Plans in Place for Further “Turning Outward” Efforts in Fall

As many residents in Altadena heard about or experienced at a Community Conversation and the Town Hall Meeting held in April, Altadena Library District has become increasingly intentional about evaluating its role and impact in the community. The Community Conversations, an initiative that took place in early 2017 in homes and organizations across Altadena, provided ample feedback that the Library has been using to develop changes in programs and increases in resources available to the public to better serve the community.

The dedicated team that coordinated the Community Conversations and attended specialized community outreach training at Harwood Institute is assembling once more to plan the exciting, new programs and events. Currently on the list of upcoming programs are more Community Conversations at local coffee shops in the area, block parties at the Library to connect residents with local organizations in Altadena, educational panels about the priorities identified during the project, and more.

Feeling inspired? Email hello@altadenalibrary.org and tell us how you want to be involved in these projects!

50th Anniversary Celebrations Continue with Taste of ’Dena

June’s Growing Up ’Dena Celebration was only the beginning of the 50th Anniversary fun at the Library! In honor of the Main Library building’s historic anniversary, the Library’s 50th Anniversary Committee is keeping the celebration going into the fall with Taste of ’Dena, a fundraiser on Saturday, September 23rd, from 7:00 - 9:30pm supporting future improvements to the Library’s facilities that will expand creative programming and impact even more of Altadena’s residents.

The evening will consist of delectable wine, beer, and spirit tastings, elegant amuse-bouches from a diverse assortment of local restaurants and caterers, and exciting prize drawings, including a mystery Wine Pull.

Inspired by community feedback during the Community Conversations and mobility needs in Altadena, all proceeds will benefit the development of a community-oriented, interactive, outdoor space around the Main Library building. This expanded and improved garden environment will increase the Library’s capacity to provide outdoor learning opportunities for children and teens, a serene reading space surrounded by indigenous flora for patrons of all ages, and a natural venue for passersby and walkers seeking a place for rest and communion.

Spots will go quickly for this special opportunity for Altadena to gather and celebrate one of Altadena’s longest standing institutions, so interested guests are encouraged to buy tickets as soon as possible! Tickets can be purchased online at:

TASTEOFDENA.EVENTBRITE.COM

If this project holds significant meaning for you and you feel inspired to support Taste of ’Dena in a more meaningful way, there are also multiple opportunities for sponsorship of this event, all of which can be reviewed at the link above.
Engaging the Community’s Passion for Music into the Library’s Regular Programming

To close out Summer Reading, the Library is inviting the public to its Grand Finale concert on Friday, August 29th, at 7:30pm, featuring world-renowned Latin Grammy Award-winning violinist and her band. There will be a group performance and a Q&A session to discuss the musical opportunities and ventures of our patrons!

First, our Summer Reading program will soon draw to a close but not without a couple of key musical moments! On Sunday, August 11th, at 6:30pm, the Main Library will welcome local talent. A series of talented songwriters and music lovers will gather to share their music, create an atmosphere of joy and socialize. The event will be held on the rooftop of the library.

The Bird Market of Paris by Nikki Moustaki
Nikki Moustaki has had a lifelong love affair with birds, a devotion inspired and nurtured by her grandfather’s passion and respect for these creatures. Her books and articles about birds and their behavior, in particular, are filled with passion and love for these animals. Her new book, "The Bird Market of Paris," is a personal account of her life with birds, as well as a reflection on the role of birds in our daily lives.

ALTADEÑA LIBRARY DISTRICT’S BOARD’S UPDATE

Over 20 people, consisting of the District’s Board of Trustees, the Board of the Friends of AltaDeña Library, the AltaDeña Library Foundation Board, and community members committed to supporting the Library, gathered on Tuesday, July 29th, to learn, collaborate, and strategize about the Library’s future. Led by Stu Wilson, the Board also had an open forum to discuss the Library’s strategic plan.

MAXINE KITTAY, Library Director

The staff picks for the Adult Collection

Staff Picks for the Adult Collection

It’s never too late for “Learning New Things,” the theme of this month’s staff picks for adults!

Essential Pruning Techniques: Trees, Shrubs, and Conifers by George E. Brown
Why? Step-by-step photographs will teach you how to prune, plus you will learn why pruning is necessary, and how trees and shrubs get pruned in their natural environments.

Homesteading from Scratch: Building Your Self-Sufficient Homestead, Start to Finish by Steven Jones
Why? Learn self-sufficiency as it applies to farming, acquiring land, and keeping your home, your family, and your children healthy.

Astrophysics for People in a Hurry by Neil deGrasse Tyson
Why? Called “a masterful work,” this succinct guide answers everyone who learn about space, time, and the universe.

Tuesdays Nights 7pm - 8pm
No Guilt Book Club
July Reviews - Sometimes the Smallest Things Take Up the Most Room In Your Heart

Spill Simmer Falter Whiter by Sara Baume
What did I use to do all day without you? I can’t remember. That’s a line that has been spoken to me in a variety of contexts and in varying tones of voice. In Spill Simmer Falter Whiter, it is the final line. With two outcasts—Ray, a man ignored, even shunned by his village, and his one-eyed dog, One Eye, he takes his quiet, tightly shuttered life—find each other, by accident or fate, and forge an unlikely but tight connection. As their friendship grows, their small, seaside town suddenly takes note of them, falsely perceiving menace where there is only misjudgment. Threatened with having to give up his damaged beast, Ray and One Eye take to the back roads of the Irish countryside in a spattering car, rambling and creative, until finally, they return to the library.

The Bird Market of Paris by Nikki Moustaki
Nikki Moustaki has had a lifelong love affair with birds, a devotion inspired and nurtured by her grandfather’s passion and respect for these creatures. Her books and articles about birds and their behavior, in particular, are filled with passion and love for these animals. Her new book is a personal account of her life with birds, as well as a reflection on the role of birds in our daily lives.

TUESDAY AUGUST 8, 2017
The 19th Wife by David Ebershoff
Fooling Houdini: Magicians, Mentalist, Math Geeks, & The Hidden Powers of the Mind by Alex Stone
DISTRICT UPDATE

Introducing Koha: A Modernized Integrated Library System (ILS) for Altadena Library

In response to feedback from both staff and the public, Altadena Library District is updating its Integrated Library System (ILS) from Millennium to Koha, a modern, technologically superior platform called Koha. A library’s ILS is the key software in operations, tracking the entire inventory of books, music, DVDs, and other materials, patron information, circulation, and all acquisitions of new materials. Without an up-to-date system, a library’s key functions can be slowed and even halted entirely in certain cases. Thus, with the transition over to Koha, the District will experience an increase in operational capacity and free up staff to spend more time engaging with the public and providing personal customer service.

Koha will include numerous improved features for patrons: crisp and exciting visuals in the Public Catalog, language selection: private and public book lists, text message notifications, email notifications and community commentary on books, self-registration, and no more $1.00 surcharge per transaction on lost item fees. The new system is set to launch September 1st, and because we understand it can be challenging to learn a new system, both in person and telephone support services will be available during the transition.

The name Koha is a Māori term for “gift,” and what a gift this system is for the Altadena Library District! We are looking forward to implementing this new ILS and enjoying the benefits and improved functionality both behind the scenes for staff and in the public sphere for our patrons.

BOB LUCAS BRANCH LIBRARY UPDATES & EVENTS

Adult Literacy Program

Whether you are interested in improving your reading or writing, let them know that the Adult Literacy Program at the Branch Library welcomes new learners at all levels. We have friendly, patient, and enthusiastic literacy tutors who are eager to help adult learners reach their personal and professional goals. Or, if you are interested in becoming a volunteer tutor, we’d love to have you join the dozens of others tutors who have made a positive difference in someone else’s life. Inquire today at the Bob Lucas Branch Library!

Make Your Own Slime

Thursday, August 3, at 3:30pm
Green? Pink? Blue? Whatever color you like, come to the Bob Lucas Branch Library and learn how to make your own batch of colored slime to take home.

Family Game Day

Every 2nd Friday of the month

TGIF - Play board games with friends and family or others at the Branch Library.

Movie Day

Friday, August 18, at 3:30pm
Come enjoy a free showing of Smurfs: The Lost Village. Popcorn will be provided for as long as supplies last.

Family Game Day

Every 2nd Friday of the month

TGIF - Play board games with friends and family or others at the Branch Library.

Animal Finger Puppets

Join us to make some fun animal finger puppets! Make all the animals found on a farm and more! (Level of Difficulty: Easy to Moderate)

Movie Day

Friday, September 22, at 3:30pm
Come enjoy a free showing of Baby Boss. Popcorn will be provided for as long as supplies last.

COMMUNITY FEATURE

Patron Spotlight: Allisonse Crawford

Shaping Altadena’s Future Through PTA Leadership

Allisonse Crawford is no stranger to Altadena. Having grown up in Altadena, she is a longtime supporter of Altadena Library and well-versed in the community’s needs. Pleased with her understanding of Altadena’s community, her Pupil Personnel Services credential in School Counseling, her professional background working in the Los Angeles County of Education, and her proud role as mother of a bright 5th grade Honor student, making her the perfect fit for her new position at Altadena Elementary School, President of the Parent Teacher Association (PTA). Altadena Elementary School has gone through many transitions in the past several years, from shifts in leadership to a major renovation, and Allisonse is pleased to foster consistency in parent engagement through the PTA to ultimately better the school for the current students and students in generations to come.

Joining the PTA no longer means just sitting in on occasional meetings. Opportunities are much more meaningful today and can include helping with the school’s Open Drive Carefully Campaign, Basin Robbins Family Fun Night, Box Tops, Teacher Volunteer Appreciation, Read Across America, and more! Allisonse is excited to connect parents and students to a place she spent much of her childhood exploring - Altadena Library District. At the start of the school year, she is seeking parent volunteers to help coordinate an Altadena Library Children’s Tour and Library Card Registration to make students and their families familiar with the resources the Library offers for children of all ages.

“Family engagement is a key priority for our school and a huge part of PTA’s mission,” Allisonse shares. “Research shows that [it] advances children’s learning and growth, increases student achievement, and positively impacts school improvement efforts.”

Interested parents at Altadena Elementary School are invited to attend the PTA’s first association meeting of the school year on Tuesday, August 8th, at 6:30pm in Room 112 at the school. Altadena Library is excited to explore what this connection with Allisonse and, in turn, the local PTA will do to benefit Altadena’s youth and their parents!

UPSTREAM

Don’t Miss These Fascinating Eclipse Events!

Understanding the Eclipse

Join us as we learn from the Carnegie Science Observatories about this amazing phenomenon.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5
10:00AM - 3:00PM

Eclipse Viewing

In August, a solar eclipse will cross the sky above North America. Join us to receive FREE eclipse glasses and watch this natural occurrence.

MONDAY, AUGUST 21
9:05AM - 11:43AM

FREE eclipse viewing glasses are available for all in attendance and for the public at the Information Desk at the Main Library.

SPECIAL EVENT

Share Your Community Events With Our Online Community Calendar

Gone are the days of needing to pursue multiple sources to find events in Altadena. Altadena Library has launched an Altadena-specific Community Calendar for residents, organizations and businesses to stay up-to-date on the latest happenings throughout Altadena. Users can enter events directly to the calendar for all to see!

Start exploring and submitting your community events today at www.altadenalibrary.org
Staff Picks from the Children’s Collection
How quickly time flies when we’re having fun in the summer sun! School is almost back in session so we are happy to provide Back to School titles to get your little ones ready for a new school year!

Real Friends by Shannon Hale
Newbery Honor author Shannon Hale and New York Times bestselling illustrator LeUyen Pham join forces in this graphic memoir about how hard it is to find your real friends—and why it’s worth the journey. A great back to school exploration of what it means to be real friends!

Daddy’s Back-to-School Shopping Adventure by Alan Lawrence Stormer
What do glow-in-the-dark glue sticks, an electronic garbage truck pencil sharpener, and neon paper clips have in common? Not one of them is on the list and yet they all end up in the back-to-school cart when Daddy, Jake, and Jenny pack out school supplies while Mommy’s off shopping in another part of the store. In this heartwarming and hilarious tale, Jake and Jenny surprise Daddy with one more special item that most definitely isn’t on the list.

Back to Dog-Gone School by Amy Schmidt
From the bus stop to the last bell, this photographic Step 2 easy reader—consisting of school-themed poems—is sure to delight dog lovers and those anxious about going back to school.

Back to School Tortoise by Lucy M. George
It’s time to go back to school. But Tortoise is worried. What if he falls down? What if he doesn’t like lunch? What if the kids are mean to him? What if he falls down, doesn’t like lunch, and the kids are mean to him? The perfect back-to-school book about being brave, with a surprise at the end!

TEEN PROGRAMS - AUGUST
August is a great time for teens as we finish out the Summer Reading Program and gear up for the start of the new school year! Several of our favorite programs will be running again with new and exciting twists! Teen Game Day now features a new gaming console, the Xbox1, which joins our WiiU and PS4 systems. Be sure to stop by with your xBox games for a fun afternoon of gaming! Maker Monday will also be making Smore’s using only the power of the sun. Be sure to stop by for a delicious and scientific snack.

Understanding the Eclipse Saturday, August 5, 1:00pm Community Room
Maker Monday: Smore’s Solar Oven Monday, August 14, 4:00pm FabLab/Main Library Parking Lot
Eclipse Viewing Monday, August 21, 9:00am Main Library Parking Lot

Teens PSAT and SAT Prep Courses Will Be Available in Fall 2017
We are thrilled to announce a partnership with the Princeton Review to provide PSAT and SAT prep courses, starting October 29th with a practice PSAT I test. In the following months, participants will be given the opportunity to review their results and attend three more sessions covering information drawn from the results of the practice test.

If you have questions or would like to register yourself or your child, please email the participant’s name and grade level to teens@altadenalibrary.org. Please note that registration will be required for the practice test and recommended for the future learning sessions.

Staff Picks from the Teen Collection
Teens, get ready to head back to school by diving into these complex characters’ stories navigating the ups and downs of high school!

Asylum by Madeleine Roux
When Dan Crawford starts a new school year, he discovers that his dorm used be an asylum that served as a last resort for the criminally insane. As he and his new friends explore their home, they discover some terrifying secrets that refuse to stay buried.

This Is Not a Test by Courtney Summers
As the world collapses, Sioane is one of six students who hide in Cortege High. As she waits for the dead to break through the doors, Sioane is forced to see through the eyes of people who actually want to live. Will she give up or will she and her friends hold out for life?

A Great and Terrible Beauty by Libba Bray
After her mother’s death, Gemma is sent to the Science academy, a finishing school in England. She and her new friends discover a way to visit other realms where the power that seemed harmless quickly turns dark and menacing.
UPCOMING EVENTS - AUGUST

Beauty Bites Beast Screening and Q&A with Filmmaker Ellen Snortland
Saturday, August 5, at 3:30pm
Beauty Bites Beast flips ideas about female helplessness, as women and other at-risk folks undertake the transformative experience of learning verbal, emotional and physical empowerment based self-defense. How often can you say with certainty that a movie will save lives? This one already has.

Storytelling Jam with Lance Anderson
Mondays, August 7 & August 14, at 7:00pm

Songwriters Serve Up Farm Fresh Organic Music
Tuesday, August 8, at 6:30pm
Join us to feast on fresh music coming directly from songwriter’s hearts to listeners’ ears. Organic music has no fat, no fluff, no GMO and is simply pure home grown songs performed acoustically in the most simple storytelling form. Five songwriters whose individual uniqueness will be reflected in their lyrics and their style will each perform 4 songs. The songwriters include Jill Freeman, Raspin Sturz, Leslie Beaumes, Shelby & Tieg, and Petrella, First Lady of Country Soul who will also host the evening.

No Guilt Book Club
Tuesday, August 8, at 7:00pm
No guilt! Come even if you haven’t read the books!

View Our Artists on Display
Throughout the Month of August
Altadena Library is proud to feature the creations of local artists! Stop by in August to see a book art exhibit called “Parched” by artist Brenda Hurst in the glass display case at the Main Library. Subscribe to our e-newsletter at www.altadenalibrary.org or call 626-798-8338 to learn more about other artists on display throughout the month.

Culminating Storytelling Jam Performance
Monday, August 21, at 7:00pm
After weeks of developing their personal narratives, the participants of the Storytelling Jam workshop series will present their stories to the public. Join us to support these creatives and enjoy the diverse mix of stories!

Summer Reading Grand Finale Concert
Featuring El Twanguero
Friday, August 25, at 7:30pm
Join us to raise a glass to the end of summer while dancing the night away to world-renowned Spanish performer, master guitarist, songwriter, and Latin Grammy Award Winner El Twanguero and his talented band.

Library Board of Trustees Meeting
Monday, August 28, at 5:00pm

Open Mic Night
Tuesday, August 29, at 7:00pm
Based on popular demand, Altadena Library is bringing an Open Mic Night back to Altadena the last Tuesday of every month! Enjoy unique performances by musicians, storytellers, poets and more in the comfort of your neighborhood library. Some content may not be appropriate for all ages; discretion is advised.

Buy your tickets today for Taste of ’Dena!
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 7:00pm - 9:30pm
Tickets will go quickly for this special event supporting the Altadena Library District. We encourage you to take advantage of our easy online system to reserve your spot today!
Can’t attend but want to be a part of the impact? You can make a donation in the online ticket portal as well!
TASTEOFDENA.EVENTBRITE.COM

www.AltadenaLibrary.org

Main Library
600 E. Mariposa Street
Altadena, CA 91001
626-798-8338

Hours
Monday & Tuesday
10am to 9pm
Wednesday through Saturday
10am to 6pm

Passport Office (Main Library)
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
626-798-2950
Monday and Tuesday
9am to 8pm
Wednesday through Saturday
9am to 5pm

Bob Lucas Branch
2659 Lincoln Avenue
Altadena, CA 91001
626-798-8338

Hours
Monday, Tuesday & Friday
10am to 6pm
Wednesday & Thursday
10am to 8pm

Become a Friend of the Library
The Friends of the Library meet on the first Monday of each month (except July and August) at 7:30pm in the Community Room. You do not have to be a member to attend. For information, go to AltadenaLibrary.org/friends-library

SMILE
The Library often photographs or video tapes programs for use in publicity materials. By being present during these activities, you consent to use of your appearance or likeness by the Library, and its licensees, designees, or assignees, in all media, worldwide, in perpetuity. To ensure the privacy of individuals and children, images will not be identified using names or personal identifying information without written approval from the photographed subject, parent, or legal guardian. Thank you!