Stride into Summer Learning 2020

How does the 2018 Library of the Year pivot its annual summer learning, reading and exploration program during a global pandemic? Glad you asked. We’ve increased our eBook collection to provide even more fantastic reads, developed online programs for kids and adults and designed a new Virtual Library page on our website. Our universal goal this summer is to reach and inspire San Francisco to read more, learn more and stay well.

We’ve partnered for the seventh year with Chronicle Books to commission original art from Alison Farrell, inspired by her 2019 book, The Hike, her previous years living in the Outer Sunset and love of the natural world. This was the perfect pairing for our collaboration with SF Recreation & Parks, Parks Alliance, National Park Service, Presidio Trust and Parks Conservancy. To celebrate Golden Gate Park’s 150th Anniversary, Farrell designed an Activity Tracker as a walk, run or cycle adventure through the Park’s treasures, beginning in the Panhandle and finishing at an Ocean Beach sunset. It is a San Francisco nature lover’s delight.

New this year, participants can also track their reading and learning time on Beanstack, an online platform that can be accessed from a computer or mobile device. Register your family or just yourself. Track 20 minutes a day and earn badges and the coveted 2020 Summer Stride tote featuring Farrell’s original art. Also, don’t miss the SFUSD/SFPL Recommended Reading List for preschoolers to high schoolers.

PRO TIP: Check sfpl.org/summerstride for all things Summer and follow us on Instagram and Twitter for updates.

Meet Alison Farrell, Our 2020 Summer Stride Artist

Q: How did your experience living in SF inspire your illustrations for Summer Stride?
A: I have many fond memories of San Francisco, especially of Golden Gate Park! When I lived there, I rode my bike through the park and The Wiggle on a daily basis. Just thinking about it makes me miss the smell of eucalyptus trees! There are so many iconic locations in the park and in the city, it was difficult but fun to narrow it down.

Q: How have public libraries had an impact on your life?
A: My first memories of a public library are in the small New England town where I grew up. The original library was built in the late 1800s and was made of granite, sandstone and slate. I remember feeling a real sense of reverence for the quiet old building and the books it contained. I also felt comfort and belonging there, like it was a very safe place that suited me.

As an adult, I am amazed and proud of how libraries have grown from places that contain books to beautiful community gathering spaces. When my son was very young, we were frequent visitors of the Ortega Library in the Outer Sunset. Not only did this library nurture my son, but it also gave me hundreds of picture books to read as I was building my career as an illustrator and author.

Calling All Citizen Archivists!

The San Francisco History Center is actively archiving all types of materials, in multiple formats, to build a Community Time Capsule, a collection that documents and preserves the collective experiences of San Francisco residents during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

What’s happening to you? Your neighborhood? Your schools, your workplaces? Put on your archivist’s hat and capture what is different in our world today, what we miss, what we’ve created to reflect our new reality and how we are communicating and living now. With your help, SFPL will build a collection that reflects the many ways San Franciscans were impacted by and responded to this public health crisis.

For more information, visit sfpl.org/covid19-time-capsule.
Collections and Services

ON THE SAME PAGE

June 2020 Selection:

Disasterama! by Alvin Orloff


Disasterama! is a fun, raunchy, hilarious and painful coming-of-age memoir.

One cannot speak of gay counterculture in the 80s and not get entrenched in the AIDS crisis and the loss of life that ensued. Orloff accomplishes this with honesty and humor. Opening with the teenage Orloff in search of acceptance, love, but mostly sex—he finds Michael Joseph Collins, who becomes his infatuation, creative partner, bandmate in The Popstitutes, love and friend.

Orloff’s memoir is an important slice of San Francisco queer history particularly queer nightlife and artistic and music venues and the loss of these spaces. The book features a landscape of Bay Area spots, including The Stud, White Horse, Foxy Lady Boutique, Southern Exposure Gallery and glorious misadventures on Polk and Castro Streets. Orloff’s Disasterama has it all—gay sex, drugs and punk rock.

Get the book today at Dog Eared Books Castro by calling between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Monday through Friday (415) 282-1901, or order online at dogearedbooks.com. Visit sfpl.org/books-and-media/read/read-writers-edition to read our interview with Alvin Orloff and sfpl.org/books-and-media/read/same-page-disasterama for more information and read-alike books and media.

Alvin Orloff, Beth Lisik and K.M. Soehnlein in conversation – June 10, 6 p.m., sfpl.org/virtual-library

On the Same Page Book Club: Discussing Disasterama! – June 28, 2 p.m., sfpl.org/virtual-library

Disasterama! Read-Alikes:

When We Rise: My Life in the Movement by Cleve Jones
How We Fight for Our Lives: A Memoir by Saeed Jones
Tinderbox: The Untold Story of the Up Stairs Lounge Fire and the Rise of Gay Liberation by Robert W. Fieseler
Long Live the Tribe of Fatherless Girls: A Memoir by T Kira Madden
We Are Everywhere: Protest, Power, and Pride in the History of Queer Liberation by Leighton Brown and Matthew Riemer
Jimmy Neurosis: A Memoir by James Oseland
A Queer History of the United States for Young People by Michael Bronski, adapted by Richie Chevat
How to Write an Autobiographical Novel by Alexander Chee

Disasterama! at Home: Explore LGBTQIA eResources

While we continue to shelter in place and practice social distancing, many of us are missing the rich assortment of LGBTQIA physical materials available to borrow or to browse, perhaps while lounging in the lovely James C. Hormel LGBTQIA Center at the Main Library. But did you know that you can also access great digital material right from home? One of the best places to look is the Archives of Sexuality & Gender, available via our website. The numerous historical documents in this database are drawn from hundreds of institutions and organizations, including both major international activist organizations and local, grassroots groups, like San Francisco's own GLBT Historical Society. You can find letters, photographs, transcripts of oral histories, newsletters, magazines and much more.

To access the Archives of Sexuality and Gender database with your San Francisco Public Library card, visit sfpl.org/databases, then click the Topics tab and select LGBTQIA in the menu.

Another great database offering light reading as well as academic resources is EBSCO’s LGBT Life with Historical Context. To access this database, visit sfpl.org/books-and-media and select (search) “LGBT Life.”

For even more information and read-alike books and media, visit sfpl.org/virtual-library.

Achieve Your Dreams with Career Online High School

People with at least a high school diploma are more likely to be employed, and at higher wages. For the many San Franciscans still working toward this goal, shut-down time can become school time with SFPL’s Career Online High School.

Students enrolled in Career Online High School work on their own schedules, day or night, to finish their courses and complete career training in one of 10 in-demand career fields, such as childcare and education or certified commercial driving. Classes can be completed on a desktop, laptop, iPad or other tablet. Enrolled students receive support from the library and an academic coach. Any California resident 19 or older can enroll and may be able to transfer any existing high school credits.

To date, 40 people have earned their accredited high school diploma from the Library. Many graduates say they enrolled to provide a good example for their family or land a better job. Many are excited to keep going with their educational journeys. “Now that I’ve graduated, I’m going to keep reaching higher by going on to earn a degree in law/family immigration,” said graduate Edna Freeman. “I know that my voice matters and my dreams can come true!” To get started visit sfpl.org/cohs.

P.S. Don’t forget to have your SFPL library card at-the-ready so you can log in when prompted.

Pride at Home: Explore LGBTQIA eResources

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Build Your Own Queer Quarantine Playlist with Dee Dee Kramer, program manager at the James C. Hormel LGBTQIA Center

SFPL has some great queer content for streaming and download. What follows is my personal playlist, which draws from several of our subscribed platforms. Take a look if you like, then build your own!

• Carol (10 hours, 37 minutes. hoopla). Audiobook version of the 1952 lesbian cult classic, The Price of Salt by Patricia Highsmith.
• Hecho en Saturno (Overdrive/Libby). An eBook on my virtual nightstand by Dominican queer writer Rita Indiana.

Why is it important to be counted in the 2020 Census?

• Political representation: Census numbers are used for “apportionment,” i.e. determining how many congressional seats each state gets. If we are undercounted, California could lose a seat in Congress.
• Federal funding: Census numbers are used to allot funding to states for housing, childcare, transportation and much more.
Take action now! Go to 2020census.gov.

Get Social!

facebook.com/sfpl.org
twitter.com/SFPublicLibrary
instagram.com/sfpubliclibrary
youtube.com/user/SanFranciscoLibrary
Check Out Our Podcast!

The Library Friends Podcast is a way for you to get more connected with the Library. 
View our latest episode, Librarians on the Front Lines of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Find the podcast by searching “Library Friends Podcast” on your favorite podcasting app, or by going to friendssfpl.org/Podcast.

Friends Bookstore

Locations & Hours

Check our website for exact locations, schedules and hours.

FriendsSFPL.org

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Stay connected with all the latest happenings, events, and deals at Friends! FriendsSFPL.org

Help Our Local Independent Bookstores Recover from COVID-19 Closures and Get 10% Off

Friends members ($60+ level) receive a 10% discount at the following bookstores:

- A. Cavalli Italian Bookstore
- Academy Store, California Academy of Science
- Adobe Bookstore
- Anchor Bay Books
- Alan Wofsy Fine Arts LLC
- Alexander Book Co., Inc.
- Alley Cat Books
- Amazing Fantasy
- Black Oak Books
- Black Oak Books Holding Corp.
- Bolerium Books
- Compass Books, Inc.
- Dog Eared Books
- Eastwind Books
- The Green Arcade
- Kayo Books
- Louie Brothers Book Store, Inc.
- Manning’s Books & Prints
- Marcus Book Stores
- Omnivore Books on Food
- Friends Bookstore: Fort Mason and Main Library
- Red Hill Books
- San Francisco Botanical Gardens, Garden Bookstore
- Thidwick Books

Friends of the San Francisco Public Library

New Voices Unite Campaign Celebrates Library Community

Friends has started a new campaign called Voices Unite, to share and celebrate our unique community of librarians, library workers and patrons. In all of our content, including our new Library Friends podcast, we are posting interviews with these changemakers in our community. These intimate conversations give you a chance to learn more about the extraordinary people you used to pass by at the Library before the shelter-in-place order.

In May 2020, we interviewed Librarian turned Disaster Service Worker, Alan Wong. We also spoke with Daniel Matsumoto, an eResources Librarian at SFPL, about how the Library’s online services are adapting to the influx of traffic. Another can’t-miss conversation is an interview with historian and advocate Peter Booth Wiley on how the Library’s past can help us understand this turbulent new present, and how we can prepare for the future.

The Coronavirus pandemic has been hard on everyone, but from quarantine, librarians have taken the opportunity to innovate and engage with the public in free and accessible ways. These library workers are continuing the Library’s mission of free access to all, and Friends is here to provide additional financial support for technology, equipment and services to help tell this important story of public service.

Subscribe to the Library Friends Podcast and hear these stories:

- How Librarians are keeping in contact with their regular patrons
- How Librarians are documenting history in real-time
- How library workers are keeping the Library branches safe, clean and ready for patrons once shelter-in-place is lifted
- How authors and journalists are utilizing the Library’s online services
- How Librarians are helping to feed the community
- How Librarians are on the front lines of the City’s contact tracing efforts

To subscribe to the Library Friends Podcast and listen to the Voices Unite interviews, go to FriendsSFPL.org/voices.

Peter Booth Wiley

SFPL staff deployed as Disaster Service Workers helping to feed the community and on the front lines of the City’s contact tracing efforts.

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.

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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.

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How to reach us
San Francisco Public Library
100 Larkin Street, San Francisco, CA 94102
time: Monday - Friday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.
(415) 557-4433 (TTY)
Public Affairs email: publicaffairs@sfpl.org
Website: sfpl.org

During the library closure, staff are available to assist by email or phone (TIP Line) Monday - Friday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.
Email: Ask for eBook assistance or email info@sfpl.org
Website: TIP Line: (415) 557-4430

eBook Assistance:
sfpl.org/books-and-media/ebook-collections

Frequently Asked Questions:
sfpl.org/faq

Libraries Closed
All locations and bookdrops of the San Francisco Public Libraries are currently closed to help limit the spread of COVID-19. Check back for updates on our reopening date. Find the latest on our response to the virus here: sfpl.org/coronavirus and sfpl.org/services/library-closure-frequently-asked-questions-faqs

Visit Our Virtual Library!
Plus: we offer many opportunities for eLearning. Build valuable job skills or work on your resume; get one-on-one tutoring and homework help, all from your home. We’ve got you covered.
Visit sfpl.org/virtual-library for more event and registration info.

San Francisco Public Library