Bernal Heights Celebrates Fifth Year Anniversary and New Murals!

Bernal Heights Branch reopened its doors in January 2010, following a major remodel. The 1940 Frederic Meyer-designed building was seismically retrofitted and expanded to two floors, including a new elevator and other accessibility improvements.

Popular features include the new children’s room, which connects to the playground; a refurbished community meeting room; improved check-out area; and an increased collection of books and media. Thanks to the renovation, there is also a large exterior seating area, complete with tiles displaying donors’ names, which has become a favorite neighborhood meeting spot. The renovated branch continues to be a big success!

When the library reopened, work on the façade was yet to be completed. The Bernal community needed to weigh in on what to do about the valued but fading murals that had been on the library exterior for over three decades. After five years and much community participation, the façade now features three original murals inspired by the spirit of the original branch mural. Artists Johanna Poethig, Ruben Rude and Precita Eyes Muralsists, responded to months of community discourse and gave us three distinct, unique artworks. The Bernal Library Art Project, which distilled community input, raised funds and donated long hours of personal time, was responsible for making sure the mural project was seen through to completion.

We are fortunate for the outcome! So now it’s time to congratulate the mural team and enjoy music, crafts, LEGOs and refreshments. Long-time Bernal resident Michael Govea and Los Campas will perform salsa from their repertory of Latin music.

Five Year Reopening Anniversary – Jan. 24, Bernal Heights Branch, 2 p.m.

Art on the Go: Mr. Lunch Builds a Canoe

Mr. Lunch Visits the Library

Come build a Mr. Lunch-inspired canoe puppet at the Library! Through this special interactive program, “Art on the Go: Mr. Lunch Builds a Canoe,” children will create a puppet and alter a background map to reflect and share their own dreams of adventure through storytelling. The Library is pleased to partner with the Contemporary Jewish Museum (CJM) to celebrate the J. Otto Seibold and Mr. Lunch exhibition showcasing his art and books.

Published in the 1990s, the Mr. Lunch series was the first to be illustrated with computer software, blending technology with art. The exhibit follows J. Otto Seibold’s transition from drawing to computer generated illustrations. Younger visitors will enjoy the interactive play areas featuring scenes from the stories. Check out a Family Pass from the Library and see the exhibit for free.

San Francisco children’s librarians have vetted and given two thumbs up to this engaging exhibit! Plus, this is the perfect time to register for a library card if you haven’t already done so. Your library card is your ticket into the Contemporary Jewish Museum’s Free Day for library patrons on Feb. 8.

March to Freedom: Celebrating the Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the civil rights marches from Selma, Alabama to Montgomery, Alabama that helped spur the passage of the historic 1965 Voting Rights Act. In honor of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the African American Center of the Library is pleased to be a partner with the Northern California Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Foundation to bring innovative programming to the community in celebration of Dr. King’s birthday.

This year’s theme is March to Freedom: 50 Years from Selma to the Ballot. The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Observance is one of the world’s premier celebrations in honor of Dr. King. Events in San Francisco will take place Jan. 16-19 in the Yerba Buena district, and culminate in the commemorative March/Parade from San Francisco’s Caltrain Station to Yerba Buena Gardens.

The Library is especially excited to be involved in the inaugural Black Comix Arts Festival, whose mission is to celebrate the creativity and subjectivity of African Americans in the comic arts and popular visual culture. The Festival includes a grand exposition, kids’ activities, special guest artist presentations, film screenings, cosplay events and much more. Author David F. Walker will speak at the Main Library’s Latino/Hispanic Community Meeting Room on Jan. 18. Walker is an award-winning journalist and filmmaker, whose comic works include the series Shaft, Number 13, The Army of Dr. Moreau and The Supernals.

The Black Comix Art Festival continues through Jan. 19 with film screenings and an expo at City View at Metreon. The Expo will feature some of the best and brightest creators of graphic fiction, speculative fiction and comics in the country, showcasing alternative perspectives and the diversity inherent in Dr. King’s vision.

Author talk: David F. Walker – Jan. 18, 2 p.m., Main Library, Latino/Hispanic Community Meeting Room.
New and Noteworthy Books for Children and Teens

Picture Books

- **Gaston**
  It was another great year for picture stories. Two wordless standouts are: *Draw!* by Raúl Colón, a boy’s artistic safari; and *Flashlight* by Liz Boyd, in which a child’s backyard becomes a land of intrigue by night. Text and pictures present a tribute to loving families in *Gaston*, by Kelly DiPucchio, illustrated by Christian Robinson. S.D. Schindler’s detailed ink-and-watercolor pictures enrich the dryly humorous story of a bear with a (literally) taste for books in *Brother Hugo and the Bear* by Katy Beebe. In a visual tour-de-force, Yuyi Morales introduces young readers to Frida Kahlo in her stunning bilingual poem-portrait, *Viva Frida*.

Elementary and Middle School Fiction

- **Say It Ain’t So** by Josh Berk (sequel to *Strike Three You’re Dead*) is a hilarious baseball mystery perfect for sports fans and anyone who appreciates bodily-function humor. Shannan Hale’s *A Dangerous Fortune* features interplanetary attacks, robot arms, jet packs, and a variety of characters—seriously kick alien butt.

- **The Great Greene Heist**
  Varian Johnson follows a middle-school con man with a heart of gold, planning his most elaborate prank again. His latest trick may just be his best yet.

- **The Shopping Mall Gorilla**
  Tedd Arnold’s *Ivan: A Heart for the Orangutans* offers more insight into Ivan: The Remarkable True Story of the Shopping Mall Gorilla, with heartfelt illustrations by G. Brian Karas. Steve Sheinkin’s *The Port Chicago 50: Disaster, Mutiny, and the Fight for Civil Rights* is the incredible true story of local World War II heroes fighting for justice in their work with deadly explosives. Young children can zoom in on microscopic life-forms in *Tiny Creatures: The World of Microbes* by Nicola Davies, charmingly illustrated by Emily Sutton.

Graphic Novels

- **The Shadow Hero**
  Even though Gene Luen Yang’s *The Shadow Hero* is a superhero-origins story complete with a crime boss and his alluring daughter, and Raina Telgemeier’s *Sisters* recounts wacky tales from her San Francisco childhood, both graphic novels find marvelous humor in family dynamics.

Teen Fiction

- **Everything Leads to You**
  Exceptional LGBTQ teen love stories this year include *Everything Leads to You* by Nina LaCour and *Tell Me Again How a Crush Should Feel* by Sara Farizan; both capture the agony and ecstasy of best friends, new loves, and show business. Mistaken identities and romance abound in *Love by the Morning Star* by Laura L. Sullivan, a sly spoof of a British country house mystery with a nod to *Cabaret*. The secrets are darker on a seemingly idyllic family-owned island in *We Were Liars*, by E. Lockhart.

Nonfiction

- **The Great Whites of California’s Farallon Islands**
  Read about everyone’s favorite predators in *The Great Whites of California’s Farallon Islands*, with text and glorious, gory illustrations by Katherine Roy. Katherine Applegate

Veterans Resource Center

In partnership with the California Department of Veterans affairs, the new Veterans Resource Center (VRC) will open at the Bridge at Main, the new literacy and learning center on the Fifth floor of the Main Library. The VRC will be run by trained volunteers who will provide information about veterans’ benefits and local services to veterans and family members. Veterans will be able to learn about state and federal education, employment, housing, health, disability and other benefits that may be available to them and their families. Join us on Jan. 20 for the ribbon cutting of The Bridge at Main, the new literacy and learning center at the Main Library. The VRC will have a collection of books and other resources for veterans, and provide access to computer equipment for extended periods in order to complete online applications and do research.
Exhibitions

January 2015
Jewett Gallery
*Bravo Chris Raschka This exhibition features original artwork from Caldecott award-winning illustrator Chris Raschka's children's books, including Charlie Parker Played Be Bop, Yol Yol Yol, John Coltrane's Giant Steps and more. Jan. 21 – April 19.


Skylight Gallery
*Alive! A la Vie! Telling the story of the saved children of Buchenwald, this exhibition looks at life before the Holocaust, ghetto life during World War II, the Buchenwald camp, and life after the war. Jan. 10 – March 15.

Opening Program: Jan. 11, 2 p.m., Koret Auditorium.

War Comes Home: The Legacy This exhibition explores themes of homecoming from wars through reproductions of letters, photos and journal entries. Jan. 17 – March 1 Related Events: Curators John Benitz and Andrew Carroll, Jan. 21, 6 p.m. Co-sponsored by Cal Humanities and Exhibit Envoy.

Other Exhibits and Displays at the Main Library
J. Otto Seibold: A Bay Area Treasure Presented with the Contemporary Jewish Museum, this exhibit displays the artist's books, featuring the bird-chasing canary, Mr. Lunch. Created with writer Vivian Walsh, the books represent the first examples of computer-made illustrations for young readers. Jan. 2 – Feb. 28 (Children's Center) Related Event: Meet the artist, Jan. 24, 1:30 p.m., (Latino/Hispanic).

Celebrating 50 Years: 1964-2014: Works from the SF History Center and Book Arts & Special Collections Center This exhibition shows beautiful, amazing and amusing examples of these unique collections. Through Jan. 31. Skylight & SF History Center (6th Floor).

The Morrie Movement: The Influence of Woe Pals The artsy side of the late Woe Pals cartoonist Morrie Turner has inspired African American artists and cartoonists. This exhibit displays the impact of his legacy through Jan. 29. African American Center (3rd Floor).


*Dear, I have no objection to anything.* The City Through April 24. Environmental Center (5th Floor).

*The World Inside* The Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in San Francisco presents the work of 18-year old Taiwanese artist, Leland Lee, who was diagnosed with autism at an early age. Jan. 24 – April 23. (Chinese Center) Related Event: Meet the artist, Jan. 24, 1:30 p.m., (Latino/Hispanic).

The Boys of Buchenwald Exhibition and programs are presented in partnership with OSE, the JFCS Holocaust Center, Friends of the San Francisco Public Library, the Consulate General of Germany in San Francisco, and the Consulate General of France in San Francisco. Special thanks to the Ingrid D. Tauber Philanthropic Fund of the Jewish Community Federation and Endowment Fund, the Koret Foundation for their financial support.

For more information, please visit sfpl.org and lehrhaus.org.

Alive! A la Vie! Children of Buchenwald

Alive! A la Vie! Photo exhibition & lecture series coming to San Francisco Public Library in 2015

Alive! A la Vie! is a photo exhibition of the saved children of Buchenwald, will be on view in the Main Library's Skylight Gallery, Jan. 10 – March 15. The exhibition is sponsored by Lehrhaus Judaica in partnership with the Library.

Subjects included in the exhibition are life before the Holocaust, ghettos and life during the war, the Buchenwald camp, and life after the war. It also shares stories about the survivors' lives into adulthood, including marriages and the birth of their children. The bond the survivors shared after being freed from Buchenwald comes to life through stories and photos. These bi-lingual photographic panels (English and French) were created by the renowned French-Jewish humanitarian organization OSE (Oeuvre de secours aux enfants), which saved hundreds of Jewish refugee children between 1944 and after World War II.

The exhibition and programs are presented in partnership with OSE, the JFCS Holocaust Center, Friends of the San Francisco Public Library, the Consulate General of Germany in San Francisco, and the Consulate General of France in San Francisco. Special thanks to the Ingrid D. Tauber Philanthropic Fund of the Jewish Community Federation and Endowment Fund, the Koret Foundation for their financial support.

For more information, please visit sfpl.org and lehrhaus.org.

War Comes Home: The Legacy

An Exhibition of Letters Written by Veterans and Their Families

Through private correspondence from almost every major conflict in U.S. history—from the Civil War era through the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq—the War Comes Home exhibition offers an intimate perspective on how war can shape a life, a family and a community.

This panel exhibition covers topics ranging from wartime separation, coming home and reflection, and pairing historic letters with contemporary letters or email to demonstrate the range of experiences our military members face as they transition from deployment to home. Reproductions of letters, photos and artwork are featured.

War Comes Home: The Legacy is a partnership between Cal Humanities, the California State Library and Exhibit Envoy. It is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the BayTree Fund, The Whitman Fund, and the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered in California by the State Librarian.


Opening event – Curators John Benitz and Andrew Carroll will discuss themes of homecoming from wars past and present. Jan. 21, 6 p.m., Main Library, Koret Auditorium.

*Funded by Friends of the San Francisco Public Library
January/February Selection: We Need New Names by NoViolet Bulawayo

Ten-year-old Darling grew up in a shantytown in Zimbabwe, but she and her friends have memories of life before paramilitary forces destroyed their homes and forced their relocation. With little to eat and no possessions, the children use their imaginations to create new worlds for themselves, all the time observing the changes taking place around them. They steal guavas from nearby weathered communities, explore and rename the territories around them, and try to find a way to rid their friend Chipsa of the baby growing in her stomach.

Unlike her friends, Darling has a way out of this life of poverty, where education is limited and opportunities non-existent. Her long held dream of moving to America to live with her Aunt Fotsimala is finally realized, and she looks forward to enjoying the luxury she has come to know only through television, but her new life is not at all what she imagined it would be. It is cold and bleak, and the food and people are strange. It is difficult to stay in touch with old friends and the family she left behind, yet impossible to return. This is a beautifully told story about challenges and displacement, opportunity and loss which won the 2011 Caine prize for African Writing and was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize.

NoViolet Bulawayo

Author Talk: NoViolet Bulawayo – Feb. 3, Main Library

January 2015 Events

Annual Book Arts and Special Collections Holiday Lecture: Digital Public Library of America

Preserving the past and sharing special collections more widely is a goal of the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA). Please join us on Jan. 7, when Dan Cohen, Executive Director of the DPLA, speaks about this exciting new national project for the 19th Annual Holiday Lecture of the Marjorie G. and Carl W. Steen Book Arts and Special Collections.

Dan Cohen is the founding executive director of the DPLA, where he works to further the mission to make the cultural and scientific heritage of humanity available, free, and open. Prior to his tenure at the DPLA, Cohen was a professor of history and the director of the Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media at George Mason University. His books include, Digital History: A Guide to Gathering, Preserving, and Presenting the Past on the Web. He most recently edited Hacking the Academy: New Approaches to Scholarship and Teaching From Digital Humanities.

Dan Cohen: The Digital Public Library of America – Jan. 7, 6 p.m., Main Library, Koret Auditorium

*Supported by Friends of the San Francisco Public Library
Happiness and good fortune to you!

Lunar New Year falls on Feb. 19. In celebration, 16 neighborhood libraries and the Main Library will host the annual Lion Dance program featuring the Jing Mo Athletic Association. During the celebration, see the lion come to life as the martial art students perform stunts, creating a beautiful and dynamic effect, while the lion makes its way through the library, warding off evil spirits and bringing good luck. People of all ages will enjoy this lively event, which brings families and community together in celebration of culture and tradition. Ask your librarian for information about the history and rituals associated with Lunar New Year and the Lion Dance. Sponsored by Friends of the San Francisco Public Library.

Celebrate the Lunar New Year with Lion Dancers at the Library

Jan. 24
Ortega, 10:30 a.m.
Parkside, 11:30 a.m.
Excelsior, 12:30 p.m.
Ocean View, 2 p.m.
Ingleside, 3 p.m.
West Portal, 4 p.m.
Jan. 31
Richmond, 11:30 a.m.
Anza, 12:30 p.m.
Bernal Heights, 2:30 p.m.
Potrero, 3:30 p.m.
Golden Gate Valley, 4:30 p.m.

Febr. 7
Main Children’s Center, 10:30 a.m.
Chinatown, 11:30 a.m.
North Beach, 12:30 p.m.
Eureka Valley, 2 p.m.
Vista Terrace, 3:30 p.m.
Portola, 4:30 p.m.

All programs and events are free and open to the public.
Snacktivity! 1–6 p.m. 4, 18 Sundays

The Lego Movie 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Fridays

Thur. 8, 15, 22, 29 at 2–3 p.m.

Lego Build Day Golden Gate Valley, 3 p.m.

*Movie and a Meal Potrero, 3–3:30 p.m.

Sing-Along: Your Song My Song Mission Bay, 4–4:45 p.m.

Saturday

What Every Toddler Parent Needs to Know Register ppssf.org (Mandarin-English)

Anza Thur. 8, 15, 22, 29 at 10:30–11:30 a.m.

Eureka Valley Every Tuesday at 10–11 a.m.

Eureka Valley Every Tuesday at 11:15–1:30 a.m.

Parkside Every Tuesday at 10:30–11:30 a.m.

Family Storytime

*Family Storytimes are for children of all ages unless noted.**

Main Mon. 5, 12, 26 at 11–11:30 a.m.

Main Mon. 5, 12, 26 at 10:15–10:45 a.m.

Mission Bay Every Tuesday at 10–10:45 a.m. and 11–11:30 a.m. (Spanish)

Mission Bay Every Tuesday at 10–11:15 a.m. and 11–11:45 a.m. (Spanish-English)

Mission Bay (Register starting 6 days prior: (415) 355-2383.)

Mission Bay (Register starting 6 days prior: (415) 355-2383.)

North Beach Thur. 8, 15, 22, 29 at 10–10:45 a.m. and 11–11:30 a.m.

Parkside Mon. 5, 12, 26 at 10–10:30 a.m.

Parkside Mon. 5, 12, 26 at 10–10:30 a.m.

Partial Gymnasium except where noted. Programs are for children of all ages, except where noted. Please call ahead to confirm dates and times. Groups of five or more: call ahead to reserve space. *Sponsored by the San Francisco Public Library

Snacktivities (kids/teens) provided

Mon. 5, 12, 26; Every Tue.; Every Wed.; Every Fri. at 4–5 p.m.

Japanese Parents’ Group

For children up to 2 years old.

**For information, contact Yukari Hernandez (415) 861-7077 Ext. 763.

Books, featuring the bird-chasing canine, Mr. Lunch. Main Children’s Center except where noted.

**Please call ahead to confirm dates and times. Groups of 5 or more, call ahead to reserve space.

January 2015

* All programs and events are free and open to the public.

* Programs are for children of all ages, except where noted.

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Bayview, Visitacion Valley

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Winning Poets Take the Stage

Thirty-three poets from each corner and hilltop of the city will take center stage at the grand finale of the Fifth Annual Poets 11. Selected and hosted by San Francisco Poet Laureate Jack Hirschman, three poets from each of the city’s 11 districts will read one selected piece of work at the Main Library’s Koret Auditorium on Jan. 18 at 1 p.m.

The never-before-published poets, hand-picked over the last three months from a submission pool of over 200 local writers, will have their work featured for the first time in the 2014 Poets 11 Anthology, a collection of heartfelt, intelligent and passionate work. The Anthology will be on sale at the event, and will remain available for purchase on the Friends’ website (friendssfpl.org). Sale proceeds benefit programs at the neighborhood branch libraries throughout the city.

“There’s no higher sense of community participation than reading to create a unified field from a vast range of different poems,” said Hirschman, who promises all-inclusive and inspired performances.

The event is free, full of “revolutionary spirit,” and should not be missed!

Local Flavors Sizzle at IMBIBE Portola

All Friends and Library Lovers Are on Our Party Invite List!

Our party is a lot to show us love—you fund our programs, support our branches, and ensure access to information and technology. You really deserve a party, and we’re throwing you one!

Celebrate National Library Lover’s Month with us and attend our Valentine’s Themed IMBIBE! We’re breaking all the library rules with music and cocktails in the stacks. Share your love of all things literary while getting crafty with handmade Valentine’s Day cards!

Friends members are invited to sample specially crafted drinks (we recommend the Tainted Love for something sweet, or the Pink Lady for something sour), get a bite of some Cajun staples from Queen’s Louisiana Po-Boy Café, and head to the craft table for card making.

All Friends members are on the guest list. To RSVP, email donaldal@friendssfpl.org. Not a Member? Not a problem! Membership begins at $40 and includes entry for two.

Nonmembers can join at https://act.friendssfpl.org/member or sign up at the door.

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Books at 10% off! Friends’ Independent Bookstore Program!

Friends members (560+ level) receive a 10% discount at the following bookstores:

A. Cavalli Italian Bookstore  Adobe Bookstore  Alan Wofsy Fine Arts LLC  Alexander Book Co., Inc.
Alley Cat Books  Amazing Fantasy  The Beat Museum  Bibliohead Bookstore  Bird & Beckett Books & Records
Readers Bookstore Fort Mason  Readers Bookstore Main  Red Hill Books  San Francisco Botanical Gardens, Garden Bookstore  Thidwick Books

The mission of Friends of the San Francisco Public Library is to create, steward and support a superior, free public library system in San Francisco. We are committed to raising the standard of excellence of our libraries by funding programs and services beyond what is allocated in the city’s budget. We believe in free and equal access to information for all.

January Events

Jan. 8
Poets 11 Grand Finale
Main Library, Koret Auditorium, 1 p.m.

Save the Date

Feb. 6
IMBIBE
Portola Branch Library
380 Bacon St., 7 p.m.

January Featured Sections

Readers Bookstore Fort Mason
Spycraft & Espionage

Readers Bookstore Main
Books about Books

Readers Locations & Hours

READERS BOOKSTORE
Fort Mason Center, Building C
Open seven days a week.
Bookstore: 9:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.
Telephone (415) 771-1076

READERS BOOKSTORE
Main Library
Grove Street Entrance
Open all Library hours
Telephone (415) 557-4238

January Events

Jan. 8, 15, 22 & 29
Thursdays at Readers Poetry Series
Readers Bookstore, Fort Mason Center
Building C, South End, 6:30 p.m.

Jan. 15:
Aja COuchais Duncan & Kareem James
Abu-Zaed

Jan. 22:
Rafael Jesus Gonzalez & Sarah Menefee
Jan. 29:
Cathleen Williams & Al Young

Jan. 18
Poets 11 Grand Finale
Main Library, Koret Auditorium, 1 p.m.

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January 2015

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The San Francisco Public Library system is dedicated to free and equal access to information, knowledge, independent learning and the joys of reading for our diverse community.

At the Library is published monthly on recycled paper by the San Francisco Public Library with support and funding from Friends of the San Francisco Public Library.

Circulation: 12,000
Online version: sfpl.org/atl

How to Reach Us
Public Affairs, Main Library, 100 Larkin St.
(415) 557-4277; email: publicaffairs@sfpl.org
Website: sfpl.org

Every effort has been made to produce a timely and complete monthly calendar that is accurate and complete. Please contact Public Affairs if you have any questions or comments regarding the listings.

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**LIBRARY LOCATIONS AND HOURS**

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<th>Library</th>
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<td>550 37th Ave.</td>
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<td>MERCED</td>
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<td>VISITACION VALLEY</td>
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<td>WEST PORTAL</td>
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<td>WESTERN ADDITION</td>
<td>1550 Scott St.</td>
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</table>

See bookmobile schedule, page 2

*“x” means CLOSED. For more information: www.sfpl.org (All phone numbers are in the 415 area code.)

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Tour of Main

Tours are conducted on the first Tuesday of each month at 12 p.m. Meet at the Information Desk in the First Floor atrium. Tours are limited to 15 people on a first come, first served basis. Groups can schedule a private tour by calling (415) 557-4266.

SFPL Commission

Meetings are generally held on a Thursday of each month. This month’s meeting: 4:30 p.m. on Jan. 15 in the Koret Auditorium of the Main. The public is welcome to attend.

Closure Times

The San Francisco Main Library and all branch libraries will be closed on Thursday, Jan. 1 for New Year’s Day and Monday, Jan. 19 for Martin Luther King Day.

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San Francisco Public Library