Support the Friends of the Library Annual Book Sale!

California is back in bloom after a rainy winter, and that means only one thing – it’s time for the Friends of the Altadena Library Book Sale! Throughout the year, our devoted Friends work tirelessly processing and sorting through thousands of donations of books, music, and movies to stock the Bookstore in the Main Library and to sell at the Annual Book Sale. The public is invited to reap the rewards of their efforts at the Main Library on Saturday, May 18 from 10:00am to 4:00pm and Sunday, May 17 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm.

Members of the Friends get first pick on Friday, May 17, from 3:00pm to 7:00pm. Not a Friend yet? Don’t worry – you can become a member at the door for only $10 or online before the sale at www.altadenalibrary.org/friends!

Your purchases and membership support the Friends’ efforts to stimulate public interest in the Altadena Libraries, to assist with funding to purchase library materials, and to support cultural and educational programs at the Altadena Libraries, as they have done since 1959.

Want even more of our Friends? Save the date for the Friends’ Annual Membership Meeting on Monday, June 3, at 7:00pm. This special annual gathering is a time to share in the Friends’ accomplishments throughout the year, meet and connect with other Friends, and enjoy an engaging speaker or performance.

Aileen Quinn and The Leapin’ Lizards Take the Stage!

Altadena Library’s Second Saturday concert series continues on Saturday, May 11, at 6:30pm. Golden Globe nominated Aileen Quinn, best known for playing the title role in the 1982 film “Annie,” has teamed up with a group of talented musicians that brings the sounds of past eras, particularly the Rockabilly and Swing of the 40s and 50s, back to life. Aileen Quinn and The Leapin’ Lizards will masterfully mix classic hits with unforgettable originals for a foot-stompin’ Second Saturday. Food and drinks will be available for sale, but dancing is free and encouraged!

Save the date for the last Second Saturday concert of the 2018-2019 season on Saturday, June 8, at 6:30pm, featuring the Harbor Groove Band!

Want to perform? Flip to the back page of this newsletter and learn more about how to apply for our next Second Saturday concert series in 2019-2020!
INTERIM DIRECTOR’S MESSAGE
by Cindy Cleary, Interim District Director

Staff Development Day Brings Healing and Strengthens Staff Connections

It did not take long after starting my work at the Altadena Libraries to realize that the events of the past year have taken their toll on staff. Staff has experienced the upheaval of transitioning through four Directors in one year and a Board of Trustees election, all while maintaining quality services for the public and keeping Library operations running smoothly.

On Tuesday, April 23, we closed both libraries for the day to give staff some time to reconnect, find their stable footing, and build critical skills through a day of interactive workshops facilitated by Cheryl Gould of Fully Engaged Libraries. Each session invited staff to explore essential communication and team-building concepts while connecting with other staff and reinforcing their own personal commitments to the District’s mission. The day ended at the Bob Lucas Branch where each department presented about their day-to-day efforts and initiatives moving forward.

Professional development is a journey; there is always more to learn. This day was a fresh start and healing step in the right direction for our staff as we work together to enhance our services to the Altadena community.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES UPDATE
by Terry Andrus, President of Board of Trustees

Altadena loves its libraries. For proof, look at the Board of Trustees election last November, when over 60,000 votes were cast to fill 4 open seats on the Library Board. The Trustee race attracted a strong slate of candidates and generated enthusiastic audiences at events to hear their views.

Why is this important? Because it ties the Board more closely to the electorate and provides guidance for the issues upon which we campaigned: increased transparency, more accountability, best practices at our public meetings (Brown Act), better access for disabled patrons, and continued improvement to our services. The list goes on.

Our new Board is learning to work together, and the first few months are promising. We have formed five subcommittees to deal with important issues facing the Library:

- **Facilities**: Led by Jason Capell — will work closely with Library staff to plan physical improvements to the library branches.
- **By-laws**: Led by Gwendolyn McFaul — will convert our existing by-laws, now 13 years old, into a set of modernized Board Policies and Procedures.
- **Strategic Planning**: Led by Board Secretary Katie Clark — will replace our current expiring strategic plan with a new one that includes input from a wide range of community advisors.
- **Executive Search**: Led by Betsy Kahn — will coordinate the search for a new permanent Library Director.
- **Budget**: Led by me — will meet regularly to help plan our annual budgets and approve adjustments, as needed, throughout our July-June fiscal year.

Each Board member sits on at least one of these committees. We spend many hours in discussion and planning, which sometimes makes our volunteer effort feel more like a full-time job. And what is that job? It is to provide guidance and policies that allow the District Director and our excellent library staff to do their jobs effectively.

In the long term, it is the job of our community to keep the Library a strong and relevant institution. Last month the country celebrated National Library Week and we were reminded of the small, but effective, ways we can support these beloved public places. Whether it’s getting a library card, checking out a book, attending a program, browsing an informational display or using free internet at one of our branches, our libraries have much to offer and thrive with your support.

Altadena Town & Country Club Lends a Hand (or a Few!)

The magic of the Altadena Libraries is in the small things that come together to make a big impact. Every day, volunteers come together at the Main Library and Bob Lucas Branch to give of their time and efforts to help make our libraries more welcoming to all. On an overcast morning in April, hardworking volunteers from the Altadena Town & Country Club braved the crisp morning air and spent their Saturday building a peaceful garden space near the Main Library parking lot. Visitors can now enjoy pops of color amidst a serene rock formation as they make their way into the Main Library. We thank our neighbors from the Altadena Town & Country Club for helping make our Main Library a more welcoming, inviting place to visit and enjoy.

SEED LIBRARY CHIA CAFE COLLECTIVE

SUNDAY, MAY 4, 10:00AM - 12:00PM
COMMUNITY ROOM

Chía Café Collective will be discussing the health benefits of native foods along with ways to approach decolonizing your diet. Tastings of native foods will be shared and Chía Café Collective’s cookbook Cooking the Native Way will be available for purchase.
Volunteer Highlight: Gretta

Volunteers do more than just shelving books at the Altadena Libraries. Our ability to help patrons with technology-related inquiries relies greatly on our skilled volunteers that share their expertise through technology programs and troubleshooting. Anyone who frequents the Main Library is sure to have met Gretta – here is her volunteer story:

I have volunteered with the Altadena Library for a little over a year now, working in the Fab Lab and helping out at the tech perch. Being able to give someone a hand in sending out a job application or provide some useful hints to give a 3D printing experience a boost is really meaningful to me. I have enjoyed getting to know so many super nice and awesome members of our community - that I wouldn’t have an opportunity to interact with otherwise - and it’s made me super grateful to be living and volunteering here in Altadena. This is a fantastic library in a great community and I feel really lucky to have the chance to participate.

Thank you, Gretta, for always jumping in to help our patrons! If you are ready to start your volunteer story at the Altadena Libraries, email volunteer@altadenalibrary.org to get more information or attend the upcoming Volunteer Meet and Greet on Saturday, May 11, at 1:00pm.

Congratulations, Jeffrey C. Stewart!

We are pleased to offer our congratulations to author and scholar Jeffrey C. Stewart for winning The 2019 Pulitzer Prize for his biography “The New Negro: The Life and of Alain Locke,” which also won the 2018 National Book Award. The Altadena Library District welcomed Stewart as presenter at a discussion at the Main Library in February 2019, in partnership with Altadena Heritage. Several copies of his book and other selections of his work are available for check-out from the Main Library and Bob Lucas Branch.

Staff Picks for Adults

Celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month by checking out one of these titles!

- Crazy Rich Asians
  - Media Center DVD CRA
  - Adult Graphic Novels GN BUI T.

- The Best We Could Do
  - by Thi Bui
  - Adult Nonfiction 641.595 NGU

- Street Food Asia
  - by Luke Nguyen
  - Adult Fiction FIC LAH

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

For more staff picks for adults, visit www.altadenalibrary.org/adults.
**TECHNOLOGY UPDATES**

**RFID & New Checkouts**

Starting **Monday, May 6**, patrons at the Main Library will enjoy a brand new self-service checkout experience! After months of individually tagging the District’s entire collection of books, movies, music, and more, library staff is thrilled to roll out brand new Radio Frequency Identification, or RFID, checkout stations. RFID technology utilizes microchips in tags affixed to library materials to identify materials without needing to scan the barcodes, making the check-in and checkout processes significantly simpler and more efficient for patrons. In addition to the RFID tags’ high reliability and long tag life, this technology allows library staff to inventory the collection at high-speed, since items will no longer need to be removed from the shelf to be scanned.

To check-out your items, simply scan your library card at one of our new RFID terminals (you will see them lit up by the entrance and Children’s section!) and place your items on the pad in front of the machine. You will see a list of your items pop up on the screen with a green checkmark next to each item; they are checked out to you within seconds! No more searching for hard-to-find barcodes! If you need help, there is a “Request Help” button on each machine that will alert staff who will quickly and happily assist you! For even more benefits of this new technology and for a video tutorial on how to use the machines, visit www.altadenalibrary.org/RFID.

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**Mobile Hotspots Are Back**

Need Wifi on the go? The Altadena Libraries have you covered! Starting **Monday, May 13**, mobile hotspots (pictured right) will be available for check-out from both the Main Library and Bob Lucas Branch. Offering unlimited 4G LTE data through Sprint, mobile hotspots allow users to connect to Wifi anywhere! Altadena Library cardholders will be able to check out a hotspot for 7 days, with an option to renew for another 7 days if there is not already a hold on the hotspot. This is the perfect tool for anyone that’s always on the go or for families who need Wifi access while on vacation this summer!

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**FREE COMIC BOOK DAY**

The Main Library is thrilled to offer **FREE COMICS** to comic book fans in Altadena on:

**SATURDAY, MAY 4TH**

Giveaway starts at 1:00pm

Comic book fans ages 10 and up are invited to stick around for a special **COMICS/ANIMATION PANEL AND Q&As** featuring award-winning film maker and comic book writer Patrick Meaney and Ako Castuera, storyboard artist for **Adventure Time**.

Panel starts at 2:00pm in the Teen Space

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**ART IN THE LIBRARY**

**Open Studios: A Behind-the-Scenes Look at the Artists in Your Neighborhood**

The Altadena Library District is proud to welcome the Open Studios Art Tour to the Main Library for the months of May and June. The Open Studios Art Tour is a community-wide, annual event that invites the public into local artists’ homes and studios on **Saturday, June 1, 11:00am to 5:00pm, and Sunday, June 2, 12:00pm to 6:00pm**. With a guidebook in hand, participants can visit artists and craftspeople across Altadena and Pasadena, enjoying live music, demonstrations, and refreshments at some locations. As described on [http://OpenStudiosGallery.com](http://OpenStudiosGallery.com), the tour “provides an intimate view into the artist’s life and studio; to be able to see where and how ideas are conceived and developed. The creative process becomes apparent and is unique to each artist. It provides a personal, individualized experience.” There are no admission fees, and all are welcome to visit.

From **May 6 to June 28**, the Altadena Main Library will have the work of most Open Studios artists and craftspeople on display. Guidebooks will be available for pick-up. The public can meet many of the artists at the Artist’s Preview Reception on **Friday, May 24 at 6:00pm** through 9:00pm. Libations and delicious food will be available for purchase from the Altadena Ale & Wine House, and the Dapper Rebels will provide lively reggae and ska for those who love to dance!

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**Vision Boards**

Craft Your Dreams Into Reality!

**SATURDAY, MAY 11th, 11:00AM AT THE MAIN LIBRARY**

Create a collage of your dreams and future plans. All supplies will be provided.

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**Appy hour**

Learn the OverDrive and Libby Applications for e-Books and Audiobooks

**MONDAY, MAY 13th, 7:00PM - 8:00PM IN THE FABLAB AT THE MAIN LIBRARY**

Bring your own devices and get access to thousands of e-books!
Children’s Staff Picks
Warm up for Summer Reading with these out-of-this-world books!

Above and Beyond: NASA's Journey to Tomorrow by Olugbemisola Rhuday-Perkovich

Mae Among the Stars by Roda Ahmed

Lily & Kosmo in Outer Outer Space by Jonathan Ashley

CatStronauts: Mission Moon by Drew Brockington

Curiosity: The Story of the Mars Rover by Markus Motum

Garcia & Colette Go Exploring by Hannah Rodgers Barnaby

Homework Helpers (K - 8th grade)
Mondays and Wednesdays, 3:30pm - 5:00pm

Pajama Story Time (Ages 0-5)
Mondays, at 6:30pm

Early Literacy Play Time (Ages 0-5)
Tuesdays, 10:00am - 12:00pm

Baby & Toddler Story Time (Ages 0-2)
Wednesdays, at 10:30am

Preschool Story Time (Ages 3-5)
Thursdays, at 11:00am

Hora de Cuentos (Ages 0-5)
Fridays, at 11:00am

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

PLEASE NOTE – Children’s programming will go on a brief hiatus the week of June 2-9 before Summer Reading programming begins!
Unless otherwise stated, entrance to teen programs is limited to students in 6th through 12th grade only.

**Teen Maker Exploration** in the FabLab
Every Wednesday, 3:00pm - 5:00pm

**#FreeComicBookDay Giveaway**
Saturday, May 4, at 1:00pm
#FreeComicBookDay is an international celebration of comics and the Altadena Library is joining the fun! Each patron will be able to select two comics of the 19 titles on offer.

**#FreeComicBookDay Comics/Animation Panel and Q&A**
Saturday, May 4, at 2:00pm - 3:30pm
Comic book fans ages 10 and up are invited to a special presentation by talented artists and creatives in the industry! Hosted by award-winning filmmaker Patrick Meaney (House of Demons, Grant Morrison: Talking With Gods, She Makes Comics), this panel will feature a handful of special guest artists.

**Volunteer Meet & Greet**
Saturday, May 11, at 1:00pm
Looking for the perfect opportunity to make a meaningful impact in the community, earn School Service Hours, and make lasting memories this summer? Join us at one of the above dates for an informational gathering to get to know our Library, answer questions about summer volunteering opportunities, sign up for volunteer activities, and meet other caring community members.

**Practice Testing Event**
Saturday, May 18, at 10:00am (@ Bob Lucas Branch)
Visit www.altadenalibrary.org/teenresources to sign up for a practice SAT, ACT, ISEE, HSPT, or AP subject test of your choice. In partnership with MeriEducation, the Altadena Libraries are pleased to offer these tests free of charge to our teen patrons!

**Teen Game Zone**
Friday, May 24, at 4:00pm

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**Teen Volunteer Highlight: Natalie**

Volunteers like **Natalie** help keep our libraries running smoothly. Helping with crucial programs enriches the lives of our many patrons that enjoy our services. Next time you see Natalie around, give her a big thank you! This is Natalie’s volunteer story:

I have been a Homework Helper for over half a year now and I wish I had found this opportunity sooner. I’ve volunteered at various local libraries prior, but I actually enjoy helping around at the Altadena Library, which is why I have stuck with it. Developing a relationship with the children I work with is truly a satisfying experience. I enjoy working with other people, which is something that I will most definitely incorporate in my future academic and professional endeavors. I know there will be many opportunities to do so, during my undergraduate career at the University of Southern California. I intend on majoring in Human and Health Sciences at Dornsife with a pre-physical therapy track. I will be attending USC after January as a Spring admit. This fall I will be attending Pasadena City College, where I will also play soccer as a Lancer.

**Staff Picks for Teens**

Navigating the complex mental health challenges of your teens can be hard. Explore these helpful titles during Mental Health Month to start a dialogue about mental health with friends and family.

- **(Don’t) Call Me Crazy** edited by Kelly Jensen
- **You Are Enough** by Jen Petro-Roy
- **Depression** by Jacqueline B. Toner & Claire A. Freeland
- **The PTSD Survival Guide for Teens** by Sheela Raja
- **Turtles All the Way Down** by John Green
- **Will Grayson, Will Grayson** by John Green & David Levithan
Staff Picks at the Bob Lucas Branch
May is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. Celebrate by reading one of these titles in the Branch’s collection:

A River of Stars by Vanessa Hua
Farewell to Manzanar by Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston & James Houston
The Lowland by Jhumpa Lahiri
And the Mountains Echoed by Khaled Hosseini
Everything I Never Told You by Celeste Ng

Toddler Story Time
Tuesdays at 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!

May 21 will be in English AND Spanish!

Baby Story Time
Thursdays at 10:30am
Enjoy a morning of rhymes, songs and stories. This program is designed for babies and infants, ages 0-3 years old.

Crafternoon: Egg Carton Wreath
Thursday, May 9, at 3:30pm
We’re reusing our egg cartons to make flower wreaths that can be used to decorate your front door!

Adult Crafting: Bejeweled Mason Jar Lantern
Friday, May 17, at 11:00am
Learn to make a gorgeous faux gem studded mason jar lantern.

Family Film Friday: “The Lego Movie 2: The Second Part”
Friday, May 24, at 3:30pm
Free nachos will be served, as supplies last!

Visit the Library website and click “Bob Lucas Branch” on the homepage to see even more picks in the Branch’s collection!

ADULT LITERACY PROGRAM UPDATES & ACTIVITIES
The Bob Lucas Memorial Branch is home to the Altadena Library District’s Literacy program, which connects volunteer tutors with adults learning to read. The program also serves English learners with ongoing group classes. Interested in volunteering or signing up as a learner? Email literacy@altadenalibrary.org to learn more!

ESL Classes
Monday - Thursday, at 10am-12pm
Learning English? We offer small group instruction for learners looking to gain basic verbal and written fluency.

Conversation Club
Weekly, Tuesdays at 10:00am
Chat with other English learners in a relaxed environment.

Citizenship Class
Weekly, Tuesdays at 6:00pm
Prepare for the United States citizenship exam at this weekly civics lesson.
UPCOMING EVENTS

Seed Library: Chia Café Collective ⚪
Saturday, May 4, 10:00am - 12:00pm

#FreeComicBookDay: Giveaway & Panel
Saturday, May 4, 1:00pm - 3:30pm

Friends of the Altadena Library Meeting ⚪
Monday, May 6, at 7:30pm

All-Ages Chess Night
Every Tuesday, at 6:30pm

Open Mic Night ⚪
Tuesday, May 7, at 7:00pm
Enjoy performances by local talent, or sign up to take the stage! Musicians, poets, storytellers, dancers, and comedians are welcome.

Mac to the Max
Every Friday, 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Vision Boards Adult Craft
Saturday, May 11, at 11:00am

Volunteer Meet & Greet ⚪
Saturday, May 11, at 1:00pm

Second Saturday Concert: Aileen Quinn and the Leapin’Lizards
Saturday, May 11, at 6:30pm

Crochet Club
Monday, May 13, at 6:00pm

’appy Hour: OverDrive and Libby Apps
Monday, May 13, at 7:00pm

No Guilt Book Club
Tuesday, May 14, at 7:00pm

Friends of the Library BIG Book Sale
Friday, May 17, 3:00pm - 7:00pm, Saturday, May 18, 10:00am - 4:00pm, and Sunday, May 19, 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Library Board of Trustees Meeting ⚪
Monday, May 20, at 5:00pm

Open Studios Art Tour Opening Reception
Friday, May 24, at 6:00pm

DISTRICT CLOSURE - Memorial Day
All Day on Monday, May 27

Asian Pacific American Heritage Presentation ⚪
Saturday, May 25, at 2:00pm
Author Kinji Inomata will share about his family’s Asian American heritage history, with help from his cousins Altadeneans Tony and Maureen Ward. Copies of his book will be available for sale.

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!

Assistive Listening Devices available in Community Room upon request when noted to the left.