UPCOMING EVENTS - DECEMBER
Find Branch Library and Children’s Programs on page 6, and Teen Programs on page 7.

Open Studios Art on Display
Saturday and Sunday, December 2 and 3
Altadena Library will participate in Open Studios Art Tour and is proud to display art by participating artists! Learn more at openstudios.gallery.

Seed Library Grand Opening
Saturday, December 2, at 12:00pm - 12:00pm
Celebrate the launch of the new seed library with a special presentation “Introduction to Seed Saving” and a family-friendly seed ball activity following the Grand Opening!

“Being the Change” Book Talk & Signing
Saturday, December 2, at 4:30pm
Start your very own climate revolution at this presentation about author Peter Kalmus’ journey to living on 1/10th the fossil fuel. As Peter says, “It turns out to be pretty awesome!”

Second Saturday with Upbeat Swing Orchestra
Saturday, December 2, at 9:30pm
Bring your whole family to boogie to the big band sounds of the Upbeat Swing Orchestra! With food and drink available for sale, this is the hot place to spend your chilly winter evening! (See page 4 for details about the opening act...)

PLEASE NOTE - Tree Trimming at Main Library Sunday, December 3

Friends of the Altadena Library (FOAL) Meeting
Monday, December 4, at 7:30pm

ChapCare Enrollment Counselor at Library
Tuesday, December 5, at 5:00pm - 6:00pm
Stop by to learn about your healthcare options through Covered California with a Certified Enrollment Counselor at the Main Library.

Weekly All-Ages Chess Night
Tuesdays, December 5, 12, 19, and 26, at 6:30pm

Techies-in-Training Continues!
Wednesday, December 6, 13, 20, and 27, at 10:00am
Need a refresher on basic computer skills, including Microsoft Word, the Internet, and the Library’s digital resources? Register for one or more of these weekly classes by calling (626) 798-0833 x117.

EARLY MAIN LIBRARY CLOSURE FOR CHRISTMAS TREE LANE LIGHTING
Saturday, December 9, at 4:00pm

Small Business Workshops with LA County Rep
Saturday, December 16, from 10:00am - 12:00pm
Sign up for either “What Does It Take to Open Your Business?” at 10:00am or “Permits & Licensing Requirements in LA County” by BOTH by emailing hello@altadenalibrary.org.

“Nuts & Chews: An Evening of Hilarity and Zany”
Play Readings with Kres Mersky
Tuesday, December 19, from 7:00 - 9:00pm
Local playwright and actress Kres Mersky will thrill audiences with an evening of laughs and fun! No tickets required – just stop by and enjoy some levity!

DISTRICT CLOSURE IN OBSERVANCE OF CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL HOLIDAY
Friday, December 22 through Monday, December 25

Happy Holidays!

Please Note - Library Closures for Holidays
The Main Library will close early on Saturday, December 9 at 4:00pm for the Christmas Tree Lane Lighting event.

In observance of the Christmas holiday, the Library District will be closed from Friday, December 22 through Monday, December 25. The District will reopen on Tuesday, December 26 at normal operating hours. Please call (626) 798-0833 with any questions about the closures!

New Library Takes Root in Altadena
Altadena Library District is proud to announce its partnership with Seed Library of Los Angeles in establishing an Altadena chapter of the seed library. The new seed library will be housed at the District’s Main Library (600 E. Mariposa Street, Altadena) and will be open to the community on the first Saturday of every month from 10:00am to 12:00pm, starting Saturday, December 2nd.

“This is yet another example of the Altadena Library District’s diligent efforts to connect with an important initiative in our community and to bring new expertise to our patrons,” says Library Director Cindy Kiltay. “Through the educational programming provided by the Seed Library of Los Angeles and the ongoing operations of this new seed library, we will expand the knowledge of our already environmentally conscious community and provide community members with access to invaluable seed saving skills they may never have encountered otherwise.”

According to the Seed Library of Los Angeles, a seed library is defined as “a depository of seeds held in trust for the members of that library.” Members of a seed library are allowed to borrow seed for their garden, grow the plants in their garden, and, at the end of the season, collect seeds to return to the library to replenish the inventory for the good of the community. The benefits of seed libraries are numerous. They save participants money, they ensure a robust local food supply, they promote and help maintain biodiversity, and they provide a space for like-minded gardeners to commune and share knowledge.

The new seed library will celebrate its grand opening at the Altadena Main Library on Saturday, December 2nd, from 10:00am to 12:00pm with a special presentation by Chapter Coordinator Jessica Yarger and Seed Library of Los Angeles Chair Eleuterio Navarro. Guests will learn about the mission of Seed Library of Los Angeles, discuss introductory seed saving skills, and have an opportunity to become members of the seed library.

www.AltadenaLibrary.org

Main Library
600 E. Mariposa Street
Altadena, CA 91001
626-798-0833

Hours
Monday & Tuesday 10am to 5pm
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 or personal identifying information without written approval from the photographed subject, parent, or legal guardian. Thank you!
Throughout the Community Conversations process that launched almost a year ago, one topic that came up and continues to resurface repeatedly is the challenge of starting and maintaining a business in Altadena. Hopeful and eager entrepreneurs have tried time after time to break into the tricky Altadena market, and unfortunately, many ventures end in failure. Navigating the complex permitting and licensing processes of Los Angeles County can be daunting to even the most knowledgeable businessperson. To help ease our local aspiring entrepreneurs’ journey, we at Altadena Library District, your local link to expertise and resources, are thrilled to partner with Los Angeles County Department of Consumer & Business Affairs to offer two informative workshops in December for entrepreneurs and small business owners.

Both workshops will take place on Saturday, December 16, the first from 10:00am to 11:00am, and the second from 11:00am to 12:00pm. Facilitated by Ernesto Bobadilla, a Community Economic Development Liaison with the Department of Consumer & Business Affairs, the first workshop “What Does It Take to Open Your Business?” will cover what individuals need to consider when opening a business, including the elements of a business plan, financial considerations, and free resources available. In the second workshop “Permits & Licensing Requirements in LA County,” Bobadilla will delve into the different departments that handle the various permits and licenses, what to expect when dealing with LA County, and ways to expedite the process.

We hope by providing these special programs that the industrious doers in our community will be all the more empowered and equipped to launch a successful, local business! As previous Administrator of the US Small Business Administration once said, “Small businesses are really the engine in the economy.” We believe that. Local businesses are key threads in the rich fabric that is our community.

That being said, let us continue to dialogue about your needs and more ways that the Library can connect our community with new ideas and resources. While we need to postpone December’s Coffee and Cocktail Conversations, we will start again in January with renewed excitement!

On behalf of the staff of Altadena Library District,
I wish you and your loved ones Happy Holidays!

As always, never hesitate to email me at marilyn@altadennolibrary.org or call (626) 798-0833, ext. 103 with any questions or comments!

Mindy Kittay, Library Director

FROM F.O.A.L. PRESIDENT - MARK MARISCAL
Friends of the Altadena Library Update

As you read this article, “Giving Tuesday” has passed us by. For those of you that contributed to the Altadena Library Foundation or Friends of the Altadena Library, a BIG thank you! For those of you still interested in making a tax-deductible donation before the end of the 2017 year, please go to www.altadennolibrary.org/friends-library where you will find a link to donate, or you can drop off a check at the Library made payable to the Friends of the Altadena Library. Our small non-profit has committed to raising at least $24,000 to help support additional services for the community. Every bit helps.

During our special book sale at the Second Saturday Block Party in November, I picked up the book “Complete Fix-It.” I was working on some small electrical issues at home and this book had just the information I was looking for. My two-dollar investment was well worth it. While preparing for this holiday season (basically house cleaning), our family put together two boxes of books that we dropped off at the Library for the Friends to resell. I invite all of you to also consider donating any books that your family are no longer reading to the Friends of the Library Bookstore.

There are many events coming up in December. For the Friends, the biggest event is another “Saturday Pop-Up Book Sale.” It will be held on December 9th from 1:00 - 6:00pm and coincides with the lighting of Christmas Tree Lane, a long-time tradition here in Altadena. If you haven’t yet renewed your membership for the 2018 year, please drop by our booth that day where we will gladly accept your renewal. You can also mail it or just drop it off at the Library. On behalf of all the Friends of Altadena Library, I hope you have a safe and terrific Holiday Season.

COMMUNITY FEATURE
Connecting to Art in Altadena is Easier Than Ever Thanks to Open Studios

Altadena is an artistic community to its core. For years, the natural beauty of the mountains and the quiet atmosphere has attracted artists of all specialties. When continued support from Mac and Patrick Gathard first came on board, they fell in love with the eccentric community and were inspired by the artists they encountered. They started opening their home to their neighbors and interested lovers of art for small studio shows, and the synergy of the gatherings was intoxicating. Thus, Open Studios was born.

In 2013, the first Open Studios tour featured just 16 artists and one merchant. Since then, a hardworking group of volunteers with a variety of backgrounds was formed, all passionate about the impact of art in people’s lives and dedicated to growing this community initiative. Hundreds of volunteer hours have resulted in a beautiful, interactive website that features artists’ portfolios and a tour that is more inspiring than ever before. Just 4 short years later, the December 2017 tour will feature 45 participating artists at 24 locations across Altadena.

The growth continues. The leadership of Open Studios hopes to form an official 501c3 nonprofit organization, expanding their services into more facets of our community and fostering the Mission Valley event that builds familiarity in our neighborhoods. It is our goal to make art a part of our work and play. Partnerships with local schools will introduce the younger generations to not only the art world, but also to potential future mentor artists. New adult artists are always emerging and ready to be paired with experienced veterans of the art world. Co-founder Mary Gathard says, “The challenges of change make us stronger and bring people together. Our volunteers have skills that we haven’t even tapped into yet.” So much is on the horizon, and with their dedicated team, anything is possible.

Altadena Library is proud to act as host of Open Studios during the December 2017 tour, Stop by the Main Library between December 2 and 3 to pick up your map and view a selection of the art on display throughout the community! For more information, visit http://opendestudios.gallery/

NEWS FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Altadena Library District Elects New Board President John McDonald

Altadena Library District is pleased to announce the election of John McDonald as the District’s new President of the Board of Trustees. John has been a Trustee since 2015 and will serve on the Board until 2020. He has been a librarian for over 20 years, serving in a variety of roles at multiple universities in Southern California including Caltech, the Claremont Colleges, and USC.

“I am excited to succeed Ira Bershatsky as President of the Board of Trustees and am energized to continue to help evolve the mission of the Altadena Library District as we partner with the Friends, Foundation, and library staff to ensure continuous positive growth and development of our collections and services to meet the needs of this community.”

We are grateful for John’s continued contributions and look forward to his leadership in both our Library and our community.

Altadena Library District’s Board is comprised of five locally elected/appointed volunteers with a variety of backgrounds and expertise. It is the Board’s responsibility to represent the needs of the community and transform them into the policies that govern the District, through short- and long-term planning and ongoing oversight. Learn more online at www.altadennolibrary.org/about-board.

TECHNOLOGY CORNER
Check Out Mobile Hotspots from the Library

Nover worry about your WiFi needs on-the-go! Thanks to Altadena Library! 10 mobile hotspots are now available for checkout at both the Main Library and the Bob Lucas Branch. What is a hotspot? A hotspot is a small, portable device that can connect its user to WiFi almost anywhere. Traveling this holiday season and unsure of the connectivity where you’re traveling? Use a hotspot! Work remotely and need WiFi while you’re on the move? Use a hotspot! Want WiFi access while you’re checking Instagram on your phone at the beach? Use a hotspot!

Hotspots may be checked out for 7 days at a time, and no renewals are allowed. Ask our staff for a tutorial and see firsthand how useful a hotspot really is!
Join the Climate Revolution!
Learn How Peter Kalmus Learned to Live on 1/10th the Fossil Fuels (Apparently, It’s Pretty Awesome!)

Join us on Saturday, December 2, from 4:30 - 6:00 pm, for a presentation and book signing with author and JPL scientist Peter Kalmus, who recently published “Being the Change: Live Well and Spark a Climate Revolution.”

Life on 1/10th the fossil fuels turns out to be pretty awesome. We all want to be happy. Yet as we consume ever more in a frantic bid for happiness, global warming worsens. Alarmed by drastic changes now occurring in Earth’s climate systems, author, climate scientist and suburban father of two embarked on a journey to change his life and the world. The core message is deeply optimistic: living without fossil fuels is not only possible, it can be better.

Peter speaks purely on his own behalf, not on the behalf of NASA or Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

NUTS AND CHEWS
AN EVENING OF HILARITY AND ZANY

Tuesday, December 19
7:00 - 9:00 pm

A Reading of Plays Written by Kris Mersey & Teddy Gersten

Staff Picks for Adults
It may not be very cold outside in Southern California, but these picks will get you into a wintry mood!

A Winter’s Solstice III by Windham Hill Artists
Traditional carols and songs and music about winter performed by various Windham Hill recording artists. Jazz up your winter!

Eddie the Eagle Produced by Adam Bohling, Rupert Macconic, David Reid, Valerie Van Gilder, Matthew Vaughn; Written by Sean Macaulay, Simon Kellon; Directed by Dexter Fletcher
Follow Michael “Eddie” Edwards on his journey of training as a ski-jumper as he attempts to qualify for the Olympic Games. You will cheer Eddie on, and celebrate his triumph, as he makes a showing at the Winter Games of 1988.

Staff on Display - Alfred Haymond
Community Room & Reading Court

Originally from Los Angeles, Alfred has established himself as an accomplished photographer, writer and musician with an impressive body of work spanning over three decades. The assortment of images on display, from December 11 to December 30, is what Alfred commonly refers to as Observational Photography. “...finding those mundane occurrences happening all around that we seldom take notice of, and visually documenting them.”

Drawing his inspiration from iconic greats of the past, the likes of Gordon Parks, Vivian Maier and Arthur “Weegee” Fellig, Alfred takes an organic approach to composition whenever a camera is within reach. “I’ll hear the music of John Coltrane, Steely Dan, Marvin Gaye or something as equally hip, and it sets the tone for the moment. As the music plays, I’m instantly penning a short narrative in my mind - and the resulting photographs are a visual manifestation of that process.”

When asked why the majority of his work over the past couple of years has been comprised of primarily black & white studies – Alfred readily explains, “There is just something so quaint, therapeutic and very nostalgic about the medium – It takes you back in time, calls to mind fond memories and it just has a way of creating a visual experience that can be quite personal, profound and lasting.”

“I wish to express my appreciation to the Altadena Library for the opportunity to share my work with you, its patrons and with the community at large. As Southern California continues to innovate and stir an ever evolving creative artistic tide, it is exciting to be a part of such a movement which promotes beauty, dialogue and expression.”

Follow Alfred Haymond on Instagram @alfredhaymond.
Staff Picks for Children
Wintertime is here! Cuddle up with your young readers and enjoy these winter-themed picks from our Children’s Librarians. Be sure to track your winter reading online at altadenalibrary.beanstack.org
As part of Winter Reading, write or draw three reviews (of any books!) and submit them to win prizes!

Staff Picks for Teens
Oh, the weather outside is... well... moderate. BUT a fire can still be delightful and as long as you have no place to go this winter, cuddle up with these titles from our Young Adult section, and let it snow, let it snow, let it snow! (In places that it actually snows...)

CHRISTMAS' PROGRAMS

Pokemon Club
Tuesdays, 4:00 - 5:00pm
Except December 19 and 26

Baby Lap Time
Wednesdays, 10:15am
Except December 20 and 27

Toddler Story Time
Wednesdays, 11:00am
Except December 20 and 27

Preschool Story Time
Thursdays, 11:00am
Except December 21 and 28

Hora De Cuentos
Fridays, 11:00am
Except December 22 and 29

Lego Club
Fridays, 3:30 - 5:00pm
Except December 15, 22, and 29

Cards & Cookies
Thursday, December 14, at 4:00pm

It’s a season of giving... and eating. Join us in making winter cards for our neighbors, and then in decorating a cookie for yourself! Please be aware that cookies may contain allergens. This program is for families with preschool and school-aged children.

As part of Winter Reading, write or draw three reviews (of any books!) and submit them to win prizes!

POPCORN & PAGES

Announcing the Library’s First Ever Tween Book and Movie Club
“POPCORN & PAGES”

In January 2018, the Children’s Department is thrilled to present the first book and movie club for tweens (ages 10-12)! Through carefully planned weekly meetings and reading schedules, the club will read popular and classic books that have been turned into movies... and then you will watch the movie together!

Help Us Welcome Back Kate Shumaker!

We are thrilled to welcome our Teen Librarian Kate back from her maternity leave! While she was away, we are excited for all her plans for our Teen Department in the New Year. Stop by this month and catch up with Kate!

BOB LUCAS BRANCH LIBRARY UPDATES & DECEMBER EVENTS

Story Time hiatus
From December 1 through January 7, Baby and Infant Story Time at the Branch will be on hiatus. Hora de Cuentos, our monthly bilingual story time is still scheduled for Tuesday, December 19 at 11:00am. Please save the dates for 2018’s Hora de Cuentos Story Times:

- Tuesday, January 16
- Tuesday, March 13
- Tuesday, April 17

3D Printing Coming Soon!
The technological improvements to the Branch since 2016 have been numerous, from the addition of three new laptops and computers to an upgrade to 1G WiFi, to the recent mobile hotspots for checkout. We are about to up our technological game once again. In the coming months, the Branch will be equipped with a 3D Printer for public use! Details about programming are in progress, so stay tuned for updates!

Baby Hand & Foot Imprint Craft
Wednesday, December 6, Thursday, December 7, and Thursday, December 14, at 10:30am

Crafternoons at the Branch
Thursday, December 14, at 3:30pm
Learn how to make your own holiday-themed sirim! Choose to make a jar of the Grinch, reindeer, or snowman slime. Limit one per child, while supplies last.

Movie Day
Friday, December 15, at 3:30pm
Come enjoy a free showing of a family-friendly flick. Popcorn provided for as long as supplies last.

HORA DE CUENTOS!

December 13, 11:00am

December 20, 11:00am

December 27, 11:00am

TEEN PROGRAMS - DECEMBER

Special Saturday: Jewelry Making
Saturday, December 2, at 3:30pm
Create your own custom jewelry! Learn the tips and techniques necessary to bring your ideas into reality. Don’t wear jewelry yourself? No problem! Make something to give as a gift this holiday season.

DIY Crafting: Make and Take
Thursday, December 7, at 4:00pm
Make your own personalized gifts for friends and family this holiday season at our Make and Take program! Enjoy creative freedom with a variety of supplies to make your own masterpieces. Wrap them as gifts right here for your loved ones!

Soap Making
Monday, December 11, at 4:00pm
Explore the science behind soap and scents that makes this such a special gift. Wrapping materials will be available should you choose to wrap your gift here!

Teens Game Day
Monday, December 18, at 4:00pm
Enjoy a variety of board games, party games, and video games. We have a PlayStation 4, Wii, and several board games, like King of Tokyo, Apples to Apples, Jenga and more.