It’s Poetry and Cookie Time at Altadena Library!

Saturday, April 29 is the big day! Mark your calendars for 1 p.m. when the Poetry and Cookies event returns to Altadena Library, to be held on the main library floor. As Library Director Mindy Kittay puts it, “This program is much beloved by the community and another example of how libraries change lives by providing the tools, access and experiences that help each and every one of us reach our full potential.”

Five of the six Pushcart Nominees from Altadena Poetry Review 2016 are shown at the awards celebration held February 3 at Altadena Library. (Left to right: Alice Pero, GT Foster, Karinéh Mahdesian, Jack Bowman, Sharon Rizk. Teresa Mei Chuc could not attend.) The Pushcart Prize nominees are selected from small presses across the country. It is an honor to be nominated.

This year’s event will be one of the largest gathering of poets in our community for a major reading and will include many of the over 100 poets who were recently published in the brand-new Altadena Poetry Review: Anthology 2017, which will be formally released to the public that day. The poets include 6 poet laureates, authors of, combined, over 160 published books, over 14 Pushcart Prize Nominees, many national and international literary award winners, plus exciting new emerging poets. FREE TO THE PUBLIC with FREE REFRESHMENTS, COOKIES, mingling with the poets, books to browse and buy, photo ops, etc.

Founded by Principal Librarian Pauli Dutton in 2003, the purpose of the original Poetry and Cookies Anthology and reading event was to provide new poets from Altadena and the surrounding communities an opportunity to have their work published and read their poetry in public. The first Poetry and Cookies publication included work by 12 poets and grew to be over 50 poets by the time Dutton retired in 2015. Thelma Reyna, the library’s poet laureate 2014 – 2016, kept the tradition alive under the new name The Altadena Poetry Review. This title, significantly increased its status and professionalism, and offered the chance to reach out to even more well-regarded San Gabriel Valley poets for publication consideration.

Elline Lipkin, Poet Laureate for the Altadena Library, 2016 – 2018, spearheads this year’s edition. Eight volunteer poets, including Dutton, have helped with the selection of these poems. Of the hundreds of poets who submitted their work, one hundred were chosen. The poets are multi-culturally diverse, and the 160 poems in the book represent a broad variety of styles: traditional, unrhymed, short, long, humorous, poignant, political, inspirational, experimental, and, “everything in between.”

From the beginning, the Friends of the Altadena Library have provided seed money to publish the anthology and to supply cookies and encouragement at the public reading event in which the published poets read their work. This year the organization has made a significant donation to help defray the cost of publishing the anthology which will enable the publication to continue.

Although the main library will be closed from March 13 - April 30, 2017 for its Phase One Renovations, made possible through a grant from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and assistance from the Altadena Library Foundation, it will be open for this exciting event. You don’t have to be a poetry lover to find joy and inspiration on April 29th at Altadena Main Library. Just sit back and enjoy. Everyone is welcome!
FROM THE DIRECTOR - MINDY KITTAY
Community Conversations: Discovering Altadena’s Diverse Aspirations for Progress

Led by the American Library Association (ALA), the “Libraries Transforming Communities” movement has been rapidly spreading across the country, using the “Turning Outward” model developed by The Harwood Institute for Public Innovation. Seeking to update the traditional role of libraries, the ALA has been training library professionals to go out into their communities, listen to constituents, and use their acquired knowledge to shift from inward-facing institutions to outward-facing community leaders that bring about positive change in their communities.

Sponsored by Altadena Library District, in 15-20 homes, organizations, and businesses across Altadena, residents just like you are gathering to engage in honest conversations about their visions for Altadena and the steps it will take to achieve those goals. This project gives residents of Altadena the opportunity to voice their opinion and to know that those ideas will help to inform all levels of decision-making and strategic planning for the Library. The results of these conversations will be compiled into a report in mid-April that will be shared with a variety of local entities including, but not limited to, the Altadena Town Council, the Altadena Chamber of Commerce, Pasadena Unified School District, the LA County Board of Supervisors, and any interested individuals. The library will be using the results to increase its capacity to be a connector in the community, to improve partnerships between local entities to decrease duplication of efforts, and to adjust the library’s mission, vision, and strategic plan to better meet the needs of our community.

We are hosting a Community Conversation at the Altadena Library’s Community Room on Thursday, March 9th from 7:00 - 8:30 pm for all community members who have not participated thus far. We hope you can attend!

If you have any questions or feedback about the Community Conversation process, I encourage you to email me at MKittay@AltadenaLibrary.org or call (626) 798-0833, ext. 103.

Thank you for your ongoing support of Altadena Library!
- Mindy

BOB LUCAS MEMORIAL BRANCH
Extended Hours During Phase I Renovation

If you’ve been at either of Altadena Library District’s branches recently, you have likely seen the poster to the right outlining the upcoming Phase I Renovation at the district’s main building. As exciting as this much-needed renovation is, we will be putting some temporary measures into effect, including extended hours at the Bob Lucas Branch and limited options for item drop-off and hold pick-ups at the main library, to diminish any inconvenience caused by the library’s brief closure.

During the renovation books can be returned at the Branch Library on the corner of Lincoln and Ventura or in the drop boxes located on Mariposa at the Main Library. Also during the hours of 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, a staff member will be stationed at the South Entrance of the Main Library to answer questions, renew books, retrieve your items on Hold and assist with any questions you may have about your account. A small selection of new books, movies, audio books and music will be available to browse. ANY LATE FEES incurred during this period will be forgiven.

Extended Bob Lucas Branch Hours
Monday through Thursday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 
Friday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 
Sunday 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.
DON’T MISS THE UPCOMING SECOND SATURDAY CONCERT!

FEATURING DeRumba

GRAB SOME FRIENDS AND FAMILY, AND PUT ON YOUR DANCING SHOES!

Saturday, March 11th
6:30 to 8:30 pm

Altadena Library
Reading Court

After much success at Second Saturdays, Altadena Library is proud to host the ever-popular DeRumba once again at its March concert! DeRumba has been together for 10 years, playing mixes of Flamenco and Gypsy Rumba. The band features Morris Koriel on lead guitar, Aaron Vandenburgh on bass, Jonathan Lozano on percussion and vocals, Armando Figueroa on rhythm and lead guitar, and Daniel Steagall on vocals and rhythm guitar.

In addition to your dancing shoes, be sure to bring an empty stomach because the fun doesn’t stop at the amazing live music and dancing! Altadena Library’s Second Saturdays always feature delicious fare from some of the hottest joints in town. The Altadena Ale & Wine House will be pouring from its excellent selection of craft ale and fine wines, and decadent desserts will be available from Sweeter Than Honey.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR FUTURE SECOND SATURDAYS

Louis Van Taylor Quintet
Saturday, April 8, 2017
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Stay tuned for the next season of Second Saturdays with Upstream in October and the Tone Brothers in November!

The Michael Haggins Band
Saturday, May 13, 2017
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

DID YOU KNOW?

Altadena Library Offers Passport Services

Altadena Library processes passport applications and takes passport photos at its Main Branch on Mariposa Street. All passport applications are by appointment only. Please call (626) 798-2950 to make your appointment.

Operating Hours
Monday - Tuesday
10:00 am - 8:00 pm
Wednesday - Friday & Saturday
10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Main Library Floor - Business Office

For information about application guidelines, fees, and additional services, visit
www.altadenalibrary.org/passports

2nd Tuesday Nights 7pm - 8pm
No Guilt Book Club

March 14, 2017
Be Frank with Me by Julia Claiborne Johnson
H is for Hawk by Helen Macdonald

April 11, 2017
The Japanese Lover by Isabel Allende
The Book of Joy: lasting happiness in a changing world by Dalai Lama, Desmond Tutu, and Douglas Carlton Abrams

May 9, 2017
A House Without Windows by Nadia Hashimi
The Wright Brothers by David McCullough

June 13, 2017
The Mercy of Thin Air: a novel by Ronlyn Domingue
The Hidden Life of Trees: what they feel, how they communicate: discoveries from a secret world by Peter Wohlleben

No guilt! Come even if you haven’t read the books!

Second Tuesday of the Month in the Director’s Office*

*During the Phase I Renovation, the No Guilt Book Club will meet in the staff room downstairs at the Main Library.

Volunteer Opportunities

There are many volunteer opportunities available. Volunteers are vitally important in providing culture and enrichment to residents in our communities. People with a variety of skills, interests, and abilities are needed to work with our library staff, as a team devoted to enriching the lives of others. Volunteering at the Altadena Library District can also help complete hours that count towards your high school community service learning requirement.

If you are looking for a meaningful and enjoyable volunteer opportunity or if you would perhaps like to assist in enhancing library services and programs in your community, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator:

Yuni LaFontaine
ylafontaine@altadenalibrary.org

Altadena Library needs volunteers to help with the library’s 50th Anniversary celebration on Saturday, June 10th!
UPCOMING EVENTS - MARCH

Teen Advisory Board Meeting
Wednesday, March 1 at 3:30 to 5:00 p.m.

DIY Polymer Clay Creations
Thursday, March 2 at 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Making the Most of Your College Visits
Saturday, March 4 at 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Teen Tech Week: Engineering Mystery Bags
Monday, March 6 at 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.

Friends of the Library Board Meeting
Monday, March 6 at 7:30 p.m.

Teen Tech Week: DIY Constellation Box
Friday, March 10 at 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.

Second Saturday Concert with DeRumba
Saturday, March 11 at 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

No Guilt Book Club
Tuesday, March 14 at 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Friday Flick - MOANA
Friday, March 17 at 3:30 p.m.

Lego Club
Saturday, March 18 at 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.

Teen Game Day
Tuesday, March 21 at 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Teen Film - Doctor Strange
Friday, March 24 at 3:30 p.m.

Library Board of Trustees Meeting
Monday, March 27 at 5:00 p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS - APRIL

Pet Adoption Family Event
Saturday, April 1 at 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Friends of the Library Board Meeting
Monday, April 3 at 7:30 p.m.

Second Saturday Concert with Louis Van Taylor Quintet
Saturday, April 8 at 6:30 p.m.

Maker Monday Spaghetti Marshmallow Challenge
Monday, April 10 at 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

No Guilt Book Club
Tuesday, April 11 at 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Bubble Fest!
Thursday, April 13 at 3:30 p.m.

DIY Tie Dye Tissue Paper
Thursday, April 13 at 4:00 p.m.

Tea Program
Saturday, April 15 at 4:00 p.m.

Teen Game Day
Monday, April 17 at 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Friday Flick - SING
Friday, April 21 at 3:30 to 5:15 p.m.

Library Board of Trustees Meeting
Monday, April 24 at 5:00 p.m.

Teen Movie: Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them
Friday, April 28 at 3:30 p.m.

-MARCH-
Weekly Children’s Programs

Baby Lap Time
Wednesdays at 10:15 a.m.

Toddler Story Time
Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m.

Preschool Story Time
Thursday at 11:00 a.m.

-APRIL-
Weekly Children’s Programs

Lego Club
Tuesdays at 3:00 p.m.

Baby Lap Time
Wednesdays at 10:15 a.m.

Toddler Story Time
Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m.

Market Stories @ the Altadena Farmers Market
Wednesdays at 4:00 p.m.

Preschool Story Time
Thursdays at 11:00 a.m.

Elementary Outdoor Crafts
Thursdays at 3:00 p.m.