across the region are welcome to bring their groups to this virtual book club.

Why is this book club being started? Manga is one of the fastest-growing readerships in the United States, especially among younger readers. It features wide genre diversity, promotes multimodal learning, supports social emotional learning, allows for deep narrative exploration, and fosters visual literacy. It's also a source of rich storytelling and a whole lot of fun. Many of the group's facilitators came to manga because they saw what an impact it made in terms of teen engagement at their libraries, and many found it purely as readers. To sum it up: reading is awesome, and this is another way to support that.

How can I sign up? If you are interested in participating, no need to sign up. Just show up on August 25 at 5pm to the following Zoom link:

<https://zoom.us/j/93506869020?pwd=WWWhVweddemYrMkrGAjb4MdRxWMu6Di.1>

If you can't make the first meeting but would like to participate in the coming months, either watch for promotional materials from your local North Country library or email Amy to be added to the reminders list: amy@nnyln.org.

Questions? If you have any further questions about the club, we welcome them! Email Amy Dickinson (amy@nnyln.org), the Regional Services Librarian at the Northern NY Library Network.