October 2020

Vol. 51 No. 10

AT THE LIBRARY

Events and Happenings at the San Francisco Public Library

Get Ready to VOTE!

Deadline to register is OCTOBER 19!

To ensure that San Franciscans can exercise their right to vote in a safe manner during the November 3 election, the Department of Elections will mail ballots to all registered voters in October. Voters do not need to apply to receive a vote-by-mail ballot. To check if you are registered to vote in San Francisco or confirm that your information is up to date, go to sflections.org/voterportal. To register to vote, go to registrervote.ca.gov or contact SF Department of Elections at 415-557-4400.

There are many ways to cast your ballot.

In advance:
- By mail
- At the City Hall Voting Center, opening Oct. 5, located outside the Bill Graham Civic Auditorium

On Election Day, Nov. 3:
- Your polling place
- City Hall Voting Center (open 7 a.m.–8 p.m.)
- Authorize another person to pick up and deliver your ballot from the City Hall Voting Center
- The Accessible Vote-by-Mail system, which allows voters to download and mark their ballots using common internet-connected devices, such as computers or tablets and is compatible with personal assistive technology
- Also, if you miss the voter registration deadline you may visit the City Hall Voting Center or a polling place to register and cast a provisional ballot using the Conditional Voter Registration process.

The library will be hosting info sessions on the election process in San Francisco, dates to come.

SFPL To Go Update

It’s fabulous to see you Chinatown, Otega and Visitacion Valley branches. SFPL To Go will soon be open at nine neighborhood libraries and four pop-up, pick-up locations with the Bookmobile. Information Line for all library questions (415) 557-4400.

Main Library – Now Open
Monday–Saturday: 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m.
Sunday: 12–5:30 p.m.
100 Larkin Street

Branches – Now Open

Tuesday–Saturday: 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m.
EXCELSIOR 4400 Mission St.
EUREKA VALLEY/HARVEY MILK MEMORIAL 1 Josie Santa Court (at 16th St. near Market)
MARINA 1800 The Embarcadero
MERCED 155 Winston Drive
MISSION BAY 960 Fourth St.

Branches – Opening Oct. 13
Days and times TBD
CHINATOWN 1135 Powell St.
ORTEGA 3223 Ortega St.
VISITACION VALLEY 201 Leland Ave.

Bookmobiles – Opening early October
SFPL To Go – Pop up Pick-up Service with the Bookmobile
Tuesdays and Thursdays: 2–6 p.m.
MIS Bookmobile at John O’Connell High School, Harrison and 20th Streets
OMI Bookmobile at Jose Ortega Elementary School, 100 Sargent St.
BAY Bookmobile at Willie Brown Jr. Middle School, Revere Ave at Rankin St.
Treasure Island Bookmobile, Wednesdays: 2–6 p.m.

¡VIVA! Continues with Author Talks for All Ages

F or those who love stories for children about ballet or persistence, local author C.V. Monterrubio shares her picture story, On Tiptops/De Puntitas, illustrated by Gabriela Garcia and edited by Ediciones Patagonso. This two-in-one Spanish/English book tells the stories of SF Ballet’s Prima Ballerina Sasha De Solano and of a fictional boy who dreams of being a dancer. Listen to a reading of both tales, one in English and one in Spanish, and stay to learn about how they are more than just about dance.

In October, the Library hosts author Aida Salazar in conversation with Natalia Sylvester. Salazar is an award-winning author and arts activist whose writings for adults and children explore issues of identity and social justice. Her newest title, Land of the Crows, is a searing middle grade novel in verse about a young girl and her family in a detention center for migrants and refugees. Sylvester is the author of Running, a novel for young adults that explores the timely topic of youth activism, political families, and what happens when you fall in love with your Cuban-American teacher Mariana Ruiz, discovers surprising truths about her presidential-hopeful father. San Francisco Poet Laureate Kim Shuck will discuss a night of poems, featuring Josiah Luis Alderete, Lourdes Figueroa and more. The City’s sixth Poet Laureate Alejandro Murgula brings together poet, interdisciplinary artist and educator Leticia Hernandez-Linares and Jose Hector Cadena, co-founder of Vos Sin Tinta, for a reading series at Alley Cat Books. Celia Stahr will discuss her book Frida in America: The Creative Awakening, the first in-depth biography of these formative years spent in Gringolandia.

A panel of four queer Latinx cultural producers share examples of how our presentation of documented events, artworks and political stories have elevated social justice movements in the United States over the last few decades. See the calendar on Page 4 or sfpl.org/viva for program details.

Bay Area Science Festival

S an Francisco Public Library partners once again this year with the Bay Area Science Festival to bring fun and engaging science-y story times, virtual hands-on STEM programs and a citywide reading suggestion to library patrons.

In collaboration with the Bay Area’s scientific, cultural and educational institutions, the Bay Area Science Festival, now in its 10th year, is an annual celebration of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, organized by the Science and Health Education Partnership at UCSF.

From Oct. 21-25, SFPL will offer virtual programs including a fiber optic flashlight STEM workshop for elementary school-age children, an informational program on water reclamation and more.

Watch for science book reading lists for all ages and join us to read the Bay Area Science Festival/On the Same Page pick, The Lost Family by Libby Copeland. The Lost Family, available for checkout by everyone with no wait lists on Hoopla, explores the rapidly evolving phenomenon of home DNA testing, its implications for how we think about family and ourselves and its ramifications for American culture broadly. Join us for a conversation with Copeland, an award-winning journalist who specializes in the intersection of science and culture.

Science Programs:

Water Reclamation for Your Backyard – Oct. 22, 5-6 p.m.

Broadcast live on https://www.youtube.com/user/sfpl/library

Get Ahead with Gale Courses

Did you know that SFPL provides free access to self-paced online courses? Gale Courses offers a wide range of highly interactive, instructor-led classes that you can take entirely online!

Courses run for six weeks and new sessions begin every month. There are classes in accounting and finance; business and technology; language learning and much more.

Learners engage with fellow students and the instructor through weekly assignments and discussion boards. Each enhanced lesson includes images, videos and games to support varied learning styles. Enroll in Gale Courses now at sfpl.org/elearning.

SFPLO.ORG
Supporting Survivors of Domestic Violence in a Pandemic

OCTOBER 2020

Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Get social!
facebook.com/sfpl.org
twitter.com/SFPublicLibrary
instagram.com/sfpubliclibrary
youtube.com/user/SanFranciscoLibrary

Events, Collections and Services

Talking Books & Braille Center Named Library of the Year!

Talking Books and Braille Center staff meet on Zoom plus send out digital talking books on cartridges through the USPS. The center also offers virtual programs. Sheltering In Place Blind is a weekly discussion group facilitated by SFL’s braille transcriber; the Talking Book Club enjoys more participation than ever; a monthly Writer’s Salon allows people to share their own or a favorite piece for discussion. Plans for more participatory programming are coming soon.

Work it

Talking Books & Braille Center Named Library of the Year!

SFPL is stepping up this fall to help patrons find pathways to economic recovery. The brilliant staff of the Business, Science and Technology Center at the Main Library launch Work It, an ongoing series of virtual programs focused on supporting job and career seekers, personal finance needs and small business resources.

Highlights of the Work It series include Financial Planning Series, a virtual speaker series covering topics such as health insurance, taxes and investing. Jobs and Careers programs include Hope Levy’s Age as an Asset, which explores ways for older adults to use their life experiences to land the perfect job. The California Employment Development is keeping pace with job seekers’ needs by offering programs on Resume Writing Essentials, Interviewing Essentials and How to Get a California State Job. CalJOBS for Beginners will be offered in both Spanish and Cantonese.

Learn how SF Reserve First Impressions program matches talented, skilled older adults and people with disabilities with paid part-time and project-based work at local nonprofits and other community-based organizations in San Francisco.

SFPL’s robust Jobs and Careers portal offers a multitude of options for job seekers, such as live resume, interview and career coaching with JobNow and EDD.

Check out our Business and Personal Finance Resources, including local COVID-19 support, reference, reader advisory, advocating for accessibility and support for voters, that TBBC was awarded Subregional Library of the Year for 2019 from the Library of Congress National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled.

Since the shutdown, the center’s work has continued from a distance. TBBC staff help people over email and phone to download talking books for the blind and print disabled, bridging the digital divide for people who are poor and people with the kinds of disabilities that make virtual programs inaccessible.

For information about services offered by the Talking Books and Braille Center phone (415) 557-4253 or email TalkingBooks@sfpl.org

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Mil Gracias, Many Thanks

We want to thank our partners, past and present, for the amazing work they do to support San Francisco’s Latinx community and for their many contributions to our fair city.

Acción Latina
Arriba Juntos
Asociacion Mayab
BRAVA Theater
Calle 24
CARECEN SF
Carnaval San Francisco
Centro del Pueblo
City College of San Francisco Early Childhood Department
Consulate General of Mexico in San Francisco
El Tecolote
El/La Para TransLatinas
Family Resource Center
Felton Institute
First S San Francisco
Galería de la Raza
Good Samaritan
Hilltop High School
Instituto Familiar de la Raza
Jamestown
La Casa de las Madres
La Cicina
La Raza Centro Legal
Mission Cultural Center for Latino Arts
Mission Dance
Mission Economic Development Agency/ Mission Promise
Mission Graduates
Mission Neighborhood Health Center
Precita Eyes
Tandem Partners in Early Learning
Young Community Developers

Have You Written a Will Yet?

Friends and SFPL continue to work hard to expand free eResources, public programs and SFPL To Go to get those physical books back in your hands! In keeping with the spirit of ever-expanding access, Friends is giving you one more resource: an online tool to write your legal will or trust, for free.

This isn’t the type of resource you’re used to seeing from Friends, and given the current challenges we are all experiencing, a will may not feel like a top priority. But with the expense of legal fees removed, anytime is the perfect time to complete this often-forgotten task and get peace of mind in the process. It takes 20 minutes or less to write a basic will or trust.

This tool is brought to you through our new partnership with FreeWill, which has empowered over 150,000 Americans to write their wills and trusts. This resource has been featured in Forbes, the New York Times and was listed as one of Oprah’s 31 Best Ways to Make a Difference.

For many California residents, creating a revocable living trust is preferable to writing a will because it saves time and money. Luckily, you can do both on FreeWill In addition to writing your legal will or trust and protecting what you love, you can use it to join the Mary Louise Stong Society by including Friends of the SFPL as a beneficiary. Like Ms. Stong, your passion and love for our Library can live on today, tomorrow and forever. Go to FriendsSFPL.org/Stong and click on the FreeWill logo to learn more.

We hope you’re inspired to plan for your future. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mario Lemos, Special Gifts Officer, at mario.lemos@friendssfpl.org.

We Are Now Selling New Books

Another exciting change in Friends’ book program is the selling of new books by authors who participate in programs at the SFPL. You can now purchase the next One City One Book, Know My Name: A Memoir by Chanel Miller online at FriendsSFPL.org/shop.

This is an important service Friends is excited to provide for the Library. Starting with the incredible Latinx authors featured in iVIVA! programs, Friends now makes it easy to buy books from a variety of the Library’s programs. For a complete look at our available selection, including this month’s On The Same Page book, visit FriendsSFPL.org/shop.

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
- Alan Wofsy Fine Arts LLC
- Alexander Book Co., Inc.
- Alley Cat Books
- Amazing Fantasy
- The Beat Museum
- Bibliobhead Bookstore
- Bibliobliomania
- Bird & Beckett Books & Records
- Black Oak Books Holding Corp.
- Bolierum Books
- Books, Inc.
- Booksmith
- Browser Books
- Christopher’s Books
- Chronicle Books
- Campus Books, Inc.
- Dog Eared Books
- Eastwind Books
- Gob슲us Slavic Bookstore
- Great Overland Book Company
- Green Apple Books
- Music
- The Green Arcade
- Kayo Books
- Louie Brothers Book Store, Inc.
- Manning’s Books & Prints
- Marcus Book Stores
- Omnivore Books on Food
- Friends Bookstore
- 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 raise 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.

For updates, Friends staff are currently observing Shelter in Place.

Donate to Friends at FriendsSFPL.org/Support

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

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.

For additional event and registration info, visit sfpl.org/virtual-library, sfpl.org/kids/virtual-library and sfpl.org/teen-virtual-library.

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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to reach us

San Francisco Public Library
100 Larkin Street, San Francisco, CA 94102
Phone hours: Monday - Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday, 12-6 p.m.
(415) 557-4400
(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 - Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday, 12-6 p.m.
Online: Ask for eBook assistance or email info@sfpl.org
TIP Line: (415) 557-4400

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

Many thanks for life

Art by Juan R. Fuentes