

CONNECT

NEWSLETTER OF
THE ALTADENA
LIBRARIES

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*Safer at Home
Special Edition*



Find Your Place at the Library

National Library Week is an annual celebration that falls in the last week of April, and last year's theme asked us, "How do you library?" As the nation shared its support of libraries online, we learned that some people library by enjoying books and new technology; some library by exploring the limits of their curiosity at innovative library programs. For others, to library means to connect with community in new ways.

"Find Your Place at the Library," this year's theme for National Library Week, was chosen far before the emergence of a global pandemic would force most libraries to close their doors. For many, libraries are important because of the physical places they provide, but we know that libraries are more than just their buildings. During these uncertain times as we face unprecedented changes to our day-to-day activities, many of us are seeking a sense of place, and at the Altadena Libraries, we believe that even digitally we can all find a sense of place at our local libraries.

If you're feeling unsure and overwhelmed by the plethora of information and misinformation being spread around about COVID-19, the Altadena Libraries hope to bring you a sense of security by providing credible, clear information that cuts through the falsities. If you're feeling lonely during this isolated period, the libraries are providing spaces like online meetups for people to connect virtually with neighbors. If you or your children are restless as you adjust to a new at-home schedule, we are happy to provide engaging, educational, and activity-oriented videos to keep you busy and entertained while learning new things. If you are facing the shock and grief of losing your job or your small business, the libraries can connect you with resources to help you navigate this difficult time.

We are all trying to find our footing – find our place – during these challenging times. This issue of CONNECT will highlight all the ways you can start to find your place, albeit online, at your Altadena Libraries.



Building Closures

Following orders from public health officials, the Altadena Library District buildings have been closed until at least May 4, 2020. For real-time updates or changes to the closure schedule, please visit:

www.altadenalibrary.org/coronavirusclosure

During the closure, please do not return materials; all book returns have been locked. All items will be automatically renewed until the buildings reopen.

Altadena Counts

The 2020 Census is in full swing. Since COVID-19 concerns us all, this crisis is a reminder of the importance of well-funded local health and emergency services. Your response to the Census can help ensure that community receives funds and representation reflective of our community's true needs and population. Get counted today!

MY2020CENSUS.GOV

We are curious.

We are con

How Can Your Libraries Support You Right Now?

We at the Altadena Libraries want to do everything we can to help our communities deal with the “new normal.” We’d love your input and suggestions on the types of topics, programs, and community spaces that resonate with you most during this period of physical distancing. To take a brief survey and help us shape our digital offerings, please visit:

www.altadenalibrary.org/digitalhelpsurvey

Centralizing Local News



Several community-driven news sources and online resources exist in Altadena on social media, run by dedicated community members! In collaboration with community partners, a team of Altadena Library staff and dedicated volunteers is compiling news from these credible local stakeholders to send out regular news, called **Altadena Connections**, and highlight news specific to our community. Sign up for regular updates, learn about existing news sources in Altadena, or share a news tip at:

WWW.ALTADENANEWS.ORG

Sing-alongs, Read-alongs, and Crafts!

Our Children's Department are bringing early literacy learning into your home! On the library's YouTube page, you can find sing-alongs, in English and Spanish, and read-alongs for your young readers to enjoy! Here's what you can find already posted:

Mm Ah! Little Green Frog Song

Practice making silly sounds that help little ones learn how to form words and expand vocabulary

Bilingual Scarf Songs

Enjoy a sensory experience with a soft scarf or shirt and practice Spanish while you sing

Tommy Thumb Song

Build fine motor skills and strengthen fingers to help with writing

Boo Boo Bunny Craft

Make a soft ice pack that can help with both bruises and emotional regulation

View these videos and more on

www.altadenalibrary.org/digital-childrens-library



Read-a-Dena Continues!

Throughout all the ups and downs of human life, one thing is constant. Nature is resilient and omnipresent. This spring's community-wide reading initiative called Read-a-Dena features the book **Wild LA: Explore the Amazing Nature In and Around Los Angeles**. While we cannot explore local trails, there is still plenty of nature to observe from a backyard or even through a window.



Our Read-a-Dena adventure continues in new ways. From online book chats about nature, community science, and protecting our environment, to online workshops digging into nature-based activities and learning, we are working hard to make sure Read-a-Dena is just as engaging as before!

Visit www.altadenalibrary.org/programs to check for Read-a-Dena events!

Never got a free copy of Wild LA? Check it out on cloudLibrary at yourcloudlibrary.com or the app!

Access Our Digital Reading Platforms from Home!

cloudLibrary: Enjoy access to our new free cloud-based app that gives you access to over 140,000 ebooks and audiobooks, available on most devices!

OverDrive: There are still several hundred ebooks and audiobooks available on OverDrive and the Libby app that will be available for a limited time through early summer.

Flipster: No need to risk the long lines at the grocery store to get your favorite magazines when Flipster has digital versions of the latest publications online or in the Flipster app!

enki: Indulge your curiosity with enki Library, an open source eBook Network that gives you access to even more eBooks outside of the Altadena Library District's collection in cloudLibrary.

Novelist: Search for favorite authors, themes, subjects, and award winners. A great way for readers of all ages to find a good novel to read.

Explore even more reading options and learning tools at www.altadenalibrary.org/saferathome.

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We are neighbors.

Exhibition Walkthrough: Women's Liberation Movement

Before the closure, the glass display case, Reading Court, and Community Room at the Main Library displayed vintage ephemera of women's liberation movement history, collected by Jennifer Hall Lee, Altadena Town Council member and creator of the award-winning film *Feminist: Stories from Women's Liberation*. If you missed seeing the exhibition before the building closed, Jennifer has compiled a virtual video walkthrough of the pieces on display for you to enjoy from home! To view the video, please visit www.altadenalibrary.org/womensliberation.

Have Questions? Need Assistance? Chat with Us!

While library staff are not at the library, they have remote access to monitoring the online chat on the library website and are ready to help! On Monday through Friday from 10:00am to 12:00pm and

4:00 to 6:00pm, you can chat with library staff using our website chat feature. Look for the red box in the bottom right corner of the website to get started!

Chat live with Library staff!

Online

Prefer the phone? No problem! Call (626) 798-0833 extension 105 during those hours to speak with someone directly and get assistance!

Chat Hours for Teens and Young Adults

On Monday through Friday from 2:00 to 4:00pm, our Teen Librarian will be standing by on live chat to help teens with homework, recommend young adult reads, and answer any questions for teens!



A Legacy of Poetry in Altadena

Every April, poets from around our community gather to share their work featured in the *Altadena Literary Review Anthology* and connect with community members over their shared love of the art form. This year, the Altadena Library is proud to continue this tradition in a new way. Poetry & Cookies will be presented digitally, including a ceremonial passing of the laurels from our current Altadena Poets Laureate to the new Poets Laureate and readings by poets from the 2020 *Altadena Literary Review*.

Join Poets Laureate Teresa Mei Chuc and Hazel Clayton Harrison on **Sunday, April 26, at 12:45pm** for a virtual gathering using Zoom, an online video conference platform. To join the event, visit <https://zoom.us/j/813492566>. For more login details and call-in options, visit www.altadenalibrary.org/programs and click on the event.



Meet the New Poet Laureates:



Jessica Abughattas was born and raised in California. Her debut book, *Strip*, won the Etel Adnan Poetry Prize and will be published by the University of Arkansas in 2020. She is a Kundiman fellow and a graduate of the Antioch University Los Angeles MFA in Creative Writing program. Her poems appear in *Waxwing*, *The Journal*, *Best of the Net 2019*, and elsewhere.



Born and raised in Altadena, **Khadija Anderson** has been published extensively online and in print journals and anthologies. She holds an MFA in Creative Writing through Antioch University Los Angeles and her first book of poetry, "History of Butoh" was published in 2012 by Writ Large Press. Her poem "Islam for

Americans" was a Pushcart Prize nominee and a chapbook, "Cul-de-sac: an American Childhood" is forthcoming in 2020 from Ethel, a woman run press. Khadija runs a monthly social justice themed poetry series, *Poets & Allies for Resistance*, in Pasadena and her work can be found at khadijaanderson.com.

Visit www.altadenalibrary.org/poetry to learn more!

From the District's Support Organizations

The Friends of the Altadena Library and the Altadena Library Foundation are hugely grateful for and proud of the Altadena Library's leadership in providing our community with vital information and support during this crisis.



April Online Events *Using Zoom*, we are pleased to offer a variety of programs during the closure!*



“Just Show Up” Online Club – Every Wednesday in April starting April 1, 4:00pm (Adults)

Whether you've watched a great movie you want to talk about, read a great book, or you're just looking for your next TV recommendation, all are welcome at the Just Show Up club! This digital meeting is a great way to connect with your neighbors and new entertainment to enjoy while practicing safe social distancing.



Virtual Crochet Club – Saturday, April 4, 10:00 - 11:00am (Adults)

Working on crochet projects at home? Guided by Altadena Libraries' staff crochet expert Mikayla, share your projects with your neighbors online and get/give helpful tips.



Online Hand-Sewing Classes Session 1 – Monday, April 6 & Wednesday, April 8, 2:00 - 3:00pm (Adults)

Have you been putting off patching a pair of jeans or sewing a button on a coat? Do you have a pair of pants that need a hem, but don't know how? In this online class, we will focus on basic hand-sewing techniques. You will learn to thread a needle and tie a knot, sew basic stitches and hem. *Signup is required to get the Zoom link; visit www.altadenalibrary.org/programs to sign up!*



Online Hangout with the Teen Librarian – Thursday, April 9, 2:00pm & Tuesday, April 14, 5:00pm (Teens)

Drop into this online hangout with our Teen Librarian to talk books, learn about digital services for teens, and more! This time is for teens only!



Online Hand-Sewing Classes Session 2 – Wednesday, April 15 & Friday, April 17, 1:00 - 2:00pm (Adults)

Signup is required to get the Zoom link; visit the online calendar to sign up!

Poetry & Cookies – Sunday, April 26, 12:45 - 2:30pm

This year, Poetry & Cookies will be presented digitally, including a ceremonial passing of the laurels from our current Altadena Poets Laureate to the new Poets Laureate and readings by poets from the Altadena Poetry Review Anthology.



Library Board of Trustees Meeting – Monday, April 27, 5:00pm

Review the agenda and package at www.altadenalibrary.org/board-materials. Submit your public comment ahead of the meeting at www.altadenalibrary.org/publiccomment.



MAIN LIBRARY

600 E. Mariposa Street
Altadena, CA 91001

**BUILDING CLOSED
UNTIL AT LEAST
MAY 4, 2020**



BOB LUCAS MEMORIAL BRANCH

2659 Lincoln Avenue
Altadena, CA 91001

**BUILDING CLOSED
UNTIL AT LEAST
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***What is Zoom? How does it work?**

Zoom is an online application that allows its users to host video and audio meetings and events. The Altadena Libraries will be using Zoom to host online events in the coming weeks; to access an event, it only takes a few steps!

Before joining a Zoom meeting on a computer or mobile device, you can download the Zoom app from zoom.us/download. Otherwise, you will be prompted to download and install Zoom when you click a join link.

Each event has a unique number called a “meeting ID” that will be required to join a Zoom meeting. This unique ID will be listed in each event’s listing on the library’s online calendar.

Don't have computer access? Phone in!

If you are joining via telephone, you can find your local number at zoom.us/zoomconference and then enter the meeting ID when prompted.

Never Miss an Event!

Visit www.altadenalibrary.org/programs to see details about the above events and explore even more opportunities to ignite your curiosity and connect with your neighbors at your Altadena Libraries!

