In the spirit of Thanksgiving, this special issue is dedicated to sharing our gratitude with all the wonderful people in our community that support the Altadena Library District and make our work possible. Within these pages are stories from and about our dedicated supporters who give of their time and effort so selflessly to ensure that our Library is equipped to best serve our community.

Thank you, all! From the bottom of our hearts, thank you!

Health Care Help
Thanks to ChapCare
Learn more about your options and enroll!

We are happy to announce that for this year’s Covered California Open Enrollment period, ChapCare will have a certified enrollment counselor at the Altadena Library to help community members renew and sign-up for Covered California plans.

ChapCare was founded in 1995 by a group of community residents, city officials, and healthcare agencies to establish primary healthcare services for low-income, uninsured residents in Pasadena and Altadena. ChapCare began providing medical services in 1998 and dental services in 2001. Today, ChapCare is a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) that provides comprehensive healthcare services, including family medicine, women’s health, pediatrics, dental, vision, behavioral health, pharmacy, and health insurance enrollment assistance.

The enrollment counselor will be at the Main Library from 5:00pm to 9:00pm on:
- Mondays, November 5th & 19th
- Mondays, December 3rd, 10th & 17th

For a list of documents required for enrollment, check the library website!

Call (626) 486-9729 today to make an appointment! Walk-ins are allowed but are not guaranteed appointments depending on schedule and availability.

Second Saturday Goes Totally Tubular with Past Action Heroes
We’re throwing back to the 80s and 90s!

Put on your acid wash jeans and shoulder pads because on Saturday, November 10, the dynamic Past Action Heroes are taking Altadenans on a time warp back to the 80s and 90s! As part of the Library’s Second Saturday series that take place at the Main Library, this concert is open to all ages and is made possible by funding from the Friends of the Altadena Library. Food and beverages will be available for sale from El Patron and Altadena Ale & Wine House. In alignment with our featured performers’ motif, guests are encouraged to dress in their favorite 80s and 90s threads! Yes, that means turtlenecks, leg warmers, harem pants, scrunchies, and more... Go for it! We know the Past Action Heroes will be dressed to the nines! (Or should we say dressed to the nineties?) 😊

A feature of this month’s concert is the opening act, Eliot Arts Magnet Academy’s youth rock band The Fusion will open the concert at 6:30pm.

Watch the Mars InSight Landing from the Library!

On Monday, November 26 from 11:00am to 12:30pm, NASA’s InSight mission will land on Mars, and the Altadena Library District will be screening the live NASA TV broadcast from the Main Library! InSight is distinct from previous Mars landers because its focus will be entirely on studying the deep interior of the planet. Landing on Mars is no easy feat – according to NASA.gov, only 40% of Mars missions by any space agency have been successful, with the United States as the only nation whose missions have survived a Mars landing. Join us, and the JPL scientist that will be present to answer questions, as we cheer on another thrilling scientific achievement for our country.
Welcome the Library’s New Staff!

**LORI | Page**
What do you love about libraries? I feel we continue to learn throughout our lives, and the libraries are major contributors to that learning.


Fun fact? I use to work for the National Park Service in Northern California... I made signs.

**BEN | Clerk, Children’s Dept.**
What do you love about libraries? I love their ability to bring the community together in a fun, free way via story times, clubs, and both indoor and outdoor events.


Fun fact? I’m a vegetarian and I’ve never eaten meat in my whole life!

**HECTOR | Clerk**
What do you love about libraries? I love libraries because they empower people through books, knowledge, creativity, and information.

Favorite book? “A Farewell to Arms” by Ernest Hemingway

Fun fact? I like reading and learning about cults.

**YVONNE | Clerk**
What do you love about libraries? I love that libraries are a great place to read and cultivate learning by providing different types of resources for people and helps bring community members together

Favorite book? “Everything I Never Told You” by Celeste Ng

Fun fact? I am currently learning how to play piano and guitar.

A Big Thank You to Marne!

The Friends raise crucial funds for the Library and enrich its offerings. Marne has played a key role in making the Friends the vibrant organization it is today!

Marne Brown has been a member of the Friends for more than 27 years and on the Board of Directors for more than 20 years. She served as President in 2001 and again from 2010-2017. Living in Altadena since the 1960’s, she believes that the library is a community hub that helps bring people together. She is proud of the many programs, including the Adult Literacy Program that the Friends support annually. She helped produce the first Poetry and Cookies program over 15 years ago and that program is still a community favorite to this day. Stop by the Library on a Monday evening and you will most likely find her either in the Friends Board meeting or downstairs sorting books for a future book sale.

**SEED LIBRARY**
**URBAN FORAGING WITH CHRISTOPHER NYERGES**
**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3rd**
**10:00AM - 12:00PM**
**COMMUNITY ROOM**

Come to the Altadena Main Library to hear Christopher Nyerges talk about urban foraging, and what can be found at this time of the year. Natives and exotics will be discussed, with suggestions that you can grow your own. A short video of urban foraging that Christopher did for Italian TV will be shared.

FRIENDS OF THE ALTADENA LIBRARY UPDATE

End-of-Year Thanks and Giving

Our Friends organization has been active since 1959. During this time, we have raised and given hundreds of thousands of dollars to the library in support of its mission. More importantly, we have given tens of thousands of volunteer hours. Our Friends have had some great leaders before me and will have many after me. One person to highlight is our immediate past president, Ms. Marne Brown (left). Please take a moment to read about her many contributions and thank her next time you see her around the Library!

Giving Tuesday is fast approaching. Celebrated on November 27, the Tuesday following Thanksgiving and the widely recognized Black Friday and Cyber Monday, Giving Tuesday kicks off the charitable seasons, as hundreds of thousands of people across this country will make donations to their favorite charities. I encourage YOU to consider the Friends in your giving plan. A donation to the Friends directly benefits and enriches the Library’s offering of programs and services. Your donation can be done by check (made out to the “Friends of the Altadena Library”), cash or debit/credit card. Make a donation online at www.altadenalibrary.org/give.

Finally, the Annual Membership Drive has started. You are encouraged to renew your membership for the 2019 year as soon as possible. About 25% of the funds we donate to the library are generated through memberships. Become a member and enjoy benefits like invitation to the members-only pre-sale at our annual Book Sale and other free events. Visit www.altadenalibrary.org/friends-library to renew your membership or to become a member (family memberships available!).

#GIVING TUESDAY
No Guilt Book Club
Tuesday, November 13th, 7:00 - 8:00pm in the Director’s Office

NOVEMBER’S READS:
The Circle by David Eggers
The Outer Beach: A Thousand-Mile Walk on Cape Cod’s Shore by Robert Finch

October No Guilt Club Reviews

“Are you the sum total of your worst acts?” - Bryan Stevenson

There There is a novel with twelve different perspectives, twelve Native voices, through which Tommy Orange occupies every facet of the Native American exodus: what it is to be an Urban Indian, to reconcile with fractured identity. This is an allegorical look at the lived experience of urban Native Americans, set in present day Oakland, California. Centered around a powwow, this multigenerational story of so many flawed characters can be hard to follow. Our group nearly gave up, but we soldiered through it. The book was a tad scattered and confusing at times. There is a major climax at the end, however it felt disconnected from the characters. In summary there are brilliant standalone essays in this book but as a whole, the book is lacking. While filled with historical references and the struggles Native Americans continue to have, we still felt even after completing it that we were missing something...

How do you keep yourself motivated, entertained, inspired and positive and as you spend 30 years trying to prove your innocence as dozens of other men are executed by the state of Alabama? You start a book club, travel far away from the prison in your mind, and take up journaling. The Sun Does Shine, a memoir by Death Row inmate Anthony Roy Hinton was not an easy read, either. However, hope was always present-from Hinton’s steadfast mother, his remarkably devoted best friend, and his tenacious lawyer that fought for years to have Hinton’s sentence overturned. This is a highly distressing look at how your life can be taken away due to bad judgment, poor representation, and abominable disrespect and laws. Read it!

A Big Thank You to Alex! Altadena Library prides itself on the state-of-the-art technology it offers its patrons, and volunteers like Alex help our IT Manager keep systems running!

Alex is relatively new to Altadena Libraries. After attending an event at the Library several months ago, Alex was inspired by the variety of services and resources offered to patrons and signed up to volunteer. As a software developer by profession, Alex brings his unique set of skills to his work assisting the Library’s IT Manager in maintaining and upgrading technological infrastructure for the District.

A man of many interests, his favorite memory at the Library is when Wil Wheaton hosted a Dungeon Master Training for teens and adults. When not volunteering at the Library or working in software, Alex also enjoys wood working. Next time you enjoy using the computers at the Main Library or Bob Lucas Branch, be sure to thank Alex for his dedicated service!

Staff Picks for Adults

Holiday gatherings are the perfect time to try out recipes and impress your loved ones! These picks will equip you with the culinary innovation you need to make your holiday feasts special.

The Gardeners’ Community Cookbook by Victoria Wise
Adult Nonfiction 641.5 WIS

The Martha Stewart Living Cookbook
Adult Nonfiction 641.5 MAR

Vegetarian Food for Friends: Simply Spectacular Recipes by Jane Noraika
Adult Nonfiction 641.5636 NOR

The L.A. Cookbook: Recipes from the Best Restaurants, Bakeries, and Bars in Los Angeles by Alison Clare Steingold
Adult Nonfiction 641.5979 STE

Al Roker’s Hassle-Free Holiday Cookbook by Al Roker and Marialisa Calta
Adult Nonfiction 641.568 ROK

From Page to Table
MONTHLY BOOK CLUB + POTLUCK

Saturday, November 24th
2:00 - 4:00pm

Find a new recipe from a cookbook (or make something from your Thanksgiving leftovers), prepare, and share!

Send in your recipe to hello@altadenalibrary.org so we can print copies for other guests.
November Exhibitions

Altadena Historical Society

In the Community Room and Reading Court, the Altadena Historical Society continues its series of public educational exhibits on people and events from Altadena’s fascinating past.

"Inspired by the San Gabriels: Five Men and the Mountains" presents the unique personalities and accomplishments of Theodore Lukens, Will Thrall, Don McLain, L.T. Gotchy and George Wharton James. These men dedicated their lives to charting, conserving and promoting the San Gabriel Mountains they loved.

Elizabeth Currer

Elizabeth Currer is a Pasadena artist and Fine Art graduate from Occidental College and MFA from the Slade School of Fine Arts, UCL, London. Elizabeth concentrates mostly in ceramics and watercolors, with a sprinkling of oils, acrylics, and prints. Her work will be featured in the Main Library’s glass display case throughout November.

Drawn to the human spirit, her work encapsulates the interaction between people as they cohabit, work, and interact with one another. Sometimes the most dramatic interchange is the smallest of looks and glances.

Elizabeth takes classes at the Creative Arts Group in Sierra Madre, a vital, energetic, art center and gallery that aims to enrich the lives of individuals through the arts.

https://www.creativeartsgroup.org/

Virtual Adventures Await!

Now available in the Main Library is an Oculus Go virtual reality headset for the public to use! Engage in a guided meditation, fly through the night sky, chase after dinosaurs, and watch videos in your own personal screening room, all through the apps available in the headset. This new headset also offers Oculus Venues, a service that puts you in the front row for live concerts, sporting events, lectures, and more around the globe from the comfort of the Library. Choose from a calendar of live, immersive events in VR and join thousands of others to share the experience and meet other fans, or turn on solo mode and enjoy the event high above the crowd. Ask the Information Desk at the Main Library to get started on your Virtual Reality adventure.

A Big Thank You to George!

We are so grateful for the support of volunteers who help sort and shelve books, thus keeping our libraries running smoothly.

George is one of our behind-the-scenes volunteers whose diligent, detail-oriented work ensures a positive user experience for our patrons. Every book that is checked back in must be individually processed and sorted, and George is an essential member of the team that makes that happen!

When asked why he chose to volunteer in a library, his response was simple and to the point. “I like books,” his favorite being J.D. Salinger’s The Catcher in the Rye. “I like filing books and enjoy working with people of different backgrounds.” George also realizes the importance of libraries having a variety of materials available for their communities. An avid pianist, he often checks out musical CDs, deepening his knowledge of classical composers.

We thank George for his years of service and his dedication to supporting the operations of our libraries! Next time you see George in the stacks, be sure to thank him for his service!
Preschool Movie Mondays
Mondays, 11:00am
Start your week off right with videos we know your preschooler will love, from Mr. Rogers to Sesame Street, to Storybook Classics.

Pajama Story Time
Mondays, 6:30pm
Wear your PJs and bring a stuffed animal friend to listen to an evening story time at the Main Library!

Baby Lap Time
Wednesdays, 10:15am
For newborns and babies who are not yet walking and their caregivers.

Toddler Story Time
Wednesdays, 11:00am
For toddlers who are walking through 2 years old and their caregivers.

Preschool Story Time
Thursdays, 11:00am
For children ages 3-5 years old and their caregivers.

Hora de Cuentos
Fridays, 11:00am
For children ages 0-5 years old and their caregivers.

Lego Club (Ages 3-12)
Fridays, 3:30pm

Staff Picks for Children
Explore the following books to learn about the cultures and contributions of indigenous people that lived and thrived on the land we now know as the United States for centuries before European settlers arrived.

C is for Chickasaw by Wiley Barnes
Giving Thanks: A Native American Good Morning Message by Jake Swamp
My Heart Fills With Happiness by Monique Gray Smith
The People Shall Continue by Simon J. Ortiz
Jim Thorpe: Original All-American by Joseph Bruchac
JOIN ALTADENA LIBRARY’S NEW “GREAT STORIES CLUB”

Deepen your understanding of timely topics, including race, police brutality, ableism, family dynamics, and more in this five-part book club.

Meets the Second Thursday of Every Month, 4:00 - 5:00pm
November 8, December 13, January 10, February 14
TO SIGN UP, EMAIL TEENS@ALTADENALIBRARY.ORG

Staff Picks for Teens
It’s National Novel Writing Month, and we are ready to equip you with the tools you need to start writing!

- Drawing Words & Writing Pictures by Jessica Abel and Matt Madden
- Just Write: Here’s How by Walter Dean Myers
- Hole in My Life by Jack Gantos
- Afterworlds by Scott Westerfeld

A Big Thank You to Natalie!
Teen volunteers play a huge role in the success of popular programs like Summer Reading and Homework Helpers.

Natalie used the Main Library as a study space with her friends for exams for a while before she started sharing her skills with children in the Homework Helpers program. “Working with children is such a pleasing experience,” she says, “One of the girls I help sometimes dances when she spells a word right!” Natalie is a motivated teen that plays club soccer and also volunteers for local groups like the Friends of the Altadena Library. We thank volunteers like her for taking time out of their busy school and extra-curricular schedules to serve library patrons of all ages!

Unless otherwise stated, entrance to teen programs is limited to students in 6th through 12th grade only.

Teen Maker Exploration
Every Wednesday at 3:00 - 5:00pm
Use our virtual reality headset, create and print a 3D model, sew a new shirt, practice coding, and much more!

Great Stories Book Club
Thursday, November 8, 4:00 - 5:00pm
Nom Nom Group: Chili
Tuesday, November 13, at 4:00pm
Together we’ll learn how to prepare the perfect cold weather meal - homemade chili! Email teens@altadenaalibrary.org to register!

International Games Day
Saturday, November 17, at 3:00pm
Come to the Library for your one-stop-shop for all things gaming! Bring your friends or make some new ones in this two hour celebration of all things games.

NaNoWriMo Lite!
Monday, November 19, at 4:00pm
Not ready to commit to a full novel during National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo)? Join us for an informal writing workshop and jumpstart your next novel.

Teens Service Club Meeting
Tuesday, November 27, at 3:30pm
Need Community Service Hours? Bring your ideas and passion for community growth to the Teen Service Club, where teens make a difference in our Libraries and beyond! Visit www.altadenaalibrary.org/teen-service-club to apply.

Learn about teen-specific updates, book and music recommendations, events, and more by following our new Instagram account for teens: @AltadenaTeens
**Staff Picks at the Branch**

’Tis the season for food! Grab your aprons and get set to cook with these books from the Branch’s collection!

- **Bring It! Tried and True Recipes for Potlucks and Casual Entertaining** by Ali Rosen
- **Magnolia Table: A Collection of Recipes for Gathering** by Joanna Gaines
- **Carla Hall’s Soul Food: Everyday and Celebration** by Carla Hall
- **Plant, Cook, Eat! A Children’s Cookbook** by Joe Archer
- **Panes Mexicanos** by Irving Quiroz

**A Big Thank You to Bruce!**

The Bob Lucas Branch is home to the Literacy Program, powered by a host of volunteers dedicated to helping our community learn to read and more!

An Altadenan, Bruce has volunteered with the District’s Adult Literacy Program for nearly 9 years and currently works with two learners. Over the many years Bruce has supported Altadena Libraries, his favorite memories as a volunteer consist of “any time [he] sees the look on a student’s face when they experience their moments of accomplishment,” the “ahah!” moments every tutor strives for with their students.

Bruce, as his learners are likely discovering as they dive into the vast world of books, does not believe that there could be such a thing as one favorite book. If he had to narrow it down, he would recommend *To Kill a Mockingbird*, or *Crime and Punishment*.

Outside of the Library, Bruce is an avid traveler, fisherman and a pretty awesome fellow to be around. He has played the accordion since he was 7 years old, with many gaps throughout the years. He now sometimes plays it with his singing group at church. He is pleased that the accordion has attained more popularity in many kinds of music.

**Drop Off Your Letters to Santa!**

Until December 15, the Bob Lucas Branch will accept letters addressed to Santa Claus from young patrons. As a supporter of libraries, Santa is excited to receive your letters and to respond before the holidays are in full swing! More information coming soon...

**Toddler Story Time**

**Tuesdays, 11:00am**

We’ll have fun with books, rhymes, and songs that encourage your toddler’s preliteracy and vocabulary skills, and then we’ll spend time making a fun craft!

*Storytime on Tuesday, November 20 will be in Spanish!*

**Baby Story Time**

**Thursdays, 10:30am**

Enjoy a morning of rhymes, songs and stories. This program is designed for babies and infants, ages 0-3 years old.

**Crafternoons**

**Thursday, November 8, 3:30pm**

An easy fall craft for kids to make for the autumn season!

**CLOSURE - VETERANS DAY**

**Monday, November 12**

**Adult Craft - Festive Autumn Wreath**

**Friday, November 16, 11:00am**

Come and make a wreath to hang on your door for the fall season. All materials will be provided.

**Programming Hiatus**

**Monday, November 19 - Saturday, November 24**

**CLOSURE - THANKSGIVING**

**Thursday, November 22 – Friday, November 23**

The Altadena Libraries will also close early on Wednesday, November 21, at 5:00pm for the holiday.

**“We Tell Stories”**

**Wednesday, December 12, at 3:30pm**

We Tell Stories will be here to do a performance called “The Season of Giving”.

**American Flag**

**Citizenship Classes**

**Tuesdays, 6:00pm to 7:30pm**

Prepare for the US Citizenship exam with these free civics lessons. Classes continue weekly until February 2019. Register by calling (626) 798-0833 extension 102.

**Conversation Club**

**Tuesdays, until December 11, 10:30am - 12:00pm**

Chat with other English learners in a relaxed environment, pick up new vocabulary, improve your English fluency, and sharpen your pronunciation skills. No registration required! Call (626) 798-0833 extension 102 with any questions!
UPCOMING EVENTS  Find Branch, Children’s, and Teen Programs on pages 5-7.

Seed Library: Urban Foraging with Christopher Nyerges
Saturday, November 3, 10:00am - 12:00pm
Join us to hear Christopher Nyerges talk about urban foraging, what can be found at this time of the year, and natives and exotics.

Spanish Screening of “Coco” for Families
Saturday, November 3, at 1:00pm

Health Care Enrollment with ChapCare
Mondays, November 5 and 19, 5:00pm - 9:00pm
Call (626) 486-9729 to make your appointment to meet with a certified health care enrollment counselor from ChapCare!

Friends of the Altadena Library Meeting
Monday, November 5, at 7:30pm

Conversation Club (@ Bob Lucas Branch)
Every Tuesday until December 11, 10:30am - 12:00pm
The Conversation Club is a great opportunity to chat with other English language learners in a relaxed and comfortable environment.

Citizenship Classes (@ Bob Lucas Branch)
Every Tuesday, 6:00 - 7:30pm
Register for these free civics lessons to prepare for the US citizenship exam by calling (626) 798-0833 extension 102.

Jewelry Making Class with Jabin Jacques
Tuesday, November 6, 6:30pm - 8:30pm
Email hello@altadenalibrary.org to claim your spot in the class.

Second Saturday with Past Action Heroes
Saturday, November 10, at 6:30pm
Rock out to hits from the 80s and 90s at this community night out!

DISTRICT CLOSURE - VETERANS DAY
Monday, November 12, All Day

No Guilt Book Club
Tuesday, November 13, at 7:00pm
No guilt – come even if you haven’t read the books!

The Krampus and the Old, Dark Christmas
Tuesday, November 13, at 7:30pm
Connect to the dark side of the holidays at this presentation on the history of Krampus, the often misunderstood creature from Alpine tradition.

Seasonal Salads with The Urban Forager Elisa Callow
Saturday, November 17, 10:00am - 12:00pm
Join local food blogger and Altadenan Elisa Callow for a special cooking class and learn how to prepare fresh salads with vinaigrette pairings. Email hello@altadenalibrary.org to register!

DISTRICT CLOSURE - THANKSGIVING
Thursday, November 22 - Friday, November 23, All Day
The Altadena Libraries will also close early on Wednesday, November 21, at 5:00pm for the holiday.

From Pages to Table - Book Club + Potluck
Saturday, November 24, at 2:00pm
Transform your Thanksgiving leftovers into a new recipe and bring your new recipe to share at the return of the Library’s popular book club! Email your recipe to hello@altadenalibrary.org ahead of time to print copies for other guests.

Live Mars InSight Landing Screening
Monday, November 26, 11:00am - 12:30pm
Stop by the Main Library to watch the NASA TV broadcast of the Mars InSight landing! A JPL scientist will be on site to answer questions as the landing progresses.

Library Board of Trustees Meeting
Monday, November 26, at 5:00pm