Outside the Lines

Outside the Lines – a week-long celebration – Sept. 11-17, 2016 - is demonstrating the creativity and innovation happening in libraries. Outside the Lines demonstrates how libraries are dynamic centers for engagement that help everyone to be their best. More than 160 libraries in the United States, Canada and Australia have signed up to participate in Outside the Lines [OTL] – and so has the Altadena Library!

As part of OTL we have special inspiration stations for September: Building with Lincoln Logs; Mini Origami Stars; Adult Coloring; Hoola Hoop Weaving; and a Stacking Game; plus a special event, Happy Window Signs with Becky Skoglund. Becky will host a Pop-Up Booth on Saturday, September 17th from 10:30 to 2:30 and Tuesday, September 20th from 5 to 6:30pm. Come create your “Happy Window Sign” at the library! The Library and Becky Skoglund are joining together to help spread happiness, joy and inspiration, one sign at a time.

Do these inspiration stations pique your interest? Well you will just have to come by and see what all the excitement is about!

Connecting the Lines

This fall and winter the Altadena Library will be taking their role as a community connector seriously and will be focusing on a turned-outward way to authentically engage members of our community through community conversations.

We are interested in finding out what your aspirations are for Altadena; what are your concerns; what do you think needs to change in order to reach these aspirations; and what do you believe you can do and who do you trust to take action on these challenges we face as a community. We are a vital part of our very active, diverse, eclectic community and the Altadena Library looks to fully participate and be central to the life of this community.

If you are interested in being part of this initiative, please contact Mindy at MKittay@AltadenaLibrary.org.

“As champions of lifelong learning, libraries are a place to quench curiosity, access technology, and explore new ideas, hobbies, and careers. Increasingly, libraries also offer patrons a neutral space to meet their neighbors to discuss and resolve important issues – an ever important need in our democratic culture. Increasingly, today’s libraries are taking their role as cultural commons to the next level, leveraging their trusted, neutral position to bring people together to solve problems and facilitate community change.”
From the Director

Your Altadena Library Card – your access to inspiration, information, education & entertainment

Today’s libraries are about more than books. They are creative educational spaces for learners from birth to high school and beyond. September is Library Card Sign-up Month, a time when the Altadena Library joins with the American Library Association and public libraries nationwide to make sure that every student has the most important school supply of all – a free library card.

Librarians provide important resources to families whose children are at the earliest stages of development, by teaching parents and caregivers the components of early literacy which help children develop the basic tools for school readiness. As of 2010, libraries in the United States offered more than 2.3 million children’s programs, which account for nearly two thirds of all library programming.

Older students can access high-speed Internet, digital tools and the opportunity to work with trained professionals on how to use them. Libraries also provide equity of access to digital tools and media, which has become increasingly important in high-poverty areas where students are less likely to have a computer or internet access in the home.

Libraries are also a training ground for students of all ages to expand their knowledge and explore creative pursuits. The development of makerspaces/media labs, are just one way libraries are seeking to meet this demand, ranging from low-tech, hands-on engineering opportunities for children and teens using toys and kits to the incorporation of high-tech tools like 3D printers.

Resources at the Altadena Library are available to anyone who has library card. “Our Library provides access and programs for students of all ages,” says Altadena Library Director, Mindy Kittay. “For preschool age children we offer Read to Cedar, a program where a child can learn to love to read by reading to Cedar the Collie – a non-judgmental audience, and multiple Storytimes to encourage school readiness. For older children and teens, we offer hands-on STEAM programs such as games to learn coding, computers and 3D printing, sewing and other creative opportunities. For adults, we have guest speakers, ESL and literacy, book clubs, movies, business research and reference and our monthly Second Saturday celebrations with live music, to name just a few. There’s really something for everyone – and it’s all free with a library card.”

Throughout the course of the month, the library will host a number of activities, including special Inspiration Stations [pop-up opportunities to create and explore].

For more information on how to sign up for a library card, visit the Altadena Library in person or visit the library online at: www.AltadenaLibrary.org.

Bob Lucas Memorial Branch

Have you visited the Branch lately? Come and be wonderfully surprised by our new look! You will notice that we have updated our interior space with new light weight, mobile tables and chairs that give us and our patrons more versatility in how the space is used. New rolling shelves allow us to display books that highlight our collection. The center of the room has been opened up with more seating options. We have 3 updated desktops located at the side of the room. We are excited to now offer laptops for use at the library in addition to Chromebooks. You can even print from the laptops! You can comfortably sit anywhere you want in the library to work or browse the web!

The children’s area has new cushions that the children love to sit on and read. Just in time for the beginning of the school year, we have added an AWE computer for children to use.

The AWE computer is an early literacy station that features fun, interactive and engaging educational content in all seven curricular areas: math, science & nature, social studies & geography, reading, art & music, writing, and computer skills. AWE-some!

We have added space to accommodate our popular growing children’s picture book collection and have added popular CDs to our collection; all available for check out. There is also a new private literacy space that our adult literacy tutors and learners can use for their study sessions.

Whether you want to borrow a laptop, find a good book to read, or are looking for the latest hot movie, or need a quiet place to study, we are here for you!

“A library is a place that is a repository of information and gives every citizen equal access to it...It’s a community space. It’s a place of safety, a haven from the world.”

– Neil Gaiman
**We are Community**

Dr. Ken Jones filled the house with his enthusiastic talk on Ghost Signs – if you missed it, he will return! This is a wonderful example of how we help our community reach its potential. Dr. Ken Jones was so passionate about his research and art that he wanted to share it with the community. When he came to us, we gave him the opportunity. The community, in return, is able to learn something that they may not have known about. This program was so popular that we are bringing Dr. Jones back early next year to present for those who missed him the first time around and he will be bringing new information as well!

While they were here, Dr. Jones and his wife saw our From Page to Table flier and returned for that event and brought food. From Page to Table is a whole new way to share food and recipes with your community. Just bring a cookbook recipe and the dish to share!

Another way to participate with the Altadena Library and your community is to apply for the Altadena Library Board of Trustees vacancy. With the resignation of Trustee Meredith McKenzie, the Altadena Library Board of Trustees is accepting letters of interest from anyone who would like to serve on the board for her unexpired 2016/2017 term. Those applying must be at least 18, a resident of and registered to vote in, Altadena.

The applicant selected must agree to be willing to run in the 2017 election for the 4-year term for this seat which expires in 2021.

If you are interested in participating, submit a letter of interest, resumé, and completed supplemental questionnaire (on library’s website) to the Library Director by 5 pm on Friday, September 16, 2016. 

Come, Join our Community!

**Adults** The Latest and Greatest Video Games Now Available at the Library

Attention console gamers! If you have an Xbox One, PlayStation 4, or Wii U – and you are suffering from a shortage of gaming awesomeness – the Altadena Library has your back. We’re now ordering the latest and greatest games for all the major consoles. Think about it: why rent your favorite new video games when you can check them out at the Altadena Library for free? We have recently consolidated our video game collection into one location in the library: at the north end of the DVD shelves, close to the windows. AND...not only are we ordering more games, but we’re also letting you – the local gamers – help pick which ones we buy. That’s right – if there’s a new game on the horizon that you’re dying to play, just send the name of the game and the gaming system you would like it for (e.g. Xbox One, PS4) to the following email address: ref@altadenalibrary.org, with the subject line, “PIP.” That’s our secret code for, “Hey – I know great games, and this is definitely one you should put in your collection.” Once the game arrives, we’ll put it on hold for you and send you an email that it’s here! So if you’re a local gamer and you want to boost your trophies and/or achievements rank, be sure to stop by and check out our amazing collection. Its awesomeness is leveling up every single day!
**PROGRAMS**

**We will be CLOSED for Labor Day Holiday**  
Monday, September 5

**Read to Cedar**  
Saturday, September 3 at 11 am
Children read to the dog, Cedar, a non-judgmental listener who teaches love of reading.

**Build Particle Simulators**  
Friday, September 9 at 4pm
Teens ages 12-19 are invited to further explore Game Maker and build a particle simulation program in another engaging, innovative workshop by Altadena’s dedicated game design and coding instructor, Ean Moore. For readers unfamiliar with Game Makers, it is basically a gentle introduction to coding specifically for those interested in designing games because users can get a game up and running without writing complicated code!

**Friday Flick: The Jungle Book**  
Friday, September 16 at 03:30pm

**Coffee & Conversation**  
Saturday, September 17 from 10:30 to 11:30
Visit with our Library Director, Mindy Kittay – always a lively discussion!

**LEGO Club**  
Saturday, September 17 at 2pm
LEGOS are provided – bring your imagination! Duplo blocks available for children under 4.

**Standardized Testing from College Admissions Point of View**  
Tuesday, September 20 at 7 pm
Standardized tests can often be the most stressful part of a high school student’s career, especially as he or she ponders how they’ll impact his or her college applications. What standardized tests should be taken and when? How do colleges evaluate them? What are the current trends in testing? Please come join Ashley Sim, formerly an admissions officer for Caltech, as she answers these questions and more, all from the perspective of college admissions:

**Adult Beginners Sewing Program**  
Saturday, September 24 and ending October 29: 10 am to noon
Instructor Naomi Lewis will be teaching six consecutive sewing classes (beginning) at the Altadena Main Library. First, students will learn to operate a sewing machine, then, projects covered in the course will feature a pin cushion; drawstring bag; pillowcase, small pillow or snap wallet; cross body tote bag, skirt, reversible tote, and a zippered pouch. The class fee of $25 (due by September 10 to reserve your space) covers basic supplies which includes your own sewing supply bag and pin cushion. Email aravelo@altadenalibrary.org or stop in and ask for Ashley to sign up.

**BIP 3x**  
Tuesday, September 27 at 7 pm at the Main Library
A staged presentation of Kres Mersky’s collection of one-acts and monologues. These pieces are wonderfully absurdist views of life fused with idiosyncratic detail and much pathos. As the Hollywood Reporter has said, “This is a series of sketches that are marvels of rich inventive detail and expression. An evening that is remarkably rejuvenating to the jaded theater-goers spirit.”

Kres Mersky hails from Los Angeles and has performed widely in film, theater and television appearing in such shows as Charlie’s Angels, Taxi and Murder She Wrote. Kres has been nominated by the Mark Taper Forum for the Susan Smith Blackburn Prize in playwriting. She also has been a regular contributor to the political magazine, “Country Connections,” writing film, theater reviews, and political commentary.

“With acutely observed detail of character and warm insights, Mersky delicately illuminates the psychics of 14 ladies. 14 of the most delightful people you’d care to meet at a single setting.”
- Los Angeles Times
Technology at the Library

Scanning Library Cards on Smartphones

Something I really like about smartphones are apps like CardStar and Key Ring. They let you input the numbers from all the club, membership and rewards cards you collect and display the barcodes on your phone – who wants to carry all that plastic around!

Some patrons use these apps for their library card. So, we thought we’d do some research to find out what it would take to accommodate these patrons.

Traditional scanners are not able to read barcodes off a smartphone screen. The scanners that can read barcodes on smartphones are called CCD scanners. What that stands for is less important than a short description or a compare/contrast between CCD and traditional laser scanners.

The reason the traditional scanner is not able to scan off your smartphone is because traditional barcode scanners are designed to read laser light reflected off a solid surface. Smartphone screens are emitting light, so an entirely different technology is needed.

Apps like CardStar and Key Ring have easy to understand guidance to assist you in putting your library card info onto your Smartphone. Once you do that, come by our checkout station near the main entrance, and look for the black scanner [pictured] and try it out. Millennials – this is a snap for you! For all others, two snaps and you are done.

Above and Beyond

This quarter’s Above and Beyond Award for outstanding service at the Altadena Library went to Toni Aguilar and Natalie Herrera in the Passports Office! Natalie and Toni are deeply committed to providing an excellent experience for anyone who comes into their office. In the past year, revenue from the Business Office has increased by 40%, and this is due largely to their dedication, professionalism, and customer service. They are described by their fellow library staff as “diligent, polite, cheerful, unassuming, and tireless.” One staff member remarked that they work great together and are always willing to help in any way possible. Another staff member said that they perform their daily duties with a smile – in Spanish and in English – over and over again, maintaining their thoughtfulness and thoroughness. A third staff member noted their continually positive attitudes and steadfast efforts in providing Passport and Business services to the Altadena Community and beyond. On behalf of all the Altadena Library staff, join us in congratulating Natalie and Toni on a job well done!

Art at the Library

Eve Kessler is a local Altadena artist whose focus is primarily on animals. She paints in a style she calls pencil sketch/watercolor in an attempt to keep the look loose and fresh. This exhibit is about the relationship between women and their horses. There is such a deep healing bond that happens when they connect.
Banned Books Week is an annual event celebrating the freedom to read. Typically held during the last week of September, it highlights the value of free and open access to information. Banned Books Week brings together the entire book community; librarians, booksellers, publishers, teachers, journalists, and readers of all types, in shared support of the freedom to seek and to express ideas, even those some consider unorthodox or unpopular.

By focusing on efforts across the country to remove or restrict access to books, Banned Books Week draws national attention to the harms of censorship. The books featured during Banned Books Week have all been targeted with removal or restrictions in libraries and schools. While books have been and continue to be banned, part of the Banned Books Week celebration is the fact that, in a majority of cases, the books have remained available. This happens only thanks to the efforts of librarians, teachers, students, and community members who stand up and speak out for the freedom to read.

For more information on getting involved with Banned Books Week: Celebrating the Freedom to Read, please see Ideas and Resources. You can also contact the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom at 1-800-545-2433, ext. 4226, or bbw@ala.org.
No Guilt Book Club

My Family and Other Animals, published in 1956, is an adventure tale written from the viewpoint of 10-year-old naturalist Gerald Durrell. From the moment the Durrells arrive on Corfu, followed by a pack of dogs, their adventures are non-stop. Start with Gerry’s own family, a wonderfully eccentric English mother, his 3 siblings with their own peculiar foibles, the innumerable friends on Corfu who add their own twists to the story and you have a bubbling cauldron indeed. The humor ranges from the tongue-in-cheek to the cannonball but it never lets up. His deep love of the animals and people he encountered shines out from behind the funny stories. He paints masterpieces with his words. Durrell’s particular gift is to make the non-human creatures interesting. Both human and non-human characters come alive and seem to spring from the pages. GD’s love for nature comes through in his descriptions of the surroundings; you can almost feel yourself in the story. We wished for the chance to have been on Corfu and be able to pay a visit to whatever villa they happened to be living in.

This is a book for book lovers! The Readers of Broken Wheel Recommend by Katarina Bivald is the story of Amy, living in Iowa, and Sara, living in Sweden. They are pen pals who share a love of books and reading. When the bookshop Sara is working in closes, she heads out for a visit to meet her friend Amy. The thing is - Amy has just passed away and Sara doesn’t know that until she arrives in Amy’s hometown. The townspeople immediately adopt Sara and tell her to stay in Amy’s house. Sara eventually opens a bookstore in Amy’s old shop space, in the hopes of paying back the townspeople for their generosity. This book has elements of romance and humor throughout it and a cast of characters that will tickle readers. This book started a discussion about when you are reading - do you see yourself as the protagonist or a minor character?

“... the sharing of a book is a statement—a message of affection that is also an act of self-revelation.

Join my club, it says. Come and sit beside me.”

—Alexander McCall Smith

Introducing Flipster®, a New Way to Access Digital Magazines – The One-Stop-Shop for Digital Magazines Allows Library Patrons to Browse the Latest Issues of the Most Sought After Magazines

Patrons can now access their favorite digital magazines using Flipster® from EBSCO Information Services. Flipster is a next-generation magazine service that allows people to browse digital versions of the latest issues of popular magazines, courtesy of the library.

The Library has both Flipster and hard copy versions of magazines such as People, Rolling Stone, Food Network Magazine and O, The Oprah Magazine and more, so patrons have the option of accessing the content at the library or remotely. Magazines can be downloaded to Android™ phones and tablets, Apple® phones and tablets, and Kindle Fire tablets for offline reading anytime, anywhere.

Flipster offers an easy, browse-able reading experience. Users can browse magazines by category as well as perform searches for specific periodicals. An online newsstand provides a carousel of the most recent issues, as well as a carousel of all issues allowing for quick access to magazines. The table of contents contains links for quick access to articles of interest and hotlinks within magazines are hyperlinked, opening in separate tabs when clicked. In addition, there is an option to zoom in and out for better readability.

Go To: www.AltadenaLibrary.org > Books, Movies and More > Flipster > enter your library card number with no spaces
UPCOMING EVENTS October

Read to Cedar
Saturday, October 1 at 11 am
Eager young readers are invited to visit the Children’s Room and read to their furry friend from Therapy Dogs International.

Second Saturday with UPSTREAM
Saturday, October 8 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm
UPSTREAM has been spreading their message of love and positivity through their exhilarating Caribbean Music, namely, Reggae, Calypso, Soca and Steel Drum Music.

Closed for Professional Development Day
Monday, October 10 at 10 am
We will be closed on Monday, October 10 for Professional Development Day. We will resume regular business hours on Tuesday, October 11.

No Guilt Book Club
Tuesday, October 11 from 7 to 8 pm
Want Not by Jonathon Miles and Chasing the Scream: the First and Last Days of the War on Drugs by Johann Hari.

Frida Kahlo Program
Saturday, October 15 from 2 to 4:30 pm
Celebrating 109 years of Frida Kahlo including exhibit, short lecture and showing of the movie. Our presenter is the wonderful Miriam Quezada.

Friday Flick - Alice Through the Looking Glass
Friday, October 21 from 3:30 to 5:45
Join us for a screening of Alice Through the Looking Glass (rated PG 1:13 minutes). In the Altadena Library Community Room. Free popcorn while supplies last

From Page to Table Book Club
Saturday October 29 from 1 to 2:30 pm
Was it your [last year’s] New Year’s resolution to eat more healthily? Or is it to try new ingredients? If your cookbook collection has its very own bookshelf and is bulging at the seams, it’s time to get those volumes down and start cooking up recipes for fellow foodies! Or, check out our hugely popular cookbook collection for inspiring concoctions to try out on a new audience. It’s simple: single out a new recipe from a cookbook, prepare, and share! Have staff print copies of the recipe for distribution. That’s it. All ages welcome. Multi-generational potluck, anyone?

Main Library
600 East Mariposa Street
Altadena CA 91001
626-798-0833

Hours
Monday and Tuesday
10 am to 9 pm
Wednesday through Saturday
10 am to 6 pm
Sunday – Closed

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

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

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

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

“The healing place of the soul”
Inscription over the door of the library of Thebes.

SMILE
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